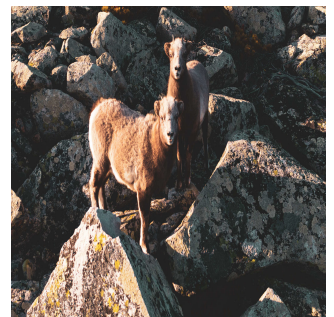
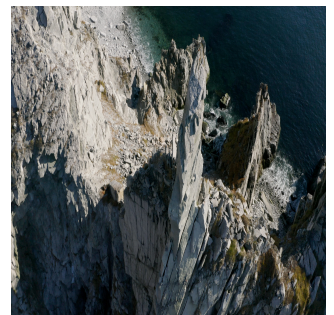
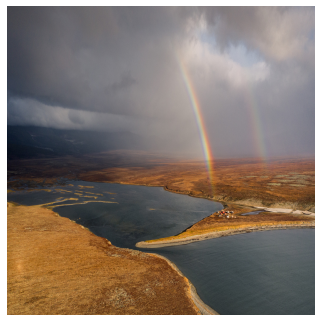


Winds of the Sea of Okhotsk

Marine expedition to the Magadan Region



During this expedition, you will explore one of the most beautiful coastlines of the Russian Far East and visit hard-to-reach and still underexplored places of the Magadan Nature Reserve. The northernmost rookery of sea lions in Russia, snow sheep on the coastal cliffs, huge clouds of puffins covering the sky and brown bears' "maternity ward" – amazing natural locations and untouched wildlife await you here.

Experiences you'll have

Exploring the Yamsky Islands and Pyagina Peninsula

July and August are the best time for sea trips in the Magadan region. Long days and white nights, a calm sea in the morning and reserve days in the program (for use in case of bad weather) will allow you to fulfill all the planned routes and get the maximum experience from this trip.

This trip is for real explorers and fans of the unique expedition routes. You will spend most of the tour sailing to uninhabited, protected islands. You will also climb to the highest point of the Pyaginskaya ridge and try your luck at sea fishing for halibut, flatfish, and walleye pollock.

Interesting points on the route:

Yamskoy archipelago – giant rocky islands in the middle are home to the northernmost rookery of sea lions in Russia and the largest colonies of seabirds in the North Pacific

Koni peninsula – it is considered the "maternity ward" of brown bears. Here you may see the red-listed Steller's sea eagle, snow sheep, foxes and ermines

Pyaginskaya Ridge – it is a picturesque ridge in the south of the Pyagina peninsula with sheer cliffs over 900 meters high that resemble Norwegian fjords


Harlankin Bay – with the 500-meter-high red jasper rocks and gray whales and killer whales inhabited the coastal waters

We accept bookings for groups of 6 or more

Most popular

Magadan

Winds of the Sea of Okhotsk

Difficulty	
Age	from 16 y.o.
Group size	from 6 to 10
Duration	11 days

Accommodation at the trip



2 nights 1 nights 7 nights

Языки



guide

from 3 125 EUR

Itinerary

The trip starts in Magadan where you should get to on your own on the first day of the program. We recommend an Aeroflot airline flight departing from Moscow at 7:25 pm on the day before the tour starts and arriving in Magadan at 11:25 am on the first day of the program. For your return flight choose the Aeroflot flight from Magadan departing at 4:35 pm.

We are ready to help with tickets purchasing. If necessary, leave a comment in the application.

Note: this is an expedition format program, which takes place in hard-to-reach places far from civilization. Depending on weather conditions the itinerary can be changed.

Day 1

After meeting at Magadan airport you will be taken to a

hotel which you should book by yourself.

After lunch (extra charge) you will go on a city tour. Visit

the new Mayak (rus. for “Lighthouse”) park with a picturesque view of the main city's Nagayev Bay. You will see an unusual sculpture of a mammoth, the Holy Trinity Cathedral and visit the Gornyak bay. Optionally, you can take a trip to the Ola settlement if time allows: the road to it goes along a beautiful route with panoramic views of Gertner's bay.

In the evening you will have dinner in one of the

restaurants in the town (extra charge) and rest in the hotel.

