











If you are going to the edge of Russia, you should see everything at once. Far East rare animals, relict forests and nature reserves, the Japan sea coast with its pristine coves and bizarre rocks and the Sikhote-Alin mountain landscapes — nothing is hidden from your eyes while traveling around Primorye.

## **Experiences you'll have**

## Active tour in Primorye

The first part of the journey you will spend on the Japan Sea coast. You will chill in the purest bays, walk to the picturesque capes, see bizarre rocks, cascading waterfalls and lagoon lakes. During the second part of the route you will get acquainted with the wild nature of the Sikhote-Alin mountain range. The tour itinerary will follow the expedition routes of famous Russian traveller and researcher Vladimir Arsenyev and Dersu Uzala and will open to you the rich natural world of the Ussuri taiga.

You will cover 2500 km by jeep and boat and cross about 100 km on foot, exploring the most wild and beautiful places of Russian Far East. All hiking routes are light, backpacks are transported by jeep.

During two weeks you will see a lot of picturesque places and try different activities:

daily trekking through yew groves, stone castles and dense taiga

boat trips, during which you can watch the seals and bird colonies

snorkelingm SUP-surfing and swimming in turquoise bays with a fantastic rock formations

climbing one of the Sikhote-Alin peaks (900 meters high) and ascent to the "stone dragons" in the Primorsky Nature Park jeeping to the Amginsky canyon, where you will find the most beautiful waterfall in Primorye, called Black shaman spectacular rapids of the Great Kema river and Lotus lake cascading Benevskie waterfalls, framed by unusual basalt pillars secluded bays of the Japan Sea with quaint and scenic stone formations

We accept bookings for groups of 6 or more

## Primorye

## Far East ecotour

Difficulty

Age

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Group size

from 10 y.o. from 6 to 15 New

Duration 12 days

Accomodation at the trip







3 nights 7 nights 1 nights

Языки



guide

from 1 500 EUR

# **Itinerary**

The journey begins in Vladivostok, where you should get to on your own. We are ready to help with the tickets purchasing. If necessary, leave a comment on the application.

#### Day 1

## After meeting at the airport you will go to Chystovodnoje

village to visit the Dragon Park, or Primorsky Pillars. Mountain peaks have been eroded into quaint stone pillars and castles. Statues of incredible birds and dragons rise above the cedar-oak forest. You will pass a trekking route with stops at viewpoints, watch the first "dragon" and climb to the second.

## Then you will move to Petrov Bay, located on the territory

of the Lazovsky Nature Reserve. Here you will stay in a comfortable campsite, have dinner and relax.

The route length is 360 km by car and 9 km on foot.

## Day 2

## Today you will get acquainted with the nature of the

Lazovsky Reserve and go by boat to Petrov island. Here a walk along the ecotrail around the island is waiting for you. This island is like a natural botanical garden, where a quarter of the whole Primorsky region flora grows. You will see seal rookeries and bird colonies, pass through a relict yew grove that is more than 1200 years old.

In the afternoon you can relax in the bay. Swim in the sea,

go snorkeling or SUP-surfing. In the evening you can go to the





sauna at the campsite.

#### The route length is is 5 km on foot.

#### Day 3

### Today you will hike to the Benevskie waterfalls. You will

see 3 cascades of waterfalls, including the most beautiful one in Primorye called "Primorskaya Zvezda" (Russian for "Star"). Also you will visit taiga spring Elomovsky.

#### The route will pass along a forest trail surrounded by relict

yew trees, dimorphodon, huge cedars and fir-trees, interwoven with lianas. Along the way you will see picturesque basalt pillars of the most bizarre shapes. In the evening you will come back to the campsite in Petrov Bay, have dinner and rest.

#### The route length is 60 km by car and 17 km on foot.

#### Day 4

#### Today you will move to the Proselochnaya Bay (Ta-Chin-

Gouza Bay). It is considered the most beautiful bay in the Primorsky region. The sandy coastline stretches for 1.5 kilometers. The quaint "kekuras" (stone rocks) make the bay even more picturesque.

