

# SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

*Adventure & Active & Cultural Tours, Family, Group & Private Expedition, since 1997!*

## ***GOBI DESERT ADVENTURES WITH BACTRIAN CAMEL SAFARI 15 DAYS, from \$ 2,199 per person-All Inclusive!***



***This 15 day tour gets well off the beaten track  
and into the southern regions of the Gobi  
desert***



**Tour Highlights:** \*This 15 day tour gets well off the beaten track and into the southern regions of the Gobi desert for Bactrian Camel Safari.

\*Meet local nomads and stay in traditional ger camps.

\*Have your first ger camp experience in "Chinggis" Tourist Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia" by the author Michael Kohn.

\* Hike, horseback ride, and Mongolian archery.

\*Take some amazing photos to the 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or

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Chinggis" Khan on a big horse on Tsonjin Boldog Hill is located just ~3kms (~1,5miles) to "Chinggis" Tourist Traditional Ger Camp.

\*Expedition to the Spectacular Flaming Cliffs in Gobi desert where many fossilized dinosaur bones and eggs have been found.

\*Bactrian Camel riding safari to Hongoryn Els sand dunes in Gobi desert.

\*Climb up the towering piles of sand standing hundreds of metres high and later walk along Hongor River.

\*Journey to Karakorum, the Genghis (Chinggis) Khan's 13th century capital and heart of the mighty Mongolian Empire and Okhon river Valley, cradle of Mongolian civilization.

\* This surely is a journey into a rich and varied land. **We would be pleased to have you join us!**

## ▶ Trip summary:

▶ **Tour Code:** **SMTC-15D**

▶ **Meeting Point:** Ulaanbataar, Mongolia

▶ **Departure Point:** Ulaanbataar, Mongolia

▶ **Group size:** Minimum 4 adults or more participants-This tour operates on a minimum of 04 and a maximum of 12-16 participants.

▶ **Length:** 15 days/14 nights

▶ **Difficulty level:** Easy to moderate.

▶ **2009 Regular Tour Calendar:** **Daily departure, from June-September**

▶ **Umnugobi province (South Gobi desert):** is the one that has the biggest area-165.400km<sup>2</sup> and is located in the southern part of the country. Province center: Dalanzadgad town (575km from Ulaanbaatar city). There are high mountains such as the Gobi Gurvan Saihan Mountain, Sevrey, Noyon Bogd, Nemegt and Gilbent. This province belongs to the Gobi region. Umnugobi province is the melting pot of tourism in Mongolia and its climate is the hottest, too that is above +35-40 C in summer. It is the place where large numbers of dinosaur findings are found. The first dinosaur finding in Asia has been found in Umnugobi province. Also it is the place where live and "latest dinosaurs" can be seen very often. There are mountain sheep, wild goats, wild sheep, leopards, foxes and antelopes as well as various birds including lammergeyers, eagles, kites and falcons.

Short Tour Description	Accommodation	Food
Day 1-Ulaanbaatar	Hotel/Hostel	D
Day 2-Gandan monastery-Tuul River Nomad's Valley	"Chinggis" Tourist Camp	B+L+D
Day 3-Horseback riding Exploration	"Chinggis" Tourist Camp	B+L+D
Day 4-Terelj N.P.-Turtle Rock-Arryabal Temple	"Chinggis" Tourist Camp	B+L+D
Day 5-Middle Gobi: Sum Khukh Burd Temple-Bagazarin Chuluu	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 6-Gobi desert: the legendary "Flaming Cliffs"	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 7-Gobi desert: to the largest sand dunes Hongoryn Els	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Days 8/9-Gobi desert: Bactrian Camel Safari	Camping in tents	B+L+D
Day 10-Ongiin Steppe to the ruins of the Ongiin Monastery	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 11-Karakorum-the 1 <sup>st</sup> capital of the Mongol Empire	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 12-Erdene zuu monastery-Ugii lake	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 13-Hogno Khan mountain- Uvgun temple-Bayangobi	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 14-Bayangobi-Hustain National Reserve-Ulaanbaatar	Hotel/Hostel	B+L+D
Day 15-Departure Mongolia or Post tour	<b>END OF OUR SERVICES</b>	<b>B</b>

