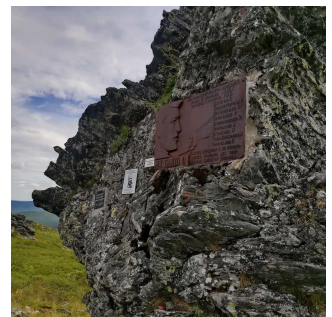
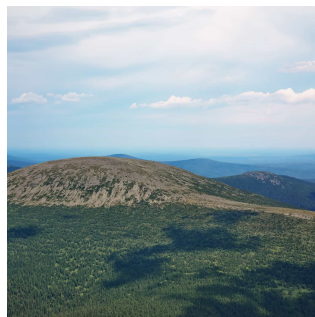
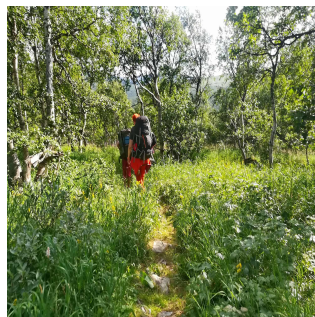


# Mysteries of the wild Ural lands

Expedition to the Manpupuner Plateau and the Dyatlov pass



How to see all the most famous but hard-to-reach sights of the Northern Urals in one trip? Get ready for a helicopter trip, rafting down the taiga river and trekking in the mountains. You will see the stone gates of Mount Otorten, the ridges of Dead Mountain, the Manpupuner Plateau and the mysterious Dyatlov pass.

# Experiences you'll have

## Expedition to the Manpupuner plateau


You will go on an expedition to the wild places of the Northern Urals, where there is nothing but the distant encampments of the Mansi people, lost in the taiga wilderness.

Do you want to take a break from civilization for a few days and find out, how it is to live in the deep taiga? Join our expedition. The program includes a helicopter tour to the legendary Manpupuner Plateau and the infamous Dyatlov pass, trekking in the mountains and rafting on the sacred Mansi rivers.

See, what awaits you on this journey:

Ural

### Mysteries of the wild Ural lands

Difficulty	
Age	from 14 y.o.
Group size	from 14
Duration	8 days

Accommodation at the trip



6 nights 1 nights

Языки



guide

from 1 270 EUR

In 8 days you will visit the most remote and mysterious places of the Northern Urals:

- see one of the Seven Wonders of Russia — the legendary Manpupuner rock formations
- walk along the reserved taiga trails and visit the sacred Mansi lands enveloped with mysticism and secrets
- observe Mount Otorten, which the group of Igor Dyatlov has never reached
- get to the Dyatlov pass and hear several versions of the tragic tourists' death
- learn why you should not go through the Golden Gate — a picturesque rocky arch on the bank of the Vizhai River
- visit the decayed barracks of the labor camp "IvdellAG" that flourished here in the middle of the last century
- explore the ice grottoes of the caves, where the main Mansi idol was kept, according to legends
- go down the Lozva and Vizhay taiga rivers on a catamaran
- try fishing in rapid mountain rivers, where the unique Northern fish species are found
- meet the Mansi people and visit their villages, listen to legends and taste the specialities of the taiga cuisine

## Itinerary

The journey begins in Khanty-Mansiysk, where you should get to on your own. We recommend arriving the day before, or choosing a morning flight with UTair or Aeroflot arriving at 5:10 am local time on the first day of the program. We are ready to help with the purchase of tickets, if necessary, leave a comment in the application.

After meeting at the airport, for an additional fee, a transfer to Nyagan helipad will be organized for you.

*The itinerary may vary depending on weather conditions.*

### Day 1

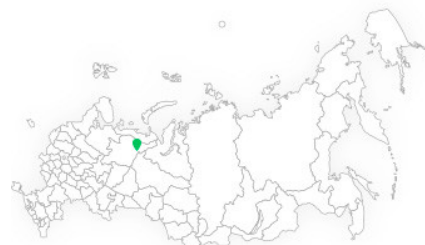
#### At 8 am, the group will gather at the helipad in Nyagan.

