

JEWELS OF MONGOLIA

Tour itinerary 15 Days/14 nights



Region: Southern, Central and Northern part of Mongolia

Tour name: Jewels of Mongolia with Rural Naadam Festival in Khuvsgul Lake

Duration: 15 days

Dates: June 29 – July 15

June 29 Day 1 ~Arrival in Ulaanbaatar & Cultural Tour of Ulaanbaatar

Upon arrival at Genghis Khan International Airport, you are met by our guide and transferred to the hotel in the city center. Depending on time of arrival enjoy a rest after your long flight, late afternoon sightseeing and explore Ulaanbaatar-the capital city of Mongolia-the home to over a one third of the country's population where the traditional gers and Buddhist temples coexist with sky-kissing towers!

Overnight

4* HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

June 30 Day 2 - Hustai National Park

After breakfast we will begin our sightseeing tour at the Gandan Monastery-Mongolia's most revered religious site-home to more than 100 Buddhist monks with beautiful chapels, courtyards and a giant 75-foot gold gilded Buddha statue.

Next, we stop in the Natural History Museum that showcases the spectacular fossils found in the Gobi desert. After lunch, we visit the National Museum of Mongolian History and culture that has rich collection of stone and Bronze Age artifacts, costumes, sacred relics and items related to the nomadic life such as hunting and fishing tools.

After lunch we will drive to Hustai National Park, which is world famous for the successful reintroduction of the Przewalski horse, called "takhi" by Mongolians. It became extinct in the wild in 1969 and, since 1992, has been successfully reintroduced to Hustai from zoos around the world. This has been an international effort monitored by The Foundation for the Przewalski horse, based in the Netherlands and MACNE (Mongolian Association for Conservation of Nature and the Environment).

Upon arrival in Hustai, you will check in at our ger camp. After dinner, you will take a jeep ride into the park. The national park is comprised of rolling Steppe Mountains with rather large patches of birch and aspen forests. There are also visible remains of Neolithic graves. In addition, red deer and wolf have increased quite a bit during the last few years, as well as Mongolian gazelle. Species present in Hustai but usually not seen include Lynx, Argali Sheep and Roe Deer. Usually, you are able to see the herds of wild horses grazing in the grasslands of the parks and other wild animals.

Overnight in Ger Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

July 1 Day 3 Terelj National Park

After breakfast we drive to 13th Century National Park Complex of Terelj, in the six camps, you can interact with the several Mongolian tribes, watch craftsmen creating works of art, learn Mongolian calligraphy or traditional scripts, get your fortune told or watch Shamans at ritual worship. Perhaps try your skills at archery, ride a camel or lasso a horse or simply sit back and enjoy the beautiful landscape and the clear blue sky. The highlight of the afternoon is the King's Great Feast of traditional Mongolian foods in the Kings and Queens Palace. In the afternoon we will drive to our tourist camp in Terelj national Park.

Overnight in Ger Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

July 2 Day 4 Terelj National Park (known as little Switzerland) After breakfast we will take a hike and optional horse ride through the scenic valleys, a winding river, and restful groves of trees. Many nomads live in the park itself, where they find lush land for their animals, and you may even see majestic herds of yak grazing near the camp. Once inside the park you will be able to visit the notable rock formations "Turtle rock" and

“Monk reading a book.” You will also have the opportunity to hike up to the Aryabal meditation center and learn more about Mongolian Buddhism.

Overnight in Ger Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

July 3 Day 5 Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast we will return to the capital of Ulaanbaatar on the way visiting 13th Century Complex (with Statue of Chinggis Khan). Lunch in Ulaanbaatar, and afternoon visit to Natural History Museum that showcases the spectacular fossils found in the Gobi desert. After lunch, we visit the National Museum of Mongolian History and culture that has rich collection of stone and Bronze Age artifacts, costumes, sacred relics and items related to the nomadic life such as hunting and fishing tools.

Transfer to your 4**** hotel.

Overnight Hotel Ulaanbaatar Conference Centre Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

July 4 Day 6 Fly to the Gobi Desert (1.2 hours) and then drive to Yol Valley and Gurvansaikhan National Park

This morning we fly over vast steppe to the Gobi, Mongolia’s southernmost province of semi-arid desert. Meet your local guide and driver and then transfer by 4WD vehicle to the Yol Valley in Gurvansaikhan National Park, situated in the lap of Altai Mountains. Time permitting we will stop to visit the local Natural History Museum for an insight to the flora and fauna of the area.

Overnight in ger camp Gobi Luxury Nomad Lodge (Air conditioned accommodation)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner



July 5 - Day 7 Yol Valley to Hongoryn Els –Sand Dunes

After breakfast, take in the stunning scenery of the Gobi-Altai Mountain range as you transfer to the towering sand dunes of Khongoryn Els, home to the ‘Singing Sands’. These spectacular dunes got their name from the noise made by the shifting sand in the wind. Feel the breeze in your hair as you ride a camel across the dunes before returning to the ger camp. Isolated from the rest of the country, the Singing Sands are the best kept secret for thousand years in the history of Mongolia.

