

Россия

1/2 2020 - 2021

PRO

ЖУРНАЛ

to go beyond,
to unlock!

Nikita Greci:

1/2 2020 - 2021

Russia

PRO

MAGAZINE

Никита Греци:

выйти за рамки,
совершить открытие!

стр. 6



ABOUT US: WHY RUSSIA PRO?

The publishing house «Derzhava» presents to your attention the magazine «Russia PRO» - a practical travel guide for those who are not afraid to dream. Dreams, like adventures, are not big or small; important or unimportant, but only fulfilled or unfulfilled in life.

We want to show the tourism potential of the regions of Russia, to tell about the discoveries that are aimed at the future. A magazine about people and projects that change the world.

Our magazine is for those who are not afraid to go beyond the usual boundaries.

We will open to you the diverse world of the culture of the regions, their attractions, and historical monuments.

You will be able to compare, find similarities and differences between the usual traditions and current way of life, unlock something completely new and unexpected, and get to know yourself better.

«Russia PRO» is an exclusive information partner of the international expedition «The Last Great Journey». As part of the informational support, the magazine is planned to be published in Russian and English. On the pages of the publication, you can find interviews with participants and partners of the expedition, photo reports, reviews and analytical materials, announcements of significant domestic and international events.

The publication is a participant of major exhibitions: The International Tourism Exhibition MITT and the International Tourism Exhibition «INTOURLMARKET».

«Russia PRO» is distributed throughout the Russian Federation, in the CIS countries and internationally.

The magazine «Russia PRO» is a modern publication about those who dare to dream and make their dreams come true.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



About us: Russia PRO, p.1

Path beyond the horizon

- [Nikita Grets: to go beyond, to unlock!, p. 4](#)
- [CuChullaine O'Reilly: He who rides slow, travels far, p. 10](#)
- [The Long Riders' Guild: care for the vulnerable and speak for the silent, p. 14](#)
- [Ian D. Robinson: Don't give up and don't die, p. 16](#)

Ian D. Robinson: Don't give up and don't die

- [The incredible life in Chukotka: from the Arctic festival to kayak racing, p. 18](#)

Direct Conversation

- [Interview with Olga Khotochkina: «I'm not a careerist – I'm interested in living!», p. 22](#)

Discovering the world

- [Travellers news, p. 28](#)



VIEW NEAR THE NIKITA'S GRETSI EXPEDITION CAMP



NIKITA GRETSI: TO GO BEYOND, TO UNLOCK!

The author of «The Last Great Journey» - Nikita Grets, 23 years old, Great Britain

PATH BEYOND THE HORIZON

01

The magazine “RussiaPro” presents the grandiose international project: “The Last Great Journey” and its creator, Nikita Grets. The daring concept of this expedition is to travel from ocean to ocean, from Siberia to London, collecting, like precious treasure, the history of people and cities; the pristine beauty of nature; the impressions of pioneers. Nikita Grets plans to travel using wild, unexplored trails, to see that which has not been seen by others before him and to share his discoveries with the world. The idea of such an incredible journey may seem like a fantasy but in reality, the fantasy lies in the fact that it is being fulfilled very successfully by an ordinary, although very enthusiastic, person, who believes that an ordinary person can achieve the extraordinary. “RussiaPro” will be sharing the details of “The Last Great Journey”, its interesting and exciting events and unique encounters, with its readers.

“

EVERYONE HAS FEAR AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO OVERCOME IT.



Fear

I believe it is very important to discuss “human” topics – that which will allow people to look at their surrounding world and their presence in it, in a different way. For example, how to deal with fear. People are afraid to talk about such things. It is rare that I hear a grown man say that he is scared of something, even though we all feel fear. I think it is important to understand how to overcome fear rather than lie to each other and to seek approval from others.

I genuinely hate planes. I am afraid of flying, but I have learned to control it. In order to get from Yakutsk to London, I have to take two flights – 4.5 hours to Moscow and a further 7 hours to Yakutsk. In winter, to get from Yakutsk to the training camp is an extreme of its own, as you have to drive for a long time on snow covered roads. This is all before I even climb into the saddle! What else is there to fear? The cold itself. A large part of my journey will take place in extremely cold conditions.

The most important thing is to understand your own fear and to understand how to redirect that energy to keep moving forwards.

The allure of exploring

Why do people want to explore/travel? Some people will live their whole life in one city, they were born there, and they will die there. But there are people, like myself, who constantly look for adventure, to see over the next hill. I can’t just sit in one spot. Unlocking new places is what interests me, understanding the nature of the place and the people of a different culture.

Different Dimensions

For me, there exists a strong presence of time, a necessity to keep track of time. However, in nature, time flows completely differently and the people who live in those conditions live in a different dimension. I try to resolve this, to understand why in my environment I must be punctual. Of course, it is because our world is revolved around time. You have to make

“

WHEN YOU FLY FROM ONE CITY TO THE NEXT, YOU MISS OUT ON AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF INTERESTING THINGS.

the most of the time you have. In London for example, the busses, the metro, or shops all have their own schedules which means I am not in direct control of my time schedule. The environment creates the conditions which are focused on productivity. It forces you to change, to adapt. Consequently, you begin to question “which is better?”. Back home not many people question why we live the way we live. I think they’ve just got used to it; I think it’s become comfortable. I too was comfortable, until I found myself in the Mongolian steppes and the Siberian taiga where people live in a completely different way. Suddenly I was no longer in my comfort zone.

Roots

I was born in a Russian speaking family in Estonia, where I lived until the age of 7. This is when my family and I moved to live in Great Britain. Until the age of 21

I spoke Russian only at home. When I first visited Moscow, I was nervous to speak to anyone in Russian. I was so unsure of myself that when passing through the border at the airport, I spoke with the border patrol in English. I was afraid to speak in Russian to strangers. So, to confront the fear I went to the Russian Geographic Society where I had no choice but to speak in Russian...

I don’t have the typical patriotism as I don’t consider myself a person of just Russian, Estonian or British culture. I don’t belong to just one of these cultures. Perhaps this is why I can’t stay in one place for too long. From a young age I was constantly moving which meant that the people, friends, and circumstances were always changing. I’m not attached to one particular place. There is always something new.

From childhood, Estonians would tell me “you’re Russian, not Estonian” and the Russians

would tell me “you’re not Russian, you’re Estonian”. In essence, I constantly heard “you’re not one of us”. I tried to explain that I’m not just Russian and Estonian, after all I’m only half Russian and an eighth Estonian. One of my friends suggested I should trace my heritage from my father’s side, which means I’m Uzbek. But I also have Ukrainian heritage and for the large part, I now consider myself partly British, after all I did grow up in that culture.

A stranger amongst strangers

In Estonia, I attended an Estonian speaking nursery. From a young age I was used to being in an environment where people were speaking in a language I didn’t understand. I remember that in nursery, I couldn’t understand anything. Later we moved to a different part of Tallinn where I attended a Russian speaking nursery and

could understand everything. I’ve always had to adapt. At the age of 6 I went to a specialist Estonian mathematics school which was in the centre of Tallinn, we lived beyond the city as we didn’t have much money. I’d wake up every day at 5am and travel by myself to school. An hour on a coach before getting on several trams and then a bus – and that was just one way! Then we moved to Great Britain and I once again found myself in a place where I didn’t belong. I didn’t understand neither the customs, nor the language.

Until 2008, we would constantly move in Great Britain. I had to study in an English school not knowing the language at all. I would always get into fights - when you’re young and someone says something to you which you don’t understand or they laugh at you, it’s hard to do anything else. The first year was the hardest, we didn’t have money to hire a tutor to learn the language, so I had to learn through conversations, like a new born learns their first language. In school I didn’t understand a thing except from maths.

Mrs King, an apple and Bob Smith

My first teacher, Mrs King, was very kind. We would have a lunch break and I’d have an apple and a chocolate, which I ate quickly. I would then wonder in circles around the school. I couldn’t communicate as I didn’t know the language. Suddenly, Mrs King came over and invited me to come with her. I was worried at first, but it turned out she brought me to have lunch in the canteen. She later explained to my parents that here, children eat their lunch at 12pm and that they should give me lunch to bring to school.

My first friend in school, Charlie, died from cancer in year 2. I didn’t know at the time that he was ill. All I remember was that he was very skinny. We became friends because he too, didn’t have any friends, he offered me an apple and that’s how we became friends. We

couldn’t talk to each other so we would just wonder around the playground together.

There’s a funny story from when I was in year 3. On our first day, everyone was given pieces of paper where they had to fill in their name, parents’ names, and a small bit of information about themselves. Afterwards, everyone would stand up and read out what they had written. I could write a little bit, but my English was still very bad so I decided to copy the boy next to me. So, I copied him word for word and wrote “my name is Bob Smith, my favourite colour is green”, and so on.

Language

In the second year of school, I was being taught English by a teacher who couldn’t speak English very well either. Truthfully, I couldn’t understand her at all. In year 3, I began to slowly understand the language – by this point I had

hour, but at the time, I could legally only work 4 hours per day. I didn’t know what I wanted to do with my life and I used to spend my money on girls. In year 11 I started flunking out of school, missing lessons. I knew I would pass the exams on all my subjects regardless. How? I just understood that the exams follow a certain system and I knew how that system worked.

In year 12 I decided that I wanted to be a doctor. I took my studying seriously and was at school all the time. I even did all my work on time. But there were teachers that really annoyed me and once again I started flunking school but I still passed all my exams well. In year 13, I barely attended school at all. I had to learn 2 years worth of knowledge in two weeks, just before my exam, but I still got high grades. I’ve always been really interested in maths and physics however, I understood that University wasn’t for me. I

“

THE ENVIRONMENT CREATES THE CONDITIONS, IT FORCES YOU TO CHANGE, TO ADAPT.

lived in England for a year and a half. I would be always watching English tv and listening to people speaking English and slowly I began to speak English myself. In year 4, I was awarded a prize, in the local county, for writing a fictional story.

