

**Ecological adventure trip by catamaran and sea kayaks. Silver salmon fly-fishing in Bolshoy Viliuy Lake, August 18-26, 2010
Groups of 6 people**



Fishingnorth and Explore Kamchatka joins with Adventure Land,. and the Kamchat Kayak Club in offering a unique trip that combines sailing, sea kayaking, birding, and fishing for silver salmon. All 4 of these partners are founding members of the Kamchatka Ecotourism Society and we strive to operate in keeping with ecotourism principles.

Duration of the trip is 9 days, which includes arrival and departure days with 7 days of sailing/kayaking/fishing. Camp in tents along the shores of Viliuy Lake. In the city, stay in Explore Kamchatka's comfortable guest house in Yelizovo, where the airport is located.

Route description: On arrival in Kamchatka, transfer to your guest house in Yelizovo, where double accommodations are arranged, shared baths. Explore Kamchatka offers healthy meals from Kamchatka meat, fish, berries, and our organic garden. Double check that you have all the right gear and go for a walking tour of the market in Yelizovo, which is full of fresh garden produce, berries, and smoked salmon etc. Dinner at your guest house. The next day transfer by microbus to the port of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, 25 km away. Meet your kayaking and camp crew and get settled on their catamaran. Depart Avacha Bay, heading south along the eastern shores of Kamchatka. After 30 km, the catamaran leaves the ocean and enters in the channel to Bolshoy Viliuy Lake. The lake is formed by two rivers, the: Bolshoy and Maly Viliuy. Your 4-day base camp will be set up in one of the picturesque bays in the lake, amidst a lovely birch grove. At this time, the mouth of the Bolshoy Viliuy is full of silver salmon about to head up river for spawning. For fishing it is possible to use kayaks, raft or a rubber raft.

As desired you will be able to go with your guides on several radial routes in the lake and the Pacific Ocean for observing sea animals and birds. We will also visit Starichkov Island, a colony of the Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*) for which the island is named. Also at the island it is possible to see Tufted Puffins (*Lunda cirrhata*), Black-legged Kittiwakes (*Rissa tridactyla*), various gulls, Pelagic Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax pelagicus*), Kittlitz's Murrelets (*Brachyramphus brevirostris*), Marbled Murrelets (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), and Common Murres (*Uria aalge*). Usually a pair of Steller Sea Eagles (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*) can be seen circling their nest on a rock pinnacle adjacent to Starichkov Island.

On day 8, you will sail back to the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky harbor and transfer by microbus to your Yelizovo guest house. For dinner you'll have a Kamchatka feast at your guest house, complete with many Kamchatka delicacies.

Day 9 After a hearty breakfast, drive by AWD vehicle about 2.5 hours south to the Mutnovsky Volcano area. Make camp (2 person tents) at the plateau and spend the day hiking in the area. Your cook tent will supply delicious meals in the comfort of a wall tent.

Day 10 Departure from Kamchatka, Airport transfer.

Extra days if people want

Day 10 Ascent of Mutnovsky Volcano, elevation 2329 meters. This is not a technical climb, but a very gradual hike up the sloping face of this active volcano. The round trip hiking is about 8 hours depending on the group's speed. Return to camp, break camp and drive back to Yelizovo to your guest house. Dinner at the guest house.

Day 11 City tour of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky and Yelizovo. Visit the museum in Petropavlovsk, also the fresh fish market and galleries. Visit the master studio of Vladimir Sushkov who makes beautiful collector's knives and other fine crafts of Kamchatka. Lunch on own at local restaurant. Dinner at dacha to celebrate the trip.

Day 12 Departure from Kamchatka, Airport transfer.

Trip price per person: 2950 USD

Extra days Mutnovsky Volcano: 400 USD

The cost of the trip includes: ground transportation, double accommodations at guest house in Yelizovo, meals, food, marine transportation by catamaran and sea kayak, lease of boats, life jacket, spray skirt, tents (2-person), mats, eating dishes and utensils, guides with basic English, permits for the trip including invitations to apply for your visa, search and rescue insurance, Also transportation to/from Mutnovsky Volcano and hiking guide, camp.

Not included: airline tickets to/from Kamchatka, alcohol, dry bags for your gear on the kayaks or catamaran, sleeping bags.

Conditions:

- The cost the participation in the trip is given for the groups of 6 people and more. In the case of smaller number of participants the individual price augments;

Weight limit for participants including their personal gear is 160 kg. Anything extra will be assessed a fee per kg.

- The duration of the trip is calculated for the case of good weather conditions;

- The routes are chosen by the instructors according to the experience and level of the group and in connection with weather conditions.

- Please note that in the case of extreme weather preventing the catamaran from safely sailing to or from the lake area, departure from the lake could be delayed, in which case the trip to Mutnovsky Volcano would possibly be cancelled. .

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