

INCOMING TOUR OPERATOR  
IN SIBERIA



## Active excursion tour Sayan Expanses

### Day 1. Thursday. Meeting Siberia

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Your acquaintance with Siberia begins in [Krasnoyarsk](#).



The tourists are met at Krasnoyarsk railway station at 09:00 local time.

The day begins with Krasnoyarsk city tour.

You will visit the most interesting places of the city. One of them is Karaulnaya hill where the [chapel](#) is situated. Some time ago it was called Kum-Tigei hill. The Cossacks who founded the city built a watch tower there in the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The stone chapel appeared in 1865. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century a cannon was installed near the chapel which shoots every midday. One can enjoy a fascinating view of the city, [the Yenisei river](#) and the nature reserve Stolby.


Departure by bus to the [nature reserve Stolby](#).


Upon arrival accommodation in Stolby wooden guesthouses. On the territory there is a chance to take a shower\*.


After lunch you will make a hiking trip with an experienced guide around the central group of rocks. While walking our ranger will tell you the story of the reserve, in 2015 it celebrated its 75 anniversary. The tourist territory of the nature reserve occupies the territory of 1500 hectares.

The bravest tourists can try to climb one of the rocks. During the excursion you will hear a lot of interesting legends and stories. Almost every rock is unique and has its own name – Grandfather, the First rock, Feathers, Takmak, Elephant, Lion's gate, Manskaya Baba, Vultures, Fortress and many others.

Rest, walking in the evening forest, enjoying the silence and the sunset from the height of the legendary rocks.

 Accommodation in guesthouses of Stolby reserve

 Lunch and dinner in the hut of your ranger

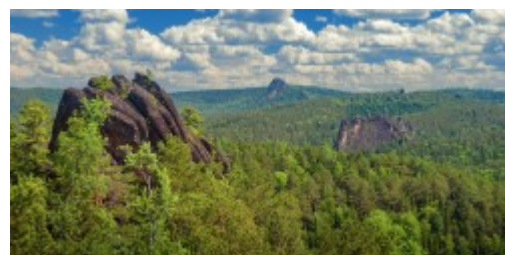
 20 km by bus, 3 km on foot

\* Not included. Breakfast is not provided

## Day 2. Friday. Stolby

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The next day you will go to the territory called **Wild Stolby**, where usual people cannot get. You will see a Mana group of rocks: Manskaya Wall, Manskaya baba, Twins etc. The rock Manskaya Wall is the most interesting and difficult to climb on. There is a big rocky complex The Fortress with several tops, and a rock The Vultures with a famous stolbist's hut. The rocks of Wild Stolby are covered with moss, lichen, trees and bushes. There is no any sign of human presence, there are very few paths. That is the place where you can feel yourself uniting with the nature.




Our ranger will choose and fix the route of the day depending on the weather, group's physically preparation and other factors.


Lunch in the reserve.

About 17:00 departure from Stolby back to Krasnoyarsk railway station.

19:20 Boarding the night train Krasnoyarsk-Abakan №124 (tickets\*).

 Accommodation on train board

 Breakfast in hut of your ranger, packed lunch

 10 km by bus, 15 km on foot

\* Train tickets are not included. Dinner is not provided

## Day 3. Saturday. Your way to Ergaki

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At 06:45 the guests are met in [Abakan](#) – the capital city of [the Khakassia Republic](#).

Short excursion around the city.



Then the tourists go to [Shushenskoye village](#).

This small village is widely known for its ethnographic museum. The excursion to the [ethnographical museum 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 in 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. A visit to a real tavern, you can see handicrafts and go to the shop of a merchant. The lunch with traditional dishes will be served in a real Siberian izba.

After that the way to [Ergaki natural park](#).

15:00-16:00 Arriving to the starting point (Ergaki visit center), changing dress, the luggage will be delivered to the cloak-room. Put to your backpack only the most necessary things for the four-days-hiking, in the camp you will be provided with a tent, sleeping bags and mats.

The hiking along a path in mountainous taiga, 4 km uphill to the lake Raduzhnoye.

Arriving to the camping, accommodation in tents for 2 or 4 people, dinner. Night fire.

The camp is located in a cedar forest on the shores of the amazing by its beauty lake Raduzhnoye. The clean mountain air is filled with the aroma of pine needles and grass. This is the untouched kingdom of peace and quiet.

The camp is equipped with a kitchen, dining room, wooden bath, tents, toilets, common tent to gather at the night camp fire, a wooden house with a stove for drying clothes and shoes, volleyball court, swing set, medical tent, a batteries recharge generator.



