

# Reindeer herders of Yakutia — Detailed description

Trip Length: 10 Group: 4-10 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

#### Trip overview

Willing to live a unique experience in winter fairy-tale, to see charming snow-covered nature of Yakutia and to be in seclusion from all civilization and entire immersion in nature? We propose you our tour adventure through the cold Siberian weather "Reindeer herders of Yakutia"!

During this trip you will make a travel by the Kolyma Highway which is also known as the "Road of Bones", you will see Black and Yellow Prizhim (part of the highway that horrified drivers some years ago), you will cross the Lena and Aldan rivers on the ice road. You will have a chance to know the real herders' life: learning to use a lasso for catching reindeer, preparing reindeers for journey, travelling on reindeer sled. You will apreciate staying with the locals themselves and the hospitality of extraordinarily welcoming people.

In Yakutsk you will make a city tour: The Mammoth museum and the complex "Kingdom of Permafrost" (ice tunnel with the head of the real mammoth and ice sculptures) and, of course, you will taste local food in the restaurant of ethno complex Chochur Muran.

ATTENTION: The tour requires good physical and mental preparation.

# **Highlights**

- Visit of the Mammoth museum and of the complex Kingdom of Permafrost
- Travel by The Kolyma Highway which is also known as the "Road of Bones"
- Reindeer sledding through the Oymyakon valleys, forest, and mountains
- Discovery of reindeer herders' life
- Overnight in a tent in snow-covered taiga

#### Tour type

NATURE

# Difficulty

Moderate - 3-5 hours of physical activity daily

### Comfort

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

# **Program**

### Day 1 — Arrival in Yakutsk

09:30 — Transfer aeroport - hotel

10:30 — Check-in and rest

12:00 — Yakutsk city-tour

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

16:00 — Free time

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

# Day 2 — Departure to Khandyga village

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1031273

**b**aikalnature.com





08:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

09:00 — Departure

13:00 — Lunch in the cafe en route (Not included)

14:00 — Continuation of road

18:00 — Dinner

19:00 — Arrival and installation in a little hotel

Overnight in the hotel

#### Day 3 — Raindeer herders' camp

09:00 — Breakfast (Not included)

10:00 — Transfer to the reindeer herder's camp

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Continuation of the road

19:00 — Dinner in the camp

19:00 — Arrival and check-in

Overnight in the homestay

#### Day 4 — Starting the expedition

09:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Preparation for the departure

12:00 — Lunch in camp

13:00 — Start of the reindeer sledding

18:00 — Arrival and installation of the camp

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in tents

#### Day 5 — Return to the reindeer herders' camp

09:00 - Breakfast

10:00 — Free time

13:00 - Lunch

15:00 — Way on reindeer sled

19:00 — Dinner in the camp

Overnight in the homestay

# Day 6 — Everyday life of the reindeer herders

09:00 — Breakfast in the camp

11:00 — Acquaintance with the life of the camp

13:00 — Lunch in the camp

15:00 — Free time

19:00 — Dinner in the camp

Overnight in the homestay

### Day 7 — Return to the Khandyga village

08:00 — Breakfast in the camp

09:00 — Departure to Khandyga

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1031273





13:00 - Lunch

15:00 — Continuation of the road

19:00 — Dinner

20:00 — Arrival and installation in the hotel

Overnight in the hotel

# Day 8 — Khandyga - Yakutsk

09:00 — Breakfast (Not included)

10:00 — Departure to Yakutsk

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

19:00 — Arrival and check-in in the hotel

Overnight in the hotel

#### Day 9 — Aquaintance of Yakutsk

09:00 - Breakfast in the hotel

10:00 — Yakutsk city-tour

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Continuation of the excursion

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

### Day 10 — End of the programme

09:00 - Breakfast

11:00 — Check-out. End of the programme.

#### **Departures**

New departures available soon

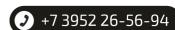
# Note

Guaranteed departure for a group of 4 persons. The price includes breakfast on Day 2, 4-7, 9,10; lunch Day 4-6 and dinner on Day 3-6. Single supplement 3500 RUB / pers. (days 1, 8, 9) We can switch the category of rooms or accommodation according to your request (days 1, 8, 9). Please contact us before your departure.

# What's included

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1031273







#### Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- Russian-spaking guide
- · Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport a per itinerary
- · Meals as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Tent rental
- · Bathing in springs
- · Letter of invitation
- · Guide during free days

# **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.

Price does not include

Personal expenses and tips

Sleeping bag rental

Airline tickets

• Visa fees and travel insurance

- 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

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**

underwear, socks (several pairs)

rubber slippers

comfortable shoes for trekking

raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

sunglasses

sunscreen and lip balm

swimsuit / swim trunks

towel

trekking telescopic poles

comfortable winter boots (suitable for walking on ice and snow)

fleece jacket/sweater with collar

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

comfortable warm hat and scarf (snood)

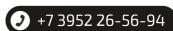
ski mask

winter expedition boots (like Sorel or Baffin)

fleece balaclava

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1031273

**b**aikalnature.com





moisturizing cream

1 2

3

4

5

6

7 8

9

10

12

13

16

18

20

21

22 24

26

27

33

### 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.

# 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.

#### 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**

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1031273

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







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: +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 204.1 664007 Irkutsk Russia

# Security

2

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 1031273

