



Authentic Gobi desert Mongolia Expedition

Key Information:

Trip Length: 15 days/14 nights.

Trip Type: Moderate.

Tour Code: **SMT-AGE-15D**

Specialty Categories: Adventure Great Expedition, Birdwatching, Cultural Journey, Camel riding, Desert Expedition, Driving tour, E-co Travel, Hiking & Trekking, Horseback riding, Hot spa, Local Culture, Nature & Wildlife.

Meeting/Departure Points: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Group size: 3-4 adults or more participants.

Season: Daily, mid-May-Sept.

Total Distance: approx. 3000kms/1864miles.

Airfare Included: No. Internal one way airfare Gobi desert-Ulaanbaatar with domestic tax (approx. \$ 200/178 Euros per person) is quoted separately, and subject to the change by Mongolian airlines.

Tour Customizable: Yes.

Tour Highlights: Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar, meet Samar Magic Tours team. This is a Mongolia Unforgettable Expedition. Authentic Gobi desert Mongolia Expedition gets well off the beaten track and into the Central and to the Southern regions of Mongolia. Enjoy Tsenkher and Shargaljuut Hot Spas. Camel riding, meeting nomadic people, staying in a traditional tent, caving, hiking, hot spa, birdwatching, seeing grasslands and beautiful vistas. This Authentic Gobi desert Mongolia Expedition requires a high degree of planning and preparation. This Expedition requires flexibility, tolerance and spirit of adventure of every journey participant due to the remote wilderness areas. Cars have a hard time. Anyhow the tourism infrastructure has somewhat developed. We would be pleased to have you join us!

The Best Time to Travel to Mongolia: The travel season begins in mid-May, when the tourist Gers camps start opening. July and August are the peaks tourist season. September is autumn.

Brief Itinerary:

Day 1-Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar, meet Samar Magic Tours team. **(D)**

Day 2-Karakorum. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 3-Karakorum-Tsenkher Hot Spa. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 4-Khurjiirt-Orkhon Waterfall. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 5-Shargaljuut mineral hot springs. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 6-Orog Lake. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 7-Ikh Bogd Mountain-Tsagaan Agui (White cave). **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 8-Tsagaan Bulag or White Spring. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 9-Bugiin Tsav (Canyon) in Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Days 10/11-Largest Hongor Sand dunes-Camel riding. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 12-Bayanzag (Rich in Saxual) or Flaming Cliffs in the Gobi desert. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 13-Yolin Canyon in Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 14-Fly to Ulaanbaatar. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 15-Departure Mongolia. **(B)**

Day-by-day Itinerary:

Day 1-Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar (UB or ULN), meet Samar Magic Tours team and transfer to your selected hotel. The check-in time at hotel is after **02:00P.M.** In the afternoon, City tour: visit the National History Museum-where you will see artifacts from Mongolia and Central Asia from the Stone Age to the present, and the Genghis or Chinggis Khaan square-this is the main square in the heart of Ulaanbaatar. Here you will see a large statue of the Genghis or Chinggis Khaan-inaugurated in 2006 on the occasion of 800th Anniversary of the Great Mongolian Empire of Genghis Khan (1206-2006), the Sukh Baatar Hero along with The Parliament House, Stock Exchange, the Drama Theater and the Palace of Culture. **06:00 P.M.-** National Performers (concert which includes the Tsam dance, traditional Mongolian singers, dancers, Tuvan throat singing and contortionists). Welcome dinner in local restaurant. Overnight at selected hotel. **(D)**

