# In the Realm of Genghis Khan

ANCIENT KARAKORUM, NADAAM FESTIVAL, AND THE GOBI



### TRIP DATES

2024 July 9-21, 2024 Naadam in Ulaanbaatar August 3-15, 2024 Naadam in Danshig 2025 July 9-21, 2025 Naadam in Ulaanbaatar August 1-13, 2025 Naadam in Danshig

Please note: Insurance for emergency evacuation is required for this trip. Call for more details.



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### In the Realm of Genghis Khan ANCIENT KARAKORUM, NADAAM FESTIVAL, AND THE GOBI

Mongolia is magnificently remote, its unfenced grasslands dotted with nomad camps and herds of yaks and horses. In this mesmerizing realm, we'll see the wild horses of Khustain Nuruu National Park and explore the ruins of ancient Karakorum, once the capital of Genghis Khan's empire. In the Gobi, we hike in the dramatic gorge of the Yol Valley, watch the sun set over the fabled Flaming Cliffs, and even ride a Bactrian camel. Along the way, we'll be welcomed into an authentic nomadic culture as we spend nights in our cozy traditional gers (yurts) and attend a local Naadam festival, a quintessentially Mongolian celebration with archery, wrestling, and cross-country horse races.



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# Itinerary

#### DAY 1 ULAANBAATAR

Arrive in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia's capital, where we are met and transferred to our comfortable, centrally located hotel. The contrast between ancient traditions and the dawning of a 21st century democracy is most visible in Ulaanbaatar, the capital city, where "suburbs" of traditional gers (felt tents) coexist with blocks of Soviet-style apartments and the very modern city center with its shiny new highrises. The remainder of the day is at your leisure and we'll gather for our trip orientation and a Welcome Dinner this evening. Overnight at hotel...D

Mongolia is renowned as the land of Genghis Khan and his fearsome army, who conquered vast areas, creating the largest empire the world has ever known. Less known is that soon after the conquests, Mongolians, guided by Tibetan lamas, began an exploration of their inner world through Tibetan Buddhism. In 1576, in gratitude for his conversion, Altan Khan, the leader of Mongolia and a descendant of the legendary Genghis Khan, bestowed the title "Dalai Lama" upon his spiritual guru, Sonam Gyatso. This spiritual bond between Tibet and Mongolia continues into the present day, and some of the most extraordinary Tibetan-Buddhist art in the world is in Mongolia.

#### DAY 2

#### GANDAN MONASTERY / SUKHBAATAR SQUARE / NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM / ZAISAN MEMORIAL

Established in 1835, the Gandan Monastery, known as the seat of Buddhism in Mongolia, is an impressive complex and one of the few monasteries that escaped the ravages of Stalin's purges of the 1930s. We'll explore its temples, courtyards, chanting halls, and see some of the maroon-robed monks (more than 300 monks are in residence today) during their daily rituals, including the reading of sutras—teachings of the Buddha. We should even hear the low tones of the horns used to call the monks to the temple as we stroll through the monastery grounds. We'll also visit the seven-story-tall statue of Bodhisattva Avalokitesvara, who represents the compassion of all Buddhas, encrusted with more than 2,200 gems and gilded with gold leaf.

In Sukhbaatar Square, named after the revolutionary leader who led Mongolia to independence from Manchuria in the 1920s, we'll see the Great Khans Memorial—a resounding declaration of pride for many Mongols after 80 years of Soviet domination when Mongolian history was a taboo subject. The National History Museum offers utterly fascinating insights into Mongolian history with its displays of traditional implements of daily nomadic life including Stone and Bronze Age artifacts, the historic dress of Mongolia's minority tribes, and sacred religious relics. We also visit the Zaisan Memorial, a monument built during Mongolia's Soviet era to commemorate Soviet and Mongolian soldiers who fought in World War II. Set on one of the hills surrounding Ulaanbaatar, it offers panoramic views of the capital to the



#### TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

Length:	13 days							
Arrive:	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia							
Depart:	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia							
Lodging:	8 nights ger camps, 4							
	nights hotels							
Meals:	All included							
	(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch,							
	D=Dinner)							
Activity:	Archaeology, Cultural							
	Adventures, Hiking /							
	Trekking							
Trip Level:	1 2 3 4 5 6 7							
	Rugged road travel,							
	walking and light hiking,							
	cultural adventures							

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness an authentic local Naadam Festival, an exuberant expression of Mongolia's ancient culture
- Visit the ruins of Karakorum, Genghis Khan's capital, meet traditional nomad families
- See the wild horses of Khustain Nuruu National Park
- In the Gobi, explore Yol Valley and the famous Flaming Cliffs