#### You will stay in a recreation base located 250 meters from

the sea. You can go for a walk along the beach, take beautiful photos, go snorkeling and swimming in the sea.

## The route length is 150 km by car, 5 km on foot.

## Day 5

## This day you will start with trekking through the wild taiga

to the Lake Zarya (Russian for "Dawn"). It is unique because Brasenia schreberi, a relict aquatic plant, grows here. On the route you can meet spotted deer, see the tracks of the Amur tiger. You will also admire the fabulous stone ensemble of Zarya Bay.

## Then you will move to the Central Primorye. Along the way

you will visit the bays of Olga and Vladimir. In the afternoon you will take a walk to the Cape of Four Rocks. It is considered to be one of the most picturesque in Primorye. It is known for its quaint rocks and a scenic bay with white granites. You will stay at the tourist base in Zerkalnaya ay (Russian for "Mirror-like") and spend the night in comfortable conditions.

## The route length is 300 km by car, 7 km on foot.

## Day 6

## After breakfast a trekking route to the Dubovaya (Russian

for "Oak") Bay is waiting for you. Here one of the most beautiful kekures (a geological landform consisting of a steep and often vertical column or columns of rock in the sea near a coast, formed by wave erosion) are located. They even have its own names — Nosorog (Russian for "Rhino") and Golova (Russian for "Head"). The route passes through the picturesque capes and beaches, offering great opportunities for photo shooting.

#### Then you will be taken to the village of Terney, located in

the center of the Sikhote-Alin Nature Reserve. You will stay at the tourist base and spend the night in comfortable conditions.

## The route length is 300 km by car, 7 km on foot.

#### Day 7

#### In the morning you will go for a boat trip along the Abrek

Peninsula. You will admire the beautiful multicolored rocks, caves and waterfalls, see colonies of birds, seals in the sea and gorals on the rocks.

#### After lunch you will start trekking to the Goral Reserve. We

repeat the route of the Vladimir Arsenyev's expedition, admire a pristine shoreline, kekures, cliffs and beautiful coves. Seals, Amur gorals and numerous sea birds are waiting for you here. At the end of the journey you will return to the base in Terney.

#### The route length is 30 km by car, 10 km on foot.

#### Day 8

#### Bold Mountain is situated in the preserved area of Sikhote-

Alin Nature Reserve. The hiking route to the mountain top (900 m high) begins on the banks of a stream with huge stones and small waterfalls in oak forests, which with increasing height are replaced by broadleaved pine, dark coniferous, and stone birch forests and then elfin pine thickets.

#### The top of the mountain offers a beautiful view of the

Sikhote-Alin forests, the Japan Sea coastline with lagoon lakes and endless blue mountains. On the route you will see relict plants of the Ussuri taiga and you can also meet deers mand wild boars. Then you will return to the base, have dinner and rest.

## The route length is 34 km by car, 17 km on foot.

## Day 9

## Today 4wd off road trip to the north of the Primorsky

region is waiting for you. The route follows the tracks of Vladimir Arsenyev's expedition to one of the most picturesque places in Primorye — Amga river Canyon. Just imagine: the crystal-clear Amga river with numerous rifts and waterfalls is framed by steep cliffs up to 200 meters high formed by red frozen magma, with caves and stone towers. And all this is surrounded by untouched spruce-fir taiga.

## During this route, you will see the highest waterfall in

Primorye called The Black Shaman (50 m high). You will make amazing shots and if you want, you can swim in ird basin. Returning to the baze in Terney you will go along the Kema river, one of the longest and most abounding rivers flowing into the Japan Sea. It is known for its cascading rapids: Takunzha, Sekuzha and Pipe.

