The Best of Mongolia

The Gobi Desert & Karakorum Beyond Tour

11-day Tour to Ulaanbaatar, Tsagaan Suvarga, Khongor Sand Dunes, the Flaming Cliffs, Karakorum & Hustai National Park

Day 1 Arrival Ulaanbaatar
Upon arrival Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. You are met at the airport and transferred to check in your hotel.

Day 2 Ulaanbaatar City Tour Meal: B/L
In the morning start at Gandan Monastery, home to the 26-meter statue of Janraisag, the deity of compassion, and attend the morning chanting at one of the old temples. Next, visit Sukhbaatar Square, where you'll see statues of Chinggis Khaan and his descendants in front of the State House. In the afternoon, explore the newly established Chinggis Khaan Museum, offering an overview of Mongolia's history, from the Hunnu Empire to the Great Mongol Empire.

Day 3 Ulaanbaatar – Tsagaan Suvarga Meal: B/L/D
Today's expedition leads us to Tsagaan Suvarga, a remarkable sedimentary formation that harks back to an ancient seabed. Our journey spans approximately 6-7 hours, punctuated by a refreshing lunch break in Mandagovi town. Upon arrival at the camp, you'll check in and settle in for a rewarding adventure. We'll embark on an excursion to the Tsagaan Suvarga scarps, where you can revel in a captivating hike amidst the vibrant cliffs, ascending toward the summit for breathtaking views. Stay at Tsagaan Suvarga Camp or similar.

Day 4 Tsagaan Suvarga- Yolyn Am (Lammergeier Valley), Gurvan Saikhan National Park Meal: B/L/D
Today, we embark on a picturesque journey to Gobi Gurvan Saikhan National Park, a drive that spans approximately four to five hours, allowing us ample opportunities for scenic photography stops. Our expedition includes a pit stop in Dalanzadgad, a charming Gobi town, where we'll explore the newly constructed Umnugovi province museum and savor a delightful lunch. Following our visit to Dalanzadgad, we'll embark on a brief drive to reach the enchanting Yolyn Am. Here, you'll have the opportunity to partake in a one-hour hike from our parking spot, immersing yourself in the breath-taking natural beauty. Eventually, we'll transfer to ger camp - stay at Gobi Mirage Camp or similar.

Day 5 Khongor sand dunes, Camel ride Meal: B/L/D
After breakfast, we'll drive 4-5 hours to Mongolia's Khongor sand dunes, the longest in the country. The journey through vast desert badlands is lined with remote mountains, scattered gers, and nomads traveling by camel or horseback. The rugged Gobi landscape, dotted with colorful rocks and minerals, offers countless photo opportunities. . On arrival, we'll explore the stunning dunes by the Khongor river, with camel ride. The day concludes with a cozy dinner and stay at Gobi Erdene.

Day 6 Khavtsgait Petroglyph and Bayanzag, The Flaming Cliffs Meal: B/L/D
This morning, we'll drive to Gobi Gurvan Saikhan park, stopping at the Khavtsgait Petroglyph in Dund Saikhan Mountain to explore Bronze Age rock paintings. Continuing north, we reach Bayanzag, the famous Flaming Cliffs. At the information center, we'll enjoy exhibits and a short documentary before hiking along a scenic trail through unique formations. We'll return to camp in the evening for dinner and an overnight stay at Gobi Tour Camp or similar.

Day 7 Ongi Monastery Meal: B/L/D
After breakfast, we'll drive north for about 4-5 hours across the vast Ongi steppe to the scenic Ongi Monastery ruins by the Ongi River. Upon arrival at our ger camp, we'll have

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Southern Mongolia's highlights. Discover the towering Khongor sand dunes, the stunning Yolyn Am glacial canyon, and the crimson Bayanzag cliffs, renowned for their rich trove of dinosaur fossils. Traverse diverse landscapes, from the arid Gobi Desert to the central Mongolian steppe, forging connections with Gobi camel herders and central Mongolian nomads. Each day brings new experiences, from serene wilderness hikes to immersive encounters with nomadic families. Feel the thrill of camel riding across the Gobi's vast expanse as you explore the heart of Mongolia.

lunch, followed by an afternoon exploring the 18th-century monastery ruins with a short hike. We'll then return to the camp to relax, enjoy dinner, and spend a peaceful night in this tranquil setting. Stay at Secret of Ongi camp.

Day 8 Ongi Monastery – Karakorum Meal: B/L/D
Today, we journey north into central Mongolia with a scenic 4–5-hour drive across the Gobi steppes, stopping for lunch along the highway to the western province. After lunch, we'll continue for another 1–2 hours, possibly visiting a nomadic family en route, before arriving in Karakorum. Here, we'll explore the Karakorum Museum and learn about the history of Central Mongolia and the UNESCO-listed Orkhon River Valley. We'll check into Urguu Camp, enjoy dinner, and settle in for a restful overnight stay.

Day 9 Hustai National Park Meal: B/L/D
After breakfast, we'll visit the historic Erdene Zuu Monastery, founded in 1586 as Central Mongolia's first Buddhist monastery. Next, we'll head to Hustai National Park, stopping at Elsen Tasarkhai and having lunch at a roadside restaurant. Upon arrival in Hustai, we'll explore the park, looking out for Takhi wild horses and other wildlife in their natural habitat. We'll then head to our ger camp Mongol Nomadic for a hearty dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 10 Ulaanbaatar Meal: B/L/D
Check out from our camp and travel to Ulaanbaatar with 2–3-hour drive. Arrive in Ulaanbaatar and start our city sightseeing tour. Your journey begins with a visit to the Natural History Museum for the natural insight of Mongolia. Transfer to the hotel for check in followed by a lunch at local restaurant. If time permits, you can engage in some optional shopping for cashmere and souvenirs. As the day draws to a close, immerse yourself in Mongolia's rich cultural heritage with a traditional folklore concert at the Tumen Ekh ensemble. The day concludes with a heartfelt farewell dinner, a fitting way to celebrate the end of your journey.

Day 11 Ulaanbaatar departure Meal: B
Transfer to the airport for your flight home bound.

2027 Departure Dates:
16 June; 28 July; 25 Aug 2026

Land Price: $4380 per person
Single room extra: $960

Inclusions:
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Full-time service from your English-speaking local tour guide
- 7 nights Twin share ger at tourist ger camps with shared western style bathroom/toilet facility
- 3 nights Twin share centrally located 4* Holiday Inn
- All transfers (Comfortable vehicle with AC + Experienced driver).
- 1 hour camel ride in the Gobi.
- Meals as listed (B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner)
- Airport transfers
- 0.5 l x 3 bottled water per day

Exclusions: Any air tickets; Travel Insurance; Tipping; Personal expenses; Optional activities.

Please note this itinerary is subject to a minimum of 4 participants. Subject to final availability and confirmation. Air China / Korean Air fly to Ulaanbaatar.

En-Suite Ger Upgrade:
$420 per person twin share extra for grading to en-suite ger for 5 nights at Bayanzag, Khongo, Yol, Karakorum & Khustai.. Subject to availability.