INCOMING TOUR OPERATOR
IN SIBERIA

SIBIRIA
SAYAN RING
САЯНСКОЕ КОЛЬЦО

Excursion-ethnographical bus tour Great Sayan Ring

Day 0. Day for rest

We highly recommend you to arrive to Krasnoyarsk the day before, to have chance to take rest after long flights and to start excursions relaxed.



The hotel will be provided after 14:00.

Accommodation at the Krasnoyarsk hotel 3*

Meals independent

Part 1. Krasnoyarsk Territory

Day 1. Meeting Siberia

Arrival to Krasnoyarsk. Group transfer to the hotel from the airport for arrivals from 06:00 to 08:30 and transfer from the railway station to the hotel from 06:00 to 08:30. Check-in to the center located **Krasnoyarsk 3*** hotel (check-in is possible from 00:00 to 10:00).



Breakfast at the hotel lobby.

Short rest.

10:30 Meeting the guide in the hotel lobby, the sign **“SAYAN RING”**. This day there is a sightseeing including a visit to the symbol of Krasnoyarsk - the **Paraskeva Pyatnitsa chapel** situated on the Karaulnaya mountain and shown in the 10-ruble banknote. In the 17th century the Cossacks who founded the city built a watch tower on this mountain. You will pass the historical town part with its monuments of 18-19 centuries, the former mansions of Siberian merchants and patrons, you will see the monument to Krasnoyarsk founder Andrey Dubensky, the Theatre Square and much more.

We are going to visit the Ethnographical Museum which is considered to be among the best historical and ethnographical museums in Siberia. The museum was opened in 2001. It will provide an excellent prelude to your travel and your first impression of the Great Sayan Ring tour.

Lunch at the city restaurant.

After lunch, guests will take a walk along the taiga trails of the famous **Krasnoyarsk Stolby National Park**.

By evening, arrival to the city. Dinner at the restaurant.

Accommodation at the Krasnoyarsk hotel 3*

Breakfast at the hotel, lunch and dinner at the restaurant

80 km by bus, 3 km on foot

Day 2. Discovery day



After early breakfast departure to the Siberian south. The group will travel to the South through the city of Divnogorsk. The road goes along one of the biggest dams in the world - the Krasnoyarsk Hydroelectric power station.

Arrival to Abakan, the capital of Khakassia republic, lunch.

Then you will go to the Sayano-Shushenskaya hydroelectric power station, (external examination) and will stay at Shushenskoye village.

You will overnight in the guesthouses of the Shushenskoye Heritage-Museum, it still keeps the customs and traditions of the Siberian village of the late 19th century, with its streets and houses, it will help you to feel the atmosphere of country life. Guesthouses were reconstituted with preservation of cultural styles of Angara river area and south of Krasnoyarsk Territory. The realities of peasant life are combined with modern comfort living.

Dinner with traditional Russian cuisine.

* In the evening it is possible to visit Russian sauna called Banya for an additional fee.

Accommodation in guesthouses at the Shushenskoye village (with amenities)

Breakfast at the hotel, lunch at the restaurant in Abakan, dinner at the guesthouses

620 km by bus

Day 3. Mountains and Steppes Mysteries

Breakfast.



After breakfast you will visit the ethnographical museum Shushenskoye.

The history of the museum is inextricably linked with the name of Vladimir Lenin, who lived in Shushenskoye in exile 1897-1900. The excursion will bring you to the real Siberian village of XIX-XX centuries. This corner of antiquity is situated on a bank of the river Shush, near its confluence with the Yenisei. There are numerous monuments of architecture on the 7 hectares: farmhouses, commercial shop, jail, tavern, about 200 wooden buildings. A lot of people go here attracted by ancient Siberian traditions, which are fully preserved in this place. A visit to a real tavern will bring everybody another surprise, you can see handicrafts and go to the shop of

a merchant.

Lunch.

After a lunch the group continues its way towards Tuva across the West Sayan mountains. You will see the host of this territory - Sleeping Sayan warrior if you look attentively at the contours of the mountain. The legend says that one day the Khakassian warrior Sayan fell asleep here. He can be seen now lying on the back with folded arms.