Day 2

On this day you will leave the hotel early (about 4-5 am)

and transfer to a private marina in Gertnera bay. Here you will board a boat and sail to the Pyagina peninsula (7-8 hours at sea, breakfast and lunch will be provided onboard).

During the sea crossing, you will pass the picturesque



Cape Taran (rus. for “Ram”), where an active lighthouse is located. The name of the cape perfectly fits its appearance: a rocky ridge up to 400 meters high in some places juts into the sea. Cape Taran is located on the Koni peninsula, which is a part of the Magadan Reserve. Snow rams graze here, foxes and ermines hunt, red-listed Steller's sea eagles, the largest eagles in the world, nest here. This peninsula is also called the ‘maternity ward’ of brown bears.

There is also a good chance of seeing killer whales,

dolphins, and gray whales during the sea crossing. From around 4 to 5 pm you will approach Babushkin Cape, where you will have sea fishing (tackle provided). Ruff, pollack, flatfish and halibut are common here.

At about 6 pm you will disembark at Pyagina peninsula and

stay at the base, where you will spend most of the expedition. In the evening you will have dinner and discuss the upcoming tour with the guides.

Day 3

You will spend today walking around the area and

preparing for the upcoming trip to the hard-to-reach Yamskiye islands.

You can watch the bears from the water in the estuary and

see the colonies of seals, which take fancy to the local bays. Do not forget to take your binoculars: here, the chance of meeting killer whales and dolphins is high.

Lunch and dinner this day will be served at the base. In the

evening you will prepare your gear for the next day's trip to the Yamskiye islands.

Day 4

You will spend almost the whole day at the sea (18-20

hours). Early in the morning (around 4-5 am) if the weather is good you will take a boat trip to Yamskiye islands. It is one of the most beautiful and hard-to-reach places in the north of Russia. The islands are part of the Okhotsk-Chukotsky volcanogenic belt and are part of the Magadan Nature Reserve.

Yamskiye islands are extremely poorly explored due to

their remoteness from the mainland and inaccessibility. The waters around the archipelago are distinguished by an unusually complex bottom relief, large drops in-depth and a difficult regime of currents up to 18 km/h fast, which often become an obstacle for low-powered vessels.

Most of the archipelago consists of giant rocks in the

middle of the sea, ranging in height from 21 to 700 meters. The relief of the islands is amazing: on Hatemalu Island the waves have carved two giant tunnels into the rocks, and on the island of Atykan a huge grotto has been eroded.

On Baran (Rus. for "Ram") island, you will see a large

colony of birds (about 100 thousand sea birds). On the whole, the Yamskoy archipelago is home to about 10 million seabirds, among which are little auklets, guillemots, puffins, Pacific gulls, cormorants and fulmars. In the evening you can catch a surprising phenomenon here – the so-called "swarming" of the auklets. Birds

join each other in a giant dark cloud, almost covering the sky – it looks very unusual!

From about 1 to 2 pm you will approach the island of

Matykil – the largest island of the Yamskoy archipelago (700 m high). Among all the islands this is the only one that you can land on, but only if the sea is absolutely calm. You will have lunch on the boat and then go to a rookery of Steller sea lions, the largest of the sea lions. This is the northernmost reproductive colony of sea lions, numbering about 5000 animals.

You will be able to observe sea lions and take photographs

at relatively close range. Sluggish and heavy on land, the sea lion males become nimble swimmers at the sea and can approach the boat closely.

You will have dinner on board and then get back to the

base. In July this area experiences white nights, so you can admire the scenery all the way back. You will reach the base closer to midnight and rest.

Day 5

Today you will have a free day at the base. If you want you

can put out to sea, go fishing or take a hike near the base to one of the capes of Kekurny bay (about 3 km by foot). Steller's sea eagles live in these places and you can see snow sheep on the coastal rocks.

In the evening you can have a rest at the base and take a

bath.

Day 6

After breakfast, you will take a boat trip to Babushkina

cape (about 2 hours), located in the south of the Pyagina peninsula. The cape has an interesting landscape: coastal cliffs reach hundreds of meters in height, and above, on steep slopes there are a lot of stone pillars.

Drifting along the shores, you will look for snow sheep. The

chance of seeing these animals is quite high, as they live in the same gorges all year round. Sea fishing for halibut is also waiting for you: fish weighing up to 50 kg are often frequent here.

