



Dear Ski and Snowboard friends

Enjoy fantastic ski runs in the unique scenery of the peninsula of Kamchatka, accompanied by the experienced heli guides from ALPIN TRAVEL. A real adventure and maybe as well a highlight of your skiing career!

The helicopter will drop you off high up on the top of lonely volcanoes. The ski enjoyment is incomparable and the 'ultimate in skiing': virgin slopes, a marvellous landscape and sometimes you even reach sea level by ski. There is the helicopter waiting for you to bring you up for a new enjoyment.

What do we offer? Continue reading this brochure and you will find detailed and over all important and useful information. If there remain any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

It is our top priority to ensure you safe and efficient heliskiing enjoyment.

Sincerely, Roland Beeler and Team

Where is Kamchatka ?

The peninsula Kamchatka lies in the far northeast of Russia, between 62nd and 51st degree of latitude, i.e. it ranges - converted into Europe - from Rejkjavik to Brussels. The peninsula is about 1'400 km long and 450 km wide and is bounded by the Sea of Okhotsk in the west, by the Pacific Ocean in the east and by the Strait of Bering in the north. It is connected to continental Russia only by a narrow headland. With an area of about 472'300 km² Kamchatka is a little bigger than Germany and Austria together.

Kamchatka could conserve its exceptional nature as a result of isolation for decades. It is dominated by an extensive number of volcanoes. 30 active and over a hundred extinct volcanoes formed the peninsula and its inhabitants.

Two large volcanic ranges run to the north, divided by the Central Valley and the Kamchatka River. The older and less active mountain range, the Central Range, covers the central and western part of Kamchatka and reaches an altitude between 1000 and 2000 m.

Between the Central Range and the Sea of Okhotsk you find an area without forest on an altitude of 600-700 m, the tundra. The younger, active mountain range runs from the south along the pacific coast to the north. It contains immense volcanoes, partly over 4000 m high and connected with each other by ridges or plateaus.

Capital Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky

At the time of the UdSSR Petropavlovsk was after Vladivostok the most important port at the Pacific Coast. Today the city still is characterised by the strategically important port for the submarine and by the fishing industry. Fishing is the most important economic sector. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Petropavlovsk lost a lot of its importance as commercial harbour.

Journey to Kamchatka

You will fly to Moscow and further on to Petropavlovsk, the capital of Kamchatka. The longest domestic flight of the world takes about 8 hours. At the airport you will be picked up for the transfer to the hotel. The drive takes about 30 minutes.

Snow Conditions, Best time of the year

Winter on Kamchatka lasts from October to May with easily 8 to 10 meters of snow. The volcanoes normally offer ideal snow conditions for heliskiing from March to May. However, heliskiing on Kamchatka is not always powder. It means skiing in untouched snow, which also may be quite bad: wind pressed, wet and heavy. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee good snow and nice weather.

30.04.2018





Itinerary

Friday/Saturday

Flight to Petropavlovsk Kamchatsky. Individual stay in Moscow.

Sunday

Arrival at Petropavlovsk, transfer to the hotel (approx. 30 minutes), reception, information, safety instructions, arranging of groups.

Monday to Saturday

6 days of heliski or heli snowboard in different regions. We will choose the best runs, areas and snow conditions for you. If the conditions are good, you have the possibility to do ski runs of 2000 vertical meters and more.

Sunday

Transfer from the hotel to the airport, flight back to Europe, arrival the same day.

Breakfast and dinner will be served at your hotel, for lunch you will receive a lunch box.

Introduction, Briefing

On your first day on Kamchatka we get you acquainted with the skiing operation and provide safety equipment for deep snow skiing. Further there will be an obligatory introduction on heli-skiing with our heli guides. The instruction includes amongst others: your attitude while heliskiing, safety rules in connection with helicopter flights, the use of safety equipment e.g. avalanche transceiver and ABS avalanche airbag system. Also the ski groups will be arranged.

Heliski Day

To which region you are flying to and on which altitude you will be landing depends on the physical ability and skiing skills of the group as well as on the snow and weather conditions. Safe skiing is required of each participant for the partly spectacular ski runs. We wish to stress that it is not our goal to collect as many vertical meters as possible, but rather to experience this marvellous region of Kamchatka. Per day you usually do 6 to 10 ski runs. However, how many ski runs and vertical meters you will do depends on your and the group's skills.

Weather, Temperatures

The climate varies from 'moderate oceanic' at the coast to 'distinct continental' in the central parts of the peninsula. It is influenced by the cyclones of the Japanese Sea and the Yellow Sea. The central part of the peninsula - the Central Valley with the Kamchatka River - shows the most climatic contrasts.

Helicopter airfield

It is possible for the helicopter to land close to the hotel.

Heliski Area, Terrain

There are numerous ski runs of various degrees of difficulty and lengths. All heliski runs are between 3000 m above sea level and sea level in the midst of volcanoes. The highest volcano is Klyuchevskaya Sopka culminating at 4750 m. The vertical difference ranges up to 2200 m, the average ski-runs having 1000 m. Wide and open slopes, easy to difficult ski-runs, flat to steep slopes as well as extreme terrain will suit everyone. Some ski runs go through light forests and across glaciers. The size of the area is limited only by helicopter flight range and heliskiers ability

Snowboarder

All snowboarders who master their board in any terrain are welcome. The area is well suited for snowboarders, because most of the ski runs are in wide and open terrain.

Groups

We always try to arrange the groups for your utmost skiing satisfaction, taking care of skills, ski/snowboard freaks looking for full-blast extreme ski-runs as well as more relaxed skiers/boarders who also want to enjoy more time to marvel at scenery and take pictures.



