

NEW

Tour Code: A-17/114



7D6N HIGHLIGHTS OF MONGOLIA

INTRODUCTION

Mongolia is one of the world's last truly nomadic cultures. For millennia, pastoral herders have lived on almost every corner of Mongolian, moving with their livestock according to the seasons. They still live in traditional felt Ger tents, subsisting on the meat and milk of their animals, and living "as free as the country is wide."

DAY 01 Arrival in Ulaanbaatar

Accommodation: Premium Hotel 4* or The Grand Hill Hotel 4*.

Welcome to Mongolia! Upon arrival, your tour guide will greet you at the arrival hall and accompany you in a comfortable vehicle to your hotel and help you with the check-in procedure. We leave the rest of the day free for you to be on your own. You may need some time to relax and recover from the long-distance flight or possibly from jet-lag.

DAY 02 Bayan Gobi Sand Dunes & Camel Trail

(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Accommodation: Bayan Gobi Ger camp

In the morning at 8am our trip starts to **Bayan Gobi magnificent sand dunes** - surrounded by hills with willow trees, streams and bushes, and appear as a small desert in the center of the country. This sand dune is 80km long and the widest part of the sand dune is 9-10 km. After check-in and lunch time, we will take some personal refreshment in Ger camp. In the afternoon, we will visit **local camel herder family in their Ger**, explore their unique nomadic lifestyle. Its chance to try drinking **Hormog** (fermented Mongolian camel milk). The sand dunes are the perfect place for **camel riding**. We will

discover this magnificent place on camel back. Mongolia is home to 2/3 of the two-humped Bactrian camels in the world. It is a gentle, calm and extraordinary patient animal and can carry on without water for a month. Bet, you never rode a Bactrian camel, riding a Bactrian camel is much more comfortable than the camel in Sahara, India or anywhere else. Its two humps support you from both sides and easy pace will comfort you so much. Dinner and overnight at the Ger camp near the sand dunes.

DAY 03 Kharkhorin & Erdene Zuu Monastery

(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Accommodation: Ikh Mongol or Munkhtenger Ger camp.

At 10am, we will drive towards to a small village and one of the country's major tourist destinations and historically known as **Karakorum** which was an ancient capital of Mongolia Empire. Also, this was one of the most important cities in the history of the Silk Road. Upon arrival, we will check-in and lunch at the Ger camp. In the afternoon, visit museum of Karakorum. Not much of the ancient town still exists but the nearby museum provides an excellent presentation on the archaeological research that has taken place at the site, and on Mongol history before and after occupation of the town. You can see artifacts found by the various archaeological expeditions as well as a scale model of the town prior to its destruction. Karakorum was ancient city of Mongol Empire, which was the largest contiguous empire in the World history. This city founded by Great king Genghis Khan in the 13th century and lately was moved to Khanbalig (modern Beijing) by Kublai Khan, greatest of the successors of Genghis Khan and founder of the Mongol (Yuan) dynasty in China. Continue to visit the oldest and the **magnificent Buddhist Monastery**

complex of Erdene Zuu, built in the 16th century, with 108 stupas. Here you can see interesting listen to monk chanting Buddhist sutras. Return to the Ger camp for dinner and overnight. Accommodation: Ikh Mongol or Munkhtenger Ger camp.



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DAY 04 Hustai National Park & Wild Horse Park*(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**Accommodation: Moltsoog Els or Hustai Ger camp.*

After breakfast, we will drive to the **Hustai National Park**. The park is home of last wild horses in their natural environment in the world, known as Perzevalski horse (takhi). The National park has over 450 species of vascular plants, 200 of which are medicinal. After check-in and lunch at Ger camp, rest and relaxing for refreshment. The best time to observe these wild horses in their natural habitat is around 2-3hrs earlier than sunset, during they come down from mountains for water to stream. We will take short drive and hiking to see the horses. There is great opportunity to take photo for these endangered horses. If you are lucky, you can see fox, deer, marmot, eagle and more wild animals. Besides of the wild animals you can find here beautiful sceneries of the Mongolian nature that features mountain and steppe.

