

# SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

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

## **THE 2010 GRAND NAADAM FESTIVAL TOUR 15 DAYS**

***Includes 3 domestic flights, to Great Khovsgol  
Lake National Park and flight back to  
Ulaanbaatar from Gobi desert.***

***Option No. 1: JUNE 29-JULY 13, 2010, from  
\$ 3,599 per person at Flower Top Hotel, 3\****



***Attendance at Naadam - the largest and most  
colorful of all Mongolian festivals***

**Samar Magic Tours LLC, since 1997.**

**Postal Address:** Ulaanbaatar 15160, Central Post Office Box 2567, Mongolia.

**Tel:** (976) 11 311051; **Fax:** (976) 11 327503

**E-mail:** [info@samarmagictours.com](mailto:info@samarmagictours.com)

**USA Voice Mails/Fax:** (1-206-888-4286)

**Websites:** [www.samarmagictours.com/](http://www.samarmagictours.com/) or at [www.experiencemongolia.org/](http://www.experiencemongolia.org/)

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## Tour Highlights:

- \* Includes 3 domestic flights, to Great Khovsgol Lake National Park and flight back to Ulaanbaatar from Gobi desert.
- \*The Naadam Festival is a Mongolia's celebration of the three manly games: horse racing, archery, and wrestling.
- \*Visit to the nomadic tented camps that have sprung up, and experience a concentration of nomadic Mongolia at one site.
- \* Have your first ger camp experience. "Chinggis" Tourist Traditional Ger Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia" by the author Michael Kohn.
- \* Hike, horseback ride, and Mongolian archery.
- \*Horseback riding exploration to take some amazing photos to the Giant 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 Camp.
- \*Full day of relaxing, fishing, boating, or kayak at the Great Lake Hovsgol National Park, close to Siberia.
- \*Journey to visit the ruins of Karakorum, Genghis (Chinggis) Khan's 13th century capital and heart of the mighty Mongolian Empire and Okhon river Valley, cradle of Mongolian civilization.
- \*Meet local nomads and stay in traditional ger camps.
- \*Enjoy the hot baths and relax in Tsenkher Hot Springs.
- \*4WD Expedition to the Spectacular Flaming Cliffs in Gobi desert where many fossilized dinosaur bones and eggs have been found.
- \*Hiking to the Yolyn Am Canyon in Gobi desert.
- \*Camel riding safari in Moltsog Els sand dunes in Gobi. **We would be pleased to have you join us!**

## ▶ Trip summary:

- ▶ **Tour Code:** SMT-NF-15D
- ▶ **Meeting Point:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- ▶ **Departure Point:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- ▶ **Group size:** Minimum 4 adults or more participants.
- ▶ **Length:** 15 days/14 nights
- ▶ **Difficulty level:** Easy to moderate.
- ▶ **2010 Regular Tour Calendar:** June 29-July 13
- ▶ **Block your seats. Names due at 90 days!**
- ▶ **2010 Tour Costs per person based on twin room:**

10% Discount: If you or your clients register by **March 30th, 2010**, you or they will receive a 10% discount!. **\*We would be pleased to have you join us!**

2010 Regular Tour Calendar: **June 29-July 13**

**15 days/14 nights**

▶ **OPTION NO. 1:** Price based on double room at Flower Hotel, 3★☆☆ (Top category) per person: \$ 3,599.00 or 2,589.00 Euro

Supplement based on single occupancy at Flower Hotel, 3★☆☆: \$ 619.00 or 445.00 Euro

▶ **OPTION NO. 2:** Price based on double room at Kempinsky Luxury Hotel, 4★☆☆☆, per person: **ON REQUEST!**

Supplement based on single room at Kempinsky Luxury Hotel, 4★☆☆☆: **ON REQUEST!**

**Ulaan Baatar • Gandan monastery • The Sacred Tuul river Nomad's Valley • Terelj National Park-Arraybal Temple • Flight to Moron • Khovsgol Great Lake National Park • Flight back to Ulaanbaatar • Karakorum • Erdene zuu monastery • Tsenkher Hot Springs • Middle Gobi • Gobi desert • Flight back to Ulaanbaatar • Manzshir monastery in Bodgo Khaan National Park • Naadam Festival • Ulaan Baatar**

