



# *A Mongolian Odyssey*

WITH

PANORAMIC JOURNEYS

# A Mongolian Odyssey



Explore spectacular scenery, natural wonders and the country's rich cultural heritage, from the idyllic steppe and sand dunes of Mongolia's heartland to the lakes and mountains in the forested north. This journey includes staying alongside our nomadic friends, a visit to Mongolia's oldest monastery and staying at a secluded eco-camp on the east of Lake Khovsgol with time to explore the wildflower meadows and even try horse riding.

From Ulaanbaatar, head west to see Przewalski's horses at Khustai National Park and ride camels at the Elsen Tasarhai dunes, before arriving at the site of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Mongol capital, Kharkhorin. Watch the morning ceremony at Erdene Zuu monastery and explore the beauty of Tsenkher Valleys. Climb to the crater rim of the extinct Khorgo Volcano on the shores of beautiful White Lake and from here, head north to the crystal clear Alpine Lake Khovsgol to relax and explore in this pristine wilderness. Finally, return to Ulaanbaatar to discover the capital's fascinating museums and markets.





# MAP OF MONGOLIA



DAY	ITINERARY	ACCOMMODATION	TRAVEL DETAILS
1	<p><b>ARRIVE ULAANBAATAR</b></p> <p>Arrive in Ulaanbaatar, where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. At 2pm, if you are not too tired from your long flight, you may like to meet in reception for a walk across the Chinggis Khaan Square to visit the excellent Museum of National History where you can gain an understanding of Mongolia’s remarkable past - a worthwhile introduction to your stay in Mongolia. If you decide instead to rest this afternoon, meet in reception at 7pm where we will take you to dine our favourite restaurants where your guide will run through the plan for tomorrow.</p>	King/Twin room, Tuushin Hotel	Airport transfer (30-50mins)
2	<p><b>ULAANBAATAR TO MONGOL NOMADIC CAMP</b></p> <p>Meet local herders and watch them demonstrate traditional skills they use to produce food and other necessary equipment used to live on the steppe. This is your first opportunity to ride horses, camels, ride on a yak cart or simply enjoy the boundless landscape. This afternoon, visit our local nomadic friend and enjoy traditional hospitality.</p> <p>After dinner, enjoy the dazzling starlit night sky before retiring to your cosy stove lit ger. Half the nation live in gers, the design of which has changed very little since the time of Chinggis Khaan c. 1162 –1227.</p>	– Twin ger, Ger Camp	A 1.5 hrs drive from UB – ger camp
3	<p><b>KHUSTAI NATIONAL PARK AND KHUGNO KHAAN</b></p> <p>Drive to Khustai and enter the park to seek the Takhi, otherwise known as Przewalski's Horse. In addition to the Takhi, there are populations of maral (Asiatic red deer), steppe gazelle, deer, boar, manul wild cat, wolf and lynx.</p> <p>After exploring the park, continue west to Khugno Khaan mountain and the string of dunes known as Elsen Tarsahai. This scenic area is home to camel herding nomads. Arrive at our PJ gers looked after by a local family and enjoy getting to know your hosts and learn about the local area. The facilities are comfortable but basic - the gers are equipped with beds and washbasin, but washing facilities will be limited to a bowl of water and the toilet will be a shared long drop. The family will welcome you into their home and lives.</p>	Shared ger, PJ ger stay	First a 1 hr drive to Khustai, then 4 – 5 hrs drive to Bayangobi
4	<p><b>EXPLORING LOCAL AREA</b></p> <p>After a relaxing start to the day, visit Uvgun monastery and climb into the foothills of Khugno Khaan mountain. This short trek winds along a rugged path to the ruins of an earlier monastery destroyed by Western Oirat Mongols in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. A further trek up the rocky hill is rewarded with views south across the plain.</p> <p>After lunch visit a nearby oasis to see migratory birds and spend time experiencing camel riding near to the dunes. Relax in this beautiful spot and enjoy a sunset with your nomadic friends.</p>	Shared ger, PJ ger stay	No long drives today

### **KHARKHORIN AND ERDENE ZUU MONASTERY**

After breakfast, head 90km west to the ancient capital of Kharkhorin. Arrive at Erdene Zuu Monastery, hopefully in time to hear the monks chanting in the beautifully decorated Tibetan Style temple.

5

Visit the revamped and informative local museum before taking a drive up to the Monument of the Three Empires and the somewhat quirky, and aptly named, 'Fertility Stone'. Visit the local market to stock up on supplies before travelling onwards for approximately 3 hours through the beautiful Tsenkher valleys, to the small town of Tsetserleg. If time this afternoon, you may like to take a wander to the architecturally interesting museum or fill up in your guesthouse bakery!

Guest House

4 hrs  
Bayangobi –  
Kharkhorin –  
Tsetserleg

---

### **CHULUUTIN GORGE AND WHITE LAKE**

After an early breakfast, visit the town's small market where you can stock up on any supplies which might be required for the next few days. Today will be a longer drive, as you cross rolling hills to reach the dramatic Chuluutin Gol Gorge there will be plenty of photography stops along the way before reaching tonight's ger camp in a valley east of White Lake (Tsagaan Nuur). This idyllic and secluded lake is surrounded by mountains and the imposing volcano of Khorgo, which you may like to climb tomorrow. The area is home to traditional yak herding families, their way of life unchanged for centuries, in many ways.