The lunch will be organized on the boat, and you will return

to the base for dinner. In the evening you will rest and watch a themed video or a movie.

Day 7

These days will consist of a two-day trip to the Pjaginskaya

ridge. In the morning after an early breakfast, you will be taken by boat to the place where the trekking route starts.

The trekking will not be easy: in two days you will have to

walk 15-20 km along the bear paths, mountain tundra, shrubbery and big rocks. Each participant of the trekking will carry a backpack with personal items and food (total weight about 10 kg). There are a lot of bears here, that is why experienced game wardens will provide your safety on the route.

By the evening of the first day you will make camp on the

glacier pass (800 m above sea level), have dinner and spend the night in tents. The next day you will have a lightweight radial hike to the highest point of the Pyaginskaya range (914 m). From its top, you can admire a picturesque panoramic view of two bays with high steep shores, reminiscent of the Norwegian fjords. On the way to the top, you may encounter a colony of black-tailed marmots adapted to very harsh conditions.

Then you will descend to the camp, pack your gear and

continue trekking to Kharlankin bay, where you will be picked up by a boat. Depending on the weather, lunch will be provided on the shore or onboard. You will cross the bay to see the red-pink jasper rocks on the opposite shore. You can disembark and take a short walk to the rocks or stay aboard the boat and fish if you wish.

If you do not want to participate in this hike, you can stay

at the camp and walk around and go fishing.

Day 8

The weather in the Sea of Okhotsk is unpredictable and

fickle, so this day will be used as a reserve day in case you do not manage to make your trips to Yamskie islands or hike to the Pyaginskaya ridge on the previous days.

If all the items on the program were completed

successfully, you can just relax at the base this day, go fishing or go to Harlankin bay in search of gray whales and killer whales. You can also go to nearby capes. For example, at Vnytrenniy (rus. for “Inner”) cape is perfect for landscape photography, as well as looking for the remains of dugouts of the Koryaks, who used to herd reindeer in these places in ancient times.

Day 9

After breakfast, you will take a boat trip from the base on

the Pyagina peninsula back to Magadan (7-8 hours trip).

Passing the Koni peninsula you will have a chance to take

beautiful pictures of the lighthouse at Cape Taran at sunset. Lunch and dinner will both take place on the board of the boat on this day. Around 7-8 pm you will arrive in the city and will be taken to your hotel (extra charge).

In case of bad weather, the departure to Magadan can take

place one or two days earlier depending on the group's wishes. In that case, additional guided tours in Magadan will be included in the price, and hotel accommodation and meals will be paid separately.

Day 10

After breakfast at the hotel, you will have a city tour of

Magadan. You will learn the history, culture and nature of the region by visiting the local history museum and the museum of natural history. You will visit the fish market and buy souvenirs for your friends and relatives.

After lunch (extra charge) you will have a transfer to the

airport for your flight.

Accomodation at the trip

You will spend most of the trip at the **taiga base** located on the Pyagina peninsula. You will be accommodated in wooden frame huts plated with sheet steel and roofing felt on the outside. Inside there are 2-4 bunks (wooden bunks with mattresses, pillows and linens), washbasins and a wood-burning stove. There's also a bathhouse on the base (it can hold up to 5 people, and will be heated 1or 2 times), a separate dining room, as well as an insulated toilet and a hot shower. The electricity at the base is supplied by a generator until 11 pm every day.

During the two-day walking tour you will stay overnight **in tents** (two persons per three-person tent, you can bring your own sleeping bag or rent one on the spot).

You will spend the first and the last night of the trip in a hotel **in Magadan**, which you should book by yourself. We recommend the "Silver House" and "Golden House" hotels.

FAQ

Who will be my guide

Your guide on the route will be Sergey and Mikhail Rudakov.

Sergey is a hunter and outdoorsman with 40 years of experience, he has been organizing international tours since 1992. He and his son Mikhail have been to Yamskiye islands many times and hunted on the Pyagina peninsula, so they know the area very well. Mikhail is also a photographer and videographer, and he will accompany you on the two-day hike to the Pyagina range as a guide and photographer.

