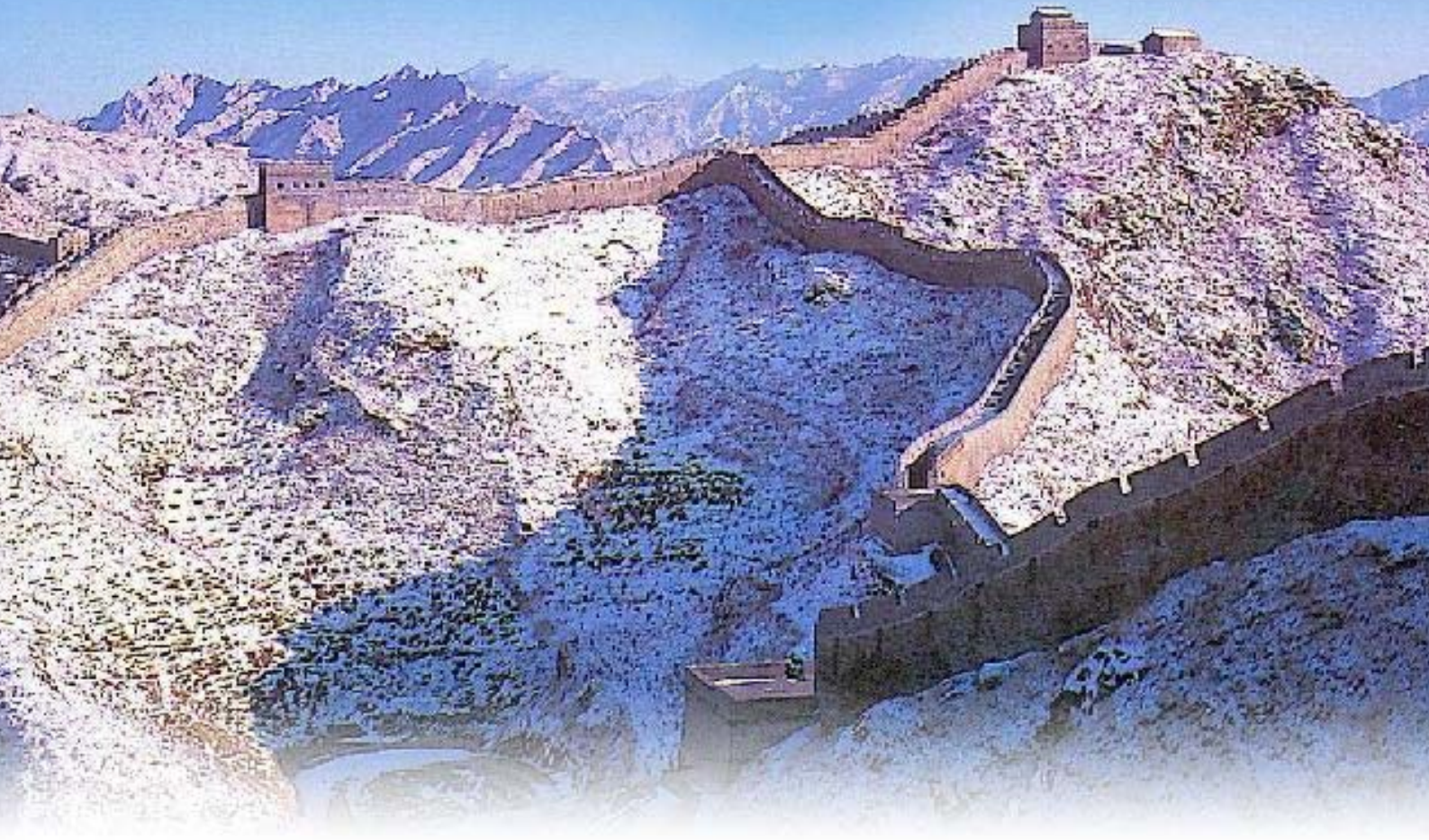


# EW 301 MANCHURIAN ICE FESTIVAL



## ICE FESTIVAL JOURNEY

Trans-Manchurian railroad is the railway line which coincides with the Trans-Siberian as far as Tarskaya, a few hundred miles east of Baikal. From Tarskaya the Trans-Manchurian heads southeast into China and makes its way down to Beijing.

