

# The land of reindeers and walruses

Ethnotour to Chukotka



The Chukchi and Eskimos, the indigenous inhabitants of Chukotka, have been adapting their way of life to the harsh conditions of the North for centuries. Their traditional occupations are reindeer herding in the tundra and sea hunting on the coast. Today these are two distinctive cultures, in many ways similar and at the same time very different. A resident of a modern city, having got here, finds himself beyond the bounds of everything known and familiar. Join our expedition and see for yourself.

# Experiences you'll have

## Expedition to Chukotka

You will travel to one of the most remote corners of Russia beyond the Arctic Circle. Visiting the national settlements of the Chukchi and Eskimos, you will get acquainted with the culture of the Chukchi reindeer herders and sea hunters, who have adapted to life in the Arctic tundra in different ways.

During the journey you will visit the world's westernmost Eskimo settlement, as well as will spend 3 nights in yaranga — traditional Chukchi tent at the reindeer herders' camp located in Arctic tundra

### Highlights of the tour:

you will live in the reindeer herders camp in tundra and get acquainted with the traditions of marine hunters in the Eskimo village of Uelkal

take part in a master class on lasso throwing and learn about the peculiarities of hunting for marine mammals  
try traditional Chukchi and Eskimo cuisine, including venison and walrus meat

take part in ice fishing for grayling and smelt  
visit the Museum "Chukotka Heritage", where you will learn about the history of the peninsula  
see historical monuments from the Second World War  
watch an Eskimo folklore ensemble and a enjoy a concert of traditional throat singers

### We accept bookings for groups of 6 or more

Border permit is required for this tour. Personal data should be submitted minimum 30 days before the date of arrival

**Note:** for your group of two or more people, we can organize an individual program on any days suitable for you. See details in the "Common questions".

## Itinerary

The journey begins in Anadyr (Chukotka Peninsula), where you should travel to on your own. We are ready to help with the purchase of tickets, if necessary, leave a comment in the application.

### Day 1

#### After meeting at the Anadyr airport, you will have lunch at

a cafe, and then go to the village of Kanchalan on the Trekol all-terrain vehicle (70 km, about 2-3 hours on the way). Kanchalan is a small Chukchi village with a population of only 700 people. The main occupation of local residents is reindeer husbandry and fishing.

Upon arrival in Kanchalan, you will meet with the head of the settlement, walk around the village and get acquainted with its history. Then you will discuss the upcoming program, listen to the guide's story about local traditions and rituals, and take part in the ceremony of feeding the spirits. Then you will be accommodated at the boarding school. In the evening, you will have dinner in the school cafeteria and relax.

### Day 2

#### After breakfast, you will drive to the river and take part in

ice fishing for grayling and smelt. Then you will have lunch and travel by ATVs to the reindeer herders' camp. You will drive across the tundra for 5-6 hours (about 100-120 km). On the way, you will stop for a small picnic.

Arriving at the reindeer herders' brigade, you will meet the locals and exchange gifts. They will invite you to the yaranga for dinner and tea. There you will listen to their stories about life in the tundra and local customs. You will spend the night in fur tents in the yaranga.

### Day 3

**Today you will have an early breakfast and a trip to the reindeer herd.** You will take part in a lasso throwing master class

Chukotka

## The land of reindeers and walruses

Difficulty



Age

from 12 y.o.

Group size

from 5 to 6

Duration

8 days

Accommodation at the trip



3 nights 2 nights 2 nights

Языки



guide

from 2 000 EUR



and see how the everyday life of Chukchi reindeer herders goes by.

Traditional local cuisine awaits you for lunch, and in the evening you will take part in a reindeer cooking workshop. You will also spend this night in tents in the yaranga.

#### Day 4

##### **After breakfast, you will say goodbye to the reindeer**

herders and set off on all-terrain vehicles back to Anadyr. On the way, you will stop for lunch in the Kanchalan village.

Upon arrival to the city, you will check into a hotel and have dinner. Then you can visit the bathhouse.

#### Day 5

##### **Today, after breakfast, you will be transferred by all-**

terrain vehicles across the tundra to the village of Uelkal (120 km, 5 hours on the way). It is the westernmost Eskimo settlement in the world with only 100 inhabitants. To this day the main occupation of local residents is hunting for marine mammals: walruses, seals and whales.

