

New Year's Eve 2021 beyond the Arctic Circle — Detailed description

Trip Length: 5 Group: 4-8 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

The Kola Peninsula is a real kingdom of the Russian North. It's very special Russian region – virgin, picturesque and severe. It's impossible to describe it in words: how can we translate into words the beauty of the northern lights or the cordiality of the local people? It's a thing to see and to feel yourself. We propose to you to celebrate the most expected and fantastic holiday of the year there – on the Kola peninsula.

You will go to the ancient Komi village – Krasnoshchelye, the reindeer herders village. Thanks to the fact that this village is not accessible by car and there are no power poles, the local people have saved the unhurried country lifestyle, the pure nature and the special originality.

You will ride the reindeer sledge through the snow covered tundra, taste the dishes of the Komi cuisine, see the northern lights, get acquaintance with the culture and local traditions and, of course, you will celebrate the New Year in the traditional nomad dwelling – kuvaksa.

The New Year is a time for trying something new. What is more impressive and unusual than the holiday at the edge of the world ?

Highlights

- Komi village far from the civilization
- Possibility to see the northern lights
- Very unusual celebration of the New Year
- Acquaintance with the local herders
- Pure nature of the Russian north
- Traditional cuisine of the North
- Customs and traditions of the Komi people

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

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.

Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Murmansk, End of the tour: Murmansk

Program

Day 1 — Through the Sami tundra on the sledge

10:30 — Arrival to Murmansk

13:00 — Lunch

14:00 — Departure to the Krasnoshchelye village

18:00 — Arrival and accommodation in the guest house

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19:00 — Dinner

20:00 — Banya (Russian sauna)

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house of Krasnoschelye, Room in the guest house

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 2 — Happy New Year !

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Excursion in the village

14:00 — Lunch

15:00 — Rest and banya

21:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house of Krasnoschelye, Room in the guest house

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 3 — Far North Russian traditions

10:00 — Open air festival

11:00 — Late breakfast

13:00 — Lunch

14:00 — Continuation of the programme

19:00 — Dinner in the kuvaksa

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house of Krasnoschelye, Room in the guest house

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 4 — Reindeer sledge riding

09:30 — Breakfast

11:00 — Meeting with the reindeer herders

14:00 — Lunch of native dishes

15:00 — Excursion to the ethnographic centre

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the guest house

Hotels: Accommodation in the guest house of Krasnoschelye, Room in the guest house

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

Day 5 — Return to Murmansk

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Departure to the Lovozero village

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

15:00 — Transfer to Murmansk

17:00 — Arrival to Murmansk

Departures

Start

End

Basic price per person

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76300.00 RUB

Note

The departure is guaranteed for the group of 4 persons. If the group is smaller, the price of the tour can be recalculated. During the tour the national warm clothes are furnished.

What's included

Price includes

- Transport as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Banya
- Letter of invitation
- English-speaking guide services
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Snowmobile and equipment rental
- Meals according to the program
- Accident insurance
- Set of the outer clothing

Price does not include

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

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

Thermal underwear
POLARTEC or similar pullover
T-shirts
Socks

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Flip-flops for banya
Fleece jacket or warm sweater
Comfortable pants
Thick socks
Wool gloves and winter cap
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
Thermal socks

Meals

At restaurants and homestays in cities, traditional cuisine consists of local specialties.
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.

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.

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

No particular physical condition is required.

Emergency Contact

In Western Russia, you can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 499 705 65 58

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 9302/19-49 from September 30, 2019. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC 119A Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 13 664007 Irkutsk Russia

Cancellation Options

The cancellation options are:

- more than 30 days before departure - 30% of the tour price,
- 30 - 7 days before departure - 50% of the tour price,
- less than 7 days before departure - 100% of the tour price.

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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