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★★★★★ 4,7 out of 5

# Baikal Summer Adventure– 2021

## 8d/7n

**The package is available as small group tour or private tour**

**Irkutsk– Listvyanka - Olkhon -Turka – Ulan-Ude**







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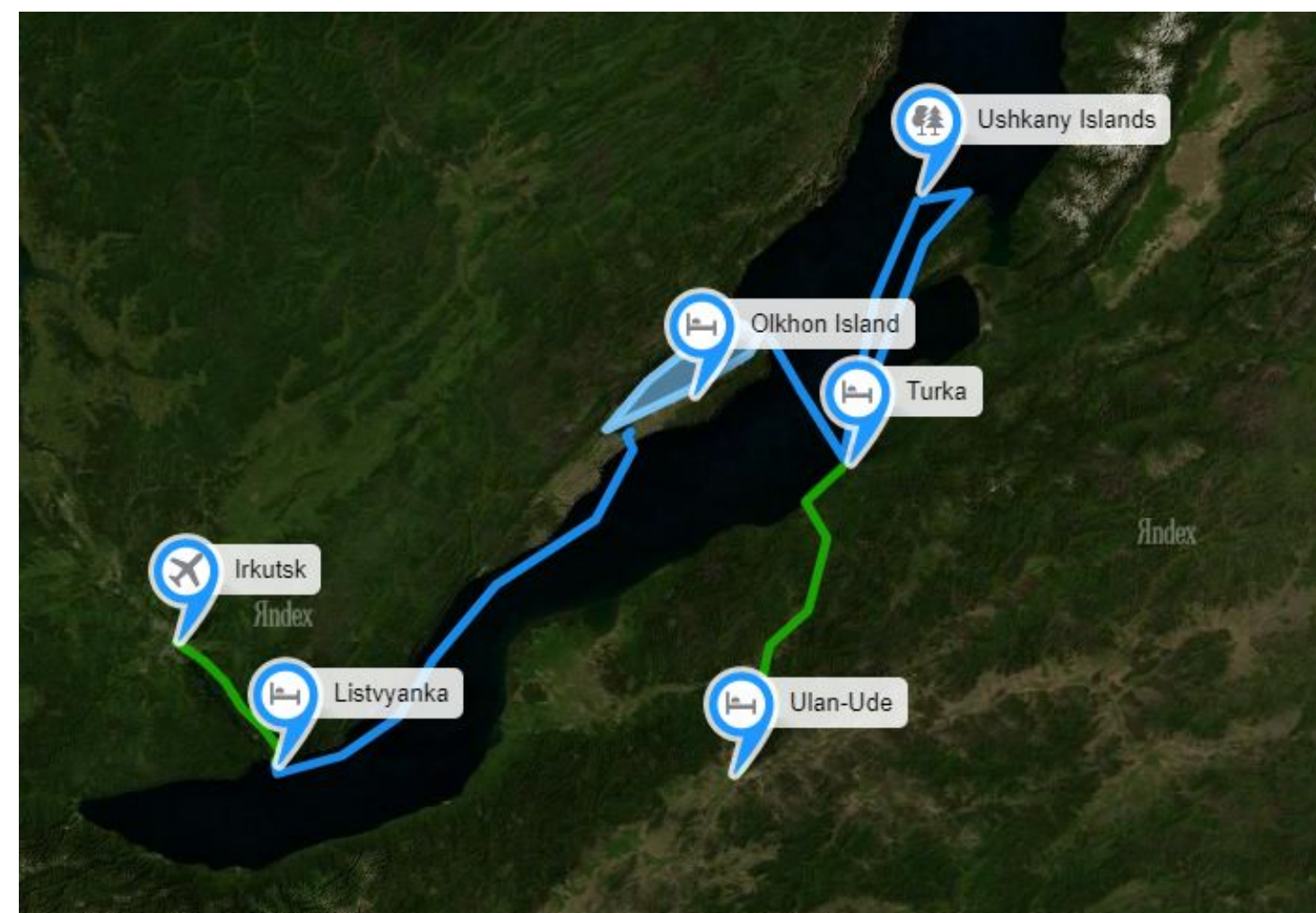
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## What our travelers say







## Day 1. Arrival to Baikal (option 1)


Welcome to Baikal! Upon arrival in Irkutsk, the largest city near Lake Baikal, you have the opportunity to choose the program of the first day of the tour.