## ▶ THE MAIN TOUR IN DETAILS:

### Day 1 Arrive in Ulaanbaatar (D)

Upon arrival in Ulaan Baatar, you will be met at the airport and are transferred to the hotel. Free time at hotel. This afternoon city tour includes a visit to the "Genghis or Chinggis" Khaan's main monument in the Sukh Bataar square, the National History Museum, where you will see artifacts from Mongolia and Central Asia from the Stone Age to the present. Next stop is the beautiful Winter Palace of the last Mongolian Khan, who ruled until 1924. Lastly, visit to Zaisan Hill War Memorial visit to get your bearings with a panoramic view of the whole city. 18:00-Evening National Performers (concert which includes the Tsam dance, traditional Mongolian singers, dancers, Tuvan throat singing and contortionists). Have welcome dinner at local restaurant "El Latino", featuring Mongolian and Western specialties. Overnight at hotel.

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## **Day 2 Gandan monastery-Chinggis Tourist Ger Camp (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. In the morning, visit Gandan Lamasery, the largest Monastery in Mongolia (80 foot tall statue of Buddha, practicing Tibetan Buddhist Lamas), the Buddhist ceremony at 10:00AM and experience the Tibetan-Buddhist tradition. Afterward, visit to the Natural Museum, where you will see two complete dinosaur skeletons, which were found in the Gobi - the giant flesh-eating Tarbosaurus, 15m tall and four to five tons in weight, and the little duck-billed plant-eating Saurolophus, and displays of Mongolia's geography, flora and fauna and the Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum, known as one of the best collections of Buddhist art and artifacts in the world. Lunch in local restaurant. Afterward, drive to the "Sacred Tuul river Nomad's Valley" (55kms/27.5miles)-this is a beautiful valley of streams. There are national gers in beautiful natural locations, so it's easy to meet with locals and see their daily lives, interact with them. The river Tuul is one of the longest rivers of the country, flowing from the Khentii Mountain Range. The valley of the river has been called sacred for centuries by the nomads as they truly respect the nature especially the rivers and the surface water. In route, we stop to observe and to take some amazing photos to the 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse on Tsonjin Boldog Hill is located just ~3kms (~1,5miles) to "Chinggis" Tourist Traditional Ger Camp. Free time. Welcome dinner with traditional mongolian meal (khorkhog), which is mutton cooked with hot rock and with vegetables, water, potatoes, and onion. Overnight in "Chinggis" Tourist Base Ger Camp. Have your first ger camp experience. "Chinggis" Tourist Traditional Ger Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia" by the author Michael Kohn.

## **Day 3 Horseback Exploration (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Horseback Exploration to enjoy this amazing scenery of wide-open steppe with rolling hills in the background and river. The river Tuul is one of the longest rivers of the country, flowing from the Khentii Mountain Range. The valley of the river has been called sacred for centuries by the nomads as they truly respect the nature especially the rivers and the surface water. The beautiful valley in summer is often dotted with traditional Mongolian gers and offers picturesque sceneries. Visit Nomads along the way and enjoy Nomad hospitality. See their daily lives, take water adventures, go trekking, swimming in the Tuul river. Overnight in "Chinggis" tourist base camp.

## **Day 4 Terelj National Park-Tortoise Rock-Arraybal Temple (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Today, we drive to "Terelj" National Park for a walking tour to Turtle Rock and trekking to the "Arraybal" Buddhist monastery hidden on the top of the mountain. It is famous for its amazing rock formations, pristine alpine scenery and varied bird life. The Terelj National Park incorporates parts of Khentii Mountain Range. The forest consists of Aspen, Larch and Birch trees which support wolf, eagles, birds, and others animals. Picnic lunch is provided. In the afternoon, drive back to "Chinggis" tourist traditional ger camp. Free time for mongolian archery, etc. Dinner and overnight.

