

SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

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

***FROM GRASSLAND TO KARAKORUM
8 DAYS, from \$ US 1,399.00 at Hotel, 4*
-All Inclusive-***



An incredible journey in just eight days...

- Tour Highlights:**
- *Explore the vast beauty of this the land-based culture of its people, and natural places.
 - *This trip offers plenty of pleasure hikes and interesting cultural encounters.
 - *Meet local nomads.
 - *Have your first ger camp experience. "Chinggis" Tourist Traditional Ger Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia" by the author Michael Kohn.
 - *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.
 - *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.



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- *Visit Khogno Khaan mountain and Uvgun monastery. 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.
- *Explore Bayangobi desert with a walking tour to the Singing Sand.
- * Visit Hustain National Reserve to observe the wild horses (Takhi horses o Przewalski horses), recently re-introduced back into Mongolia.
- *This surely is a journey into a rich and varied land. **We would be pleased to have you join us!**

▶ **Trip summary:**

- ▶ **Tour Code:** SMT-8D
- ▶ **Meeting Point:** Ulaanbataar, Mongolia
- ▶ **Departure Point:** Ulaanbataar, Mongolia
- ▶ **Group size:** Minimum 2 adults or more participants-This tour operates on a minimum of 02 and a maximum of 12-16 participants.
- ▶ **Length:** 8 days/7 nights
- ▶ **Difficulty level:** Easy to moderate.
- ▶ **2009 Tour Calendar:** Daily departure, from very late May, June-October

Short Tour Description	Accommodation	Food
Day 1-Ulaanbaatar	Hostel/Hotel	D
Day 2-Ulaanbaatar city tour-Gandan monastery-Nomad's River Valley	"Chinggis" Tourist Camp	B+L+D
Day 3-Mongolian Horseback riding tour	"Chinggis" Tourist Camp	B+L+D
Day 4-Terelj N.P.-Turtle Rock-Arryabal Temple	"Chinggis" Tourist Camp	B+L+D
Day 5-Karakorum-1 st Capital of Mongolian Empire	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 6-Erdene zuu monastery-Khogno Khaan mountain-Uvgun Temple-Bayangobi desert	Tourist Ger Camp	B+L+D
Day 7-Bayangobi desert-Hustain National Park-Ulaanbaatar	Hostel / Hotel	B+L+D
Day 8-Departure Mongolia or Post tour	END OF OUR SERVICES	B

THE MAIN TOUR IN DETAILS:

 **Day 1 Arrive in Ulaanbaatar (D)**

Upon arrival in Ulaanbaatar (UB), you will be met at the airport or UB Railway station and are transferred to the hostel or to the hotel, 4* or to the hotel, 3* (3 options). Today is spent on a guided city tour of Ulaanbaatar, highlights include Sukhbataar Central Square, the "Chinggis" Khan's Main monument, and the National History Museum where you will see artifacts from Mongolia from the Stone Age to the present, and displays of the development of Mongolian arts and culture and 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. Attend the Evening Mongolian traditional folk songs and dance concert. Have welcome dinner at "El Latino" local restaurant, featuring Mongolian and Western specialties. Overnight at hostel or at hotel.

 **Day 2 Ulaanbaatar city tour-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 the experience of the Tibetan-Buddhist tradition. 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 and the Buddha's statue. Lunch in local restaurant. Afterward, drive to the "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)

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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. 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.

Day 3 Mongolian Horseback riding Tour (B, L, D)

Breakfast. Meet with the Nomads on Mongolian horseback riding tour to enjoy this amazing scenery of wide-open steppe with rolling hills in the background and river, we recommend you take a walk around the Tuul river or into the foothills to witness this amazing landscapes and wild life. Horseback riding tour along the Tuul river, so it's easy to meet with locals and see their daily lives, interact with them, take water adventures, go trekking, swimming in the Tuul river. Overnight at the "Chinggis" Tourist Base Camp.

Day 4 Terelj National Park-Turtle Rock-Arraybal Temple (B, L, D)

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 ger camp. Free time for mongolian archery, etc. Dinner and overnight.

Day 5 Chinggis Tourist Ger Camp-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 in Orkhon river valley for photo opportunities and to have experience the nomadic lifestyle. Dinner and overnight in tourist base ger camp.

Day 6 Erdene zuu monastery-Khogno Khaan mountain-Uvgun Temple-Bayangobi desert (B, L, D)

Breakfast. In the morning, visit "Erdene Zuu" monastery, the Tortoise rock and the Boovon khad -Men's secret statue (it is stone men's penis and made by monks of temples in 18 century for reason of shame on young monks who are not follow rule). Afterward drive to Khogno Khaan mountain and visit Uvgun monastery. 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. Continuing further drive to Bayangobi desert. Visit the area. Climb up the towering piles of sand. Optional you can ride camels or horses with local nomads. You may be invited to share a cup of airag or koumiss (fermented mare's milk) with these friendly and hospitable people. Overnight in tourist camp.

Day 7 Bayangobi desert-Hustain National Reserve-Ulaanbaatar (B, L, D)

Breakfast. Drive back to Ulaanbaatar (270km) via Hustain Nuruu National Reserve to observe 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 of his horse. The Hustain Nuruu Reserve (Hustai is Mongolian for birch and nuruu means mountains) measures about 57,000 hectares, or including the bufferzone 120.000 ha. Visit the park museum to learn about the history of the last

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pure wild horses in the world and the history of the area. Arrive in Ulaanbaatar and to transferred. Shop for souvenirs, original pure cashmere gifts and garments. Farewell dinner. Overnight at hotel or at hostel.

Day 8 **Departure Mongolia or Post tour (B)**

Breakfast. Transfer to Ulaanbaatar airport or to the Railway Station. **Departure Mongolia. End of our services.**

THE TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- 2 nights at hotel, 4* or at hotel, 3* based on double occupancy or at Mr. Gomez Hostel based on triple or quadruple occupancy in Ulaanbaatar city (**3 options**).
- 3 nights in Chinggis tourist base ger camp based on double occupancy with full board.
- 2 nights in tourist base gers camps based on double occupancy with full board.
- Meals as specified, **B**=Breakfast, **L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner
- Accompanied by experienced English speaking local guide.
- Private transport transfers (included the patrol).
- Entrance fees to the all specified protected areas, national parks, museums, and monasteries.
- One traditional Mongolian meal (khorkhog) in "Chinggis" Tourist Camp.
- One day of Mongolian Horseback riding excursion, close to "Chinggis" gers camp.
- All expenses at the nomadic families.
- Road's taxes.
- Visa support invitation letter if necessary.

NOT INCLUDED FEATURES

- ❖ Airfare from home city to/from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia or train.
- ❖ Visa.
- ❖ Single supplement at hotel in Ulaanbaatar city.
- ❖ Changing of date of departure from Ulaanbaatar.
- ❖ 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 Ulaanbaatar.
- ❖ Excess baggage. Extra luggage can be stored at hotel in Ulaanbaatar, free of cost.
- ❖ Optional activities: camel riding, horseback riding, boating, fishing, and the fishing equipments, 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, drinks, extra 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.
- Mongolia's tourism infrastructure is in its infancy which requires a flexible and adventurous attitude and patience.

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▣ 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. 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.



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.

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