



SAMAR MAGIC TOURS
ADVENTURES & EXPEDITIONS

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MONGOLIA SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

TOUR DURATION: 10 days / 9 nights

TOUR CODE: **SMT-MGLESP-10D**

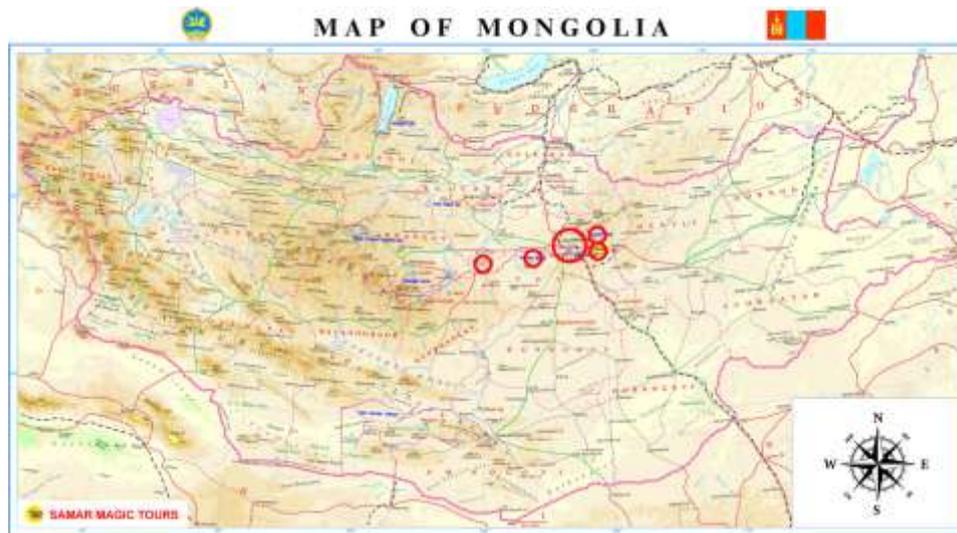
MINIMUM GROUP SIZE: **3-16** adults or more participants.

STARTS/ENDS IN: ULAANBAATAR (INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS OR TRAINS ARE NOT INCLUDED).

VALID PRIVATE DEPARTURES: **JUNE, JULY** (except from **July 1st-20th – Peak Season!** Please inquire about special programs and for the **NAADAM FESTIVAL GROUP RATES**), **AUGUST, UNTIL SEPTEMBER 20th.**

FOR GROUP RATES AND HOTEL INFORMATION, CONTACT US.

Prices, services, and other information about the products detailed on this page and on the website www.samarmagictours.com are non-binding and may change without prior notice.



TOUR DESCRIPTION: We will begin our journey at the new **“Genghis Khan”** International Airport in Ulaanbaatar (inaugurated on July 3rd, 2021, located 52 km / 32.3 miles away, approximately 2 hours’ drive depending on traffic), the capital of Mongolia, where you will be greeted by the Samar Magic Tours team.

Mongolia Spiritual and the Meditation journeys organized by **Samar Magic Tours** focus on **the experience of Tibetan Buddhism**, combining the exploration of desert and mountain landscapes with visits to Mongolia’s three most important monasteries, such as the **“Gandan” Monastery** in Ulaanbaatar and the **“Erdene Zuu” Monastery** in Karakorum (Central Mongolia). These journeys offer travellers the opportunity to connect with the **nomadic culture, meditate in sacred places**, and learn about the prophecies of the **Kalachakra Tantra**, which invoke the ideal of **Shambhala, a hidden Buddhist kingdom**.

—In the first part of this great journey, we will visit the magnificent **“Gandantegchinlin” Monastery**, or simply **“Gandan” Monastery**, a historic Buddhist monastery in Ulaanbaatar, known as the **“Great Place of Complete Joy.”** **Founded in 1809**, it was the only active monastery in the country between 1944 and 1989, and today it is home to several hundred monks, **servicing as the spiritual center of Buddhism in Mongolia**. Its main attraction is an impressive **25-meter-high statue**. Inside, visitors can witness traditional Buddhist ceremonies, including collective prayers, mantras, and rituals aimed at achieving **inner peace and spiritual balance**.



History and Meaning of the Gandan Monastery:

Foundation: The monastery was founded in **1809**.

Persecution and Restoration: It was closed during the Stalinist persecutions in 1939 but became the only active monastery in the country until **1989**.

Reactivation: Beginning in **1990**, it was restored and revitalized, and today it serves as an important center for Buddhism in Mongolia.

Main Attractions

Statue of Migjid Chenrezig (Avalokiteśvara), the Bodhisattva of Compassion: The most famous feature is a statue over **25** meters high of the Bodhisattva of Compassion, made of gilded bronze and adorned with precious stones.

Buildings: It houses several Tibetan-style buildings and serves as the main Buddhist study center.

Teaching Center: **Gandan** hosts a Buddhist university where monks study philosophy, rituals, and practices. Courses in Tibetan, Sanskrit, and English are also offered.

Religious Activities: Daily ceremonies and rituals, such as chanting and prayer, are held and open to both locals and tourists. The monastery's prayer drums create a uniquely spiritual atmosphere.



Other Temples and Colleges: The complex includes several temples and colleges, many of which have been rebuilt and restored since the **1990s**.

Cultural Environment: The monastery remains an active and vital spiritual center, offering visitors a true experience of the heart of Buddhism in Mongolia's capital.

About the Statue of Migjid Chenrezig (Avalokiteśvara):

The original statue was made of gold and bronze and erected in 1913 through donations from Mongolians for the **Bogdo Khan** (the **Eighth Javzandamba**, who had become Emperor of Mongolia) to help him recover his eyesight. The statue stood **32 meters (105 feet)** tall and **symbolized Mongolia's independence** from the Manchu system. Twenty-four years later, in 1937, Soviet troops demolished it—its remains are believed to have been used to make bullets during the Siege of Leningrad.

After the democratic revolution of **1990**, the government guaranteed freedom of religion. The reconstruction of the statue symbolizes the goodwill of the government and its commitment **to ensuring security, freedom, and independence**. The Mongolian government and people placed great importance on its rebuilding.

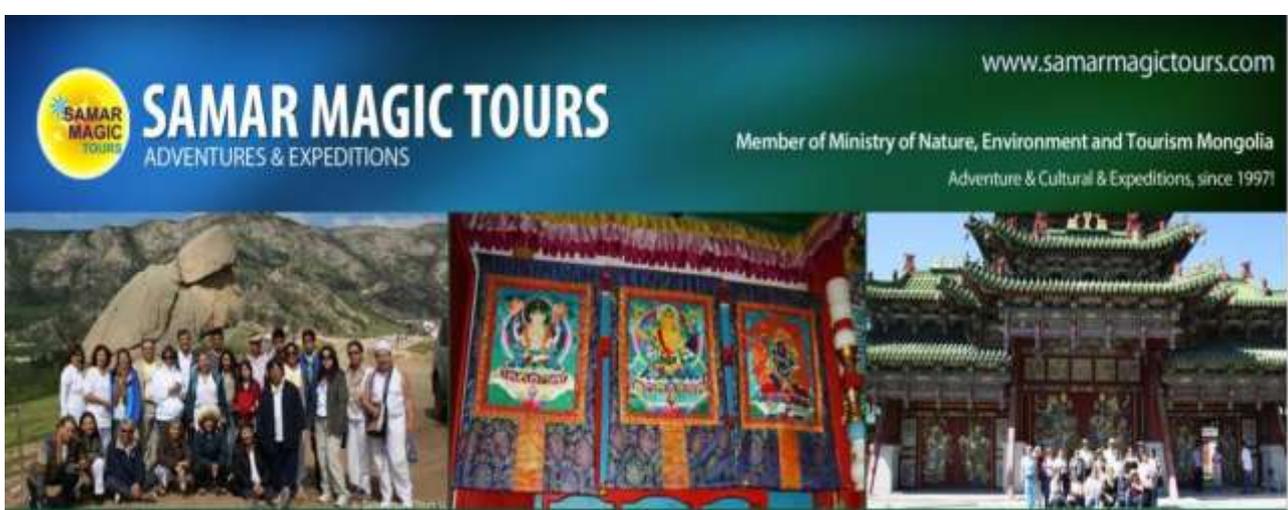
The **Dalai Lama** inaugurated the new statue of **Megjid-Janraiseg** (meaning "The Lord Who Looks in All Directions") in **1996**, after five years of work. This **25-meter-high** statue, weighing more than **20 tons**, is made from copper mined in Erdenet. It is gilded with gold donated by **Nepal and Japan** and wrapped in gold-embroidered brocade and over **100 kilograms (220 pounds)** of silk. The statue contains **2,286** precious stones, **27 tons** of medicinal plants, **334** sutras, and **2 million** mantras. **One thousand small statues of the deity Amitabha (Ayush)** surround it. Two stone lion statues are placed nearby according to Buddhist sculptural tradition.

The Temples that Make Up the Monastery:

The first temple of the monastery was built under the initiative of **Luvsanchultimjigmed Dambijantsan, the fifth incarnation of the Bogd**. Constructed by Mongolia's finest architects, the temple was primarily made of wood and earth according to traditional Mongolian architectural concepts of that period, with roofs covered in gold. It also housed highly valuable symbolic Buddhist decorations. Many statues and images of Bodhisattvas within **Gandan** hold great significance. Among them are:

- A bronze statue of **Zanabazar, the first living Buddha incarnation**, sculpted by himself at his mother's request;
- The *Tripitaka* (Gangjur), a collection of Buddhist teachings in 108 volumes;
- A silver statue of the famous Tsongkhapa of Amdo, made in the 16th century in Western Mongolia.

The **Vajradhara Temple**, built between 1840 and 1841, is made of stone and brick with ceramic roofs and golden decorations. On the main altar of the Dzu Temple stands a statue of Buddha and his two disciples, created in Dolon Nuur, Inner Mongolia, in the early 19th century. Religious services are held there daily.



The "**Dedanprovan**" building, built in the early 20th century, was originally a two-story library for the fifth incarnation of the living Buddha, **Luvsanchultimjigmed Dambiijantsan**. It features ceramic roofs and valuable golden decorations. In 1904, **the 13th Dalai Lama** stayed there. Today, this fifth building, known as the "Library," holds more than **50,000** books and **1 million** sutras written in Mongolian, Tibetan, and Sanskrit. It also preserves 16th-century surgical instruments.

The temples display the **Eight Noble Symbols, Damdin Choijil, Mahayana and Hinayana representations**, and sixteen Arhats crafted by Mongolian, Tibetan, and Indian artists. Embroideries and paintings depicting Bodhisattvas by Mongolian artists, as well as numerous satirical drawings and illustrations, are also found throughout the monastery.

The **Dechingalav Datsan** teaching center was originally located in downtown Ulaanbaatar before being rebuilt within the monastery in **1992**. Every spring, this school performs the **Kalachakra Ritual**. Its construction began in 1800 after **the Fourth Bogd Jevzundamba** visited the Kalachakra Zuu Baruun Monastery in Tibet. At that time, **Lkhokh Jalsrai Gegeen** introduced him to the *Kalachakra* (Wheel of Time) philosophy. The **Bogd** inaugurated the **Dechen Gelpa Datsan** in 1801, which functioned until its closure in **1937**.

When His Holiness the **Dalai Lama** performed a **Kalachakra initiation** in Varanasi, India, in **1990**, he announced that the next initiation would be held in Mongolia at **Gandantegchinlen Monastery**. Preparations began immediately, and the **datsan** was reconstructed. The initiation took place in **1995**. Before that, Tibetan masters visited to teach local lamas how to create a sand mandala. During **the summer of 1995**, the **Dalai Lama** visited the monastery and conducted the initiation. Since then, the **Kalachakra ritual** has been held annually on the 15th day of the last month of spring (lunar calendar).

