The island of white sands
Air journey from Sakhalin to Iturup

Reach one of the most remote corners of Russia to find its truly fascinating landscapes. You will see volcanoes, hot springs, waterfalls and bays on the islands lost in the Pacific ocean.
Experiences you'll have

Tour to Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands

You will spend a week among the picturesque bays and lagoons, steep cliffs and lush greens of the Kuril Islands and Sakhalin. You will see unusual natural landscapes, visit important historical places and natural thermae, as well as try exquisite Far Eastern sea delicacies.

This tour is for people who enjoy the active excursions. Every day new places and unusual landscapes are waiting for. By jeep, boat and on foot you will explore the Pacific and Okhotsk coast of Iturup — the largest and most beautiful island of the Kuril archipelago, and also see the main sights of Sakhalin.

7 reasons to choose this journey:

- you will take a boat trip to the famous White Rocks — a unique natural monument of Iturup island
- see the frozen lava streams on Yankito Plateau, that look like an alien landscapes
- pass through the Devil’s rock in the Kasatka Bay — exactly from that place the Japanese command gave the order to the aircraft carrier squadron to strike the Pearl Harbor during the First World War
- swim in three different thermal springs: with carbon dioxide, radon and sulfur mineral waters
- visit the fumarole field at the foot of Baransky volcano
- take a walk along the Amber beach
- climb to the top of the mysterious Frog Rock.

Itinerary

The journey starts in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, where you must travel to on your own. Note that to be in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk by the start of the program, you have to depart from Moscow the day before. Contact our manager for details.

We can help you with the purchase of tickets. If necessary, leave a comment on the application.

Day 1

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel.

In the evening there will be a welcome dinner in the cafe, during which you will taste fresh seafood, meet with a guide and discuss the upcoming program.

After dinner you will have a guided tour of the city. You will visit “Gorny Vozdukh” ski resort. There is a grand view of the city and Susunayskaya valley from here. Then you will return to the hotel and rest.

Day 2

After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport, where you will fly to Kurilsk, located on the largest island of the Kuril ridge – Iturup. From the airport you will be taken to the hotel, where you will check in and have lunch.

Then you will have guided tour of the city, visit Kitovoe village, located on the coast of the Okhotsk sea and relax at the thermal complex “Zharkiyee vody” (Russian for Hot waters). After swimming in the thermal pools you will return to the hotel for dinner and rest.

Day 3

Today after breakfast you will enjoy a sea voyage to one of the main attractions of Iturup island – White rocks. These rock formations having unusual shape and color stretched for 28 km along the sea coast, creating a unique landscape.
The rocks consist of soft pumice stone that was formed by a volcanic eruption. The wind and storms of the Okhotsk sea caused the severe pumice stone's erosion. That's why the rocks have acquired a bizarre shape. An unusual dark gray colored sand makes the landscape much more attractive.

During the sea tour you will also visit the Olga and Tornaya Bays, Sopochnoye lake and see the picturesque waterfalls in the Parusnaya Bay as well as rookeries of sea lions and seals. Depending on weather conditions, the duration of the sea excursion may change.

After a boat trip you will return to Kurilsk and go to the thermal complex “Vannochki” (Russian for Bathtubs). You will enjoy hot mineral springs with a view of Kurilsk Bay. Then you will return to the hotel for dinner.

**Day 4**

Today you are exploring the Pacific coast of Iturup island. The first point of the route will be Kasatka Bay. This place is associated with the landmark events of the First world war. There was the Japanese naval base with the aircraft carriers, which stroke unexpectedly the American Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor on November 26, 1941. You will visit the Devil’s rock where the Japanese dug a tunnel for military purposes.

Then you will go to the Baransky volcano. It is one of the active volcanoes of Iturup island with a height of more than 1000 m. You will walk along its fumarole field, see the mud boilers and mineral springs.

Also you will visit the hot springs, located at the mouth of the Kipyaschaya (Russian for Boiling) river. You will swim in nitrogen-carbon dioxide and sulfuric acid mineral waters, the temperature of which varies from 107 to 158°F. You will enjoy bathing and in the evening you will go back to the hotel, have dinner and rest.

**Day 5**

A trip to Yankito Plateau is waiting for you today. Here you will see frozen volcano lava that looks like cliffs on a seaside. Landscapes from another planet will get everybody excited.

