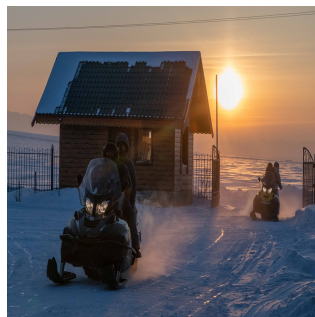


# Siberian winter

Active tour to Altai



Go skiing and take a ride on snowmobile across the snowy valleys, surrounded by picturesque mountains peaks. Take a walk to see nonfreezing turquoise lakes. Meet the locals to learn more about the ancient Altai culture, traditions and cuisine. And admire breathtaking views travelling along the famous Chuysky tract, which is in the top 10 of most beautiful roads in the world.

# Experiences you'll have

## Winter travel to Altai in 2021

We have collected the most picturesque natural sights, significant historical places and various outdoor activities in this journey to let you enjoy the real Siberian winter in the Altai mountains.

This tour is organized specially for the foreign tourists. You will be accompanied by an experienced English-speaking local guide, who will provide you with a full immersion to Altai history, nature and culture.

### Highlights of the journey:

active winter adventures — you will go skiing down the mountain slopes and ride a snowmobile to Sarlik Mount, which is the the highest point of the Seminsky mountain range (2507 m high)

acquaintance with the history of the Altai region — you will see the famous mummy of Princess of Ukok at the National Museum of the Altai Republic and visit the ancient archaeological sites, such as burial mounds and rock drawings of various historical ages

experiencing the Altai folk culture — you will meet the locals of the sacred Karakol valley, enjoy the traditional throat singing concert and take photos in national dresses

participating in different master classes — you will try to cook traditional Russian dumplings and make healthy Altai herbal tea, as well as visit the blacksmithing workshop

*Photo by Pavel Filatov*

## Itinerary

The journey begins in Barnaul or Gorno-Altaysk, where you should get to on your own in the morning of the first day of the programm. We are ready to help with the purchase of tickets, if necessary, leave a comment in the application.

### Day 1

#### After meeting at the airport you will travel to the capital of

the republic of Altai — Gorno-Altaysk. Here the excursion to the National Museum of the Altai Republic is waiting for you. Among the most famous archaeological artifact there is the mummy of Siberian Ice Maiden, aslo known as the Princess of Ukok. It was discovered at the Ukok Plateau in ice burial mound near the border of Mongolia, China and Kazakhstan.

#### After the acquaintance with the museum exhibition you

will move to Belokurihe, where you will check in a hotel and have dinner.

#### The route length — 130 km from Gorno-Altaysk or 380 km

Barnaul by bus, 4 km on foot.

### Day 2

#### After breakfast you start the day with a visit the only

woman blacksmith in all Siberia. She will tell you about her job and peculiarities of blacksmithing, after that you will have a chance to try it by yourselves.

#### After lunch you will go skiing around the snow white lands.

At the evening a master class of making traditional Russian dumplings is waiting for you. Then you will have dinner and make photos in national clothes.

### Most popular

Altai

## Siberian winter

Difficulty



Group size

from 3 to 14

Duration

8 days

Accommodation at the trip



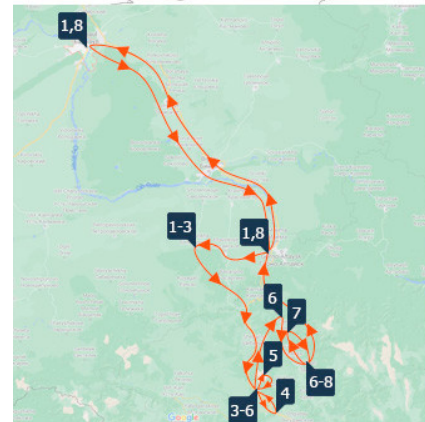
2 nights 5 nights

Языки



guide

from 1 250 EUR



**The route length — 60 km by bus, 5 km on foot.**

### Day 3

**Today you will travel further into the mountains, passing**

by snow white hills, seeing turquoise rivers and unfrozen lakes. You will make stops in the most picturesque places to admire this unique Altai landscapes.

**During the lunch you will taste the local specialities. Then**

you will participate in a masterclass of making healthy Siberian herbal tea from local ingredients. In the evening you will arrive to the tourist base, located on the top of the Seminskiy mountain pass and gave dinner.

**The route length — 230 km by bus, 7 km on foot.**

### Day 4

**Today you will travel to the Karakol valley along the**

famous Chuysky tract, which is in the top 10 of most beautiful roads in the world, according to National Geographic. Karakol Valley is considered as a sacred place by local people. There are hundreds of ancient archaeological sites, such as burial mounds and rock drawings of various historical ages. Even nowadays residents of the valley do ceremonies in the places of power and worship the spirits of Altai.

