



Nomadic Explorer
BEYOND GUIDEBOOK

2026 MONGOLIA

12 DAY CENTRAL MONGOLIA TOUR

Mongolia Wilderness & Nomadic Experience

TOUR CODE: V3C

Introduction

2026 CENTRAL

Experience the best of Central Mongolia in 12 unforgettable days. Explore vast steppes, sand dunes, waterfalls, volcanoes, and lakes while discovering authentic nomadic culture. Ride horses and camels, visit ancient monasteries and national parks, and enjoy Mongolia's unique traditions, landscapes, and hospitality.



Tour Highlights

CENTRAL MONGOLIA



Experience authentic Mongolian nomadic life and stay with local herder families



Ride horses across the steppe and camels through the golden dunes of the Mini Gobi



Explore Mongolia's iconic landscapes, monasteries, and ancient heritage

Trip Overview

Day	Theme	Key Activities	Meal
1	Ulaanbaatar arrival	Airport transfer and free time for leisure	D
2	Terelj National park	Chinggis Khan Statue, Aryabal Temple, horseback riding	B,L,D
3	Khustai National park	Nomadic family visit, cultural show, wild horse park	B,L,D
4	Elsen Tasarkhai	Camel riding and nomadic family	B,L,D
5	Orkhon Waterfall	Waterfall and Orkhon Valley	B,L,D
6	Tuvkhun Monastery & Hotspring	Horseback riding and hot springs	B,L,D
7	Terkhi National park	Taikhar Rock, museum visit, volcanic landscapes	B,L,D
8	Terkhi National park	Nomadic life experience, local activities	B,L,D
9	Ugii lake & Kharkhorin	Erdene Zuu and Ugii Lake	B,L,D
10	Return Ulaanbaatar	City tour and folk concert	B,L,D
11	Ulaanbaatar City	City tour, museums, monastery, Zaisan Memorial	B,L,D
12	Departure	Airport transfer	B

Day 1 – Ulaanbaatar Arrival

Welcome to Mongolia! Your journey kicks off at Chinggis Khaan International Airport. Once you've cleared immigration and grabbed your bags, look for your friendly local guide and driver waiting for you in the arrivals hall. They'll whisk you away for a smooth transfer to your hotel in the heart of Ulaanbaatar. Depending on your arrival time, you may have free time to rest or explore the city. enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. This will be your official introduction to authentic Mongolian cuisine. After dinner, return to your hotel for a comfortable overnight stay.



Day 2 – Terelj national park

After breakfast, drive to Chinggis Khan Equestrian Statue at Tsonjin Boldog to visit the impressive equestrian statue of Genghis Khan, the tallest statue of its kind in the world. From the top of the monument, enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding steppe while learning more about Mongolia's rich history.

Continue to Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, known for its dramatic granite rock formations and picturesque valleys. Visit the famous Turtle Rock, one of the park's natural landmarks, before taking a 30-minute horseback ride through the scenic landscape to Aryabal Meditation Temple. From there, enjoy a short uphill walk to the temple, where peaceful surroundings and beautiful views await.

In the late afternoon, attend a Mongolian nomadic cultural presentation, where you will gain insight into the traditional nomadic lifestyle. Learn how nomadic families live in gers, how they dismantle and move their homes across the steppe, and how they produce dairy products using age-old techniques. You will also have the opportunity to meet eagle hunters and learn about their unique heritage and hunting traditions.



Day 3 – Khustai national park

After breakfast, visit a local nomadic family and experience authentic Mongolian hospitality. Learn about the nomadic lifestyle, traditional ger dwelling, and daily customs that have remained unchanged for centuries. Enjoy a short cultural performance featuring traditional throat singing, folk music, and dance.

Following lunch, continue driving to Khustai National Park, internationally recognized for the successful reintroduction of the rare Przewalski's horse, the world's last remaining wild horse species. Explore the park's natural landscapes filled with rolling hills, open steppe, and wildlife including deer, marmots, and eagles.

In the evening, enjoy the peaceful wilderness atmosphere before overnighting at a tourist camp near the national park.



Day 4 – Elsen Tasarkhai

After an early breakfast, drive to Elsen Tasarkhai, often called the “Mini Gobi.” This unique landscape features golden sand dunes blending with green grasslands and rocky hills, creating a striking contrast of scenery.

Upon arrival, enjoy a camel ride across the rolling dunes on a two-humped Bactrian camel, giving you the opportunity to experience the beauty of the steppe and desert landscapes together.

Later, visit a local nomadic family to gain firsthand insight into the traditional Mongolian way of life. Learn how families live in gers, adapt to seasonal changes, and care for their livestock following centuries-old herding traditions. You will also experience the warm hospitality of the nomads and have the chance to taste local dairy products.

In the evening, relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings before spending the night in a traditional ger.



Day 5 – Orkhon Waterfall

After breakfast, travel to the breathtaking Orkhon Waterfall (Ulaan Tsutgalan), located in the heart of the legendary Orkhon Valley — often called the “Valley of Nomads.” This UNESCO-recognized cultural landscape has been the cradle of nomadic civilization for more than 5,000 years and was once the center of great steppe empires, including the Uyghur and Mongol Empires.

Formed by ancient volcanic eruptions and shaped by the powerful Orkhon River, the waterfall cascades dramatically into a deep canyon surrounded by vast grasslands and grazing herds. Upon arrival, enjoy time to explore the area, walk along the riverbanks, and capture stunning photographs of this historic and scenic landscape.

In the late afternoon, transfer to your tourist camp. Enjoy dinner and relax under the expansive steppe sky before an overnight stay in this timeless land of nomads.



