Itinerary

10 Day Best of Mongolia Small Group Tour

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.**

Day 1: Arrive Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia ~ City Tour

Welcome to Mongolia. On arrival at Ulaanbaatar International Airport, you will be met by the local team and transferred into the city to begin your Mongolian adventure.

After lunch, set out to explore Ulaanbaatar, beginning at Sukhbaatar Square, the city's impressive central plaza surrounded by some of the capital's most important landmarks. Continue to the Chinggis Khaan National Museum, where fascinating exhibits bring Mongolia's remarkable history to life, including the impressive golden statue of the Great Khan.

Next, visit Gandan Monastery, Mongolia's most important Buddhist monastery and one of Ulaanbaatar's most significant cultural sites. Take in the peaceful atmosphere, observe resident monks and traditional chanting, and see the magnificent 26.5-metre Megjid Janraisig statue. Afterwards, enjoy dinner before transferring to your hotel for check-in and your first night in Mongolia.

NOTE: The included transfer is a group transfer and will be scheduled according to the arrival times of the majority of guests. If you arrive earlier and prefer not to wait, or if your flight arrives after the scheduled group transfer, you may arrange a private transfer (additional charges apply) or make your own way to the hotel.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 100km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 2–3 hours

MEALS: Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Bayangol Hotel, Ulaanbaatar

Day 2: Ulaanbaatar ~ Baga Gazariin Chuluu

After breakfast, leave Ulaanbaatar behind and journey south into Mongolia's Middle Gobi region towards the remarkable landscapes of Baga Gazariin Chuluu.

Rising unexpectedly from the surrounding semi-desert plains, Baga Gazariin Chuluu is a striking area of granite rock formations, narrow canyons, ancient inscriptions and a small spring hidden among the rocks. On arrival, explore the area on foot while learning about its fascinating geological features, history and local legends.

Enjoy a scenic trek through the dramatic rocky landscape, taking in panoramic views across the vast Middle Gobi plains. Later in the afternoon, transfer to your nearby Ger Camp, where you can settle in and enjoy dinner surrounded by the tranquillity of Mongolia's open countryside.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 280km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 5–6 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Erdene-Ukhaa Ger Camp, Baga Gazariin Chuluu

Day 3: Baga Gazariin Chuluu ~ Tsagaan Suvarga

After breakfast, continue your journey through Mongolia's Middle Gobi region towards Tsagaan Suvarga, also known as the White Stupa.

This spectacular natural formation has been shaped by wind and water over thousands of years, creating dramatic limestone cliffs with striking white escarpments and colourful layers. Rising above the surrounding Gobi plains, the formations resemble the ruins of an ancient city or an enormous stupa.

After lunch at the Ger Camp, head out to explore Tsagaan Suvarga on foot. Walk along the impressive cliffs, take in panoramic views across the vast desert landscape and learn about the fascinating geological history of the area. Later in the afternoon, return to your Ger Camp for dinner and a peaceful evening surrounded by the Gobi.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 280km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 5–6 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Tsagaan Suvarga Ger Camp

Day 4: Tsagaan Suvarga ~ Yol Valley

After breakfast, continue deeper into the Gobi Desert as you travel towards Yol Valley, located within the spectacular Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park.

Also known as Eagle Valley, Yol Valley is renowned for its dramatic narrow canyon, towering rock walls and mountain stream, which can sometimes remain frozen even during the summer months. Arrive at your Ger Camp around lunchtime before continuing to the valley for an afternoon of exploration.

Set out on a scenic trek through the canyon, surrounded by rugged mountain scenery and impressive rock formations. Keep watch for local wildlife including ibex, mountain sheep, marmots and lammergeier vultures soaring high above the cliffs. Later in the afternoon, return to your Ger Camp and settle in for dinner and your overnight stay.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 250km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 5–6 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Khanbogd Ger Camp, Yol Valley

Day 5: Yol Valley ~ Khongor Sand Dunes

After breakfast, continue your Gobi Desert adventure as you travel towards the magnificent Khongor Sand Dunes, one of Mongolia's most spectacular natural landscapes.

Stretching for more than 180 kilometres and rising up to 300 metres in places, the Khongor Sand Dunes are often known as the "Singing Dunes" due to the distinctive humming sound created as the sand shifts in the wind. On arrival, check in to your Ger Camp and enjoy lunch before heading out to explore the surrounding desert.

