

VIRTUAL TOUR

THE CITY OF IRKUTSK

LET'S GO!

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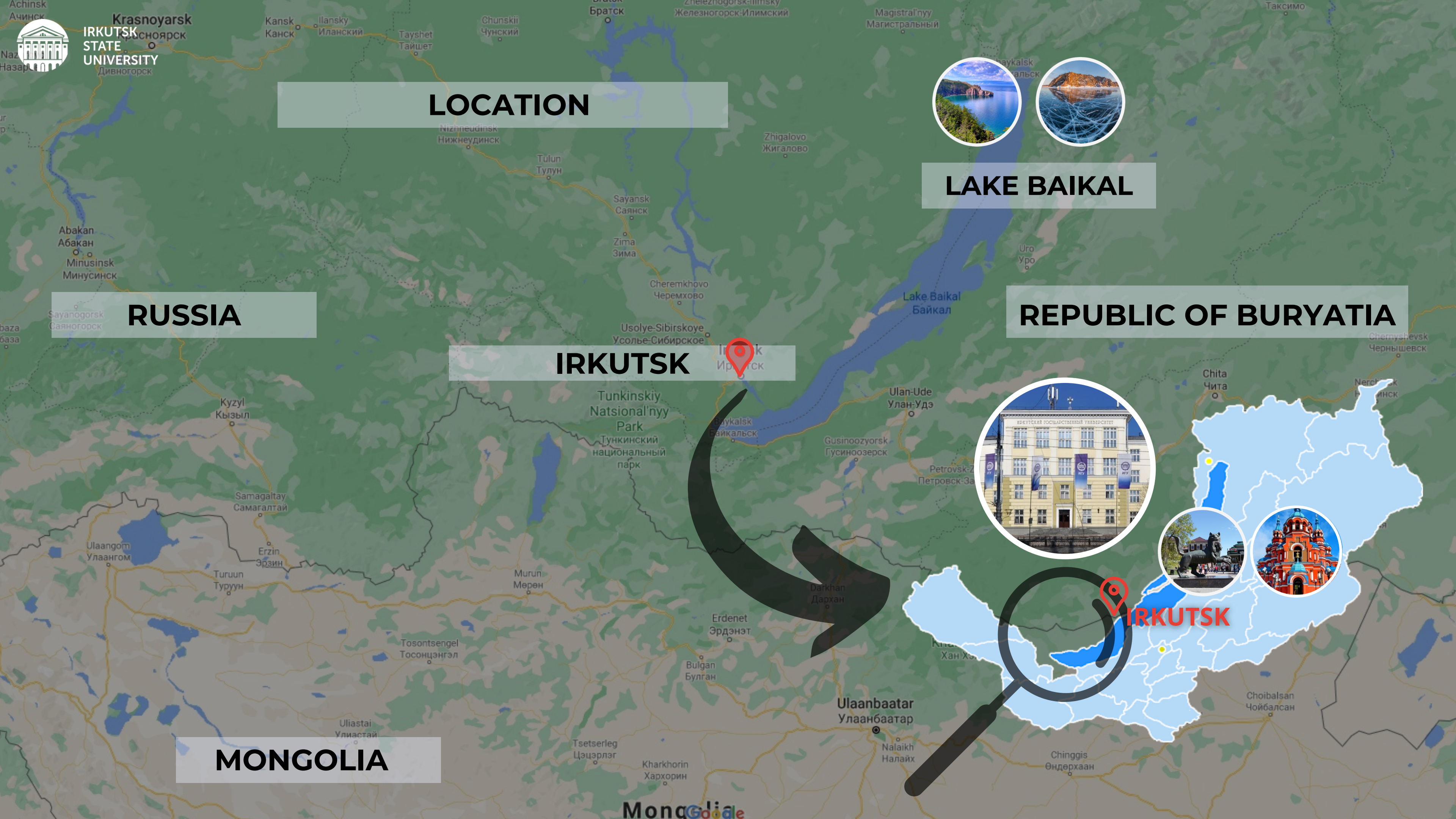
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LET'S DISCUSS