The first option is the opportunity to ride a train along the legendary Circum-Baikal Railway. This railway route between Slyudyanka station to Port-Baikal station is rightfully considered one of the most beautiful in the world. The total length of the Circum-Baikal Railway is 89 km. The line includes 38 tunnels, 18 galleries, 248 bridges and numerous viaducts.

Upon arrival at Port Baikal, take a short 15 minutes ferry ride to Listvyanka village, located on the shore of Lake Baikal.

Evening at leisure

 Listvyanka hotel
  Tour

 Train ride and ferry crossing Angara river





## Day 1. Arrival to Baikal (option 2)

Welcome to Baikal!

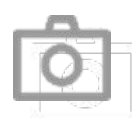
Today you will visit the Taltsy open-air architectural and ethnographic museum and devote time to sightseeing in Listvyanka.

The exposition in the Taltsy Museum presents wooden buildings brought from all over Siberia! Nowadays the exhibition presents 40 architectural monuments and 8000 artifacts of the 17th-19th centuries. The museum looks like an ancient village with long streets, wooden houses, water mills and even a small school. It should be noted, that in the past real village "Taltsy" was located here. However, with the construction of the Ust-Ilimskaya hydroelectric power station, part of the village came under the threat of flooding. Authorities decided to preserve the unique village and turned it into the museum.

After a visit to Taltsy museum you will continue to Listvyanka Village, located on the shores of Lake Baikal. Spend an evening at your leisure.



Listvyanka hotel



Tour



Van





## Day 2. Along the banks of Lake Baikal

After breakfast enjoy a 4-hours boat cruise to Olkhon Island.

Amidst the waters of the largest freshwater lake in the world, Olkhon is the largest of Baikal's islands. It is considered sacred by the aboriginal people, and every cape here has a legend. With dramatic terrain varying from craggy mountain peaks lining its eastern shore to lush taiga thickets, sprawling steppe and even desert, it's easy to forget that Olkhon is a mere island.

The local inhabitants comprise fishermen, farmers and cattle wranglers. Most of them descending from the island's aboriginal Buryat people, the locals keep a strong strain of shamanic tradition alive and many sites on the island are believed to have mystic power.

Upon arrival at Olkhon, transfer to your hotel and check-in

Evening at leisure

 **Olkhon hotel**



 **Boat ride from Listvyanka to Olkhon,**  
**UAZ transfer to the hotel**





## Day 3. Olkhon Island boat cruise

Today we'll have a fascinating boat excursion. During the tour we'll admire the beauty of the coastal rocks of Olkhon island, including the famous Shaman Mountain, which is sacred to the indigenous population of the island.

Then you will sail across the Maloye More. On the mainland take a short climb to the holy spring, known for its healing properties. Its being said that spring's waters contain traces of silver.

After a picnic break we'll also visit Ogoy Island - the largest island in the Maloye More Bay, that separates Olkhon from the continent. On this island, sacred to the Buryat people, there is a snow-white Buddhist Stupa of Enlightenment.

On the way back, there is a high probability of seeing cormorants - these seabirds have begun to return to Lake Baikal in recent years, delighting travelers with their presence.

Return to your hotel for an overnight stay. Evening at leisure.

 Olkhon hotel

 Boat tour

 Breakfast, picnic lunch





## Day 4. Explore Olkhon Island

Morning is free at your leisure.


You may enjoy horseback ride to Lake Khankhoi, where you can swim and take memorable photos. Or ride a bicycle along the shores of Maloe More.

