

Photography Tour Bears and Ocean — Detailed description

Trip Length: 12 Group: 6-10 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

There are many places in Russia where the photographer can go in search of pictures of unique wildlife. Among them, there is one that has become a place of attraction not only for photographers, but also for all wildlife lovers - Kurile Lake in Kamchatka.

We offer you a unique photo tour during which you will find yourself in a real country of bears: the number of brown bears here is the largest in Russia! Taking a picture of a bear in its natural habitat against the backdrop of the majestic Kamchatka volcanoes is a worthy goal to go to the south of the peninsula to the territory of a specially protected reserve. There are a lot of fish, the bears are not distracted by the guests who arrived and lead their measured lifestyle, so you can photograph them from a distance of only a few meters.

In addition to observing the bears, we propose you also go on a cruise along the bays of the endless Pacific Ocean, where you will see the inhabitants of these places: majestic whales, sea lions, killer whales and many bird rookeries.

A professional photographer or a beginner can become a participant. We also invite wildlife and animal lovers to participate - there are so many things to see on the tour!

Highlights

- Visit of Kurile Lake
- Cruise on the bays of the Pacific Ocean on a comfortable ship
- Brown Bear Watching
- Acquaintance with the flora and fauna of Kamchatka
- Accompanied by an experienced guide and local photographer

Tour type

PURENATURE

Difficulty

Moderately Easy - 1-3 hours of physical activity daily

Comfort

Standard — most of nights in comfortable rooms, some nights in tents or rooms with shared WC.

Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, End of the tour: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

Program

Day 1 — Arrival to Kamchatka Peninsula

11:00 — Arrival to the airport of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

15:00 — Meeting with your guide

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Antarius, Paratunka, Twin room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

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Day 2 — Along the Sea of Okhotsk to the territory of the Kronotsky Nature Reserve

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
10:00 — Departure by 4x4 to Pauzhetka village
13:00 — Picnic en route
17:00 — Arrival and accommodation in the guest house
19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house of Pauzhetka village, House for 5-6 persons
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 3 — Road to Kurile Lake

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Transfer to the territory of the Kronotsky nature reserve by 4x4
11:00 — Trekking to the lake
13:00 — Picnic en route
16:00 — Arrival to the territory of the inspectors' cordon
19:00 — Dinner

Overnight on cordon

Hotels: Accommodation at the cordon of Kurile lake, House for 8 persons
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 4 — Brown bears watching

09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Brown bears watching
13:00 — Lunch
19:00 — Dinner

Overnight on cordon

Hotels: Accommodation at the cordon of Kurile lake, House for 8 persons
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 5 — Day on the lake

09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Brown bears watching
13:00 — Lunch
19:00 — Dinner

Overnight on cordon

Hotels: Accommodation at the cordon of Kurile lake, House for 8 persons
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 6 — Return to Pauzhetka

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Trekking to the border of the natural reserve
12:00 — Lunch (picnic)
13:00 — Return to Pauzhetka village by 4x4
19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the guest house

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Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house of Pauzhetka village, House for 5-6 persons
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 7 — Return to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Return to the city by 4x4
13:00 — Lunch en route (picnic with lunch-boxes)
17:00 — Arrival to the city, accommodation in the hotel
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Antarius, Paratunka, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 8 — Sailing to Pacific ocean

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
10:00 — Transfer to the port, embarkation on board
13:00 — Lunch on board
15:00 — Start of the navigation in Avacha bay
19:00 — Dinner on the board
Overnight on board

Hotels: Accommodation in the twin cabin Omega, Kamchatka, Twin cabin
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 9 — Cruise in the bays of Avacha bay

09:00 — Breakfast on board
11:00 — Navigation
13:00 — Lunch on board
19:00 — Dinner on board
Overnight on board

Hotels: Accommodation in the twin cabin Omega, Kamchatka, Twin cabin
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 10 — Continuation of the cruise

09:00 — Breakfast on board
11:00 — Animal watching
13:00 — Lunch on board
19:00 — Dinner on board
Overnight on board

Hotels: Accommodation in the twin cabin Omega, Kamchatka, Twin cabin
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 11 — Return to the city

09:00 — Breakfast on board
11:00 — Navigation to the port of the city
13:00 — Lunch on board
16:00 — Return to the port of the city
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Antarius, Paratunka, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

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Day 12 — End of the programme

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

11:00 — Transfer to the airport

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
15.08.2020	26.08.2020	552500.00 RUB

Note

The departure is guaranteed for the group from 6 persons. Kindly note that the use of quadcopters is forbidden on the territory of the Kurile lake. We recommend you to take a sleeping-bag for overnights in Puzhetka village. We also ask you to refrain from oversized suitcases and bags for the convenience of their transportation on off-road vehicles and a boat.