The **Idgachoinzinlin Teaching Center** was founded by the **Eighth Bogd Jevzundamba**, based on the works of **Tibetan scholar Sera Jebzunpa**. The datsan was destroyed in 1938 but reopened in **1990** thanks to the efforts of **his former disciples Tserendemchig and Naidan**. A new temple was inaugurated in **2004**.

The **Tashchoimphele Teaching Center** was established in 1756 by **the Second Bogd Jebzundamba and Manjusri Khutagtu**. It was destroyed in 1938 and restored in **1990**; the temple was completed in **1994**. The **Gungaachailing Center**, founded in 1809 by the **Fourth Bogd Jetsundamba**, taught the works of the Tibetan scholar Panchen Sonamdagva. The datsan trained over 3,000 lamas, including renowned Mongolian masters such as Agvanrinchen, Darp Pandita, and Zava Damdin Gavju. It resumed activity in **1990** and continues to train new disciples.

The **Mongolian Buddhist University**, founded in 1970, combines modern education with traditional methods. It offers a four-year post-secondary program with two main divisions:

- **Internal Sciences Section:** Buddhist philosophy and chanting.
- **General Knowledge Section:** Tibetan, Sanskrit, and English languages, traditional medicine, and astrology.

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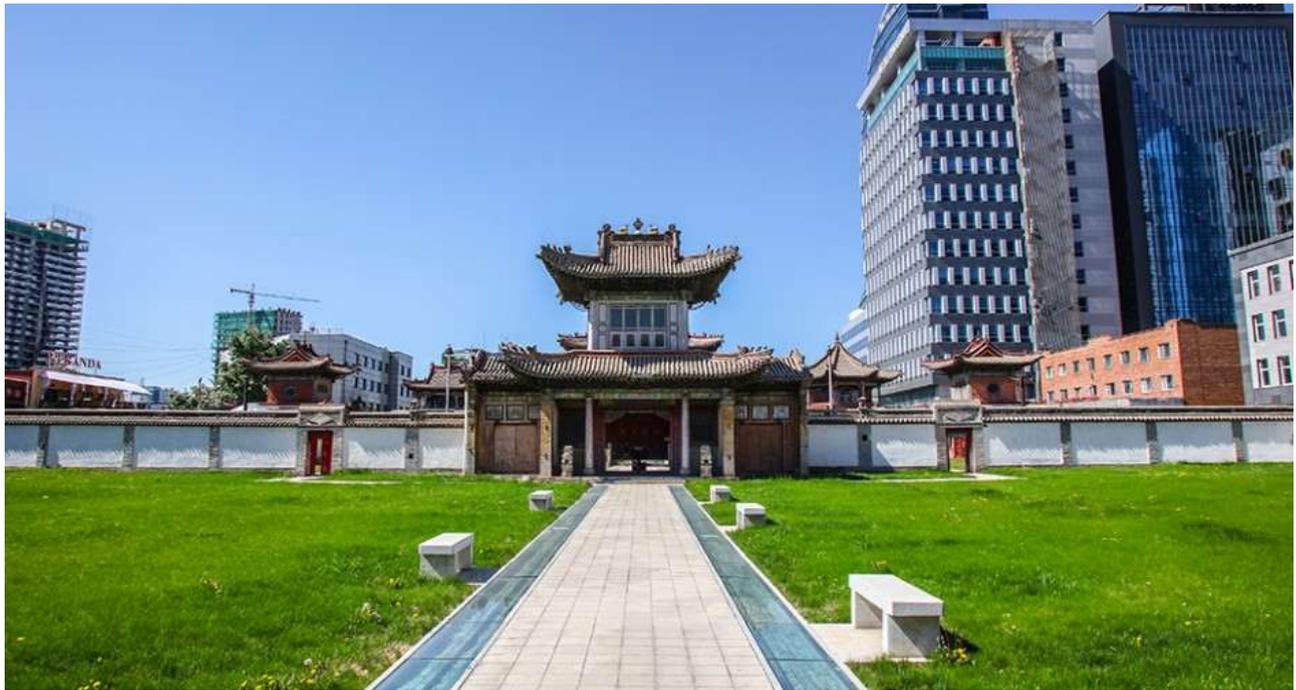


The **Badam Yoga Teaching Center**, built in 1745 by the **Second Bogd Jebzundamba**, was devoted to chanting and prayer recitation. It ceased activity in 1938 and reopened in **2002** at the **Geser Temple**, on the eastern side of Gandan. Its main goal is to practice traditional Mongolian medicine and astrology, predicting auspicious and inauspicious dates for events. Doctors diagnose illnesses and treat patients accordingly.

The **Lud Teaching Center**, founded in 1739 by the **Second Bogd Jebzundamba**, was closed in 1938 and reopened fifty years later, in **1998**. It specializes in tantric services and ritual chants.

Additionally, there are **three Buddhist philosophy colleges (datsans)**, one of **medicine and astrology**, and **two tantric colleges**:

- **Dashchoimpel College**, founded in 1736 by **the Second Jebtsundamba**, follows the *Gunchen Jamyan Shadba* principle of the Tibetan Gelug tradition.
- **Gungaachoilin College**, founded in 1809, follows the *Banchen Sodnamdagva* principle.
- **Idgaachoinzinlin College**, founded in 1912, follows the *Sera Jebtsunba* principle.
- **College of Medicine and Astrology**, teaching traditional Mongolian medicine and astrology.
- **Jud Tantric College** and **Kalachakra Tantric College**, where students are trained in tantric Buddhist practices and rituals.



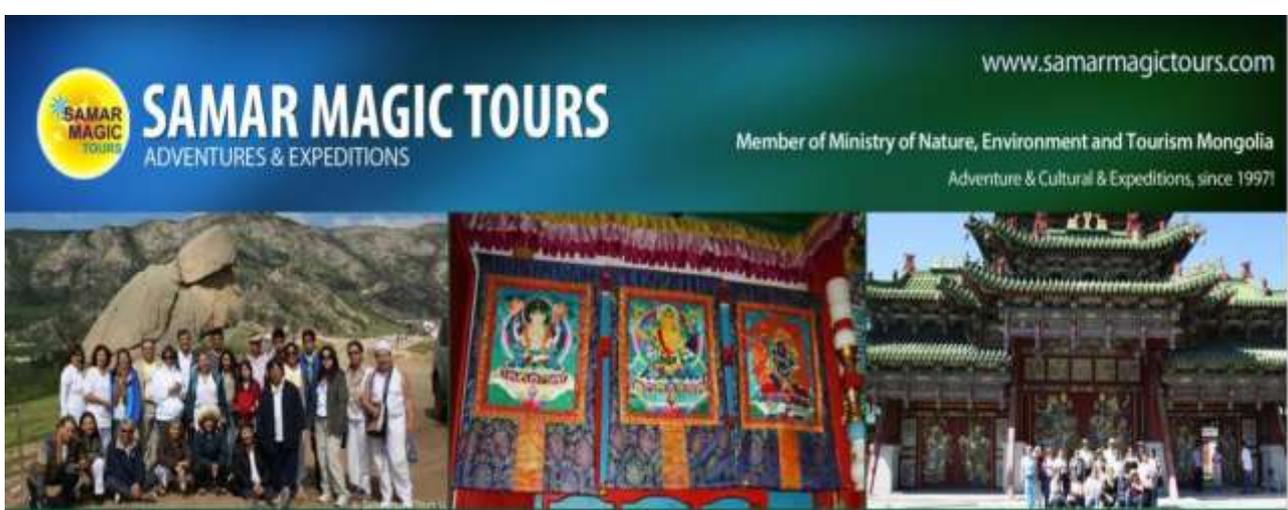
In Ulaanbaatar, we will also visit the Choijin Lama Monastery-Museum:

This monastery-museum, a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture, offers a glimpse into Mongolian Buddhist teachings and practices. Visitors can admire its sculptures, paintings, and ritual objects—connecting deeply with the spirituality that continues to thrive in Mongolia.

The complex consists of **six temples**, originally occupied by **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav**, brother of the Eighth Bogd Jetsun Dampa Khan, who served as the **State Oracle and Khutugtu of "Precious Wisdom and Clear Devotion."** Construction began in **1904** and was completed in **1908**, in honour of **the State Oracle Lama Lubsanhaidub**. Originally, it was a Buddhist temple complex with one main temple and five subsidiary temples. It remained active until **1937**, when it was closed during the height of Stalinist repression against Buddhism and other religious traditions.

Restoration of the Yadam Temple:

Facing deterioration, one of Mongolia's few surviving temples benefited from expert conservation support. Following the development of a master conservation plan in collaboration with the **Arts Council of Mongolia (ACM)**, the **World Monuments Fund (WMF)** assembled a scientific advisory team to support the restoration of the **Yadam Temple** within **the Choijin Lama Museum complex** and to organize local capacity-building activities focused on traditional craftsmanship and conservation techniques. Funded by the **U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP)** and the **U.S. Embassy in Ulaanbaatar**, restoration work began in **May 2022** and was completed in **October 2023**, when the inauguration ceremony was held.



The **main temple** features an **18th-century gilded statue of Buddha Sakyamuni**, flanked by a statue of **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav** to the Buddha's right and the **embalmed body of Baldan Choephel** to his left. The temple also houses a rich collection of **religious instruments, thangka paintings, silk embroideries, wooden carvings, statues**, and a large collection of **cham dance masks**.

An annex of the temple contains another shrine called "**Zankhang**" and a central courtyard where **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav** performed **oracle trance rituals**.

The "**Zuu Temple**," dedicated to **Buddha Shakyamuni**, features papier-mâché sculptures of the Buddha in his past, present, and future incarnations. The temple walls depict **Buddha's sixteen Arhat disciples**, and at the entrance sit four protective **Maharajas** carved into cave-like niches on either side of the doorway.

The "**Yidam Temple**" was used by **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav** for private prayer and was once closed to the public. It is now open for visitors. At its center stands a **gilded bronze sculpture** of one of the **84** Indian yogis, or **Mahasiddhas**. Representations of tantric deities such as **Kalachakra, Mahamaya, Vajradhara**, and others appear with their **shakti (consorts)** in meditative postures symbolizing power and energy.

The **fourth temple, "Amugulang" or "Peace Temple,"** is dedicated to **Öndör Gegeen Zanabazar**, the first Mongolian incarnation of Bogd Jevzundamba.

The **Choijin Lama Monastery-Museum** preserves an extraordinarily rich Buddhist heritage. At the height of Mongolia's monastic era, nearly **700** monasteries existed throughout the country, but among them, the **Choijin Lama Temple** stands out for its distinctive features and history. It represents a **sublime legacy of Mongolian craftsmanship, fine arts, and sculpture** from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Located in the **heart of Ulaanbaatar**, directly south of **Sukhbaatar Square**, the museum is open year-round (with reduced hours during the winter months). While the explanations of the vast collection may not be as detailed as possible, each temple has room attendants who can provide additional materials.

The museum and its exhibits also reflect the **revival of Buddhism in Mongolia** after communist repression, featuring a particularly interesting display on **Buddhist cham dance** and its **modern resurgence**.