At 12 p.m you will be transferred to Kurilsk airport, where you will fly back to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. Here you will check in the hotel and have dinner (extra charge).

**Day 6**

After breakfast you will go to Starodubskoe village, located on the coast of the Okhotsk sea. It is famous for its Amber coast. You will walk along the picturesque shore and can gather amber.

Then you will move to Vzmorye village, where you will visit the Torii – a ritual gate of the ancient Japanese Shinto temple. After visiting the crab market, where you can buy fresh seafood, you will go to the Tikhaya (Russian for Quiet) Bay.

This name was given to the bay by the famous Russian
This name was given to the bay by the famous Russian sailor Ivan Kruzenshtern. The bay, covered by Sakhalin island from the east and by the Zhdanko ridge from the west, turned out to be a very secluded place indeed. The silence is broken only by seagulls nesting on a separate rocky island in the sea with a flat top.

Here in the bay you will have lunch and taste the local cuisine. Then you will return to the hotel in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and have dinner (extra charge).

**Day 7**

**After breakfast you will visit another popular attraction of Sakhalin – the Frog Rocks.** You will walk through the ecological trail and take the short climb to the rock.

This place is covered by legends and mysteries. According to one of them, there used to be a temple of wisdom of the ancient Ainy, who climbed the rock to communicate with the spirits. Even now unexplained phenomena occurred here, that attracts modern ufologists and mystics.

In the afternoon you will return to the hotel. You will have free time to walk around the city. For an additional fee you can visit the Local History Museum and the memorial complex “Victory”.

**Day 8**

**After breakfast, you will be brought to the airport from where you will go home.** On the way you will stop at the fish market.

**Accommodation at the trip**

During the tour you will accomodate in the standard double rooms in hotels of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (days 1-2, 5-8) and Kurilsk (days 2-5).

In Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk you will stay at one of two hotels:

**Santa Resort Hotel 4** is located at the foot of Parkovaya mountain, next to the picturesque park area. It offers a spa complex with sauna and swimming pool, a tennis court, a restaurant and a bar, located on the outdoor terrace with panoramic views. The air-conditioned rooms have a flat-screen TV, a minibar, a balcony and free Wi-Fi. The room has its own bathroom with toiletries, bathrobes and hairdryer.

**Pacific Plaza Sakhalin Hotel 4** belongs to the international hotel’s system, so you can count on high quality service. The room has two comfortable beds, a comfortable working place, free Wi-Fi, mini-bar, climate control, satellite TV, private bathroom with toiletries.

In Kurilsk you will stay at one of the two hotels:

**Ostrov Hotel 4** is located in a 5-minute walk from the coast of the Okhotsk sea. The classic-style rooms have a work place, a satellite TV, a refrigerator and a private bathroom with a hairdryer, bathrobes and toiletries.

**Iturup Hotel** is a modern three-storey building. There are one double or two single beds, a refrigerator, a satellite TV, a bathroom with shower, free Wi-Fi in the room.

**FAQ**
Who will be my guide

Throughout the tour you will be accompanied by a qualified guide and an experienced instructor.

Meals

The tour price includes breakfasts at the hotel in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (days 1, 5-8), a welcome dinner with seafood in the cafe on the first day, lunch in the Tikhaya Bay on the sixth day, as well as three meals a day at the hotel during your stay in Kurilsk (days 2-4). Lunchs and dinners on other days you should pay additionally.

What to bring with me

- waterproof and windproof suit
- comfortable trekking shoes

Booking

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<td>Difficulty</td>
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<td>Duration</td>
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Accommodation at the trip

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<td>7 nights</td>
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from 142 000 rub

What's included in the price:

- double accommodation at hotels in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and Kurilsk
- meals as per program
- transfers as per program
- guide services for all the routes
- accident insurance (for 1 million rubles)
- excursions

Extra charge:

- flight to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk
- flight from Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk to Kurilsk and back, starting at 21 000 rubles
- single room accommodation in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (+6500 rubles per person)
- single room accommodation in Kurilsk (+6000 rubles per person)
- dinners during accommodation in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk

29 jul 2019, mon — 6 aug 2019, tue

Best price guarantee  Personal tours  Discounts for regular clients  Gift cards