



Photos: © PantherMedia/fjuncadella, Fotolia/Merial



# Mongolia

## Adventures in the Gobi among the nomads

Flaming cliffs and singing dunes, deserts and oases, dinosaur graveyards and vulture valleys, horsehead fiddles and overtone chanting, vastness, vastness, and a bit more vastness... Welcome to the fullest nothingness imaginable! Here, far away from civilisation where hospitality is king and comfort plays a lesser role, we travel from yurt to yurt, just like true steppe dwellers. Instead of by camel, you'll travel by off-road vehicle or on foot with your trekking boots. You'll experience everyday nomadic life and the highlights of the Gobi, travelling from the desert to the eternal ice and from the capital city to the cradle of Mongolia. Explore nature in its rawest form – for true adventurers only.

- Mongolia up close and personal
- Land of Genghis Khan
- Far out into the Gobi Desert
- Overnight stays in yurt camps

14 days

20 Jul. – 2 Aug. 2024

from €3199

# Mongolia: Adventures in the Gobi

## Day 1, Sat, 20.07.2024: City in the steppe

You'll arrive in the capital city in the morning. After breakfast at the hotel, you'll follow your curiosity into the city centre, which has truly blossomed in recent years. Modern technology is just as much a part of everyday life as are the yurts between the tower blocks. The legendary Genghis Khan of course towers over monumental Sukhbaatar Square. For the best view, you'll climb 300 steps to the **Zaisan Memorial** where you can look out over the city – and into the remote hinterland. You'll take in the sights of the city and then delve into Mongolian culture at the Winter Palace of the Bogd Khan. Over dinner, you'll go through the itinerary of your tour with your guide and make a toast to your adventure. B/D

## Day 2, Sun, 21.07.2024: How to yurt

In the morning, our smiling drivers will be waiting outside the hotel for us with four-wheel-drive minibuses "made in Russia". After stowing your luggage, you'll set off into the open country – 130 kilometres to our first yurt camp. Most of the ride is on paved roads, but don't get used to it – things will change! Once you've arrived, you'll receive some advice on yurt etiquette from your Marco Polo guide: never step on the threshold, and always put your right foot first! It's surprisingly cosy in here, with real furniture and beds. Nevertheless, adventure trumps comfort here: the bathroom is shared, the toilet is in an outhouse, the water is heated over a fire and – get ready for the shock – there's no internet! Traditionally, dinner starts with "white foods" made using milk, followed by meat and other specialities. B/L/D

## Day 3, Mon, 22.07.2024: Photo trekking

Have a cup of steaming tea and some breakfast with your trekking boots on. With your Marco Polo guide, you'll hike through the **Ikh Nart Nature Reserve** on a photo quest for argali wild sheep that can weigh up to 200 kg, Siberian ibex, and steppe foxes. You'll spend another night at the camp. B/L/D

## Day 4, Tue, 23.7.2024: Bonsai mountains and mountain wildlife bingo

Get up early and hit the road – 150 kilometres lie ahead of us. Oh, wow... An ovoo: you'll stop at a ceremonial stack of rocks decorated with blue cloths. Circle the mound and lay a rock on top as a kind of deposit to your travel karma account. Today's destination: the massive **granite rock formations** of Ikh Gazrin Chuluu with peaks of up to 1,706 metres. This mini mountain range is just as spectacular as its wildlife. Who will be the first to spot vultures, marmots, and other creatures on the hike? Overnight stay in yurt camp II. B/L/D

## Day 5, Wed, 24.7.2024: Talking cliffs

The caravan keeps moving – to the Middle Gobi. The Tsagaan Suvarga canyon: 10 million years of history at a glance, jagged rock formations in as many colours as the different eras of natural history. On a short hike to Del Mountain, your guide will show you "**Gobi graffiti**", petroglyphs depicting mammoths, lions and other creatures, figures riding and hunting – just normal everyday life over 2,000 years ago... B/L/D

