

## Muchun holiday – Evenk New Year

### Day 1. Meeting Evenkia

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Flight from Krasnoyarsk to the North, to [Tura](#) town, main settlement of Evenkia land.



Check-in to a local hotel.

After short rest you will visit the **Local Lore Museum**, where you learn the history of Evenkia and get to know about the customs of indigenous people of the North. There are a lot of unique exhibits, which represent ideology, ethnographic richness, culture, way of life and history of local people such as the Evenks, the Yessey Yakuts and [the Ket](#) (only 300 these people left to live all around the world)

The collection of museum holds many unique objects: natural science and archaeological room (habit, old women's jewelry, ornaments for team of deer, Evenk calendars, musical instruments made of wood, bone, metal), religion room (shaman clothes, diamonds, charms), a collection of coins, arts and crafts (stuff made of birch bark, bone, fur appliqué, embroidery of beads), art room, documentary materials and personal belongings of outstanding Evenk people.



Accommodation at the hotel Gostiny Dvor 2\*



Dinner in a cafe



Air tickets to Tura are not included

## Day 2. New Year Celebration

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Today we will be a part of **Evenk New Year celebration!**



**Evenk holiday Muchun** takes place outdoors. The place of celebration underlines the spirit and ancient roots of this event. Right on the grass there are a lot of chums (chum is a raw-hide tent) belonging to kinship communities, representatives of educational, cultural, industrial communities.

This day is full of events. You have a possibility:

- to taste national dishes
- to see the exhibition of arts and crafts
- to take part in master classes
- to see reindeers
- to take part in national sports games (national wrestling, jumping, archery and others)

The main feature of Evenk New Year is a demonstration of ancient Evenk rites, which traditionally were performed as a part of the Muchun. Assisted by the members of Evenk folk group, anybody who wants can go through purification rite Ikenipke, which holds 6 levels. Then follow the fumigation rite Kurekan (deer fencing) and ritual offering gifts to alfar. In the interior rites, the guests will be presented concert program with songs, dances, themed sketches demonstrating Evenk national clothes.



Accommodation at the hotel Gostiny Dvor 2\*



Breakfast in the hotel, lunch and dinner during the celebration



10 km by bus

## Day 3. Diving into the life of reindeer-breeders

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Today you will shoot the rapids along the beautiful Nizhnyaya Tunguska river (by a speed boat) until reaching a camp of reindeer-breeders. This journey must become some kind of “Back to the Origins”. Next two days will be out of civilization, only the wilds and you.



During this short trip, the group will delve into way of life of indigenous small-numbered people of the North, who live in the territory of Evenkia. Also you will learn some tips how to survive in the harsh Siberian taiga, e.g. food storage, fire making, water and food production.

Upon arrival you will see how national North dishes are usually cooked. You will taste blood soup, Evenk cake, taiga soup, herbal tea. After lunch guided by an experienced reindeer-breeders, you will visit the place near the Nidymkan body river, where deer graze. Here you will be taught how to handle reindeers, throw maut, and the bravest can even do deer milking.

In the evening bonfire you will enjoy amazing sounds of traditional musical instrument of Evenk people – vargan.

And the last impression for today is **overnight at national Evenk housing - a chum**. It is a raw-hide tent, covering by animal skins (in the winter time) and birchbark (in the summer). A fireplace is located in the center of chum, the floor is covered by fir branches and deerskin.



Accommodation in Evenk chums



Breakfast in the hotel, lunch and dinner in reindeer-breeders' families



50 km by boat

## Day 4. Traditions of hunting and fishing

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Today is a day of North **traditions of hunting and fishing**.



Evenk principle economy combines three branches of activity: hunting, reindeer breeding, fisheries. During the spring and until Autumn Evenk people do fishery, and in the winter they were engaged in hunting. Hunting was a very important for people: trophies used as food, clothes and for housing building, also trophies were the main good in the exchange with other people.

Departure by boat to visit the hut of a hunter.

You can fish if you want it.

The lunch will be cooked caught fish on the fire.

Spend some time outdoors.

Go back to the camp of reindeer-breeders.

In the evening experience with taking taiga banya, where you will feel the secrets of longevity and strong Siberian health.



Accommodation in Evenk chums



Breakfast and dinner in reindeer-breeders' families, lunch in a fisher's hut



20 km by boat

## Day 5. Back to civilization

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Coming back to Tura town by speed boat along the Nizhnyaya Tunguska river.

After lunch you will take part in master class of making national ornaments and amulets. You will make a famous souvenir – kumalan – “North Sun”, the symbol of how welcoming Evenk people are.



Free time in Tura.



Accommodation at the hotel Gostiny Dvor 2\*



Breakfast in reindeer-breeders' families, lunch and dinner in a cafe



50 km by boat

## Day 6. The end of the tour

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Transfer to the airport. Flight back to Krasnoyarsk



Breakfast in the hotel



Air tickets from Tura are not included