

Lake Baikal

June 23, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Lake Baikal Latest News

Researchers said ancient DNA obtained from bodies interred in four burial sites in the Lake Baikal area revealed the presence of the oldest-known strains of *Yersinia pestis*, the plague bacterium.

About Lake Baikal

- **Location:** It is located in the **southern part of eastern Siberia**, south-central Russia, near the border with **Mongolia**.
- It is the oldest existing **freshwater lake on Earth** (20 million–25 million years old).
- It is the world's largest freshwater lake.
- It is **also the world's deepest lake**, with a maximum depth of 1,642 meters below the water surface.
- Below the lake's bottom lie sediments of about 7 kilometers, making it the Earth's deepest continental rift.
- There are 45 islands and islets in Lake Baikal, of **which Olkhon is the largest island**.
- Up to 330 rivers drain into Lake Baikal, of which **Barguzini, Selenga, Upper Angara, Sarma, and Turka** are the major ones.

- It has only **one outlet, the Angara River**.
- It is also **home to the Buryat people**, who follow the **Tibetan Buddhist religion** and reside on the eastern side of the lake, rearing goats, camels, cattle, and sheep.
- The lake was **declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996**.

Source: Reuters

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/lake-baikal/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.