## Day 6, Thu, 25.07.2024: Ice-cold beauty

Before we set off into the wild, you'll catch a glimpse of civilisation in the Southern Gobi: Dalanzagdad – a small town in the middle of nowhere. Here you can stock up on supplies before heading into the Gobi Gurvan Saykhan National Park to the **Yolyn Am Vulture Gorge**: cliffs plunging up to 200 metres into the depths and at the bottom, a small river that disappears into the eternal ice(!). B/L/D

## Day 7, Fri, 26.07.2024: Singing dunes

The Gobi at its most beautiful: off to the Singing Dunes of Khongoryn Els – 180 km of breathtaking natural beauty! During your visit with a **nomadic family**, you'll not only learn that camels and horses are practically family here, but you'll also learn the true meaning of hospitality. As the sun slowly sets and bathes the dunes in the most magnificent colours, you'll take the best seat in the house to enjoy a magical symphony played by the wind. Sliding down the dune again, you'll find yourself in a somewhat oasis-like setting a few kilometres further on. B/L/D

## Day 8, Sat, 27.07.2024: Cliffs of fire and fossils

The minibuses continue the bumpy ride towards Bayanzag. The **Flaming Cliffs** have devoted fans

worldwide, and not just among palaeontologists – dinosaur nests, skeletons, and eggs were discovered here a hundred years ago! B/L/D

## Day 9, Sun, 28.07.2024: Monastery life in 2024

Goodbye, Gobi! Heading north, you'll continue on a dirt road along the Ongi River to a **monastery** bearing the same name. Once home to as many as 1,000 monks, the monastery was destroyed under communist rule and many lamas lost their lives. Buddhism reloaded: today, part of the complex is under reconstruction and one temple has been completely rebuilt. B/L/D

## Day 10, Mon, 29.07.2024: War and peace

We travel to Karakorum in the Orkhon Valley, which was **Genghis Khan's capital city** and the control centre of his vast empire. A few steps away, peace and quiet returns: Buddhism is brought to you live and in colour at the Erdene Zuu monastery. B/L/D

## Day 11, Tue, 30.07.2024: Think global, eat local!

Steppe = boring? Far from it: take a short journey back in time to the 6th to 8th centuries at the Qaidam Museum.



**Outside the museum, we land in the middle of everyday nomadic life in 2024: the yurt community combines both the modern and traditional. They could have built houses or done away with hospitality altogether! But instead, there's still airag, milk tea and spirits, in addition to other dairy and meat products that are often combined in milk jugs! If you're an experienced equestrian, chances are you'll have the opportunity to climb into the saddle. After dinner, your hosts will show you what they can do on horseback. Later, you'll marvel at mysterious overtone singing accompanied by the horsehead fiddle.** B/L/D

## Day 12, Wed, 31.07.2024: Last steps in the steppe

Did you get a chance to ride? If horses are your thing, then Hustai National Park is the just the right place for you: there are so many **Przewalski's wild horses** here that the chances of spotting them on our steppe hike are extremely high! B/L/D

## Day 13, Thu, 01.08.2024: Back to reality

You set off early for the capital, leaving the world of the nomads behind you with a heavy heart. After about 100 kilometres, **Ulaanbaatar** appears in the distance looking like something from another planet. Farewell dinner together in the evening – a toast to a once-in-a-lifetime trip! But who knows? Maybe you'll be back... B/L/D

## Day 14, Fri, 02.08.2024: Return home

Time to bid farewell to your guide, the master of yurt etiquette. Today can be spent at your leisure: roaming the city streets, shopping for cashmere or camel hair or perhaps even visiting one of the city's many beer gardens. If you're flying with MIAT Mongolian Airlines, the return journey is in the early afternoon (flight duration approximately 14 hours). B

B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner

## Flights

Arrival and departure flights are not included in the tour price. We'd be happy to provide you with an individual flight offer.