In the afternoon we will visit Buryat village, where we'll get acquainted with folklore, crafts, economy, way of life and beliefs of the indigenous population of Olkhon. A concert program is also waiting for us there, which includes a demonstration performance of young wrestlers, folk riddles and legends, the performance of folk songs, playing folk instruments.

In accordance with traditions, we'll taste "white" food, especially revered among the Buryats: homemade cottage cheese, sour cream, salomat, cheese. In the final part of the program, we'll have an opportunity to take part in the yokhora-round dance, the oldest traditional rite dedicated to the prosperity of the native land and the wealth of a family.

 **Olkhon hotel**

 **Visit Buryat village**

 **Breakfast, Traditional Buryat lunch**





## Day 5. Northern Olkhon and Departure for Buryatia

On this day, we'll discover the amazing places located in the north of Olkhon. Traveling by UAZ van, on which it is possible to travel on any off-road location, we'll visit Cape Khoboy, from where we'll see the widest part of Lake Baikal. During the trip, we'll also visit the most beautiful places of the northern part of the island, such as Cape Sagan-Khushun, Peschanoe tract and Cape Shunte, also known as Cape of Love. The excursion will end in the Uzuri valley, where we can go down to the lakeshore.

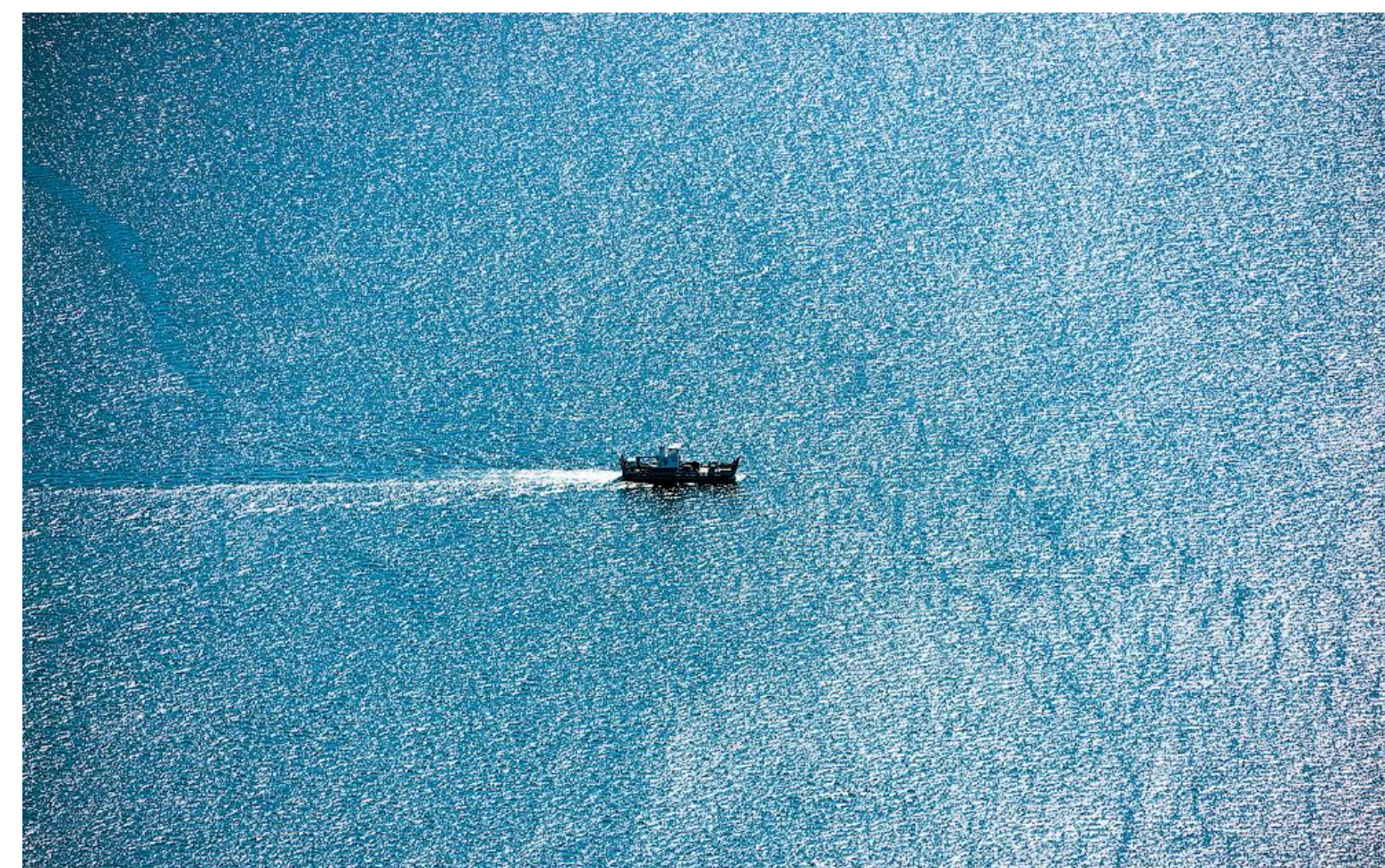
From Uzuri a boat will take us to the village of Turka, located on the eastern shore of Lake Baikal, belonging to the territory of another region of the country - the Republic of Buryatia. The boat trip will take around 1-1.5 hours. Upon arrival in Turka, we'll be transferred to a cozy hotel located by the lake.

