

Great Baikal — Detailed description

Trip Length: 12 Group: 4-8 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

You wish to discover Lake Baikal from south to north, west to east? You would like to have an idea about the diversity and uniqueness of its area? Join the adventure! It's our greatest tour to Lake Baikal in summer. This tour includes the visit of the key Baikal places. During 12 days you will alternate transfers by car and by boat. In this outstanding journey around the whole lake, you will discover stunning sceneries: steppes, river delta, sand dunes, cliffs, taiga - preserved fauna and flora and the rough but generous soul of Siberians. You will visit the southernmost and the northernmost points of Lake Baikal and cross the lake in its central and northern parts. The total distance of the itinerary is more than 2000 km. For understanding the immensity of this tour, just take a look at the map!

Though there are a lot of excursions during the tour you will be able to relax and enjoy peace of Baikal beauties. You will taste the local cuisine and get acquaintance with culture and history of the region.

In the beginning of the tour and in the end of the tour you will have a journey on train along Circum Baikal railway and by the Baikal-Amur Mainline (BAM) – one of the biggest railway lines all over the world.

This tour is available for everyone. No particular physical condition is required.

After this tour, you will be able to say that you know the summer Baikal!

Highlights

- Meeting with locals and tasting of traditional food
- Circle tour of Lake Baikal
- Water transport is largely used during the tour
- Perfect combination of the price and the tour scale
- Bathing in the hot springs
- Visit of the northernmost and the southernmost points of Baikal
- Twice Baikal crossing
- Discovery of genious architectural constructions of the Circum-Baikal Railway
- See the confluence of Lake Baikal with the rebellious Angara River

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

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: Irkutsk, End of the tour: Irkutsk

Program

Day 1 — The golden buckle of Russia

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07:00 — Gathering a group
07:45 — Departure of the train from Irkutsk-Passazhirsky station
11:00 — Along the Circum Baikal railway
13:00 — Lunch on the train (Not included)
17:20 — Arrival in Port Baikal
18:00 — Arrival to Listvyanka village
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
Overnight in the hotel.

Hotels: Accommodation in Usadba Demidova,
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 2 — The biggest island of the lake Baikal

07:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
08:00 — Departure to the Olkhon island
12:15 — Arrival on Olkhon island
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
14:00 — Excursion in Khuzhir
19:00 — Dinner in the resort
Night in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Nabaymar, Chambre twin comfortable
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 3 — North part of the Olkhon island

09:00 — Breakfast at the resort
10:00 — Olkhon island excursion
13:00 — Outdoor lunch
14:00 — Walking around and come back
18:00 — Dinner at the resort
Overnight on the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Nabaymar, Chambre twin comfortable
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 4 — Day at leisure on the Olkhon island

09:00 — Breakfast on the resort
10:00 — Time at leisure on the Olkhon island
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
18:00 — Dinner on the resort
Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Nabaymar, Chambre twin comfortable
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 5 — Crossing of lake in its widest part

09:00 — Breakfast on the resort
09:30 — Transfer to the port
10:00 — Navigation to Ust-Barguzin
13:00 — Lunch

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14:00 — Continuation of the navigation
15:00 — Arriving to Ust-Barguzin and transfert to guest house
19:00 — Dinner
20:00 — Russian banya
 Overnight in the guest house
 Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house "Sindbad", Standard twin

Day 6 — Free day in the Baikal village

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Free time
13:00 — Lunch
14:00 — Walking around the village
19:00 — Dinner
 Overnight in the guest house
 Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house "Sindbad", Standard twin

Day 7 — Along the eastern shore of the lake Baikal

08:00 — Breakfast
08:30 — Transfer to the Monahovo village
12:00 — Outdoor lunch
13:00 — Departure to the resort Khakussy by private boat
17:00 — Arrival to Khakussy
19:00 — Dinner at the resort
 Overnight in the resort
 Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Laskoviy Bereg, Twin room
 Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 8 — Hot springs of the lake Baikal

