

Registration Checklist. Due no later than April 1, 2011

- ÿ Signed registration form (scanned & e-mailed please)
- ÿ Photocopy of passport
- ÿ 1 passport photo
- ÿ Brief CV or bio
- ÿ Letter of Good Health
- ÿ Payment (see below)

Mailing Address:

Altai Books
12345 Lake City Way NE #121
Seattle, WA 98125-5401

Phone: 206-525-2101

For questions: carol@altaibooks.com

2011 Altai Expedition – July 14–August 4, 2011

Registration Form - Please print!

All materials and payment due no later than April 1, 2011

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

State/Province _____ Country: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name you like to be called: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

Name on Passport: _____ Citizenship: _____

Passport Number: _____ Place of Issuance: _____

Date of Issuance: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Birthplace: _____ Birthdate: _____

Birth country: _____ Birth city: _____

Residence country: _____

Your company name: _____ Your position: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship: _____ E-mail: _____

I have diet restrictions as follow: _____

I have physical/emotional limitations that may require special attention: ____ yes ____ no

If yes, please describe completely (please let us know of anything that might be of concern).

A Letter of Good Health from your Health Professional is required. Please include it either with your registration form, or mail it to us by April 1, 2011.

Payment: 2011 Altai Expedition - July 14 – August 4, 2011 - \$2895

ÿ Bank transfer on: _____, in the amount of: _____ (add \$40.00 bank processing fee).

Please contact carol@altaibooks.com for bank information.

ÿ Personal Check or Money Order on _____. \$_____ amount.

Make all checks and monetary documents payable to: **Altai Mir University**

Send to: 12345 Lake City Way NE #121; Seattle, WA 98125-5401

Terms and Conditions (the small print): PLEASE FOLLOW CAREFULLY

By checking here and signing the following "Tour Conditions" I indicate that I have read and agree to comply.
If you have any questions please contact Carol at Altai Books, 206-525-2101 or e-mail at: carol@altaibooks.com

Trekking Policy: The trek takes place in remote high-mountain wilderness, where group and individual survival can depend on cooperation. Although major decisions/changes will be discussed with the group when possible, the tour leaders retain the right to make group decisions. By initialing these terms and conditions, you are agreeing to abide by the tour leaders' decisions. If you decide at any point NOT to abide by the tour leaders' decisions, ALL of the tour leaders' and tour organizers' responsibilities and obligations to you will be void.

I have read and agree to the Trekking Policy above (initials). _____

Accommodations: We plan to be sharing an apartment in Novosibirsk; staying in a small family hotel in Gorno-Altaiisk with either two or four people to a room; and staying in mountain tents while trekking. When a private room is a possibility, you may arrange for a private room by paying the associated additional costs.

Visa: From the US, Canada, and Europe, a 30-day tourist invitation and visa cost about \$200. *Apply for the whole 30 days, even if you plan to stay less time.* First, you must get an official tourist invitation, for which we will give you specific information after you have signed up for the trip. Visa agencies can also get your visa for you, for an additional fee. Or if you wish to apply directly for your visa, go to <http://www.russianembassy.org/CONSULAT/TOUR-VIS.HTM> information and application.

For stays of MORE than 30 days, a business visa is required. Not only does a business visa cost more and take longer to get, the required in-country registration is more complicated and expensive. Please specifically inform us if you plan to stay more than 30 days. From other countries, costs can be tripled and invitations and visas can be more difficult to get and take much longer (let us know, and we can probably help).

On the plane, before you arrive, you will need to fill out a "migration card" that will be used for your registrations and must be turned in when you leave. We will e-mail you specific instructions on how to fill out this card. Print the instructions and put them with your passport.

Russian law requires foreigners to "register" their visas in every location where they remain for three days. Practically however, if foreigners are not consistently "registered," even if they are complying with the letter of the law, they can be fined upon exit. If you plan to stay beyond our tour dates, please ask us how to properly register yourself.

Apply for your invitation and visa immediately! Apply for the whole 30 days even if you don't plan to stay that long. Triple check every number and word on both the invitation and visa when you RECEIVE them. (Errors are common and can result in you being denied entry!) Make copies both to carry with you and to leave with someone at home.

Baggage: 1 back-packing rucksack and 1 carry-on. Please bring an extra duffel bag in which to leave clothing and supplies that are not required for the trek. We can leave belongings safely at the trail head. Russian domestic airlines allow a total weight of 20 kg. (44 lbs.), consisting of 1 piece of check-in luggage and 1 carry-on weighing up to 5 kg. (11 lbs.) (carry-on is part of the 20 kg., not additional). If you are flying straight through on an international ticket with no stopovers, the international carrier's baggage allowance will apply.

Flights: We recommend that you make reservations but *do not purchase your tickets* until you have your visa in your possession. If you are flying east from the US, you will arrive in Russia at about the same hour that you left, but a day later.

