

## New Year's Eve 2024 in Karelia — Detailed description

Trip Length: 4 Group: 1-15 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

### Trip overview

This tour is organized to make you feel the magic of Christmas holidays in the Karelian region into the heart of Russian winter. Far away from civilization where time goes on in its rhythm, you will be warmly welcomed and surrounded with attention. You will get a good dose of sensations far removed from the daily routine: you will taste typical Karelian dishes and beverages, learn about local traditions, ride a dog sled, participate in ice fishing and art and crafts. You will definitely make new friends with locals during this the most long-awaited event in Russia!

### Highlights

- New Year's Eve à la russe with Russians and in a traditional way
- Dog sledding ride
- Stay in Russian Karelia on the shore of the frozen lake
- Ice fishing and competitions of fishing
- Dishes of national Karelian cuisine

### Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

### Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

### Comfort

Upgraded — all nights in comfortable rooms.

### Begining / end of the tour

Tour starts: Petrozavodsk, End of the tour: Petrozavodsk

## Program

### Day 1 — Meeting with Talvi Ukko

09:00 — Meeting in Petrozavodsk at the train station

09:30 — Breakfast

10:00 — Meeting with Talvi Ukko

11:30 — Dog sledding ride

13:30 — Transfer to the resort and accommodation in wooden houses

14:00 — Lunch

15:00 — Time at leisure

16:30 — Outdoor activities

18:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the touristic complex "Kudama", Accommodation in the main building (2 persons)

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

### Day 2 — Ice fishing and New Year celebration

09:00 — Breakfast  
11:00 — Ice fishing  
14:00 — Lunch  
16:00 — Free time  
18:00 — New Year's quest "Secrets of Northern Kudama"  
21:00 — Festive dinner  
23:55 — Speech of the president and Kremlin striking clocks  
Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the touristic complex "Kudama", Accommodation in the main building (2 persons)

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

### Day 3 — Town festivals and local cuisine

10:00 — Late breakfast  
12:00 — Town festivals  
14:00 — Lunch  
17:00 — Degustation of the local cuisine  
19:00 — Dinner  
Overnight in the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the touristic complex "Kudama", Accommodation in the main building (2 persons)

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

### Day 4 — Farewall and end of the programme

09:00 — Breakfast  
11:00 — Check-out  
11:30 — Transfer to the railroad of Petrozavodsk. End of the programme.

### Departures

| Start      | End        | Basic price per person |
|------------|------------|------------------------|
| 30.12.2023 | 02.01.2024 | 48100.00 RUB           |

### Note

Departure guaranteed - joining a group from 1 participant. Special prices for children under 12 - 35 200 RUB. Supplementary services: - Banya on the lake shore – 1500 RUB/an hour - Skiing – 100 RUB/an hour, - Skates – 100 RUB/an hour We will be pleased to book train tickets to / from Petrozavodsk according to your request.

### What's included

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**Price includes**

- Dog sled rental
- Russian-speaking guide services
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Celebratory dinner with alcoholic beverages
- Letter of invitation
- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Meals according to the program

**Price does not include**

- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Accident insurance
- Railway tickets
- English-speaking guide
- Meals as per itinerary
- Airline tickets
- 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.

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)

comfortable shoes for trekking

raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!

sunglasses

water bottle/flask

winter expeditionary down jacket (up to -50°)

1  
4  
5  
6  
7  
9  
12  
28

**Meals**

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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

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.

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

No particular 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:

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- 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.

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