Overnight in Ger Camp Edene Camp Gobi (non air-con)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

July 6 Day 8 Drive to the Flaming Cliffs

Following breakfast, we drive to Bayanzag. After lunch and some rest, we drive to Bayan Zag, popularly called as “The Flaming Cliffs” for its glowing orange rock. It was here, in 1922, that Dr. This area got international name as Roy Chapman Andrews and his exploration team from the American Museum of Natural History discovered the first nest of dinosaur eggs here. The area is haven for the natural history scientists as the area is rich in dinosaur fossils.

Overnight in Ger camp Gobi Nomad Camp (Air-con)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 7 - Day 09 Day trip to Khavtsgait Petroglyphs and Nomads day

In the morning we drive to the site of the Khavtsgait Petroglyphs. The Khavtsgait Petroglyphs from the Bronze Age (4000-3000 BC) are beautifully carved on many rocks on the top of a sacred mountain. It is easy to find the rock paintings there because they are spread on rocks all around. The area is very rocky and can be slippery to climb, but

by carefully following a path up the mountain, you can reach the top to see these beautiful rock paintings.

The petroglyphs were carved and painted with motifs consisting of animals, hunting scenes and weapons. They depict various animals related to everyday life of ancient people including deer, bears, wolves and hunters, and wolves with livestock. Other paintings depict more domestic scenes of yaks pulling carts, the wheels and horses flattened sideways like hieroglyphs, and herders on horseback. The engravings vary in size, ranging from two-centimeters to the real life size of horses.

After the rest, we will visit a herder family nearby. We will spend some time there getting to know the family members and their casual yet unique daily lifestyle. It is a good chance to see how the family members cooperate together to do their daily even hourly chores such as milking mares, fencing and milking the goats. If you wish, you are welcome to try some mare's fermented milk and other dairy products.

Overnight in Ger camp (Gobi Nomad Camp (air-con)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 8 Day 10 Back to Ulaanbaatar

Following breakfast will transfer to the airport for our flight to Ulaanbaatar. Afternoon free to explore, sightsee or shop in this beautiful city.

Overnight in 4* HOTEL

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 9 Day 11 To Lake Khovsgul in the North.

1.2 hours flight to Muron and 4 hrs drive to the Lake Khovsgul

Following breakfast, we are transferred to the airport for flight to Muron in the north. Muron is the headquarter of the Khovsgul Province. We meet our local guide at the airport and then we drive by 4WD vehicle through the vast Mongolian steppe into the forested mountains and finally we arrive at the Lake Khovsgul-Mongolia's largest lake. The lake, also known as the "Dark Blue Pearl" of Mongolia is situated amidst the pristine nature with beautiful forests, mountains and meadows and abundant with bird species and orchids.

Overnight in the Ger Camp
Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 10 Day 12 Discover Khuvsgul National park

During whole lovely day, you will have an opportunity to ride reindeer and observe them. We spend the next two days in walking, hiking, horseback riding in the environs of the lake and the nearby mountains and visiting the local nomadic families. Optional boating trip is available on request.

Walking and hiking in the lake shores, Horse riding trek near the lake, visiting yak breeding family and experience their unique lifestyle

Overnight in the Ger Camp
Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 11 – Day 13 Rural Naadam Festival in Khuvsgul lake

During whole lovely day you enjoy watch Naadam festival or three manly sports such as wrestling, archery and horse racing. Visit opening ceremony of Naadam festival at the national stadium. And you will see archery, wrestling and horse racing during Naadam festival. Naadam festival is of the victory of the People's Revolution. Mongolia celebrates its independence and its rich cultural heritage with a festival of sports and revelry in Ulaanbaatar. The distinctly Mongolian feel and flair of the Naadam Festival make it a wonderful spectacle, a joyous time, and an intriguing cultural event. Colorful ceremonies and parading soldiers kick off the celebrations.



Overnight in Ger Camp,
Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 12 Day 14 Return to Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, we return to Muron for our afternoon flight to Ulaanbaatar . There is more to see if you are interested. Visit the Bogd Khan Winter Palace Museum-residence of Bodg Jabzan Damba Hutagt VIII-Mongolia's last theocrat. Or take leisurely stroll in the town center. In the evening, enjoy dinner and local folklore dance shows.

Overnight in 4 HOTEL*

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

July 13 Day 15 Depart Mongolia

Transfer to the airport for flight to next destination

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Included	Not included
Shared accommodation in ger camp	International airfare
All meals as listed in itinerary	Travel insurance
All entrance fees	Beverages
Sightseeing as per itinerary	Optional activity cost
Accommodation in 4 stars hotel in Ulaanbaatar (twin standard room double occupancy) Air-conditioned Ger at Gobi Nomad Camp	Excess baggage charge
Transportations by 4WD vehicles	Single room supplement
English speaking guide (other language guide on request)	Any additional things which are not mentioned above
Daily supply of bottled water Internal Flight and Cultural Show	