## Hotels

Place	Nights	Hotel	Local rating
Ulaanbaatar	1	Bayangol	***(*)
Ikh Nart	2	Yurt Camp	-
Ikh Gazriin Chuluu	1	Yurt Camp	-
Tsagaan Suvarga	1	Yurt Camp	-
Yolyn Am	1	Yurt Camp	-
Khongoryn Els	1	Yurt Camp	-
Bayanzag	1	Yurt Camp	-
Ongi	1	Yurt Camp	-
Karakorum	1	Yurt Camp	-
Gurvanbulag Sum	1	Nomad Settlement	-
Hustai	1	Yurt Camp	-
Ulan Bator	1	Bayangol	***(*)

## Travel documents and vaccinations

Travellers from the European Union require a passport valid for at least 6 (six) months and are exempt from the visa requirement for stays of up to 30 days. Travellers of other nationalities generally require a visa. Please enquire at the relevant consulate.

## Climate

Average maximum temperatures in °C:

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Ulaanbaatar	21	22	21	14

## Included in the tour price

- Individual transfer from/to the airport upon arrival and departure
- Transfers in local coaches
- Round trip in an off-road vehicle (minibus)
- 2 nights in a single room in the hotel specified; 11 nights in yurts for single use
- Breakfast, full board from day 2 to day 14
- English-speaking Marco Polo tour guide
- Welcome dinner and farewell dinner
- One travel guide per booking

## Climate-friendly travel with Marco Polo

This tour is carbon-neutral thanks to CO2e offsetting ([www.agb-mp.com/co2](http://www.agb-mp.com/co2)).

## Price per person from €

14 days	Single	Double (discount)
Date		
20.07.-02.08.2024	3,199	550

**Minimum number of participants:** 6 people; maximum number of participants: 16 people. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, the Tour Operator reserves the right to withdraw from the travel contract no later than 21 days before the start of the tour. **Tour Operator:**

Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich. **General travel conditions and suitability of travel for persons with reduced mobility:** [www.agb-mp.com](http://www.agb-mp.com). **Payment/secured payment certificate:** Payment is only due upon presentation of the secured payment certificate (sent with the travel confirmation) in accordance with Section 651 r (3) of the German Civil Code (BGB). A deposit of 10% of the tour price, up to a maximum of €500 per person, is due upon conclusion of the contract. The remaining travel price is due on the 20th day before departure or at the latest upon receipt of the travel documents. **Travel insurances:**

No travel insurance is included in the tour price. We recommend that you purchase travel cancellation insurance from the following provider: [www.agb-mp.com/versicherung](http://www.agb-mp.com/versicherung). **Package travel rights:** The standard notification form on your rights in relation to package holidays can be found at [www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte](http://www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte). **Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 (1) (b) of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) and for the purpose of advertising its own services (Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR). Detailed information and the contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may withdraw your consent to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com).

**Travel insurances:** No travel insurance is included in the tour price. We recommend that you purchase travel cancellation insurance from the following provider: [www.agb-mp.com/versicherung](http://www.agb-mp.com/versicherung). **Package travel rights:** The standard notification form on your rights in relation to package holidays can be found at [www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte](http://www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte). **Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 (1) (b) of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) and for the purpose of advertising its own services (Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR). Detailed information and the contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may withdraw your consent to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com).

**Package travel rights:** The standard notification form on your rights in relation to package holidays can be found at [www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte](http://www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte). **Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 (1) (b) of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) and for the purpose of advertising its own services (Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR). Detailed information and the contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may withdraw your consent to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com).

**Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 (1) (b) of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) and for the purpose of advertising its own services (Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR). Detailed information and the contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may withdraw your consent to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com).

**Package travel rights:** The standard notification form on your rights in relation to package holidays can be found at [www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte](http://www.agb-mp.com/pauschalreiserechte). **Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 (1) (b) of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) and for the purpose of advertising its own services (Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR). Detailed information and the contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may withdraw your consent to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com).

**Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 (1) (b) of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) and for the purpose of advertising its own services (Art. 6 (1) (f) GDPR). Detailed information and the contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may withdraw your consent to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, D-80992 Munich, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com).

## Booking

### Guys.travel

A trademark of Zusammen.reisen UG (limited liability)

Wintersteinstrasse 1, D-61440 Oberursel

[www.guys.travel](http://www.guys.travel)

E-mail: [info@kerle.reisen](mailto:info@kerle.reisen)

Telephone & WhatsApp: +49 (0)151 7005 7775