History

In school we were taught history in segments, which wasn’t interesting for me. For example, we were taught about the second world war for only 9 weeks (which is 9 hours in total). In year 6, I gave a presentation to my class about the battle of Stalingrad, I prepared for it for a long time. Overall, I think people found it interesting because it was something they had not heard about before.

The search

At 15 years old I found my first job, working in a law firm, helping out with documents. The pay was very good, £10 per

decided that I could learn what I needed to on my own and went out to work instead of going to University. At first, I worked as a waiter in a restaurant. I lied a bit on my cv, saying that I had a lot of experience in private events. But I always learn fast especially when I watch others. At that time, I was just

“

IT’S IMPORTANT NOT TO BE AFRAID OF ASKING, TO SEEK ANSWERS.

working to live. I’d travel here and there, when I could. Iceland and Greece were amongst my favourites.

Originality

There are many people in our world and a lot of the time, they try to be like others. However, I think that there comes a moment when you understand that you are unique and original.

There’s no need to worry about what people say as everyone has their strengths and flaws and in reality, these are just based on someone’s perspective. You can of course try to imitate another person, but I believe that it’s better to just be yourself because if you constantly try to be someone else, you can simply forget how to be yourself.

“

THE PROCESS OF LOOKING WITHIN IS UNCOMFORTABLE.

Questions

When you arrive somewhere that has a different culture and you attempt to push your culture onto the people living there, it’s difficult to begin a conversation. However, if you are interested in their way of life, the conversation flows. I’m not afraid of asking things. Everyone enjoys talking about themselves and about their experiences. I’ve learnt that those who possess a lot of knowledge share their knowledge with others. They communicate and debate. They enjoy being asked questions which they haven’t been asked before. Those that don’t know a lot don’t like being questioned.

The value of objects

Standard things have never attracted me, such as purchasing expensive cars. For me these are just things and they don’t unite people.

Choosing the route

I’ve been to many countries in my life, but I’ve always had a sense of being lost. I didn’t know what my path was. Perhaps, this is because I’m not tied down to a single culture, I don’t belong to only one nationality. I analysed the situation and understood that I didn’t have a direction in life. I was just living and

working. When I turned 17, I told myself that if by the age of 22 I don’t know what I was doing with my life, that I would go to university and would live a ‘normal life’. Right now I’m 22 and I have goals and a direction in life.

Enlightenment

I was working in a restaurant and was always learning new

things. I would see thing that I couldn’t do and would try to learn it. At some point, I had this understanding that I could do absolutely anything I wanted to. That my potential was limitless. Before this I used to think that a ‘normal’ person had a limit on their potential.

I spent a lot of time thinking. It’s a very interesting, but also dangerous process to think so much, because you may find answers that you find hard to accept. The main question which I think people don’t often ask themselves is “Who am I?”. You are not your name, your clothes, your car or your surroundings. You are not even the things you have accomplished in life. For if you ask two different people “Who is Nikita Grets?” their answer will describe two different people.

But everyone has a part of themselves which they conceal from everyone. That which we reveal only to ourselves. I started to look within. At first, this process was very uncomfortable. You begin to understand that in the grand scheme of things, you mean nothing at all. Afterall, there are more than 7 billion people in the world. If you cease to exist, it will not change much. When I grasped this simple truth, it allowed me to be free. I used to think a lot of what people thought about me, what I ‘should’ be doing... I think we all do this. But when I understood that if I ceased to exist, it would not change much, that is when I understood that I could exactly what I wanted to.



on photo: Nikita Grets

Principals

I train a lot, especially with weights. When training, if I have to do 20 reps of something, I will do 25 or more. In that moment, when I reach the 20th rep, I tell myself “let’s do one more. And again, one more”. I do not want to be better or worse than others. I just want to understand how things work.

Starting Point

I’m always training, I have a good job which I enjoy doing and I’m not spending a lot of energy. Everything is going well and I’m progressing. But suddenly I realised that for me, this is not enough. I want to do something that could potentially break me. I’ve trained myself to the point where I can go the day without eating or sleeping – I know what I am capable of. Where someone would give up, I will continue moving forwards. That’s the mentality that I have.

The logic of making decisions

I have always wanted to go to Mongolia and learn to ride on horseback. Then I had the idea to go to Siberia too, to ride there on horseback. Consequently I thought, why not ride back from there to London. This is how the idea began to form.

Siberia

At first, I had read about the pole of the cold in Yakutia, which is found in Oymyakon. But I didn’t know much about Russia. I knew there was Siberia and that I wanted to go there. I knew about the Taiga and that people lived there. I wanted to go there where there was real wilderness, where there wasn’t civilisation. There is another reason too, my great grandmother was born in Siberia, in Barnaul.

The beginning

And so, the idea was born, the decision was made. Those who know me well, know that if I say I am going to do something, then I will undoubtedly do it. I began searching for information about how to travel on horseback but there wasn’t much to be found at first. Where and how to buy horses in Russia, how to cross



on photo: young CuCullaine O’Reilly

borders on horseback? During all this searching I came across the The Long Riders’ Guild. I wrote to them explaining my idea and asked for their help. The founder of the guild, CuChullaine O’Reilly, replied to me. He asked much about my idea and about me, to get a grasp of who I was. I told him that I didn’t have much experience with horses, let alone riding. He asked me “Why do you think you can do this?”. I replied “I know I lack experience, but if there is a way to do something, I will find it and I will do it. I know I won’t give up”. This was in February 2019. In June I quit my job, took everything I had saved and headed for Mongolia.

CuChullaine O’Reilly

CuChullaine presented me with all the information I would need and introduced me to some of the most experienced equestrian explorers from the guild. It is through the guild that I became acquainted with Ian Robinson and his experience of riding in Yakutia. CuChullaine suggested considering extending the route, to cover the entire length of Eurasia, from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean, a journey which has

never been completed. That’s when the name “The Last Great Journey” came about.

CuChullaine recommended that I ride with one of the guild’s members in Mongolia, John, to learn how to be around horses. CuChullaine also explained that John was going to Siberia, to do a horseback tour. He suggested I go with him and decide on

IT WAS WITH THE NOMADS IN MONGOLIA THAT I UNDERSTOOD HOW A HORSE THINKS

the next steps when I am there. This helped me a lot, as at that time I didn’t know a lot about organising the journey.

Horses

Why did I choose to do this journey on horseback? Because all other modes of transport go from A to B, you miss everything in between. You cannot see the world in all its detail. An equestrian journey is a slow journey and it is an excellent way to test yourself as a person. Afterall, you have to look after the horses too. If a car or motorbike break down, you can always change the broken

part and continue. If something happens to the horses on the journey, then the journey won’t continue. CuChullaine told me about a unique horse which lives in Yakutia. He explained that back in 2004 the guild made efforts to locate these unique horses. CuChullaine explained to me, that only the Yakut horse would be able to withstand the

IT WAS WITH THE NOMADS IN MONGOLIA THAT I UNDERSTOOD HOW A HORSE THINKS

conditions of this journey (due to the extreme temperature range). I found Egor Makarov’s book about the Yakut horses. Later, when I was already in Yakutia, I was able to meet with Egor and he began to actively support my journey.

Mongolia

I travelled from Moscow to Mongolia on the trans-Siberian railway. There I told the locals about my idea. At first, they asked me if I was crazy, but after seeing how seriously determined I was they began helping me with learning how to be around horses and how to

ride. After the second week, I began to feel very confident in my ability in the saddle. I had some time before I was due to go to Siberia, so I travelled to the Mongolian steppes to live with the nomads and to learn from them. I lived there for nearly 2 weeks. It was there that I began to understand how horses think and why they behave in a certain manner, what could scare them. After only a month I was riding some of the more difficult horses. I managed them well. All of this experience helped me massively in my relationship with the Yakut horses.

Yakutia

In Yakutia I saw the Taiga and wild nature, which I was so hoping to see. The snow hadn’t begun to fall yet and I was surprised by the amount of swamps/bogs. I was impressed with the Yakut horse’s endurance; they were able to travel in deep bogs all day long. The Yakuts as a nation don’t say too much and I understand that. They’re extremely hospitable. They take you in as if you were an old friend that they haven’t seen in a long time. It’s worth noting, that I experienced a similar attitude from the Mongolians. It seems that those who live in an equestrian

culture have hospitality in their blood and I was glad to have the chance to experience their culture.

Support

I didn’t tell anyone about my idea for a long time, then I told my mum. She didn’t believe me at first but now she fully supports me. I think that when you make a decision like this, that you alone are responsible for it. You must always hold yourself accountable. If you find

I HOPE THAT MY EXPERIENCE CAN HELP OTHERS GO BEYOND, TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY

yourself surrounded by people who try to convince you not to do what you want, then in time you will begin to think like this too. There isn’t a person around me that doesn’t believe in me or my project. No one doubts me or my decisions.

In reality, without the support I don’t know how my idea would look. Now a lot of people support me but at first it was CuChullaine and his wife Basha, they’ve helped me the most. They were the ones who made me understand

how to successfully prepare and complete this journey. Also, Egor Makarov was one of the first people who helped me organise the project and of course the support of my family and those who are closest to me is very important for me. I am very grateful that I have the opportunity to depart on such a journey.

P.S.

The main problem which I encountered during my preparation for this journey is the

found in the big cities, of this I am sure. If you visit London, you will not know Britain. If you visit just Moscow, you will not know Russia. The most important things are always hidden in ‘secret’ locations. In order to unlock them you have to allow yourself to delve deep into the culture and you need someone who can show you everything from the inside, to tell you about that which is hidden. It is very interesting to learn about the world in this way but, it is important to not

lack of information available. Where to go, who can help, where to get horses etc. I want to make all the information, which I now have access to, available for all those who wish to do something similar. I hope that my experience can help others achieve something extraordinary. To go beyond, to unlock.