Accommodation in tents for 2 or 4 people



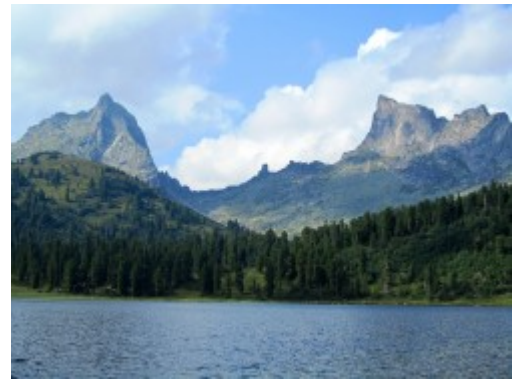
Breakfast in a cafe, lunch in the museum, dinner at tent camping



250 km by bus, 4 km on foot

## Day 4. Sunday. Ergaki

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The guide will choose and fix the route depending on the weather, group's physically preparation and other factors.

08:00-08:30 Wake up

08:30-09:00 Morning exercises

09:00- 10:00 Breakfast, discussion the hiking plan

10:00-19:00 Shumny waterfall – Raduzhnoye Lake – Sayan tears waterfall – Promezhutochny Pass (1A) – Oreshek rock – The Hanging Stone – Hanging Stone Pass – Raduzhnoye Lake

19:30-20:30 Dinner

20:30-23:00 Banya

20:30-23:00 Meetings upon bonfire

The territory of the natural park Ergaki is a traditional tourist center in the south of Krasnoyarsk region and the most visited part of the West Sayan mountains. The highest peaks of Ergaki are Aradansky (2466 m) and Zvezdnyy (2265 m).

The pilgrim place of all creative people is the pass of Artists. From this pass one can see the view of the central part of Ergaki and the valley of Left Taigish river. You can also see the peaks Bird, Star, Dragon's tooth, Cone, Shining and Brothers. There are two beautiful lakes situated not far from them – the Lake of Mountain spirits and the Lake of Artists.

The natural park Ergaki is for sure a pearl of Siberia. The lovers of pristine wild nature should definitely visit this amazing corner of the world.

After returning to camping rest and satisfying dinner. Preparing for night banya and swimming in the lake. The day finishes with songs and stories, games and competitions on

the night fire.



Accommodation in tents for 2 or 4 people



Breakfast and dinner at the tent camp, packed lunch



Distance of the day depends on chosen route - about 10-20 km on foot

## Day 5. Monday. Ergaki

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A new morning, new day and new impressions. After breakfast the group goes to a new trip.



The guide will choose and fix the route depending on the weather, group's physically preparation and other factors.

In advance it may be Raduzhoye Lake - Hanging Stone Pass - Taiga Eye lake - Lazurnoye lake - Hanging Stone Pass - Raduzhoye Lake

Dinner over the campfire. Evening communication, exchange of experiences, looking through pictures taken during day trip, it makes the rest warm and friendly.



Accommodation in tents for 2 or 4 people



Breakfast and dinner at the tent camp, packed lunch



Distance of the day depends on chosen route - about 10-20 km on foot

## Day 6. Tuesday. Tuva Republic

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After breakfast free time at camp, then the group says goodbye to Ergaki and promise to return back some day. The back way on foot (4 km, about 1 hour). The bus meets the group, tourists get their luggage, change clothes and continue the program.



There is a watching place on the border of Krasnoyarsk region and [Tuva](#) from where you can see the fascinating republic. Many people are amazed by the fact that when they cross the border the surrounding landscape changes dramatically. It seems that you have entered another planet and time. The major part of Tuva doesn't have any civilization. Endless steppes stretch for hundreds of kilometers interrupted only by rocks.

The group makes a stop 22 km from the city Kyzyl, on the bank of the Biy-Khem river (in Tuvan – the Big Yenisei), in the [yurt camp](#). Accommodation in the real thick felt yurts built by Tuvan people specially for tourists.

After dinner – the performance with the traditional throat singing [khoomei](#)\*. The throat singing is a fantastical capability of Tuvan 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 at the yurt camp Biy-Khem



Breakfast at the tent camp, lunch in a cafe, dinner at the yurt camp



210 km by bus, 4 km on foot



Not included

## Day 7. Wednesday. The Center of Asia

The Europeans are still interested in the Eastern traditions. The route that covers the Sayan Ring lets you visit the heart of Asia. The place of this day is [Kyzyl](#), the capital of Tuva. This city is situated in the place where the Biy-Khem (the Big Yenisei) and the Kaa-Khem (the Small Yenisei) unite their waters and give a life to the great river [Yenisei](#). The first sight to visit here is [the Geographical Centre of Asia](#).





