

# Hiking and Gobi



Days:	21
Price:	2100 EUR International flight not included
Comfort:	★★☆☆☆
Difficult:	★★★★☆
🔦 Hiking 🔦 Must see	
🔦 Sport & Active tour 🔦 Adventure	
🔦 Nomadic lifestyle 🔦 Culture	

A full and contrasting tour alternating hiking and discovering, between large steppes and Mount Khangai, where you will hike for 9 days from **Tsenkher hot springs** to **Naiman Nuur** National Park, through **Orkhon Valley** and the arid majesty of **Gobi desert**.

## Day 1. Arrival in Ulan Bator and visit of the city



Ulan Bator 📍

- Arrival at the airport, meeting with our driver. **Transfer to your hotel**, settling in, and rest.
- Appointment at 12 o'clock at your hotel with your guide. He will take you to the restaurant of your choice.
- Let's immerse ourselves in the heart of the **Mongolian history**, in the wonderful National History Museum. Three floors of a rich, glorious, violent and noble past, from prehistory to Soviet period, including the creation of the great Mongolian Empire by **Genghis Khan**.
- Walk in the centre of Ulan-Bator. Discovery of Gengis Khan Square and the House of Parliament.
- At 18 o'clock, Mongolian traditional show at Tumen Ekh: folkloric dances, contortion, and of course **khoomi**, the overtone singing.

🏠 Accommodation	Hotel Nine
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## Day 2. Let's go to Mini-Gobi



Ulan Bator 📍

🚗 280km - ⌚ 4h 30m  
Khogno Khan 📍

- We arrive at the splendid rocky formations of Khogno Khan. Discovery of the park : semidesert steppes, taiga, stunning rocky formations, 80-kilometre (49,71 miles) long sand dunes, are characteristic of this arid area nicknamed "*Mini-Gobi*".
- Walk until Erdene Khambiin Monastery. "Monk Erdene's Monastery" dates from 17th century and was built in the mountain. **Zanabazar** built it in honour of his teacher, monk Erdene.
- Visit of the sand dunes of Elsen Tasarkhai.

🍳 Breakfast	Hotel Nine
🍴 Lunch	Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	Eden camp
🏠 Accommodation	Eden camp

## Day 3. Discovering the former capital and relaxing in the hot springs



Khogno Khan 9  
110km - 1h 30m  
Kharkhorin 9  
140km - 2h 30m  
Tsenkher hot springs 9

- Journey to Kharkhorin, the **former capital of Mongolia**. The legendary city of Genghis Khan was founded in 1220 and was one of the stages of the silk road. The Mongolian Empire was governed from this city until Kubilai Khan set up the capital in Beijing. Today, there are only a few vestiges left of the former capital.
- Visit of Erdene Zuu Monastery, built in 1586 by a nomad prince. The Chinese and Tibetan-inspired buildings are surrounded with **108 sacred stupas**. Visit of the **Museum of Kharkhorin**.
- Arrival at Tsenkher hot springs, where you can lounge in the hot springs of the camp.

☕ Breakfast	Eden camp
🍴 Lunch	Local restaurant
🍷 Dinner	Shiveet Mankhan
🏠 Accommodation	Shiveet Mankhan

## Day 4-6. Hiking in the mountains of lower Khangai



Tsenkher hot springs 9  
110km  
Khangai Mountain 9

### Tsenkher hot springs - Khangai Mountain

- We start our 9-day hike. First, we'll walk from Tsenkher hot springs until Orkhon Valley, then until Naiman Nuur National Park. We'll have the logistics vehicle during the first five days of the hike. During the last four days, the hike will be a self-sufficient hike and we'll have only pack yaks to carry the equipment.

### Day 4

- Since Tsenkher hot springs, we walk across a plain to climb the first pass on a tree-filled trail. Then we walk on a path through a forest of larches in this particularly pleasant, slightly hilly area. We reach the Tsenkher River, where we have lunch.

We go on walking on the Western bank of the river, before turning on our left. We climb a second pass, where we'll have a break near an ovoo.

### Day 5

- We walk down toward the **Tsetserleg River** and we make a long lunch break along its banks. Swimming is possible, especially in June, July, and August. After our break, we leave for 3-hour walking along the river. We turn to our left and go over a pass, before walking down towards a lush valley, where we set up our camp.

