

## Week End Nature Retreat in Kayak — Detailed description

Trip Length: 3 Group: 3-10 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

### Trip overview

Lake Ladoga is the largest in Europe. With many islands, its area is approximately 18,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Ladoga's skerries are rightly considered the most scenic spots on the lake. The "skerries" is a word of Scandinavian origin and literally means "rock in the sea". Indeed, most of the islands that make up the archipelago are small and mostly covered with rocks.

In order for such formations to appear, special geological conditions are required. For example, in the lakes of the central zone of Russia, skerries are almost impossible to find. It is mainly the prerogative of the north-western regions of the country, where in ancient times the territory was plowed by a giant glacier. When the ice melted, many fragments of rocks and narrow depressions remained on the ground, which were immediately filled with water. This is how the skerries were formed.

Ladoga Skerries is a unique natural complex made up of over 650 islands of varying sizes. Each of these islands is called a skerry. Scattered across the northern and northwestern parts of the lake, they form countless straits and fjords. They represent a great danger to the captains of any ship, as some of them are barely visible above the water.

However, for tourists they are a real paradise, ideal for kayaking trips! It is in this absolutely breathtaking setting, in unspoiled nature and away from the crowds, that we will get lost for three days!

NB:

All equipment is included at the price of the trip (kayaks, tents, sleeping bags, groundsheets, camp equipment. This trip does not require significant physical effort, you just need to be in good health and have good mindset to give up the amenities for two nights at the bivouac. The itinerary can be adapted to the wishes of the group on site.

### Highlights

- Active trip in full immersion in nature
- Discovery of the most picturesque part of the lake
- All equipment is provided
- An unspoiled nature 100% away from crowds a stone's throw from both capitals

### Tour type

ACTIVENATURE

### Difficulty

Challenging - 5-7 hours of challenging physical activity daily

### Comfort

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

### Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Saint-Petersburg, End of the tour: Saint-Petersburg

## Program

### Day 1 — Boarding, start of kayaking


Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 417244

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

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09:00 — Transfer to Vatikka  
10:30 — Optional lunch on the road  
12:00 — Arrival at the lake  
20:00 — Dinner by the fire  
Night in the tent.  
Hotels: Camping,

### Day 2 — Continuation of exploration of the Skerries of Ladoga

09:00 — Breakfast  
10:00 — Kayaking between the Skerries  
14:00 — Lunch  
15:00 — Continuation of the kayak excursion through the skerries  
19:00 — Dinner by the fire  
Night in the tent  
Hotels: Camping,

### Day 3 — Last day of exploration

09:00 — Breakfast around the fire  
10:00 — Continuation of the kayak excursion  
14:00 — Lunch  
15:00 — Last kayaking step  
17:00 — Transfer to St. Petersburg

### Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
04.09.2020	06.09.2020	16500.00 RUB
11.09.2020	13.09.2020	16500.00 RUB
18.09.2020	20.09.2020	16500.00 RUB
25.09.2020	27.09.2020	16500.00 RUB

### Note

#### What's included

##### Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Meals
- Tent rental
- Sleeping bag rental
- Camping outfit rental
- Dry bag rental

##### Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips

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## Checklist & Equipment

During your kayak tour, your luggage will be carried in a dry-bag (70 L.), on the kayak itself. Please think about it while packing !

### Recommended checklist

- Sunglasses
- Raincoat or wind and waterproof shell jacket (with hood !)
- POLARTEC or similar pullover
- Trekking pants
- T-shirts
- Socks
- Cap or hat to protect against sun
- Comfortable walking shoes (like Vibram or similar)
- Headlamp
- Sunscreen for skin and lips
- Mosquito net for face
- Toilet roll
- Pocket knife (to put in checked baggage)
- Flask
- Tick and mosquitoes repellent spray
- Wipes

### Meals

Cold lunch and hot dinner, cooked on an open fire 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.

### 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.

### Medical Form

You should be physically fit enough for this tour.

### Emergency Contact

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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.

### 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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