

## Yakutian Expedition: From Verkhoyansk Mountains to Lena Pillars — Detailed description

Trip Length: Group: 5-6 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

### Trip overview

You like vast open spaces, untouched nature and exclusive tours?

Take part in our expedition in the very heart of Russian Far-East !

This 10 days tour is divided into two parts and will give you an insight into yakutian nature jewels. First, we will spend 4 days in the rather inaccessible Verkhoyansk Mountains. Then, we will spend a few days in the Lena valley to discover the outstanding Lena Pillars - Unesco listed.

On the day of arrival, we will visit Yakutsk, the capital city of Sakha Republic (official name for Yakutia) located 450 South from Polar Circle.

On following day, we will fly with a AN-2 biplane to lake Ilderkey, located in the South part of Verkhoyansk Mountains. In summer, the lake is only accessible by air. After meeting with reindeer and horse herders, who are going to guide during those few days in the mountains, we will have a walk around the lake. We will spend the next two days on horseback with the herders to track local animals (mouflon, moose, brown bear) in order to photography them.

We will then fly back to Yakoutsk where we will spend the night before heading to Lena valley. We will go back in time, when Yakutia was covered with water which teem with life and much later on, during Neolithic times, when hominids settled on the shores of the Lena. We will go by boat until the impressive Lena Pillars, a natural rock formation along the banks of the Lena river. We will walk to their top in order to admire the beautiful landscape.

Our last evening will be organised in Yakutsk ethnographic centre, where a festive dinner based on both Yakutian and Russian meals will be served.

### Highlights

- Untouched nature of Verkhoyansk Mountains
- Siberian wildlife: mouflon, reindeers, brown bear, moose
- "Lena Pillars" Unesco site
- Private flight in legendary sovietic biplane AN-2
- A region alive with History and authenticity

### Tour type

NATURE

### 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.

### Program

Day 1 — -

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ИНН 3811110257 КПП 384901001 ОГРН 1073811003221 Р/с 40702810110000700937 в АО "ТИНЬКОФФ БАНК"  
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Day 2 — -

Day 3 — -

Day 4 — -

Day 5 — -

Day 6 — -

Day 7 — -

Day 8 — -

Day 9 — -

Day 10 — -

## Departures

New departures available soon

## Note

### What's included

#### Price includes

- English-speaking guide services
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Meals
- 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
- Celebratory dinner with alcoholic beverages
- Letter of invitation
- Camping outfit rental
- Horse and equipment rental

#### Price does not include

- Medical insurance
- Administrative registration
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities

## Checklist & Equipment

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.

**ATTENTION!** The list of equipment varies with the season of travel!

## Recommended checklist

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Sunglasses  
Raincoat or wind and waterproof shell jacket (with hood !)  
Universal AC power outlet  
Thermal underwear  
Large 60 litres backpack  
Sleeping bag rated from -10° C to +15° C  
Trekking socks  
Trekking pants  
Cap or hat to protect against sun  
Foulard or tagelmust  
Comfortable walking shoes (like Vibram or similar)  
Comfortable shoes for city  
Headlamp  
Sunscreen for skin and lips  
Sunglasses with filter  
Mosquito net for face  
Toilet roll  
Pocket knife (to put in checked baggage)  
Flip-flops for banya  
Sewing kit  
Fleece jacket or warm sweater  
Towel  
Swimsuit  
Important travel documents: Passport and visa, original or electronic airplane tickets (with a sets of photocopies kept separately), bank card  
Tick and mosquitoes repellent spray  
Forceps for extracting ticks  
Wipes  
Antibacterial hand gel  
Binoculars  
Charger and spare battery for camera/phone  
Photo / video camera  
Tour vouchers and programme  
Currency in euros, dollars

## Meals

At restaurants and homestays in cities, traditional cuisine consists of local specialties.  
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

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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.

## 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 10058/21-49 from October 08, 2021. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC 119A Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 13 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

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.

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

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