### Day 6

- We find again the valley crossed the day before and go back several kilometers before turning on the left and finding a tree-filled area. Many breeders live in the area and we met many herds of yaks and nomadic settlements. Slight difference in height in the late morning, before crossing a vast plain where we have lunch.

We go on walking in the valley, then cross the river and pass a small hill, near which we camp.

☕ Breakfast	4 Shiveet Mankhan 5 6 Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	4 Picnic from the camp 5 6 Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	Made by your team
🏠 Accommodation	tent camping

## Day 7. Arrival in Orkhon Valley



Khangai Mountain 📍  
🚗 5km  
Tovkhon monastery 📍  
🚗 42km - ⌚ 1h 15m  
Orkhon valley 📍

## Khangai Mountain - Tovkhon monastery

- Visit of Tovkhon Monastery. Vehicles can't go until the top of Öndör Ulaan Hill and we will walk until there to discover **Tovkhon Ermitage**, where **Zanabazar**, the first religious leader of Mongolia, created the **Soyombo alphabet**. The monastery is located 2312 metres (1,44 mile) above the sea level and from that place we'll have a wonderful view of the whole Khangai range. We'll picnic in exceptional surroundings, facing Orkhon Valley.

- After this visit, we come back down and have lunch nearby the nomads' winter camps. We can see in the surroundings some **petroglyphs** dating back from the Age of Bronze.

In the afternoon, after passing a last hill, we come back down towards the green Orkhon Valley and the place called Ongoistiin Guur, where we will cross the canyons of Orkhon. We will drive, by jeep, until our local guide's camp.

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🍳 Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	Mongolian barbecue "Khorkhog"
🏠 Accommodation	Yurt for guests with a family

## Day 8. Hiking in the valley



Orkhon valley 📍  
23km - ⌚ 5h  
Uuragt Valley 📍

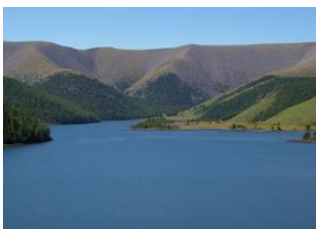
### Orkhon valley - Uuragt Valley

- Visit of Ulan Tsutgalaan falls, white flood flowing on the black stone, transformed in rainbow by a short sunray... These 16-metres (52,49 feet) falls are just magic ! They were formed 20.000 years ago, as a result of a unique combination of earthquakes and volcano eruptions.
- We go on walking in Orkhon Valley. We reach the Baga falls, near which we have lunch. Then we walk through the areas of Uuragt, Unit, and Khöshigt, where we set up our camp.

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🍳 Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	Made by your team
🏠 Accommodation	tent camping

## Day 9-11. Self-sufficient hike in Naiman Nuur National Park



Naiman nuur 📍

### Day 9

- We start the self-sufficient part of our hike. We hike in a valley surrounded by the Khangai chains. We reach the small Lake Tsagaan Azarga, where we camp tonight.

### Day 10

- We walk along Khangai Valley. We walk through a tree-filled area, walk up towards the pass of Khangai Nuruu. Picnic. We go up the gorges of the Khokh Davaa River, before reaching the Naiman Nuur National Park. First, we visit Lakes **Doroo, Khaya and Khuis**, then we set up our camp on the banks of **Lake Bugat**.

### Day 11

- Visit of the several lakes of the area : Lakes Bugat, Khaya, Doroo, Khaliut, Khuis, and then **Lake Shireet** where we set up our camp.

☕ Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	Made by your team
🏠 Accommodation	tent camping

## Day 12. Arrival among the nomads



Naiman nuur 📍

- We hike on Shireet Hill and visit Shurangiin Tsokhoi stone. Then we join a **nomads family** and rest.

☕ Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	made by the family
🏠 Accommodation	Yurt for guests with a family

## Day 13. On the way to Gobi



Naiman nuur 📍

🚗 120km - ⌚ 4h

Arvaikheer 📍

🚗 180km - ⌚ 3h 30m

Ongi monastery 📍

- Let's discover this site, best known as Ong lamasery, and the museum. In 1937, the Soviets almost completely destroyed the homes and monasteries where one thousand lamas were living. In 2002, some lamas came back and began to rebuild the monastery, with few resources but much enthusiasm.