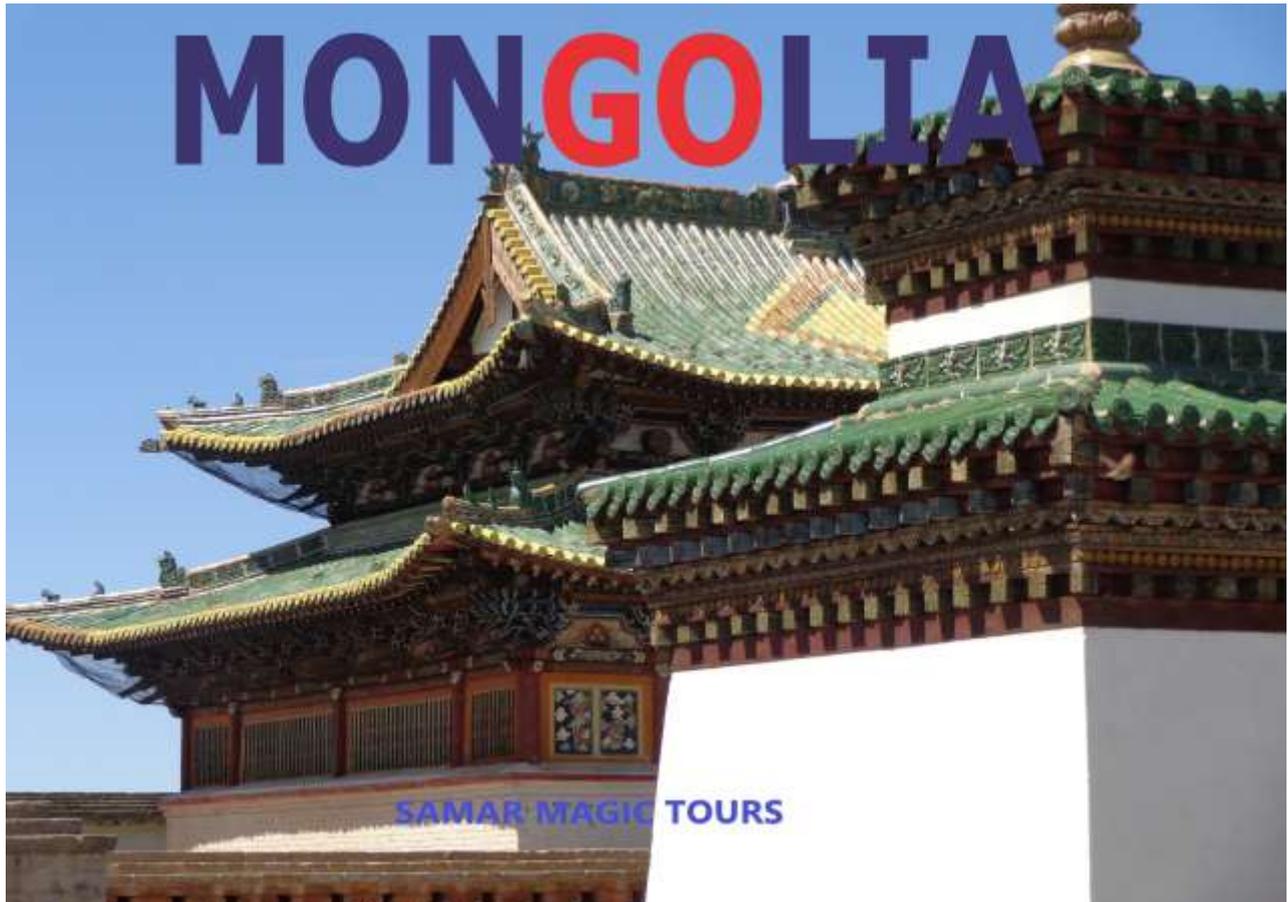


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In the second part of this great journey, we will head west toward **the legendary Karakorum—the ancient capital of the Mongol Empire**, where **Genghis Khan** began construction of the city in the year **1220** (later destroyed by Manchu soldiers).

Here, we will visit the **Erdene Zuu Monastery**, founded in the **16th century**, **the oldest Buddhist monastery in Mongolia** and a lasting symbol of the influence of Buddhism in the country. With its impressive walls and white stupas, **Erdene Zuu** stands as a monument to Mongolian faith and cultural resilience. During the visit, participants will have the opportunity **to observe monastic life and take part in traditional rituals**.

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The Erdene Zuu Monastery: Located in the province of Uvurkhangai, about 2 kilometers from the center of the city of **Kharkhorin (Karakorum)** and on the southern side of the **ancient capital of the Mongol Empire, Karakorum**. It forms part of the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** known as the **Cultural Landscape of the Orkhon Valley**.

History of the Erdene Zuu Monastery: Construction began in **1585** by order of **Abtai Sain Khan**, following the second introduction of Tibetan Buddhism in Mongolia and after a meeting in 1580 in which the **Dalai Lama** of the time instructed him to do so. Part of the materials used in its construction came from the ruins of Karakorum. The complex was considered complete nearly three centuries later with the construction of a surrounding wall. Each side of this wall measures **400** meters in length and contains **100** stupas, spaced about 15 meters apart. It was likely planned to have **108** stupas—a sacred number in Buddhism and the number of beads in a Buddhist rosary—though this total was never reached.

The walls of the monastery's temples were painted, and the Chinese-style roofs were covered with green tiles. From its earliest days, **Erdene Zuu housed numerous temples**, up to **1,000 resident monks**, and around **300 Gers** (traditional Mongolian felt tents), where monks lived either inside or around the monastery walls. It suffered damage during the

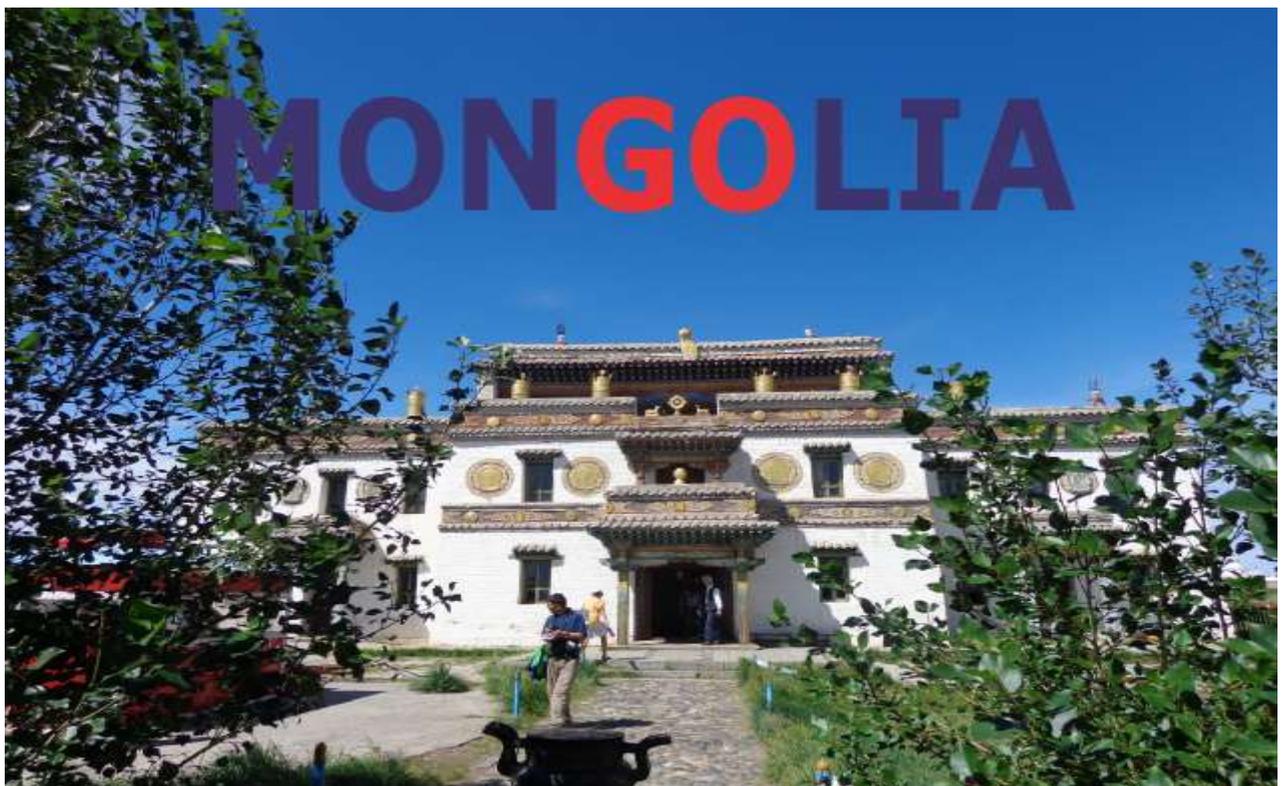


Manchu invasions of the 1680s, though even before then, Chinese pressure had led to a degree of neglect—just as had happened earlier to the old Mongolian capital and base of the monastery, Karakorum.

Erdene Zuu survived only as a museum, since the **Gandantegchinlen Monastery** in Ulaanbaatar was the only one officially allowed to remain active during the communist period. Even after its transformation, it did not reopen as a museum until **1965**, nearly twenty years later. This situation changed only with the **fall of communism in Mongolia**.

Several reconstruction projects followed: the first was led personally by **Zanabazar** upon his return in 1701, during which he also reconsecrated the temples; another began around **1760** and ended in **1796**; and yet another, led by Mongolian architect **Manzushir**, started in **1806** and finished in **1814**. After this last renovation, at the beginning of the 19th century, the complex contained **62 complete temples** combining Chinese and Tibetan influences and was home to more than **1,000 lamas** during its golden period.

In **1939**, the leader **Khorloogiin Choibalsan** ordered the destruction of the monastery as part of a **Stalinist purge** that wiped out hundreds of monasteries across Mongolia, killed more than ten thousand monks, and sent many others to Siberia. Only five temples (including the current three main ones), a few small buildings, and the outer wall with its stupas survived. The remaining temples were converted into museums in **1947**. It is said that this part of the monastery was spared due to **Joseph Stalin's intervention**, reportedly linked to





the brief visit of U.S. Vice President **Henry A. Wallace's** delegation to Mongolia in 1944.

Despite this devastation, a surprising number of **statues, tsam masks, and painted scrolls** were saved—buried in nearby mountains or hidden in locals' homes. Even today, thefts occur, and in the early 2000s, alarms had to be installed following the disappearance of several statues.



The Three Great Temples That Survived the Purge:

These temples are dedicated to the **three stages of Buddha's life—childhood, youth, and adulthood.**

1. **The Western Temple**, built by **Abtai Khan and his son**, is dedicated to the **adult Buddha**. Inside, on either side of Sakyamuni (the historical Buddha), there are statues of **Divangar** (adapted from the Sanskrit *Dīpankara*), the Buddha of the past, on the left, and **Maidar** (from the Sanskrit *Maitreya*), the Buddha of the future, on the right. The latter is one of the most beloved bodhisattvas—a deity who delays his own attainment of nirvana to guide others. In fact, **Zanabazar** himself, after one of his visits to Tibet, performed a series of ceremonies that included a circumambulation of the monastery while carrying an image of this Buddha—an act that became a tradition in Mongolian Buddhism and is still occasionally practiced at the monastery today. Other exhibited items include a **golden "Wheel of Eternity"**, the **Naimin Takhel**, or eight auspicious symbols (in this case: umbrella, fish, vase, flowers, cards, luck diagram, victory banner, and wheel), figurines from the 17th and 18th centuries, and traditional ornaments called **balin**, made of wheat dough and beautifully decorated, accompanied by **mutton and goose fat.**



2. **The Central Temple**, known as the **Zuu of Buddha**, features an entrance flanked by the deities **Tsagaan Mahagal** (from the Sanskrit *Sita Mahākāla*, or White Mahakala) on the left and **Baldan Lkham** (from the Tibetan *Palden Lhamo*, Sanskrit *Shri Devi*, translated into Mongolian as *Ukin Tengri*) on the right. Both are **Dharmapalas**, wrathful protective deities—emanations of bodhisattvas—that embody their fierce actions. Their role is to destroy and remove obstacles that appear before sincere followers of the Buddhist teachings, as reflected in their title *Dharmapala*, meaning “Defenders or Protectors of the Dharma.”

