

Yenisei is the heart of Siberia

Day 1. First meeting with Krasnoyarsk

After the tourists' arrival at [Krasnoyarsk](#) they are transferred to the [Amaks City Hotel](#), center located. Meeting at the railway station is also possible. Breakfast at the hotel (buffet), short rest.



At 12:00 meeting with the guide in the hotel lobby. This day there is Krasnoyarsk city tour to the symbols 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. One can enjoy a picturesque view of the city, of the river [Yenisei](#), of the surrounding mountains and the [nature reserve Stolby](#). You will pass the historical town part with its monuments of the 18th-19th centuries, the former mansions of Siberian merchants and patrons, you will see the monument to Krasnoyarsk founder Andrey Dubensky, the Annunciation Cathedral, the [Theatre Square](#), etc.

We are going to visit the [Ethnographical Museum](#) which is considered to be among the best historical and ethnographical museums in Siberia.

The next point of the excursion is the [park Bobrov log](#). In the park you will have a chance to discover a beautiful view on the [nature reserve Stolby](#) (Takmak rock) going uphill by the ropeway to an observation point overlooking the magnificent views of the city and surroundings. This tour is a wonderful opportunity to plunge into the wild nature without leaving the city.

Transfer to the pier.

19:00 boarding the passenger ship Kuprian.

The passenger ship Kuprian was constructed by the project 623/025, class “O” (Russian River Register) in 2009. The Kuprian is the only VIP-class ship on the Yenisei river. The capacity of the ship is 3 twin cabins (bunk-beds, private WC) and 2 double cabins (big-sized bed, private WC). The ship has all modern conveniences like a large restaurant, the bar, sauna, walk-around deck and high-speed powerboat. The staff of the ship is very professional under the head of the experienced captain.



Accommodation in the Amaks City hotel and on Kupriyan ship



Breakfast in hotel, lunch in a restaurant, dinner on ship



80 km by bus

Day 2. Discover the “main gates” of Eastern Siberia

After lunch a group arrives to [Yeniseysk](#) town.



Yeniseysk walking tour and excursion to a local museum.

Yeniseysk is the oldest one among Siberian cities. During 1,5 centuries this city was the “main gates” of Eastern Siberia. Also this city was known as the farther of all Siberian cities. While visiting this city you will feel its atmosphere, learn its long history walking across its narrow streets. Today Yeniseysk is the center of old traditions and customs.

Woodcarving was widely used in the outside decoration of local buildings, also it was used in interior of churches. Our guide will tell you about the different kinds of this craft and the attractiveness of Yeniseysk’s old buildings.

Since old times Yeniseysk was supposed to be the religious center of Krasnoyarsk region. There are numerous churches and cathedrals built among Siberian taiga on the bank of the Yenisey river.

19:00 Boarding the ship. Return to Krasnoyarsk.



Accommodation on the Kupriyan ship



Breakfast, lunch and dinner on ship

Day 3. The powerful Yenisei river

Day on ship board.



Crossing the most difficult part of the Yenisei river - Kazachinsky rapid.

In the evening the group will have a dinner-picnic organized on Chastoostrovskiy island (in a case of bad weather conditions the dinner will be served on board).



Accommodation on the Kupriyan ship



Breakfast and lunch on ship, dinner picnic on fire



400 km by ship

Day 4. The way to the south

10:00 return by ship to Krasnoyarsk.



Departure by bus to the Siberian south.

Today the tourists will have a chance to see a man made sea, to cross two nature zones and to reach the Sayan mountains. The group will travel to the South through the city of [Divnogorsk](#). They will cross the [river Yenisei](#) twice. The road goes along one of the biggest dams in the world - the [Krasnoyarsk Hydroelectric power station](#). It was built in 1972, forming a water basin 400 km long.

Arrival to [Abakan](#), capital city of Khakassia republic.

Free time for independent city exploration.



Accommodation in the Asia hotel 4*



Breakfast on ship, lunch packed, dinner in the hotel



400 km by bus

Day 5. The south of Siberia

Departure from Abakan to Shushenskoye village. Today you will have the excursion in the [ethnographical museum Shushenskoye](#) that 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. A visit to a real tavern will bring everybody another surprise, you can see handicrafts and go to the shop of a merchant.



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.

In June now here, now there you can see [globeflowers](#), flowers of a bright orange colour, which are so fond of Siberians.

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 22 km from Kyzyl city, 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 Tuvans specially for the tourists.



Accommodation at the yurt camp Biy-Khem



Breakfast in the hotel, lunch in the museum, dinner in the yurt camp



430 km by bus

Day 6. The Yenisei river springhead

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.

Visit local handicraftsmen who will share the secrets of making shamanic drums, yurts, utensils, jewelry.

Free time in Kyzyl, visit a local market. Departure to a healing mineral spring.

Dinner with traditional dishes of [Tuvan cuisine](#) including meat and dairy products will be cooked specially for the guests on returning back to the yurt camp.

After dinner – the performance with the traditional throat singing – [khoomei](#). The throat singing is 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.

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.

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*.



Accommodation at the yurt camp Biy-Khem



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



70 km by bus



For extra charge

Day 7. The culture of Siberia

After early breakfast departure to Abakan. This time during the way you will visit a local family in Tanzybey village. You will taste the local Siberian cuisine dishes, served in the real village house.



Then the group will go to an old town of [Minussinsk](#). During the excursion you will see [Saviour Cathedral](#), you will walk around the city centre, aged merchant's houses, visit a local market where you can buy famous Minussinsk tomatoes. They started growing tomatoes in Minusinsk in the last century. Many local residents still use seed varieties, which fell to them by inheritance from grandparents. The largest tomato weighing nearly 2 kg, was planted by a local man in 2010.

In the evening arrival to [Abakan](#). City tour with visiting the [National museum](#).



Accommodation in the Asia hotel 4*



Breakfast in the yurt camp, lunch picnic in a family, dinner in the hotel



400 km by bus

Day 8. Back sweet home

Transfer to Abakan airport



If the guests wish, they will be able to return to Krasnoyarsk by bus.



Breakfast buffet in the hotel or packed to the airport