

Kingdom Of Ice — Detailed description

Trip Length: 8 Group: 4-12 Departure: Fixed Period: February - March

Trip overview

You are in a good shape and you want to go for an adventure usually reserved for seasoned travelers only? You love being outdoors and you're ready to go further into the discovery regardless of your own comfort?

Then this journey was made for you. Cross the Lake Baikal where it is the widest and explore the Baikal most mysterious winter places while always observing the security rules so that you can enjoy your trip safely. Travel on foot, by hovercraft and 4WD to see Baikal ices in all their forms: frozen capes and rocks, clear ice patches blocked in vertical columns, giant ice shards, endless windblown ice covers and snow-coated fields.

Spend a night at your camp right in the middle of the lake on a 5000 feet deep water (1500 m). Welcome to Baikal Ice Camp! Play hockey on the clearest ice, ice skate on the deepest lake in the world, enjoy the Ice Bar menu especially designed on site and experience the purest Baikal water in the banya.

Journey on ice and meet with the local anglers, taste fresh fish all of the Baikal delicacy through its flavour.

At this end of your trip, visit the Republic of Buryatia and its capital city Ulan-Ude and ride on the Trans-Siberian railway across the taiga and along Lake Baikal.

As adventure-filled as this journey may be, it still contains much of cultural discovery as well. Visit the Taltsy Ethnographic Museum and enter a datsan in Ulan-Ude to taste nomadic cooking.

Highlights

- Travelling all close to the locals and night at one of their homesteads on the lake shore
- Trekking and hot lunches on ice in the midst of Arctic landscapes
- Route accessible to everyone in often difficult weather conditions
- Crossing of the lake by 4x4 in its widest part
- Visit of the Republic of Buryatia
- Overnight in the tent camp in the centre of Lake Baikal - "Baikal Ice Camp"
- The circular itinerary of about 1 300 km

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.

Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Irkutsk, End of the tour: Irkutsk

Program


Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 367078

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

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ИНН 3811110257 КПП 384901001 ОГРН 1073811003221 Р/с 40702810110000700937 в АО "ТИНЬКОФФ БАНК"
БИК 044525974 Кор. Счет 30101810145250000974

 [baikalnature.com](https://www.baikalnature.com)

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Day 1 — First meeting with the lake Baikal

10:30 — Arrival in Irkutsk
11:00 — Departure to the Listvyanka village
12:00 — Excursion to Taltsy
13:40 — Lunch in the restaurant
15:40 — Lift on the Chersky rock
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
Overnight at your resort

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "BaikalCedar", Twin room
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
Overnight at your resort

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

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 Nabaymar, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and shower on the floor

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:

Day 5 — Baikal crossing

09:00 — Breakfast in the camp

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13:00 — Lunch in the camp
14:00 — Time at leisure in the camp
16:30 — Departure to Ust-Barguzin and check-in
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 — Free day

09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Optional excursion (Not included)
13:00 — Lunch in the open air (Not included)
17:00 — Return to the village of Ust-Barguzin
19:00 — Homemade 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 — Discovery of Ulan-Ude

08:00 — Homemade breakfast
09:00 — Transfer to Ulan-Ude
13:00 — Lunch
14:00 — Arrival and free time
22:30 — Departure to Irkutsk by night train
Overnight in the train
Hotels: Overnight in the train, The 2nd class compartment
Comfort:

Day 8 — Return to Irkutsk

07:15 — Arrival in Irkutsk
08:00 — Transfer to airport. End of the program.

Departures

New departures available soon

Note

The departure is guaranteed for a group of 4 persons (minimum). If there are fewer participants, the price of the tour will be recalculated. Single supplement - 8 600 RUB / pers. (except the overnight in the BaikallceCamp). We can change the category of rooms or accommodation according to your request. Please contact us before your departure.

What's included

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Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Reserves and national parks entrance permissions
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day
- Banya
- Railway tickets in 2nd class
- Valenky (felt boots; only in BaikalNature Ice Camp)
- Letter of invitation
- Meals according to the program
- Ice studs for shoes
- Sleeping bag in BaikalNature Ice Camp
- Ropeway to Chersky Rock

Price does not include

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

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.

Crampons for walking on ice will be provided on the spot.

Recommended checklist

Thermal underwear
POLARTEC or similar pullover
Windproof waterproof pants and jacket (GORE-TEX, EVENT, SIMPA-TEX)
Trekking socks
Trekking pants
Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts
Foulard or tagelmust
Sunglasses with filter
Flask
Flip-flops for banya
Sewing kit
Down jacket

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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
Charger and spare battery for camera/phone
Photo / video camera
Tour vouchers and programme
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.

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

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.

Provide a first aid kit that includes among other items:

- aspirin or paracetamol,

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- 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: +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.

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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