The next place of visiting is [the Buddhist temple](#) and Drum of Wishes.

The group will visit [the National Museum of Tuva](#) (exhibition Scythian gold) and see unique archaeological finds of different epochs.

Visiting a healing mineral spring arzhaan.

Then we go to the salt [lake Dus-Khol](#) (Svatikovo). Lake is known as therapeutic. Swimming and mud bathing.

Dinner will give everybody a chance to taste national [Tuvan cuisine](#).

In the evening you will see a bewitching show: [shamans' kamlaniye](#)\*. Kamlaniye is a magical communication between shamans and spirits. During this ritual the shamans dance around fire, sing and beat a drum. Kamlaniye will leave a long lasting impression, nobody remains indifferent after this ritual. There the shamans will tell you about their traditions, rituals and abilities. After that you will get an opportunity to ask them about your future, your health and experience the ritual of purification\*.

To make the guests' life as clear as the milk, to let spirits of heaven and earth help to the successful resolution of all deals, to make the travel trouble free, we invite you to a Tuvan tea ceremony\*. During the ceremony you will hear a story about cooking national Tuvan tea with milk and salt, you will learn about the history of tea in Tuva, about tea legends and parables. You'll feel the taste of the rich culture, feel the wonderful land of steppes and open spaces of Tuva.



Accommodation at the yurt camp Biy-Khem



Breakfast and dinner at the yurt camp, lunch in a restaurant



150 km by bus



Not included

## Day 8. Thursday. Following the path of nomads

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Nowadays the tourists can follow exactly the same path that ancient nomads followed crossing Tuva from the east to the west and reach [Khakassia](#). The route will go through the mountain pass. Here you can meet places which are considered to be energetically powerful. 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.



Picnic is organized right on the grass.

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 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 June 2012 the new temple was officially opened.

[Khakassia](#) begins after the Sayan pass, at a height of 2214 meters. The mountains here are covered with fabulous cedar taiga. The tourists will spend the next two days in the taiga [camp Snow Leopard](#) built on the bank of the river Stoktysh.

You can enjoy walking on colourful moss here and breathe pure mountain air.



Accommodation in the camp Snow Leopard



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



440 km by bus

## Day 9. Friday. Taiga happiness

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Taiga rest is a perfect possibility to get rid of noise and city fuss. A touch to pristine nature can return inner harmony.



After breakfast the tourists will go to the mountain lake Marankul which is situated 1520 meters high above the sea level. The water temperature in the lake is usually +12-18 C. The way to the lake goes through the cedar taiga. The group will have lunch by the lake.

On the way you will visit the suspension bridge of Love. The pendant bridge is over a mount river, which flows across taiga forest overcoming many rapids. There is a local tradition according to which a lover if he wants to prove his love has to carry in one's arms his beloved lady over this bridge.

Return to the camp.

In July and August you can gather gifts of the forest - berries and mushrooms which you



don't even need to look for - they are just under your feet. You will also have a chance to eat cedar nuts. A Siberian cedar is a unique tree. Those cedars which you will be surrounded by are the witnesses of several centuries, fed hundreds of generations who lived in taiga.

Taiga air makes you healthier, but the real cure for all illnesses is a [Russian banya](#). A steaming Russian banya with brooms made of coniferous twigs, birch and oak twigs. Those who are courageous enough can jump into the cold river right after steaming. Cedar taiga, 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



Breakfast and dinner at the camp, lunch picnic



16-20 km on foot

## Day 10. Saturday. Locking the Ring

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After breakfast the tourists will leave Snow leopard camp and go down to the plateau.



By afternoon the group arrives to the Kyug valley (in Khakassian "kyug" means "delight").

Archaeologists find a lot of monuments of different cultures here. Khakassian speech sounds here, Khakassian food is not exotic, all rituals are natural without striving for theatricality.

13:00 Visit to an ethnographical village Khakassian aal, where the tourists have a chance to get personally acquainted with everyday life of Khakassian people from the late 19th - early 20th centuries.

16:00 Departure to the final destination of our journey [Abakan city](#).

18:00 Dinner

By 19:00 the main program is over. Boarding the train 124 to Krasnoyarsk or 067 to Moscow (tickets\*). Moreover, you can stay overnight in Abakan\* and in the morning fly to Moscow\*.



Breakfast at the camp, lunch in the ethno village, dinner in a restaurant of Abakan



370 km by bus



Train tickets and hotel reservation are not included

## Day 11. Sunday. Departure

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06:30 Arrival to Krasnoyarsk railway station. Transfer to the airport not included\*. We recommend to take a flight not earlier than 08:30



Not included