### Itinerary (cont'd)



surrounding gers and the immense grasslands beyond. This evening, we'll meet with a local Mongolian who will shed light on the culture, history, and society of this fascinating country. Overnight at hotel...BLD

### DAY 3

#### NAADAM FESTIVAL

Today we witness a Naadam Festival, a uniquely Mongolian holiday that includes wrestling, horseback racing, and archery—three age-old sports that Mongolians traditionally used to measure the courage and strength of nomads and warriors. Contemporary Naadam events showcase the abilities of local men, women, boys, and girls, and are also a time for friends to get together to celebrate the 1921 Revolution, when Mongolia declared independence from the Qing Dynasty. Overnight at hotel...BLD

#### DAY 4

#### HUSTAIN NURUU NATIONAL PARK

In the morning, we visit the Chinggis Khaan Museum. After admiring its collection of Genghis Khan artifacts, we head out of the capital and into the open country to Hustain Nuruu National Park, home to the last remaining species of wild horse, the takhi, known as Przewalski's horse. In 1994, 25 years after they became extinct in the wild, the horses were reintroduced from international zoo populations by a Dutch organization, which flew 16 horses to Mongolia. Since then, more than 100 healthy foals have been born and these intriguing creatures once again inhabit ancient lands. We learn about conservation efforts and enjoy seeing these beautiful horses in their natural habitat. An afternoon drive brings us to the spectacular site of the Ongot Monument, one of the largest grave complexes in central Asia that dates back 1,500 years. Overnight at ger camp...BLD Approximate driving time: 2 hours



Horse-Based Nomadic Cultures of Mongolia: Because of the short growing season, animal husbandry defines the nomadic lifestyle of Mongolia, with agriculture playing a very distant secondary role. Nomads raise five types of animals: goats, sheep, cattle (including yaks in the mountains), camels, and horses. These are "the five snouts" that provide food, dairy products, transportation, and wool. Of these animals, the horse holds the preeminent position in Mongolian hearts and legends. Nomadic families follow a seasonal routine, moving their herds to a new grazing land based on the time of year. Historically, each clan had various chosen grazing grounds that were used exclusively by the same clan year after year. This tradition carries on today, and families return to the same locations at the same time each year, traveling at

the end of winter from a specific valley in spring to a particular area on the high plateau for grazing on summer pastures. We'll pass many nomadic dwellings as we journey across Mongolia, and will have the chance to stop at gers where we'll be welcomed in traditional style.

#### DAY 5

#### KARAKORUM / ERDENEZUU MONASTERY

Crossing the vast grasslands and following the swells of the land, we reach the Orkhon Valley, the cradle of Mongolian civilization, and the ancient site of Karakorum. We explore Erdenezuu, Mongolia's largest monastery built over the ruins of the 13th century capital of Mongolia. The empire created by Genghis Khan and his descendants was the largest contiguous land empire in recorded history. The great Khan and his grandson Khublai Khan created Karakorum as the heart of their empire. It was later abandoned by Khublai Khan for his new city in Beijing, and only a few traces are left of Kharakhorum, but Erdenezuu was built from its ruins in the 16th century. Surrounded by 108 graceful white stupas, Erdenezuu



has been a place of Buddhist worship for more than 500 years, with temples in many different styles, some with absolutely exquisite frescoes. Overnight at a ger camp at Karakorum...BLD

Approximate driving time: 4-5 hours

#### DAY 6

#### KARAKORUM MUSEUM / KULTIGEN MONUMENT

From our comfortable ger camp, we head to the Karakorum Museum to see some of the fascinating archaeological findings from Mongolian and German expeditions. Their exhibits are constantly growing with new findings from ongoing explorations in the area, creating an extensive and fascinating collection. We'll also visit the giant Kultigen Monument, constructed by the Turkic Empire in the 8th century in honor of their then-prince. We'll make our way near the winding Orkhon Gol River to visit the ruined citadel of Khar Balgas. This emplire ruled Mongolia from 744 to 840, and from the walls we'll be able to see rows of stupas and the remains of a once-flourishing city that had an elaborate plumbing and irrigation system from the Orkhon. Dinner and overnight at the ger camp at Karakorum...BLD Approximate driving time: 3 hours