**day 1 – Moscow.** Arrival to Moscow. Our guide meets you at the airport and helps you get to your hotel. If you arrive late you may go for a calm unpacking evening, otherwise your Moscow buddy will be happy to show you the city!

**day 2 – Moscow.** After your breakfast at the hotel it is time to see the capital of Russia!

**A. KREMLIN** – We get to the Red Square to see the Lenins' Mausoleum and St. Basil's Cathedral, the weird and beautiful "dream of a mad confectioner". Your guide helps you to get tickets into the Kremlin and we go on with our tour on the territory and see the main cathedrals inside. You can opt for Diamond Fund or Armory Chamber and see the greatest collection of imperial jewelry and precious artefacts.

**B. KOLOMENSКОЕ** – a Great Princes' mansion in the XIV-XVII centuries. It is the unique art, historical, architectural and nature-landscape museum-reserve, situated in the South region of Moscow. Nowadays it is a remarkable place to enjoy Russian folklore performance such as wedding-game, skomorokhs-buffoons and songs – and the park is absolutely beautiful in winter!

**C. PUSHKIN or TRETЯKOV** – the two most prominent galleries of the capital, housing an innumerable collection of masterpieces by both Russian and foreign artists.

Balance of the day is yours – you may walk up and down Old Arbat Street to try out its cafes and buy some souvenirs for your friends and family.

**day 3 – Moscow – Ekaterinburg.** After the breakfast we check-out from the hotel and get ready for our journey eastwards. There is still time for some shopping or short sightseeing!

In the evening departure for Ekaterinburg with train 002M at 21:25.

**day 4** – In the train through the Ural mountains. We arrive to Ekaterinburg at about 1 am and get to the hotel to have some rest yet!

**day 5 – Ekaterinburg.** This place has the sad fame of being the city where the Romanov's emperor family was assassinated in the times of the Russian revolution.

**A. ROMANOV GRAVES** (Europe-Asia Monument en-route) – excursion by car to the place where Bolsheviks hid the bodies of the last emperor and his family. Duration ~ 6 hours.

**B. SIBERIAN VILLAGE** – visit to an old village now under a preservation order. Home-cooked lunch and exhibitions of craftlore included. You may also try horse riding. Duration ~ 8-9 hours. Overnight.

**day 6 – Ekaterinburg – Irkutsk.** Check-out from the hotel at noon. Our train departs in the evening, so there is enough time for some sightseeing in the city! Departure for Irkutsk at midnight.

**day 7** – In the train through the Urals. We arrive to Irkutsk at noon on day 8.

**day 8** – arrival to Irkutsk after noon and transfer (1 hour) to Listvyanka where you stay in a Russian-style hotel featuring authentic log-houses. After lunch you explore the village, see the Old Church and the Baikal Lake Wildlife Museum with a friendly local guide. In the evening – Russian banya and home-cooked supper!

# the trip



- day 1** Arrival to Moscow. Accommodation in 3 star hotel.
- day 2** Moscow sightseeing all day.
- day 3** Moscow sightseeing in the morning, train to Ekaterinburg.
- day 4** In the train, arrival to Ekaterinburg at night
- day 5** Sightseeing – Romanov graves or Siberian village.
- day 6** Ekaterinburg sightseeing. Train to Irkutsk.
- day 7** In the train
- day 8** Arrival to Irkutsk and transfer to Listvyanka, accommodation. Sightseeing in Listvyanka.
- day 9** Program in Listvyanka (see below for details)
- day 10** Departure for Kharbin from Irkutsk.
- day 11-12** In the train
- day 13** Kharbin – arrival and accommodation
- day 14** Ice Festival! Hurry on, as the ice melts soon!
- day 14** departure for Beijing
- day 15** Beijing. End of journey.