Day 2-A long drive towards to Karakorum (approx. 380 km/236 miles, +10hrs driving) -the Genghis (Chinggis) Khan's 13th century capital and heart of the mighty Mongolian Empire and Okhon river Valley, cradle of Mongolian civilization. Visitors, such as Marco Polo, described its ornate building, including a 2500 sq. meters Palace of Worldly Peace. In 1792 the Monastery still had 62 temples and 10,000 lamas. But in 1930 it became a victim of the Stalin's purges. All but three of the Temples were destroyed and most of the monks were either killed or sent to Siberia. Upon your arrival, to be accommodated. Rest of the time free in your own. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 3-In the morning, visits Erdene zuu monastery, the tortoise rock and the Karakorum museum. In the afternoon, drive further northwest to reach Tsenkher hot springs, situated in a mountain meadow. Relaxing and enjoy baths at Tsenkher hot Spa (89C/192.2F). Visit a Yak breeder's family and experience the traditional customs and lifestyle of local residents. Great opportunities for nature lovers to hike and optional horse ride. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 4-Early drive towards to Orkhon Waterfall via Khurjit (a bumpy dirty off road road) in Ovorkahngai. Orkhon Waterfall is situated in the historically significant Orkhon Valley, whose river flows an incredible 1120km to the North. Also called Ulaan Tsutgalan, the waterfall was formed by a unique combination of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes about 20,000 years ago. The fall is naturally most impressive after heavy rain. This is perfect place for swimming, birdwatching, short trekking and walks around the surrounding area. Camping in tents. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 5-Next, drive further southwest to reach Shargaljuut mineral hot springs in Bayankhongor province (approx. 640km/398miles from UB), area with 116.000 km². Bayankhongor is located in the south-western part of Mongolia, covering the southern plateau of Hangai Mountain ranges, south-eastern ranges of Altai Mountain and the Gobi beyond Altai. This is the major attraction in Bayankhongor aimag (province) is the 300 or so hot and cold water mineral springs, some of them with sulfur mud at Shargaljuut. It is located about 60kms north-east of Bayankhongor city, the springs are one of the few natural attractions in the Gobi region that are easily accessible from a province capital. Enjoy the mineral hot springs. Camping in tents by the springs. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 6-Drive south towards to the saltwater Orog Nuur-this is a lake is in the end of the Tuin river, which passes through small city of Bayankhongor. It lies in the territory of Bogd soum, at an altitude of 1198m, covering 140km² areas. This saltwater lake has no outgoing streams and is rich in fish. Orog Lake is popular with birdlife especially the Relic Gull, Whooper Swan and Geese. Herbs such as liquor ice grow around the area. This is one of the main stopover sites of migratory birds and also breeding ground. Camping in tents by the lake. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 7-Drive south towards to Tsagaan Bulag or White Spring. On the way, will cross the Ikh Bogd Mountain, which is a high mountain range to the south of the lake. Opportunity of viewing the strange figure that was created by aliens in Tsagaan Bulag or White Spring. Camping in tents by Tsagaan Bulag or White Spring. Camping in tents. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 8-Drive south towards to Tsagaan Agui-this 40m long cave located in the Tsahir mountain of Bayanlig has traces of ancient people from around 700,000 years ago. This site is the oldest that has been found in Mongolia. Camping in tents. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 9-Continuous drive further south to reach Bugiin Tsav, situated 50km/31miles north from Khermen Tsav in Bulgan Soum, Umnugobi province (South Gobi desert). The area is rich of fossilized dinosaur finds. Fossils of many different species like dinosaurs, a turtle, a fish and a mollusk along with interesting traces showing their lifestyle lie around the ground everywhere and it really catches researchers' as well as people's interest. Skeleton of carnivorous Tarbosaurus found in the area is now being kept as a show in the Museum of Natural History. Bugiin Tsav is a special protected area in the zone of natural complex area called "Gobi Gurvan Saikhan". Camping in tents. **(B)(L)(D)**

Days 10/11-A long trip towards to Hongor Giant Sand dunes in Gobi desert. Arrive and to be transferred. Exploration and enjoy and climb up to over 200 m high Khongoryn els (Singing sand dunes) and ride two humped camels around picturesque desert oasis Khongor river. Overnight in tourist Gers camp in Hongor sand dunes. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 12-A long drive towards to Bayanzag (Rich in Saxual) or Flaming Cliffs in South Gobi desert. Explore Bayanzag (Rich in Saxual) or Flaming Cliffs-here Roy Chapman Andrews, an American paleontologist and staff of the Museum of Natural History in New York first found 4-6 inches dinosaur eggs here in 1922. The large dinosaur skeletons placed at the Museum of Natural History in Ulaanbaatar was also found here by a Russian-Mongolian expedition. Bayanzag is referred as Flaming Cliffs for its amazing colors and shape). Enjoy the Gobi sunset at the legendary "Flaming Cliffs," which glow brilliantly at sunrise and sunset. Dinner and overnight in tourist Gers camp in Bayanzag. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 13-Today, we drive to explore Yolyn Am Canyon or Valley of Vultures in Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park. The Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park was established in 1993, and expanded to its current size in 2000. This the largest national park in Mongolia. In the afternoon, you will have the opportunity for hiking in the ice valley of Gobi, the stunning landscapes. There is a small museum, which displays dinosaur eggs, some bones and stuffed birds and leopards. Explore the area on foot. Dinner and overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 14-Fly back to Ulaanbaatar (approx. 1.30-1.50hrs). Arrive and transfer to hotel. Shopping for souvenirs and cashmere is optional. Farewell dinner at local restaurant. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 15-Breakfast. Transfer. Departure Mongolia. **(B). End of our services.**

What's Included?

2 nights at selected hotel in Ulaanbaatar, based on double or twin standard room.
6 nights in the tourist camps, based on private Ger.
6 nights camping in tent, based on twin occupancy, included tents and all camping gears.
Full board (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner).
Cook, kitchen equipment for camping days.
All transportation on 4WD vehicle in private including all petrol.
Services of English speaking guide with one airfare from Gobi to Ulaanbaatar with domestic tax.
Entrance fees to the all specified protected areas, national parks, museums, and the monastery.
One Mongolian traditional folk songs concert.
Relaxing and enjoy baths at Tsenkher hot spa & Shargaljuut hot spas (1 hr).
2 hours of camel riding on the largest sand dunes.
Meeting nomadic families.
Letter-visa support if it will be necessary.
Taxes.