The most important

I want to unlock other cultures through communication. The culture and traditions of any people isn’t

be afraid of asking questions, to seek answers, to maintain constant conversations. I think this is even more important now when the whole world is locked. People begin to lock themselves and think only about themselves. But you can only unlock the world when you yourself are open to the world. In order to really see the world, you have to move slowly and in harmony with nature. This is why I travel on horseback. It’s a philosophy known as Harmonious Horsemanship. ♦



Interview with founder of Long Riders' Guild CuCullaine O'Reilly

CuChullaine O'Reilly is an investigative reporter who has documented and written about equestrian travel for more than thirty years.

After having made lengthy trips by horseback across Pakistan, he was made a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the Explorers' Club. O'Reilly founded the Long Riders' Guild, the world's first inter-national association of equestrian explorers. The organization has Members in more than forty countries, all of whom have made a qualifying equestrian journey of at least one thousand miles.

As Director of the Long Riders' Guild Press, he has preserved and published hundreds of the most important equestrian travel books of all time. He devoted six years to writing «The Encyclopaedia of Equestrian Exploration», the most comprehensive study of horse travel ever created. He was married to the recently deceased English Long Rider, Basha Cornwall-Legh, who rode her Cossack stallion, Count Pompeii, from Volgograd to London, becoming the only person in the twentieth century to ride out of Russia. Together they created the Long Riders' Guild website, the repository of the largest collection of equestrian travel information in human history.



– In terms of equestrian travel history, how important is Nikita's World Ride?

– Simple. Twelve men have walked on the Moon but no human has ever made a continuous equestrian journey around the Earth. That's why it is known as "The Last Great Journey."

– The Guild has supported or advised more than a hundred equestrian expeditions on every continent except

offered to Nikita Grets. Can you explain why you have spent more than two years helping him prepare for his "ocean to ocean" journey?

– I was motivated by two primary reasons; history and hate.

– Hate? What do you mean by that?

– My involvement with Nikita marks a radical rejection of my original upbringing.

the US government. It showed the mushroom shaped cloud of a nuclear bomb exploding. Then the film showed a small house similar to one my family lived in. That house was furnished like my home. Sitting at the dinner table were four mannequins representing a father, mother, small son and little daughter, just like my own family. The film showed the nuclear blast wave hitting the house. Then the house disappeared.

We children were taught

TWELVE MEN HAVE WALKED ON THE
MOON BUT NO HUMAN HAS EVER MADE
A CONTINUOUS EQUESTRIAN JOURNEY
AROUND THE EARTH.

Antarctica.

Yet no one has ever received the unprecedented amount of logistical, historical and political help that you have

I was eight-years-old in 1962 when a historical event changed my life. The students in my elementary school were shown a black and white film made by

to instantly respond when an emergency bell rang. We flung ourselves to the floor, crawled under our desks and curled up into little balls. This drill was

called "Duck and Cover." This procedure was designed to save us from the nuclear bombs that the adults in our world feared were going to be dropped on us by the USSR.

That fear was well founded because Khrushchev and Kennedy were playing nuclear warfare poker. And because my family lived in Florida, we were a short distance from the Soviet nuclear missiles that had been

resume eating salt, pepper and sugar. But the habit of not eating butter remained in place for the next 24 years, a reminder of how political hatred had burned itself so deeply into my life at such a young age.

Though the bombs did not fall, I was still living in a country that was infected with fear of communist infiltration. My childhood was filled with references to how our nation

– Were you convinced?

Not at first. It was Vladimir who changed my life forever.

– Who is he?

– Basha created the Long Riders' Guild website in 2001. One of the very first features was the section entitled "Missing in Action." Among those listed was a legendary Russian Long Rider named Vladimir Fissenko. In the late 1980s, Vladimir had spent

the equestrian travel books in the Long Riders Literary Project was presented to the Royal Geographical Society. Twenty-nine Long Riders flew in from five continents to witness this historic event. Though they were from different countries, practised different religions, and held different political goals, they shared one thing in common. Their mother tongue was "horse."

– You said you were also inspired to help Nikita because of history. Can you explain that?

– The modern Long Rider movement began in 1889 when Lieutenant Dmitri Peshkov rode a Yakut horse 5,000 miles from Albanzinski, Siberia, to Saint Petersburg. Soon afterwards Alexandra Kudasheva rode solo across Siberia and Russia – twice! That is why the Guild recognizes Siberia as the cradle of the Long Rider movement.

– Why is Nikita's journey important?

– There are two aspects to Nikita's journey, domestic and international.

It is not widely known that Yakutia is home to one of mankind's oldest continuing equestrian cultures. For

“ «DUCK AND COVER» PROCEDURE WAS
DESIGNED TO SAVE US FROM THE NUCLEAR
BOMBS THAT THE ADULTS IN OUR WORLD
FEARED WERE GOING TO BE DROPPED ON US
BY THE USSR.

installed in nearby Cuba.

It was sometime in October, 1962 when the fear of being bombed became so intense that the students in my school were sent home early. I remember my second-grade teacher was crying. Looking back upon that event from the distance of many decades I believe it was because she did not think she would ever see any of us again.

That night I sat at the table with my father, mother, and five-year-old sister. My parents were speaking in hushed tones about the paralyzing fear that everyone in the country felt. Remembering what had happened to the little house and its occupants in the film, I reasoned that the imminent nuclear attack would kill my family. I thought that if I sought safety under my bed that I would survive.

But as I looked at the dinner table, I instinctively knew that I would awake to a world that was forever altered. Food would be hard to find. And of course salt, pepper, sugar and butter would no longer exist. So without saying anything to my parents, I silently vowed to no longer eat those things.

Luckily the Cuban Missile Crisis did not start the nuclear war that everyone feared. And it didn't take long for me to forget my dietary resolution and

was under threat. Hollywood and Washington actively broadcast messages of fear, distrust and the need for blind loyalty. Although Americans were living in a time of peace and plenty, they were obsessed with a fear of imminent attack. That fear and a diet of decades of political poison made me deeply dislike anyone from Russia.

– Yet you changed your mind?

– Absolutely.

ALTHOUGH AMERICANS WERE LIVING IN A
TIME OF PEACE AND PLENTY, THEY WERE
OBSESSED WITH A FEAR OF IMMINENT
ATTACK. THAT FEAR AND A DIET OF DECADES
OF POLITICAL POISON MADE ME DEEPLY
DISLIKE ANYONE FROM RUSSIA.

– How did that happen?

In 2000 I began trying to establish contact with other Long Riders. Basha Cornwall-Legh was one of the first. When we first began to communicate, Basha recited a story which began to undermine all my previous beliefs. While riding across the Russian steppes in the company of a Cossack, that man had turned to her, and while smiling from the saddle said, "Isn't this extraordinary? I'm a communist and you're a capitalist but we're both just people!"

people" after all and we had a lot in common. After that I rejected the misleading information, the toxic nationalism and the tribal prejudices that I had been exposed to since birth.

– Did your change of heart influence equestrian travel?

– It led to the event which became the basis for the Guild's philosophy of harmonious horsemanship. To strengthen the Guild's commitment to equestrian exploration, in March 2005 a complete collection of

example, a 4000-year-old equine petroglyph provided the inspiration for Yakutia's national coin, so drawing attention to Siberia and inspiring others to ride in Russia is of great significance.

The journey is also vital because until very recently Russia was suffering from equestrian amnesia. It is true that Peshkov launched the modern Long Rider movement.

When Basha rode across Russia in 1995, many people remarked that it was the first time in their lives that they had ever



seen a woman riding a horse. So even though there is a lot of important Long Rider history in Russia, it happened a long time



ago, which means Nikita will be opening an important new chapter in modern horse travel.

– **How well trained is Nikita?**

– I have absolutely no doubt that this will be the most significant equestrian journey of the early 21st century. The trick is that without extremely careful planning it won't work. Thankfully Nikita is uniquely fit on many levels.

In addition to being a fluent



LONG RIDERS FLEW IN FROM FIVE CONTINENTS TO WITNESS THIS HISTORIC EVENT. THOUGH THEY WERE FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, PRACTISED DIFFERENT RELIGIONS, AND HELD DIFFERENT POLITICAL GOALS, THEY SHARED ONE THING IN COMMON. THEIR MOTHER TONGUE WAS «HORSE».

“

“

UNTIL VERY RECENTLY RUSSIA WAS SUFFERING FROM EQUESTRIAN AMNESIA.

Guild's history. For example, among the more than 500 emails we have exchanged, I composed a 30 page illustrated booklet that contained information about Russian horse history that it had taken me a lifetime to collect.

And other Long Riders have enlarged Nikita's equestrian wisdom, including New Zealand Long Rider Ian Robinson, who rode across a portion of Siberia and instructed Nikita about the challenges that lay ahead.

Plus Nikita's journey is part of an international equestrian alliance. He has the support of Gennadii Semin, President of the Russian Equestrian Federation and legendary Long Rider Jing Li, who carried the Guild flag

across Russia.

Finally, Nikita has read the three-volume "Encyclopaedia of Equestrian Exploration" and he didn't merely read the "Horse Travel Handbook," he translated it into Russian.

– **What about protecting the welfare of the horses?**

– It's a journey not a race. It's about exploring your own soul, not galloping towards a distant geographic goal. Only fools and horse-killers are anxious to be the first, the fastest, bravest, sexiest, etc.