- LOCATION
- HISTORICAL BACKGROUND
- IRKUTSK IN FIGURES
- ARCHITECTURAL & CULTURAL FEATURES
- IRKUTSK - IS A MULTICULTURAL & MULTICONFESSIONAL CITY
- TRANSPORT SYSTEM
- IRKUTSK AS A CAPITAL CITY: CITY TONIGHT. ENTERTAINMENT. LEISURE TIME. FOOD.
- INTERESTING FACTS
- WHO IS MR. BABR?



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Иркутский государственный университет

LOCATION

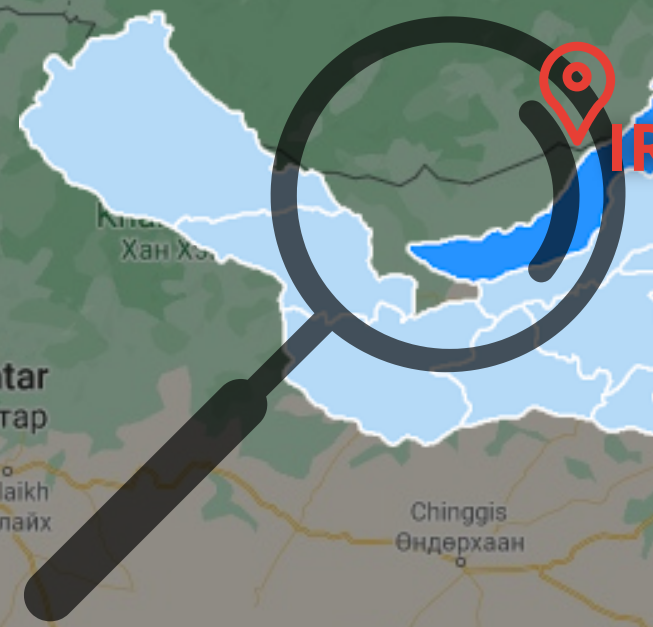


LAKE BAIKAL

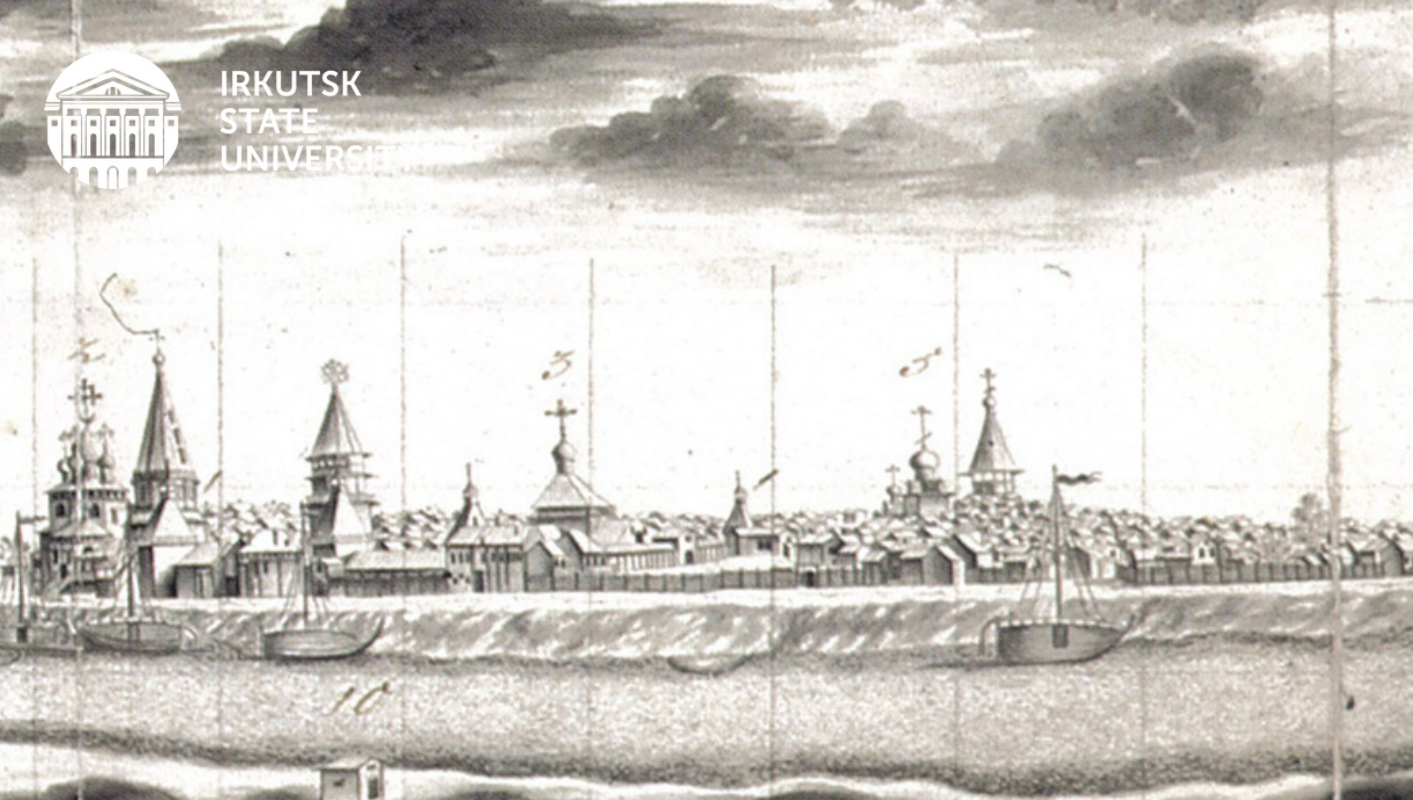
RUSSIA

REPUBLIC OF BURYATIA

IRKUTSK



MONGOLIA



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- THE OLDEST TRACES OF PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN THE TERRITORY OF IRKUTSK ARE ABOUT 50 THOUSAND YEARS OLD. SETTLEMENTS AND BURIAL GROUNDS DATING BACK TO THE STONE, BRONZE, AND IRON AGES WERE DISCOVERED ON BOTH BANKS OF THE ANGARA RIVER.