Helicopter flight time and Refund Policy

Heliskiing on Kamchatka does not base on a vertical guarantee but on flight time. Flight time means the time during which the engine of the helicopter runs. If the included helicopter flight time is exceeded, costs of the additional hours will be divided by the number of participants. Refund is given for the inability to fly due to bad weather or mechanical breakdown. The time not flown will be refunded. Working on flight hours allows us the highest flexibility. On a good heliskiing day we ski between 6000 and 8000 m of altitude difference and need around 2:30 flight hours. The flight hours included in the package correspond to the average flight time usually needed for a week with variable weather and/or snow conditions.

With perfect weather and best snow conditions the effective flight time can be 20% up to 40% higher according to our experience over the last years.

No refunds are granted for the inability to fly due to illness, injury, lack of physical ability, downgrading as a result of inadequate skiing skills, delayed arrival or other reasons beyond the responsibility of the operator. Flight hours can not be transferred to other participants.

All decisions to fly and to ski are taken upon actual or predicted weather, snow conditions and risk of avalanche.

The heli guides and pilots reserve the right to restrict or deny skiing at any time. As a client you accept and agree to abide by all decisions made by our heli guides and pilots. This policy is designed for your own safety and skiing enjoyment.

Bad Weather Program

If weather conditions do not allow heliskiing on certain days, you can ski in the lift area of three little ski resorts with ski-runs from about 400 m a.s.l. to sea level, close to Petropavlovsk. To take a relaxing bath in a hot spring is another tempting option. Or you can visit the museum in Petropavlovsk, where you will be familiarised with the way of life on Kamchatka peninsula. Also a visit to the local market is worthwhile.

Requirements. Getting ready for heliskiing

The most important is your physical fitness. You may face difficult snow conditions. When weather and snow conditions allow, you go for the ultimate skiing experience! But please take into account that conditions can change very quickly and can get difficult. We recommend preparing yourself at best for this trip. You have not to be a professional but a good all-terrain skier and you have to be able to keep your skis under control in any terrain and snow condition.

Helicopters

The MI8 is known in many countries as a good and reliable helicopter. It is powered by two turbo-engines. The helicopter is flown by two pilots, which means extra safety.

Mountain/Heli Guides

All heli guides are qualified mountain guides from the European countries and members of the International Mountain Guides Association.

Safety

It is our top priority to ensure you safe heliskiing enjoyment, and we do our best to this end. Every heliskier or off-piste skier is equipped with an avalanche transceiver and an avalanche airbag system. As you already know, you will receive this equipment with instructions as to its use on your first day. For your safety it is absolutely necessary to follow the instructions of the heli guides. We do everything to provide maximum safety, however a residual risk remains.

Accidents

All groups are in constant radio contact with one another and with helicopters, thus making help possible in the shortest time in case of emergency. All heli guides carry first-aid-kits, and additional rescue and medical equipment is carried and deposited in the helicopters.



Release of Claims and Waiver of Liability

Any claims proceeding from sports activities included in this package are explicitly released. With your booking you recognize the dangers inherent to high mountains. Even a highly qualified guide is not infallible, when confronted with extreme mountain wilderness conditions out of control. The top priority for the guides is to minimize the risks.

All helicopter flights are taken at your own risk. Insurances for helicopter flights are not included in the program. No claims as to damage resulting from heliskiing or snowboarding or other sports activities will be accepted. Prior to heliskiing all guests are required to sign a waiver of liability. By signing it you acknowledge the release of all claims against tour operator or heli guide. You will receive a waiver sample with the confirmation of booking. You may also request a copy prior to booking.

Insurances

No insurance at all, also for helicopter flights, is included. Please pay attention to the "Release of Claims and Waiver of Liability" provisions.

Health and accident insurances with "worldwide" coverage are the responsibility of each participant.

A travel insurance or membership in your national air ambulance service for quick repatriation in case of emergency is recommended

Ski and Snowboard Equipment

We highly recommend to bring along your own skis (width below binding at least 90 mm). This is a great advantage for heliskiing, you do not need to get used to rental skis, you profit of more safety while skiing and you enjoy truly great skiing. Please have your binding tested and controlled at a ski shop prior to departure.

We have a few rental skis available on-site:

Powderequipment (Type B)

Length 170 cm, dimension 143-100-125 mm

Length 180 cm, dimension 145-101-127 mm

www.powderequipment.de

Rental skis have to be booked and paid in advance to ALPIN TRAVEL.

Vaccinations

No vaccinations are required for entry in Russia. Generally are recommended: vaccination against tetanus/diphtheria (combined) and infantile paralysis.

Time Difference

Petropavlovsk to C.E.T. (Central European Time)

+11 hours during winter time

+10 hours during summer daylight saving time

Warranty Travel Funds

ALPIN TRAVEL is member of the Warranty Fund of the Swiss Travel Industry. Thus all travel funds paid by the participants are secured.

www.garantiefonds.ch



Visa, Entry Procedures

For your entry in Russia you need a visa and a passport valid at least six months after your return and with two empty pages for the visa. We will assist you to apply for your visa.

Booking

For operational reasons we kindly ask you to book early. The number of participants is limited. You can book either by internet, e-mail, phone or written. Please also send us a copy of your passport together with your booking.

Modification of Rates and Program

The continuously updated rates and programs as shown on our website are binding.

www.alpintravel.ch / Webcode 296KRU

The general travel terms and conditions 'Heliski ALPIN TRAVEL GmbH, CH 8880 Walenstadt' apply.