

Enchanting Winter In Buryatia — Detailed description

Trip Length: Group: 2-8 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

Siberia, known as the land of exile for ages, gathered together people from various cultures, adherents of multiple religions, unique ethnic groups persecuted under tsarism and Stalinism. Today, this destination offers all the diversity of cultures and nationalities each with its own traditions and customs but which are however united by the respect for nature and Lake Baikal considered to be sacred.

This adventure is destined for those who are interested in discovery of the culture and the lifestyle of Buryat people and sumptuous nature of frozen Lake Baikal. On the menu of this journey you will find visiting the school of Buddhist monks, the only one in Russia, discovering of the factory producing traditional Russian boots, tasting of traditional dishes of Siberian cuisine, and, of course, walking on the crystalline ice of the Baikal.

Following the tracks of scenic Barguzin valley and those of the Baikal ice field, you will reach some villages lost in Siberian taiga and get to know the way of life of local people. You will visit the Barguzinsky nature reserve and meet forestry officers of Davsha and also discover the weather station on Ushkany Islands. Calm corners of sumptuous nature where nothing seems to interrupt a quiet life of their inhabitants...

Highlights

- Acquaintance with the way of life of indigenous population
- Discovery of protected nature of reserves and national parks
- Discovery of multiethnic culture of Buryatia

Tour type

NATURE

Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

Comfort

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

Program

Day 1 — -

Day 2 — -

Day 3 — -

Day 4 — -

Day 5 — -

Day 6 — -

Day 7 — -

Day 8 — -


Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 383618

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Day 9 — -

Day 10 — -

Departures

New departures available soon

Note

What's included

Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Meals
- Medical insurance
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Reserves and national parks entrance permissions
- Banya
- Letter of invitation

Price does not include

- Administrative registration
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day

Checklist & Equipment

You will need in Russia in winter:

- to protect yourself from the cold weather;
- to protect yourself from the wind;
- to protect your feet from moisture;
- to protect yourself from the sun's reflection from ice and snow.

Allow the system of "three layers":

- The first layer, called "second skin", determines the performance of the other two layers. It will transport sweat to the next layer and dry quickly to avoid cooling after exercise. Therefore forget the cotton retains moisture in the skin and choose underwear in synthetic fabrics.
- The second layer must keep the heat of the body as long as possible. Warm synthetic or mixed (wool or fleece turtleneck sweater) fabrics, that dry quickly, are preferable.
- The third layer should protect you against wind and moisture. Choose a jacket, long enough, 100% waterproof, preferably with hood.

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

Universal AC power outlet

Thermal underwear

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POLARTEC or similar pullover
Windproof waterproof pants and jacket (GORE-TEX, EVENT, SIMPA-TEX)
Trekking pants
Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts
Foulard or tagelmust
Headlamp
Sunscreen for skin and lips
Sunglasses with filter
Toilet roll
Pocket knife (to put in checked baggage)
Flask
Slippers
Flip-flops for banya
Sewing kit
Down jacket
Fleece jacket or warm sweater
Comfortable pants
Mountain boots for walking on ice and snow
Thick socks
Wool gloves and winter cap
Warm gloves or mittens
Moisturizer
Lipstick
Bath towel
Swimsuit
Important travel documents: Passport and visa, original or electronic airplane tickets (with a sets of photocopies kept separately), bank card
Wipes
Antibacterial hand gel
Wristwatch or pocket alarm clock
Charger and spare battery for camera/phone
Photo / video camera
Tour vouchers and programme
Ice cleats
Laundry detergent to wash your clothes

Meals

At restaurants and homestays in cities, traditional cuisine consists of local specialties.
Picnic for lunch and hot meal served at your accommodation in the evening.
If you are a vegetarian or have any particular preferences, please let us know, so we could adapt the menu.

Laundry

Some hotels and inns offer laundry services for a variable sum of money. It is sometimes possible to use laundry services at homestay (when there is running water) for a fee.

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.

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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.

It is advisable to keep the following vaccines valid:

- diphtheria,
- tetanus,
- Polio.

Tick-borne encephalitis is present in areas of forest, taiga where ticks are the carriers of encephalitis between May and July. As of August, they are no longer carrying the virus. If you do not get vaccinated, you should follow the basic precautions, including:

- protective clothes
- use of repellents
- daily check of the skin.

It is also possible to take out special insurance covering the analysis of the insect and vaccines.

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.

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

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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.

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