

Great Baikal. Winter Version — Detailed description

Trip Length: 12 Group: 4-12 Departure: Fixed Period: February -March

Trip overview

Once you have made a decision to go for a travel to Lake Baikal, you have thought a great deal about places to visit. We have elaborated for you the unique tour that allows trying and seeing everything! You will see all types of landscape, all essential landmarks and all types of the Baikal ice: snowy fields, unlimited polished ice rinks, ice hummocks, ice coves and others. 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!

Symbolically the first meeting with Baikal will be held in the southernmost point of Lake Baikal and the tour will end in the northernmost part near the stele "Northern Baikal". When you will go on ice for the first time in the south part of the lake, you will get acquaintance with the Circum-Baikal railway. Moreover, you will pass by the Angara source by hovercraft. During this tour you will cross Lake Baikal twice. The first crossing will be in the deepest and widest central part of lake on the crystal ice fields. You will stay overnight in the BaikalNature Ice Camp in the geographical center of the lake. In the camp the unique activities are proposed: you can skate on the natural ice rink, to play ice hockey or to have a rest in Ice Bar. For those who want we propose to take Russian banya (sauna) and to dive in an ice hole. The second crossing will be in the north of Lake Baikal – the most under populated and hard-to-get part of the lake.

The special part of the tour is the rest in the Baikal corner of paradise far away from civilization – Khakussy hot springs. Besides that you will visit the symbolic places: Listvyanka village, Peschanaya bay, Olkhon island, Barguzinskiy and Chivikuysky golfs, Khakussy hot springs, Severobaykalsk city.

In the end of the tour you will go on train by the Baikal-Amur Mainline (BAM) - one of the biggest railway lines all over the world.

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

Highlights

- Baikal crossing from the south to the north
- Overnight in the pre-prepared tent camp in the centre of Lake Baikal "BaikalNature Ice Camp"
- · Visit of the symbolic places of Lake Baikal
- Visit of the northernmost and the southernmost points of Lake Baikal
- Double crossing of the lake in the central and the northern parts
- More than 800 km on the Baikal ice
- More than 2000 km of the total itinerary
- · Bathing in the hot springs
- Circular itinerary via the Republic of Buryatia and the Baikal-Amur Mainline

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

Difficulty

Moderately Easy - 1-3 hours of physical activity daily

Comfort

+7 (3952) 26-56-94

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

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 861175

ООО «БайкалНейче» 664007, г. Иркутск, ул. Декабрьских событий, 55, офис 405.2







Program

Day 1 — The southernmost point of lake Baikal

- 11:00 Meeting with group in the Irkutsk airport
- 11:05 Departure to the Kultuk village
- 13:00 Lunch in the cafe (Not included)
- 14:00 Departure by hovercraft to the Listvyanka village
- 17:00 Arrival to the Listvyanka village
- 19:00 Dinner in the hotel
 - Overnight in the hotel Hotels: Accommodation in Usadba Demidova, Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 2 — On Baikal ice by hovercraft

- 09:00 Breakfast in the hotel
- 10:00 Transfer to the port
- 10:15 Departure by hovercraft to the MRS village
- 13:00 Lunch box
- 14:00 Continuation of the way to MRS
- 16:00 Arrival to MRS
- 19:00 Dinner at your resort (Not included)
 - Overnight at your resort Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Naratey, Twin room Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and shower on the floor

Day 3 — The biggest island of the Baikal lake

- 09:00 Breakfast at your resort
- 10:00 Transfer to Olkhon island
- 13:00 Arrival to Khujir
- 13:30 Lunch at your resort
- 14:00 Visit of Khujir
- 19:00 Dinner (Not included) Overnight at the resort Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Lada, Chambre confortable Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room
- Day 4 BaikalNature Ice Camp
- 09:00 Breakfast at the resort
- 10:00 Transfer to the ice camp
- 13:00 Picnic lunch
- 15:00 Arrival to the camp
- 19:00 Dinner

Overnight in the camp BaikalNature Ice Camp

Hotels: Camp on the ice of Baikal, Tent for 5-6 persons Comfort:

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Day 5 — Baikal crossing

09:00 - Breakfast in the camp

- 13:00 Lunch in the camp
- 14:00 Time at leisure in the camp
- 16:30 Departure in Ust-Bargouzin and accommodation in the guest house
- 19:00 Dinner (Not included)
- 20:00 Russian banya

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in Ust-Barguzin, Twin room Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 6 — Day at leisure in the Baikal village

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Time at leisure
- 13:00 Lunch
- 18:00 Russian banya
- 19:00 Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in Ust-Barguzin, Twin room Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 7 — Along the Eastern coast of Lake Baikal

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Transfer to Khakussy
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Continuation of the journey
- 18:00 Arrival to Khakussy
- 19:00 Dinner

Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Laskoviy Bereg, Twin room Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 8 — Hot springs in Khakusy

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Free day in Khakussy
- 13:00 Lunch in the resort
- 15:00 Free time for bathing
- 19:00 Dinner in the resort
 - Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Laskoviy Bereg, Twin room Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 9 — The northernmost point of lake Baikal

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Baikal crossing from the east to west
- 13:00 Continuation of the road

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14:00 — Arrival to Severobaykalsk

- 15:00 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

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 — Return to Irkutsk

12:10 — Arrival to Irkutsk

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
28.02.2023	11.03.2023	175200.00 RUB

Note

Departure is guaranteed from 4 people. You can book the optional excursions in advance or on site with payment in cash.

What's included

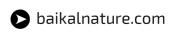
Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- · Russian-spaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- · Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- · Ice crampons
- Sleeping bag in BaikalNature Ice Camp
- · Letter of invitation
- · Guide in the trains
- · Bathing in hot springs
- · Meals according to the program
- Ice studs for shoes

- Price does not include
 - · Personal expenses and tips
 - Visa fees and travel insurance
 - Airline tickets
 - · Optional activities
 - Transfers in Irkutsk
 - · Airplane/ train tickets

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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.

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

raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

sunglasses towel

water bottle/flask

fleece balaclava

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- 13

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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

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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, 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

No particular physical condition is required.

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

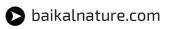
In addition to your personal insurance, you have an opportunity to purchase local insurance. Please, do not hesitate to ask us about our services.

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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