 **Turka hotel**

 **UAZ van tour**

 **Breakfast, picnic lunch**

 **Boat across the lake**





## Day 6. Ushkany Islands & Nerpa

Today we'll visit the famous Ushkany Islands. This archipelago is exactly the place where the rookery of the world's only freshwater seal - Nerpa is located. We'll have a chance to see these beautiful animals resting on warm stones and rocks on summer days!

Our way will pass through The Barguzinsky Reserve - the oldest reserve in Russia, formed in 1916 with the aim of preserving and restoring the population of sable. Upon disembarkation on the Big Ushkany Island the representatives of the national park will acquaint us with the rules of conduct in a specially protected area.

Many endemic species are concentrated here, like an Ushkany birch with a black bark and Ushkany pine that has unique winding forms of a trunk. All these trees are long-lived, and some of them are up to 300 years old! On the way back we will stop at the Zmeevaya Bay at the upper part of the Svyatoy Nos peninsula. Here, we can have dinner and rest in thermal springs.



Turka hotel



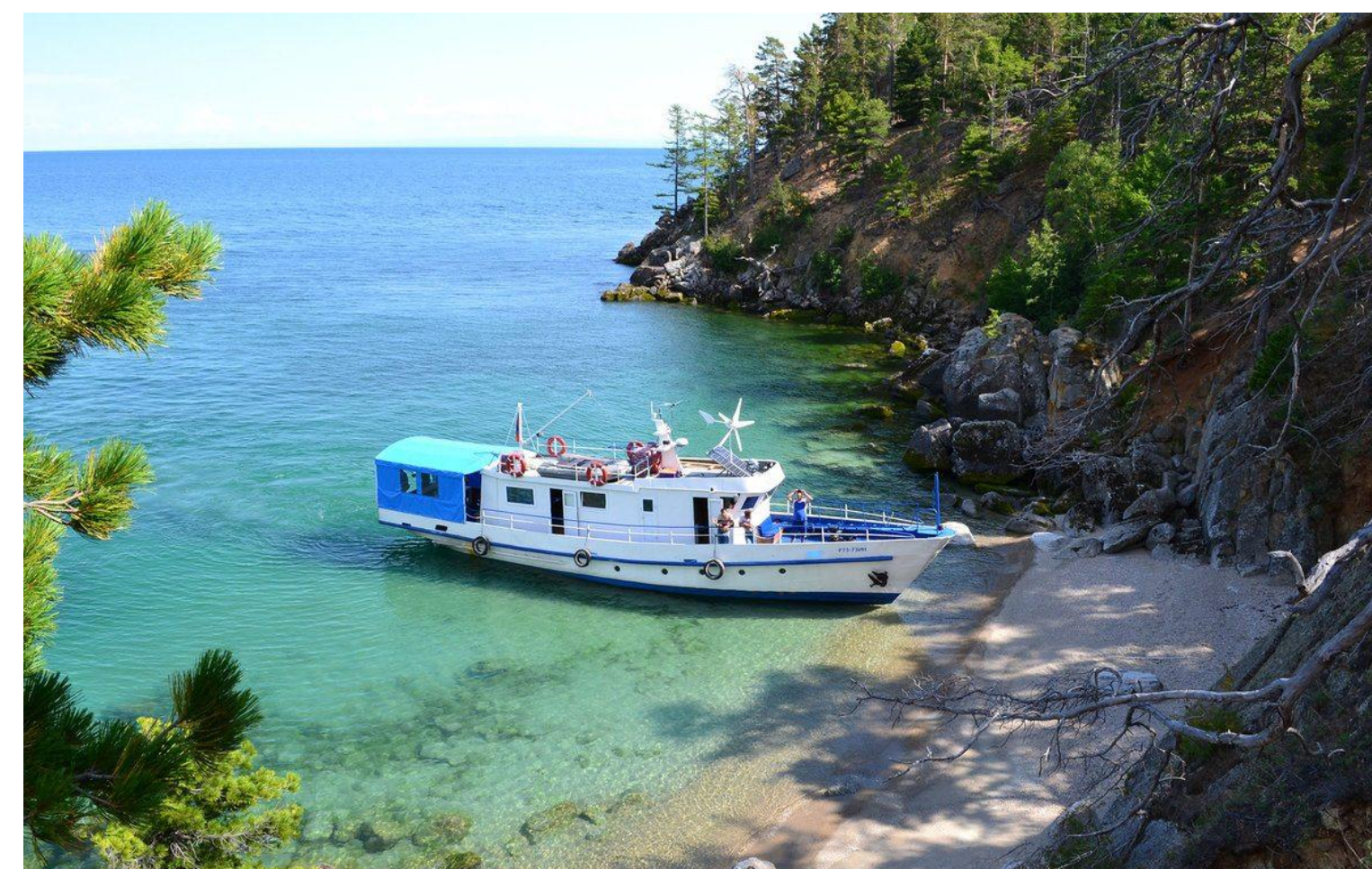
Boat tour



Breakfast



Van





## Day 7. Ulan-Ude, Ivolginsky Datsan and Old Believers

After breakfast, we will depart for Ulan-Ude - capital of Buryatiya. Ulan-Ude has a unique historical and cultural heritage. With more than 200 cultural heritage sites in the city (monuments of architecture and art) It is included in the list of Historical cities of Russia.

After Ulan-Ude downtown tour we will proceed to Ivolginsky datsan where the unique samples of old Buryat art, as thangkas, sculptures, ritual objects are gathered and preserved.

Then we move to the Old Believers - Orthodox Christians, who maintain traditional religious way of life and follow very old religious rules. These special people keep the traditions of their ancestors, many do not recognize modern technologies, medicine and internet.

In the evening transfer back to your hotel in the downtown of Ulan-Ude.



Ulan-Ude hotel



Tour



Breakfast



Van





## Day 8. Farewell

After breakfast enjoy a private transfer to the airport at the time for your flight.

Be sure to stay in touch with Discovery Russia once you're back home! We love seeing your holiday pictures and hearing your reflections on the trip.



