

# Steppe & Gobi discovery



Days:	12
Price:	1690 EUR International flight not included
Comfort:	★★★★☆
Difficult:	★★★☆☆
🔖 Must see 🔖 Comfort & Luxury	
🔖 Travel with children 🔖 Culture	
🔖 Adventure 🔖 Nomadic lifestyle	

A great Mongolian discovery tour awaits you in this comfy adventure. You'll start your trip in the lush **Orkhon Valley**, where you will experience Nomadic life during 2 days before going deeper towards South, where the track disappears to give place to a legendary spot : the **Gobi Desert**, and the arid majesty of its lunar landscapes, with its **towering rocky formations, frozen canyon and sand dunes**.

## Day 1. Arrival at 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	Holiday Inn Hotel
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## Day 2. Discovering wild horses



Ulan Bator 📍  
🚗 130km - ⌚ 2h 30m  
Khustai national park 📍

### Ulan Bator - Khustai national park

- Visit of Gandantegchinlen Monastery. In the morning, lamas get together to pray. They will answer your questions at the Mongolian Buddhist Centre.
- Journey to Khustai Reserve that houses the Przewalski horses (takh). Twilight is the best moment to observe them. We'll walk until the river where they drink, and observe them with no fear to bother.

🍳 Breakfast	Holiday Inn Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Local restaurant
🍷 Dinner	Khustai camp
🏠 Accommodation	Khustai camp

## Day 3. Ulan Bator - Khogno Khan National Park



Khustai national park 📍  
🚗 210km - ⌚ 3h 30m  
Khogno Khan 📍  
🚗 110km - ⌚ 1h 30m  
Kharkhorin 📍

### Khustai national park - 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.

### Khogno Khan - Kharkhorin

- 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.

☕ Breakfast	Khustai camp
🍴 Lunch	Eden camp
🍷 Dinner	Munkhtenger
🏠 Accommodation	Munkhtenger

## Day 4-5. The former capital and land of nomadism



Kharkhorin 📍  
🚗 92km - ⌚ 3h  
Tovkhon monastery 📍  
🚗 42km - ⌚ 1h 15m  
Orkhon valley 📍

### Kharkhorin - Tovkhon monastery

- 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**.
- 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.

### Tovkhon monastery - Orkhon valley

- Journey to Orkhon Valley. Inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**, the valley is a land of nomadism and many breeders set their summer camp there.

### Day 5

- Those who wish will go pony trekking along Orkhon Valley, from the camp until **Orkhon waterfalls**.
- 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.

### Also

4 5

Stay at herders' from the valley. During your stay, you will **discover their way of life** and you will be proposed many activities, such as **milking**, **making traditional dairy products**, or **rounding up the animals with a horse**.

You will also attend the preparation of a **Mongolian barbecue** that you will enjoy with yours hosts.

☕ Breakfast	4 Munkhtenger
	5 Made by your team

🍴 Lunch	<div>4 Picnic from the camp</div> <div>5 Made by your team</div>
🍷 Dinner	<div>4 made by the family</div> <div>5 Mongolian barbecue "Khorkhog"</div>
🏠 Accommodation	Yurt for guests with a family

## Day 6. Let's hit the road to Gobi desert !



Orkhon valley 📍  
🚗 310km - ⌚ 8h  
Ongi monastery 📍

### Orkhon valley - Ongi monastery

- Day of transition between two ecosystems. We leave the **green mountains of Khangai** to go towards **Gobi**. We drive across the green steppe and reach Arvaikheer, the capital of province, where we stop to get fresh supplies at the **local market**.
- We arrive in the sum of **Saikhan Ovoo**. West Saikhan Ovoo, some mountains located along the Ongii River, are the perfect place to rest between Northwest of Mongolia and Gobi Desert. In the bends of the river, we can see the ruins of two monasteries, Barlim Monastery on the Northern bank, Khutagt Monastery on the Southern bank.
- 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	Made by your team
🍷 Dinner	Secret of Ongii
🏠 Accommodation	Secret of Ongii

## Day 7. Flaming cliffs and dinosaurs



Ongi monastery 📍  
🚗 150km - ⌚ 4h 30m  
Bayanzag 📍

### Ongi monastery - Bayanzag

- Last day of track before reaching Great Gobi and its **"Three Beauties"**, the three highest peaks of this part of the Gobi-Altai range : **Baruun Saihan**, "*the Western Beauty*"; **Dund Saihan**, "*the Middle Beauty*"; **Züün Saihan**, "*the Eastern Beauty*", the highest (2846 metres, 1,77 miles).
- 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 8-9. Riding a camel among the dunes



Bayanzag 📍  
🚗 130km - ⌚ 4h 20m  
Khongor sand dunes 📍

## Bayanzag - Khongor sand dunes

- We ride towards the west of the park to reach **Khongor sand dunes**, "*light bay sand*". These dunes extend at the foot of the "*Three Beauties*".

## Day 8

- 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 9

- 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>8 Gobi tour camp</div> <div>9 Gobi discovery</div>
🍴 Lunch	<div>8 Picnic from the camp</div> <div>9 Picnic from the camp</div>
🍷 Dinner	Gobi discovery
🏠 Accommodation	Gobi discovery

## Day 10. Hiking in the canyons



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.

## Dungenees canyon - Yoliin am canyon

- 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	Gobi discovery
🍴 Lunch	Picnic from the camp
🍷 Dinner	Khan bogd camp
🏠 Accommodation	Khan bogd camp

## Day 11. Return flight to the Mongolian capital



## Yoliin am canyon - Dalanzadgad

- 30-kilometres (18,64 miles) journey until Dalanzadgad, the capital of the province, where we'll embark for our return flight to Ulan Bator.
- Arrival in town and transfer to your hotel where you can rest a few moments.
- Rest of the day free. With our guide, you can go and shop in the centre of the city.

Yoliin am canyon 📍

🚗 40km - ⌚ 45m

Dalanzadgad 📍

✈️ 650km - ⌚ 1h 15m

Ulan Bator 📍

☕ Breakfast

Khan bogd camp

🍴 Lunch

Picnic from the camp

🏠 Accommodation

Holiday Inn Hotel

## Day 12. 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

Holiday Inn Hotel

## Itinerary map



## Individual price per person

2-2	3-4	5-5	6-8	9-10
2400 EUR	2000 EUR	1900 EUR	1800 EUR	1690 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
- Flight Dalanzadgad / Ulan Bator
- 2 nights in 3\* hotel in Ulan Bator, breakfast included
- Full pension during the tour
- Water
- 7 nights in comfortable yurts camps with warm shower
- 2 nights with a host family, in a guest yurt
- Journeys in Japanese 4WD jeep with Air con + driver
- Petrol
- English-speaking guide
- Pony trek
- Camel trek
- Local guides for the treks
- Entrance fees for parks and museum indicated in the program
- Traditional show
- Equipment for meals (camping tables and chairs) and nights (sleeping bag)

## 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
- Additional charges for luggage exceeding 15kg (total weight for both carry-on checked luggage) on the domestic flight



## 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.