



To Old-Believers Village

Day 1.

Arrival in <u>Kyzyl</u> in the morning, meeting with a sign, transfer to the yurt camp.



The tour lets you visit the heart of Asia. The place of this day is <u>Kyzyl</u>, the capital of <u>Tuva</u>. 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 first sight to visit here is <u>the Geographical Centre of Asia</u>.

The next place of visiting is <u>the Buddhist temple</u>. Buddhism in Tuva exists in harmony with shaman beliefs.

Meeting with handicraftsmen.

Also you will visit <u>the Regional Museum of Tuva</u> (exhibition Scythian gold) and see unique archaeological finds of different epochs.

Also visiting Kyzyl surroundings, a mineral healing spring.

Dinner with national cuisine.



Accommodation at the yurt camp



Lunch and dinner at the yurt camp



50 km by bus

Day 2.

Departure to the village Yerzhei in south direction. The lack of roads and public transport makes this trip unforgettable for travelers who will see picturesque mountain lands, coniferous woods, meadows and pastures. Arrival to the tourist camp Yerzhei which is located at the bank of the Kaa-Khem river (the Small Yenisei) at Sayan foothill and 2 km away from villages Yerzhei and Sizim, where Siberian old believers live.



Walking around the camp, uphill from where you can observe amazing scenery.

Accommodation in wooden guest houses (no facilities in a house).

Extra services*: Horse riding Visit a phyto-sauna Massage



Accommodation at the camp Erzhey in wooden houses



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



150 km by bus



For extra charge

Day 3.

Excursions to old believers' descendants. (Photo and video shooting is provibited!) Old believers settled in Tuva in the end of 18th century, when these lands were digested by migrants. Still they try to live in reservations. But some families agree to receive guests. You will visit this kind of family and learn about their lifestyle, traditions, rituals of these unusual people. Their village is located on the bank of the river and you can get there only by ferry which is moved with the help of the river's



force. In the winter you will travel there on the frozen river. Meeting local people is always very exciting. It is a real time travel, it is a world of totally different values and interests.

Coming back to the camp, lunch, free time

Visit a typical Siberian hot sauna called banya.



Accommodation at the camp Erzhey in wooden houses



Breakfast, lunch and dinner at the camp

Day 4.

Coming back to Kyzyl. Free time at the yurt camp.



You can order a shaman kamlanie or throat-singing concert*.

Kamlaniye is a magical communication between shamans and spirits. During this ritual the shamans dance around the 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*.

The performance of traditional throat singing – <u>khoomei</u>. It's a fantastical capability of the Tuva people (and some other Middle-Eastern 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



Breakfast at the camp, lunch and dinner at the camp



150 km by bus



For extra charge

Day 5.

Till 12:00 check-out. Transfer to the airport or bus terminal.



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Breakfast at the camp