The road to Tuva runs along the famous **Ergaki nature park**.

Closer to the evening the group comes to **Tuva**. It's amazing but as soon as the bus crosses the border between Krasnoyarsk region and comes to Tuva even the scenery changes. It seems like you are coming to another planet and another age. There are almost no signs of civilization on the most part of Tuva territory, steppes and sharp mountains are over the hundreds kilometers.

The group makes a stop at the 3* hotel at **Kyzyl** city - the **capital of Tuva**.

Dinner at the hotel.

Accommodation at the Buyan Badyrgy Hotel 3*

Breakfast and lunch at the guesthouses, dinner at the hotel restaurant

350 km by bus

Part 2. The Tuva Republic

Day 4. Between 2 cultures

The place of this day is Kyzyl, the capital of Tuva.



This city is situated in the place where Biy-Khem (the Big Yenisei) and Kaa-Khem (the Small Yenisei) unite their waters and give a life to the great river Yenisei.

The next place of visiting is the Buddhist temple "Thubten Shedrub Ling".

After eating the group will visit the National Museum of Tuva (exhibition Scythian gold). The excursion is dedicated to the famous Arzhaan-2 burial mound, excavations of which were carried out in 2000-2003 by Hermitage specialists in cooperation with the German Archaeological Institute. The treasures found in the burial mound (more than 20 kg of gold items) became a real sensation in the archaeological world.

Visiting souvenir shops and a mineral spring in the vicinity of Kyzyl.

Dinner with **traditional dishes** of Tuvan cuisine.

After dinner – the performance with the **traditional throat singing** - khoomei.

The throat singing - a fantastical capability of the Tuva people (and some other Siberian nationalities) to emit simultaneously two or three sounds of different tone and to sustain the same sound for 25-30 seconds without taking a breath. If you close your eyes it is hard to believe that the sounds are emitted by a person and not by a

musical instrument.

Accommodation in the Buyan Badyrgy 3* Hotel

Breakfast at the hotel, lunch at the restaurant,dinner at the cafe

20 km

Not included

Day 5. Following nomads’ paths

After breakfast you will follow exactly the same path that ancient nomads followed crossing Tuva from the east to the west.



The route will go through the mountain pass. Before lunch there is a stop near a breathtaking mountain Khairykan - one of the most respected places in Tuva. In 1992 it was chosen by the 14th Dalai Lama to be an energetically powerful place. Once a year local shamans come here to get energy, strengthen and purify their spirits.

Lunch. Picnic is organized right on the grass. Walks, rest.

On the way tourists will see the center of Buddhist culture, a ruined temple Ustuu-Khuree. The temple was the crowning of Buddhist construction in Tuva. And it was unique not only in Tuva, but also in like the former Soviet Union. In 1930, after the adoption of a special resolution Ustuu-Khuree was closed, and in 1937 - destroyed. In 1999, the Russian government, recognizing the historic and architectural value of the unique temple Ustuu-Khuree, decided to restore it. In July 2012, during the celebration of the music festival of the same name, the Ustuu-Khuree monastery was officially opened.

Khakassia begins after the **Sayan pass**, at a height of 2214 meters. The mountains here are covered with fabulous cedar taiga.

You will spend the night at the Snezhny Bars camp, surrounded by mountains and a fabulous cedar taiga.

After dinner, you will meet the Snezhny Bars camp instructors – amazing people who are in love with nature, the taiga, who know all the surrounding paths, and understand the healing properties of herbs. The rest of the evening will be filled with guitar songs and heartfelt conversations until late at night. Accommodation in wooden cedar houses with stove heating.

In the evening, you'll enjoy a steam room with pine and birch brooms, an ice-cold plunge pool in a taiga river, and the taste of herbal tea.

Accommodation at the Snezhny Bars camp

Breakfast at the hotel, lunch picnic, dinner at the camp

440 km by bus

Day 6. Day in taiga

After breakfast you will have a walk to the Love Suspension Bridge (2 km one way). The suspension bridge crosses the high-mountain Bolshoy On River. The river flows swiftly, overcoming rapids and riffles, through centuries-old cedar taiga.



