

Kizhi Island

Describing the place





This is Kizhi Island in remote Onega Lake.



The history



The first records of a village with multiple-domed churches located on the Russian island called Kizhi date back to 1496. Since the 16th century, Kizhi has become a center of the whole region with a population of twelve thousand people. This is a huge number for this piece of northern earth isolated from the mainland.

The Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord on Kizhi Island

- The Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord was built for the second time in 1714 on public money. The real names of its creators are unknown. The legends say that Peter the Great himself was the author of the project.
- According to another legend, the Church of the Transfiguration was made by an unknown master named Nestor, who symbolically threw his axe into Onega Lake with the words, “There was, there is, but there won’t be such a beauty anywhere else.”

- Kizhi Island is a complex of buildings outside. There are many wooden churches made without a single nail. These churches have been almost intact there for many centuries.
- Kizhi Architectural Ensemble is into the World Heritage List of UNESCO.



The Church of the Intercession



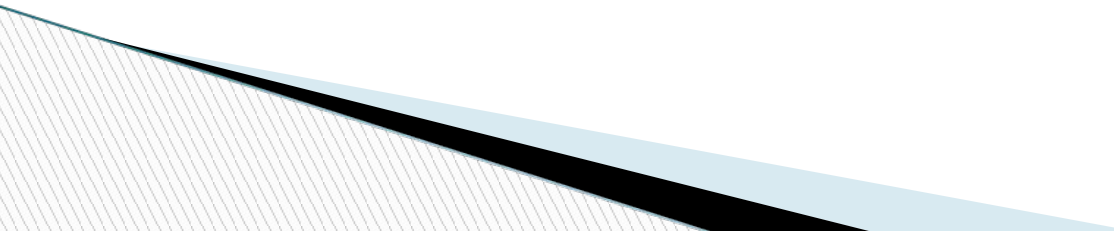
The Church of the Intercession is a «winter» church, which means it is heated. Church services are conducted here from October 1st until Easter, when the Church of the Transfiguration is closed.



The Bell Tower of Kizhi



How to get to Kizhi Island

- First you need to go to the city of Petrozavodsk by plane or train. You will need some rest. In Petrozavodsk there are also several interesting museums.
 - From May to September you can reach the island of Kizhi by hydrofoils. It will take about over an hour.
 - In winter or late autumn it is possible to reach the island by helicopter, hovercraft or by sled dogs in winter.
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The best time to visit Kizhi

- Kizhi is **amazing** in spring, when tremulous fresh grass appears near the Kizhi Pogost fence. Kizhi is **gorgeous** in summer, when the spicy smell of herbs and flowers envelops the ancient buildings. In fact, sunny summer lasts only for a few days here. In August, we were caught in the rain, but it did not prevent us from being impressed.

