

Classic Caucasus — Detailed description

Trip Length: 6 Group: 4-12 Departure: Fixed Period: October

Trip overview

If you are looking for a real vacation, which has a diverse nature, centuries-old history, rich culture and, of course, hospitable people, then the Caucasus will give you all this. Visit the busiest cities of the Caucasian Mineral Waters - Pyatigorsk, Zheleznovodsk and Kislovodsk, which can boast of their originality and uniqueness, which have always been considered not only the best, but also the oldest resorts in Russia.

But the Caucasus is not only resorts with mineral springs. The main highlight of the tour will be the great Elbrus - the highest mountain peak in Europe. The best way to enjoy and appreciate its beauty is to go to the Elbrus region and take the lift from the Azau glade, then you will see a delightful picture. The Chegem Gorge with weeping waterfalls should also not be left without your attention. These places, where the pristine nature has been preserved, will conquer every demanding traveler. You will also visit the real monuments of the Middle Ages - the Ingush towers.

Spice up this adventure with tastings and master classes, and get a mixture of unique nature, ancient history and vibrant colors! You will definitely remember such an acquaintance with the Caucasus!

Highlights

- Visit 3 Caucasus regions: Stavropol Krai, Kabardino-Balkaria and Ingushetia
- Relax in the 3 main resort cities of the Caucasian Mineral Waters
- See the highest point in Europe - Elbrus
- Learn how the rocks "cry" in the Chegem Gorge
- Taste the Caucasus: national dishes of different regions and wines

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

Comfort

Upgraded — all nights in comfortable rooms.

Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Pyatigorsk, End of the tour: Pyatigorsk

Program

Day 1 — Kislovodsk natural outskirts and Honey Waterfalls

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Arrival to Pyatigorsk city and check-in

14:30 — Excursion to Honey Waterfalls

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

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Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Intourist, Pyatigorsk, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 2 — Chegem Gorge - the pearl of Kabardino-Balkaria

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel's restaurant
10:00 — Excursion to the Chegem Gorge
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
14:00 — Visit to Geduko thermal springs
16:00 — Return to Pyatigorsk
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Intourist, Pyatigorsk, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 3 — Excursion to the Elbrus region

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel's restaurant
10:00 — Excursion to the Elbrus region
13:00 — Lunch in the cafe (Not included)
18:00 — Return to Pyatigorsk
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Intourist, Pyatigorsk, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 4 — Culture and cuisine of the Caucasus

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel's restaurant
10:00 — Pyatigorsk city tour
14:00 — Lunch (Not included)
15:00 — Tasting of Caucasian wines and cognac
17:00 — Caucasian dance master class
19:00 — Dinner
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Intourist, Pyatigorsk, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 5 — Ancient mysteries of Ingushetia

06:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
06:10 — Transfer to Ingushetia
11:00 — Excursion to the Jeirakh Gorge
13:00 — Lunch in the local cafe
16:00 — Master class on making a national dish
17:00 — Tour of the tower complexes of Ingushetia
20:00 — Return to Pyatigorsk
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Intourist, Pyatigorsk, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 6 — Excursion around Zheleznovodsk and Cossack culture

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10:00 — Breakfast in the hotel's restaurant
11:00 — Check-out
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
13:30 — Excursion around Zheleznovodsk
16:00 — Excursion to the Cossack farmstead
18:00 — Dinner
19:00 — End of the program

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
02.05.2023	07.05.2023	56100.00 RUB
30.05.2023	04.06.2023	56100.00 RUB
27.06.2023	02.07.2023	56100.00 RUB
18.07.2023	23.07.2023	56100.00 RUB
22.08.2023	27.08.2023	56100.00 RUB
12.09.2023	17.09.2023	56100.00 RUB
24.10.2023	29.10.2023	56100.00 RUB

Note

Single supplement - 15 300 rubles (for all 5 overnights in the hotel). Supplement for an English-speaking guide - 63 530 rubles (the cost of the services of an English-speaking guide is divided between all interested participants of the tour. The indicated price shown is for 1 English speaking tourist per group for all trip duration). Entrance fees and environmental tax are not included in the price (about 50 - 350 rubles)

What's included

Price includes

- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Letter of invitation
- Meals according to the program
- Russian-speaking guide services

Price does not include

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Airline tickets
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- English-speaking guide services

Checklist & Equipment

If you are traveling in the spring or autumn, please check with your manager for a list of recommended equipment and an approximate weather forecast.

Recommended checklist

pants, long sleeve jacket/tracksuit

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raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

towel

wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel

water bottle/flask

spray against mosquitoes and ticks (for summer outdoor tours)

sleeping bag

winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit

thermal underwear

warm mittens (for convenience, thin gloves and a second layer of mittens with fur) / ski gloves

winter expeditionary down jacket (up to -50°)

10

12

16

19

Meals

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 questions regarding obtaining an electronic visa, please contact your tour manager.

Money

The Russian currency is ruble. The cost of travel and other services is always fixed in rubles. Please note that cards from foreign banks do not work in Russia at the moment. Tourists can obtain a bank card from a Russian bank in advance or travel with cash. If you have euros or dollars with you, exchange offices will allow you to change them easily in the cities. It is also worth noting that the exchange rate at airports is usually not the most favorable. It is better to exchange in big cities (you can check the current exchange rate online). Important! Only new banknotes without defects or any traces are accepted for exchange.

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.

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

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 924 531 87 01 (What's App, Telegram, Viber)

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 4875/2422-49 from August 6, 2024. 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 40 days before departure - 30 % of the tour price,
- 39 - 10 days before departure - 60 % of the tour price,
- less than 10 days before departure - 100 % of the tour price.

Security

Your safety is very important to us! During the trip we ask you to follow the guide's advice, read the instructions carefully and follow the group. If you have any questions or experience any discomfort, please notify your guide or tour-manager immediately.

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