**day 9 – Irkutsk / Listvyanka.** Today you may choose an activity to experience on the winter Lake Baikal. Baikal is magnificent in winter. Its still waters are secured by thick layer of unbelievably transparent ice.

**A. TREKKING ON BAIKAL** through the Taiga Forest. The shores of Lake Baikal are wild, steep and woody. It makes it next to impossible to ride on bike along any of Lake Baikal shores from North to South in summer. In winter though... Mirror-like ice fields, sunshine and temperatures well below zero... Your guide will tell you about the ecological system, the unique species of the wildlife and craftlore of the Siberian Taiga.

**B. SNOWMOBILE TRIP ON BAIKAL** through the forest or upon the mirror of the frozen lake!

**C. ICEWATER SCUBA DIVING IN BAIKAL** with qualified CMAS instructors – a truly resuscitating thing! You can take, if you like, PADI Dry suite course or Ice diving course. We use only very reliable equipment of world's best manufactures. There are not many places like that in the world where you may learn to make holes for dives in ice which is 1,5 meters thick. Should you have free time from diving, you may try skating, dog sledding, snow mobile adventures etc.

Overnight in Listvyanka.



**day 10 – Irkutsk – Kharbin.** Transfer to the city of Irkutsk and a short sightseeing trip around the city. Transfer to the railway station just in time for your train to Kharbin.

**day 11-12** – in the train

**day 13 – Kharbin.** After a night-time border crossing, you've entered China, and the area known as Manchuria once a separate Chinese kingdom, and home to the Manchu (after whom the Manchu Dynasty, the last in Imperial China, was named). Arrival in Harbin, the regional capital. No transfer, as your hotel is in the large Town Square directly in front of the Rail Station.

**day 14 – Kharbin.** Free day to visit the Ice Festival. There's no specific program-we'll give you directions for getting to the Festival-ground. The Festival is open from 10am-10pm daily and you must stay after dusk when the Chinese Lanterns are lit. Although sculptors come from all over the world, this is very much a local festival, and you have a chance to let your hair down with the locals. If your stay includes the final day of the Festival you will get the opportunity to smash all the carvings with the locals in the traditional way!

**day 15 – Kharbin - Beijing.** Free time to explore the Old Town of Harbin, with an attractive pedestrianised main street that features an incredible number of shops, cafes, bars and restaurants. Be sure to be ready for your evening departure to Beijing by sleeper train. (NB: 2-berth cabins are not available on this section.)

**day 16 – Beijing.** Early morning arrival in Beijing.

## INCLUDED IN THE TRIP: FULL ON TRIP

**TRAIN:** 2<sup>nd</sup> class 4 berth for the complete journey.

**MOSCOW:** transfer airport-hotel and hotel-railway station. 2 nights in a 3-star hotel and sightseeing with a local expert guide.

**EKATERINBURG:** Transfer train station-hotel-train station. 2 nights in a 3-star hotel. Sightseeing with a local expert according to the itinerary.

**IRKUTSK:** Transfer train station-hotel-train station. Sightseeing with a local expert.

**LISTVYANKA:** 2 nights in a 3-star hotel. Sightseeing/activity with a local expert according to the itinerary.

**KHARBIN:** 2 nights in a 4-star hotel.

**BEIJING:** Transfer train station-hotel-train station. 2 nights in a 3-star hotel.

## NO FRILLS TRIP

**TRAIN:** 2<sup>nd</sup> class 4 berth for the complete journey.

**MOSCOW:** transfer airport-hotel. 2 nights in a 3-star hotel.

**EKATERINBURG:** Transfer train station-hotel-train station. 2 nights in a 3-star hotel..

**IRKUTSK:** Transfer railway station-hotel.

**LISTVYANKA:** 2 nts in a 3\*hotel. Transfer hotel – railway station

**KHARBIN:** Transfer train station-hotel-train station. 2 nts in a 3\*hotel.

**BEIJING:** 2 nts in a 3\*hotel.

## VISAS REQUIRED

Russia and China.