- TODAY'S IRKUTSK ORIGINATES FROM A FORTIFIED SETTLEMENT LAID BY THE RUSSIAN EXPLORER YAKOV POKHABOV IN THE SUMMER OF 1661. THE TERRITORY ON THE BANK OF THE ANGARA RIVER AT ITS CONFLUENCE WITH THE IRKUT RIVER (HENCE THE NAME OF THE SETTLEMENT) WAS FAVORABLE FOR AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE BREEDING. THE WATERWAY PROVIDED COMMUNICATION WITH THE YENISEI RIVER AND LAKE BAIKAL.

- IN 1682, THIS SETTLEMENT BECAME THE CENTER OF THE IRKUTSK VOIVODESHIP, WHICH INCLUDED ALL THE FORTIFIED SETTLEMENTS OF THE BAIKAL REGION. IN 1686, IRKUTSK WAS GIVEN THE STATUS OF A TOWN. AFTER THE SETTLEMENT OF RUSSIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS BY THE NERCHINSK TREATY (1689), TRADE CARAVANS ON THE WAY TO CHINA (FURS, TEA, SUGAR, FABRICS) BEGAN TO PASS THROUGH IRKUTSK. IN 1700, ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE LIVED IN IRKUTSK. IN 1719, THE TOWN BECAME THE CENTER OF THE IRKUTSK PROVINCE AS PART OF THE SIBERIAN GOVERNORATE.