Inside, on each side of the **Child Buddha**, stand **Otoch Manal** (from Mongolian *Оточ Манла*, Sanskrit *Bhaiṣajyaguru*), the **Medicine Buddha**, on the right, and **Amindavaa** (from Mongolian *Аминдаваа*, Sanskrit *Amitābha*, translated as “Infinite Light and Justice”), on the left. The temple also contains statues of **Niam** and **Dabaa**, the gods of the sun and moon respectively, several **tsam masks**, aggressive **guardian carvings** from the 16th and 17th centuries, and examples of works by the revered Buddhist sculptor **Zanabazar**.

3. **The Eastern Temple** houses a statue representing the **Adolescent Buddha**. To his right stands **Tsongkhapa**, founder of the **Gelug tradition** or “Yellow Hat tradition” of Tibetan Buddhism. To his left is **Migjid Janraisig** (from Tibetan *Jainraisig*, Sanskrit *Avalokiteśvara*, translated into Mongolian as *Nidüber Üjegci*), the **Bodhisattva of Compassion**.



On the way back to Ulaanbaatar, we will explore the **Uvgun Temple** area near **Khogno Khan Mountain**, located within the **Khogno Khan Nature Reserve**. This site was destroyed during the 1930s but remains an important cultural landmark and is part of many tourist routes in Mongolia.

The **Uvgun Temple** was originally built in the **17th century** by **Zanabazar**, one of Mongolia's most significant religious figures. The Park offers a **unique landscape** where **taiga forests, vast steppes**, and to the north, the **Elsen Tasarkhai dunes** (Bayangobi Desert) converge—creating a breathtaking natural harmony between desert, steppe, and mountain ecosystems.



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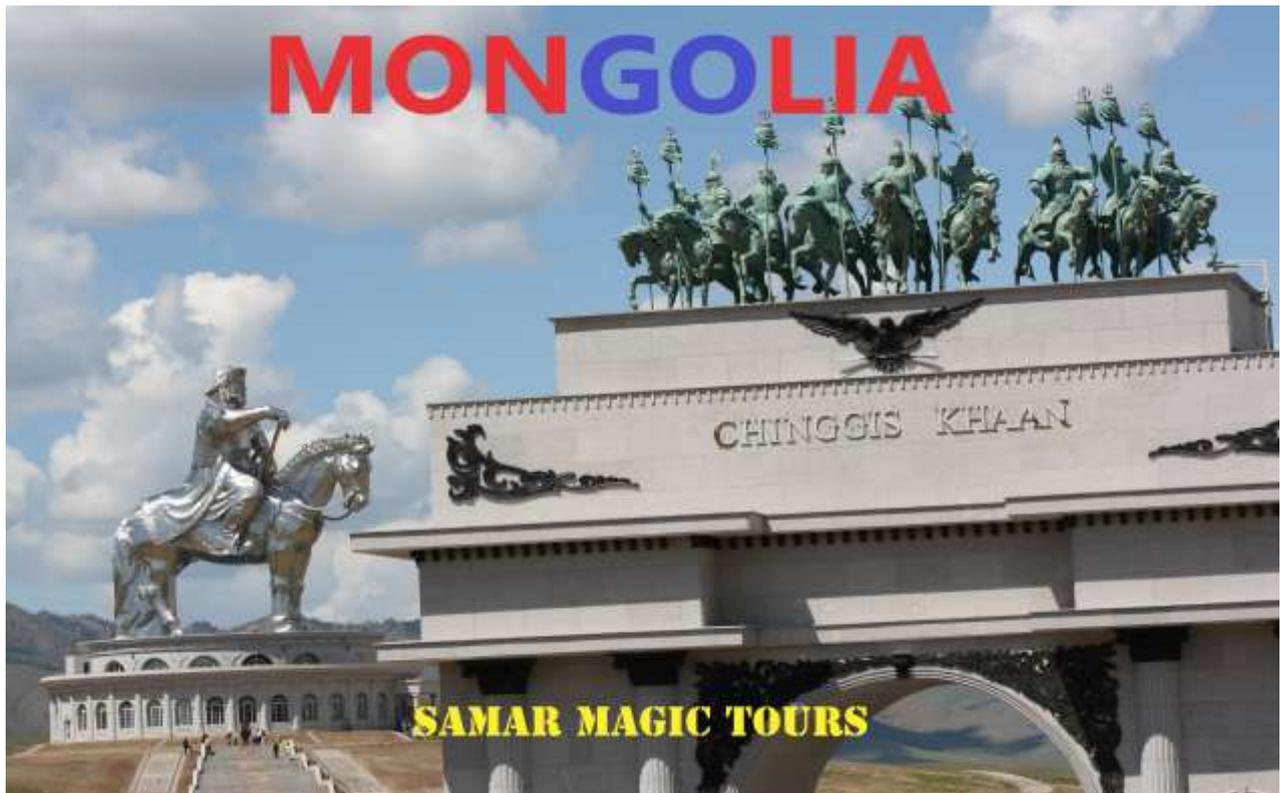


MONGOLIA



In the third part of this grand journey, we will **head westward** to attend an **Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show**, which demonstrates the **traditional lifestyle of Mongolia's nomads** — their herding practices and the use of the **five main types of livestock** as they move from one place to another. The show vividly portrays this nomadic way of life, featuring **ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses**, offering a fascinating glimpse into Mongolia's enduring cultural heritage and ancient pastoral traditions.

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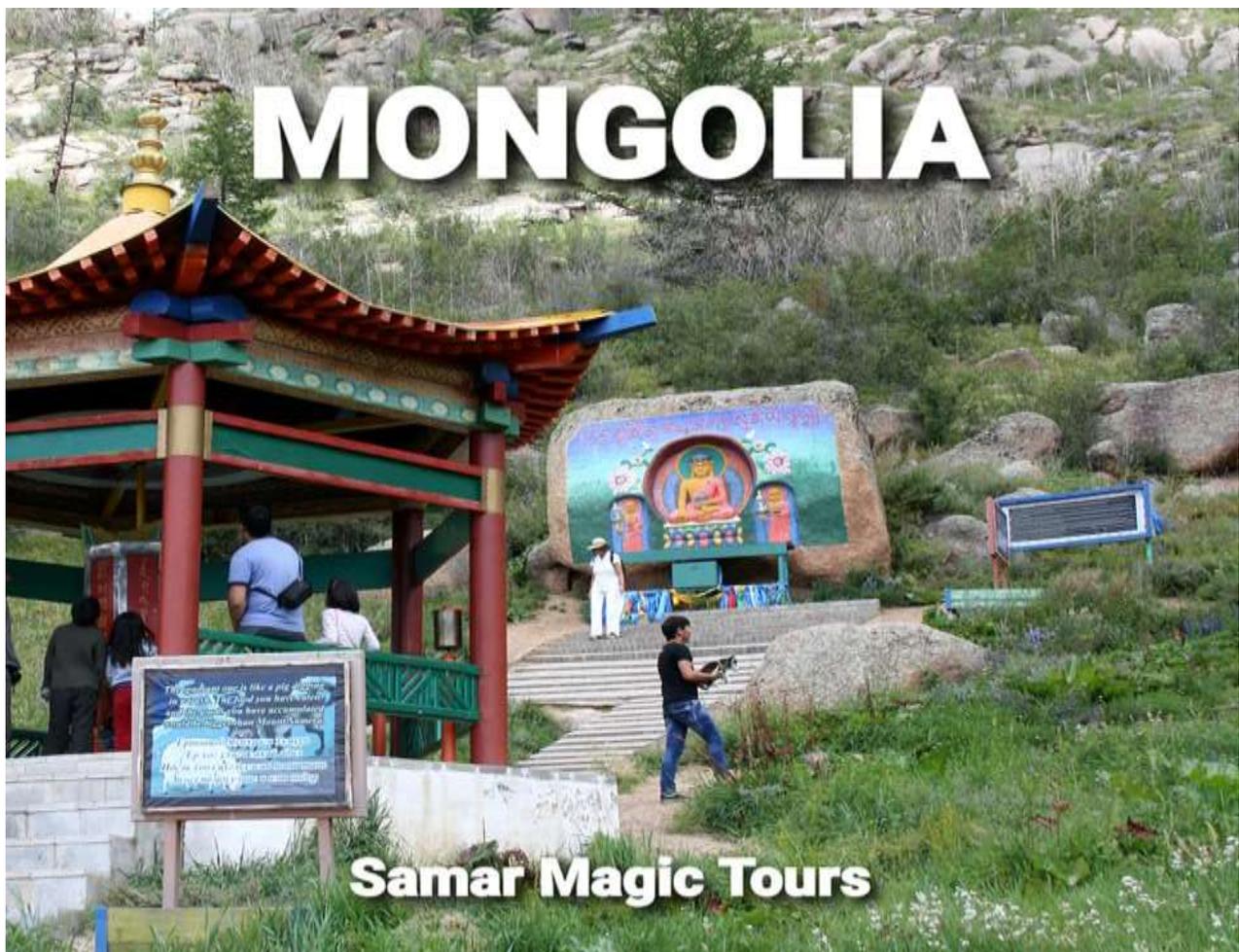
In the final part of this grand journey, we will head northeast to visit the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan. The statue symbolically faces east, toward his birthplace in Khentii Province. At the base of the monumental complex lies a visitor center standing 10 meters high, supported by 36 columns representing the 36 Khans from Genghis to Ligdan Khan. The monument was inaugurated in 2008.

Visitors can **ascend to the horse's head** through an internal staircase running up its **chest and neck**, where they are rewarded with a **panoramic view** of the surrounding steppe. The area surrounding the statue is planned to feature **200 designed Gers** (still under construction), arranged in the **pattern of horse hoofprints**—a layout inspired by the formations used by **13th-century Mongol tribes**.

An **integrated museum** inside the complex showcases exhibits on the **Bronze Age** and the **Xiongnu archaeological cultures** of Mongolia, displaying **everyday tools, belt buckles, knives, and sacred animal depictions**. A second exhibition focuses on the **Great Khanate period** of the **13th–14th centuries**, featuring **ancient tools, fine metalwork, and Nestorian crosses and rosaries**. Adjacent to the museum is a **tourist recreation center** covering **212 hectares**.



At the base of the statue, visitors can view a **replica of the legendary Golden Whip** of the Great Khan. Nearby, one can **take photos with Kazakh eagle hunters and their Golden Eagles**, enjoy **camel rides on Bactrian camels**, **horseback rides** across the Mongolian steppe, or **practice archery** (**optional activities available for an additional fee on site**).



Next, we will head toward Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, located in the **northeast** at an altitude of **1,600 meters above sea level**. The Park features **towering Mesozoic granite formations, mountains, vast steppes, alpine forests**, and **rock structures** of striking shapes from the Mesozoic era, such as the famous **Turtle Rock**. It was declared a **National Park in 1990** and covers an area of **300,000 hectares**.

We will **stop to take photos, shop for souvenirs**, and enjoy an **easy hike** to the **great Turtle Rock**, the iconic symbol of **Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**. Then, we will take a **gentle walk** to the **Arryabal Meditation Temple**, a **Buddhist meditation center** located on a



mountainside, notable for its **108 steps** leading up to the temple, a **gallery of Buddhist paintings**, and a **thangka depicting the myth of Shambhala**, situated at the top of a hill.

- **The Steps:** There are **108 steps**, symbolizing the sacred number in Buddhism and representing the **trunk of an elephant**.
- **Gallery of Buddhist Philosophy:** On the lower floor, visitors will find **220 paintings by Bayantsagaan**, each illustrating different Buddhist beliefs.
- **Main Temple:** Dedicated to the **Kalachakra philosophy** ("the **Wheel of Time**"), it contains a **thangka of the Shambhala myth** and a **Kalachakra mandala**.
- **Buddha Sculpture:** A **modern Buddha statue** is carved into the rock of a nearby hill.