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## THE 2010 GRAND NAADAM FESTIVAL MAIN TOUR:

Main Itinerary	Schedule
<b>Day 1-June 29</b> 	<b>ULAANBAATAR (L,D)</b> Upon early arrival in Ulaanbaatar (UB) airport, you are transferred to the hotel. Lunch in local restaurant. Afterward, visit the Central Square, the "Genghis" Khan's main monument, the National History Museum, where you will see artefacts from Mongolia from the Stone Age to the present, and displays of the development of Mongolian arts and culture and the Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum, known as one of the best collections of Buddhist art and artifacts in the world. Have welcome dinner at local restaurant "El Latino" featuring Mongolian and Western specialties. Overnight at hotel.
<b>Day 2-June 30</b> 	<b>GANDAN MONASTERY-TUUL RIVER NOMAD'S VALLEY (B,L,D)</b> Breakfast at hotel. 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, 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, explore, take water adventures, go trekking, swimming in the Tuul 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. Two (2) hours of Mongolian horseback riding tour to the Giant 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 Camp. Optional hiking to meet with the Nomads, to enjoy this amazing scenery of wide-open steppe with rolling hills in the background and river. 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 Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia" by the author Michael Kohn.
<b>Day 3-July 1st</b> 	<b>TERELJ NATIONAL PARK-TURTLE ROCK-ARRYABAL TEMPLE (B,L,D)</b> Breakfast. Today, we drive to "Terelj" National Park for a walking tour to Turtle Rock and hiking to the "Arryabal" Buddhist monastery 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 Khenty 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 camp. Free time for Mongolian archery, or we can just relax around the camp. Dinner and overnight.
<b>Day 4-July 2</b> 	<b>FLIGHT TO MORON-GREAT HOVSGOL LAKE NATIONAL PARK (B,L,D)</b> Breakfast. Transfer to UB airport. Fly to Moron. Arrive in Moron local airport and meet the transport and drive to Lake Hovsgol (102kms/51 miles over a raised gravel road)-the Mongolia's largest lake, known as the "Dark Blue Pearl." Spend the remainder of the day at leisure on the lake. Lake Hovsgol is a 100 mile long pristine alpine lake located in the north of Mongolia, close to the Siberian border. The lake lies at an altitude of 1645m and is a rift valley some 262m deep. The Lake is a protected as a National Park and is sacred to Mongolians


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who call it "Dalai Ej" the "Mother Sea". Situated among pristine forests, mountains, and meadows, Lake Hovsgol remains untouched and is considered the cleanest freshwater lake left on the world. Free time. Overnight in traditional ger dwellings at the tourist base camp.

**Day 5-July 3** 


**GREAT HOVSGOL LAKE NATIONAL PARK (B,L,D)**

Breakfast. A leisure day on the Lake Hovsgol (\*do not include the transport there), to enjoy this remote location, we recommend you take a walk around the lake or into the foothills to witness this amazing landscapes and wild life. Optional excursions available on the Lake Hovsgol: hiking, trekking, climbing, fishing, boating, horseback riding, bird watching, kayaking, etc, or we can just relax around the camp. Meet with nomadic families and see their daily lives, interact with them to show you their animal training, feeding, milking, food preparation, etc. Overnight in traditional ger dwellings at the tourist base camp.

**Day 6-July 4** 

**FLIGHT BACK TO ULAANBAATAR-KARAKORUM (B,L,D)**

Breakfast. Transfer to Moron local airport (102kms/51 miles over a raised gravel road). Fly back to UB city. Arrive and a long drive directly to Karakorum (380kms/190miles,+7 hours driving). Arrive and accommodation in tourist ger camp.

**Day 7-July 5** 

**ERDENE ZUU MONASTERY-TSENKHER HOT SPRINGS (B,L,D)**

Breakfast. In the morning, visit "Erdene Zuu" monastery, and the Tortoise monument. The monastery grounds and several chapels depicts excellent examples of Buddhist iconography dating from the sixteenth century. Next our journey continuing further drive to the Tsenkher Hot Springs. Enjoy the hot baths and relax. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

**Day 8-July 6** 

**TSENKHER HOT SPRINGS-MIDDLE GOBI (B,L,D)**

Breakfast. Our journey continuing further long drive to south towards the Middle Gobi, enjoy endless views of changing scenery and arrive in Saihan-Ovoo village. Visit Ongi Monastery on the river banks of Ongi River and also walk up the sacred mountain. Overnight in tourist ger camp.