Horse travel is never measured in terms of miles. It is always measured in terms of time. The distance Nikita's travels on a daily basis will be influenced by too many factors to list here. But he understands that he must keep the horses in tip top health – both physically and emotionally. This means progressing slowly so as to keep the expenditure of energy at a minimum, allowing them to graze as often as the terrain allows and permitting them time to take a rest from the rigors of the road. Nikita has learned that he has to view the horses not as a means of transportation but as very delicate balance of energy. His biological mission is to

“

«THE LONG QUIET» IS THE INTENSE SPIRITUAL CONNECTION THAT SOMETIMES HAPPENS BETWEEN HORSE, HUMAN AND NATURE.

arrive in London with perfectly healthy horses. He knows the old Long Rider saying, "He who rides slow, travels far."

– **There are obvious dangers such as Siberia's extreme cold but are there unexpected hazards awaiting Nikita?**

– Yes, his ego!

In one of his first emails, Nikita wrote to me to say, "The culture in which I was raised has very strong morals and foundations, one of which is that you are only worth as much as your word."

This was vitally important because the Long Riders' Guild is based upon trust and enforces a strict code of equestrian ethics.

DC Vision was one of the Founding Members of the Guild who made a 14,000 mile ride through the USA. At the first meeting of the Guild, DC famously said, «They either get it in ten miles or they never get it at all.»

What DC was referring to was how some Long Riders experience what is known as «The Long Quiet.» This is the intense spiritual connection that sometimes happens between horse, human and Nature.

The exact opposite of this are the individuals who injure their horses and deceive the public. During my years

“

NIKITA IS STRIVING TO BECOME A MOUNTED ARGONAUT WHOSE JOURNEY DEMONSTRATES THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF THE LONG RIDERS' GUILD. THAT IS WHY I ENTRUSTED HIM TO CARRY THE WORLD RIDE FLAG THAT I DESIGNED.

researching equestrian travel I have collected evidence of what I term "Equestrian Narcissistic Disorder" (END).

Narcissism is often associated with egoism, vanity, conceit, selfishness and an indifference to



the plight of others. The "others" in this case refers to the horses which are exploited, abused, starved or killed by merciless travellers or mounted criminals. There are many common traits found in the actions

exaggerate their achievements, brag persistently and emphasise any trace of danger or hardship. Because their personal goals take precedence over the horse's well being, they proceed recklessly. If a horse is injured,

of individuals who exhibit the presence of Equestrian Narcissistic Disorder. These include an excessive need for admiration and a tendency to be an exhibitionist. They commonly overestimate their abilities,

they are reluctant to halt the journey. They are often in a state of denial about the seriousness of setbacks, injuries or defeats. Even if the horse is killed or injured, they commonly refuse to express remorse or accept responsibility.

Having learned how to use the horse to secure the public's trust or to attract an audience, they use cunning to exploit others without regard for their feelings or interests. Their manipulative efforts thrive by continually enlisting the help of unsuspecting victims whom they meet as they ride across the country. Their desire for attention becomes addictive.

In stark contrast Nikita understands that his ego must never be allowed to jeopardize his journey. He is not trying to impress anyone by collecting mileage. He isn't trying to get rich by exploiting Siberia's equestrian heritage. Nikita is striving to become a mounted Argonaut whose journey demonstrates the international brotherhood of the Long Riders' Guild. That is why I entrusted him to carry the World Ride flag that I designed. ♦



THE LONG RIDERS' GUILD: CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE AND SPEAK FOR THE SILENT

PATH BEYOND THE HORIZON

The Long Riders' Guild: care for the vulnerable and speak for the silent

The Long Riders' Guild, founded by CuChullaine O'Reilly, has members in 48 countries across the world, who have completed expeditions on every continent except from Antarctica, began its history in 1994. In 1994, during the first meeting of the long riders, the guild's philosophy was formed. In contrast to the modern equestrian world, which focuses on competition, commerce and nationalism, the Guild is an equestrian brotherhood. The Guild's philosophy says: an equestrian journey has no political or religious borders, it the heritage of every nation.

The Guild doesn't turn a blind eye to abuse and cruelty, it supports the highest ethical standards in the equestrian world and promotes the

harmony between the rider and horse.

Education and enlightenment

For all this time the Guild has been engaged in education by searching for and publishing disappearing equestrian books. To this day, the LRG has collected the world's largest collection of equestrian exploration publications. The Long Riders' Guild Press

Charles Darwin and Oscar Wilde. In 2016 the LRG Press published the "Horse Travel Handbook" which contains all essential information for long riders. This book was the result of decades of research by CuChullaine O'Reilly and is a concise, comfortable to use book which covers all essential aspects with regards to planning and completing equestrian expeditions.

In 2008, the LRG Press

“

THE GUILD'S MISSION
IS TO CARE FOR THE
VULNERABLE AND SPEAK
FOR THE SILENT.

created a guide which contains information about hundreds of long riders from 1697 to 2002 and in 2006 released a catalogue of Long Riders, which included Sir Richard Burton, Lord Byron,

achieved the extraordinary, having started a battle with Amazon which was labelled "David vs Goliath". When Amazon attempted to install a global monopoly on the

international publishing business, the Guild led the transatlantic battle against the internet bookselling giant. At that time any publisher opposing the onslaught of Amazon was punished through the deletion of the "buy" button on their products. In such manner, one publisher had 70,000 books deleted. The Guild fought back by releasing an article titled "Protecting literary freedom" which helped organise a boycott of Amazon in Great Britain, published the manifest "Blood of Books" and supported the class action lawsuit filed by the publishing company BookLocker. And as a result, Amazon backed down and agreed to an out-of-court settlement!

In 2018, after 7 years of work, the LRG Press published the 3 volume Encyclopaedia of Equestrian Exploration. The first and second volumes were presented to the ruling monarch of Great Britain, Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II

“

LONG RIDERS SHOW COURAGE IN THE FACE OF DANGER, DETERMINATION IN THE FACE OF HARDSHIP, AND CONSTANT COMPASSION FOR THEIR HORSES



photo by: Johannes Plenio

and His Royal Highness Prince Charles, who made had a big impact on the creation of these books.

Fighting for humanism

The Long Riders' Guild has been fighting a desperate struggle for humane treatment of horses throughout the years of its existence. In 2002, after decades of in-field testing, the LRG approved of the use of the Canadian adjustable pack saddle. Long Riders informed, that this pack saddle fitted the minute Shetland pony as well as the giant Bactrian Camel. In 2005, the Guild discovered corporate fraud, wherein the company 3M where selling bath rugs which they advertised as saddle cushions. As a result, many horses suffered serious injuries. The guild launched a large-scale information program, contacted 3M corporate headquarters, and there they forced them to admit that the company knew that

horses had suffered as from the use of their "product" and to stop advertising their products inappropriately.

In 2009, the Guild launched a crusade against a company which offered adventure-seeking tourists to take part

sure that the race organizers provide veterinary care for the horses.

Charter of rights

In 2001 the LRG launched their website, which was dedicated to the protection,

history and interviews with equine scientists, professors, authors, researchers, activists, editors and artists.

In 2012, the Guild joined forces with the German VFD to encourage equestrian travel throughout Europe. The historic

“

THE LONG RIDERS GUILD IS A COMMUNITY
OF HONOUR, DEDICATED TO PROTECTING
HORSES FROM ABUSE, THE PUBLIC AND THE
MEDIA FROM DECEPTION

in the largest unauthorized endurance horse race for \$5000 each. Almost a thousand people, contrary to the international rules of endurance racing, were planning to participate in the race, using Mongolian horses, for a thousand kilometres. The health and safety of the horses was of no interest to the organizers. The guild, the long riders, equestrian researchers, writers, and the affiliated International Equestrian Federation, made

preservation and popularisation of the ancient art of equestrian travel. In 2007 the Long Riders' Guild Academic Foundation (LRGAF) was founded, a broad program, which included the study of history, archaeology, art, cultural studies, military sciences, everything which relates to the link between humans and horses. LRGAF publishes ground-breaking research documenting the equine health disaster in modern

"charter of rights" created by these two organizations demonstrates how people from different parts of Europe have moved beyond narrow definitions of "nationalism" and joined forces to protect humanity's precious equestrian heritage.

The Long Riders' Guild helps adventurers organize equestrian expeditions and protects them if they find themselves in difficult situations in regions with difficult political situations. ♦



Interview with famous traveller Ian Robinson

Ian Robinson was born in Cambridge, a small rural town in New Zealand. He began travelling when he was twenty with a six month backpacking trip around South America in 1988/89. In 1990 he travelled from Hong Kong to New Delhi by land taking six months to travel through China, Tibet, Nepal and India. After spending two years living and working in London he was one of the first western visitors to be granted a visa to travel to Mongolia in 1992.

Ian spent seven months in Mongolia, four months travelling across the country alone and on horseback. His award winning book *Gantsara*, alone across Mongolia, was published later. In 2002 he set off on another horseback journey, this time in Tibet. His goal was to reach the holy Mount Kailas in the far west of Tibet.

However, half way across he was arrested by Chinese authorities for travelling without a permit, he escaped three times but was eventually expelled from the country. In 2004 he returned and continued his solo ride and was able to reach the sacred mountain. Ian published a book of this journey; *You Must Die Once*, in 2005.

In 2008 Ian spent three months in war ravaged Afghanistan. He made another horse trek into the remote Wakkan Corridor in the north-east of the country. His



book *Tea with the Taliban* is also an award winning title.

In 2016 Ian made his first trip to Siberia visiting the Sakha Republic. He spent five weeks travelling alone through the taiga starting and returning to the village of Tomtor. This was by far Ian's toughest journey. Encounters with bears, lack of food, extreme cold and isolation were all serious threats to his safety and sanity.

Ian Robinson now lives in Japan where he teaches English and runs his own hiking tour company Kansai

Trails; www.kansaitrails.com
In summer he leads horse trekking tours in Mongolia, and also lead an exploratory tour in Yakutia in 2018, with Zavkhan Trekking www.zavkhan.com

In his free time Ian hikes and travels in Japan, he recently completed a 1200km walking pilgrimage of Japan's Shikoku Island, known as the 88 Temples henro route.

