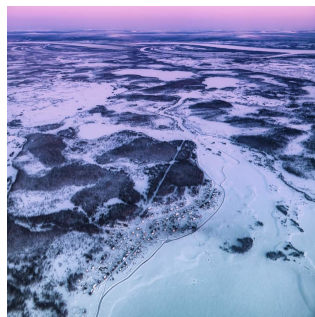
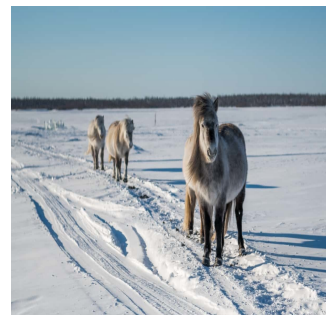


# Expedition to the Pole of Cold

Ethnic trip to Yakutia in winter



Oymyakon is one of the most inclement inhabited places on Earth. It is the land of permafrost, where thermometers record the lowest temperatures in the world. Not only people, but also animals have to survive in such harsh conditions. You will see special breeds of Yakut horses and cows, go on dog sledding, taste traditional Even cuisine and participate in the mysterious ethnic purification rite.

# Experiences you'll have

## Winter journey to Yakutia

For a few days you will see a completely different reality and become a member of ethno-expedition to one of the coldest places of our planet.

The main feature of this expedition is a visit to the Pole of Cold — the place where the lowest temperatures in Russia and the world are recorded:  $-71,2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-96.16\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ )

It is not easy to reach Oymyakon: you will have been travelling by car for 8-10 hours a day. You should be ready to get up early, but you will manage to see a lot of interesting and unusual things:

you will see the daily life of evens-reindeer herders and find out how they survive in extremely low temperatures  
climb the famous Lena pillars — a UNESCO world heritage site  
meet with the charming Yakutian Laika and visit the farms where the special Yakut cows and horses are bred  
participate in the pagan purification rite  
try ice-fishing

get acquainted with the cultural and historical heritage of Yakutia during a visit to the ethnographic museum of Tomtor  
visit the "Kingdom of permafrost", where you will see unusual ice sculptures and meet with the "Yakut Santa Claus" known as Lord of the Cold Chyshaan

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

**Note:** for your group of two or more people, we can organize this expedition on any other dates, see details in the "Common question" section.

Photos by [Sergey Dolya](#)

## Itinerary

The journey begins in Yakutsk, where you should travel to on your own. We are ready to assist with the purchase of tickets. If necessary, leave a comment in the application.

### Day 1

**You will be met at the airport of Yakutsk and taken to the**

hotel. Here you will check in and have breakfast. Next you will go to the ethnographic complex "Us Kut", where you will take part in the pagan purification rite called Algys. It includes a pray to the Supreme deities, as well as mystical rituals of lighting and feeding the fire.

**Then you will visit the ethnographic complex "Chochur-**

Muran". Here you will meet with the Yakutian Laika and have a dog sledding tour on the lake Ytyk Kuel. Lunch will be served in a restaurant in "Chochur-Muran" complex.

**In the afternoon you will visit an underground ice gallery**

"Kingdom of Permafrost". It is a tourist complex set inside the mountain where the throne-room of Chyskhaan — the Yakut Lord of Cold is located. Also you can see here the residence of Father Frost from Veliky Ustyug and chamber of Lord of the North, as well as a unique showroom of ice sculptures called "Planet Yakutia".

**In the evening you will come back to the hotel, have dinner**

and rest.

### Day 2

**After breakfast you will go to one of the most famous**

natural places of interest in Yakutia — Lena pillars. This is a

New

Yakutia

## Expedition to the Pole of Cold

Difficulty



Age

from 14 y.o.

Group size

from 4 to 11

Duration

8 days

Accommodation at the trip



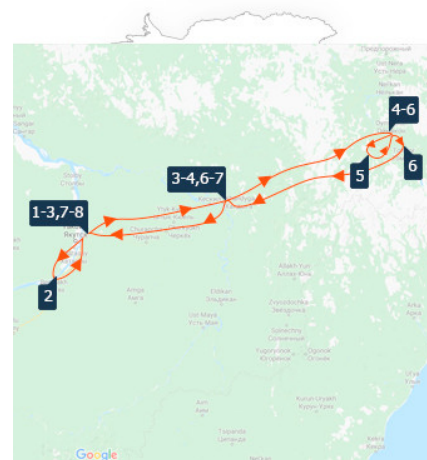
5 nights 2 nights

Языки



guide

from 1 990 EUR



complex of steep bizarre shaped rocks, the height of which reaches 220 meters.

**You will have a light snack on the way, and then you will**

go up of the pillars.

**Then you will have lunch in a cafe and go back to Yakutsk.**

In the evening you will have dinner and relax in the hotel.

**Day 3**

**After breakfast you will leave Yakutsk and start travelling**

to Oymyakon. The distance is 1000 km, so you will have an intermediate stop for the night in Khandyga village.

**Along the way you will have lunch in a cafe. Upon arrival to**

the village you will stay in a private hotel and have dinner.

**Day 4**

**After breakfast you will continue travelling to Oimyakon.**

The route lies through the Verkhoyansk mountain ranges, along the Kolyma Tract. It was called "Road on bones" because it was built by Gulag prisoners during Stalin's repressions.

**You will stop for lunch at a cafe en route, and arrive to**

Oymyakon late at night. Here you will have dinner and accommodate in a private hotel.

**Day 5**

**You will have breakfast and then visit the Yakut horses**

farm, learn about the features of their habitat and horse breeders' life. Upon request, you can ride a horse.