- IN 1730, THE MERCHANT LANIN OPENED AN IRONWORKS. IN 1745, THE FIRST STONE RESIDENTIAL BUILDING WAS BUILT. IN 1762, AFTER THE ABOLITION OF THE STATE MONOPOLY ON THE EXPORT OF FURS, THE "GOLDEN AGE" OF THE IRKUTSK MERCHANTS BEGAN. BY THE END OF THE 18TH CENTURY, MERCHANTS BEGAN TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN THE CIVIL LIFE OF IRKUTSK.





IRKUTSK IN FIGURES:

- POPULATION: APPROX. 700 000
- NUMBER OF TOURISTS (PER A YEAR)
(BEFORE COVID): 1 500 000!
- (6 PLACE IN RUSSIA)
- AREA: 280 KM²
- IS LOCATED IN A DISTANCE OF 5 042 KM
FROM MOSCOW AND ONLY 520 KM FROM
ULAN-BATOR (THE CAPITAL OF MONGOLIA)





ARCHITECTURAL & CULTURAL FEATURES





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IRKUTSK - IS A MULTICULTURAL & MULTICONFESSIONAL CITY





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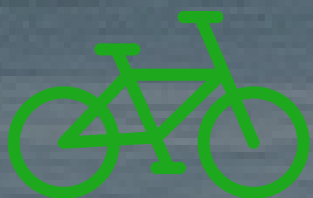
TRANSPORT SYSTEM



ECO



TRAM



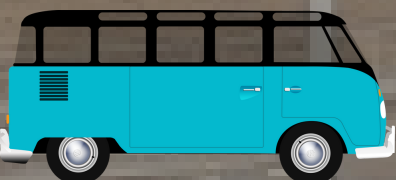
BICYCLE



TROLLEYBUS



BUS



SHUTTLEBUS / VAN



TAXI

FARE:

15-25 ROUBLES
(PUBLIC)

100-300 ROUBLES
(TAXI)

