

## Eastern Altai on Snowmobile — Detailed description

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

### Trip overview

Seven Karakolski lakes are located between 1820 and 2097 meters of altitude, characterize by each a unique color and link together by several canals and streams. You can't stay in the Altai without going to that spot. This Unesco world heritage site, will provide you the opportunity to discover the picturesque landscape from the Gorno-Altay region. With the help of our professional guides, this adventure through the Eastern Altai will be unforgettable. After a snowmobile ride, enjoy good meals and a warm Russian wood-burning stove. It is preferable to have a drive experience, but that's not obligatory. Be ready to live an experience subject to changeable mountain weather which can be our ally or enemy. Don't be afraid and dare the adventure!

### Highlights

- Discovery of the high-mountain lake Veronica
- Visit of the Karakokshinskaya cave
- Discovery of a wonderful panorama
- Driving the snowmobile
- Activities for everyone

### Tour type

ACTIVENATURE

### 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.

### Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Gorno-Altaysk, End of the tour: Gorno-Altaysk

## Program

### Day 1 — Descent to the Karakolski Lakes

09:00 — Arrival to Gorno-Altaysk in the morning

10:00 — Transfer to the village Ulala

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

14:00 — Start of the route

17:00 — Arrival to the resort

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Karakolski lakes", Room for 4-6 persons

Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

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**Day 2 — Karakokshinskaya cave**

09:00 — Breakfast  
11:00 — Start of the route  
13:00 — Lunch (picnic)  
14:00 — Continuation of the itinerary  
19:00 — Dinner  
Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Karakolski lakes", Room for 4-6 persons  
Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

**Day 3 — Discovery of Lake Veronica**

09:00 — Breakfast  
10:00 — Radial ride to Veronica Lake  
14:00 — Lunch  
15:00 — Return to Karakolskie Lakes  
19:00 — Dinner  
Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Karakolski lakes", Room for 4-6 persons  
Comfort: Simple comfort accommodation, toilet outdoors, banya

**Day 4 — Return to Barnaul**

09:00 — Breakfast  
10:00 — Return to the village Ulala  
13:00 — Lunch (picnic)  
15:00 — Transfer to Barnaul

**Departures**

Start	End	Basic price per person
27.02.2020	01.03.2020	42400.00 RUB
12.03.2020	15.03.2020	42400.00 RUB
03.12.2020	06.12.2020	42400.00 RUB
10.12.2020	13.12.2020	42400.00 RUB
17.12.2020	20.12.2020	42400.00 RUB
24.12.2020	27.12.2020	42400.00 RUB
30.12.2020	02.01.2021	42400.00 RUB
07.01.2021	10.01.2021	42400.00 RUB
14.01.2021	17.01.2021	42400.00 RUB
28.01.2021	31.01.2021	42400.00 RUB
20.02.2021	23.02.2021	42400.00 RUB

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05.03.2021 08.03.2021 42400.00 RUB

25.03.2021 28.03.2021 42400.00 RUB

## Note

Guaranteed departure from 4 participants. The price is indicated for two persons per snowmobile. Single supplement for snowmobiling is 20 600 RUB. The snowmobile driving is allowed for tourists above 18 years old. According to the weather conditions the itinerary can be changed on the similar one (in km). If you want to extend your journey in Eastern Altai or book an extra night, please, let us know of your preferences.

## What's included

### Price includes

- Russian-speaking guide services
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- 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
- Snowmobile and equipment rental
- Meals according to the program

### Price does not include

- English-speaking guide
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities

## 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 BACKPACK:** must contain the rest of your stuff. It will be in the luggage compartment during the flight. You will bring it during some days of the trekking.

## Recommended checklist

Thermal underwear

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POLARTEC or similar pullover  
Windproof waterproof pants and jacket (GORE-TEX, EVENT, SIMPA-TEX)  
Trekking socks  
Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts  
T-shirts  
Comfortable pants  
Wool gloves and winter cap  
Lipstick

## 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 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

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

You should be physically fit enough for this tour.

## Emergency Contact

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +73952 26 56 94.

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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

### Cancellation Options

The cancellation options are:

- more than 30 days before departure - 15% of the tour price,
- 29 - 7 days before departure - 30% of the tour price,
- less than 7 days before departure - 50% of the tour price.

### 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.

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