

## Kingdom of Ice — Detailed description

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

### Trip overview

The purpose of this voyage is to make it possible for any person of average fitness level to experience an adventure which is available only in short period of winter season.

During this exceptional trip we will traverse the most beautiful places of the winter Baikal within the maximum safety limits. By hovercraft and by 4x4 (UAZ) we will discover the Baikal ice in all its forms: the frozen rocks and caps, reared transparent plaques, crammed into impenetrable hummocks, polished into huge rinks by the wind, and such immense fields covered by snow.

We will visit winter grottos and their icy curtains, the cape, where the deepest point of the lake Baikal is: 1637m.

In the course of this trip you could meet local fishermen, take part in ice-fishing, and, certainly, you will taste fresh omul, delicacy of Lake Baikal!

### Highlights

- Visit of the most beautiful places of the winter Baikal
- Walks and hot lunches on ice in the midst of Arctic landscapes
- Route accessible to everyone in often difficult weather conditions
- More then 250km of travel by hovercraft on the Baikal ice
- Ice-fishing and visit of the deepest point of the lake

### Tour type

NATURE

### Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

### Comfort

Upgraded — all nights in comfortable rooms.

### Program

Day 1 — -

Day 2 — -

Day 3 — -

Day 4 — -

Day 5 — -

Day 6 — -


Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 413890

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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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Day 7 — -

Day 8 — -

## Departures

New departures available soon

## Note

Guaranteed departure for a group of 4 persons. The price includes breakfast on Day 2-8; lunch Day 4-6 and dinner on Day 3-6. Single supplement 6750 RUB / pers. We can switch the category of rooms or accommodation according to your request. Please contact us before your departure. Transfer to the airport on last day is 850 RUB / car of 3 passengers (from 7:00 to 22:00).

## What's included

### Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Meals
- Medical insurance
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Banya
- Guide during free days
- Sleeping bag in BaikalNature Ice Camp

### Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day
- Airline tickets

## 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.

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

### Recommended checklist

Universal AC power outlet  
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  
Headlamp  
Sunscreen for skin and lips  
Sunglasses with filter  
Toilet roll  
Pocket knife (to put in checked baggage)  
Flask  
Flip-flops for banya  
Sewing kit  
Down jacket  
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  
Wristwatch or pocket alarm clock  
Charger and spare battery for camera/phone  
Photo / video camera  
Tour vouchers and programme  
Ice cleats  
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.

### 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.

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## 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.

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,
- adhesive plaster,
- sterile pads.

If you have individual diseases, make sure you have taken your medications.

## 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

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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

### **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**

First-aid kit, satellite phone, walkie-talkie are available at your guide.

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