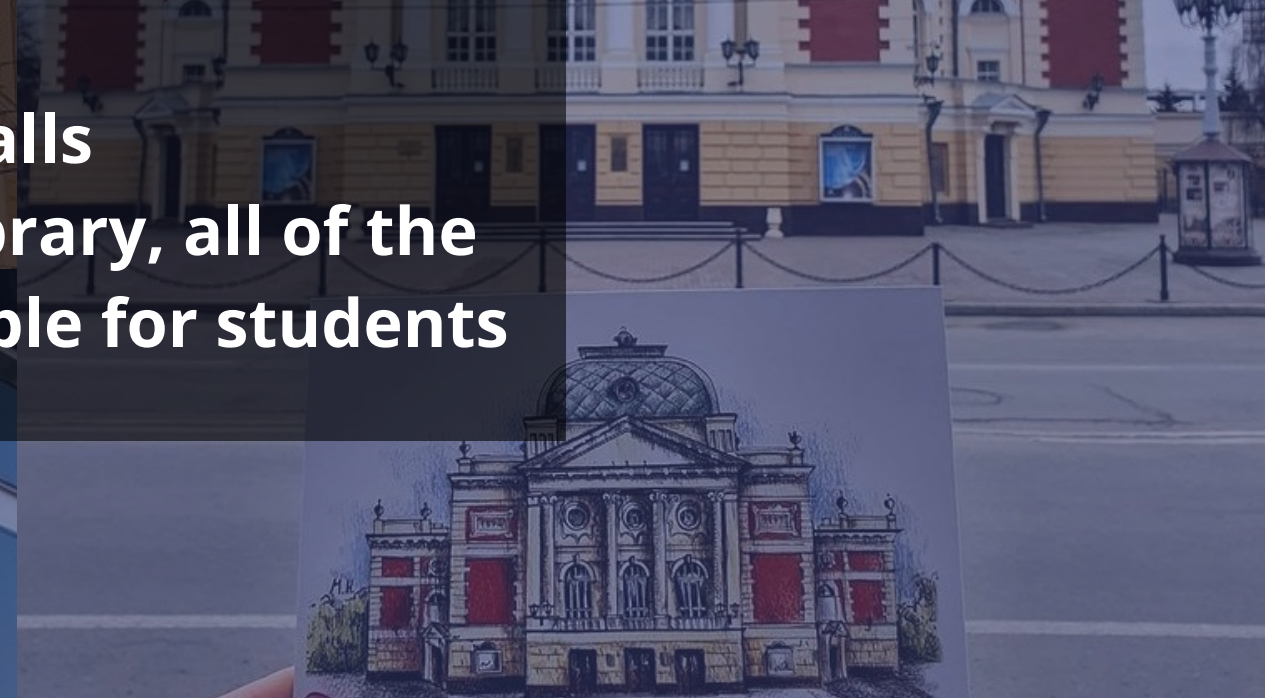


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IRKUTSK AS A CAPITAL CITY: CITY TONIGHT. ENTERTAINMENT. LEISURE TIME. FOOD.

- more than 1000 cafes, bars & restaurants. You can find any international meals and dishes you want: Russian (of course), Chinese, Japanese, Georgian, Korean, American, Italian, Thai, Uzbek, Buryat (indigenous peoples of Siberia), etc.
- long and wonderful embankments (Angara and Irkut rivers)
- parks, squares, skating rinks (including indoor rinks), pedestrian areas
- theatres, cinemas, shopping malls
- art galleries, museums, loft and art space, event halls
- more than 40 libraries. ISU has the own 7-storey library, all of the services connected with learning process are available for students





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INTERESTING FACTS

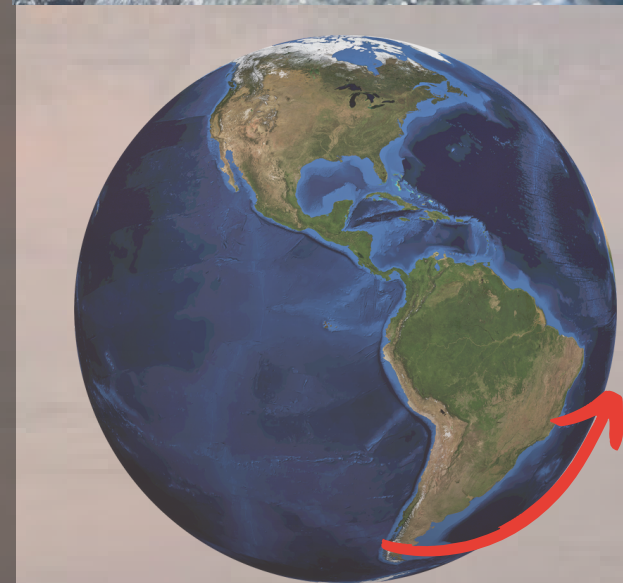
- TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY
(THE LONGEST RAILWAY
IN THE WORLD)
RUNS THROUGH THE CITY
OF IRKUTSK



- LOCATES NEAR THE
UNIQUE LAKE BAIKAL



- IRKUTSK AND CHILE'S CITY
PUNTA ARENAS ARE
DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSITE
TO EACH OTHER
ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE



- ONE OF THE MOST
INTERESTING MUSEUM IN
IRKUTSK IS "LEDOKOL
ANGARA", IT USED TO BE A
NAVY ICEBREAKING SHIP.



- ONE MORE HISTORICALLY
IMPORTANT PLACE:
"DECEMBRISTS MUSEUM "



- THERE ARE 4
HYDROPOWER PLANTS
ROUND IRKUTSK REGION. IT
MAKES THE ELECTRICITY
RATHER CHEAPER .



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WHO IS MR. BABR?

ON THE COAT OF ARMS OF IRKUTSK YOU CAN SEE A “BABR” HOLDING A SABLE IN ITS MOUTH.