MONGOLIA SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

Ulaanbaatar – Bayangobi Desert – Karakorum (Central Mongolia) – Erdene Zuu Monastery – Uvgun Temple in Khogno Khaan Natural Reserve – Ulaanbaatar – Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show – Ulaanbaatar – Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan – Arryabal Meditation Temple in Gorkhi/Terelj National Park – Ulaanbaatar

BRIEF ITINERARY:

B–Breakfast, **L**–Lunch, **D**–Dinner

Day 1: Arrival in Ulaanbaatar (**UBN**) / Meet **Samar Magic Tours** team at the reception area of the new "Genghis" Khan International Airport. Transfer to hotel (52 km / 32.3 miles, approx. **2-3 hours'** drive, depending on traffic). If the clients arrive on flight **OM138 (MIAT Mongolia Airlines)** from Frankfurt, Germany at **05:10 AM** or **TK236 (Turkish Airlines)** from Istanbul, Turkey at **07:10 AM**. **Early check-in must be paid in advance (hotel rooms are available only from 2:00 PM. No activities or meals are included today. Rest at hotel to adjust to the local time zone. Selected Hotel.**

Day 2: **09:00 AM** – Meet **Samar Magic Tours** team at hotel / Grand City Tour of Ulaanbaatar / Welcome Lunch / **06:00 PM** – Mongolian National Concert. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 3: Ulaanbaatar / Bayangobi Desert / Bactrian Camelback Excursion / Karakorum. Tourist Gers Camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 4: Karakorum: Monument to the Mongolian States / Erdene Zuu Monastery / Karakorum Museum / Orkhon Valley Monuments. Tourist Gers Camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 5: Karakorum / Uvgun Temple in Khogno Khaan Natural Reserve / Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**



Day 6: Ulaanbaatar / Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show / Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 7: Ulaanbaatar / Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan / Arryabal Meditation Temple in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park / **Deluxe** Resort. **(B)(L)**

Day 8: Gorkhi-Terelj National Park / Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 9: Grand Tour of Ulaanbaatar / Golden Buddha Statue / Last Shopping. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 10: Hotel check-out by **12:00 noon**. Meet **Samar Magic Tours** team at hotel reception. Transfer to the "Genghis" Khan International Airport (52 km / 32.3 miles, approx. **4-5** hours depending on traffic). **Departure from Mongolia – END OF TOUR. (B)**



MONGOLIA SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN ULAANBAATAR / FREE DAY TO ADAPT TO THE TIME DIFFERENCE

Arrival at the new "Genghis" Khan International Airport in Ulaanbaatar, capital of Mongolia. Meet and greet by the **Samar Magic Tours** team. Currency exchange available at **airport banks**. Transfer to the hotel (52 km / 32.3 miles, approx. **2** hours depending on traffic). Hotel rooms will be available from **2:00 PM** on the day of arrival. **Early check-in must be paid in advance if guests wish to access their rooms earlier or may leave luggage at the hotel reception until 2:00 PM. No activities or meals are included today.** Rest and acclimatize to the local time. Overnight at the selected hotel.



DAY 2: GRAND CITY TOUR IN ULAANBAATAR / WELCOME LUNCH / MONGOLIAN NATIONAL CONCERT

Breakfast and Lunch

09:00 AM – Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Begin a panoramic tour of Ulaanbaatar city: visit **Gandantegchinlin Monastery (Gandan Monastery)**, the largest and most important Buddhist monastery in Mongolia, which houses a **25-meter-tall** Buddha statue. The monastery was founded in 1809 under the name **"Yellow Temple."** It contains a library with the **Gandjuur Buddhist scriptures (8 volumes)**, their commentaries (225 volumes), and other sacred texts written using the **nine precious stones**. It was declared a **National Heritage Site** in **1994**. Continue to visit the **Choijin Lama Monastery Museum**, a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture that offers insight into Mongolian Buddhist teachings and practices. Visitors can observe its sculptures, paintings, and rituals, connecting with the living spirituality still practiced in the country. The complex consists of six temples originally occupied by **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav**, brother of the **Eighth Bogd Jetsun Dampa Khan**, who served as the **state oracle and Khutugtu of "Precious Wisdom and Clear Devotion."** Next, visit **Sukhbaatar Central Square** and the **Genghis Khan Monument Complex**, built in 2006 on the occasion of the 800th Anniversary of the Founding of the Mongol State (1206–2006). It is located in front of the Mongolian Parliament and Government House. **Welcome lunch included at a traditional local restaurant. 06:00 PM** – **Enjoy a Mongolian folklore performance featuring traditional throat singing and dance.** Transfer back to the hotel. Overnight at the selected hotel. **Dinner not included (at your own expense).**



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Member of Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism Mongolia

Adventure & Cultural & Expeditions, since 1997!



DAY 3:

ULAANBAATAR / BAYANGOBI DESERT / KARAKORUM (CENTRAL MONGOLIA)

Full Board

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team in the hotel lobby. Purchase mineral water and other essentials at the **State Department Store** (Main Store). Then, depart westward toward the **legendary Karakorum** (approx. 395 km / 245.44 miles, 6–7 hours' drive), located in **Central Mongolia**. **13:00** – **Lunch included in route in Lun.** Along the way, visit and explore the **Elsen Tasarkhai Dunes** (also known as the **Bayangobi Desert**, approx. 280 km / 174 miles, 4–5 hours' drive). These desert sand dunes stretch for about 80 km / 50 miles across a beautiful valley. Opportunity for **hiking, walking over the dunes, and photographing** the stunning landscapes. Included excursion: a **camelback ride** across the dunes on **Bactrian camels**. Continue the journey to **Karakorum** (approx. 100 km / 62.1 miles). Arrival and transfer to the camp. **Free time to rest after a long day of travel. Overnight at the Gers Tourist Camp in Karakorum.**

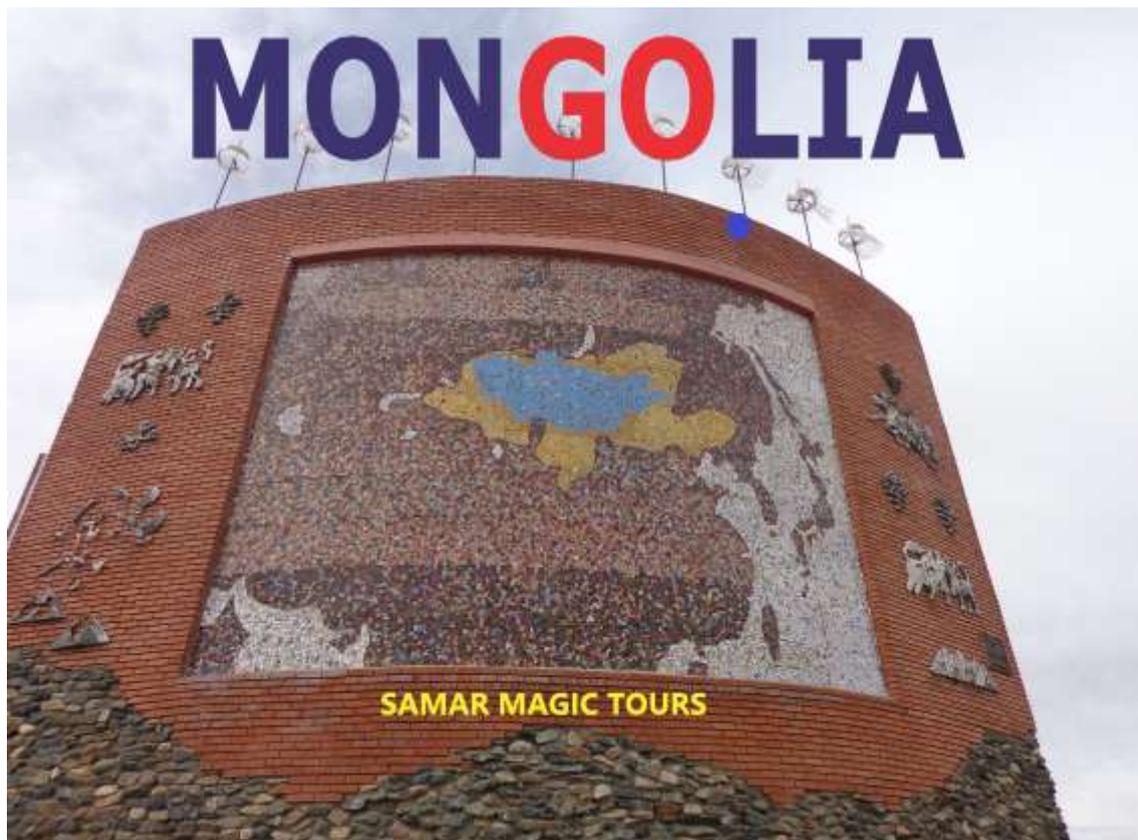
Prices, services, and other information about the products detailed on this page and on the website www.samarmagictours.com are non-binding and may change without prior notice.



DAY 4: MONUMENT TO THE MONGOL STATES / ERDENE ZUU MONASTERY / KARAKORUM MUSEUM / MONUMENTS / ORKHON VALLEY

Full Board

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team. Afterward, we will visit the **Monument to the Mongol States**, located on a hill overlooking the city of **Karakorum (Kharkhorin)**, on the banks of the **Orkhon River**. This monument was built in **2004** and consists of a large pile of stones—a **shamanic oboo**—carefully assembled in the shape of a cone, approximately the size of a tipi, with **nine poles** protruding from the top. The structure stands on a **stone and concrete platform**, surrounded by **three walls** representing three sections of a circle. The outer sides of these walls display **three colorful mosaics**, each depicting a map representing one of the **three great Mongol empires**, symbolizing the unity and continuity of Mongolia's rich historical legacy.