What's included

Price includes

- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Reserves and national parks entrance permissions
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day
- Letter of invitation
- Russian-speaking guide services
- English-speaking guide services
- Meals according to the program
- Photo and video permit at visited places

Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Airline tickets

Checklist & Equipment

We recommend you to pack all your stuff in two bags: a small backpack and a large travelling bag.

SMALL BACKPACK: will be useful for carrying your personal belongings during the day (camera, film, personal medication, bottled water, etc.) You will also use it as hand luggage during air travel for all your heavy (to lighten the travel bag in the luggage compartment), fragile (camera, etc.) and necessary (toilet bag, etc.) things.

BIG TRAVEL BAG or BIG BACKPACK: must contain the rest of your stuff. It will be in the luggage compartment during the flight. It will be transported by vehicles.

Recommended checklist

Sleeping bag rated from 0° C to +15° C

Raincoat or wind and waterproof shell jacket (with hood !)

POLARTEC or similar pullover

Trekking pants

Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts

Shorts

T-shirts

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Socks
Comfortable walking shoes (like Vibram or similar)
Comfortable shoes for city
Sunglasses with filter
Towel
Swimsuit
Wipes
Binoculars
Charger and spare battery for camera/phone
Photo / video camera

Meals

In the canteen at the inns, fresh local products.
Three meals a day on shipboard, cuisine, based on fresh products and caught fish.
If you are a vegetarian or have any particular preferences, please let us know, so we could adapt the menu.

Visa

You need a tourist visa to travel to Russia. It can be issued for a maximum period of 30 days. Your passport has to be valid for at least six months after the expiry date of your visa and to have at least two blank pages.

BaikalNature offers visa support and has created "BaikalNature letter of invitation" package. If you buy a BaikalNature tour, this package is absolutely free; when you buy any other BaikalNature service, you will have to pay for this package.
For more information please contact your nearest Russian Embassy or Visa Application Center.

Money

The Russian currency is ruble. In all cities and many large villages of Russia, you can easily withdraw rubles, using a Visa or MasterCard, from ATMs, located in banks, department stores or hotel lobbies, some of them are open 24 hours a day. If you have euros or dollars with you, exchange offices will allow you to change them easily in the cities, seldom in the countryside. However, it can be difficult to exchange traveler's checks, even in cities.

Tipping

All persons who compose the BaikalNature travel team (guides, drivers, cooks, etc.) are paid a decent wage for their services and do not expect any tips from you. So you have no obligation to leave anything. If you really want to express your satisfaction by leaving a gratuity, and if it is in foreign currency, be aware that torn or glued coins and banknotes cannot be exchanged. Anyway, thank you for your tips, left at your discretion in envelopes.

Health

No compulsory vaccination.

You need to get a health examination before a great trip. Consult your doctor. Get a dental checkup. If you have health problems that could worsen during the trip, make sure you have taken all your medications with you.

Provide a first aid kit that includes among other items:

- aspirin or paracetamol,
- anti-diarrheal pills,
- antiseptic,
- adhesive plaster,
- sterile pads.

If you have individual diseases, make sure you have taken your medications.

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Medical Form

You should be physically fit enough for this tour.

Emergency Contact

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +73952 26 56 94.

In addition, your call will be forwarded to your manager, reachable 7/7.

Legal Mentions

Professional Guarantees: BaikalNature LLC (ООО "БайкалНейче"), United Federal Register of Tour Operators number: RTO 009402.
Financial Guarantee: "Gaide insurance company" JSC (АО "Страховая компания Гайде"). Insurance contract N 7890/22-49 from September 19, 2022. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC, 55 Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 405.2 664007 Irkutsk Russia

Cancellation Options

The cancellation options are:

- more than 30 days before departure - 15% of the tour price,
- 29 - 7 days before departure - 30% of the tour price,
- less than 7 days before departure - 50% of the tour price.

Travel Insurance

In addition to your personal insurance, you have an opportunity to purchase local insurance. Please, do not hesitate to ask us about our services.

Security

The travelers' security is our primary aim and also the long-term reputation of our travel agency. First-aid kit, adapted for this tour, is available at your guide.

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