Delays are possible due to morning fog in the mountains. You will receive a weather report at 9 am. If the weather is good, you will board a helicopter and fly to the territory of the Pechora-Ilych Nature Reserve (1 hour 40 minutes, 325 km). From the helipad, you will walk 880 m along the path to the stone pillars on the Manpupuner Plateau.

At the top of the plateau you will spend about 2 hours: you will

learn about the history of Seven Strong Men Rock Formations, take a photo of mysterious pillars, and feel the special energy of this place.

After lunch you will board a helicopter and depart for the Dyatlov pass. You will fly over the picturesque Mount Otorten, at the foot of which there is the purest mountain lake Lunthusaptur.



### **You will land in the hollow of the Kholat-Chahl ridge, which**

is called "The Dead Mountain". According to popular beliefs, nine Mansi hunters died on this pass. The same fate befell a group of students and their leader Igor Dyatlov in 1959. You will visit a memorial stele erected in memory of this tragic event.

You can then take part in a 2-day backpacking hike that starts from the pass. After the end of the excursion to the Dead Mountain, you will go down to the forest (5 km on foot with a height difference of 400 m). In the evening, you will set up camp, have dinner and rest.

If you are not ready for this hiking route, a helicopter will take you to the bank of the Lozva River (15 minutes, 35 km). In the evening you will have dinner prepared by the chef and a chance to relax and enjoy a mobile bath. You will spend the night in tents.

### **Day 2**

#### **Today the group that remained at the Dyatlov pass will**

continue the walking part of the route (25 km). You will walk along the banks of the Auspiya River, through the rugged taiga and mountainous terrain. After lunch you will carry on towards the base camp on the Lozva River. You will reach it in the evening, meet the second group and set up tents.

Members of the group, which stays at the base can go to the upper reaches of the Lozva River (25 km round trip), go fishing for grayling and collect some minerals that are found here. Those wishing to relax will stay in the camp.

In the evening all participants will have dinner together. You can also visit the Mansi traditional bathhouse.

### **Day 3**

#### **All together you will prepare the catamarans for rafting**

and go along the route (10-15 km) after lunch. The Lozva River is sacred for the Mansi. In some places, you can see wooden barns with images of Vogul idols on wooden piles at a height of 2-3 meters. Mansi hunters keep there the minimum of necessary food and items for survival in the taiga.

During the rafting you will make stops for rest and lunch, observing the beautiful rocks that rise above the river. You can also go fishing — taimen, pike, Siberian grayling, ide, tugun, burbot and dace can be found here.

In the evening you will set up camp, have dinner and enjoy a mobile bath.

### **Day 4**

#### **On this day you will continue rafting down the river (8-9**

hours, 15-20 km) with stops for fishing and lunch. You will arrive at the river spit near the Mansi camp, and then go on an excursion to the Mansi village of Treskolye, located at the Tump-Kapai ridge (1 km). There is still no electricity, communications, transport roads, and the main occupations of the inhabitants are hunting, fishing and gathering.

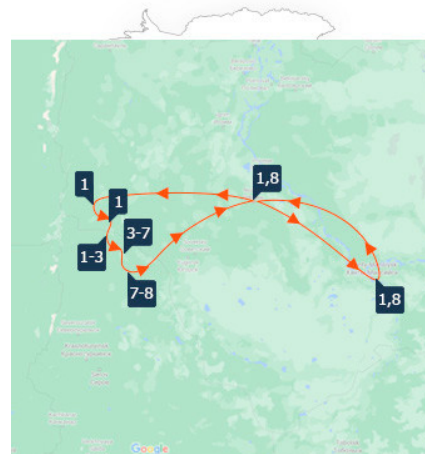
During a walk around the village you can get acquainted with the life of the taiga Mansi. You will see their national dwellings, special ovens for baking bread called "nyan-kur", as well as sacred barns named "yalping-sumyakhs". For their protection special totems made of bear and elk skulls hang on trees throughout the village.

