

# The great loop of Mongolia



Days:	21
Price:	2790 EUR International flight not included
Comfort:	★★★★☆
Difficult:	★★☆☆☆
Must see	Travel with children
Adventure	Nomadic lifestyle
Horse riding	Hiking
	Culture

In 3 weeks, this tour will take you from one end of the country to the other: from the lakes of the North, to the **sand dunes of the Gobi** and the great steppe of the center, you will enjoy all that Mongolia has to offer in terms of landscape and natural wonders. An adventure on a human scale in the heart of Mongolia.

Come to live the greatest of Mongolian adventures!

## The strong points

- A complete circuit from North to South for a full discovery of Mongolia
- Various activities throughout the tour: camel riding, horseback riding, walking, all accessible to beginners

## 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 | Hôtel Nine

## Day 2. Going to Amarbayasgalant Monastery



Ulan Bator  
🚗 350km - ⌚ 5h 30m  
Amarbayasgalant

- Visit of Gandantegchinlen Monastery. In the morning, lamas get together to pray. They will answer your questions at the Mongolian Buddhist Centre.
- We take the road towards Amarbayasgalant Monastery. It's the most important monastery of Mongolia, it was built in the 18th century in the memory of the first Bogd Gegeen **Zanabazar** who was at the head of the Mongolian religion. Located North of the province of Selenge, the monastery enjoys exceptional surroundings.

🍳 Breakfast | Hôtel Nine  
🍴 Lunch | Included  
🍷 Dinner | made by the family

## Day 3. Going to the natural park of extinct volcanos



Amarbayasgalant 📍

🚗 110km - ⌚ 2h 30m

Erdenet 📍

🚗 110km - ⌚ 2h

Uran Togoo national park 📍

- In the morning, we visit the Amarbayasgalant Monastery. This remarkable building stands proudly with its 300 years of history and shows a great architectural unity. The general style is Chinese, with Mongolian and Tibetan influences. The general plan is symmetrical with the main buildings following each other along a north-south axis; the secondary buildings are located on parallel side axes.

Today, you can admire 28 buildings including a two-story temple with a surface area of 32 m<sup>2</sup>. It is currently open for worship.

- We cut across wheat fields and large cultures and reach Erdenet. It's one of the most important economic centres of the country. It has one of the largest open-air mines of the world (copper mine).
- Road to the natural park of volcanoes Uran Togoo National Park. Uran Uul is the most beautiful and the most famous volcano of Mongolia. It was active 20 to 25 million years ago. There is an abundant and exceptional fauna and flora. Indeed, the lava having flowed here several thousands of years ago, left place to a very fertile environment.

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

## Day 4. Arrival at the great blue lake of Mongolia



Uran Togoo national park 📍

🚗 290km - ⌚ 3h 30m

Moron 📍

🚗 130km - ⌚ 3h

Alag Tsar 📍

- Hiking on the sleeping giant Uraan Uul, to enjoy the view on the volcanic area.

Let's hike on a very beautiful path through the woods, mostly made of Siberian larches before reaching the crater. There, numerous insects, species of birds and trees are visible. The inside of the crater itself is covered by a thick vegetation and a small lake at its center.

- We arrive at Lake Khövsgöl, one of the natural wonders of the world. This mountain covers an area of 2760 square kilometres, and its water is so pure that we can drink it! It's surrounded with many peaks culminating at more than 2000 metres and covered with forests of pines and lush meadows where yaks and horses graze!
- We go towards East and the green small valleys of Alag Sar, and spend the night in a small yurts camp.

🍳 Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Alag tsar gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Alag tsar gers camp

## Day 5. Adventures around the great blue lake of Mongolia



Alag Tsar

- Accompanied by local herders, and their yaks we leave for **one day of hiking or horseback riding**, in the treed valleys of Alag Tsar. Following the peaceful tempo of the cart, we discover this land of nomadism. In the heart of summer, the area is flowered and we will move literally on a carpet of edelweiss, while at West, we will see on the opposite bank the peaks culminating at 3000 metres that bathe in the crystal water of the lake.
- In the evening, with the breeders, we will **put up the yurt** that we carried, in which we will spend the night.

☕ Breakfast	Alag tsar gers camp
🍴 Lunch	Picnic
🍷 Dinner	Made by the team
🏠 Accommodation	Moving yurt

## Day 6. On the way to the central steppes



Alag Tsar  
 🚗 130km - ⌚ 3h  
 Moron  
 🚗 130km - ⌚ 3h  
 Shine Ider

- Visit of the site containing several deer stones at Uushigiin Övör.
  - Stop in Mörön to buy fresh supplies at the market.
  - Journey towards centre : the track goes through many passes and sinks into lost valleys where landscapes quickly change. Altitude exceeds 2000 metres (1,24 mile) at the passes.
- Landscapes are more and more beautiful and there are more and more photo opportunities.