## TRIP PRICE (USD):

	4 pax	2 pax
<b>FULL ON</b>	\$3199	\$3399
<b>NO FRILLS</b>	\$2199	\$2399
<b>SPICING IT UP</b>		
Extra-night in Moscow		\$79
Extra-night in Ekaterinburg		\$49
Extra-night in Irkutsk		\$59
Extra-night in Listvyanka		\$49
Extra-night in Kharbin		\$49
Extra-night in Beijing		\$49
Upgrade to 1 <sup>st</sup> class 2-berth railway tickets		from \$499
Extra night and railway from St Petersburg		\$159

The prices may slightly change depending on the dates of your travel.

# terms of use

## BOOKING A TRIP

In order to be registered for a trip you have to fill out a Reservation Form and return it along with a signed Agreement to our fax or e-mail. We will then forward you the payment instructions. An initial deposit of USD 500 per person is a must in order to confirm your booking. Only after having received this deposit you are firmly booked in. We will issue a confirmation for your participation. The contract is not binding for the organizer until he has sent a written confirmation. For short-term bookings, you would directly be asked to proceed according to the payment conditions.

## PRICE INFORMATION

Prices are shown in the currency requested by the Client with rates of exchange calculated on a daily basis. Prices may therefore differ on a daily basis to reflect any movement in exchange rate levels. When a booking is made the exchange rate will be fixed at the time the booking is created and will apply to any amendments or cancellations to items within the booking or to any items added subsequently.

## PAYMENT SCHEME

Initial deposit of USD 500 per person has to be paid in order to confirm the booking. 30% of the full amount of the trip has to be paid not later than 3 months before the start of the voyage. 100% of the full amount of the trip has to be paid not later than 45 days before the start of the trip. Payment can be made by credit card or bank transfer to our account in US dollars, Euro or Rubbles. It is a must to sign an agreement before transferring the payment to our bank account. In case of paying by bank transfer, your booking will be processed after we verify the funds' receipt at our account. The Company reserves the rights to cancel all reserved services in case payment is made untimely, incompletely or incorrectly.

## CANCELLATION BY CLIENT

Each participant can cancel the travel at any time. Cancellation can only be accepted in written form and is valid the day it arrives at our office. Nevertheless, participant can find a replacement at any time.

- ✦ If cancellation occurs more than 90 days before the start of the trip, cancellation fee is USD500 per each participant.
- ✦ If cancellation occurs between 90-45 days before the start of the trip, cancellation fee is 30% of the full amount of the trip.
- ✦ If cancellation occurs less than 45 days before the start of the trip or in case of No Show, cancellation fee is 100% of the full amount of the trip.

## CANCELLATION BY PROVIDER

To run our program as described we need certain objective conditions in the area of destination and a minimum number of participants. If this proves to be impossible we have the right to cancel the program up to 90 days before its start. If we cancel your travel arrangements or are unable to provide the service, you can either have a refund of all money paid to the extent permitted in law or, if available, accept an offer of alternative travel arrangements of comparable standard from us, that is, a service rated at a lower price and a refund for the difference in the price. It is unlikely that we will have to make any changes to your travel arrangements, but occasionally, we may have to make changes and we reserve the right to do so at any time. Most of these changes will be minor and we will advise you of them by email at the earliest possible date.

## CHANGE OF PROGRAM

For reasons which can not be anticipated and we are not responsible for, the Company or Guides may change the actual program during the voyage at any time. Change refers to the

defined program achievements due to weather or other external factors, on which the Company or Guides don't have any influence, are not liable to recourse. In case the client needs to interrupt this travel at an earlier date or due to other compelling reasons, there is no possibility to claim for a reimbursement refer to the missed services and achievements.