☕ Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Local restaurant
🍷 Dinner	Secret of Ongii
🏠 Accommodation	Secret of Ongii

## Day 14. The flaming cliffs of Bayanzag



Ongi monastery 📍

🚗 150km - ⌚ 4h 30m





Bayanzag 📍

- Visit of the cliffs of Bayanzag, today are best known as "*flaming cliffs*", owing to their ochre red colour, where is located the "*cemetery of dragons*". The cliffs and the **saxaul forests** that surround them are the evidence of the time when Earth was still inhabited by huge creatures: **dinosaurs**. Palaeontologist **Roy Andrews Chapman** was the first man to discover in 1922 some bones and eggs of dinosaurs that we can see today in the Natural History Museum of Ulan Bator and in other museums in the world.

☕ Breakfast	Secret of Ongii
🍴 Lunch	Picnic from the camp
🍷 Dinner	Gobi tour camp
🏠 Accommodation	Gobi tour camp

## Day 15-16. Camelback in the dunes



Bayanzag   
 130km -  4h 20m  
Khongor sand dunes 





## Day 15

- Visit of the dunes of Khongor. These dunes are the most spectacular ones of Mongolia, they extend on more than 180 kilometres (111,85 miles) long and 20 kilometres (12,43 miles) wide, and have an average height of 80 metres (262,47 feet), the highest one being 120 metres (393,70 feet) high. From the top, the view on the desert is quite amazing. From this place, it's also possible to hear the moving masses of sand, hence the name of "*singing dunes*". Beyond the dunes, the steppe extends for as far as the eye can see.

## Day 16








- Camelback hike. **Camelback hiking in the Gobi Desert** is an unforgettable experience. The nonchalant animal will take us with its peaceful gait along the dunes and the Khongor River, "*light bay*", that flows alternately on the surface and under the ground. We'll go until a small **oasis** at the foot of the dunes, where some bushes grow, such as **saxaul**. Camels are very fond of saxaul and Mongolians think it's the most precious wood.

We will walk until the top of a dune and will have a wonderful view of the desert. Far away, we will see the peaks of the Three Beautiful and, if we listen carefully, we might hear the **song of the dunes**.

 Breakfast	<div>15 Gobi tour camp</div> <div>16 Made by your team</div>
 Lunch	<div>15 Picnic from the camp</div> <div>16 Made by your team</div>
 Dinner	made by the family
 Accommodation	Yurt for guests with a family





## Day 17. Magical hike in the canyons area



Khongor sand dunes   
 140km -  4h 30m  
Dungenees canyon   
 20km -  1h  
Yoliin am canyon 


### Khongor sand dunes - Dungenees canyon

- Journey on the track towards the east of "the Three Beauties" to reach the area of canyons. Stop at Dungenees Canyon. We leave the vehicle to start our first magic hike along the river that flows between huge canyons.
- Hiking in the canyon of Yol, the bearded vultures canyon. We will walk in the bottom of the canyon that is covered with perpetual snow. The canyon is so steep-sided, that sunrays make the ice melt only in August. The rest of the year there's ice everywhere in the canyon.

 Breakfast	Made by your team
 Lunch	Made by your team
 Dinner	Khan bogd camp
 Accommodation	Khan bogd camp

## Day 18. The great white stupa in the desert



Yoliin am canyon 

- We travel in one of the emptiest areas of Mongolia. Between rock desert and semi-arid steppes, we reach the white stupa, Tsagaan Suvarga. For centuries, this 30-metres (98,43 feet) high, abrupt, stupa-shaped mountain, is honoured by the Mongolians. The traveller will be surprised by the sumptuous lunar landscapes that evoke the end of the world, and by the many fossils. This area was totally covered by the sea a few million years ago.

 Breakfast	Khan bogd camp
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🚗 210km - ⌚ 5h  
Tsagaan suvarga 📍

🍴 Lunch

Picnic from the camp

🍷 Dinner

Tsagaan suvarga camp

🏠 Accommodation

Tsagaan suvarga camp

## Day 19. The granite formations of Baga Gazriin Chuluu



Tsagaan suvarga 📍  
🚗 250km - ⌚ 5h  
Baga gazriin chuluu 📍

- Visit of Mountains Baga Gazriin Chuluu, where we'll observe stunning granite rocky formations eroded by the violent elements of this area. In the 19th century, two respected lamas lived here, and we still can see their inscriptions in the rock. According to the legend, Genghis Khan too is supposed to have lived in this wonderful area where it's pleasant to walk.