For more information and to read Ian's many articles published in magazines and newspapers visit his website: www.theedgeofthemap.net

– You have completed at least 4 grand journeys - in Afghanistan, Mongolia, Tibet and Yakutia. What moves you? How is the decision to undertake such a journey created within you?

– Once I get an idea to do something it is very hard for me to let it go, so in a way it's not me that makes the decision to go, it's the idea that tells me to go. When I am old, and too old to travel like this, I want to be able to look back without regret and say that I did all of the things I dreamed of doing, or as many as was possible. I have a fear of regretting things I didn't do, this motivates me.

– Why do you travel solo, instead of composing a team of like-minded people?

– Because I can't find any like-minded people! When I have a plan like this it is a very definite plan of what I want to do and how I want to do it. I don't think I could find someone with exactly the same ideas as me and so this would likely lead to conflict on the journey. In a way this kind of travel is a very personal matter for me and I want to do it alone. Also I think the experience of being alone in the wilderness is far greater and more rewarding than with others, you are completely reliant on yourself, no one is there to help you or support you.

– Overall, is isolation a good thing for you? What is your relationship with isolation?

– Yes, I feel periods of solitude and isolation are very beneficial, personally they are essential for me. And this means complete isolation without a phone or communication device. I didn't carry a SAT phone in Yakutia, this might have been a mistake and could have been very dangerous, but this is the type of isolation I want to experience, it is rare to have this kind of experience in the modern age.

– Are people of interest to you? Or are you more interested in understanding yourself and what you are capable of?

– Definitely meeting the local people is of great interest to me. It is a major part of any journey I undertake, by meeting local people I have learned so much from them and perhaps come to know myself better. Especially in places like Mongolia, Siberia I have met people with incredible knowledge of their environment, of horses, of nature. Interacting with the people of a region is equally important as testing myself.

– Do you have fears before a journey? Are they justified and if so to what extent?

Have you encountered that which you were not prepared for?

– Yes, I always have fear before a journey, I often ask myself 'are you going to come



back?'. Going to Afghanistan in 2008 is a good example, anything could have happened to me and I think no one would have been surprised if I hadn't come back. In Yakutia too, I went into the taiga alone, the weather was bad, I met bears, anything could have happened to me. The fears are always justified but they don't stop me from going, the dangers need to be taken into account and prepared for as best as I can, but they are obstacles to be overcome, not to run away from. There are so many things that can happen that I can't prepare for everything, but by being as well prepared as I can be then when something unexpected happens I am in a better situation to deal with it. In Yakutia I expected to meet more people, like reindeer herders, in the taiga, but I went for many days and didn't meet anyone and so ran out of food. I may go to extreme places but when I am there I am never reckless, I am very careful what I do and don't take unnecessary risks.

– What did you learn about yourself travelling across unknown places?

– I have learnt that anyone, not only me, can do whatever they wish as long as they try and do it. There is nothing special about me, I'm sure of that, anyone can do the things I've done, but they must really want to do it, that is the only difference between myself and

someone else. I have learnt my physical and emotional limits, I have learned my weaknesses and faults, many of these things can only be learned in extreme situations.

– How do you feel about the fact that you set an example for others, which motivates them to undertake dangerous and hard journeys?

If I inspire others to travel like this that is great! But I warn them that they must be prepared as best they can, not to take any danger lightly, to listen to the advice of local people and other travellers. And to prepare might take many, many years. For example, my journey in Yakutia was only possible because of the knowledge and experience I have built up in twenty years of horseback travel, without making the earlier journeys in Mongolia, Tibet, Afghanistan, I wouldn't have had the skills necessary for surviving in the taiga. If my ride in Siberia had been my first journey it would have been a failure, I would have either given up after a few days or died.

– Could you please describe what for you a "real man" is? Which qualities should he have?

A real man can do ANYTHING!!!! He can fight, drink, ride a horse, make a fire, defend his family, fix a truck. But, he can also cook dinner, clean the house, look after a baby, comfort his wife when she

needs it, wash his own clothes, show emotion and be caring of others, talk about his feelings, he is not afraid to cry in front of others when he is sad, this is a REAL man!

– Do you dream of any future journeys? Where and why? If it's not a secret.

Yes, I really want to come back to Yakutia in the future, this place and its people have captured my soul! My plan is to ride again in the Moma Mountains, I was hoping to come this year but of course the situation globally is very difficult, but I am still hoping to come in 2022 or 2023. Again I want to experience the remoteness and the isolation, Siberia is the perfect place for this. I would also love to meet and spend time with reindeer herders, if I can find them!

– Have you ever thought about how you want to die?

– I want to die peacefully, like everyone wants! I don't want to be killed by a bear or freeze to death.

I used to think it would be good to die on one of my journeys doing what I love best, but in Siberia this became a real possibility and I realised it wouldn't be a nice way to go, I want to say goodbye to my family, I want them to know what happened to me. But I guess we don't get to make the choice, so let's live our lives as best we can every day! ♦



Folklore Festival: «Ergav» - intangible heritage

The XXV anniversary of the district folk festival «Ergav-2021» will be held in the city of Anadyr from the 6th to the 12th September 2021. The festival was founded by the Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug.

The Ergav Festival has been held in the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug since 1990. Its goal is to preserve, develop and popularize the traditional intangible heritage of the indigenous ethnic minorities of Chukotka. The name of the festival «Ergav» comes from

the Chukchi verb «ergavyk» (to compete), in approximate translation into Russian it means «the spirit of competition, sports fervour» and embodies the idea of competition in everything: in the art of dancing, singing, playing the tambourine (Chukchi yarar, Eskimo sayak/saguyake), decorative and applied arts and in other areas.

«Ergav» is one of the oldest events in the region, which has accumulated all the traditions of the indigenous ethnic minorities of Chukotka: song and dance art, folk art crafts, national cuisine, national sports, a large competitive program, creative laboratories, master classes and a folklore and ethnographic expedition at home.

It is a bright show, which is attended by folklore groups, experts in the culture and languages of the peoples of Chukotka, and masters from all over the region.

Golden Crow Film Festival: Arctic Cultural Space

The Arctic International Film Festival «Golden Crow» will be held in the city of Anadyr from the 13th to 26th September 2021. «Golden Crow» has been held in the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug since 2017. Its organizers are the Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism of the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug, the Union of Cinematographers of Russia,

the Production Centre «Youth Initiatives» and the autonomous institution of the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug for film and video rental, and film services «Okrkinovideoprospekt».

The film festival is aimed not only at improving the level of comfortable life in Chukotka, but also at strengthening cultural cooperation between the countries of the Arctic region and the development of film production. The Golden Crow is one of the largest film festivals held in the Far North of Russia. Its participants are filmmakers from Russia, the United States, Canada, Sweden, Denmark, Greenland, Norway, Finland, Germany and other countries. Film screenings are

visited annually by several thousand viewers. creative evenings of outstanding Russian and foreign filmmakers, sports events, master classes. Creative screenings with discussion, laboratory of documentary business meetings, creative and Popular science cinema «laboratories, round tables, Chukotka. DOC « is held under





the guidance of professional filmmakers, whose main task is to support talented residents of the Far North in the realization of their personal creative potential.

The results of the film reviews, numerous reviews from the audience and the professional film community indicate that the Golden Crow has an important social and educational significance for both the youth of the district and the adult population. The materials of the film festival are sent to the municipal districts of Chukotka, and there film screenings of films from the competition program «Echo of the Film Festival» are held at various venues.

This film project is important for the territory of Chukotka, it goes beyond film screenings and becomes a symbol of the unity of Chukotka with the international Arctic cultural space.

Dog Sled Race: «Nadezhda» (Hope): «Formula-1» Chukotka

For the indigenous people of Chukotka, the «Nadezhda» (Hope) dog sled race is as important an event as Formula 1 is for European racing drivers. The races are held in winter, but the dog drivers – the kayurs – prepare for them all year round.

The first race was held in the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug in 1991. Since then, the kayurs have been competing in speed on working sleds harnessed to traditional Chukchi sleds. The «Nadezhda» does not have a clearly fixed route with a fixed length. The route is different every year – its length depends on the weather conditions and the amount of snow. The average length of the route is 529 km.

The traditional multi-day Arctic dog sled race «Nadezhda» is held annually along the entire eastern coast of Chukotka. Back in 1991, the race had the longest route, crossing the Bering Strait

and connecting two continents and two countries: Eurasia and North America, Russia and the United States. Later, the route was laid only in Chukotka, changing from year to year, holding a competition on the northern, then on the southern outline of the peninsula.

In Chukotka, it is customary to meet and accompany kayurs during the race with dances, competitions in national sports and tea parties with traditional pastries. Thus, the organizers of the races, the regional authorities, are trying to «involve the residents of Chukotka in the process of preserving and developing folk traditions.»

«Beringia» Regatta: Leather kayak race

Every summer, the picturesque bays of the Chukchi Peninsula welcome guests and participants of the race on traditional leather boats. «Beringia» passes alternately in the Tkachen Bay of the village of Novoe Chaplino, then in the Bay of Lavrentia on the shore of the village of Lavrentia, then in the water area of the village of Lorino. The race attracts participants from the nearest villages, as well as guests of the capital and Chukotka.

«Beringia» is a celebration of sports, national food and competitions, a meeting of relatives and friends. Each guest tries boiled whale and walrus meat and whale skin, washes down Chukchi kav-kava buns with hot fire tea, and treats himself to the popular dried whale meat — one day isn't enough to try all the dishes!