On the way, you will stop at the "Wing" - a plane that crashed here during the Second World War. There you will have a picnic and listen to stories about the history of Alsib - the famous air route between the United States and the Soviet Union, along which bombers flew from Alaska to Krasnoyarsk during the Second World War.

##### **Upon arrival to the Eskimo village, you will meet the locals,**

learn about the history of the Uelkal village and watch a concert by the local folklore ensemble "Imlya". At dinner you can taste the traditional food of sea hunters (walrus or whale meat). You will stay overnight at a local club.

#### Day 6

##### **There are many military-historical artifacts left in**

Chukotka. After breakfast, you will visit an abandoned military base - the Cold War tropospheric station, as well as the Alsib pilots' military cemetery.

Then you will have lunch in the village, after which you will go back to Anadyr. Arriving in the city, you will check into a hotel, have dinner and relax.

#### Day 7

##### **This day will be used as a backup in case of bad weather**

on the previous days. If you complete the entire program, then on this day you will have a tour of the city and the surrounding area. You will visit the Chukotka Heritage Museum, where you will learn about the development of the peninsula, as well as see the city monuments.

You will return to the hotel for lunch and then you will have free time. If you wish and for an additional fee, you can ride a dog sled and try yourself as a musher.

##### **In the evening, you will have a farewell dinner at the**

restaurant with a performance of a folklore ensemble (throat singing or folk dancing).

#### Day 8

##### **In the morning after breakfast you will be taken to the**

airport for your departure flight. On the way, you will make a stop to visit the abandoned Gudym military base with an underground missile silo (a visit is possible if the passage is open).

## Accommodation at the trip

In Anadyr you will stay for 3 nights at **"Anadyr" hotel** (days 4-5, 6-8). You will be accommodated in twin rooms with two separate beds, TV, minibar and bathroom with shower.

In the village of Kanchalan (days 1-2), you will be accommodated at **the boarding school** (rooms for 4-6 people with bed linen). Toilet and shower are located on each floor.

At the reindeer herders' camp you will live in **the yaranga** (days 2-4). This is a traditional Chukchi dwelling, which is a large tent covered with reindeer skins. You will be accommodated in canopies, such as small fur tents that are set up inside the yaranga (you will need to take sleeping bags with you). There are no facilities in the camp; water for washing will be heated over a fire.

In the Eskimo settlement of Uelkal, you will be accommodated in the club building (you will be provided with tourist rugs, you will need to take sleeping bags with you). Toilet and shower are located on each floor.

## FAQ

### Who will be my guide

You will be accompanied by a professional guide.

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### Meals

The cost of the program includes three meals a day, including snacks with hot tea and sandwiches while traveling through the tundra.

During the trip, you will have an opportunity to taste the traditional food of reindeer herders and sea hunters, including the Chukchi delicacies of venison and walrus meat.

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### What kind of transport do we use

An all-terrain vehicle on low-pressure tires "TRECOL" will be used to move around the tundra. It moves equally confidently off-road, on snow, ice and even water.

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### Required data for border permit

To participate in the tour it is necessary to submit the following information not later than 30 days before start of the tour:

- a copy of passport
- a full name of employing Company and a job position
- an address of current residence
- a city of birth (with country indicated)
- a phone number

The issue of border permit is included in the tour.

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### The cost of the program for groups of 2 people or more

For your group of two or more people, we can organise this program on any other dates suitable for you.

The cost will depend on the size of the group:

- 4 people — 2340 euro/per person
  - 3 people — 2695 euro/per person
  - 2 people — 3050 euro/per person
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### Mobile communication on the route

Mobile communication will be in Anadyr and the villages of Kanchalan and Uelkal. There will be no communication during the travels across the tundra and during the stay in the camp of reindeer herders.

## What to bring with me

- warm clothes
- sleeping bag
- thermos
- headlamp

# Booking

Chukotka

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3 nights



2 nights



2 nights

## from 2 000 EUR

### What's included in the price:

- accommodation as per program
- three meals a day
- guide's service
- transport service according to the program (all-terrain vehicle on low-pressure tires of the "TRECOL" type)
- permits to the border zone
- excursions according to the program
- entrance tickets to museums

### Extra charge:

- [airfare to/from Anadyr](#)
- optional excursions and services available on site



Best price guarantee



Personal tours



Discounts for regular clients



Gift cards