EVERYONE WHO COMES TO IRKUTSK ASKS THE QUESTION: WHO IS MR. BABR? WHO IS HE? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

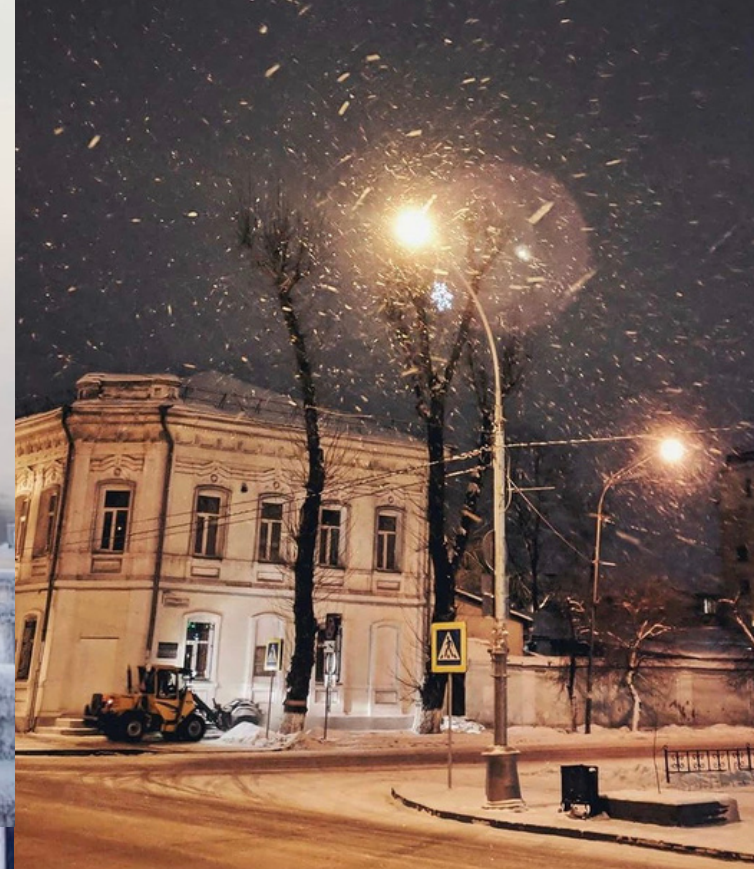
THERE ARE SEVERAL VERSIONS OF THE ORIGIN OF THE WORD «BABR». THE TRUTH IS SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE: THE WORD «BABR» COMES FROM “BAABYR” (THE YAKUT LANGUAGE), WHICH MEANT “USSURI TIGER”. ONCE THE YAKUTS LIVED AROUND THE BAIKAL REGION, BUT THEN THEY MOVED TO THE NORTH. THE USSURI TIGER, MOST LIKELY, LIVED HERE AS WELL, BUT FOR UNKNOWN REASONS DISAPPEARED FROM HERE TO THE EAST.

SINCE XVII CENTURY, BABR HAS BEEN A SYMBOL OF IRKUTSK REGION AND THE CITY OF IRKUTSK. BUT, NOBODY KNEW WHO THE BABR WAS. ARTISTS FROM RUSSIAN CAPITAL WHO WERE TO PAINT THE COAT OF ARMS OF IRKUTSK REGION CONFUSED THE WORD «BABR» AND THE WORD «BOBR» («BEAVER» IN ENGLISH). AS A RESULT, THEY CREATED A FANTASTIC ANIMAL WHICH NEVER EXISTED. IT COMBINES THE FEATURES OF SIBERIAN LEOPARD, «USSURI TIGER» AND A BEAVER’S TAIL. SINCE THEN WE HAVE ACQUIRED A UNIQUE SYMBOL OF THE CITY AND THE REGION, WHICH DOESN’T EXIST ANYWHERE ELSE.

BABR



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SEE YOU IN IRKUTSK!

