



Treasures of Northern and Central Mongolia

Key Information:

Trip Length: 13 days/12 nights.

Trip Type: Easy to Moderate.

Tour Code: **SMT-TNC-13D**

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

Meeting/Departure Points: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Group size: 1-3 adults or more participants.

Season: Daily, mid-May-Sept.

Total Distance: approx. 3000kms/1864miles.

Airfare Included: No.

Tour Customizable: Yes

Tour Highlights: Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar, meet Samar Magic Tours team. Treasures of Northern and Central Mongolia gets you from Grasslands to the Great Khuvsgul Lake National Park in the Far Northern of Mongolia (close to Siberia) and to the All Highlights of Central Mongolia. Enjoy the view of the beautiful lake Khuvsgul, a crystal clear water lake that stretches over 100 miles. Explore the area on foot or on horseback. Here, you will have the opportunity to do several optional activities. Lake Khuvsgul-is the largest fresh water lake in Mongolia by volume, and it is located in the northwest of Mongolia, near the Russian border, at the foot of the eastern Sayan Mountains. It is 1,645 metres (5,397 feet) above sea level, 136kms (85 miles) long and 262 metres (860 feet) deep. It is the second-most voluminous freshwater lake in Asia, and holds almost 70% of Mongolia's fresh water and 0.4% of all the fresh water in the world and second largest by area. The Park is home to a variety of wildlife such as ibex, argali, elk, wolf, wolverine, musk deer, brown bear, Siberian moose, and sable. **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-Great Statue of Genghis Kan or Chinggis Khan-Terelj National Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 3-Terelj National Park-Amarbayasgalant monastery. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 4-Uran-Togoo Tulga Uul Natural Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 5-Murun-Great Lake Khuvsgul National Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 6-Great Lake Khuvsgul National Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 7-Murun-Jargalant village-Jargal hot spa. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 8-Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan-Horgo Extinct Volcano National Park. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 9-Tsetserleg-Tairkhar rock-Tsenkher hot springs. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 10-Karakorum-Erdene zuu monastery-Orkhon Valley. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 11-Hogno Khaan Natural Reserve-Elsen Tasarkhai sand dunes-Camel riding. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 12-Hustain Nuruu Wild Horses National Park-Ulaanbaatar. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 13-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 hotel. The check-in time at hotel is after **02:00P.M.** In the afternoon, City tour: visit the Genghis Kan 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. Visit the National History Museum-where you will see artifacts from Mongolia and Central Asia from the Stone Age to the present. **06:00 P.M.-**Evening National Performers (concert which includes the Tsam dance, traditional Mongolian singers, dancers, Tuvan throat singing and contortionists). Welcome dinner in local restaurant. Overnight at your selected hotel. **(D)**

