

Seven Wonders of Russia — Detailed description

Trip Length: 21 Group: 4-6 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

In 2008 the Russian Television Network "Rossiya" organized a national competition "7 Wonders of Russia". After 10 months of voting on its official site the 7 winning leaders were announced: the **Valley of Geysers** on the Kamchatka Peninsula, **Lake Baikal** in the south of Siberia, **Man-Pupu-Nyor** (or Manpupuner) in the Ural Mountains, the **Peterhof Palace** in Saint-Petersburg, **Saint Basil's Cathedral** on the Red Square in Moscow, the **Motherland Calls in Mamayev Kurgan in Volgograd**, **Mount Elbrus** in the northern Caucasus mountains.

The tour operator BaikalNature dared this adventure and united all the Wonders in one general trip, the sites which are commonly visited as separate or even dreamt to be visited...

Making a 21-days journey from the Kamchatka Peninsula to Mount Elbrus, you will cross the whole Russia by making a visit to these 7 places, which are very different from each other and characterize the country. You will make one of the fortunate visitors who have a chance to discover these treasures of Russian national heritage. Take a look at a map to realize the scale of this adventure!

Imagine as well the contrast between the wild nature and the famous cultural sites that you are going to experience: one day you have a dinner in front of volcano, the other day you are having lunch in the imperial palace of Peterhof; one evening you admire the sun setting on the inaccessible shelf of Man-Pupu-Nyor, the other one you are passing in one of the most dynamic capitals in the world – Moscow.

Our journey "7 Wonders of Russia" is not simply a visit to Russian places of interest, this is a unique chance to see the wild nature, immerse yourself in the culture of different people of Russia, to touch the history of the past. You will have a walk through the "earth of fire", observe wild animals and take a part in a shamanic ritual. Also, you will make a visit to main cities of Russia; take a taste of a caviar and omul – endemic Baikal fish, the Caucasian BBQ (shashlik). You will enjoy the greatness of Lake Baikal, the fineness of the Peterhof Palace and the beauty of Saint Basil's Cathedral. You will sense a thrill facing the highness of giant Man-Pupu-Nyor pillars and the Mamayev Monument, the Kamchatka volcanos and Mount Elbrus!

And that's just a small part that may be described with words. Like it is sung in the popular Russian song: "Until you see it, you will never understand it".

This exclusive trip is fully designed and organized by BaikalNature team. Today it represents our flagship product. BaikalNature is also the first tour operator to bring this itinerary to life. The itinerary crosses nine time zones, and in order to minimize the jet lag the route runs from east to west. The tour starts in the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy airport (PKC) and finishes in the airport of Volgograd (VOG).

Highlights

- Visit of "7 Wonders of Russia", including the most famous cities
- Whole Russia in one trip - more than 13,000 km covered
- Authentic culture and cuisine of different regions
- Various means of transportation: planes, helicopters, trains, off road vehicles, ferry, hydrofoil, cars
- Different activities: cultural exploration, ascension, skiing, swimming, fishing and other activities
- Kinds of accommodation: from a luxurious hotel to a refuge at 3750 meters above sea level
- All types of landscapes: mountains and volcanoes, lakes and rivers, wild taiga valleys

Tour type

DISCOVERYNATURE

Difficulty

Moderately Easy - 1-3 hours of physical activity daily

Comfort

Уникальный внутренний номер документа: 702122

ООО «БайкалНейче» 664007, г. Иркутск, ул. Декабрьских событий, 55, офис 405.2

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Upgraded — all nights in comfortable rooms.

Beginning / end of the tour

Tour starts: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, End of the tour: Volgograd

Program

Day 1 — Arrival to Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

10:30 — Arrival to airport and transfer to the hotel

12:00 — Check-in in the hotel and rest

15:00 — City-tour

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Petropavlovsk", Twin room

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

Day 2 — Valley of Geysers

08:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

09:00 — Transfer to the heliport

10:00 — Excursion to the Valley of Geysers

13:00 — Lunch

17:00 — Return to the hotel

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Petropavlovsk", Twin room

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

Day 3 — Free day

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel

10:00 — Free time

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

15:00 — Free time

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Petropavlovsk", Twin room

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

Day 4 — Departure to Irkutsk and first meeting with lake Baikal

09:00 — Breakfast

12:00 — Check-out

16:30 — Boarding on the plane from Petropavlovsk to Irkutsk

19:10 — Transfer flight in Khabarovsk city

20:00 — Dinner on the board

23:30 — Arrival to Irkutsk

Overnight in the hotel

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Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "BaikalCedar", Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 5 — Along the west coast of lake Baikal

07:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
07:50 — Transfer to the berth
08:30 — Departure to the Olkhon island
17:00 — Arrival to the Zagli bay
19:00 — Dinner at the resort
Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Baikalov ostrog", Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 6 — Sacred site for shamans

09:00 — Breakfast at the resort
10:00 — Olkhon island excursion
13:00 — Outdoor lunch
14:00 — Walking around and come back
19:00 — Dinner
Overnight at the resort

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Baikalov ostrog", Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 7 — Day at leaisure in the Baikal village

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Walking in Khujir village
13:00 — Lunch at your resort
19:00 — Dinner
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation at the resort "Baikalov ostrog", Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 8 — Meeting with the Shaman

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Return to Irkutsk
12:00 — Excursion to the National Buryat museum of Ust-Orda
14:00 — Lunch in a Buryat cafe
16:00 — Arrival to Irkutsk
Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Angara, Twin standard room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 9 — Departure to Perm

06:00 — Breakfast
07:00 — Transfer to the airport
16:00 — Arrival to Perm
Overnight in the hotel

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Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Ural", Perm, Standard twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 10 — Man Pupu Nyor - mountain of the idols