#### DAY 7

#### SOUTH GOBI / ONGYN KHIID

We head south to the Gobi! Leaving the forests and grasslands behind, we travel to the Ongyn Khiid Monastery, one of the largest monasteries in Mongolia before it was reduced to rubble by the Soviets less than a century ago. Considered the "Pearl of the Great Desert," it was home to four Buddhist universities and more than twenty temples. We'll explore its ruins, walking through the haunting remains set in dramatic mountain scenery. Overnight at ger camp...BLD

Approximate driving time: 5-6 hours



### Itinerary (cont'd)



#### DAY 8

#### GURVAN SAIKHAN GOBI NATIONAL PARK

The vast and diverse region of Mongolia's southernmost province is a wild and wind-swept landscape that preserves much of the history of our planet's past inhabitants. This is the land of dinosaurs, where some of the greatest discoveries in paleontology have been made. South Gobi's remote location creates an austere, yet peaceful and enchanting escape. Our home base for exploring the Gobi is the award-winning Gobi Mirage, a family-run ger camp offering great hospitality and comfort...BLD Approximate driving time: 4-5 hours

#### DAYS 9-10 YOL VALLEY / FLAMING CLIFFS

Cradled between the foothills of the Altai Mountains, Yol Valley National Park offers a stunning blend of lush and arid environments. An ancient river carved this surprisingly green valley, and a walk here is a chance to discover habitat for indigenous vulture-like lammergeiers, Altai snowcocks, ibex, yaks, and Argali mountain sheep. We'll hike into the river canyon, then head out to the site of the most important paleontological discoveries of the 20th century—the Flaming Cliffs, named for the glowing orange color of the rock at sunset. This area of sandstone rock outcrops is where, in 1922, paleontologist and explorer Roy Chapman Andrews discovered a nest of perfectly preserved dinosaur eggs, the first ever to be found, transforming the understanding of the age of dinosaurs and their connection to modern species. We walk through this



dramatic area, where Chapman also found a trove of dinosaur bones and fossils, visit the stunning Moltsog Els, one of the few regions of the Gobi covered by sand dunes, and have an opportunity to ride a Bactrian (two-humped) camel. We may also head out to the renowned site of the "Fighting Dinosaurs," where a Polish team in the early 1970s discovered fossils from the late Cretaceous Period of a protoceratops and a velociraptor locked in combat. We'll explore on foot, having the chance to explore as paleontologists do, looking for clues

from 65 million years ago. We'll enjoy this enchanting site with a sundowner, then return to the Gobi Mirage for dinner and overnight. On one night, we'll have dinner with members of an NGO that is working to register the Flaming Cliffs as a UNESCO World Heritage Site...BLD each day Approximate driving time: 1.5 hours (Day 9)

#### **DAY 11**

#### ULAANBAATAR / GORKHI-TERELJ NATIONAL PARK

We fly back to the capital of Ulaanbaatar, then drive to a locally protected area adjacent to Gorkhi-Terelj National Park to explore Mongolia's verdant grass steppe and the southern Khentii mountain range. We'll take hikes and explore the ecology of

the area. Our overnight stay in a traditional ger camp allows us to experience the hospitality of the steppe as well as the unique feeling of being completely immersed in nature. Overnight at ger camp...BLD Approximate driving time: 1.5-2.5 hours

#### DAY 12 ULAANBAATAR

We spend the morning exploring the park, then return to Ulaanbaatar with a stop en route at the impressive Genghis Khan equestrian statue (some 130 feet tall!). We'll then have the afternoon at leisure for individual sightseeing or shopping. This is a great time to find some of Mongolia's renowned cashmere, and your Trip Leader is happy to make recommendations of the best shops. A fascinating cultural performance featuring traditional Mongolian dancers and hoomi (throat) singers caps off our adventure. Hoomi, sometimes described as "double singing" is actually several notes being produced simultaneously, an eerily beautiful acoustic skill requiring years of training. After the performance, we'll enjoy followed a festive Farewell Dinner at a nearby restaurant. Overnight at hotel...BLD

Approximate driving time: 1.5-2.5 hours

#### DAY 13 DEPART After breakfast, transfer to the airport for departure...B

Please note: Our itinerary is subject to change and will remain somewhat flexible to accommodate weather and road conditions.



### Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

#### TRIP COST

#### Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$5695 (10-15 members)\$5995 (4-9 members)Single supplement: \$825Internal airfare: \$195 (subject to change)

#### 2025 Trip Cost: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

#### CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

#### TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader
- Accommodations in ger camps and hotels
- All meals
- All ground transportation and baggage handling from meeting until departure
- All activities as indicated in Detailed Itinerary

#### TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, optional gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors; pre-trip expenses of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

#### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600 90 days prior to departure: Balance

#### CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge! 61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost 46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost 45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: <u>www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance</u>

### Extend Your Adventure!

To help you make the most of your adventure, we've created several exciting trip extensions. For detailed information, including full itineraries and complete pricing, please visit our webpage and click on "Extend Your Trip": <u>https://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/mongolia-karakorum-gobi-desert-tour/</u>



#### LAKE HOVSGOL EXTENSION

Mystical Lake Hovsgol ("Blue Water Lake"), sacred to Mongolians, is 85 miles long and 18 miles wide, and ringed by 9,000-foot peaks, pristine larch forests, and wildflowerfilled meadows. Home to traditional nomad families and their herds, the lake is a sublime place to enjoy nature walks and cultural interactions. Hovsgol lies at the southern end of the Baikal Rift zone and is a sister to Baikal in Siberia.

(Note: This itinerary is for a post-trip extension; call us for details regarding a pre-trip extension.) *5 days. From \$2395.* 

#### WESTERN MONGOLIA EXTENSION

The mystical Altai Mountains in Western Mongolia are one of the last true wilderness areas of Asia. Their stunning beauty-with several snow-capped peaks reaching upwards of 14,000 feet—is the backdrop for this extraordinary adventure. From pristine lakes teeming with fish to meadows strewn with fuchsia and topaz wildflowers to magnificent alpine scenery, this extension provides a rare glimpse of some of Mongolia's most remote and uncharted areas. A highlight is the chance to interact with local Kazakh families and learn about their unique culture and pastoral-nomadic lifestyle that has been preserved through the ages. You'll have a chance to meet them in their gers, hike in the surrounding mountains, and spend a day with a group of eagle trainers, who hunt with their eagles for fox and hare during the winter months. 6 days. From \$2795.



### Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

If you have booked extra services before or after the trip, an Extra Services Confirmation will be sent with your Final Documents.

### ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Suggested Airport: Chinggis Khaan International Airport (UBN) Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, by 3:00 pm

**Meeting Place:** A complimentary transfer is provided from the Ulaanbaatar airport to the Best Western Premier Tuushin Hotel for all trip members upon arrival. A Wilderness Travel representative will meet you outside the customs area and will be holding a Wilderness Travel sign and/or a sign with your name on it. An orientation and Welcome Dinner will take place on the evening of Day 1 at the hotel. Hotel check-in begins at 2:00 pm.

#### DEPARTURE

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Suggested Airport: Chinggis Khaan International Airport (UBN) Suggested Date & Time: Day 13, anytime

On Day 13, the last day of the trip, a complimentary transfer will be provided from the Best Western Premier Tuushin Hotel to the airport. Hotel check-out is by 12:00 pm.

#### INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found at <u>www.exitotravel.com</u>. **Incheon Airport Transit Hotel at the Seoul Airport** If you have a long connection in Seoul, we suggest the Incheon Airport Transit Hotel (also known as the Air Garden Hotel), located on the 4th floor of the Incheon International Airport. You can book via their website: <u>www.airgardenhotel.com</u>.

#### **CITIC Hotel at Beijing Airport**

If your schedule requires extra nights in Beijing, we suggest the CITIC Hotel Beijing Airport, located just minutes from the airport. A complimentary shuttle between the hotel and the airport departs approximately every 30 minutes. You can book via their website: <u>www.citichotelbeijing.com</u>.

The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US. **Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip.** Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule so we can arrange your airport transfers accordingly. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

### Accommodations



BEST WESTERN PREMIER TUUSHIN HOTEL Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia Days 1 to 3 (3 nights) Day 12 (1 night)

You can expect traditional Mongolian friendliness and hospitality at this large modern hotel, set in the heart of Ulaanbaatar. It's close to all the major sites of the city and an ideal place to relax during your time in Mongolia's capital city. Guest rooms are spacious, and there's a great view from the bar on the top floor. Facilities include three restaurants, a fitness center, sauna, and spa, where you can treat yourself to a relaxing massage.



MONGOLIAN GER CAMPS Mongolia Days 4 to 7 (4 nights)

Gers are the traditional yurt-like tents used by Mongolian nomads for centuries, and these simple fixed camps are specially built and operated for visitors. They come equipped with beds and linens (and may also have a small table and stools), and are heated by a wood or coal stove. Meals are served in a central lodge or tent. Most of the camps have centrally located shared bathrooms. Please be prepared for limited shower use, as shower water is often solar heated and may not be available daily. Gers provide an authentic and memorable taste of Mongolian culture and allow us to visit areas that otherwise lack traveler accommodations. Most visitors find their stays at ger camps to be among their most enjoyable experiences in Mongolia.