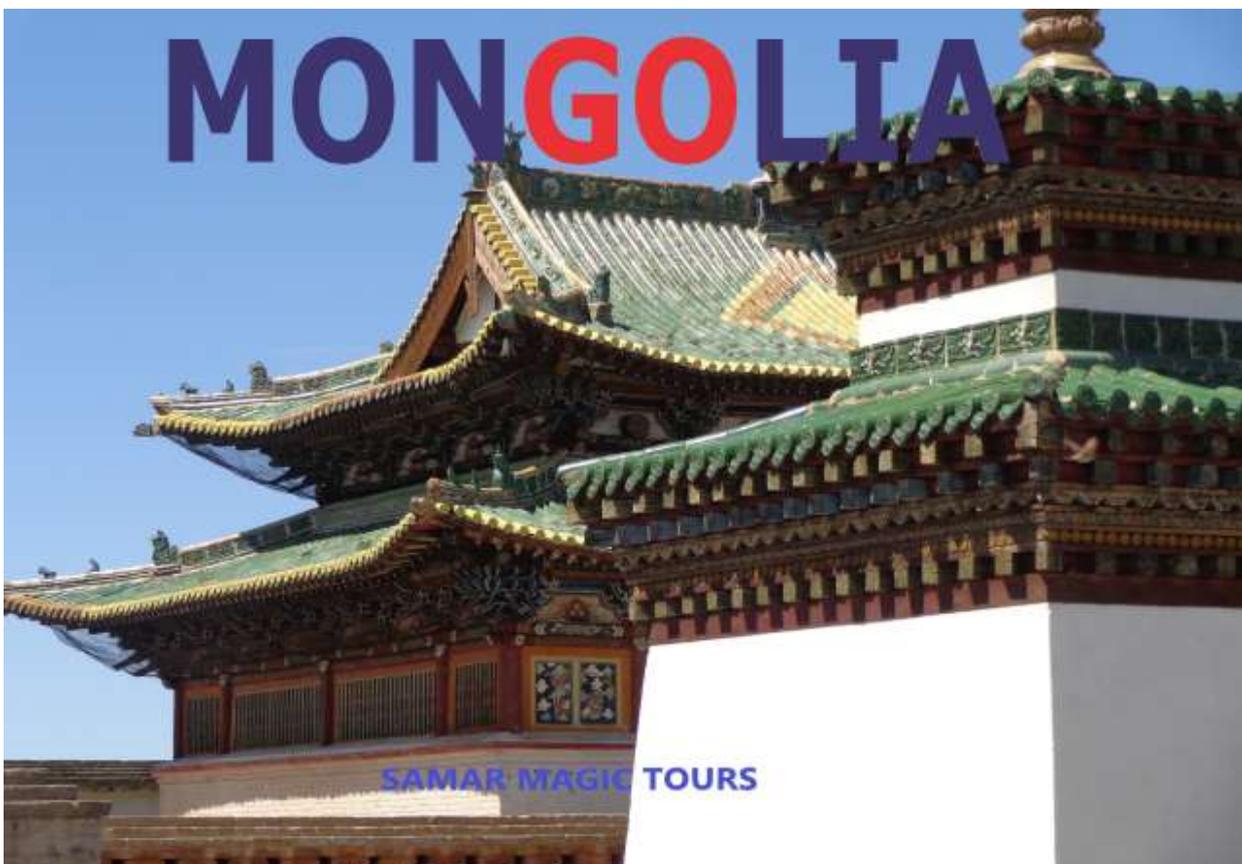
1. First came the **Xiongnu Empire**, a confederation of nomadic tribes that lived in the steppes from approximately the **3rd century B.C. to the 1st century A.D.**

2. It was followed by the **Turkic Khaganate Empire**, established by the **Göktürks** in **682**, which lasted until **744**.



3. Finally, and most famously, **Genghis Khan founded the Mongol Empire** in the **13th and 14th centuries**.

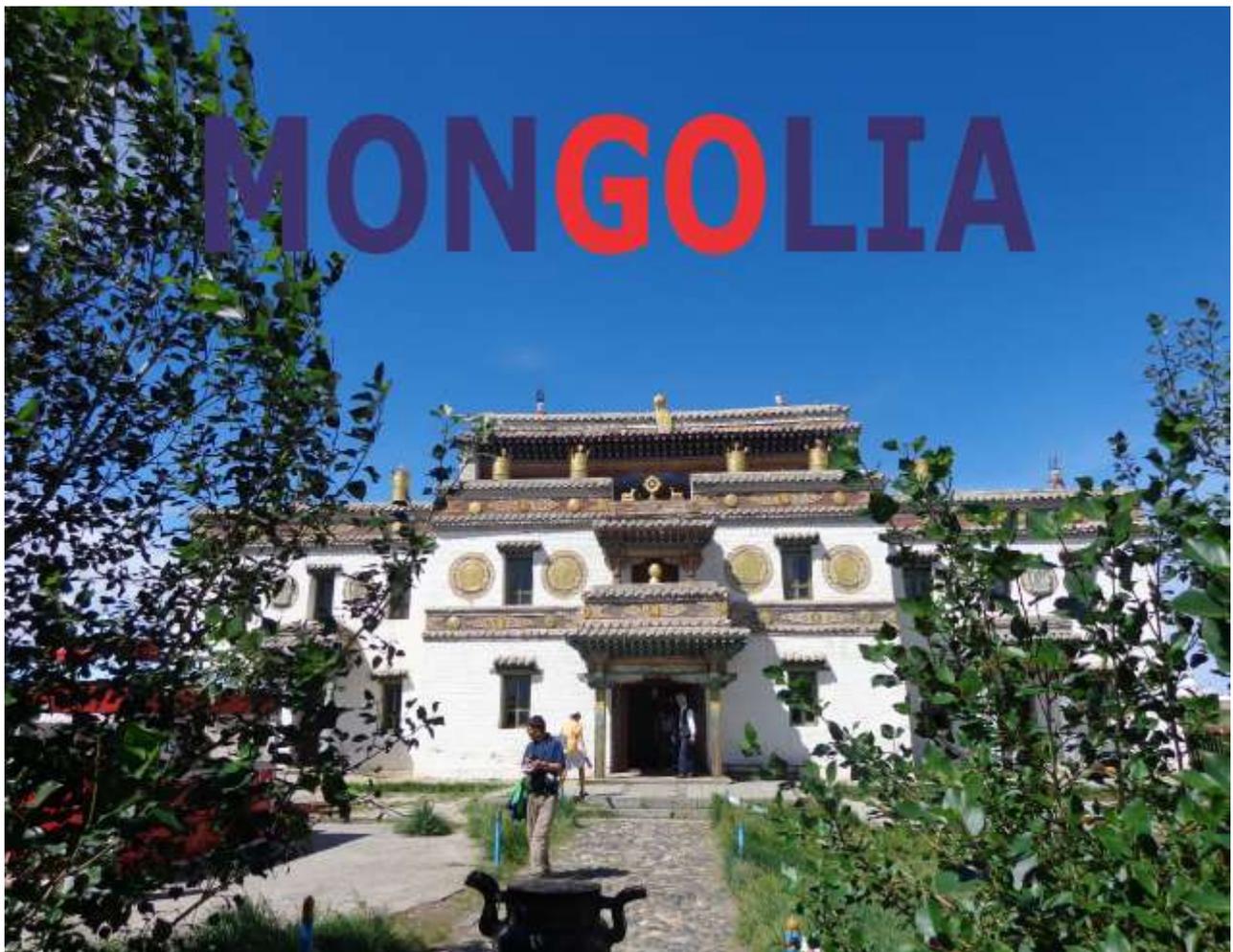
The **iconic site of the Mongol Empire** in culture—combined with the **shamanic symbolism of the owoo** at the center of the monument—encourages people to leave **offerings of vodka, milk, tea, rice, and other edible treats**, which inevitably attract **birds and the occasional passing herd of goats or sheep**. Several **animal skulls** can also be found around the monument, completing its **surreal atmosphere**.



It is no coincidence that the **Imperial Map Monument** is located in **Kharkhorin**, since this city (then called **Karakorum**) was the **capital of the Mongol Empire** under **Genghis Khan's successor, Ögedei Khan**. The **Imperial Map Monument** offers a magnificent **viewpoint** over the city of **Kharkhorin** and the **Orkhon River**, allowing visitors to imagine how this collection of dirt roads and low buildings must have appeared during its **days of glory**. Next, we will visit the **Erdene Zuu Monastery** ("Hundred Treasures"), the **Turtle Monument**, and the **Karakorum Museum**, to see relics from the **ancient capital of the Mongol Empire**. The **Erdene Zuu Buddhist Monastery**, with its **100 stupas**, is the **first Buddhist lamasery** (16th century) and was once the most important religious seat in Mongolia. Today, it remains an impressive sight, with its **walls, stupas, and temples**



stretching over **400** square meters and surrounded by the vast steppe. Construction was continued by his son, **Ögedei Khan**, after his father's death. Forty years later, **Kublai Khan** (grandson of **Genghis Khan** and host to **Marco Polo**) moved the empire's capital to **Beijing (Yuan Dynasty)**, after conquering it. By **1792**, the monastery housed **62 temples** and over **10,000 lamas**. However, in the **1930s**, the **Stalinist purges** destroyed most of its temples, and the monks were exiled to **Siberia**, where many perished. Of the more than one hundred temples, **only three have survived** to this day, making it one of **Mongolia's most significant cultural legacies**. **Lunch included in front of the Erdene Zuu Monastery**. Transfer and **free time at leisure**. **Overnight** at a **tourist ger camp in Karakorum**.





DAY 5: KARAKORUM / UVGUN TEMPLE IN KHOGNO KHAAN NATURE RESERVE / ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team. Then depart toward the **Uvgun Temple**, located within the **Khogno Khaan Mountain Nature Reserve** (approx. 100 km / 62.1 miles, 2 hours). This historic site was destroyed in the 1930s but remains a fascinating destination and part of many cultural tours in Mongolia. The **Uvgun Temple** was built in the 17th century by **Zanabazar**, an important spiritual leader in Mongolia. The Park offers a unique landscape where **taiga forest** meets **open steppe**.



Return to Ulaanbaatar (approx. 280 km / 174 miles, 5–6 hours, depending on traffic upon entry). **1:00 PM – Lunch included in route in Lun.** Arrival and transfer to the hotel. **Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. Dinner not included, at your own expense.**



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MONGOLIA



DAY 6: ULAANBAATAR / AUTHENTIC MONGOL NOMAD SHOW / ULAANBAATAR **Breakfast and Lunch**

Breakfast. **07:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Depart **westward** to attend an **Authentic Mongol Nomadic Show** (35 km / 22 miles, approx. **2** hours' drive, depending on traffic). The event runs from **10:00 AM to 1:00 PM** and demonstrates the traditional nomadic lifestyle of Mongolia: herding and utilizing five types of livestock, moving from one place to another using ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses. You will also see a traditional **Mongolian Ger** (traditional felt Mongol nomadic tent) is set up—a national symbol built in the traditional way, with all furniture, tools, and clothing preserved as antique pieces that reflect the **Central Khalkh culture**. **Traditional Mongolian lunch included on site**. Return to Ulaanbaatar (35 km / 22 miles, approx. **2** hours' drive). Transfer to the hotel. **Overnight at the selected hotel**. **Dinner not included, at your own expense**.



DAY 7: ULAANBAATAR / GENGHIS KHAN EQUESTRIAN STATUE / GORKHI-TERELJ NATIONAL PARK / ARRYABAL MEDITATION TEMPLE

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Depart northeast to visit the **Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue** (55 km / 34.2 miles, approx. **2** hours' drive). The **40-meter-tall** statue of **Genghis Khan on horseback**, located on the banks of the **Tuul River**, faces east—symbolically toward his birthplace. At the base of the complex stands a visitor center, **10** meters high, with **36** columns representing the **36** Khans from **Genghis to Ligdan Khan**. Designed by sculptor D. Erdenebileg and architect J. Enkhjargal, **it was inaugurated in 2008**. Visitors can ascend through the horse's chest and neck to reach its head, where a panoramic view awaits. Inside the complex museum, exhibits showcase items from the Bronze Age and Xiongnu archaeological cultures—daily utensils, belt buckles, knives, sacred animals—and another collection dedicated to the Great Khan period (13th–14th centuries), displaying ancient tools, jewelry, and Nestorian crosses and rosaries. **Optional activities: ride horses or Bactrian camels**, and take photos with **Kazakh falconers** and their **Golden Eagles (extra charge, paid directly to locals)**. **Traditional Mongolian lunch included in route**. Then continue toward **Gorkhi-Terelj**

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National Park (50 km / 31.1 miles, 1 hour). Situated at 1,600 meters above sea level, the park features **Mesozoic granite formations**, mountains, alpine forests, and vast steppes. Declared a **National Park in 1993**, it covers 300,000 hectares at the foot of the Khentii Mountains. **Stop for photos and souvenir shopping.** Visit the **Turtle Rock, symbol of the park**, followed by an easy hike to the **Arryabal Meditation Temple**, located on a mountain slope. This **Buddhist meditation center** is famous for its **108** steps symbolizing the sacred number in Buddhism and the trunk of an elephant. Inside, discover **Bayantsagaan's gallery** of **220** Buddhist paintings and a **thangka of the Shambhala legend**. Overnight in a **Deluxe** Resort inside Gorkhi-Terelj National Park. **Dinner not included, at your own expense.**

DAY 8: GORKHI-TERELJ NATIONAL PARK / ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. Enjoy a **free morning** for nature walks and gentle hiking in **Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**. **12:00 PM – Meeting** with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the resort reception. Return to **Ulaanbaatar** (70 km / 44 miles, about **2** hours depending on traffic). **Lunch included at a local restaurant.** Transfer to the selected hotel (***rooms available from 2:00 PM**). Accommodation at the selected hotel. **Dinner not included (at your own expense).**



DAY 9: GRAND TOUR IN ULAANBAATAR / LAST SHOPPING

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meeting with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Visit the **Winter Palace of Bogd Khan**, one of the imperial residences of **Bogd Khan (1869–1924)**, located in southern Ulaanbaatar along the **Zaisan Road**. Now a museum, it is the only remaining palace of the **four original residences** of the **8th Jebtsundamba Khutughtu**, who later became **the Bogd Khan of Mongolia**. The complex includes **six temples** and displays many of the Bogd Khan's personal possessions, such as his **throne, bed, art collection, taxidermied animals**, an **ornate ceremonial ger**, and a **pair of ceremonial boots** gifted by **Tsar Nicholas II of Russia**. Next, visit a **factory store of pure Mongolian cashmere** for last-minute shopping. Continue to the **Zaisan Memorial**, a monument located south of Ulaanbaatar, and visit the **Golden Buddha Statue** situated at its base, standing **75 feet (23 meters) tall**. **01:00 PM** – **Lunch at a local restaurant**. Enjoy **final souvenir shopping** at the main **State Department Store**. Transfer to the hotel. Accommodation at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner not included (at your own expense)**.