**Next an excursion to the coldest place on the planet is**

waiting for you. The extreme negative temperature  $-71,2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-96.16\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) was registered here. Then you will participate in ice fishing on the Indigirka river and learn the skills of cutting fish.

**Today you will also watch the performance of children's**

ethnographic dance ensemble in Oymyakon, after which the participants of the expedition will be awarded with the Pole of Cold certificate.

**In the evening you will take part in the program "The tricks**

of the Cold Pole" and then return to the hotel. Here you will have dinner and go to the bathhouse.

**Day 6**

**After an early breakfast you will move from Oymyakon**

to Tomtor village, where you will visit the ethnographic museum and get acquainted with the history and culture of the peoples of Yakutia.

**Then you will continue the way to Khandyga village with a**

stop for lunch at a cafe en route. Arriving to the village, you will stay in a private hotel, have dinner and rest.

## Day 7

### After an early breakfast you will go back to Yakutsk and

stop for lunch at a cafe on the way. You will arrive to the city approximately at 4 pm, check in at the hotel and get some rest.

### After that you will have free time for a walk, souvenir and

jewelry shopping. In the evening, you will have a farewell dinner in the restaurant of national cuisine.

## Day 8

### After breakfast you will be taken to the airport, from where

you will have a flight back home.

# Accommodation at the trip

In Yakutsk you will be accommodated in standard double rooms in **Azimut hotel 4\***. Each room is 26 sq.m. and has one double or twin bed, a private bathroom, a TV with cable channels, free Wi-Fi, a closet, a work area and a refrigerator. The hotel has a restaurant with European cuisine, bar, indoor pool and spa center.

In Khandyga village and Oymyakon village you will accommodate at **private guest houses** (accommodation up to 2-3 persons in the room).

# FAQ

## Who will be my guide

One guide and one driver accompany a group of tourists. Instructors with great experience will help traverse the route safely and comfortably. They are ready for any unexpected situation: they finished first aid Red Cross courses. The guide has a satellite phone for communication with the Emergency department in case of force majeure, as well as a first aid kit with necessary medicines.

## Meals

The cost of the tour includes three meals per day, except for lunches and dinners in Yakutsk restaurants (guests order from the menu and pay for themselves, +25-35 EURO per person for lunch/dinner). There are also light snacks during long journeys (hot tea and coffee, sandwiches with cheese/sausage/fish, fruit, sweets).

If you are a vegetarian, please inform the manager when booking the tour.

## Can children take part

You can take children over 14 years of age on this trip.

## What will the weather be like

There are frosts from -30 to -40°C in Yakutsk, and extremely low temperatures up to -65°C may occur in Oymyakon. As a rule, there are no strong winds, the weather is usually sunny.

Taking into account the severe weather conditions, the travel route is composed in such a way that you will not have to spend a lot of time outside. You will always have a car nearby, where you can warm up and drink hot tea or coffee. After climbing the Lena pillars, you can warm up and have lunch in a warm cafe. While fishing in Oymyakon, a tent with a stove will be set up nearby.



## Insurance

The cost include a health insurance, which will also cover the costs of emergency evacuation to a medical facility and payment for treatment. Medical expenses are compensated within the insurance coverage of 3 000 USD, accident and evacuation - within 5 000 USD.

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## Cost of the program for groups of two or more people

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

The cost will depend on the size of the group:

- 4-11 people - 2050 EURO per person
  - 2-3 people - 2800 EURO per person
- 

## What transport is used on the route

All transfers along the route will be organized on a comfortable Toyota Hiace minibus (with capacity of 11 people). The car is of 2013 year of manufacture and undergoes a technical inspection before each departure.

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## Mobile communication on the route

Mobile communication will only be available while your staying at the towns and villages. In Yakutsk, there is mobile Internet and Wi-Fi in the hotel. In the villages of Teply Klyuch and Oymyakon, mobile communication of the Beeline mobile operator works well, there is no mobile Internet.

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## What to bring with me

- the most warm clothes
  - thermal underwear
  - wool socks
  - fleece jacket (or warm sweaters)
  - warm pants
  - a warm cap
  - an anorak
  - mittens (you can take two sets to put on each other)
  - a scarf
  - warm shoes (boots, felt boots, Baffin or Kamik boots)
  - personal care items
- 

## Do I need cash

In Yakutsk, you can pay with a bank card everywhere (except for markets). Only cash (Russian rubles) is accepted on the route to Oymyakon and in the village itself.

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# Booking

Yakutia

## Expedition to the Pole of Cold

**New**

Difficulty



Age

from 14 y.o.

Accommodation at the trip

Group size from 4 to 11  
Duration 8 days

   
5 nights 2 nights

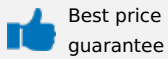
from 1 990 EUR

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

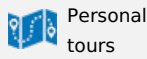
- double/twin accommodation in Azimut hotel 4\*
- accommodation in private hotels in Oymyakon and Khandyga villages
- meals as per program
- meeting/sending off at the Yakutsk airport
- transfers according to the program
- excursions according to the program
- guides' service
- insurance
- satellite communications

**Extra charge:**

- [airfare to Yakutsk](#) (starting at 400 EURO for a round-trip ticket)
- single accommodation in Azimut hotel 4\* (+100 EURO per person), optional
- meals in Yakutsk (3 lunches and 3 dinners)
- an interpreter's service (+530 EURO in case you are the only foreign tourist in the group)
- rental of a set of warm clothing (jacket and pants that can withstand temperatures up to -50°C): + 40 EURO per person, optional



Best price guarantee



Personal tours



Discounts for regular clients



Gift cards