On the trails, you will also be accompanied by experienced game wardens, who have many years of experience in the taiga. At the base, you will have a mechanic to serve the boat and the boats, and a professional cook.

Meals

The cost of the program includes a full three meals a day during your stay at the base on the Pyagina peninsula. The menu will include taiga cuisine from the chef, as well as local seafood delicacies: triple fish soup, baked and smoked redfish, seaweed salads, fresh caviar, freshly caught mussels, as well as freshly baked bread, herbal and berry teas. Guests will also always have unlimited access to the tea area (french presses with tea and coffee, cookies, crackers).

On short day outings and during sea crossings you will have snacks (instant soups and porridge, vegetables, cheese and sausage sandwiches, bacon, tea, coffee, cookies, candy).

Additionally, you will need to pay for your meals during your stay in Magadan at the beginning and end of the expedition.

Can I take a part

Most of the days' itinerary will consist of sea boat and motorboat rides.

What transport is used on the route

Transfers around Magadan will be organized on Toyota Prado/Toyota Sequoia SUVs or comfortable minibuses (depending on the size of the group).

Sea crossings as per program will be carried out on a 2014 model NorthSilver Pro 930 boat (capacity of 8 people). There is a small kitchen with a dining table and toilet on board. These particular boats are small enough to sail close enough to the coast of the inaccessible Yamskiye

islands, and two 250 hp motors make it easy to beat the treacherous sea currents for which this area of the Sea of Okhotsk is known.

Short boat trips and landings will be made on Zodiac motorboats, built-in 2010 (up to 8 persons).

What will the weather be like

The weather in Magadan and Yamskiye islands is unpredictable and fickle. Daytime temperatures can vary from 8 ° C on the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk to 30 ° C in the mountainous area. At night, the temperature can drop to 0 ° C. Rains, fog, strong winds and storms are possible. On the tops of the Pjaginskaya ridge, snow is possible even in early August.

What to bring with me

- a suit for wet and windy weather (e.g. membrane suit)
- pants, shirts, t-shirts for hiking and camping
- windproof jacket (e.g. softshell)
- raincoat
- 2 to 3 pairs of warm underwear
- 2 or 3 pairs of warm socks
- warm sweater
- trekking boots
- knee-high boots
- base camp shoes (sandals or Crocs)
- 2 pairs of lightweight, warm gloves
- hat or baseball cap
- windproof hat
- knit cap
- a sleeping bag rated for temperatures of as low as 0 degrees (or you can rent one on the spot for an extra charge)
- toiletries and shower towel
- personal first aid kit
- sunscreen
- chapstick
- mosquito repellent
- pepper spray and hunter's kit (optional, can be bought in Magadan)
- binoculars (for observation of animals and birds)

Mobile communication on the route

At the base on the Pyagina peninsula, you will have Wi-Fi satellite internet at your disposal. Also for an extra charge, you can use satellite phones for personal calls if needed (the rate is 3 EURO per min).

Safety on the route

Safety on the trail will be provided by game wardens. They will have guns to protect you from wild animals, pepper sprays and hunter's kits. Guides on the trails will also have satellite phones for emergency communications, walkie-talkies and GPS trackers.

Insurance

The price of the tour includes insurance by "Ingosstrakh" company for 15 000 USD.

Booking

Magadan

Winds of the Sea of Okhotsk

Most popular

Difficulty

Age

from 16 y.o.

Group size

from 6 to 10

Duration

11 days

Accomodation at the trip

2 nights1 nights7 nights

from 3 125 EUR

What's included in the price:

— accommodation at the base on the Pyagina peninsula

— breakfasts, lunches and dinners on the active part of the trip (except for meals in Magadan)

— transfer from Magadan airport to the hotel and back

— transport service as per program (boat, Zodiac motorboats, off-road vehicles/minibuses)

— rent of camping equipment (tents, mats, camping utensils)

— services of guides, game wardens and professional cook

— excursions as per program

— insurance

Extra charge:

— air tickets to Magadan (from 300 EURO per person for a round trip)

— Magadan hotel accommodation (2 nights) and meals in the city

— rent of a sleeping bag (25 EURO per person for the whole tour)

— satellite phone for personal calls (+3 EURO/min)

Best price guarantee

Personal tours

Discounts for regular clients

Gift cards