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Breakfast



Transfer

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## Dates & Rates per person in twin/double room



Irkutsk city Hotel  
3\*+ Baikal hotel  
Olkhon premium  
guesthouse

**Group package**  
(4-5 people)

135 900

**Single  
supplement**

34 900

**Private tour**  
based on 2 ppl  
**Flexible travel dates**

175 900



## Tour Inclusions

### ACCOMMODATION

Hand-picked centrally located hotels:

- 1 night in Listvyanka
- 3 nights Olkhon
- 2 nights in Turka
- 1 night in Ulan-Ude

### ENTRANCE TICKETS, VISAS & MISC.

- Entrance tickets to all listed attractions (except optional)
- 24/7 English-speaking support line in Russia

### TRANSPORTATION

- Transportation on tours as per program
- Boat ride from Listvyanka to Olkhon Island
- Ferry from Port Baikal to Listvyanka (for Day 1 option 1 only)
- Boat ride from Olkhon to Turka
- Return airport transfers

### NOT INCLUDED

Flights // Porters // Extras of personal nature // Lunches and dinners not mentioned // Travel insurance

### SIGHTSEEING & ACTIVITIES

**Please take note that due to logistic issues we might occasionally amend the sequence of the tours.**

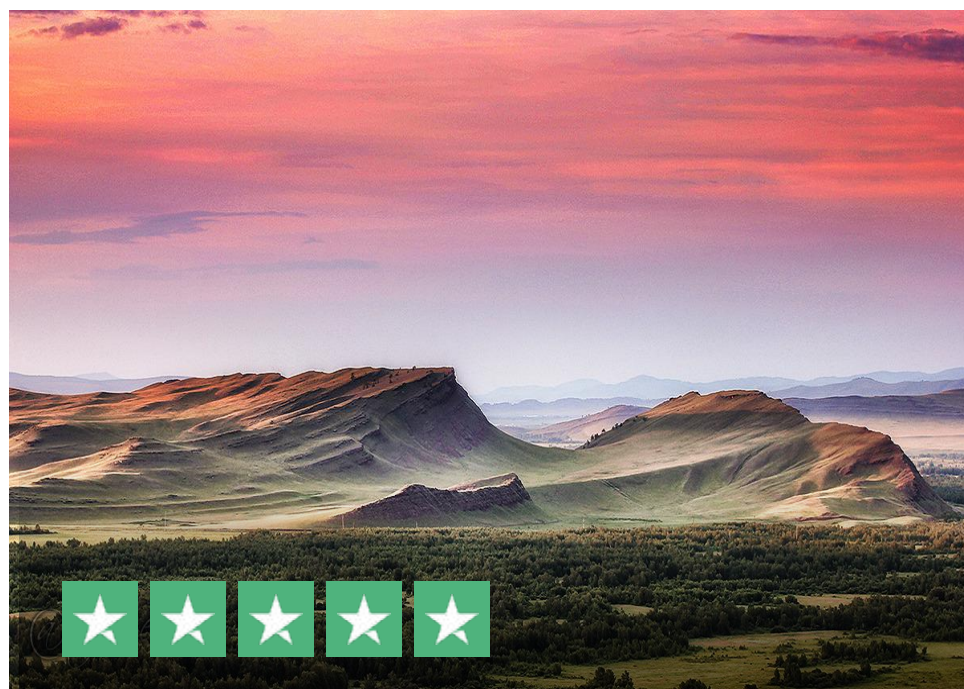
- Taltsy Open Air Siberian Museum guided tour & Listvyanka tour with cable car ride for Day 1 option 2 only)
- Circum-Baikal Railway tour (for Day 1 option 1 only)
- Olkhon island UAZ tour
- Full day boat cruise to Ushkany Islands
- Ulan-Ude city tour and Datsan visit
- Olkhon island boat tour
- Visit Buryat village

### MEALS

- 7 breakfasts
- 3 lunches or packed lunches



## Check out our best 2021 tours



**Siberian mystery: Tuva and Khakassia**

[View trip](#)