THE GOBI MIRAGE Mongolia Days 8 to 10 (3 nights)

This family-run ger camp is an oasis of hospitality and comfort, with a most friendly and efficient staff. The gers are basic accommodations, but are very clean, have en suite bathrooms, and traditional Mongolian decor. You won't believe the amazing sunsets here!

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *In the Realm of Genghis Khan* webpage and click on the "Accommodations" tab.

# **Trip Leaders**

Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on "Trip Leaders": <u>https://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/mongolia-karakorum-gobi-desert-tour/</u>



#### ANKHAA CHULTEMJAMTS

Born in Bulgan province, northern Mongolia, Ankhtsetseg Chultemjamts (Ankhaa for short) began traveling at a young age, following her father, a civil engineer who worked on various projects around the country. She spent most summers with her grandparents, who practiced traditional animal husbandry, herding livestock, milking cows, making traditional dairy products, and riding horses. As a student Ankhaa started working in the hospitality industry, eventually traveling to Ireland to attend a language school there, followed by several years in the hospitality industry in the UK, primarily in London. She began guiding upon returning home in 2010. Ankhaa is passionate about Mongolia, its history, culture, and traditions and loves sharing her love for the country. She is married and her interests include fitness, hiking, and everything to do with the great outdoors.



#### UNDRAKH BATCHULUUN

A native of Ulaanbaatar, Undrakh has led expeditions throughout Mongolia for the past decade. Her favorite regions include the epic South Gobi Desert and legendary Lake Hovsgol, Mongolia's "Dark Blue Pearl." Undrakh has a gift for facilitating cultural exchange and conversation, and loves sharing the traditions of reindeer herders, shaman, and nomad families with her travelers. Hiking, overland, horseback treks and photography trips are all in Undrakh's repertoire, along with experience as a translator. When not out in the field, she enjoys singing, dancing, playing basketball, and photography.

# Trip Details

#### WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

The trip is Level 2+, Easy to Moderate. Although there is only minimal hiking, this trip involves rugged travel conditions in remote locations, simple accommodations in gers (yurts), and rough roads.

#### A SPECIAL NOTE ON TRAVEL TO MONGOLIA

Mongolia is an exciting destination, and while tourism is growing rapidly, the infrastructure remains limited. The country is modernizing quickly from its Soviet-era standards, but they are not yet up to the level of many countries (particularly felt by travelers on the bumpy roads!). Roads outside Ulaanbaatar are unpaved and often very bumpy and dusty. Travel on these roads are typically in Land Cruisers. Essential requirements for travel in Mongolia are flexibility, a sense of humor, curiosity, enthusiasm about new peoples and places, and an openness to the unexpected.

#### WEATHER

Mongolia has a relatively cool climate with short, mild summers and long, severe winters that last from October to April. Mountain weather is always unpredictable. We'll have many beautifully clear and sunny days with bright blue skies, but come prepared for at least some rain, wind, and some very cold nights and mornings. At high altitudes, nighttime temperatures can drop to 30F! A dusting of snow is not uncommon here at this northern latitude, even in the summer.

#### **BEING A CONSIDERATE TRAVELER**

Please show respect for the cultures we are visiting by observing local customs concerning appropriate dress, particularly in sacred places. Your Trip Leader is always available to answer any questions that you may have regarding this. If it is necessary to use a cell phone during the trip, please do so privately. Smoking is rarely an issue these days, but if you do smoke, please do so only away from the group.

#### CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Asia Manager or email us at asia@ wildernesstravel.com.

#### REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

#### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At <u>www.wildernesstravel.com</u>, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Average Daily Max/Min ºF												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ulaanbaatar	-2/-26	9/-20	25/-8	45/18	55/28	70/45	72/52	70/46	57/36	43/18	21/-4	3/-18
Gobi Desert	17/-4	24/0	41/14	55/32	68/48	77/50	80/53	75/53	68/44	53/32	35/14	23/-4



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

# Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at <u>www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan</u>.

Here's how it works:

#### YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

#### YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

#### YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

#### YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

#### FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

#### TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.





### WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

Best Travel Specialists in the World: Conde Nast Traveler, 2024, 4-time winner World's Best Tour Operators: Travel + Leisure, 11-time winner Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: AFAR Magazine, 3 years in a row Best Adventure Travel Companies: USA Today Trip of the Year: Outside Magazine, 9-time winner 50 Tours of a Lifetime: National Geographic Traveler, 9 years in a row Best Adventure Travel Companies: National Geographic Adventure, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.