DAY 10: DEPARTURE FROM MONGOLIA

Breakfast

Breakfast. Hotel check-out time in Ulaanbaatar is **12:00 PM**. Meeting with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Transfer to Ulaanbaatar's "Genghis" Khan New Airport (52 km / 32.3 miles, about **4-5** hours depending on traffic). **Departure from Mongolia. END OF THE GRAND TOUR.**

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- **6** nights of accommodation in the selected and confirmed hotel, based on a double room with breakfast, in Ulaanbaatar.
 - **2** nights of accommodation in a **Standard** Tourist Gers Camp, based on a minimum group of **2** adults (*or more participants upon request*), with shared outdoor bathrooms (one facility for men and one for women).
 - **1** night of accommodation in a **Deluxe** Resort in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, based on a minimum group of **2** adults (*or more participants upon request*). If you wish to stay in a **DELUXE Ger (with a private bathroom inside)** in **Karakorum (Central Mongolia)**, it is necessary to add the supplement indicated in the net price table.
 - Welcome lunch in a traditional local restaurant.
 - Meals as specified (**9B, 8L, 2D**) with 1 bottle of mineral water per day.
 - All private transfers in a comfortable Japanese vehicle or similar, with all fuel included.
- Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to change the vehicle depending on the number of participants; no claims will be accepted for such reasons, and no refunds will be made.
- English or Spanish-speaking local guide.
 - All entrance fees to the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan, Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, Karakorum, monuments, museums, and all monasteries and temples mentioned in the itinerary.
 - Attendance at a folk performance featuring the fascinating sounds of throat singing (*khoomi*) and Mongolian dance.
 - Attendance at an Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show.
 - Camelback excursion on the Bactrian camels across the sand dunes.
 - Light hiking through wonderful landscapes.
 - Service rates include 10% VAT, 2% Ulaanbaatar municipal tax, and 5% service charge in Ulaanbaatar city hotels.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- Flights or trains.
- Occasional flight delays or cancellations.
- **Early check-in at hotels.**
- **Late check-out at hotels.**
- Excess luggage in our vehicles (weight limit: **15 kg per person**. Extra luggage **must be left free** of charge at the hotel in Ulaanbaatar).
- Visa fees.
- Any rescue costs or early departure expenses.

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- Change of departure date from Ulaanbaatar.
- The traveller is responsible for having proper travel documents, such as a valid passport and required passport photos.
- Travel insurance.
- Personal expenses such as tips for hotel porters, telephone/telex/fax charges, laundry, beverages, meals, optional activities, and services not specified in the itinerary.
- **Mongolia is not recommended** for travellers with respiratory or heart problems, wheelchair users, the disabled, or children under **3** years old (**it is necessary to notify us before arrival and pay a supplement for disability or wheelchair assistance, etc.**).
- Any circumstances beyond our control, such as the imposition of quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, road conditions, etc.

HIGHLIGHTED EXPERIENCES:

- Visit the great monastery of "Gandantegchinlin", or "Gandan" Monastery — a historic Buddhist monastery in Ulaanbaatar, known as the "*Great Place of Complete Joy.*"
- Visit the "Chojin Lama" Monastery-Museum — a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture offering insight into Mongolian Buddhist teachings and practices. Here, you can admire sculptures, paintings, and rituals, connecting with the living spirituality still practiced in the country. The complex consists of six temples originally occupied by Chojin Lama Luvsankhaidav, brother of the Eighth Bogd Jetsun Dampa Khan.
- Listen to the fascinating sounds of Khoomi throat singing during a traditional dance performance.
- Explore, enjoy, and climb the sand dunes of the Bayangobi Desert.
- Experience a camelback ride on Bactrian camels across the Bayangobi Desert dunes.
- Visit the "Erdene Zuu Monastery", the Turtle Monument, and the Karakorum Museum to see relics of the ancient capital of the Mongol Empire. The Buddhist Monastery of Erdene Zuu, with its 108 stupas and being the first Buddhist Lamasery (16th century), was the most important religious center. Today, it offers an impressive view with its walls, stupas, and temples, occupying a 400-square-meter enclosure surrounded by steppe.
- Attend an Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show, which demonstrates the traditional lifestyle of Mongolia's nomads — the breeding and use of five types of livestock as they move from place to place using ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses.
- Visit the Great Equestrian Statue of "Genghis Khan."
- Visit the "Arryabal Meditation Temple" in Gorkhi/Terelj National Park — a Buddhist meditation center located on a mountain slope, notable for its 108 steps leading up to the temple and a gallery of Buddhist paintings.
- Excursion and light hikes through Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, located in the northeast at 1,600 meters above sea level. The Park features high granite rocks from the Mesozoic era,



mountains, steppes, alpine forests, and remarkable rock formations — such as the Turtle Rock, a symbol of the park.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- Mongolian visa not included.
- International flights not included.
- Hotel check-in time in Ulaanbaatar is **2:00 PM**. Early check-in is not included.
- Hotel check-out time in Ulaanbaatar is **12:00 noon**. Late check-out is not included.
- **High Season Surcharge:** During the **Naadam Festival (July 1–20)** — peak season in Mongolia — all services and accommodations are in high demand, and a surcharge applies.
- In **Ulaanbaatar & Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**, **dinners are not included and are at the traveller's own expense.**
- **Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to organize lunches along the route at available locations. No claims or refunds will be accepted for such reasons.
- **Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to change the vehicle depending on the number of participants. No claims or refunds will be accepted for such reasons.
- **Vegetarian travellers must pay a supplement, as vegetables in Mongolia are expensive** and the local diet is meat-based. Please notify us in advance and pay the supplement according to the length of your stay in Mongolia.
- **When visiting nomadic families:** enter the **Ger** from the left side and step in with your right foot first. Once inside, your hosts will indicate where you should sit. It is customary to bring a small gift for the nomadic children—never money, as it is considered offensive. Gifts can include sweets, cookies, chocolates, candies, colored pencils, caps, or similar small items.
- **Mongolia is not recommended** for people with respiratory or heart problems, wheelchair users, the disabled, or children under **3** years old (**it is necessary to notify us before arrival in Mongolia and pay the appropriate supplement for disability, wheelchair assistance, etc.**).
- All photos are property of **Samar Magic Tours**. They may be used for promotional purposes only when working with **Samar Magic Tours**. **It is strictly forbidden to use our photos for advertising in collaboration with other Mongolian tour operators.**



PROPOSED HOTELS IN ULAANBAATAR

HOTELS	ROOM	LOCATION
<p>BLUE SKY & TOWER HOTEL 5*</p> 	<p>DELUXE TWIN ROOM</p> 	<p>Blue Sky & Tower Hotel 5★ Located just 50 meters in front of Ulaanbaatar’s central Sukhbaatar Square and the Mongolian Government Palace, right in the heart of the city. The hotel features 6 restaurants: Korean (Seoul), Chinese Jade Palace (Cantonese cuisine), Japanese Zen, and All Seasons (offering an excellent buffet breakfast). Facilities include sauna, massages, swimming pool, gym, Wi-Fi, rooftop observation deck, several cafés, and parking. All rooms are equipped with a flat-screen TV, minibar, and safe.</p> <p>Check-in: from 14:00 Check-out: by 12:00 noon</p>
<p>HOLIDAY INN HOTEL 5*</p> 	<p>STANDART TWIN ROOM</p> 	<p>Holiday Inn Hotel 5★ Located a 20-minute walk from Gandan Monastery, Mongolia’s most important Buddhist monastery, and 1.2 km from Ulaanbaatar’s central Sukhbaatar Square. The hotel offers 20 floors, 2 elevators, a restaurant, Wi-Fi, a café on the ground floor, and parking.</p> <p>Check-in: from 14:00 Check-out: by 12:00 noon</p>



MILLENNIUM PLAZA HOTEL 4*



STANDART TWIN ROOM



Millennium Plaza Hotel 4★

Situated less than 1.5 km from Sukhbaatar Square in central Ulaanbaatar, and 52 km (32.3 miles) from the new "Chinggis Khaan" Airport. The hotel has 72 well-equipped rooms, a Korean restaurant, and a lobby café. Five event venues: elegant ballroom, large conference hall, and other entertainment spaces. In addition, luxurious karaoke rooms.

Check-in: from 14:00

Check-out: by 12:00 noon

RAMADA HOTEL 4*



STANDART TWIN ROOM



Ramada Hotel 4★

Located in a shopping complex with 17 floors of modern architecture, offering 121 rooms and suites. The Hotel Ramada is situated in the heart of Ulaanbaatar, 52 km (32.3 miles) from the new "Chinggis Khaan" Airport and a 15–20-minute walk from Gandan Monastery.

Check-in: from 14:00

Check-out: by 12:00 noon



PREMIUM PALACE HOTEL 4*



STANDART TWIN ROOM



Premium Palace Hotel 4 ★

The is located 20 minutes on foot from the Gandan Monastery, the most important in Mongolia, and 2.3 km from Sukhbaatar Central Square.

The Premium offers 192 rooms, 2 elevators, 2 restaurants: Yu Long Chinese and buffet breakfast, number of floors: 20, Wi-Fi, gym, CU café on the 1st floor, and a small parking area.

Check-in: from 14:00

Check-out: by 12:00 noon

NOVOTEL HOTEL 5*



STANDART TWIN ROOM



Novotel Hotel 5★

A modern hotel located in the heart of downtown, within walking distance of the Government Palace, Chinggis Khan Square, and major offices and embassies. It is approximately 2+ hours from the new "Genghis Khan" International Airport and 1 hour from Ulaanbaatar's train station. The hotel features 192 rooms, 2 restaurants, 2 bars, a gym, an indoor swimming pool, and a 362 m² ballroom adaptable for events.

Check-in: from 14:00

Check-out: by 12:00 noon



ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE MONGOLIAN COUNTRYSIDE

Samar Magic Tours always selects the best available Tourist Gers Camps, provided that payment is made within the indicated deadline to guarantee reservations.

These are traditional nomadic-style accommodations — spacious and adapted for tourists — with shared outdoor bathrooms (one facility for men and one for women). All Gers camps feature on-site restaurants.