Traditional sports are associated with the marine St. John's wort (marine St. John's wort is the hunting of seals, walruses and whales) fishing of coastal Chukchi. At sea, whale's are harpooned – and now there is a competition for throwing a harpoon for range and accuracy. Spring hunting for seals, akiba and bearded seals, this requires the skill of using a zakidushka (a zakidushka is a

type of fishing equipment), and here on the «Beringia» in the river there is a competition for throwing a zakidushka around a stuffed seal. Spectacular teykev wrestling attracts guests to the ring — bare-chested men participate in competitions (regardless of the weather and time of year).

The most spectacular and sportive part of Beringia is the race. There are 6-7 kayaks at the start - the «crew» consists of seven people: six on the oars, one at the helm. The helmsman knows the secrets of victory and sets the pace in Chukchi: «to-ok, to-ok». «To-ok» means «together.» In addition to the regatta, this exclamation is heard when the hunters lift or pull something heavy - either a whale out of the water or a boat. The men's kayaking distance is ten kilometres, and the women's is five. The spectators on the shore hear the powerful and loud «to-ok» of the rowers and wait to see who will be the leader of the race.

Chukchi and Eskimo national groups perform and compete in the following categories: best tribal dance, legend dance, comic dance. Chaplinsky, Lorinsky, Uelensky and Anadyrsky collectives perform songs and dances as soon as the

kayaks disappear from sight. The most popular dance in Chukotka is the freestyle dance. It is performed by ensembles that open and close the festival. This is a unifying dance – the guests dance together with the ensemble.

In Chukotka, the word «Beringia» is associated with a kayak - a leather Chukchi-Eskimo boat, which consists of a wooden frame with six benches for rowers, covered with walrus skin. The skin is changed once every two years. In July, sea hunters surf the Bering Sea in search of female walruses — there are no cuts on their skin. The skin is removed, the excess fat is cut off, laid for 3 weeks in a special solution and stretched on the frame. The dried skin is painted with oil paint to increase the speed of the kayak and recognition at competitions.

The first Chukotka-Eskimo kayak regatta «Beringia» was held in July 1992 in the village of Uelen, Chukotka district, in order to preserve the traditional way of life of the Chukotka peoples and the skills of building an ancient Chukotka-Eskimo vessel. In 2017, for the first time, kayaking competitions were held between families. ♦



The coronavirus infection is gradually receding and our country is returning to its usual life. It is not an exaggeration to say that most of all we were waiting for the lifting of travel restrictions. Perhaps it was only during the lockdown period that we truly realised what a pleasure it is to travel, to go to a neighbouring city or to fly to another country... the choice is ours! Yuri Luppov, Main Editor of the magazine «Russia PRO», spoke with Olga Viktorovna Khotochkina, director of the tourist exhibition «Intourmarket», about how the tourism industry lives today and how to develop domestic tourism

– Olga Viktorovna, our magazine «Russia PRO» is about those who change the world, about those who dare to attempt the impossible. When I was preparing for our meeting, I found that your biography is very interesting and rich. It «intersects» with my project. I like stories where people turn on some kind of «toggle switch» inside, they change their lives and start doing things that they have never done before. Surprisingly, they do these things much better than what they did before! But the question always arises: why is the “toggle switch” switched on? How did you, a well-established music teacher, come to the tourist scene?

– In the late nineties, it was very difficult to live on the salary of a music teacher, despite working two jobs. However, I also had a diploma from MGIMO and I had studied the Finnish language. During my studying, I did an internship and lived in Finland for a while. I sincerely planned to work in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to be a cultural attache, connecting my two educations into one great future. But it did not work out and so I began to

look for other opportunities.

– So it was an impulse?

– Completely. On that day, I was going to an interview at the Russian Centre for International Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, under the leadership of Valentina Tereshkova. Quite by chance, passing by the office of the tourist company «Neva», I decided to go in to ask if they have any vacancies? I just can't explain it rationally. Well, besides the fact that at that time «Neva»

was the undisputed leader in the Scandinavian line of tourism and, probably, I realised that it was close to my heart. It is worth noting that back then tourism to the Scandinavian countries was not popular in Russia, and when I saw a company which specialised in the Nordic countries for many years, something «attracted» me to go and ask: maybe, I can try myself here?

I do not just love these countries – the MGIMO training presented the opportunity to

know history, economy, culture and politics. After the interview, I was immediately offered a job. I never did make it to the Tereshkova Foundation... And since that wonderful day, I have been in tourism! This was 1998.

– How did it happen that you became the head of the largest domestic tourist event?

– I worked for eight wonderful years in «Neva», everything was good, especially considering nothing

INFO:

OLGA VIKTOROVNA KHOTOCHKINA

Born in Moscow, she graduated from the Moscow Music and Pedagogical Institute, name of Ippolitov-Ivanov, (Department of Choral Conducting) and MGIMO (Department of International Relations).

From 1987 to 1998 – music teacher. From 1998 to 2006 – Manager, then Head of the Scandinavian Department in Moscow, CJSC «Firm NEVA».

From 2006 to the present,

a leading specialist in international exhibitions of Expotur LLC, then Executive Director and director of the «Intourmarket» exhibition.

Since 2014, member of the Expert Council of the National Award in the field of Event Tourism Russian Event Awards.

Mother of six children.



foreshadowed any global crises. But at some point, there was a need for qualitative changes, and within the company they were impossible – there was a fairly strict personnel hierarchy. My former manager, having moved to work in Rostourism, invited me to work there in relation to the organization of the Russian stand at foreign exhibitions.

The goal was to increase the incoming flow of tourists,

during those times, to develop and promote domestic tourism.

During the preparation of the first exhibition, I was invited to help with some technical issues, and a new world opened up for me. Consider me an idealist, a patriot... But I have forever fallen in love with Russian tourism and the amazing people who work in it. Two years later, I became the director of the exhibition, and this year it will be held for the sixteenth time.

in my life? Everything I had been doing before was gone. Music became not needed, tourism was no longer needed, event management was no longer needed. I started asking myself questions: what else could I do for humanity? And I realized that this is ecology. This is my third “passion” – all these separate garbage collections, bottle caps, waste paper, «green» technologies. In principle, I cannot calmly pass by any injustice to nature, to the environment, and it all began, by the way, in school with the «green patrol»!

I closely follow the projects of my classmates who are engaged in ecology, some at the federal level. For example, I can mention the project at the Kuchino landfill, where, after its closure, a unique ecopark and recreation area are now being created.

One of the leaders of this project is my classmate from MGIMO. I watch all this struggle, first for the closure of the landfill, then for the park in its place, and I wonder, maybe my place is there? Where people like me, «tanks», are

needed – people who care about the conditions in which our children and grandchildren will live, who believe in what they are doing, who will not stop in the presence of difficulties. I sincerely believe that I will be able to bring real benefits to the country. Most likely, if I decide to leave the exhibition work, it will be only to go to the environment.

– Olga Viktorovna, please tell us, how do you «manage» in the men's world?

– Unfortunately, I must admit that I am hardly a fragile girl. Log houses, horses, children – it's all ours! (russian joke)

– To be honest, I thought there was a typo on the internet, that you have 6 children?

– Why?

– Because I couldn't believe that with this amount of work, you can be a mother of six children!

Sometimes I don't believe it myself. But seriously, I think that we are using our time very inefficiently. In my youth, when I had to study at two universities and work, I learned to sleep for an hour a day. It works perfectly fine if you are conscious about it. I still use it quite often, especially during the preparation for events. During the eight hours that humanity is used to spending in a horizontal position, a lot of things can be done in life! And this is not because I am a careerist, but because I am interested in living. Therefore, if I sleep two or three hours a day, instead of eight, then these six hours are used for some creative purposes –

“ WHEN YOU WORK IN TOURISM, YOU KNOW HOW TO DO EVERYTHING.

to show Russia in a completely different way. Free from the established stereotypes of «matryoshka», «vodka», «Kalashnikov» and «caviar».

To show that Russia is something beautiful, great, interesting, that we have theatres, history, nature, cruises... An interesting task, to be sure. I liked to correspond with foreign partners and developers, form delegations to exhibitions, organize communication at the stand – when you work in tourism, you know how to do everything. The company where I work became a co-organizer of the exhibition «Intourmarket», which set itself a completely unrealistic task,

– You told us about the desire to improve – so what will happen next? What «growth points» are you planning for yourself now? In what direction do you plan to move?

– The year was difficult. And the pandemic in general has called into question further steps for self-improvement in the profession. When everything was closed, I began to think – what else could I do

“ IN PRINCIPLE, I CANNOT CALMLY PASS BY ANY INJUSTICE TO NATURE, TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

for children, for homelife, for work.

– And how do your family perceive your exuberant energy?

With sympathy and understanding. At first, the children were very jealous of my work, because it is impossible to explain why the whole country is entitled to their mother's time... I quite consciously, from a very young age, brought the children to the exhibition. Because when you see everything with your own eyes, jealousy disappears. There is pride, there is ownership, and today three of my children are working with me at events. I believe that this is normal – the cause unites us, it becomes our cause.

– What results do you expect from the upcoming «Intourmarket»?

Last year, «Intourmarket» was the last tourist exhibition

“

TOURISM IS IN THE ECONOMY OF IMPRESSIONS: SPIRITUAL, GASTRONOMIC, COGNITIVE.

in the world, which was held in an offline format. This year, the forum will be held from April 1st to 3rd at the Expocentre. For me, it is important that the exhibition is growing qualitatively.

The exhibitors practically do not use white standard stands, all are exhibited with a large semantic load, with a soul, with well-developed content. It is very important that domestic tourism turns into an economy of impressions, especially a variety of impressions: spiritual, gastronomic, cognitive.

And the fact that most of the participants of the exhibition have an understanding that it is necessary to approach their potential guests with this measure – I am very impressed with this approach.

– What business program have you planned for the exhibition?