09:00 — Breakfast at the resort
10:00 — Free time at the resort
13:00 — Lunch
14:00 — Free time
19:00 — Dinner
 Overnight in the resort
 Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Laskoviy Bereg, Twin room
 Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, shared WC and bath / shower

Day 9 — The northern part of the lake

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Departure to Severobaikalsk
12:30 — Arrival to Nijneangarsk
13:00 — Lunch in the hotel
19:00 — Dinner
 Overnight in the hotel
 Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Olymp, Séverobaïkalsk, Twin comfort room
 Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

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Day 10 — Day in Severobaykalsk

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

10:00 — Time at leisure in the city

20:30 — Transfer to the railway station

Overnight in the train

Hotels: Overnight in the train, The 2nd class compartment

Comfort:

Day 11 — Baikal-Amur Mainline on train

11:00 — Day in the train

Overnight in the train

Hotels: Overnight in the train, The 2nd class compartment

Comfort:

Day 12 — End of the programme

12:10 — Arrival to the railway station of Irkutsk

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
21.07.2022	01.08.2022	159200.00 RUB

Note

The departure is guaranteed for the group from 4 participants. If there are less persons in the group, the price can be recalculated. The price includes breakfast on Day 2-10; lunch on Day 3, 5-9; dinner on Day 2-8. Single supplement 14 300 RUB.

What's included**Price includes**

- English-speaking guide
- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Accident insurance
- Letter of invitation
- Ice crampons
- Guide during free days
- Bathing in hot springs
- Meals according to the program

Price does not include

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

Checklist & Equipment

For summer travel, we recommend preparing:

- comfortable clothes for hot and sunny weather - we advise you to give preference to natural fabrics, be sure to have sun protection (comfortable hat, SPF protection cream, sunglasses);
- protection from rain and wind - a long raincoat with a hood, for active tours - a waterproof cover on a backpack, the second pair of

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shoes (the ability to dry a second pair if they get wet);

- clothing in case of bad weather - when the temperature drops (in mountainous regions, on the coasts, in the evening), we recommend taking a light jacket, a warm sweater and pants

In different regions of Russia there can be significant temperature fluctuations in the summer. If you do not have experience traveling in similar regions, please contact your manager to pick up the necessary things and find out about the weather forecast in the place where you are planning your trip.

If you are traveling in the spring or autumn, please check with your manager for a list of recommended equipment and an approximate weather forecast.

Recommended checklist

pants, long sleeve jacket/tracksuit

raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

towel

wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel

water bottle/flask

spray against mosquitoes and ticks (for summer outdoor tours)

sleeping bag

winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit

fleece jacket/sweater with collar

warm mittens (for convenience, thin gloves and a second layer of mittens with fur) / ski gloves

fleece balaclava

2

10

12

13

14

29

Meals

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 questions regarding obtaining an electronic visa, please contact your tour manager.

Money

The Russian currency is ruble. The cost of travel and other services is always fixed in rubles. Please note that cards from foreign banks do not work in Russia at the moment. Tourists can obtain a bank card from a Russian bank in advance or travel with cash. If you have euros or dollars with you, exchange offices will allow you to change them easily in the cities. It is also worth noting that the exchange rate at airports is usually not the most favorable. It is better to exchange in big cities (you can check the current exchange rate online). Important! Only new banknotes without defects or any traces are accepted for exchange.

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,

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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

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.

Medical Form

You should be physically fit enough for this tour.

Emergency Contact

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 924 531 87 01 (What's App, Telegram, Viber)

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 4875/2422-49 from August 6, 2024. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC, 55 Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 204.1 664007 Irkutsk Russia

Cancellation Options

The cancellation options are:

- more than 40 days before departure - 30 % of the tour price,
- 39 - 10 days before departure - 60 % of the tour price,
- less than 10 days before departure - 100 % 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

Your safety is very important to us! During the trip we ask you to follow the guide's advice, read the instructions carefully and follow the group. If you have any questions or experience any discomfort, please notify your guide or tour-manager immediately.

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