## **Day 5 Middle Gobi (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Drive to Middle Gobi on the way visit ruins of Sum Khukh Burd Temple, one of the few monasteries and temples to survive the communist purges in 1930s. Boxed lunch on the way. Next stop is in Bagazarin Chuluu. Free time for photo opportunities. We recommend you take a walk around the Bagazarin Chuluu. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

## **Day 6 Gobi desert- the legendary Flaming Cliffs (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Today, we drive to the legendary "Flaming Cliffs"; named for its glowing orange rock that is rich with dinosaur fossils in Bayanzad (dinosaur excavation site) to explore the Gobi Dinosaur Cemetery and to follow the historic trail of paleontologist / explorer Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

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## **Day 7 Gobi desert-the Largest and the Singing Sand Dunes Hongoryn Els (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Drive to the largest sand dunes Hongoryn Els in Gobi desert. It is the biggest sand dunes in Mongolia and lasts 200kms and app. 40-50 ms high. Has an extraordinary length of 180 kms and 15-20 m. Climb up the towering piles of sand standing hundreds of meters high and later walk along Hongor River. Wildlife here includes ibex and gazelle and rare wild camels. Arrive and free time. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

## **Days 8-9 Camel Safari to the largest sand dunes Hongoryn Els (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Bactrian Camel (two-humped) Safari tour to the largest sand dunes Hongoryn Els. Enjoy Nomad hospitality. Visit a camel-breeding farm to get introduced to their lifestyle and taste the khoormog, camel milk. Camping in tents.

## **Day 10 Gobi desert-Ongiin Monastery (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Overland journey through famous Ongiin Steppe to the ruins of the Ongiin Monastery. In the afternoon, walk to the ruins of the Ongiin Monastery. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

## **Day 11 Ongiin Monastery-Karakorum (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. This morning, we drive through the grassland toward "Karakhorum", was founded in 1220 at the crossroads of the Silk Road. It was the capital of the Mongol Empire until Kublai Khan moved it to Beijing. Visitors, such as Marco Polo, described its ornate building, including a 2500 sq. meters Palace of Worldly Peace. In 1792 the Monastery still had 62 temples and 10,000 lamas. But in 1930 it became a victim of the Stalin's purges. All but three of the Temples were destroyed and most of the monks were either killed or sent to Siberia. Today the restoration of the Monastery is the government's top priority. Erdene Zuu retains much of its ancient glory and is well worth visiting. Arrive and transfer to the tourist base ger camp. Free time. Dinner and overnight in tourist base camp.

## **Day 12 Erdene zuu Monastery-Ogii lake (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. This morning, visit "Erdene Zuu" monastery, the Tortoise rock and the men's rock. The monastery grounds and several chapels depicts excellent examples of Buddhist iconography dating from the sixteenth century. Next drive to the freshwater Lake Ogii. This freshwater lake is located in the valley of the Orkhon River. Ogii lake is a wonderful place for birdlife (cranes and ducks, to name just a few species, migrate to the area around late April). This a freshwater lake located in the valley of the Orkhon River. Optional activities: relaxing, fishing, boating, or kayak at the Ugii lake. Overnight in tourist camp.

## **Day 13 Khogno Khan Mountain-Uvgun Temple-Bayangobi desert (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. Next drive to Khogno Khan Mountain. This mountain is at an elevation of 1967m and is perfect for short walks around the surrounding area and there are some remains of an ancient monastery. Visit "Uvgun" monastery. Afterward, drive to Bayangobi desert. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

## **Day 14 Hustain National Reserve-Ulaanbaatar (B, L, D)**

Breakfast. drive to "Hustain Nuruu" National Reserve to see the Przewalski wild horses (Takhi horses), recently re-introduced back into Mongolia. The Przewalski horse (Equus przewalskii Poliakov) or Takhi as the Mongolians name them are rather small, sturdy animals with a short, strong neck. The earliest written reports of Przewalski horses or Takhi date from the ninth century and in 1226, a herd of Przewalski horses is said to have caused "Genghis" Khan to fall off his horse. The Hustain Reserve (Hustai is Mongolian for birch and nuruu means mountains) measures about 57,000 hectares, or including the bufferzone 120,000 ha., and is located on about 120 km west from the capital Ulaanbaatar. Visit the park museum to learn about the

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history of the last pure wild horses in the world and the history of the area. Drive back to Ulaanbaatar. Transfer to the hotel. Afternoon at leisure for some shopping. Farewell dinner Overnight at hotel or hostel (2 options).

