

Academic and cultural program of the International Summer School "Exploring Siberia '09"

26.07.09 - 08.08.09

Date	Morning	Day	Evening
26.07.09 Sun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival to Irkutsk (transfer from the airport/railway station); • Accommodation in the student hostel; • Rest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation tour round the University campus; • Arranging practical issues of staying (currency exchange, purchase of living essentials etc). 	Free time*
27.07.09 Mon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational meeting; • Russian language classes (placement test) 	Tour round the historical center of the city	Free time
28.07.09 Tue	Russian language classes	Lecture on the Decembrists movement (place of holding – Decembrists museum) + musical performance	Free time
29.07.09 Wed	Russian language classes	Lecture on the regional history and indigenous peoples of Siberia (place of holding – Regional Lore Museum)	Free time
30.07.09 Thur	Russian language classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian language classes • Lecture on the up-to-date state and regional politics in Russia 	Free time
31.07.09 Fri	Russian language classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian language classes; • Lecture on the ecological problems of the Baikal region (place of holding – office of Irkutsk organization "Baikal Environmental Wave") 	
01.08.09 Sat	Two-day out-of-town tour (by bus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures on the history of Siberia exploration and indigenous peoples of Siberia (place of holding – open-air Museum of wooden architecture "Taltsy"**); • Musical performance of Irkutsk folks theatrical troupe • Picnic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival to the University sport complex "Polytechnic"*** • Overnight in "Polytechnic"
02.08.09 Sun		Leisure time in "Polytechnic"	Return to Irkutsk

03.08.09 Mon	Russian language classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian language classes; • Lecture on the ecological problems of the Baikal region (place of holding – office of Irkutsk organization “Baikal Environmental Wave”) 	Free time
04.08.09 Thurs	One-day tour to Lake Baikal***** (by bus & hydrofoil)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture on Lake Baikal: flora&fauna, history of the research etc (place of holding – Baikal Museum); • Boat trip on Lake Baikal • Meeting with the representatives of Russian non-profit organization “Great Baikal Trail”; • Picnic 	Return to Irkutsk via hydrofoil
05.08.09 Wed	Russian language classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian language classes; • Lecture on the economics of the Irkutsk region. 	Free time
06.08.09 Thur	One-day tour round the Circum Baikal Railroad (old Transsiberian Railroad)**** (by train, bus, ferry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture on the history of the Transsiberian Railroad construction (place of holding – excursion train) • Picnic on the shore of Lake Baikal • Ferry-trip across the outflow of the river Angara to Listvyanka settlement 	Return to Irkutsk (by bus)
07.08.09 Fri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian language classes (final test); • Issue of certificates on course completion; • Tea party. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture on power engineering industry of Irkutsk region (place of holding - Irkutsk hydroelectric power station) • Souvenir shopping, strolls round the city etc 	Packing
08.08.09 Sat	Departure		

Notes:

* - In addition to the main program Russian students will assist the participants of the school in organization their leisure (visiting night & disco clubs, cinema halls, circus, various musical concerts (classical & organ music, local jazz & rock bands etc), cooking typical Russian dishes etc)

** - Open-air Museum of wooden architecture “Taltsy” lies in the picturesque valley on the 47th km of the highway to Lake Baikal; it consists of several exhibit areas holding unique ethnographical collections. It takes about 1 hour to get there by bus.

*** - University sport complex “Polytechnic” lies on the Angara riverbank on the 17th km of the highway to Lake Baikal. Picturesque scenery, cozy wooden cottage with all modern conveniences, sport facilities, banya (Russian sauna) – all these make staying in “Polytechnic” very interesting and pleasant.

**** - The Circum Baikal Railroad (CBR) is the unique section of the well-known Transsiberian Railroad often called the Golden Buckle of the great Siberian Railroad. The CBR runs from Kultuk village to Port Baikal settlement along south-eastern shore of Lake Baikal for 56 miles. During the one-day tour by the comfortable tourist train one can enjoy Lake Baikal and survey numerous engineering constructions (48 tunnels and great number of bridges, supporting walls etc), have a picnic on the shore of the Lake.

***** - The unique Lake Baikal lies 70 km. away from Irkutsk; it takes about 1,5 hours to get there by bus. The point of destination is the Listvyanka village, the biggest settlement on the shores of the Lake.