## The route length is 360 km by car and 10 km on foot.

#### Today a trekking route along the seaside part of the

Sikhote-Alin Nature Reserve is waiting for you. You will admire the beautiful landscapes of Udobnaya (Russian for "Convenient") Bay, see Lake Gracious, which is the habitat of different waterfowl species, as well as Goral rocks and Camel paleovolcano.

#### In Golubichnaya Bay you will stop for a swim and lunch.

The way back to the base will pass along Blueberry Lake, where many relict aquatic plants are presented. This area is home to a large population of rare Manchurian spotted deer. Also here you can often see wild boars, eagles, less often — lynx, bears and Amur Gorals.

#### The route length is 35 km by car and 16 km on foot.

#### **Day 11**

#### You will move to Vladivostok via sites of Vladimir

Arsenyev's expeditions. You will enjoy the picturesque views of the Western Sikhote-Alin mountains, see the Li-Fujin and Daubikhe rivers, the lake with lotuses, and visit the monument dedicated to Dersu Uzala in Arsenyev. Then you will overcome the Venyukov pass and see the Ussuri river — the largest one in Primorye.

#### Upon arrival you will have a short sightseeing city-

tour. You will see the Tokarevsky lighthouse and also visit the "Eagle Nest" observation deck, offering a view of the Russky Island Bridge and the Zolotoy Bridge, as well as the Golden Horn Bay. Then you will be taken to the hotel (paid extra).

#### The route length is 650 km by car.

## Day 12

You may stay longer in Vladivostok or go to the airport by aeroexpress.

# Accomodation at the trip

On the first part of the route (days 1-4) you will live in a **comfortable campsite** located in the picturesque Petrov Bay, on the territory of Lazovsky Nature Reserve. You will be accommodated in double tents. There are a hot shower, a toilet, a sauna (extra charge), and a lounge area at the campsite territory.

From the fourth to the fifth days of the journey you will stay in a **guest house on the basis of "Proselochnaya" tourist base**, located on the shores of the same-name bay in Lazovsky Nature Reserve. You will be accommodated in six-bed rooms, each of which is divided into a living area and a kitchen. The room has 2 single beds and 2 bunk beds, a table, chairs, a gas oven and necessary utensil. Bed linen is included in the price. The toilet is outside, there is no hot water supply in the guest house.

The next night you will spend at the base in Zerkalnaya Bay (Russian for "Mirror-like") (days 5-6). You will stay in triple rooms, the facilities are located on the floor (toilet and shower with boiler). In Terney you will be accommodated at the **tourist baze**, in double rooms. The base built in 2017. The house is made of environmentally friendly materials, including pine, spruce, cedar. There is a heating boiler, kitchen and terrace, toilet and shower. There are 2 rooms with a double bed, 2 rooms with 2 single beds, 2 rooms with 1 bunk bed and 2 rooms with 2 bunk beds (men and women are accommodated separately).

The final night of the tour you will spend in a hotel in Vladivostok. You need to book it by yourself and pay extra.

## **FAQ**

## Who will be my guide

The group up to 15 people will ve accompanied by 3 drivers and guides. Guides are able to provide first aid, as well as have extensive experience in taiga, mountain expeditions. For any questions on the route, you can contact him.

## Meals

The price includes three meals a day: breakfast, snacks during the route and dinner. You will need to pay extra for meals at the cafe during your moving: lunch on days 1, 4, 5, 11, breakfast on day 5.

During active routes, guides will prepare meal. Tourist assistance is welcome, but it is optional.

## Sample menu:

- breakfast: porridge with milk, pancakes, omelet, fried eggs, tea/coffee.
- lunch: fish or meat sandwiches (pink salmon, chum salmon, saury), sandwiches with cheese and sausage, smoked meat, waffles, cookies, jam, chocolate
- dinner: soups, hot dishes with meat, fried chicken, pasta, baked red fish, meat cutlets, chicken skewers, salads with fresh vegetables. For dessert-waffle cakes, cookies, honey, jam, candy, tea/coffee.

Expensive seafood (ex. crab) and caviar are paid by tourists additionally.

