

# Snow jewels of the Sayans

## Day 1. Sunday

Beginning of the program in <u>Krasnoyarsk</u> (Russia, Siberia, time zone +8). You can get to Krasnoyarsk by train or by plane from many cities in Russia and even by international flights from Beijing and Bangkok.



From 07:00 check-in in Hotel Ermak, rest.

#### 13:00 Meeting with a guide in the hotel lobby, excursion in <u>Krasnoyarsk Ethnographic</u> <u>Museum</u>

Krasnoyarsk city tour, visiting such sights as a small <u>Chapel</u> with an observation point, historical gates to the city, old monuments.

In free time you can walk around the city and buy souvenirs.

We recommend you to visit the Central city Christmas tree; you can slide down slides, have a ride in carriages, have a look at beautiful ice sculptures, join round dances, meet Siberian Grandfather Frost and the Snow Maiden.

19:00 Return to the hotel.

Accommodation in the Hotel Ermak 3\*

Breakfast and lunch in the hotel

M Till 20 km by bus, about 2 km on foot

Meeting at the railway station or airport for extra charge. Dinner independent.

## Day 2. Monday

Transfer to the <u>national park Stolby</u> by bus. If you have ever been to Krasnoyarsk, but haven't visited the natural park Stolby, you haven't seen the heart of the city, its lungs, its soul. The shape of each rock is so unique, that almost all rocks have their own names - Grandfather, First Rock, Feathers, Takmak, Elephant, Lion's Gate etc. The tourist-excursion area of Stolby is almost 1,5 thousand hectares.



After a pleasant walk in the central group of rocks with an experienced guide you will have a rest and a hot picnic in a log hut of the real rock climber. You will hear stories about the stolbysm phenomenon in Krasnoyarsk and local legends.

Walking downhill (7 km, 500 m altitude).

Return to the hotel.

Accommodation in the Hotel Ermak 3\*

- Breakfast in the hotel, lunch picnic
- M 27 km by bus, 10 km on foot
- Dinner independent

## Day 3. Tuesday

Till 12:00 Check-out



Departure to the <u>fun-park Bobrovy log</u>, where everyone can choose any available entertainment.

Excursion to the viewing platform by ropeway, where the magnificent picturesque landscapes of national park Stolby and the city can be perfectly viewed.

After that free time in the park.

Extra services in the park: Rent of mountain-skiing or snowboarding equipment Ski-passes Tickets to the ice rink Extreme attractions (open by temperature higher than -25C). Lunch and dinner in the fun-park (café or premium-restaurant)

17:00 Transfer from the park to the hotel to pick up the luggage, and then transfer from hotel to the railway station.

18:40 Departure from Krasnoyarsk to Abakan by night train.

- ң Accommodation on train board
- Breakfast in the hotel
- KM 25 km by bus, 600 km by train
- ✤ Train tickets are not included. Lunch and dinner independent.

## Day 4. Wednesday

06:15 Arrival to Abakan, capital city of Khakassia Republic.



Departure to the old Siberian town <u>Minusinsk</u>. During the excursion you will see <u>Saviour</u> <u>Cathedral</u>, market, old merchants' houses and walk around the city center.

Further departure to <u>Shushenskoye village</u> that will serve as a pass from civilization to ancient times. The excursion to the <u>ethnographical museum Shushenskoye</u>.

The excursion in Shushenskoye will bring you to the real Siberian village of the 19th-20th centuries. The history of the museum is inextricably linked with the name of Vladimir Lenin, who lived in Shushenskoye in exile 1897-1900. 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.

Excursion to <u>Sayano-Shushenskaya hydro power station</u> (no entrance).

Then the group goes to the taiga camp Snow Leopard.

Overnight in wooden lodges.

**Snow Leopard** is a cosy wooden camp, situated in coniferous forest, surrounded by the Western Sayan Mountains, just in the heart of Siberian taiga along the bank of the clearest mountain river Stoctysh, 1250 meters above sea-level. The unique feature of the camp is the variety of dishes in the best traditions of Russian cuisine. The nearest village is 120 kilometers far and around - taiga, incredibly beautiful, alluring and absolutely untouched by civilization.

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Accommodation in the camp Snow Leopard

Breakfast in a cafe, lunch in the museum, dinner at the camp

M 560 km by bus

## Day 5. Thursday

A day spent in the taiga will amaze you by silence, not usual in big cities.



Hiking excursions to the suspension Bridge of love (2 km one-way, 2,5 hours)

There is a suspension bridge over the river Big On. Big On is a very sluicy mountain river, which runs through a lot of rapids. There is a local tradition that a man has to pick up his wife or fiancée and go along this bridge with her on his hands.

Time after the dinner is spent at the fireplace. Cedar taiga, fire, star-spangled sky and silence will make you forget about rush of the cities. All this will make you feel a part of wild nature.



Accommodation in the camp Snow Leopard

**KM** Distance of the day depends of the chosen hiking route

Horse riding for extra charge

## Day 6. Friday

A bid farewell to Snow Leopard camp and taiga.



On the route to Abakan the group makes a stop at a Khakassian village where there is a monument <u>Khurtuyakh tas</u>, where native women bring gifts if they wish to have a baby.

Abakan city tour incl. local lore museum.

By 18:00 the end of excursion tour program, farewell dinner in a restaurant with your guide.

Check-in in the Abakan hotel.

It's possible to take a night train to Krasnoyarsk or Moscow (via Novosibirsk and Yekaterinburg) (e.g. then continue your way to the Altai mountains).

- 🛏 Accommodation in the Abakan Hotel 3\*
  - Breakfast at the camp, dinner in a restaurant
- KM 310 km by bus
- \* Lunch independent. Train tickets are not included.

#### Day 7. Saturday

Till 12:00 check-out.



Transfer to the airport\*

Departure from Abakan by morning flight to Moscow by Aeroflot or S7 airlines

H Breakfast in the hotel or packed to the airport

✤ For extra charge