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

## Day 7. Lakes and volcanos area



Shine Ider  
 🚗 180km - ⌚ 6h  
 Terkhiin Tsagaan national park

- Road to Khorgo – Terkhiin Tsagaan Nuur Natural Park that is located 2060 metres (1,28 mile) above sea level. This lake, called "*the great white lake*", and its whole volcanic surroundings, are the emblematic area of the **province of Arkhangai**.
- We will spend 2 nights at a lovely ger camp, on the banks of the Terkhiin Tsagaan lake.

☕ Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Shiveet Mankhan gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Maikhan Tolgoi Camp

## Day 8. Hiking on the Khorgo volcano



Terkhiin Tsagaan national park 📍

- Hiking along the banks of the lake. We go towards Southeast where **Khorgo Volcano** reaches its highest point at 2240 metres (1,39 mile). (Easy) ascent of the volcano. From the top, we enjoy a splendid view of the lake and the surrounding hills. Nearby the volcano, stunning lava flows form an original landscape never seen up to now.

☕ Breakfast	Maikhan Tolgoi Camp
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Shiveet Mankhan gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Maikhan Tolgoi Camp

## Day 9. Let's relax in the hot springs !



Terkhiin Tsagaan national park 📍

🚗 160km - ⌚ 4h

Tsetserleg 📍

🚗 40km - ⌚ 1h

Tsenkher hot springs 📍

- We go deep into the Arkhangai and discover its vast steppes populated by nomadic herders and where yaks and other animals graze. Stop at Tsetserleg, small lovely village nestled in mountains of larches. We'll buy fresh supplies at the local market and visit Zayan Gegeen Museum.
- Arrival at Tsenkher hot springs, where you can lounge in the hot springs of the camp.

☕ Breakfast	Maikhan Tolgoi Camp
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Shiveet Mankhan gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Shiveet Mankhan gers camp

## Day 10. Nomadic life in the Orkhon Valley



Kharkhorin 📍

🚗 110km - ⌚ 3h 10m

Tovkhon monastery 📍

🚗 42km - ⌚ 1h 15m

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.
- 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 on the whole Khangai range. We'll picnic in exceptional surroundings, facing Orkhon Valley.
- We arrive at a family of nomadic herders with whom we stay 2 nights. 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	Shiveet Mankhan gers camp
🍴 Lunch	Picnic
🍷 Dinner	made by the family Mongolian barbecue "Khorkhog"
🏠 Accommodation	Yurt for guests with a family

## Day 11. Horseback riding to the Orkhon Falls



Orkhon valley 📍  
 8km - 🕒 1h 30m  
 Orkhon waterfalls 📍  
 Orkhon valley 📍

- Those who wish will go pony trekking along Orkhon Valley, from the camp until **Orkhon waterfalls**.  
*For the others, it will be possible to go to the falls by making a 6 km walk, or with the vehicle.*
- 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.
- At the end of the day, you will attend the preparation of a Mongolian barbecue which you will enjoy with your hosts.

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

## Day 12. In the old capital of Genghis Khan



Orkhon valley 📍  
 🚗 130km - 🕒 3h 30m  
 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.
- 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**.

🍳 Breakfast	Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Anja gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Anja gers camp

## Day 13. Let's go for a legendary desert !



Kharkhorin 📍  
 🚗 260km - 🕒 5h  
 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	Anja gers camp
🍴 Lunch	Picnic
🍷 Dinner	Secref of Ongi gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Secref of Ongi gers camp

## Day 14. Flaming cliffs and dinosaurs



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

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🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Gobi tour gers camp
🏠 Accommodation	Gobi tour gers camp

## Day 15. Riding a camel among the dunes



Bayanzag 📍  
🚗 40km - ⌚ 1h  
Khavtsgait 📍  
🚗 160km - ⌚ 4h  
Khongor sand dunes 📍

- We wake up early today to hike **on the Khavtsgait mountain**. After some time on the jeep, we will start our trek. The ascent is quite sportive, but will provide a truly amazing view over the desert. From there it is possible to see numerous petroglyphs representing wild mountain sheep, horses, camels and men in the process of hunting.
- 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*".
- 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.

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🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Gobi Discovery 2
🏠 Accommodation	Gobi Discovery 2

## Day 16. By camel in the dunes



Khongor sand dunes 📍

- 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**.

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☕ Breakfast	Gobi Discovery 2 Made by your team
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Gobi Discovery 2

## Day 17. Hiking in the canyons



Khongor sand dunes 📍  
 🚗 140km - ⌚ 4h 30m  
 Dungenee canyon 📍  
 🚗 20km - ⌚ 1h  
 Yoliin am canyon 📍

🍳 Breakfast

Gobi Discovery 2  
 Made by your team

🍴 Lunch

Included

- Journey on the track towards the east of "the Three Beauties" to reach the area of canyons. Stop at Dungenee 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.