Climb the towering dunes for breathtaking panoramic views across the vast Gobi Desert and the green oasis of the Khongor River below. Later, visit a local nomadic camel-herding family to learn about their traditional lifestyle and the important role camels play in the region. After receiving safety instructions from your guide, enjoy an authentic camel riding experience across the desert before returning to your Ger Camp for dinner and overnight.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 200km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 4–5 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Gobi-Erdene Ger Camp, Khongor Sand Dunes

Day 6: Khongor Sand Dunes ~ Flaming Cliffs

After breakfast, continue through the Gobi Desert towards Bayanzag, home to the famous Flaming Cliffs and one of Mongolia's most important natural and archaeological sites.

Known for their dramatic red sandstone formations, the Flaming Cliffs take on a brilliant fiery colour in the changing light. The area is also internationally renowned for its palaeontological significance, following the discovery of dinosaur eggs here during expeditions led by American explorer Roy Chapman Andrews in the 1920s.

On arrival at your Ger Camp, enjoy lunch before taking a short drive to explore the Flaming Cliffs on foot. Walk through the striking desert landscape dotted with native saxaul trees while learning about the area's fascinating geology and scientific history. Later in the afternoon, return to your Ger Camp to relax before dinner and another peaceful night in the heart of the Gobi Desert.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 200km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 4–5 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Gobi Mirage Ger Camp, Flaming Cliffs

Day 7: Flaming Cliffs ~ Ongi Monastery

After breakfast, leave the Flaming Cliffs behind and continue north through Mongolia's semi-desert steppe towards Ongi Monastery, once one of the country's largest and most important Buddhist monastic complexes.

Beautifully positioned along the banks of the Ongi River, the monastery was originally established in the 17th century and consisted of two temple complexes on opposite sides of the river. Once home to hundreds of monks, much of the complex was destroyed during the 1930s, with its atmospheric ruins offering a fascinating insight into Mongolia's Buddhist history.

Arrive at your Ger Camp around lunchtime before taking a short drive to explore the monastery ruins and learn about their historical and spiritual significance. Afterwards, enjoy a light trek along the Ongi River, taking in the peaceful scenery of rocky hills and open steppe before returning to your Ger Camp for dinner and overnight.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 220km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 4–5 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Secret of Ongi Ger Camp, Ongi Monastery

Day 8: Ongi Monastery ~ Kharkhorin

After breakfast, depart Ongi Monastery and continue north towards Kharkhorin, the ancient capital of the Mongol Empire and one of Mongolia's most important historical and cultural centres.

Travel across the open steppe, stopping at a local diner for lunch along the way before continuing to Kharkhorin. On arrival, visit Erdene Zuu Monastery, Mongolia's oldest surviving Buddhist monastery, founded in the 16th century and surrounded by its distinctive white walls and 108 stupas.

Continue to the Kharkhorin Museum, where archaeological discoveries and fascinating exhibits provide an insight into the ancient capital and the powerful Mongol Empire. Afterwards, transfer to your Ger Camp for dinner and your overnight stay.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 400km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 7–8 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Urgoo Ger Camp, Kharkhorin

Day 9: Kharkhorin ~ Mongol Nomadic Show ~ Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, begin your journey back to Ulaanbaatar, travelling across Mongolia's open countryside towards the capital.

Along the way, stop at the Mongol Nomadic Ger Camp for lunch before experiencing the fascinating Mongol Nomadic Show. This immersive cultural experience offers an insight into Mongolia's traditional

way of life, with demonstrations including moving a ger household by ox cart, livestock herding, horse catching and training, dairy-product making, felt production and traditional music.

Continue to Ulaanbaatar in the afternoon, where you will have some leisure time to explore or shop for Mongolian cashmere, wool products, handicrafts, souvenirs and local gifts. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner before transferring to your hotel for check-in and your final night in Mongolia.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 400km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 7–8 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Bayangol Hotel, Ulaanbaatar

Day 10: Depart Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, enjoy your final morning in Mongolia before checking out of your hotel. At the appropriate time, you will be met by the local team and transferred to Ulaanbaatar International Airport for your onward flight.

Bid farewell to Mongolia as your 10-day journey comes to an end, taking with you unforgettable memories of the Gobi Desert, ancient monasteries, nomadic traditions and Mongolia's remarkable landscapes.

NOTE: The included transfer is a group departure transfer and will be scheduled based on the flight times of the majority of guests. If your flight departs earlier and you prefer not to wait, or if your flight departs outside the scheduled transfer time, you may arrange a private transfer (additional charges apply) or make your own way to the airport.

APPROXIMATE DRIVING DISTANCE: 50km

APPROXIMATE DRIVING TIME: 1–1.5 hours

MEALS: Breakfast