Accompanied by the local guide you will learn more about ancient traditions and rituals of Altai nomads. Lunch will be served in a traditional rural house of Altai people. Afterwards you will have a great chance to enjoy Altai throat singing concert. It is a unique cultural and esoteric tradition of Central Asia, which is included in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List. In the evening you will return to the base, have dinner and rest.

**The route length — 40 km by bus, 8 km on foot.**

### Day 5

**After breakfast you will drive snowmobiles to Sarlik**

Mountain through snowy lands and mountain slopes. This is the highest point of the Seminsky mountain range (2507 m high). For lunch you will return to the base.

**In the afternoon you will go skiing in the vicinity of the**

base enjoying amazing mountain landscapes. In the evening you will have dinner and visit the Russia banya (the local sauna with about +80 -100°C temperature).

**The route length — 27 km by snowmobiles, 6 km on foot.**

### Day 6

**In the morning you will continue travelling along the**

Chuyskiy trakt. On the way you will stop and walk to the Blue lakes, the small ponds on the bank of the Katun river, which does not freeze during winter time. The cold powerful springs hits at the bottom of the river. They give so much water, that the lake does not freeze at 40 degrees (Celsius) below zero.

**In the evening you will arrive in the hotel, located on the**



bank of the Katun river, have dinner and visit a banya.

**The route length — 200 km by bus, 10 km on foot.**

### Day 7

**Today you will visit the picturesque mountain Chemal**

village. It is famous the steep rocky island of Patmos, connected to the river bank by a long suspension bridge. Here you will see the Orthodox Church of St. John the Evangelist, as well as an image of the Virgin and Child carved in the rock near the temple.

**Walking by the "goat trail" along the Katun River's stream**

you will head on to Chemal hydroelectric power station, built in 1935, near which "The White Fang" movie by Jack London's novel was shot. At the end of the day a hiking route to the Che-Chkysh Valley of Spirits is waiting for you. Then you will return to the hotel and have dinner.

**The route length — 80 km by bus, 12 km on foot.**

### Day 8

**After breakfast in the morning you will depart form the**

hotel to the airport of Gorno-Altaysk and Barnaul.

## Accomodation at the trip

From the first to the third days of the tour you will stay in **Lesnaya Skazka Park Hotel**. In a standard room — two/three beds, a table, chairs, WC and a shower. There is a deer farm, a swimming pool, a volleyball court, and a Russian bathhouse on the hotel's territory (extra charge).

The next three days you will spend at **Dinamo tourist base** located on the top of the Seminsky pass, in a picturesque cedar forest. You will be accommodated in comfortable, heated cottages. Each cottage consists of two sections with double/twin room, as well as WC and shower room shared on the section. There are a cozy cafe, a Russian bathhouse (sauna), and recreation area with barbecue on the base territory.

For the last 2 nights of the trip you will stay at **Klever Resort hotel 4\***, located on the banks of the Katun river, surrounded by majestic mountains. The complex covers an area of 10 hectares and has a gentle access to the river. You will be accommodated in comfortable twin/double rooms equipped with a TV, a refrigerator, and a bathroom with a hairdryer. The resort area includes a restaurant with Russian and European cuisine, a bar, conference hall with a capacity of up to 100 people, a SPA center, a bathing complex on the bank of the Katun river and children's playground.

## FAQ

**Who will be my guide**

You will be accompanied by an experienced English-speaking local guide.

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**Meals**

The price includes three meals a day. During the trip you will taste the national Siberian cuisine.

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**What will the weather be like**

The weather in Altai in March is already quite comfortable for winter travel.

Blizzards can still occur, but there are already many more sunny days than in winter months. During the day, the temperature rises to + 6 °C, but the nights are still cool and frosty: the temperature can fall to -15 °C.

## What transport is used on the route

Depending on the size of the group all transfers within the programm will be operated by comfortable Mercedes Sprinter minibus (up to 15 people) or minivan Hyundai Starex (up to 8 people).

## What to bring with me

- a warm hooded jacket
- warm boots
- warm pants
- a hat
- gloves
- warm socks

# Booking

Altai

## Siberian winter

Most popular

Difficulty



Group size

from 3 to 14

Duration

8 days

Accommodation at the trip



2 nights 5 nights

from 1 250 EUR

### What's included in the price:

- hotel accommodation (twin/double room)
- meals according to a program
- transfer to and from the airport
- transport services according to the program
- local English speaking guide's service
- program excursions and activities
- museum tickets and recreational fees
- Russian visa support documents
- visiting Russian banya (sauna) according to the program

### Extra charge:

- [airfare to Gorno-Altaysk or Barnaul](#) (starting from 273 EURO for round-trip ticket)
- single accommodation in the hotel (+358 EURO per person)
- Russian visa fee
- option of ski rent (+15 USD per person)
- personal expenses
- travel insurance



Best price guarantee



Personal tours



Discounts for regular clients



Gift cards