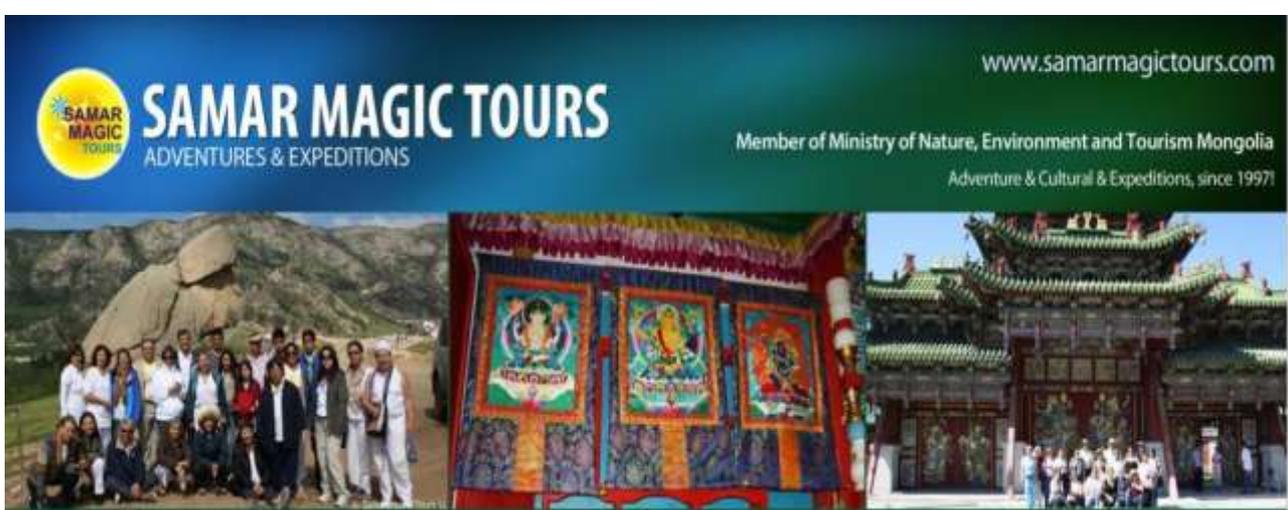
NOTES:

1. If you wish to stay in a **DELUXE Ger (with a private bathroom inside)** in **Karakorum (Central Mongolia)**, it is necessary to add the supplement indicated in the net price table. In other locations along this route, **Deluxe Gers with private bathrooms are not available.**
2. In some Gers Tourist Camps, electric power may be turned off after **10 or 12** at night. It is advisable to keep this in mind when planning to recharge batteries, cameras, or other devices.
3. The published net prices correspond to **double-room accommodation** in hotels in Ulaanbaatar. On this trip, **single-room accommodation** can only be confirmed in the hotels in Ulaanbaatar. In the Gers Tourist Camps located in the Mongolian countryside, **single Gers cannot be guaranteed.**



LIST SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

- Flashlight
- Spare batteries/bulb
- Personal medications
- Waterproof hiking boots
- Waterproof jacket with hood
- Waterproof over-pants
- Fleece jacket or wool sweater
- Cotton T-shirts
- Long-sleeved shirts
- Lightweight pants
- Shorts
- Socks
- Underwear
- Sun hat
- Sandals
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Plastic zip-lock bags
- Binoculars/camera
- Watch/alarm clock
- Money belt or travel pouch



GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR TRAVEL TO MONGOLIA

PRICE: Prices are calculated based on **double occupancy**. Prices and rates are quoted in EUROS and USD and are subject to change.

PLEASE NOTE: A **Naadam Festival** surcharge applies for travel from **July 1 to July 20 (Peak Season in Mongolia)**, when all services and accommodations are fully booked.

RESERVATION FORM DETAILS:

FULL NAME(S) AND SURNAME(S) (AS WRITTEN IN THE PASSPORT):

CITIZENSHIP:

VALID PASSPORT NUMBER:

GENDER:

DATE OF ARRIVAL IN ULAANBAATAR, FLIGHT NUMBER, AND ARRIVAL TIME:

DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM MONGOLIA, FLIGHT NUMBER, AND DEPARTURE TIME:

SELECTED HOTEL IN ULAANBAATAR (FROM THE INDICATED OPTIONS):

SELECTED TOUR CODE:

- At the time of registering for the trip, **the reservation form must be completed**, and the reservation guarantee must be paid immediately by bank transfer, at least **165** business days before arrival in Mongolia.
- **The final payment for the trip** must be made by bank transfer, at least **95** business days before arrival in Mongolia.
- Banks in Mongolia do not operate on **Saturdays, Sundays, or public holidays** such as **March 8, June 1**, or during the **Naadam Festival (July 1-15)**.
- Bank transfers take **5** business days to be received.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: If payments are **not made on the indicated dates**, we cannot guarantee the requested services. In such cases, you will need to check the new rates and availability in other hotels.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

180-91 days before arrival: the reservation guarantee is non-refundable.

90-19 days before arrival: 50% refund.

18-0 business days before arrival: 100% cancellation fee - NO REFUND.

For air and train ticket cancellations: separate conditions apply. International and domestic air and train fares are subject to modification depending on availability at the time of booking. Air and train fares are only guaranteed once tickets are issued and fully paid. Tickets are non-refundable and can only be canceled on the same day of issuance.

HOTELS: Rooms may be used from **2:00 PM (14:00)** on the day of arrival and must be vacated before **12:00 noon** on the day of departure.

Prices, services, and other information about the products detailed on this page and on the website www.samarmagictours.com are non-binding and may change without prior notice.



TRANSPORT: Samar Magic Tours reserves the right to change the vehicle depending on the number of participants. Under no circumstances will we accept claims for this reason, and no refunds will be made.

COMPLIMENTARY TRAVEL STAFF IN MONGOLIA:

- For groups of **16** people (**15** paying + **1** free, based on **double occupancy: 8 rooms**), **Samar Magic Tours** will cover all ground expenses and accommodation in double rooms. **Not included: single room supplement, domestic air tickets in Mongolia.**
- For groups of **32** people (**30** paying + **2** free, based on double occupancy: **16** rooms), **Samar Magic Tours** will cover all ground expenses and accommodation in double rooms. **Not included: single room supplement, domestic air tickets in Mongolia.**

PLEASE NOTE: MONGOLIA is not recommended as a destination for travellers with respiratory problems, heart conditions, those in wheelchairs, disabled persons, or children under **3** years of age.

CHILD POLICY IN MONGOLIA:

0–3 years: free of charge

4–11 years: 50% of the regular adult price

12 years and above: 100% of the regular adult price

CLIMATE CHANGES: Not included in our services. These are external conditions. In such cases, we will do everything possible to find the best available solution. However, no claims will be accepted for the consequences of weather changes, and no refunds will be made.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS:

Mongolia is a country where tourist infrastructure is almost non-existent and still in development. Distances are vast, requiring many hours of travel and involving significant fuel costs. The journey is carried out mostly on dirt and sand tracks. Depending on their condition, travellers may spend many hours on the road. A large part of the Mongolian population is still nomadic, moving from place to place on horseback, camel, or yak, with their Gers and herds. An occasional encounter with one of these families and their way of life is an unforgettable experience. **To enjoy the trip, travellers must accept these conditions in advance, let go of preconceived notions about how things “should” be, and remain open to what this country has to offer.**

FORCE MAJEURE CONDITIONS:

While it is our absolute desire to carry out the trip as detailed in the program, on occasion there may be force majeure circumstances that require modifications. **Samar Magic Tours** is not legally responsible for those force majeure situations beyond the organization's control that may force changes to the travel program. These reasons and circumstances include possible security risks for travellers, political instability or violence, rebellions or the threat of rebellion, strikes, riots and violent actions, decisions by governments or local authorities, technical or maintenance problems related to transport, changes in flight or road schedules or routes, natural disasters, epidemics, adverse weather conditions, and any other



circumstances beyond the control of **Samar Magic Tours**.

If, due to exceptional circumstances of force majeure, it becomes necessary to cancel the trip, there is no obligation of compensation.

I have read and understood the section on Obligations and Responsibility detailed above in the form, as well as the General Information and Special Booking Conditions set out in the tour information materials, and I accept them on behalf of myself and my group. I declare that I am not traveling against any medical advice.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

VALID PASSPORT NUMBER: _____

CITIZENSHIP: _____



FACT SHEET OF MONGOLIA

Currency: The official currency in Mongolia is the Tugrik or Tugrug (T). It comes in banknotes of 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, 1,000, 5,000, 10,000, and 20,000 Tugrik. It is advisable to bring EUROS or USD and exchange them progressively. Currency exchange can be done at banks and hotels in Ulaanbaatar.

Climate: Known as the land of the blue sky, but its climate is extreme and severe. Siberian winters cover the Gobi Desert with snow until April and keep lakes frozen until May. The rainy season is short, from mid-**July to September**, with brief and light showers. Nights are cool even in summer.

Approximate temperatures in Mongolia:

Spring:	May	[around 14°C daytime, 6° °C nighttime. Occasional rain, generally cool.]
Summer:	June-August	[28–30 °C daytime, 18 °C nighttime. Mostly dry with occasional rain.]
Autumn:	September.	[21–16 °C daytime, 0 °C nighttime. Dry and cold.]

Luggage: The lighter the luggage, the better. A soft backpack or travel bag is recommended, plus a small daypack for essentials during the day (camera, skin and lip cream, binoculars, canteen, and flashlight). A raincoat or poncho and a good parka, warm clothes for high places, light cotton clothes, sunglasses, and a cap for midday heat, as well as comfortable footwear, are recommended. Clients are advised to bring binoculars.

Small first-aid kit: mosquito repellent, saline solution, gauze, aspirin, paracetamol.

Electricity: 220V, 50Hz. European round plug.

Clothing: No special requirements regarding dress, just respect local customs.

Photography: The country is one of the most photogenic in the world, with its landscapes, wildlife, culture, and people. Entrance fees to museums, National Parks, and Monasteries are included in the trip according to the program, but photography is not. In many monasteries and temples, photos are not allowed unless you pay the set fee. Always check before taking photos, as notices are written in Cyrillic or Mongolian, often unintelligible for us; once you take a picture, payment is immediate.

Food: The basis of food in Mongolia is meat. Lamb and flour form the base of most meals. The Mongolian diet also includes horse meat. Milk and yogurt have an exquisite though strong flavor. Cow and goat cheese are common. Milk may not be pasteurized, and some dairy products can therefore be unsafe. It should be boiled, and foods should preferably be consumed cooked. This is the health guideline, but in reality, once you stop at a Ger, guests



are always invited to enter and offered aromatic *airag* (fermented mare's milk) and goat, yak, or sheep cheese, all acidic and dry. Refusing would not be polite.

Shopping: Bargaining is not common in Mongolia. Even bargaining, you won't usually pay less than 70% of the asking price. Some shops offer handicrafts, postcards, and clothing. Also available are carpets, leather and fur products, as well as cashmere and camel hair items. Wooden toys, puzzles, and games, along with oil paintings and watercolors. In the capital's stores, European products are available—expensive, especially in the State Department Store and other new shopping centers—which carry almost anything you may want, both Mongolian and foreign.

Precautions: Mongolia is a safe place for tourism; there are no drugs, assaults, or weapons. However, as anywhere in the world, one must be cautious with pickpockets.

It is recommended that upon arrival at the hotel you immediately place in the hotel safe (in the room or at reception): passport, visas, money, documents, valuables, etc., before going out for visits in Ulaanbaatar. Be careful in restaurants, pizzerias, cafés, markets, the central post office, and monasteries, where there are pickpockets.



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HOLIDAY INN HOTEL 5*



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BLUE SKY & TOWER HOTEL 5*



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