Day 2-In the early morning, visit the Gandantegchinlen Monastery is a Tibetan-style Buddhist monastery, that has been restored and revitalized since 1990. The Tibetan name translates to the "Great Place of Complete Joy". It currently has over 150 monks in residence. It features a 26.5-meter-high statue of Avalokitesvara. It came under state protection in 1994. Afterward, drive towards N/E to visit the 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of Genghis or Chinggis Khaan. Visitors walk to the head of the horse through its chest and neck of the horse, where they can have a panoramic view. Continue north further to Terelj National Park. The valley is about 20kms/10miles long at 1600m. This picturesque National Park is a part of Khan Khentii Strictly Protected Area. It is a great place for hiking, trekking, even you can rock climb here at its natural steep granite walls. On the way, we explore the 100 Lamas cave, where 100 Lamas hide from the soviets repression. Explore on foot the Turtle shaped original giant rock. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 3-A long drive further to reach Amarbayasgalant monastery. Explore on foot, the monastery complex and statues on the mountain. Amarbayasgalant monastery was originally built in 1737 by the Manchurian King Kansu, who dedicated it to the great Mongolian Buddhist and sculptor, Zanabazar. Amarbayasgalant was one of the greatest Buddhist pilgrimage centers where between the 17th and 19th Centuries about one thousand lamas lived, chanted and studied. In 1996, was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 4-Next, drive towards to Uran-Togoo Tulga Uul Natural Park in Bulgan province. Explore the area of Uran extinct volcano on foot. This area has been protected as a "Natural Monument" since 1965, and covers 58 square km. The protected area is the home of numerous kinds of rare animals. Uran extinct volcano is at an elevation of 1,686 meters above sea level. On the top is a crater with a small crater lake of about 20 meters in diameter. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 5-A long trip via Muron towards to the Great Lake Khuvsgul National Park-known as blue pearl of Mongolia, located close to the Siberian border. Stop in-route in the Valley of Kings for the display of the ancient burial grounds of the Turkic nobles and a view of the carved "Deer Stones". Khuvsgul is the second largest freshwater lake in Central Asia. Khuvsgul water is crystal fresh and clear that you can drink the water and see points at as deep as 24.5m. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 6-A free day and relaxation in Khuvsgul Lake National Park. Enjoy the view of the beautiful lake Khovsgol, a crystal clear water lake that stretches over 100 miles. Explore the area on foot. Ride horses on the steppes. Optional activities such as fishing, boating, horseback riding, sauna, birdwatching, etc. (optional payment on site!). Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 7-Drive via Muron towards to reach Jargalant hot springs. A perfect stop over for travelers. Enjoy the hot spa. Overnight in Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 8-Drive towards to Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan-Khorgo Extinct Volcano National Park-this is a freshwater lake with volcanic area around it is certainly the highlight of Arkhangai province. As you hike up the volcano, the dramatic scenery of the beautiful alpine lake to the west and volcanic lava flows to the east will open in front of you. Explore the area on foot. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 9-A long drive towards via Tsetserleg city to reach Tsenkher hot springs, situated in a mountain meadow. On the way, stop to visit Taikhar rock-is situated at the south bank of Tamir River. 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 10-Continue our great journey to Karakorum-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. Now there is a museum and restored. Visits Erdene zuu monastery, the turtle monument and the museum. Free time in Orkhon Valley. Today, the cultural heritage of the valley constitutes a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 11-Drive to reach to Hognu Khaan Natural Reserve-this mountain is at an elevation of 1967m and is perfect for short trekking and walks around the surrounding area and there are some remains of an ancient Uvgun small temple. Explore Elsen Tasarkhai, is a part of the 80 km/50 miles long Mongol Els Sand Dunes and is located on about 270kms/167miles west from the capital Ulaanbaatar. The nature in this area is really spectacular and great for relaxing. During the trip, you will also have opportunities to optional ride two-humped Bactrian camel, walk on sand dunes, and walk and relax in beautifully serene nature. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 12-Drive back to Ulaanbaatar. Stop in route, to visit Hustain Nuruu Wild Horses Reserve (hustai is Mongolian for birch and nuruu means mountains) measures about 57,000 hectares, or including the buffer zone 120.000 ha., and is located on about 100kms/62 miles west from the capital Ulaanbaatar. The flagship species for the Hustain Nuruu Nature Reserve is the reintroduced Przewalski horse. Continuous drive further to UB. Arrive and transfer to hotel. Shopping for souvenirs and cashmere. Farewell dinner at local restaurant. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 13-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.

10 nights in the tourist camps, based on private Gers.

Full board (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner) including one bottle of mineral water.

Services of English speaking guide.

All transportation on Japanese vehicle in private (4WD) including the all petrol.

Entrance fees to the all specified protected areas, national parks, the Great Statue of Genghis or Chinggis Khaan, museums, monuments, and the monastery.

One Mongolian traditional folk songs concert.

Relaxing and enjoy baths at Tsenkher hot spa & Jargal hot spa (**1**hr).

Camel riding on Elsen Tasarkhai sand dunes (**1** hr).

Horseback riding (**1** hr).

Meeting Nomadic people.

Taxes.

What's Not Included?

Flights and occasional flight delays or cancellation.

Visa.

Excess baggage.

The binoculars, telescopes and tripod (if necessary).

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 (such as fishing, boating, 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.

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 or Train cancellation terms are additional: The air fares or train tickets 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.