**Day 9-July 7** 

**MOLTSOG ELS SAND DUNES-FLAMING CLIFFS IN GOBI DESERT (B,L,D)**

Today, we drive to Moltsog Els sand dunes in Gobi desert. Two hours of camel riding are included. After, 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 traditional ger dwellings at the tourist camp.

**Day 10-July 8** 

**GOBI GURVAN SHAIKHAN NTL PARK-CAMEL FAMILY (B,L,D)**

After early breakfast, long drive to "Yol Valley Protected Area in Gobi Gurvan Shaikhan (Three Beauties) National Park" for trekking and an opportunity to photograph the stunning landscape, the Gobi Glacier and the wildlife of the cradled in the foothills of the Altai Mountains. Hike through the valley before visiting the local natural history museum for an overview of the flora and fauna of the area. After, drive to visit a camel breeding camp for optional camel riding and photo opportunities. Drive for overnight in tourist ger camp.

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- Day 11-July 9**  **FLY BACK TO ULAANBAATAR-UB CITY TOUR (B,L)**  
In the morning, we drive to the local airport of Dalanzadgad, where we catch our flight back to UB city. In the afternoon, we visit 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, the "Bogd Khan" Winter Palace-home to Mongolia's last Khan, Damba Khutugt 8th, the war memorial "Zaisan" Hill visit to get your bearings with a panoramic view of the whole city and the Buddha's statue. Shop for souvenirs, original pure cashmere gifts and garment. Overnight at hotel.
- Day 12-July 10**  **BOGDO KHAAN NATIONAL PARK-MANZSHIR MONASTERY (B,L,D)**  
Breakfast. Drive to the ruins of Manzhir monastery in Bogd Khaan National Park (60kms/30miles), established in 1750 which once housed 350 monks within 20 temples, including schools of medicine, astrology and philosophy, before it was destroyed in the 1930s. Free time for hiking. Picnic lunch. Drive back to UB city. Overnight at hotel.
- Day 13-July 11**  **NAADAM FESTIVAL (B,L)**  
Today, attend the opening ceremony of the \*Festival of Naadam in UB national stadium. Taking place in the middle of July, the Festival of Naadam sees Mongolians from all over the country converge on the capital to participate in and watch these annual summer sports. See horse racing, wrestling and archery, the three age old national sports. Lunch. In the evening, 18:00-Enjoy a performance featuring traditional Mongolian dancers and hoomi (throat) singers. Accommodation at hotel.
- Day 14-July 12**  **NAADAM FESTIVAL (B,L,D)**  
Full day to enjoy the impressive \*Naadam Festival at the National Stadium. The Naadam Festival horse races are continuous over the two main Naadam days, and today we will try our luck early and find a site beyond the restricted zone outside of Ulaanbaatar, where a close up encounter is possible with some 700-1000 children on horseback. Farewell dinner at local restaurant. Accommodation at hotel.
- Day 15-July 13**  **DEPARTURE MONGOLIA (B)**  
Breakfast. Transfer to Ulaanbaatar airport. Departure Mongolia. **End of our services.**

## THE NAADAM FESTIVAL TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- Includes three (3) domestic flights+taxes.
- Five (5) nights at Hotel in UB city on double based occupancy.
- Nine (9) nights in tourist class camps on double based occupancy.
- Accompanied by experienced English speaking local guide.
- All private transport transfers, included the all patrol and the Mongolian speaking driver.
- All Admission fees: Khovsgol Lake National Park, Yol Valley Protected Area in Gobi Gurvan Shaikhan National Park, Bayanzad in Gobi desert, Terelj National Park Bogdo Kaan National Park, all specified monasteries, and the all specified museums.
- Meals as specified, **B**=Breakfast, **L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner.
- Evening entertainment as specified;
- Entrance fees to the two main days of \*Naadam Festival in \*July 11, and \*July 12;
- One Mongolian traditional folk songs concert in UB in \*July 11.