04:00 — Early breakfast
04:30 — Transfer to the helipad in the Nyrob village
09:15 — Beginning of the helicopter excursion
10:45 — Landing on the mountain of the idols
12:30 — Lunch (picnic)
13:30 — Return to Nyrob village on helicopter
14:00 — Transfer to Perm by bus
20:00 — Arrival to the city and rest
21:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Ural", Perm, Standard twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 11 — Free day in Perm

09:00 — Breakfast in the hotel
10:00 — Free time
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
15:00 — Free time
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Ural", Perm, Standard twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 12 — Departure to the Saint-Petersburg

04:00 — Transfer to the airport
05:25 — Flight to Saint-Petersburg
05:50 — Arrival and transfer to the hotel
11:00 — Free time and rest after the flight
15:00 — Sightseeing around the city
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Rossi, Saint-Petersburg, Standard room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 13 — Peterhof Museum Reserve

09:00 — Breakfast
10:00 — Transfer to the quay
11:00 — Excursion to Peterhof
13:00 — Lunch
16:00 — Return to the hotel
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Rossi, Saint-Petersburg, Standard room

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

Day 14 — Departure to Moscow

09:00 — Breakfast

10:00 — Free time

14:00 — Transfer to the railway station

15:30 — Boarding on the train Saint-Petersburg - Moscow

19:00 — Arrival to Moscow

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Boudapest, Moscow, Juinior suite

Day 15 — Acquaintance with the capital of Russia

09:00 — Breakfast

12:00 —

13:00 — Lunch (Not included)

19:00 — Dinner (Not included)

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Boudapest, Moscow, Juinior suite

Day 16 — Treasures of Caucasus

07:30 — Breakfast

08:30 — Transfer to the airport

10:20 — Flight to Mineralnye Vody

12:45 — Arrival and transfer to Pyatigorsk

14:00 — Lunch

15:30 — Arrival

16:00 — Pyatigorsk city-tour

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel "Bristol", Pyatigorsk, Twin standard

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

Day 17 — At the bottom of Mount Elbrus

08:00 — Breakfast

09:00 — Departure to Djili-suu

12:00 — Walking in the surrounding area

13:00 — Lunch (picnic)

15:00 — Transfer to the hotel

18:00 — Arrival and accommodation in the hotel

19:00 — Dinner

Overnight in the hotel

Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Ozon Chequet, Classic room

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

Day 18 — Mount Elbrus

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08:00 — Breakfast
09:00 — Lift to Mount Elbrus
14:00 — Free Lunch
15:00 — Departure to Yessentuki city
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
20:30 — Transfer to the Mineralnye Vody railway station
22:00 — Boarding on the train to Volgograd
Overnight in the train
Hotels: Overnight in the train, The 2nd class compartment
Comfort:

Day 19 — Acquaintance with Volgograd

14:00 — Arrival to Volgograd
14:20 — Transfer to the hotel
15:00 — Lunch
16:00 — Check-in in the hotel, rest
19:00 — Dinner (Not included)
Overnight in the hotel
Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Volgograd, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 20 — Mamayev kurgan

09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Bus city-tour
13:00 — Lunch (Not included)
15:00 — Return to the hotel. Rest.
19:00 — Festive dinner
Overnight in the hotel
Hotels: Accommodation in the hotel Volgograd, Twin room
Comfort: Comfortable accommodation, WC and bath / shower in room

Day 21 — End of the program

09:00 — Breakfast
11:00 — Check-out and transfer to the airport

Departures

Start	End	Basic price per person
02.07.2019	22.07.2019	489200.00 RUB

Note

The price is given for the group of 3-4 persons. If there are 2 persons in the group, there will be supplement - 67 700 roubles/ per person. Airline tickets are included within Russia (Petropavlovsk- Kamchatsky - Irkutsk, Irkutsk - Perm, Perm - Saint-Petersburg, Moscow - Mineralnye Vody). Railway tickets are included: Saint-Petersburg - Moscow (sapsan, business class) and Mineralnye Vody - Volgograd (2nd class, 4 bed in the compartment).

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What's included

Price includes

- English-speaking guide services
- Russian-speaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport as per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Visa invitation and registration of passports (for foreign citizens, if necessary)
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Celebratory dinner with alcoholic beverages
- Letter of invitation
- Railway tickets
- Mountain guide
- Airline tickets

Price does not include

- Optional activities
- Meals in train
- Guide in the trains
- Beverages

Checklist & Equipment

For summer travel, we recommend preparing:

- comfortable clothes for hot and sunny weather - we advise you to give preference to natural fabrics, be sure to have sun protection (comfortable hat, SPF protection cream, sunglasses);
- protection from rain and wind - a long raincoat with a hood, for active tours - a waterproof cover on a backpack, the second pair of shoes (the ability to dry a second pair if they get wet);
- clothing in case of bad weather - when the temperature drops (in mountainous regions, on the coasts, in the evening), we recommend taking a light jacket, a warm sweater and pants

In different regions of Russia there can be significant temperature fluctuations in the summer. If you do not have experience traveling in similar regions, please contact your manager to pick up the necessary things and find out about the weather forecast in the place where you are planning your trip.

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)

towel

wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel

water bottle/flask

sleeping bag

winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit

fleece jacket/sweater with collar

fleece balaclava

3

7

10

12

13

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14
21
22
23
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Meals

If you are a vegetarian or have any particular preferences, please let us know, so we could adapt the menu.

Laundry

Some hotels and inns offer laundry services for a variable sum of money. It is sometimes possible to use laundry services at homestay (when there is running water) for a fee.

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. 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).

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.

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.

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.

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In Western Russia, you can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 499 705 65 58

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