Day 6 – Tuvkhun monastery & Hotspring

After breakfast, we will begin the day with a journey to Tuvkhun Monastery, a hidden spiritual site nestled deep in the forest and perched atop a mountain. To reach this mysterious monastery, we will ride horses from the base of the mountain, enjoying a 2–3 hour horseback adventure — a real step into Mongolia’s wild landscapes (don’t worry, it’s not too difficult!).

After exploring the monastery and descending the mountain, we will continue to Jaran Tsagaan Hot Springs, where you can relax and soothe your muscles after a full day of adventure. In the evening, enjoy dinner and overnight stay at Jaran Tsagaan Resort.



Day 7 – Terkhi National Park

Today, continue your journey toward Khorgo–Terkhi National Park, one of Mongolia’s most beautiful volcanic regions. Along the way, stop at Taikhar Rock, a massive granite rock formation covered with ancient inscriptions and local legends.

Continue with a visit to the Arkhangai Museum to learn more about the history, culture, and traditions of the region. Upon arrival at Khorgo–Terkhi National Park, admire the stunning scenery of extinct volcanoes, lava fields, forests, and the crystal-clear waters of Terkhi White Lake.

Enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of the national park before dinner and overnight near the lake.



Day 8 – Terkhi National Park

Spend a full day experiencing authentic Mongolian nomadic life near Terkhi White Lake. Visit a local nomadic family and participate in daily activities such as herding livestock, milking animals, and preparing traditional dairy products.

Learn about the customs, traditions, and self-sufficient lifestyle of Mongolian nomads while sharing homemade meals with the family. This immersive cultural experience provides a deeper understanding of Mongolia's unique way of life and the strong connection between people and nature.

In the evening, enjoy the peaceful countryside atmosphere and overnight in the area.



Day 9 – Ugii Lake & Kharkhorin

After breakfast, travel to Kharkhorin, the ancient city founded in the early 13th century by Chinggis Khan and later expanded under his son Ögedei. Once the heart of the Mongol Empire and an important junction on the old Silk Road, Kharkhorin was a thriving capital before the center of power shifted elsewhere. Visit Erdene Zuu Monastery, Mongolia's oldest surviving Buddhist monastery, built in the late 1500s on the ruins of the former capital using stones from the old city walls. Surrounded by a wall lined with 108 stupas, a sacred number in Buddhism, Erdene Zuu preserves beautiful religious art and reflects centuries of spiritual history, including periods of decline and revival.

After exploring these historic treasures, continue to Ugii Lake, a peaceful freshwater lake known for its rich birdlife and scenic beauty. The calm waters and tranquil surroundings make it a perfect spot to relax, and the sunset here is truly unforgettable. Overnight stay at a nearby tourist camp.



Day 10 – Return Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, begin the scenic drive back to Ulaanbaatar through Mongolia's vast open steppe landscapes. Upon arrival in the city, check into your hotel and enjoy free time for shopping and exploring the capital at your own pace.

Visit local cashmere stores, souvenir shops, and handicraft centers where you can purchase high-quality Mongolian products, traditional handmade items, and gifts to take home. You may also explore nearby cafés and local attractions around the city center before returning to the hotel for an overnight stay.



Day 11 – Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, enjoy a guided city tour of Ulaanbaatar's main cultural and historical attractions. Visit Gandan Monastery, Sukhbaatar Square, and the Chinggis Khan National Museum to learn about Mongolia's rich history and Buddhist traditions. Later, head to Zaisan Memorial for panoramic views of the city before visiting the Bogd Khan Winter Palace Museum, the former residence of Mongolia's last king. Overnight at the hotel.



Day 12 – Departure

After breakfast, check out from your hotel. Your guide and driver will transfer you to Chinggis Khaan International Airport for your departure flight. Your unforgettable journey through the diverse landscapes, rich history, and nomadic culture of Mongolia comes to an end.



Accommodation



Where You'll Stay

- Stay in comfortable 3–4 star hotels in Ulaanbaatar
- Experience authentic Mongolian ger camps and nomadic hospitality
- Enjoy accommodations surrounded by Mongolia's beautiful natural landscapes



Price

Price per person based on twin/double sharing

People	Price (per person USD)
2-3	\$2900
4-5	\$2000
6-7	\$1800
8-9	\$1700
10+	\$1500

Service Includes

- All activities on the itinerary;
- Meals (not drink) as stated in the itinerary (B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner);
- Experienced English-speaking guide;
- Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary;
- Transfers: Airport Pick up and drop as per your flight timings
- Bottle of water on the coach (1 bottle/1 person/1 day)
- Accommodation as mentioned above.
Check in: 2 pm. Check out: 11.am
- Transportation

Service Excludes

- Drinks
- Early check in & late check out room (available upon request and depend on room availability)
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance).
- International or Domestic flight tickets
- Mongolian Visa
- Tipping for guides, drivers, hotel staff, restaurant staff, etc.
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc.
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- All other services not specified in the itinerary
Surcharge for Peak season, Naadam festival(11 of July – 15 of July).

Travel guide & Tips

Mongolia is known for its vast landscapes and rapidly changing weather, so we recommend bringing comfortable outdoor clothing and dressing in layers. Even during summer, mornings and evenings can become cool, especially in the countryside. A light waterproof jacket, comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat are highly recommended for outdoor activities.

While staying in ger camps and visiting remote areas, facilities may be simpler than in the city, but they offer an authentic experience of Mongolian nomadic life. Internet connection can be limited outside Ulaanbaatar, so preparing offline maps or essential information in advance can be helpful.

Mongolian people are known for their warm hospitality, and guests are always welcomed with respect.

When visiting monasteries or nomadic families, modest clothing and respectful behavior are appreciated. Horseback and camel riding activities are suitable even for beginners, and local guides will assist you throughout the experience.





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