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- Two (2) hours of Mongolian horseback riding exploration to take some amazing photos to the Giant 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse.
- Two hours of camel riding in Moltsog Els sand dunes in Gobi desert.
- One Special Welcome dinner with traditional Mongolian meal (khorkhog) in "Chinggis" Tourist Camp.
- Road's taxes.
- All expenses at the nomadic family in the "Sacred Tuul River Nomads' Valley".
- The hot baths in Tsenkher Hot Springs.
- Visa support invitation letter if necessary.

## ❑ NOT INCLUDED FEATURES

- ❖ Airfare from home city to/from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ❖ Visa.
- ❖ Single supplement at hotel in UB city.
- ❖ Changing of date of departure from UB city.
- ❖ Occasional flight delays or cancellation. Samar Magic Tours cannot take over the responsibility for the National or the International Airlines.
- ❖ Additional meal, services or night at hotel in UB city.
- ❖ Excess baggage. Extra luggage can be stored at hotel in UB city, free of cost.
- ❖ Optional activities: camel riding, horseback riding, boating, fishing, transport inside Khovsgol Lake National Park, etc.
- ❖ Entrance fee to the Giant 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse.
- ❖ 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, any changes in Naadam Festival schedule, etc.

## SOME COMMENTS ABOUT MONGOLIAN TOURS

- 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. 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.
- Your tour involves some days of travelling off the beaten track, with long road journeys by 4WD transport (inside Mongolia) over difficult terrain.
- Mongolia Weight Limit:** 15 kgs (33lbs). Extra luggage can be stored at hotel in Ulaanbaatar, free of cost.
- Please, make your reservations at your earliest convenience, **180-90** days prior to departure. Especially flights to and inside Mongolia are fully booked at this time. Seats can be difficult to get in Summer seasonal.
- The internal flight schedule sometimes means we have an extra day at the tourist camp or at hotel in Ulaanbaatar city, the ground agents and leader will adjust the itinerary accordingly when the flight schedule becomes available.


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-These Complete Tours include arrival and departure transfer services to/from Airport. All you have to do is to make necessary International air arrangements.

## SPECIAL PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND THE RESERVATION PROCEDURES FOR NAADAM FESTIVAL TOURS

-Reservations will be accepted in order of receipt if accompanied by a completed reservation form and a deposit of \$600.00 or 500.00 Eur per person.

-The final balance is due by **April 15, 2010**.

-The following cancellation penalties will be assessed. Air or train cancellation terms are additional.

**For cancellations received:** Refunds, less a cancellation fee of \$600.00 or 500.00 Eur per person, will be made if we are notified on or before **April 15, 2010**. No refunds will be granted after that date.

-All cancellation requests are required in writing. Telephone / verbal cancellation is not accepted.

-We strongly recommend Trip Cancellation, Interruption and Travel insurance.

**-Price Guarantee:** Your tour price is guaranteed once Samar Magic Tours has received your full payment.

-If your balance due is not received by the due date before **APRIL 15, 2010**, the reservation will be subject to cancellation without notice. If a booking is made within 90 days of the departure date, full payments are due immediately.

### CHARGE FOR CHILDREN:

**0-3 years old:** free

**4-11 years old:** 70% at the regular adult price.

**12 years old and above:** 100% at the regular adult price.

**For children 11 and under,** if they are sharing bed with either parent and do not ask for a third bed in the same room, they will be charged the child fare. If they need the third bed in parents' room, they will be charged 80% of the adult fare. For children 12 and over, they will be charged at the regular adult price.

## 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).

## DANGERS/ANNOYANCES

Mongolia is a safe place to be. As a visitor you are unlikely to experience any serious problems. However, like anywhere else there are a few things that visitors should be aware of, things that will need extra care and attention. Pick pocketing and bag slitting is most common in crowded places such as the black market, on buses or at tourist attractions such as Gandan Monastery. Bag-slashers attack "obvious tourists" frequently at the following locations: Black Market (bazaar), outside Post Office, Railway station, and crowded bus lines in Ulaanbaatar city. Valuables should be kept in a money belt and kept underneath your clothing or in the security box at your hotel in Ulaanbaatar city. Be careful about being seen with large amounts of money outside.

**In the countryside of Mongolia:** there is not any problem. The nomadic families are very hospitable. We ask you to remember that when we visit the nomadic people, we are guests in their homes, so it is appropriate to offer them small gifts in return for their hospitality.

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