

## Expedition to the Shantar Islands — Detailed description

Trip Length: 13 Group: 10-20 Departure: Fixed Period: September

### Trip overview

The Shantar islands are the unique place that might be considered as one of the wonders of Russia. Relatively few people have heard about this destination and even less visited it. This archipelago is destined for those who seek adventure and dare to test the forces in the ruthless waters of Okhotsk Sea.

We propose to you the real expedition to the islands that are distant from the civilization. There are only 4 men on the islands, they work at the weather station. However, the flora and fauna are really varied. You have possibility to see: thousands of birds, including the « landlord » of this territory – Steller's sea eagle, killer whale, whale, seal, bear, zibeline and others.

The nature and landscapes are really diverse: gentle banks, rocks, taiga, mountains, rivers and lakes – we will see everything that the nature allows to us.

Meet the nature. The pure nature that was waiting for you for millions of years...

### Highlights

- Visit of the unique archipelago - Shantar islands
- The real expedition far away from the civilisation
- Acquaintance with the flora and fauna: brown bears, killer whales, seals, Steller's sea eagle
- Navigation in the bays of the Okhotsk sea
- Fishing on the Russian Far East
- Pure nature far away from the urban life

### Tour type

PURENATURE

### Difficulty

Moderate - 3-5 hours of physical activity daily

### Comfort

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

### Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Khabarovsk, End of the tour: Khabarovsk

## Program

### Day 1 — Acquaintance with Khabarovsk

08:00 — Arrival to Khabarovsk

14:00 — Free time

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Khabarovsk city Boutique Hotel, Twin standard room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

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**Day 2 — Day on the road**

08:00 — Breakfast  
09:00 — Departure to Nikolaevsk-on-Amur  
11:00 — Departure to the coast of Okhotsk sea  
14:00 — Continuation of the road  
18:00 — Arrival to the Wrangel bay  
19:00 — Dinner  
Overnight in the tent of the bank  
Hotels: Camping,

**Day 3 — Wrangel bay**

08:00 — Breakfast  
10:00 — Free time  
13:00 — Lunch prepared on the fire  
15:00 — Walking along the coast  
19:00 — Dinner prepared on fire  
Overnight in the tent  
Hotels: Camping,

**Day 4 — Okhotsk sea**

09:00 — Breakfast  
11:00 — Whale observation  
13:00 — Lunch (picnic)  
15:00 — Time at leisure  
19:00 — Dinner  
Overnight in the tent  
Hotels: Camping,

**Day 5 — Whale observation**

09:00 — Breakfast  
11:00 — Whales observation  
13:00 — Lunch  
15:00 — Time at leisure  
19:00 — Dinner in the camp  
Overnight in the tent  
Hotels: Camping,

**Day 6 — Bay and cape Ongochan**

09:00 — Breakfast  
10:00 — Navigation to the Ongochan bay  
13:00 — Lunch  
16:00 — Arrival to the Ongochan bay  
19:00 — Dinner  
Overnight at the base  
Hotels: Accommodation at the Ongachan base, House for 4-6 people

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Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

### Day 7 — Shantar islands

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Navigation to the Grand Shantar island

13:00 — Lunch (picnic)

15:00 — Exploration of the Grand Shantar island

18:00 — Return to the tourist base

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight at the tourist base

Hotels: Accommodation at the Ongachan base,

### Day 8 — North strait crossing

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Departure to the Feklistov island

13:00 — Lunch

14:00 — Arrival on the island

16:00 — Return to the base Ongachan

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight at the tourist base

Hotels: Accommodation at the Ongachan base, House for 4-6 people

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

### Day 9 — Feklistov island

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Visit of the Fekistov island

12:00 — Visit of the Arka (Arch) island

13:00 — Lunch

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight at the tourist base

Hotels: Accommodation at the Ongachan base, House for 4-6 people

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

### Day 10 — Return way to the Wrangel bay

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Departure to the Wrangel bay

13:00 — Lunch

16:00 — Arrival to the Wrangel bay

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in tents

Hotels: Camping,

### Day 11 — Departure to Nikolaevsk-na-Amure

09:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Way back by boat

13:00 — Lunch

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15:00 — Arrival and transfer to the hotel

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in hotel

### Day 12 — Return to Khabarovsk

09:00 — Breakfast

11:00 — Departure to Khabarovsk by plane

15:00 — Transfer to the hotel

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Khabarovsk city Boutique Hotel, Twin standard room

Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

### Day 13 — End of the programme

09:00 — Breakfast

12:00 — Check-out and transfer to the airport.

## Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
03.08.2020	15.08.2020	217600.00 RUB
11.08.2020	23.08.2020	217600.00 RUB
19.08.2020	31.08.2020	217600.00 RUB
01.09.2021	13.09.2021	255900.00 RUB

## Note

The price is indicated for the group of 10-12 persons. If the group's size is smaller, the price can be recalculated. The service of the English-speaking guide is 115 000 roubles. Bath every day at all bases. SUB - boards and rowing boats for swimming with whales are included. All camping equipment is furnished. As the road to the Nikolay bay is very long and mostly gravel, it's possible to feel fatigue and discomfort.

## What's included

### Price includes

- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Letter of invitation
- Russian-speaking guide services
- Tent rental
- Camping outfit rental
- Meals according to the program

### Price does not include

- English-speaking guide
- Meals as per itinerary
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Airline tickets
- Optional activities

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## 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

underwear, socks (several pairs)  
pants, long sleeve jacket/tracksuit  
comfortable shoes for trekking  
cap/comfortable hat on head (for sun protection)  
sunglasses  
sunscreen and lip balm  
swimsuit / swim trunks  
towel  
wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel  
water bottle/flask  
sleeping bag  
winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit  
comfortable warm hat and scarf (snood)  
ski mask  
fleece balaclava  
2  
10  
12  
14  
16  
17  
19

### 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 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

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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

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.

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.

## Medical Form

A good 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 204.1 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.

## 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

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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