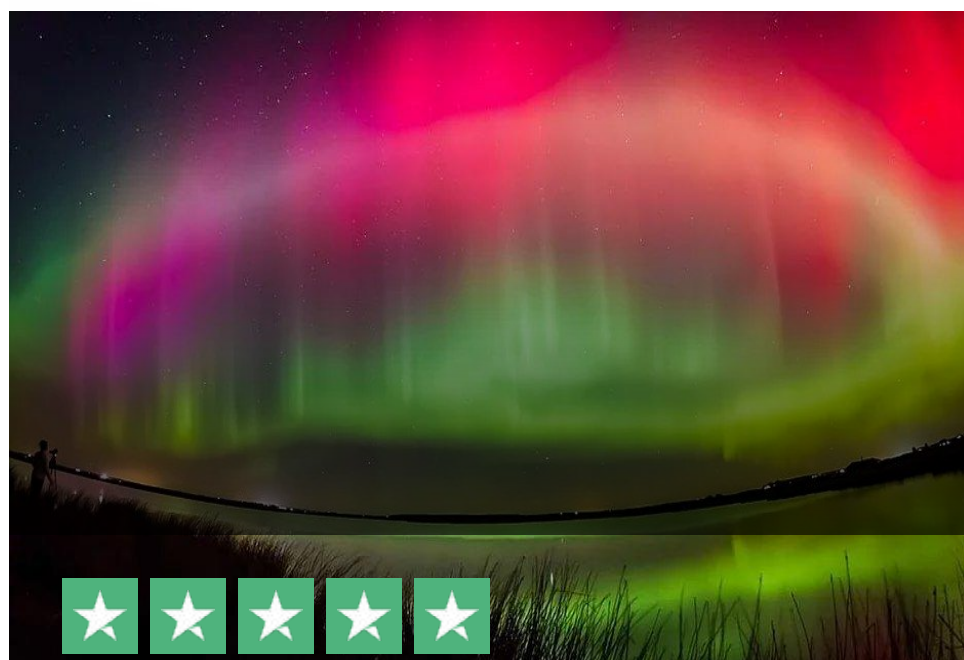
**Poonezhie. Russian North**

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**Trans-Siberian Eastbound Moscow To Vladivostok**

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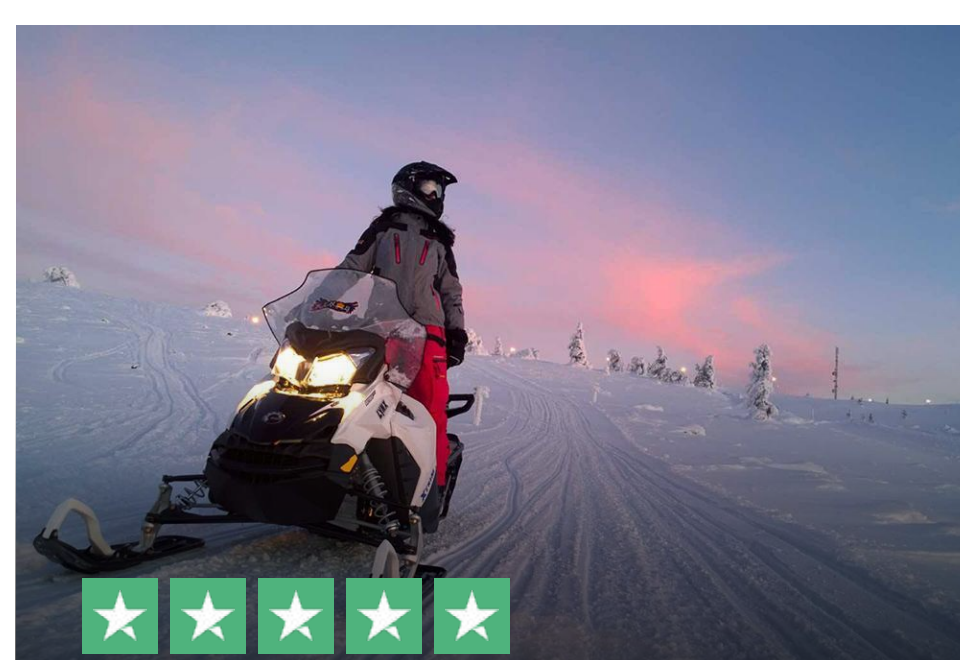
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**North Timan Snowmobile**

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