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



Yoliin am canyon 📍  
 🚗 210km - ⌚ 5h  
 Tsagaan suvarga 📍

🍴 Lunch

Included

🍷 Dinner

Tsagaan Suvarga camp

🏠 Accommodation

Tsagaan Suvarga camp

- 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.

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



Tsagaan suvarga 📍  
 🚗 250km - ⌚ 5h 30m  
 Baga gazriin chuluu 📍

🍴 Lunch

Included

🍷 Dinner

made by the family

🏠 Accommodation

Stay with a nomad family

- 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.

## Day 20. Back to the Mongolian capital



- 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.

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

🍳 Breakfast

Made by your team

🍽️ Lunch

Included

🏠 Accommodation

Hôtel Nine

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



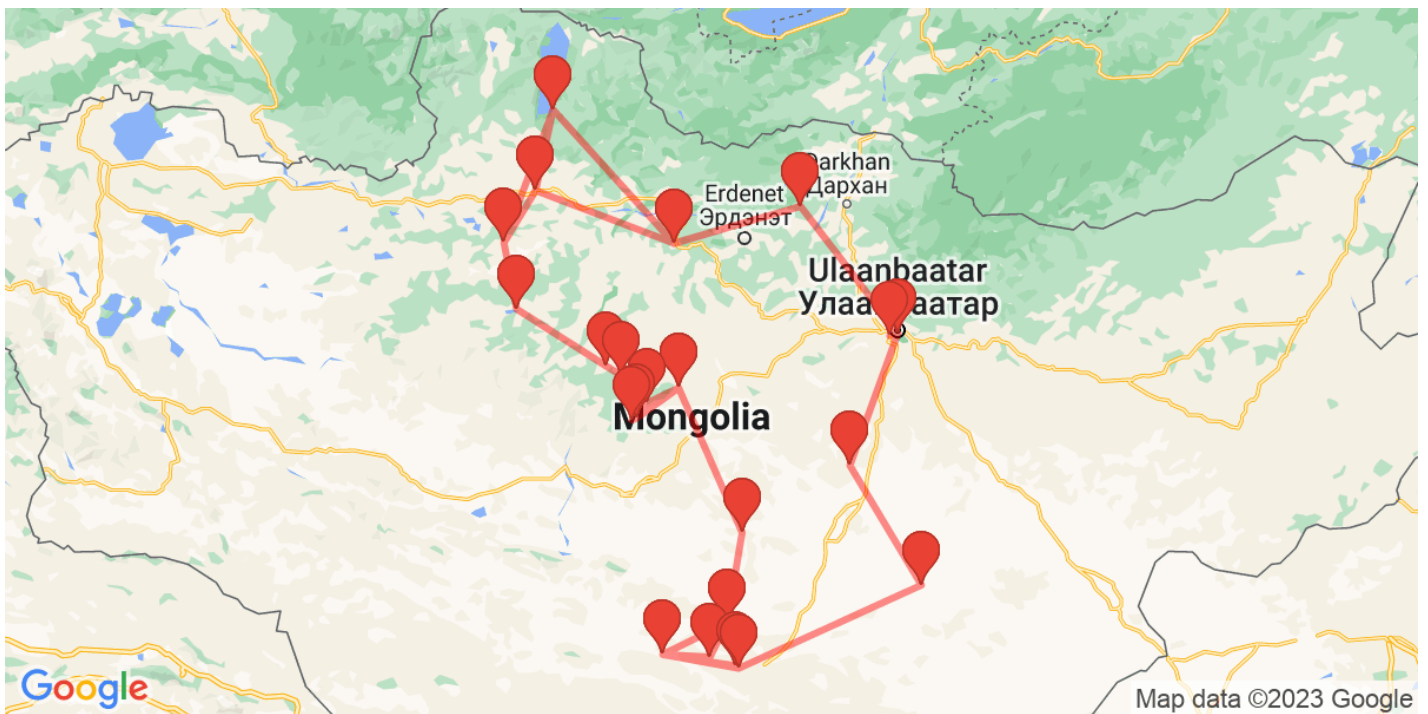
Flight back 📍

- 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

Hôtel Nine

## Itinerary map



## Individual price per person

2-2	3-3	4-6	7-8	9-10
3990 EUR	3590 EUR	3090 EUR	2990 EUR	2790 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

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- Transfers airport / hotel / airport
- 2 nights in 3\* hotel in Ulan Bator, breakfast included
- Full pension during the tour
- Water
- 11 nights in comfortable yurts camp, with warm showers
- 6 nights in a host family, in guest yurt
- 1 night in the mobile yurt
- Journeys in jeep or minibus + driver
- Petrol
- English-speaking guide
- Assistant for groups > 8 persons
- Pony treks
- 1 day trekking or horse riding, "yak carting"
- Camel back treks
- Local guides for the treks
- Entrance fees for the parks and museums indicated in the program
- Traditional show
- Equipment for meals (camping tables and chairs) and nights (sleeping bag)

## Not included

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- 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.