6

Twin ger, Ger Camp

– 4 hrs  
Tsetserleg –  
White Lake

---

### **WHITE LAKE AND KHORGO VOLCANO**

This morning, take a walk from the camp along the local nomad trail over the back of the mountains to see White Lake from above, before walking down to the shore. There is a small beach at the lake so there might be a chance for a bit of sunbathing or swimming in the clear (but cold!) water. Alternatively there may be the chance to head off on horseback. This afternoon, climb to the summit of the volcano and walk around the crater rim.

7

Twin ger, Ger Camp

No long  
drives today

---

### **DRIVE FROM WHITE LAKE TO JARGALANT**

Set out into the hills of Arkhangai province northwards into Khovsgol province and to Jargalant. Travel around the eastern shore of White lake realising just how vast the lake is, before commencing on a drive into the beautiful Jargalant valley. Perhaps stop for a lunch time picnic in one of your drivers spellbinding locations before arriving at Jargalant ger camp in the early afternoon. Take a walk around the small dusty town of Jargalant, visit the tiny museum - measure yourself against one of Jargalant's residents who was once the tallest man in the world, take tea in the small *quanz*, or visit the quaint ger making workshop where most of the parts are still made by hand. As the sun sets enjoy a thermal bath at the ger camp.

8

Twin ger, Ger Camp

A 4hrs drive  
from White  
Lake –  
Jargalant

## JARGALANT TO MURON

9	<p>The road north to Muron is one of Mongolia's less travelled routes and takes you through some stunning territory. Beautiful valleys and high mountain passes make for wonderful panoramic views. before heading to your camp on the Delger River for a sun-downer at arguably, one of the most beautifully situated ger camps in Mongolia.</p>	Twin ger, Ger camp	6 hrs Jargalant – Muron
---	---	--------------------	-------------------------

## MURON - DELGER RIVER

10	<p>This morning you might like a leisurely stroll along the banks of the Delger Muron River before setting off north to Lake Khovsgol. Visit the ancient Ushigiin Uver deer stone site and there should be time to have a little look around the market town of Muron. Visit the local market and stock up on any drinks, snacks or souvenirs which may be required for your two nights at the lake. Return to camp and relax this afternoon – or try activities such as kayaking or walking in this stunning location.</p>	Twin ger, Ger Camp	Only local drives today
----	---	--------------------	-------------------------

## MURON - KHATGAL - LAKE KHOVSGOL

11 & 12	<p>It is about 2 hours drive along the new road to Khatgal village on the shore of Lake Khovsgol. Take a stroll around the little port before taking a boat across to the remote ger camp on this least-visited east side of the lake. Settle into the camp, perhaps have a dip in the icy waters and a hot sauna, then relax with a drink overlooking the sunset across the water.</p> <p>With two days here, there is plenty of time to explore the area, hike up the peninsula, try horse riding and if you are feeling brave take a dip in the lake!</p> <p>Decide with your guide how you would like to spend your time – you can be as relaxed or adventurous as you like and we should even be able to arrange a yak ride for you!</p>	Twin ger, Ger Camp	First a 2hr drive from Muron – Khatgal, the 40 mins Khovsgol
---------	---	--------------------	--

## KHOVSGOL TO MURON & FLY TO ULAANBAATAR

13	<p>Leave your ger camp after an early breakfast. Make your way back to Muron and on to the airport for your flight back to Ulaanbaatar.</p> <p>This afternoon, spend time at leisure to shop for cashmere and other Mongolian products. The State Department Store has everything under one roof, and we can direct you to nearby fair trade stores which sell unique products from local artisans. Meet back in your hotel reception at 7pm to wander across to dinner in the city with your guide.</p>	King/Twin room, Tuushin Hotel	2 hours to airport, 1.5 hours flight to UB
----	--	-------------------------------	--

### TERELJ AND CHINGGIS STATUE DAY TRIP

14 Today, there will be a guided visit to Gandantegchinlen Monastery where you might see monks chanting their morning prayers. Head east out of the city to visit the giant Chinggis Khan Equestrian Monument at Tsonjin Boldog. At the base of the statue, you can try on traditional Mongolian costumes and tour the numerous portraits of the Khan lineage, before climbing to the horse's head for a panoramic view over the surrounding landscape towards Chinggis' birth place.

King/Twin room,  
Tuushin Hotel

A 2 hrs drive  
from UB –  
Chinggis  
Monument

Return to UB in time for a concert of traditional Mongolian music and dance including throat singing. Your guide will accompany you to one of our favourite restaurants for your farewell dinner.

### 15 DEPART ULAANBAATAR

Transfer to the airport in time for your international flight home.

N/A

40 mins hotel  
to airport





# A Mongolian Odyssey

## HOW TO BOOK

### 1. GET IN TOUCH

This itinerary is just a suggestion, a starting point, something to build upon. Everyone of our itineraries is unique to you – we can add or lose days, tweak the activities, change the accommodation or hire a private jet until it's perfect for you. So, let's have a chat. Call Denise, Kath or James to discuss creating you private journey to Mongolia

### 2. BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY

Once we've crafted the perfect journey for you we can sign you ready to go. We accept bank transfers, Visa, Mastercard or American Express, and UK cheques. Full payment methods are detailed in our booking conditions. We shall then send you a booking confirmation together with an invoice for the full payment of your holiday which is due 90 days before your departure date.

### ANY QUESTIONS?

Call one of our experts on +44 (0)1608 676821 or email us at [info@panoramicjourneys.com](mailto:info@panoramicjourneys.com).

Some quick travel facts can be found in the Essentials section on the Mongolia page of our website [www.panoramicjourneys.com/Countries/Mongolia](http://www.panoramicjourneys.com/Countries/Mongolia). We will also send you a comprehensive Mongolia Practicalities document once you have booked.