The educational and business program has always been our separate «speciality», we cover the most relevant topics, by the way, with full halls. But I want to note that almost every program is made not only for travel industry professionals – they are universal, humanitarian. That is, if we are talking about children's tourism, it concerns us not only as professionals, but also as parents. The same is true if we talk about tourism of the «silver age». If we are talking about the category «Museums» - here is the same joining of interests. After all, the museum is not only a tourist object, it is also an event that is «associated» to it and many times a year, it is also the production of

– And do you expect that the experience of such a «non-standard» approach will become «contagious»?

I believe that even if you borrow an idea, it will still, after passing through you and your experience, sprout completely different shoots. We will get a great new example, without wasting time on the

souvenirs, and the appearance of places of accommodation for tourists. Previously, security in the museum, proper promotion were discussed – very utilitarian topics. And now we look at the museum as a whole range of different opportunities for the growth and development of the local community and territory. The exhibition will feature samples of such non-standard approaches.

– And do you expect that the experience of such a «non-standard» approach will become «contagious»?

I believe that even if you borrow an idea, it will still, after passing through you and your experience, sprout completely different shoots. We will get a great new example, without wasting time on the

«invention of the bicycle». We look at the vector of someone else's thought and accelerate the development of our project. This is also why you need to come to exhibitions, meet, listen, communicate, debate, watch, «plant» these ideas in yourself, take them home and bring them to the local community.

– Speaking about the development of tourism in the regions, you said that you need to go everywhere, show yourself, see what others are doing, learn from their experience, share your experience. What should the regions focus on, what should be put at the forefront in order to give the necessary impetus?

You know, it is very difficult to fight the stereotypes «we have nothing to see, so tourists will not come to us». Sometimes it seems that they are simply invincible. But in my opinion, the main thing that regions lack is hospitality, that is, the ability to work with a guest.

For a long time, work was perceived as something not so necessary, they were not used to straining, they did not want to «serve». Unfortunately, in some regions we still see a similar attitude. The reluctance to ask what the guest would like, what can be useful to them. In my opinion, these are questions that should be asked by a person who respects their place of work and respects the guest, who brought them the money, who invests in you and your region. You need to understand that the well-being of the place you live in and your own well-being will only depend on how hospitable you are. The attraction of the city and the republic to tourists is not measured only by the



number of physical attractions.

Tourism is an atmosphere that we create together - an atmosphere of hospitality and goodwill, love and pride for our city, our republic. The lack of understanding that hospitality has multiple components, remains a state of mind, which consequently reduces everything only to the digitalization of tourism – this is the wrong way. A person needs a kind word. A person needs a person who smiles and strives to make the guest feel good, and has a sincere interest in their work.

– Why is this not always the case with us?

– It's a mentality that you have to work with. But this is being worked on, and there was a great example of this in Kazan during the preparation for the Universiade. When the competition was about five years away, the tourism situation there was no better or worse than in the whole country. The code of hospitality of the residents of the Republic of Tatarstan was developed, which consisted of only ten simple points – love the

place where you live, if you see a person with a map-offer your help, always smile. These are, at first glance, such trifle things.

But it was important not only to develop this code. The most important thing happened when this code was implemented at the national level in the education system, starting with nurseries. A year later, the magic happened! At that time, various gadgets were not so common, so when you stopped with a map in your hands to get your bearings, people rushed to you with the question - where are you going and how can I help? And the next step was: «Yes, your map is outdated. I'll walk you there myself.» The result is the same WOW-effect, for which people now come to Tatarstan!

Because they get a culture of hospitality there that they don't see anywhere else. But this is a fundamental change in the mentality of people. Only when we change our attitude towards the guests, then the guests will come to us. And only so. Just building the infrastructure is not enough! This is exactly what I think is missing in absolutely all regions for further

development, for tourism to sparkle with new colours.

– In an interview in 2016, you said that the regions need to learn how to promote themselves. It's been five years, has anything changed? How do the regions promote themselves today? What examples of promotion could you mention?

– The promotion practices, or rather the tools, have taken a cosmic step in five years: Big DATA does not sleep, social networks have become commonplace. And what was then a rarity is now the normality of life. I am glad that the regions have begun to understand that by using the industry of impressions, we are stimulating the effect of «word of mouth». This is a completely banal thing that worked 100 years ago, and it still works now. Here is a simple example. I am the chairman of the expert council of the award for event tourism.

And here is what is surprising: for the second year in a row, the Sverdlovsk Region is awarded the victory in the rating of regional activity. Will we say that this line of tourism is the best? Probably not. And why such success? In the region, indeed, there is a



“

THE INABILITY AND UNWILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH A GUEST – THIS IS THE MENTALITY WITH WHICH YOU NEED TO WORK. BUT IT'S FIXABLE.

whole scattering of interesting events and attractive things, and people there are very much rooting for their cause. They understand that any interesting event is a magnet for tourists. This changes the situation in a city or village where a festival or concert takes place – jobs are created, a road is laid, public catering starts working, and so on. The measures entail infrastructural and human changes, and we have such a multiplicative result.

– **IT in the field of tourism: what can we expect in the foreseeable future?**

– IT technologies have confidently stepped into tourism, and it is impossible to ignore them. I don't really like the idea of getting services in a «single window» format. But there are certainly some interesting approaches. For example, one large travel company creates a marketplace of impressions. What is this? This is when there are a lot of package products that can probably be sold in a more or less understandable, familiar way. But since people are all different, even in the same



“ «WORD OF MOUTH» IS A BANAL THING THAT WORKED 100 YEARS AGO, AND IT STILL WORKS NOW.

family that came on holiday... dad wants to go fishing, mum wants to go to a museum, and the child wants to go to the zoo.

And here this marketplace of impressions starts working. They work with the client according to their hobbies, offering them a range of opportunities in this location. This is a very time-consuming job, because you need not only to find the masters of impressions (the best fisherman, the most approachable guide, etc.) on the ground, but also to test them in their work, to make contracts with all. I understand that such projects are the future, when you can not only take a ready-made box, but also choose a «bow» for it at your discretion.

– **Can I ask you about your dreams? How do you see the exhibition of your dreams? What will it look like?**

– Now such forecasts are given for tourism, that, unfortunately, we have to dream

within the specified limits. But the way we are now talking about domestic tourism – what is happening now seemed fantastic and something unrealizable some five years ago. And fifteen years ago, everyone who heard about domestic tourism, twirled a finger at their temple with the words: «Traveling in Russia sucks, it's for losers. We have nothing to show. We are so bad that you cannot bring tourists. Don't scare people!» That was the talk back then. And I had to convince people again and again that you need to come to exhibitions, even if you have nothing to show, you need to look at what others have, learn, transfer the best ideas to your territories – in general, we are not looking for easy ways.

– **That is, you are also engaged in a kind of educational activity?**

– Participation in exhibitions is very important for rebooting. These professional meetings of ours are every six months at

exhibitions - they are important, not so much to exhibit, but to make an update of their projects and “clean up» the «dirty» eye. So that you can turn the page and go on, imbued with new energies. For me, the fulfilment of a dream, one that I have been striving towards for a long time, is that we now have a situation of a serious, conscious attitude of the state to tourism as a branch of the economy. I am also happy that there are many caring people who are so involved in the promotion of their regions that even the pandemic did not stop them – there is a qualitative growth, and it will continue – this is absolutely certain.

– **Imagine: today again, all the borders have opened – where will you go?**

– To be honest, I do not suffer from the fact that the borders are closed. My best vacation, in which I recuperate – kayaking trips in the company of good friends. I have been walking by myself since I was a child,

and now my children join my travels. Over the past seven years, we have travelled all of the protected rivers of the Kirov region. If we are talking about foreign places where I feel good, then this is Latvia and Finland. For me, these countries have always been a magnet. Probably because I live too fast and vividly, and I find in them spiritual relaxation and a sense of slowing down. The Baltic Sea is generally my separate love.

Kaliningrad, of course, saves me a little. But it exists, after all, according to the «European time», but Latvia and Finland are two countries in which I really feel organically good. I'm a regular guest there. Therefore, as soon as the borders are opened, I will go to one of these countries – to bring the internal state into balance.

– **«Russia PRO» is preparing for a large expedition, the first stage of which will be an equestrian journey through the whole of Eurasia. Would you like to wish something to the ideologist of this project, Nikita Gretsî?**

– I really like this project, because despite the fact that Nikita and I are from different generations, we think and look in the «same direction» ... I wish that everything works out for him. That the horses don't let him down. And that he doesn't get intimidated by our realities. Of course, based on the fact that Nikita grew up in a Russian environment, he has some understanding about Russia. I would very much hope that he avoids being disappointed in people. After all, there is a certain perfectionism, when we talk about the mysterious Russian soul, everyone imagines something different. That it does not turn out that he drew in his imagination, something unachievable, and we took and broke into pieces his best dreams... I would very much like our people, with whom Nikita will meet, not to let us down...



THE VALUES OF TATARSTAN'S HOSPITALITY

1. Be ready to help

I will gladly help a tourist find a street or house they are looking for. I know and love my city, my republic. I too could get lost in a different city and would be glad if someone would equally help me.

2. Look around you and take an interest in what is happening

I live with my head held high. I am interested in everything that happens in my native city, in my republic. I am sure that this will also be interesting to tourists.

3. Always smile

I am happy. I live in one of the most beautiful republics of Russia. I want to be surrounded by happy people. I am ready to smile first.

4. Be polite

I am a cultured person.

I respect myself therefore I respect those around me. I love my language and honour the traditions. They mean a lot to me. They allow me to become better. I want everyone in the republic to have a better life therefore, I begin with myself.

5. . Take care of the city

It is pleasant for me to walk in a clean city. Tatarstan is my home. I love welcoming guests with a clean soul in a clean house.

6. Believe in the best

Life has a purpose only when I am in a good place. I can create an atmosphere of happiness around myself. I believe that anyone can. There are a lot of us. We will make our republic better.