During the walk, you can pick mushrooms, berries, cedar cones, and medicinal herbs. The taiga is so bountiful that you won't have to search for mushrooms and berries; everything grows literally underfoot. The Siberian cedar is a unique tree. The cedars you'll find yourself among have survived centuries, supporting dozens, if not hundreds, of generations of taiga inhabitants. The taiga offers a different sense of time and a feeling of unity with nature that you'll want to experience again and again.

The clean taiga air is invigorating, but the true panacea for all illnesses is the Russian banya.

After lunch, the group bids farewell to the Snezhny Bars camp and heads to the heart of Khakassia – the Kazanovka village.

The ancient land of Khakassia boasts a concentration of archaeological sites that surpasses all of Siberia, if not all of Russia. Here, right by the road, you can see rock paintings depicting sacred rituals, burial mounds and stone statues still revered by locals. Along the way, you'll visit the Khurtuyakh Tas stele – "stone mother," as the locals like to call it.

At dinnertime, you'll arrive in the Kyug Valley, which means "pleasure" in Khakass.

The tranquility of the Khakass valley offers a true spiritual respite and the fragrance of the beautiful irises will invigorate you.

The yurt camp where the group will be staying is located on the banks of the small Askiz River between the Altai and Sayan mountains.

Accommodation at the Kyug yurt camp

Breakfast, lunch at the camp, dinner at the yurt complex

242 km by bus, 4 km on foot

Part 3. Khakassia

Day 7. Way to Delight

After breakfast you will have a tour of the Khakassian State Archaeological Museum-Reserve "Kazanovka."



The reserve was founded 15 years ago by Leonid Eremin, a historian, archaeologist, and simply a passionate person who truly loves Khakassia. "Kazanovka" is a model for the appreciation of historical and cultural heritage, a brand sought after by scholars and tourists from all over the world.

You'll be shown rock paintings dating back 3,000 to 5,000 years, taught how to copy them onto paper, and you can take these rare souvenirs home. You'll also learn the purpose of the mysterious vertical stones protruding from the ground throughout Khakassia.

Lunch at the base.

After lunch we'll continue our exploration of Khakassia's archaeology.

In the evening we'll enjoy a dinner featuring Khakassian national cuisine and a performance by a Khakassian national folklore ensemble.

Accommodation at the Kyug yurt camp (no amenities)

Breakfast, lunch and dinner at the yurt complex

15 km

Day 8. Ancient heritage



After breakfast there will be departure to Abakan, the capital of Khakassia.

Sightseeing tour of Abakan.

Lunch at the local restaurant.

At the Khakassia National Museum of Local History you'll see a unique collection of stone sculptures—echoes of ancient cults and beliefs. Many of these sculptures are believed to have retained their power.

Shopping at souvenir shops.

Check-in at the Asia Hotel 4*.

Accommodation in the hotel Asia 4*

Breakfast, lunch at the yurt complex, dinner at the hotel restaurant

160 km by bus

Day 9. Valley of Kings

After breakfast group departs to visit **the Valley of Kings**. There are 30 burial hills in this valley that date back to III-IV century B.C. The culmination of the entire trip will be a visit to the Great Salbyk burial mound, once built over the grave of a noble family of the Tagar tribe.



The hill's circumference is 500 m, its height is more than 11 meters. The total weight of vertical stones is approximately 60 tons.

Lunch at the café.

Arrival in Krasnoyarsk in the evening.

Don't try to understand everything that you have seen during this journey. Understanding will come to you later. The most important thing is a powerful emotional impulse that you will get. It will last for a long time, until you visit Siberia again.

- Accommodation in the Krasnoyarsk hotel 3*
- Breakfast at the hotel, lunch at the café, dinner at the restaurant
- 450 km by bus

Day 10. End of the tour



Group transfer to the airport at 5:00 AM

Tourists will be transferred to flights departing after 7:30 local time. If your flight departs before 7:00, you won't be able to arrive at the airport on time with the group transfer. In this case, and if that's too early for you, you can book a private transfer.


Breakfast packed to go



50 km by bus