DAY 05 Terelj National Park trip & visit nomadic family*(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**Accommodation: Terelj Lodge or Guru Ger camp.*

After breakfast, drive towards to **Terelj National Park**. It's one of the most visited national parks in Mongolia. You can see the extraordinary formation of rocks and stones; some of them look quite similar to turtles. After check-in and lunch at the Ger camp, we will take short drive to see **Turtle Rock** - interesting rock formation looking like a turtle and visit **Ariyabal meditation temple** - surrounded by scenic mountains with massive rock formations and sits at top of the mountain. This small hike is seen as a ritual to cleanse one's sins. From the top, you can enjoy the breathtaking view overlooking the Terelj National Park. Also, we will visit local nomadic family to experience firsthand how people live the country side, a lifestyle which has not changed for centuries. Here you can help the herders with their daily tasks to get an idea of how nomadic people alongside of their livestock. Mongolia is the best destination for horse riding trip and especially Terelj national park is the best recommended place for horse trek. After given preliminary instructions, orientation about **horse riding**, we will discover around nature from horseback for one hour.

**DAY 06 Genghis Khan's Statue Complex - Classic Highlight in UB city trip***(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**Accommodation: Premium Hotel 4* or The Grand Hill Hotel 4*.*

After breakfast, we will drive back to Ulaanbaatar. On the way, we will visit "**Genghis Khan Statue Complex**" which is currently the biggest (40m high) equestrian statue in the world. There is a recreation area, restaurants, and souvenir shops occupy the base structure. From here, we use an elevator or walk to the head of the horse through chest and back neck of the horse, where we can have farseeing and good panorama view over the complex area. After lunch at "Modern Nomads" restaurant in the city, we will start guided city tour and visit **Genghis Khan's Square & Parliament House** and **National Museum of Mongolia** to get an overview of Mongolia's history and culture. Examine on nomadic life, including Stone and Bronze Age artifacts, traditional costumes, and sacred relics. Next, we will visit "**Gandan**" **Monastery**, Mongolia's largest functioning Buddhist monastery. Listen to the horns calling lamas and monks to temple, and capture the monks' daily rituals while visiting the adjoining **Megjid Janraisig and Temples**. The temple houses feature a 26-meter-high majestic gilded statue of Migjid Janraisig. Afterwards, we will attend at "Wonders of Mongolia" folklore show by famous **Tumen-Ekh Ensemble** - is one of the most successful folk art groups to share traditional Mongolian music with the world, having traveled to over 40 countries. Farewell dinner will be served at "**Bd's Mongolian Barbeque**" international chain restaurant. Transfer to the hotel.

DAY 07 Departure from Ulaanbaatar

As your memorable trip comes to end, then you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to your next destination or home.

What's INCLUDED in the Price?

- English speaking professional tour guide at all times
- 6N accommodations based on twin/double sharing
 - Hotel 4* in the city – 2nights
 - Hotel 3* in Kharkhorin- 1 night
 - Ger camps with standard Ger – 2nights
 - Ger camps with deluxe Ger – 1 night
- All meals 16 as specified in the itinerary
 - 6 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches & 5 Dinners
- All relevant transfers and transportation in air-conditioned vehicle + experienced driver
- All sightseeing and entrance fees as described in the itinerary
- "Wonders of Mongolian Art" evening show by famous "Tumen Ekh" ensemble
- Camel riding at Bayan Gobi sand dunes – 1 hour
- Horse riding in Terelj National Park – 1 hour
- 2 bottled drinking water per day/pax during the trip
- All service charge, local and government taxes
- Visa invitation letter, if required

What's NOT included in the Price?

- International flights and visa fee
- Travel and medical insurance
- Daily personal expenses
- Hotel early check-in and late check-out

