

Tiksi. Arctic Expedition — Detailed description

Trip Length: 14 Group: 4-5 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

The Extreme North, the arctic tundra, the polar night and the northern aurora... These ideas are as far from the citizens, as the space exploration. The North doesn't like the casual passers and the Extreme North is too far from the common concept of tourism. However, the calm and tranquillity of these places is reachable. The North cannot be called "extreme" as there is no extremities!

In 2018 BaikalNature decided to open to its tourists a new opportunity – the unique expedition to the northern most village of the Yakutia region – Tiksi. The word "Tiksi" means "rendezvous, arrival". The real charm of this village is in its geographical position. The bay of the same name is considered as the Yakutia sea gates, situated north of the Arctic Circle in the Laptev Sea. The main peculiarity of the expedition is not the destination, but the trip itself. Only having got over more then 2 500 km by winter roads and frozen north rivers, we will arrive to this "bay of rendezvous". This bay is friendly only for those who dared to venture him physically and morally.

The expedition starts in Yakutsk. We will meet with arctic people and visit the Topolinoye village – the village of the reindeer's herders. Crossing the tundra and frozen rivers, we can observe the wild arctic animals such as birds, polar fox, reindeer, wolves and others.

The main part of the route passes to the North from the Polar circle and every day we will have possibility to observe the northern lights and make rare photos.

On the way there are no hotels, museums, cafes or other touristic places. Our tour is not about this... To try yourself in the face of full isolation, where you won't find roads, only directions to go. Our goal is to reach the place where the winter ramp over 8 months a year.

Our team and equipment ensure the security on the journey. There will be 2 off-road vehicles Toyota Land Cruiser, that proved their reliability during our expeditions such as "Pole of Cold" or "Baikal. 110th km". The vehicles will be followed from the satellite 24 hours a day. Also all participants of the group should be in good physical shape, ready for difficulties of the wild nature and not to have medical contraindications. We will be moved away from the civilization by the distance and the weather influence.

NB: This tour has no fixed group departure date. The price is available upon request.

Highlights

- Unique expedition to the Extreme North
- Visit of the northern most village of Yakutie Tiksi
- · Passage by the true winter arctic roads
- Aquaintance with the life of the polar people
- · Possibility to observe the arctic animals
- Visit of the raindeer herders village Topolinoye
- · Possibility to pass the frozen Laptev sea
- Possibility to see the northern lights

Tour type

EXPEDITIONNATURE

Difficulty

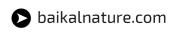
Challenging - 5-7 hours of challenging physical activity daily

Comfort

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

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Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Yakutsk, End of the tour: Yakustk

Program

Day 1 — Aquaintance with Yakutsk

- 11:00 Arrival to Yakutsk
- 13:00 Lunch (Not included)
- 14:00 Free time
- 17:00 Meeting with the guides at the reception of the hotel
- 19:00 Dinner in the hotel (Not included)
 - Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Azimut Yakutsk, Standard twin room Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 2 — Khandyga and road of bones

- 09:00 Breakfast in the hotel
- 10:00 Departure to the Khandyga village
- 13:00 Lunch in the cafe en route (Not included)
- 15:00 Continuation of the road
- 19:00 Dinner Overnight in the homestay

Day 3 — Village of the reindeer herders

- 09:00 Breakfast (Not included)
- 10:00 Departure to the Topolinoye village
- 13:00 Lunch in the cafe (Not included)
- 14:00 Continuation of the road
- 19:00 Dinner

Overnight in the homestay

Day 4 — Crossing the Arctic Circle

- 09:00 Start of the itinerary
- 13:00 Lunch (Not included)
- 14:00 Continuation of the road
- 19:00 Dinner (Not included)
 - Overnight under the tent

Day 5 — Day on the journey

- 09:00 Start of the route
- 13:00 Lunch (Not included)
- 15:00 Continuation of the road
- 19:00 Dinner
- 20:00 Arrival to Batagay village

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Overnight in the homestay

Day 6 — Life of an Arctic village

10:00 — Free time in Batagay 15:00 — Free time Overnight in the homestay

Day 7 — On the ice of the Yana river

- 08:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 Start of the route
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Continuation of the road
- 19:00 Dinner

Overnight under the tent

Day 8 — Arctic tundra

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 Start of the route
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Continuation of the route
- 19:00 Dinner
 - Overnight under the tent

Day 9 — Polar lights

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 Departure to the the Severniy village
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Continuation of the route
- 19:00 Dinner
 - Overnight under the tent

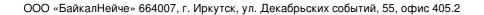
Day 10 — Outlet to the Laptev sea

- 08:00 Route to the Hayir village
- 09:00 Breakfast
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Passage to the Laptev sea
- 19:00 Dinner
 - Overnight under the tent

Day 11 — Testing by the North

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 Passage by the Laptev sea
- 13:00 Lunch
- 15:00 Continuation of the route
- 19:00 Dinner

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Overnight under the tent

Day 12 — Bay of rendezvous

- 09:00 Breakfast
- 09:00 Route to the Tiksi bay
- 13:00 Lunch
- 16:00 Arrival to Tiksi
- 19:00 Dinner (Not included)
 - Overnight in the hotel

Day 13 — Main sea port of Yakutia

- 09:00 Breakfast in the hotel
- 10:00 Excursion in Tiksi
- 14:00 Passage by the Laptev sea ice Overnight in the hotel

Day 14 — Departure to Yakutsk

- 09:00 Breakfast in the hotel
- 12:00 Transfer to the airport

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
14.02.2022	27.02.2022	351000.00 RUB

Note

The price is given is for a group of 5 people. Total number of vehicles: 2. Acommodation is planned to be in hotel "Polyarnaya zvezda" in Yakutsk, in guest houses and homestay. Tiksi is the boundary territory and it's needed to have a special permission (preparation of the document takes about 60 days). The itinerary of the expedition can be changed according to the road or weather conditions as well as unforeseen events. The price includes the flight Tiksi - Yakutsk. ATTENTION: as Tiksi is situated on the Extreme North, it's possible that the flights will be carry forward 1 or 2 days because of strong weather conditions.

What's included

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Price includes

- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transfer from airport / railway station on first day
- Transfer to airport / railway station on last day
- Letter of invitation
- Sleeping bag rental
- Meals according to the program
- Accident insurance
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- English-speaking guide services
- · Camping outfit rental
- Tent rental

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

Visa

• Airline tickets

Optional activities

· Personal expenses and tips

- 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 POLARTEC or similar pullover Long sleeve shirts or sweatshirts Headlamp Sunscreen for skin and lips Toilet roll Pocket knife (to put in checked baggage) Sewing kit Wool gloves and winter cap Bath towel Important travel documents: Passport and visa, original or electronic airplane tickets (with a sets of photocopies kept separately), bank card Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 545217

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Charger and spare battery for camera/phone Photo / video camera 1 or 2 thermal lightweight sweater(s) Furry mitts (big enough for wearing the wool gloves under them) Expedition winter boots (Sorel or Baffin) Expedition down jacket (up to -50°) Fleece Balaclava

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 conact 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.

Medical Form

A good physical condition is required.

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 7890/22-49 from September 19, 2022. 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 30 days before departure - 15% of the tour price,

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

Security

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

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