## Day 15 **Departure Mongolia or Post tour (B)**

Breakfast. Transfer to Ulaanbaatar airport. **Departure Mongolia or Post Tour to Hovsgol lake National Park. End of our services.**

### **THE TOUR COST INCLUDES:**

- 2 nights at hotel in Ulaanbataar city based on double occupancy or at hostel.
- 10 nights in tourist class ger camps throughout the tour city based on double occupancy.
- 2 nights camping in tents based on double occupancy, included the camping gear.
- Accompanied by experienced English speaking local guide.
- Private transport transfers (included the patrol).
- Entrance fees to all specified museums, national parks, protected areas, and monasteries.
- **Full Board** as mentioned (**B**=Breakfast, **L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner)
- Evening entertainment as specified;
- One Mongolian traditional folk songs concert in UB.
- One Special Welcome dinner with traditional mongolian meal (khorkhog).
- Horseback riding Exploration, close to Chinggis Tourist Camp.
- 2 days of Bactrian Camel Safari to Hongor sand dunes.
- Road's taxes.
- All expenses at the nomadic families.
- 1.5 litter of bottled water each day .
- Visa support invitation letter if necessary.

### **NOT INCLUDED FEATURES**

- ❖ Airfare from home city to/from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ❖ Visa.
- ❖ Single supplement at hotel in Ulaanbaatar city.
- ❖ Changing of date of departure from Ulaanbataar.
- ❖ Occasional flight delays or cancellation. Samar Magic Tours cannot take over the responsibility for the National or the International Airlines.
- ❖ Sleeping bag.
- ❖ Additional meal, services or night at hotel in Ulaanbataar.
- ❖ Excess baggage. Extra luggage can be stored at hotel in Ulaan Bataar, free of cost.
- ❖ Optional activities: camel riding, horseback riding, boating, fishing, etc.
- ❖ The traveler is responsible for having proper travel documents, such as a valid passport, proper visa, the necessary passport pictures, and the International airfares.
- ❖ Travel insurance.
- ❖ Items of personal nature such as gratuities to porters at hotels, telephone / telex / fax charges, laundry, beverages, meals, optional activities, and services not specified in the itinerary.
- ❖ Any circumstances beyond of our control, such as the imposition of quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, etc.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- Tour and Tour Information are subject to change.
- Hotels are based on double occupancy in Ulaanbaatar city.
- Check-in at hotels is at 12:00m/Check-out at hotels is at 12:00m.
- Single gers are NOT available, during the high seasonal in Mongolia. Single supplements reflect sharing in gers and \*single rooms in hotels in Ulaanbaatar.
- Accommodation in the countryside of Mongolia: Most tourists will stay in specially constructed gers camps.

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These camps provide accommodation in the round felt houses used by nomads and usually have separate toilet, washing and restaurant facilities.

-Mongolia's tourism infrastructure is in its infancy which requires a flexible and adventurous attitude and patience.

## **Payment Schedule and the Reservation Procedures:**

1. Deposit Due by Wire Bank Transfer at the time of confirmation of the reservation: \$500 or 400 Euro per person.
2. The final balance is due **65** working days of the departure date.
3. All cancellation requests are required in writing.
4. We accept payment in US \$ (US Dollars), or equivalent EURO (for clients outside North America).

## **-The following cancellation penalties will be assessed.**

For cancellations received

Up to 90-65 days before departure \$500 or 400 Euro per person penalty applies.

64-30 days before departure 50% of the trip cost per person penalty applies.

29-0 days before departure 100% of the trip cost per person penalty applies.

We strongly recommend Trip Cancellation, Interruption and Travel insurance.

5. Price Guarantee: Your tour price is guaranteed once Samar Magic Tours has received your full payment.
6. If your balance due is not received by the due date before the 65 days of the departure, the reservation will be subject to cancellation without notice. If a booking is made within 65 days of the departure date, full payments are due immediately.
7. These Complete Tours include arrival and departure transfer services to/from Airport. All you have to do is to make necessary International air arrangements.



**WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO GO?:** Mongolia is vast! Generally, it is recommended to pay your visit from May to September when the grass is green.

## **-Please note when you choose your clothes:**

April to May, or on September: warm days and cool nights around (6-10°C).

June, July to August: is summertime, days around (15°C-30°C), nights around (10/20°C).

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