

SIBERIA'S FORGOTTEN COAST



INTRODUCTION

Siberia's eastern coastline remains one of the world's most remote and rarely visited regions. Home to a number of indigenous communities, the history of fur trappers and sealers gave way to rise in economic development during the Soviet-era. Following the Cold war and the collapse of the Soviet Union, the towns and military installations that dotted the region during the Cold War were largely left abandoned, once again giving rise to the traditional ways of life.

Throughout its sporadic human history, the natural offerings of this incredible coastline have largely gone unnoticed by the rest of the world. In fact, this incredible coastline is dotted by the volcanoes of Kamchatka in the south, beautiful fjords and the tundra of Chukotka - all of which combine to provide an indescribable expedition experience. Departing from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy you will endeavor toward Anadyr as you encounter a rich array of wildlife, from walrus, horned puffins, sea otters, humpback, sperm and North Minke whales. From abandoned military installations to dramatic landscapes of fjords and Arctic tundra this is a truly spectacular voyage to one of the most remote and unique corners of the world.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy

Arrive into Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, the capital and administrative centre of the Kamchatka Region and transfer to the port to board the Spirit of Enderby.



TRIP CODE

ACHESFC

DEPARTURE

28/06/2022

DURATION

14 Days

LOCATIONS

Siberia Coastline:
Commander Islands,
Kamchatka and Chukotka



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DAY 2: Zhupanova River

We plan to spend the morning Zodiac cruising on the Zhupanova River. Our main target here is the Steller's Sea Eagle and there are usually some occupied nests close to the river. Good numbers of Larcha Seals are also often hauled out on sandbars in the river and we should see a good variety of waterfowl and waders. By late afternoon, we should be over deep water heading for the Commander Islands and new species to look for include Laysan Albatross, Mottled Petrel and the Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel. The Kamchatka Trench can also be excellent for cetaceans and we have previously seen Blue Whales on this crossing.



DAY 3: Commander Islands - Day 3 to 4

The wildlife-rich Commander Islands were first discovered by the Commander Vitus Bering when his ship was wrecked here in 1741. We intend to explore the islands through a combination of landings and Zodiac cruises and our first stop will be the village of Nikolskoye, where there is an interesting museum. Zodiac cruising is often spectacular and we hope to encounter Red-faced Cormorant, Red-legged Kittiwake, Pigeon Guillemot, Horned Puffin, as well as Parakeet, Crested and Whiskered Auklets and Sea Otters. Our plans also include a ship cruise along the southern coast of Bering Island, as this area is excellent for cetaceans with Humpback, Sperm, Northern Minke, Orcas and Baird's Beaked Whales all regularly encountered.



DAY 5: Karaginskiy Island

Our proposed landing site is a patchwork of boggy tundra, ponds and shingle spits where an interesting range of waders can be found including Pacific Golden Plover, Red-necked Stint and Red-necked Phalarope. We also hope to see Bluethroat and Pallas' Reed Bunting.



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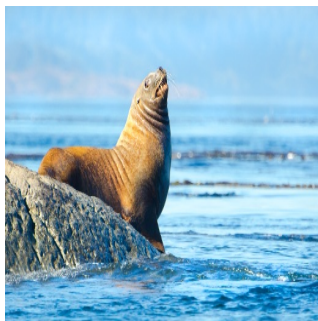
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DAY 6: Verkhutova Island and Govenia Peninsula

Verkhuturova Island has some huge seabird colonies and by following a short trail to the cliff top we should be able to enjoy some fantastic views of Tufted Puffins, Brunnich's Guillemots, Pelagic Cormorants and Black-legged Kittiwakes. Both Steller's Eider and Harlequin Duck occur here too and we may also see some Steller Sea Lions, as they are often hauled out on some offshore rocks. Later in the day, there will be either a Zodiac cruise or landing on the Govenia Peninsula. Good numbers of brown bears can often be found here.



DAY 7: Koryak, Chukotka Coast - Day 7 to 9

During these days of the expedition we will travel along this largely unknown part of the coast. It comprises deep forested fiords where we should see brown bears, Red Fox and with luck, mountain sheep and Kamchatka Marmots. In the many lagoons and shallow bays there is a vast array of birdlife including Tundra Bean Goose, Steller's Eider, Great Knot, Long-tailed Stint, Gyrfalcon, Siberian Accentor and Asian Rosy Finch. This area is also a stronghold of the Kittlitz's Murrelet and we should see several during our journey. In our previous expeditions we have explored much of this coastline, documenting the distribution and abundance of many species. In 2011 we recorded a previously unknown breeding population of Spoon-billed Sandpiper. Working alongside researchers from BirdLife International and Birds Russia who will be travelling with us, we plan to revisit many of these areas to monitor changes and search for new breeding colonies. There will be unique opportunities for photography, for hiking and 'birding' in country where literally only a few 'westerners' have ever been and we know there is a rich diversity of species.