What's Not Included?

Internal one way airfare Gobi desert-Ulaanbaatar with domestic tax (approx. \$ 200/178 Euros per person) is quoted separately, and subject to the change by Mongolian airlines.
International flights.
Occasional flight delays or cancellation.
Visa (if it will be necessary).
Excess baggage (the internal flight allowance only to carry 5 kg and luggage 10 kg, totally 15 kg load for domestic flight, and above that overweight must be paid (\$1.5/1kg).
The binoculars, telescopes and tripod.
Sleeping bag.
Mineral water (*you need to buy its in Ulaanbaatar city, prior to departure to the countryside).
Any rescue costs or costs of early departure.
Changing of date of departure from Ulaanbaatar.
The traveler is responsible for having proper travel documents, such as a valid passport, proper visa, the necessary passport pictures, and the International airfares.
Travel insurance.
Items of personal nature such as gratuities to porters at hotels, telephone / telex / fax charges, laundry, beverages, meals, optional activities (as fishing, horseback riding, sauna, etc.), and services not specified in the itinerary.
Any circumstances beyond of our control, such as the imposition of quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, etc.

YOU WILL NEED TO PACK THE FOLLOWING FOR THE CAMPING DAYS:

Cap.
Binoculars, telescopes and tripod.
Warm jacket, sweater, hat (rain jacket).
Warm gloves rain wears (preferably coat & pants).
Sleeping bag.
Hiking boots (waterproof if possible).
Comfortable shoes for in camp.
Washcloth & towel.
Flashlight.
Mosquito repellent.
Sunscreen.
Water bottle.
Camera and film.
A change of clothing personal toiletries.
Personal medications and liquor of choice.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

HOW TO JOIN: All the tours are "Land Only", so you need to book your own International flights, unless otherwise specified in the tour description. Joining information will be sent to you upon confirmation.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: These require a booking form and a deposit which is non-refundable. Booking requests with deposits will be considered in order of their receipt. A booking form is accepted and acceptance becomes definite only from the date that we have confirmed acceptance in writing and issued a confirmation invoice. At this point, a contract between the applicant and us comes into existence. We reserve the absolute right to decline any bookings for any legal reasons whatsoever, at our sole discretion.

Payment of the balance: of the tour cost is due not later than ten or eight weeks before the departure date. **Your tour price is guaranteed:** once Samar Magic Tours has received your full payment. All tour prices are in US dollars and in Euro and are based on tariff and rates of currency exchange in effect at the time of printing. No further reminder will be sent and, if payment is not received by the due date, I reserve the right to treat the booking as cancelled and charge a cancellation fee, the amount of which will not exceed the total cost of the holiday. You are therefore strongly recommended to take out travel insurance at an early stage to cover you in event of cancellation. All itineraries are as written, but reserve the right to alter these due to any unforeseen circumstances, and will notify you of any changes as soon as possible.

Refunds: Deposits are non-refundable.

60-16 working days prior to departure: 50% of Land Cost.

15-00 working days prior to departure: No refund.

Air cancellation terms are additional: The air fares are subject to change based on availability at the time of entering the reservation. Rates in international or national flights or train tickets only freeze the issuance and payment in full of the tickets. Tickets are not refundable and can only be annulled on the day of issue. All cancellation requests are required in writing. Telephone / verbal cancellation is not accepted.

HOTELS: By hotels policy check-in time is after **14:00**. Early check-in is 30% of regular day extra charge directly to the tourists and **NO** to Samar Magic Tours. By hotels policy check-out time is before **12:00** noon. Late check out extra fee is required directly from the tourists and **no** from Samar Magic Tours. From 12:00-15:00 30%, from 15:00 - 18:00 50% charge and after 18:00 its full day charge.

PASSPORT, VISA AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: All participants are responsible for, and must be in possession of, a full passport, valid for at least six months beyond the end of the tour. In addition, participants must obtain any necessary visas and vaccination certificates required for the tour.

ACCEPTANCE OF RISK: The Client acknowledges that the nature of the tour is adventurous and that such holidays may involve a significant amount of personal risk. The Client hereby assumes all such risk and does hereby release the Company from all claims and causes of action arising from any damages or injuries or death resulting from these inherent risks.

CHARGE FOR CHILDREN IN MONGOLIA:

0-3 years old: free;

From 4-11 years old: 50% at the regular adult price.

From 12 years old and above: 100% at the regular adult price.

For children 11 and under: if they are sharing bed with either parent and do not ask for a third bed in the same room, they will be charged the child fare. If they need the third bed in parents' room, they will be charged 80% of the adult fare.

For children 12 and over: they will be charged at the regular adult price.