There are two international major airports in Moscow. If you are connecting, allow at least four hours between flights for Sheremetyevo and three hours for Domodedovo. International Aeroflot flights use Sheremetyevo Terminal 2 and domestic Aeroflot flights use Sheremetyevo Terminal 1. There is a free shuttle between them, but it is hard to find if you don't speak and read Russian. Or, you can walk now walk between them while still inside the building, but it is a long walk. So, if you are connecting and we don't have someone to meet you, be very assertive about getting help to get between the terminals from Aeroflot or a fellow English-speaking traveler (like, before you get off the first plane). Don't believe the reassurances that it's obvious. Make sure someone TAKES you to the shuttle if you have any concerns. If you get in a bind, a taxi can cost you \$80. Most other airlines use Domodedovo Airport, which has only one terminal for both international and domestic flights.

Most airlines will have an agent meet you when you get off the airplane if you make arrangements when you purchase your ticket—similar to help for physical disabilities, but you are *linguistically* disabled. In this case, you must make yourself known to the flight crew, so they can hand you off to the ground agent.

We strongly advise you to include any flights inside Russia in your international ticket if possible, because they are likely to be cheaper, and you will get an international luggage allowance (usually two 50 pound bags, plus some carry-on) instead of domestic (total 44 pounds including carry-on). For domestic tickets, overweight luggage is about \$5/pound.

Insurance: You MUST have comprehensive insurance coverage *before* travel for medical expenses, emergency evacuation, personal baggage, and money. Cancellation insurance is also advised. This should be arranged at the time of payment of the deposit or payment in full to cover you for cancellation after that time. Be sure that helicopter evacuation is included.

INSURANCE IS REQUIRED FOR EVACUATION AND MEDICAL EXPENSES.

Travel Insurers in the U.S:

Travel Guard International (715) 334-0505 or (800) 826-1300

Access America (804) 285-3300 or (800) 284-8300
Also check AAA or American Express

Cancellation and Refunds: All cancellations must be made in writing to Altai Books. All tours are subject to the following cancellation charges. \$777.00 non-refundable deposit. Balances are to be paid by April 1st. No refunds after April 1st whatsoever for any reason.

THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS WHATSOEVER, FOR ANY REASON, AFTER APRIL 1, 2011. CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

Once tour has commenced there will be no refunds for any unused or partially used tour features. In all cases, cancellation fees do apply and are non-refundable for any reason, including sickness, or other emergencies. AGAIN, we highly recommend that you purchase cancellation insurance to cover unforeseen events.

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE: Airfare from your home town to Novosibirsk, Russia and back; cost of required Russian visa and official invitation; fees for overweight luggage; items of a personal nature such as laundry, liquor and phone; beverages, including bottled water, snacks, meals except where otherwise stated in itinerary, or gratuities. Meals that are not supplied as part of the Expedition are listed in the itinerary in *italics*.

GRATUITIES: In Russia, tipping is the same as in the U.S.

RESPONSIBILITY: Altai Books and its agents, Altai Mir University and its agents, Carol Hiltner and all other Expedition guides and staff act only in the capacity as agents for the passengers in all matters connected with hotel accommodations, sight-seeing tours and transportation, whether by air, cruise, motor coach, motor vehicle, and any other means of conveyance, and shall not be responsible or liable for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity, or incident resulting from strikes, weather, government regulation, acts of war, Acts of God; nor shall they be responsible for any damage or loss of luggage for any reason during the course of the trip, or act or omission of any individual or organization providing the transportation, services or accommodations in connection with these arrangements, nor for any delay or expense incurred due to disruption or revision of schedules, nor for any cause beyond their own control.

The right is reserved to Altai Books and Altai Mir University to withdraw a tour, or decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time, or to make changes in the published itinerary whenever in their sole judgment, conditions warrant or if they deem necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the passengers. Altai Books and Altai Mir University shall have the right at any time at their discretion to cancel any tour or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price, or other details, and in the event of any tour being rendered impossible, illegal, or inadvisable by weather, avalanches, strike, war, governmental interference, or any other cause whatsoever. Any extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be your sole responsibility. All prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on April 1st, 2011, and are subject to change in the event of an adjustment therein.

If costs do fluctuate due to circumstances beyond our control, we reserve the right to alter our quoted price to you. Acceptance of any travel plan shall be deemed to constitute acceptance of this limitation of responsibility.

The person making any booking will, by the making of such booking, warrant that he or she has authority to enter into a contract on behalf of the other person/s included in such a booking and in the event of the failure of any or all of the other person/s so included to make payment, the person making the booking shall by his/her signature thereof assume personal liability for the total price of all bookings made by him/her.

I have read and fully understood the terms and conditions of this agreement.

_____ sign & date here

THIS FORM MAY BE COPIED AND MAILED TO: carol@altaibooks.com

Mailing Address: Altai Books; 12345 Lake City Way NE #121; Seattle, WA 98125-5401. Phone: 206-525-2101

REVISED 1/12/2011