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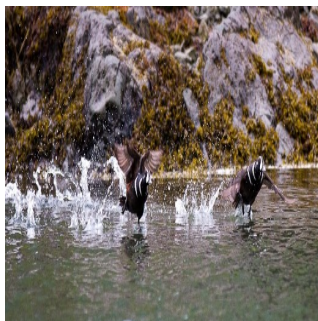
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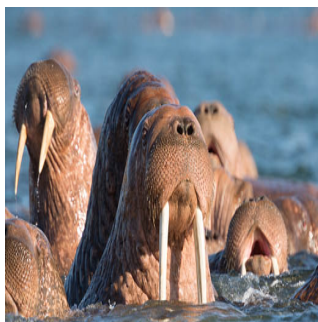
DAY 10: Meinypil'gyno

Meinypil'gyno, located on a 40km long shingle spit is the most important site in the world for breeding Spoon-billed Sandpiper. Here about fifteen pairs are monitored by members of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Recovery Taskforce. We will be guests of the Taskforce and if possible we may be guided to one of their monitored nests. The area is extremely rich in other wildlife, so we may also find Emperor Goose, Pacific Diver, White-billed Diver and Sandhill Crane. The lagoon entrance often has Largha Seal, Gray and Beluga Whales and a spectacular number of gulls.



DAY 11: Preobrazheniya Bay

At Preobrazheniya Bay we look to Zodiac cruise its spectacular towering granite cliffs home to thousands of nesting birds including Black-legged Kittiwakes, Horned and Tufted Puffins, Common, Brünnich's and Pigeon Guillemots, Glaucous and Vega Gulls, Parakeet and Crested Auklets, Northern Fulmars, White Wagtails, Shorttailed Shearwaters and Redthroated Pipit. We will also be looking for Resident Killer Whales/ Orca, known to frequent the coastline.



DAY 12: Yttygran Island

Yttygran Island is home to the monumental ancient aboriginal site known as Whale Bone Alley, where whale bones stretch along the beach for nearly half a kilometre. There are many meat pits used for storage and other remains of a busy whaling camp that united several aboriginal villages at a time. In one location, immense Bowhead Whale jawbones and ribs are placed together in a stunning arch formation. Gray and Humpback Whales are frequently seen around the island. This afternoon we plan to visit Bukhta Penkingney. This long fiord, cut into the coastline by glaciers, is a popular spot for whale watching. Exploring this scenic location we will be looking for wildlife including brown bear.



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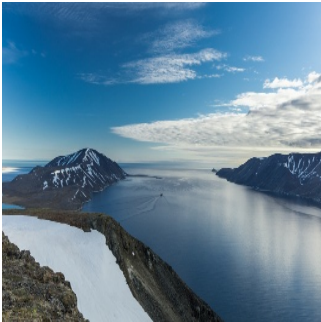
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DAY 13: Provideniya


Today there will be an opportunity to explore this fascinating former Soviet military port and administrative centre. After clearing Russian Customs and Immigration in Provideniya we will set sail for Nome across the Bering Strait. One of the world’s most nutrient-rich stretches of water, each spring the Bering Strait is the scene of one of the planet’s largest wildlife migrations. Beluga, Bowhead and Gray Whales, walrus, Ringed Seals and numerous seabirds are all known to frequent the strait so there is plenty of opportunity for wildlife encounters. Join the expedition team for a recap and disembarkation briefing before enjoying a farewell dinner to celebrate our journey as we sail back across the International Date Line.



DAY 14: Nome, Alaska

As we cruise into Anadyr Bay, there is an excellent chance of seeing more Beluga Whales and after a final breakfast on board the Spirit of Enderby, it will be time to disembark. We will provide complimentary transfers to a downtown hotel and the airport. Enquire for a full itinerary.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	All accommodation on board vessel All meals whilst on board All shore excursions and activities by zodiac Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition team Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes Comprehensive pre-departure material Local payments (500USD per person) Charter flight Anadyr-Nome (1000USD per person) EXCLUSIONS International airfare Pre and post land arrangements Travel insurance Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Excess baggage fees and items of a personal nature

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Please note this itinerary may be subject to change depending on weather and sea conditions.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and availability.

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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