In the evening you will return to the river bank and set up a camp. For dinner you will taste delicacies of the northern taiga cuisine and various fish snacks. You will spend the night in tents.

### **Day 5**

#### **You will continue rafting down the Lozva River (8-10 km),**

and stop downstream of the Treskolye settlement to inspect two caves — the Whale's Mouth and an underground ice grotto cave.



In the past, they were sacred to the Mansi tribes. According to legend, in one of the caves, the Mansi kept their main idol — the legendary goddess Golden Baba (Sorni Nai, Zarni An, Sorni Ekwa, Zarni Yin), reliably protecting her from enemies.

After that you will have another walk to the Mansi village of Ushma. It has about a dozen residential buildings located on both banks of the Lozva River. The Mansi are not engaged in agriculture. Men hunt, while women are busy dressing skins and making clothes, shoes and various products from cedar and hazel.

After lunch you will see the surviving structures of the first colony-settlement in the USSR, where the re-escorted prisoners lived. In Soviet times, a sawmill, a bathhouse, a bakery, a laundry worked here, and even a park with children's swings and flower beds was laid out. In the evening you will have dinner from the chef. You will spend the night in tents on the banks of the river in the village of Ushma.

#### Day 6

##### **After an early rise and breakfast you will pack the**

catamarans and go by truck to the abandoned village of Tokhta, where you will start rafting down the Vizhay River. Depending on the water level in the river, you will be rafting on catamarans (in high water) or on tourist kayaks (in low water).

Vizhai is one of the most beautiful and mysterious rivers of the Northern Urals. It originates on the Prayer Stone ridge, which has long been considered sacred by the Mansi. Ancient Mansi sanctuaries were located along the banks of the river.

The main route of the rafting will pass through a rocky limestone massif. The banks of the river are decorated with beautiful rock formations of various shapes, caves with underground lakes and rivers.

During the rafting you will make stops for rest, lunch and fishing. In the evening, you will choose a camp site, set up tents, dine and relax.

#### Day 7

##### **Today you will continue rafting down the Vizhai River,**

making stops for fishing and sightseeing. Among them are the Golden (or Tsar's) Vizhay Gates. This is a picturesque rocky arch of karst origin, located on the banks of the river. The gate opening diameter is more than 4 m with a thickness of about 1,5 m.

It is believed, that the arch is of artificial origin and was built for shamanic rituals. According to the local beliefs, one cannot pass through the Golden Gate, since it is a bridge between the worlds of the living and the dead.

You will also visit the recently discovered caves on the Toshemka River and climb the cliff, which offers a magnificent view of the Ural ridge.

In the evening you will finish rafting near the village of Vizhai and stay at the tourist base. A festive dinner and a Russian banya are waiting for you.

#### Day 8

##### **After breakfast you will collect your personal belongings**

and go to Nyagan by minibus.

##### **Before departure, for an additional fee, you can stay in a**

comfortable club hotel and visit a bathhouse with a swimming pool and jacuzzi. We recommend, that you plan your flight the next day to rest before your flight.

## Accommodation at the trip

For most part of the trip you will live in **tents**, setting up the camp at the "Izba Ilyich" tourist camp site (days 1-3), as well as on the banks of the Lozva and Vizhay mountain rivers during the rafting (days 3-7).

You will spend the final night of the tour in **wooden houses** at the "Vizhai" tourist base. It is located in the furthest village which can be reached by car

in the north of the Sverdlovsk region. The base has a canteen and a sauna.

If you arrive in the city of Nyagan the day before the start of the trip or want to stay after the expedition, you can book a room at the "Raduga" Hotel (extra charge).

## FAQ

### Who will be my guide

During the expedition, the group will be accompanied by qualified specialists: a group leader (professional guide) and a chef.

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### Meals

On this journey you will be accompanied by a professional chef with over 15 years of experience.