## CHANGE OF PRICE

The prices and information given by us are established at the start of each season. The prices may be changed due to the change of unforeseen increases of transportation cost, hotel reservation costs and fluctuation of currency exchange rates. We do our best to foresee the likely changes, but should the price alter the increase will be passed on to our clients and shall not constitute a condition of cancellation.

## LIABILITY

Helicopter skiing, skiing and mountaineering include certain risks. Even if you are with a Mountain Guide the probability of injury or death can not be totally eliminated. Participation on our courses is on your own risk.

## HEALTH & TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is mandatory, that every participant is in possession of a valid rescue/repatriation-, health- and liability insurance in order to participate in this travel. These insurances need to include the following conditions: (1) Validity in the Russian Federation (2) Practice of an active holiday, which includes the helicopter skiing. We recommend also travel insurance. Each client accepts to follow the advice and overall authority of the Mountain Guide(s). We have no responsibilities for any circumstances, accidents, injury and material damages which occurred due to individual initiatives of the clients.

## EQUIPMENT & PERSONAL SKILLS

It is very important to use equipment of good quality and in perfect shape on our voyages. To repair or replace malfunctioning gear could prove to be extremely difficult during our stay in remote areas.

The proposed voyages are exclusively reserved for expert skiers. You need to be able to progress in hors-slope terrain in a safe and efficient way, even with variable snow conditions. This can include partly icy, crusty skiing passages, which need to be addressed with a total control of your skis.

## PASSPORT & VISA

Passport and visa for you and your party are your responsibility. We shall provide you with visa support (a.k.a. invitation for obtaining a Russian visa from the consulate) and all supporting documentation that might be requested by the officials when applying for your visa. The Company shall not be liable for any damages caused by any irregularities or inaccuracies regarding passports and visa requirements unless the services mentioned are provided by the agents of the Company.

## COMPLAINTS

Any complaint about the booking service must be notified to the Company in writing or by e-mail as soon as possible. Any complaint regarding a single service or more services must be brought to the attention of the local supplier's management as early as possible during your stay and, if not resolved to your satisfaction, should be notified to the Company in writing within ten working days from the date of return.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website [www.TRAVELtoRUSSIA.ru](http://www.TRAVELtoRUSSIA.ru) or contact us by phone +1-866-GO-2-USSR, fax +1-866-304-3653 or E-mail [info@traveltorussia.ru](mailto:info@traveltorussia.ru)

# reservation form 2006/2007

## TRIP INFORMATION

Code	Tour name	Start date	No of additional nights in Moscow

## TRANSFER DETAILS

Arrival flight/train number	Arrival time	Arrival airport Moscow	Arriving from
Departure flight/train number	Departure time	Departure airport Moscow	Departure from

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Pax	Mr/Ms	Surname	First name	Citizenship	Date of birth	Passport number
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						

\*This information should exactly correspond to the details stated in passport.

## LEAD PASSENGER (PASSENGER 1)

Home address	Day tel.:	Fax:
	Evening tel.:	E-mail:
	Mobile tel.:	

## INSURANCE

Do you wish to take out travel insurance?	YES	NO	If not you MUST provide details of alternative cover:
Company			Policy number

Comments:

Where did you here of Travel to Russia?

## DECLARATION

I have read the Travel to Russia Brochure and now would like to book the trip for the persons stated above by signing the booking form. I declare I have read the booking conditions and accept them on behalf of all members of the group. I understand that no firm bookings made until I receive back the agreement signed by the Company, payment instructions and make the payment of the deposit. I have also read and understood the following: that local conditions in my destinations may differ from those in my country of resident in terms of infrastructure, attitude to foreign visitors, stability of local economy and restrictions on foreign exchange. I understand my visit is governed by regulations imposed by the elected Government, and that these regulations – concerning availability of entry visas, registration of foreign citizens, local taxes etc – are subject to revision without prior notice. I understand that I must take care of the visas to entry Russia and/or other countries in advance.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed and signed form to fax number 1-866-304-3653 or e-mail [info@traveltorussia.ru](mailto:info@traveltorussia.ru).