☕ Breakfast

Tsagaan suvarga camp

🍴 Lunch

Picnic from the camp

🍷 Dinner

Erdene Ukhua

🏠 Accommodation

Erdene Ukhua

## Day 20. Back to the Mongolian capital



Baga gazriin chuluu 📍  
🚗 250km - ⌚ 4h 30m  
Ulan Bator 📍

- Back to Ulan-Bator. Last herds of wild horses crossing the road outside our dumbfounded eyes, last yurts smoking far away, the steppe will be with us until the last moment.

Arrival in town and settling in at your hotel, where you can rest a few moments.

- Rest of the day free. With our guide, you can go shopping in the centre of the city.

☕ Breakfast

Erdene Ukhua

🍴 Lunch

Local restaurant

🏠 Accommodation

Hotel Nine

## Day 21. Have a nice journey and see you soon !



Flight back 📍

- Breakfast at the hotel. We go with you to the international airport of Ulan Bator. The transfer can be organized at the time you want, according to the schedule of your flight.

☕ Breakfast

Hotel Nine

# Itinerary map



## Individual price per person

2-2	3-5	6-6	7-8	9-10
3300 EUR	2600 EUR	2400 EUR	2200 EUR	2100 EUR

You can go for a **private journey to the dates of your choice** for your very own group of people. In this particular case, **the price proposed depends entirely on the final number of participants** (please refer yourself to the prices mentioned below).

In the case of an exclusive private trip for you, this program seen here can serve as a base to draw the lines of the final offer. And you can create an entire trip « à la carte ».

## Included

- Transfers airport / hotel / airport
- 2 nights in 3\* hotel in Ulan Bator, breakfast included
- Full pension during the tour
- Water
- 7 nights in comfortable yurts camps with warm showers
- 4 nights in a host family, in guest yurt
- 7 nights tent camping
- Journeys in Japanese 4WD jeep or Russian 4x4 UAZ + driver
- Petrol
- English-speaking guide
- Cook for groups > 4 persons days 4 to 12
- Local guides and grooms
- Pack yaks to carry the equipment during the days 9 to 12
- Entrance fees for the parks and museums indicated in the program
- Traditional show
- Equipment for meals (mess tent, camping tables and chairs) and nights (tent, sleeping bag, ground mattress), sanitary tent

## Not included

- International transport
- Passport and visa fees
- Repatriation insurance
- Travel insurance
- Drinks / alcohols extras
- Meals in Ulan Bator
- Phone calls
- Any excursion that is not indicated in the program

# Extra infos

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## Booking conditions

### Booking Conditions

All requests for registration must be made by e-mail from the Local Agency, directly online from the Customer Area accessible from the website of the Local Agency, or the website of our group [www.nomadays.fr](http://www.nomadays.fr).

To connect to the Customer Area, simply enter the login and password set during the first connection.

Registration is considered final once the online booking form is completed and upon received payment of the deposit and/or balance depending on the date of registration.

Depending on the services chosen and the regulations of the country, a photocopy of the passport may be requested by the Local Agency. In case of not sending the photocopy of the passport within the time indicated by the Local Agency, it cannot guarantee the proper performance of the reserved services.

Once payment has been made, a confirmation email is sent to the Customer. It includes the confirmation of the regulation as well as the electronic downloadable invoice.

A confirmation letter is sent to the Customer electronically. If the Customer does not receive the confirmation letter, the reservation would nevertheless be definitive as if it is confirmed by the Local Agency.

### Payment Conditions

Registration made more than 30 days before the departure date

The Customer must pay a deposit of 30% of the total amount of the reserved services. The balance must be paid no later than 30 days before the date of the beginning of the stay.

Registration made less than 30 days before the departure date The Customer must pay the full amount of the trip at one time.

### Methods of Payment

Upon confirmation of your reservation, your local agent will prepare your electronic invoice, hosted on the platform of Nomadays under your own account. Payments are made either:

- By credit card online, free of charge, from the payment links available on the electronic invoice.
- By bank transfer to the account of the travel agency.

The electronic invoice is updated with each payment received and can be consulted at any time from the Customer Area. The electronic invoice is downloadable and printable.