The menu includes lamb and pork meat dishes, fish, hot and cold snacks, and refreshing vitamin drinks. On an additional request, in the field, restaurant dishes are provided to choose from: northern cuisine, or dishes of Russian hunting and fishing cuisine, or, at the team's preference: Italian, French, Eastern and European cuisine. The booking must be made by the group in advance, before the start of the tour. During radial travel exits innovative freeze-dried products are used for food. They are invented in the space industry as food for the astronauts. Such food is easy and convenient to store, transport, prepare and consume in stressful field conditions.

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### Can I take part

You must be prepared for a complete lack of civilization and have no contraindications for physical activity.

In addition to active routes, tourists take part in setting up a camp, collecting firewood for a fire, assembling tents and catamarans.

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### What to bring with me

#### **Clothes:**

- summer fishing / hunting suit
- sweater (warm shirt made of fleece or PolarTec material)
- warm pants (underpants) made of fleece or PolarTec material
- raincoat (waterproof or polyethylene)
- thermal underwear
- changeable underwear
- mosquito suit made of mesh
- woolen socks, warm socks (2 sets each)
- trekking boots for walking on rough terrain
- trekking socks
- bandana / cap
- slates / light slippers (for evening relaxation)

#### **Personal belongings:**

- LED disk lamp
- headlight
- AAA and AA batteries, 6 pieces each
- waterproof sealed bag
- bath towel
- hygiene items (toothbrush, paste, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- tourist backpack 40-60 L
- first aid kit (personal medicines)
- hand and face cream, sunscreen
- personal hygiene products, repellents, aerosol (according to personal preferences)
- photo and video equipment (if any)

- SIM card with roaming service and debit balance for calls to civilization
- additional provisions (for example, alcoholic drinks)
- means of communication on the river, walkie-talkies (if any)

**Fishing and other accessories:**

- fishing gloves
- polarized glasses (required)
- accessories for fishing (case with fishing supplies: spoons, flies, etc.)
- folding pocket knife (or a hunting knife)
- means of self-defense on the river from wild animals (rocket launcher, flare, firecrackers)
- fishing tongs, retrievers and other accessories at will
- rubber boots with belt carbines
- tackle in a tube (spinning / fly rod with a set)
- GPS navigator or compass
- lighter, matches

### Satellite communication

The expedition members will have an opportunity to use Thuraya or Iridium satellite communications. To do this, you will need your own SIM card. Club SIM cards can be used only in case of emergency, as well as for control calls related to the message of weather conditions and GPS coordinates in case the group is removed from the route.

### What will the weather be like

The Subpolar and Northern Urals are the harsh northern edge of Russia. The group disembarks in the hills, so the expedition members need to be prepared for the contrast between day and night temperatures. Starting in July, daytime temperatures rise to + 25-30°C. At night in the mountains, the temperature can drop to 0°C and even freezing temperatures.

### Insurance

The cost of the program includes medical insurance. When starting the route, the group is registered with the Ministry of Emergency Situations or the regional rescue service.

## Booking

Ural

### Mysteries of the wild Ural lands

Difficulty   
 Age from 14 y.o.  
 Group size from 14  
 Duration 8 days

Accommodation at the trip

   
 6 nights 1 night

from 1 270 EUR

**What's included in the price:**

- Mi-8 helicopter transfer (3 flight hours)
- accommodation at the tourist base (1 night) and in the camping (6 nights)
- three meals a day

**Extra charge:**

- [airfare to Khanty-Mansiysk](#) (starting at 200 EURO per person for a round-trip ticket)
- transfer from Khanty-Mansiysk to Nyagan and back (+250 EURO for a car for 3 people)
- accommodation at a hotel in Khanty-Mansiysk

- services of a guide and a chef
- fee for a helicopter landing on the Manpupuner plateau and for visiting the Pechora-Ilych Biosphere Reserve
- rental of boats, expeditionary, tourist, kitchen and other equipment
- medical insurance
- transport service according to the program (minibus, "Ural" truck)
- delivery of equipment, food and ammunition to the helipad

or Nyagan before or after the start of the expedition (optional)

- rental of tackle for fishing (spinning, fishing line, reel, hook, spoon): +20 EURO per person, optional



Best price guarantee



Personal tours



Discounts for regular clients



Gift cards