## Can I take part

The trekking routes complexity is average. People with normal physical form and no medical contraindications can participate. The trip includes hiking, climbing mountains up to 900 m high.

We recommend that you do physical training before the trip (fitness, running, gym, cardio). This will help you feel as comfortable as possible while trekking and climbing.

## What equipment is provided

- tourist mat
- tent for 2-3 people
- individual set of dishes
- · tourist table and chairs
- tent shower
- tourist toilet
- mask for snorkeling

## Safety

The total route length is 2500 km.

The routes are operated by Toyota Sequoia, Toyota Tundra and Mitsubishi Delica. During the tour, there will be parts of off-road driving. The jeeps are prepared for off-road conditions. After each tour, the cars are serviced. You can listen to an audio guide with information about animals during your travels.

## What to bring with me

#### Clothes and footwear:

- wind-moisture-proof (preferably breathing with a membrane) suit (pants + jacket)
- light walking pants, cotton sweatshirt with long sleeves, it is desirable that the ankles and wrists of the suit fit snugly against the skin (protection from insects)
- · shorts and t-shirts
- set of clothes for sleep
- a waistcoat or a warm jacket for the evening
- · 2 pairs of trekking socks
- trekking boots, preferably waterproof with a membrane, not necessarily alpine, better light middle-mountain
- shoes for the change (sneakers / sandals)
- neoprene socks or slippers for swimming in the sea and fording rivers
- · bathing suit
- raincoat (if the jacket / windbreaker gets wet from the rain)

## Trekking and camping equipment:

- trekking rucksack (30 l.) + main backpack / bag for things / suitcase
- sleeping bag (comfort t ~ 15 ° C)
- seat / hop
- waterproof cape on a backpack

#### Other perdonal items:

- headlamp (with spare batteries)
- sunglasses
- trekking sticks (optional, on your wish)
- individual first-aid kit (personal medicines)
- personal care items and antiseptic gel for hands
- towel
- bottle for water (not less than 1 liter), thermoses (in autumn)
- remedy for ticks
- neoprene costume (if you are cold when swimming and snorkeling for the long time)

## Tick-borne encephalitis vaccination

All participants should be vaccinated against tick-borne encephalitis. This is a prerequisite for participation in the tour.

In Russia vaccination is done in 2 parts. The first vaccine is made 45 days before arrival to Russia. The second vaccine — 7-14 days before arrival to the Primorsky region.

The vaccination process might differ in your country. For details, please contact your doctor. If you are not willing to go through vaccination process, please, be assured that your medical insurance covers tick-borne encephalitists.

## What will be the weather like

In July, August and until September 20, you can swim in the sea. The water temperature is different every year depending on the number of sunny days. The average temperature in the South of the region in August is  $+25^{\circ}$ C, in the North is  $+21^{\circ}$ C.

# **Booking**

Primorye

Far East ecotour New

Difficulty \_\_\_

Age from 10 y.o.
Group size from 6 to 15
Duration 12 days

## from 1500 EUR

## What's included in the price:

- accommodation as per program
- breakfasts and dinners+ lunches on route
- transportation and transfers (jeeps Toyota Sequoia, Toyota Tundra, Mitsubishi Delica)
- guides' and cook's service
- tourist equipment rent
- permits to national parks and reserves
- a satellite phone

Accomodation at the trip







3 nights 7 nights 1 nights

## Extra charge:

- <u>airfare to Vladivostok</u> (starting at 330 EURO for a round-trip ticket)
- aeroexpress ticket (+4 EURO)
- meals in cafe
- hotel accommodation in Vladivostok (for 1 hight, from 12 EURO per person)
- single accommodation in a tent (+12 EURO per person)
- a sleeping bag rental (summer type:~ 20 EURO per tour, autumn type: ~ 40 EURO per tour)
- excursions to the Gamova and Krabbe peninsulas, Furugelma island (in addition days not included in the program)







