

## Baikal Transit — Detailed description

Trip Length: 5    Group: 4-12    Departure: Fixed    Period: July - August

### Trip overview

This tour is an excellent opportunity to discover Lake Baikal for those who travel by the Trans-Siberian Railway and prefer not to pass the point of departure again. This route will make you explore the heart of Lake Baikal, Olkhon Island, Grand Baikal in its widest part, the largest gulf of the lake - Barguzinsky Gulf, the shoreline of Svyatoy Nos Peninsula, and the fishing village of Ust-Barguzin.

We will devote two days to explore Olkhon, the largest island of the lake, in order to get more deeply acquainted with it. When crossing the lake, we will sail in its largest and deepest part and you will be able to realize all the immensity and greatness of this Siberian Sea!

The road from Ust-Barguzin to Ulan-Ude, well-beaten track, follows in part the shore of the lake and then turns south towards the city through wild taiga. Many Buryat villages await us as we travel to the capital of Buryatia.

### Highlights

- Perfect travel option for those who take the Trans-Siberian
- Discovery of the largest island of Lake Baikal
- Crossing of the Baikal in its widest part
- Most get-to-know-local-people journey

### Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

### Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

### Comfort

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

### Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Irkutsk, End of the tour: Ulan-Ude

## Program

### Day 1 — First meeting with lake Baikal

09:00 — Departure for the Olkhon island

15:00 — Arrival to the Khuzhir village

19:00 — Dinner at your resort

Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Shamanka, Twin room (economic)

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet and shower outdoors

### Day 2 — Olkhon - heart of the lake Baikal

09:00 — Breakfast at your resort

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 561675

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10:00 — Free time

18:00 — Russian banya (Not included)

19:00 — Dinner at the resort

Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort Shamanka, Twin room (economic)

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet and shower outdoors

### Day 3 — Baikal crossing from the west to east

08:00 — Breakfast at your resort

09:00 — Transfer to the Khuzhir village berth

10:00 — Embarkation on board

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:30 — Arrival and transfer to the homestay

19:00 — Dinner

20:00 — Russian banya

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in Ust-Barguzin, Twin room

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

### Day 4 — Day in the Baikal village

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Day at leisure

13:00 — Lunch

18:00 — Russian banya

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the homestay

Hotels: Accommodation in Ust-Barguzin, Twin room

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

### Day 5 — Ulan-Ude - capital of Buryatia

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Morning scheduled bus to Ulan-Ude

14:00 — Arrival to Ulan-Ude

### Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
15.07.2020	19.07.2020	32300.00 RUB
28.07.2020	01.08.2020	32300.00 RUB
05.08.2020	09.08.2020	32300.00 RUB
16.07.2021	20.07.2021	32500.00 RUB
21.07.2021	25.07.2021	32500.00 RUB
04.08.2021	08.08.2021	32500.00 RUB

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## Note

The guaranteed departure 4 participants. If there are less than 4 participants in the group, the price can be recalculated. For the individual groups from 4 participants, there are open departure dates. The price includes breakfast Day 2-5, lunch Day 4, dinner Day 1-4). Please, contact us for the information about the optional excursions. The bus transfers can be changed by the private cars.

## What's included

### Price includes

- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Banya
- Letter of invitation
- Meals according to the program

### Price does not include

- Medical insurance
- 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
- Optional activities

## Checklist & Equipment

It is hot in summer at Lake Baikal area. Nevertheless, you should always have something to put on, as weather in Siberia is very changeable.

If you plan your trip in May or September, please feel free to bring your hat, gloves and windjacket in case of snow or rain.

June is also pretty cool.

July and August are the hottest months, which offer you temperatures of 25 ° - 35 ° at daytime and 15 ° - 18 ° at night. On the shores of Lake Baikal, like in the Alps, you should wear T-shirts and shorts in the sunny afternoons, sweaters and jackets in the cool evenings.

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

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

POLARTEC or similar pullover

Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts

Shorts

T-shirts

Socks

Cap or hat to protect against sun

Comfortable walking shoes (like Vibram or similar)

Sunscreen for skin and lips

Sunglasses with filter

Toilet roll

Flip-flops for banya

Fleece jacket or warm sweater

Bath towel

Swimsuit

Important travel documents: Passport and visa, original or electronic airplane tickets (with a sets of photocopies kept separately), bank card

Tick and mosquitoes repellent spray

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Binoculars

## Meals

In the canteen at the inns, fresh local products.

Homestay cuisine based on fresh products.

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.

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

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,

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- 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: +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.

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