7. Share and empathise

I help my friends and those that I am not well acquainted with because I too could find

myself in a difficult situation. But, more frequently I share happiness with those around me. Because I want to live in the happiest republic.

8. Develop and aim for something new

I am always moving forwards. I can be better. Everyone can be better. Together, we are the best republic.

9. Be yourself

Our world is unique. My country is unlike any other. My republic is original and admirable. I live in this republic. Without me it would be different. I give it individuality.

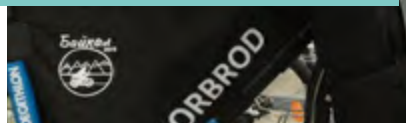
10. Love

I love Tatarstan, because I am Tatarstan!

Cycling across the Baikal with “fixed gear”

On the 19th March, 24 year old extreme-sportsman Irakli Udzilauri from Tver began his journey cycling on top of the frozen lake Baikal. He plans to travel 550km in 10 days. Prior to this, nobody had cycled across the frozen lake Baikal using the fixed gear bicycle, which is not intended for adventure but exclusively for the track.

Irakli studied at the Academy of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Russia as a rescuer, his prior achievements include: summiting Elbrus, ultramarathons, cycling treks and hitchhiking, in 2019 he ran 105 km in 14 hours 48 minutes, in 2020 he cycled 540 km from St. Petersburg to Tver in 49 hours on a track bike.



Expedition missing in action

On the 3rd of July 2019, Sergey Golubev, a 62-year old resident of Krasnoyarsk, went on an expedition with his Jagdterrier named Yankee, intending to reach the Severnaya Zemlya archipelago. It had been a long standing dream of his but on several occasions, he was unable to fulfil it as obstacles would get in the way. For example, in 2013, he was unable to traverse the Arctic because of the ice of the Kara Sea, only 200 km remained between him and his cherished goal. This time Golubev wanted to go by boat along the Yenisei, go out to the Kara Sea and ultimately reach the Arctic.

Sergey is a famous adventurer in the region. Almost every year he sails the Kara Sea, he has made many solo expeditions to

the North from which he made many discoveries. He handed his findings over to the Museum of Geology of Central Siberia.

In his last expedition, Sergey went via a motor powered boat from Dudinka to Dikson. On the 19th July he was in Dikson and on the 23rd of July, he left Dikson and headed east along the Kara Sea. Covering 325 km in just over two days, he passed the polar station of the Joint Arctic Navigation Detachment of the Control and Correction Station (hydrographic enterprise), 7 km east of the Sterligov polar station, and continued eastwards. The last person to see him was the head of the station at Cape Sterligova, Valery Shuvaev. According to him, Sergey « arrived at the station on July 25 very tired.»

Since then, there has been no news from the adventurer...



From Moscow to Magadan on trains

At the end of last year, journalist Alexey Pokrovsky travelled by train from Moscow to Magadan in three weeks, covering 10,000 km. The national rail part of the route ended in Nizhny Bestyakh on the river Lena – this distance was covered by Alexey on 27 inner-city trains and three national rail trains. Then from the Yakutsk area he hitchhiked to the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk along the famous Kolyma Highway. From Alexey's travel notes: «The Kolyma highway is a road through an area that is absolutely hostile to humans. I don't know about the summer, but in the winter this is definitely true. Getting out of



the car is like going into outer space. 10 minutes, and you start to turn into ice... I think that now, this is probably one of the most powerful impressions in my life. White silence. There is an area 500 km along the road, where there is absolutely no one and nothing.» One of the most attractive aspects of travel for

Alexey is meeting and talking to new people. Among those he met were people of «outlandish» professions – for example, a “shishkoboy” – someone who collects the nuts from the cedar pine cone; a gold miner, and one woman was taking a raccoon home from Novosibirsk to Krasnoyarsk.



On the Yenisei in off-road vehicles

In March last year, adventurer, researcher and blogger Sergey Saiman and his team drove off-road vehicles for a month and a half across the ice to Dikson and back. From Novy Urengoy, the expedition left in three cars, only two of the vehicles with five crew members reached Dudinka as one of the cars faced problems and had to return. The weather greatly complicated their movement – blizzards with sleet,

heavy wind and the temperature in the afternoon rose above zero which meant there was no hard layer of snow for them to travel on top of during their journey. Consequently, the cars often fell through and had to be pulled out with the help of winches. The last section from Baikalsk to Dikson the adventurers travelled on the ice of the Yenisei.

Sergey also made a film about the life of people in the North which contains many interesting stories and interviews with the residents.



Circumnavigation stalled in Brazil

The yacht, Wind Dancer, was heading from Argentina to South Africa, but due to the closure of the borders, the crew under the leadership of the captain, businessman Vladimir Sharlaev, known for expeditions to the Antarctic, and adventurers from Moscow Yana Lebedikhina (English teacher) and Sergey Leka (extreme adventurer) could not get to the coast of Africa. They had to spend 40 days in the open ocean until the ship reached the port of Itajai in the state of Santa Catarina, Brazil, where the crew was allowed to disembark, but not further than the port.

Yana and Sergey departed on their journey from Moscow in June 2018. They hitchhiked and used a barge to get to Chukotka. From there, in order to reach Alaska, the Muscovites navigated across the Bering Strait on a homemade catamaran. For a year and a half, they hitchhiked across North and South America, and became the first tourists to visit the Darien Gap controlled by the militants and drug mafia,

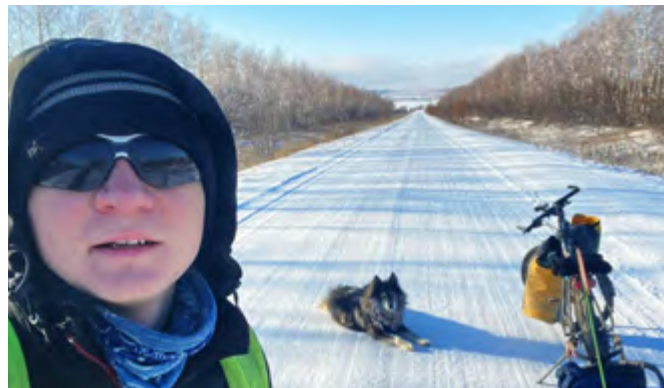


leading from Colombia to Panama. In Chile and Bolivia in 2019, the adventurers were caught in mass riots however, Yana and Sergey were welcomed on board the Wind Dancer, which was going to Cape Town. The Muscovites intended to hitchhike across Africa during

the summer and complete their round-the-world trip 2 years later but, the COVID-19 pandemic stopped their plans. It seems the adventurers have been stuck in Brazil for a long time – the borders are closed, and Russia has already finished their «export flights». Despite

all the difficult vicissitudes, the crew is alive and well.

Sergey Lekai is known for his extreme expeditions such as the one in 2004, where he travelled to Africa, made his way along the Congo River on a raft, and even ended up in a local prison.

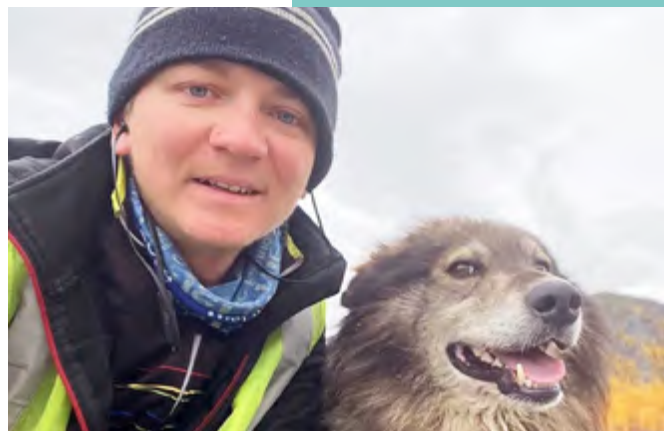


From Ulyanovsk to Sochi by bike

Sergey Rebko completed a cycling expedition from Ulyanovsk to Sochi in five weeks. Sergey departed on November 24th bringing with him his dog, Sharik (ball), which travelled in a special trailer alongside him. The adventurer had to overcome snowy roads and the cold, which sometimes dropped to -27 degrees Celsius. Between Ulyanovsk and Sochi stands 1848.50km which would take 25 hours to travel by car.

Sergey Rebko is a Belarusian entrepreneur who has cycled more than 85,000 km since 2017. Sergey met

his «fellow adventurer» during his trip to Kolyma, when he cycled a distance of 11,550 km in 117 days from his homeland, Gomel, to Magadan. 840 km from Magadan, the adventurer stopped at the Delyankir weather station, where the staff allocated Sergei a place to stay for the night and treated him to dinner. When he proceeded with the journey he was followed by a dog. At first, the cyclist tried to leave him, but Sharik (Ball), who was previously called Beetle, kept catching up with him. Together with the adventurer, he reached Magadan and since that day, the two friends travel together.



The magazine «Russia PRO»

is a publicistic edition.

Special project of Derzhava Publishing House, LLC

Main Editor: Yuri Luppov.

Editor: Yulia Voronkova.

Designer: Ksenia Shishkina.

Proofreader: Lilya Savosina.

Subscription: targeted delivery to owners and top managers of commercial structures and enterprises, government and political figures, heads of political and public organizations.

Circulation – 5000 copies.

Certificate of registration: ПИ № ФС 77 - 78786 from 07.08.2020.

Contacts: 101000, Moscow, Sverchkov Lane, 8, building 1

Телефон: +7 (495) 969-83-39,

E-mail: info-derzhava@yandex.ru,

Website: derzhava-press.ru

Reprinting of materials and their use in any form, including in electronic media, is possible only with the written permission of the editorial board. The editorial board does not enter into correspondence, does not review or return manuscripts and illustrations. The editorial board is not responsible for the content of advertising materials. Advertised products and services are subject to mandatory certification.

© ООО «Издательство «Держава»

PRO
PRO
PRO