

# Welcome to Ysyakh – the Yakut summer holiday



Do you want to visit Yakutia and try to understand the spirit of the Yakut people? We invite you to the main Yakut holiday that was rooted in the ancient times – Ysyakh. This holiday is a celebration of the revival and renewal of the nature, fertility and beginning of a new year. Traditional beliefs, poetic and joy interweaved in this holiday.

The central event of the festival is an appeal to aiyy deities. Algyschyt (a person who sings praises to divinities) will make a fire and appeal to supreme deities, spirits of fire and earth with the request of prosperity, cattle breeding and abundance. You will taste the legendary drink of the Yakut epic heroes – kumys. Hand in hand with the holiday participants you will dance the traditional round dance “osuokhay” that symbolizes life cycle. Dancing round in sun-wise circuit as if making a cycle in time and space you will get a positive energy of the cosmos.



The Yakuts thought about the sunrise as the greatest miracle. Stretching hands out to sunrays you will be charged with energy and power and get rid of all sinful things.

Since ancient times the athletes’ contests were held in Ysyakh. The winners were treated as national heroes.

You will never forget this festival, because the ancient rituals, contests of olonkho (the Yakut epos) singers and horse race, traditional festive cloths of Yakuts and their respect to traditions will help you to understand the heart of the Yakut people.

## **SAMPLE OF THE TOUR**

*LOCATION: Yakutsk, Batagai, Yakutiya Region*

*ROUTE: easy and comfortable*

*SEASON: End of June. Date changes every year.*

*GROUP SIZE: 15-20*

*COMMENTS: For your comfort it is strongly recommended to take mosquito repellent with you.*

DAY	ITINERARY	MEALS
Day 1	Arrival in Yakutsk, accommodation. Rest time, lunch. Sightseeing tour around the city. Visit to the museum of archeology and ethnography, mammoth museum – the scientific centre for the mammoth fauna and habitat in the ice age. Dinner, rest time.	L D

Day 2	Breakfast. Tour to the Yakut village – acquaintance with the Yakut family life. Lunch in the village. Return to Yakutsk. Dinner.	B L D
Day 3	Breakfast. Attending Ysyakh festival – Tygyn Sport Games, olonkho singers contest, osuokhay. Lunch. Ysyakh. Dinner.	B L D
Day 4	Early in the morning - ceremony of the sunrise welcome. Breakfast. Trip to Buluus glacier which doesn't melt in summer. Lunch. Visit to Orto Doidu complex (Zoo, Yakut traditional cuisine restaurant). Dinner.	B L D
Day 5	Tour to the museum “Treasury of Sakha Republic”, representing collection of diamonds, exclusive jewelry and unique articles carved from the mammoth tusk. Shopping in the souvenir, jewelry and arts shops, where one can get articles from fur, bone, leather, gold and silver, diamonds. Lunch. Visit to the museum of local lore. Free time. Dinner. Night trip along the Lena river on board of the cruise-ship “Mikhail Svetlov”.	B L D
Day 6	Departure from Yakutsk.	B

**\*\* Please, note! The dates and duration of the tour may depend on the schedule of flights.**

**\*The program route and duration can be changed considering your wishes.**