



SAMAR MAGIC TOURS
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MONGOLIA GREAT SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

TOUR DURATION: 12 days / 11 nights

TOUR CODE: **SMT-MGLESP-12D**

MINIMUM GROUP SIZE: **6-16** 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 consult special programs and for the **NAADAM FESTIVAL GROUP RATES), AUGUST, UNTIL SEPTEMBER 20th.**

FOR GROUP RATES AND HOTEL INFORMATION, CONTACT US.

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MAP OF MONGOLIA



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 a **+2-3** hours' drive, depending on traffic), the capital of Mongolia, where you will be greeted by the **Samar Magic Tours** team.

This **Mongolia Great Spiritual and Meditation Group Tour** with **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** — the **Gandan Monastery** in Ulaanbaatar, the **Erdene Zuu Monastery** in Karakorum (Central Mongolia), and finally the **Amarbayasgalant Monastery** in the remote North.

These journeys offer travellers a unique 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** as a **hidden Buddhist kingdom**.

— In the first part of this great journey, we will visit the **Gandantegchinlin Monastery** or "**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 houses several hundred monks, serving as the **spiritual center of Buddhism in Mongolia**. Its main attraction is an impressive **25-meter-tall** statue. Inside, visitors can witness traditional Buddhist ceremonies that include **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

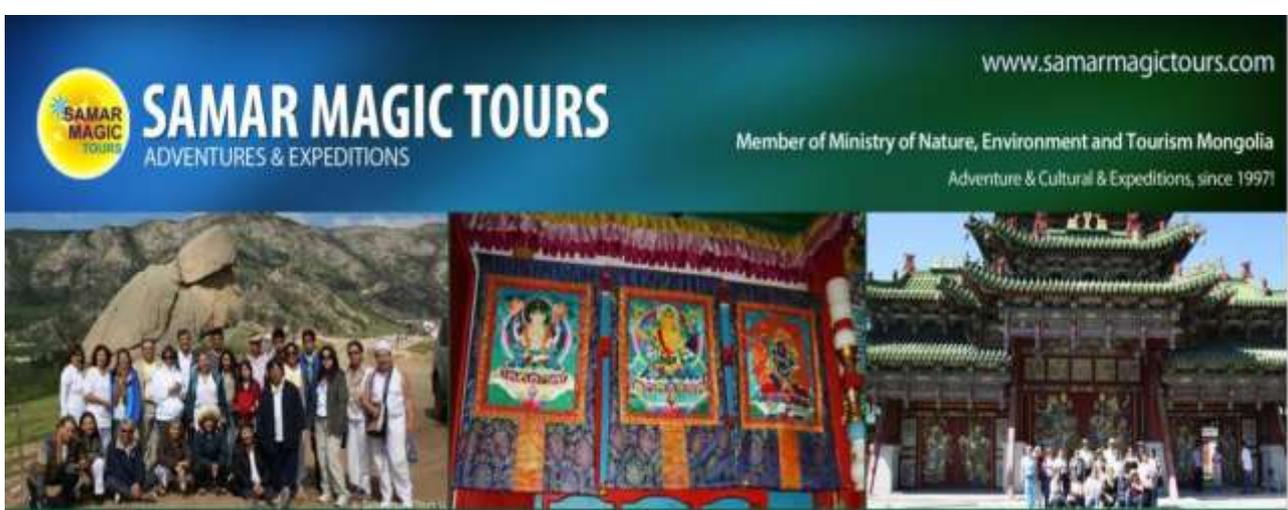
Statue of Migjid Chenrezig (Avalokiteśvara), the Bodhisattva of Compassion: The most famous feature is a statue over **25** meters high of the Bodhisattva of Compassion, made of gilded bronze and adorned with precious stones.

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 **Luvtsanchultimjigmed 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* (Gangiur), 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 Dambijantsan**. 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 Geegen 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 **Tashchoimphel 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.



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**:

- **Dashchoimphele College**, founded in 1736 by **the Second Jebtsundamba**, follows the *Gunchen Jamyan Shadba* principle of the Tibetan Gelug tradition.
- **Gungaachoinlin 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.



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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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.

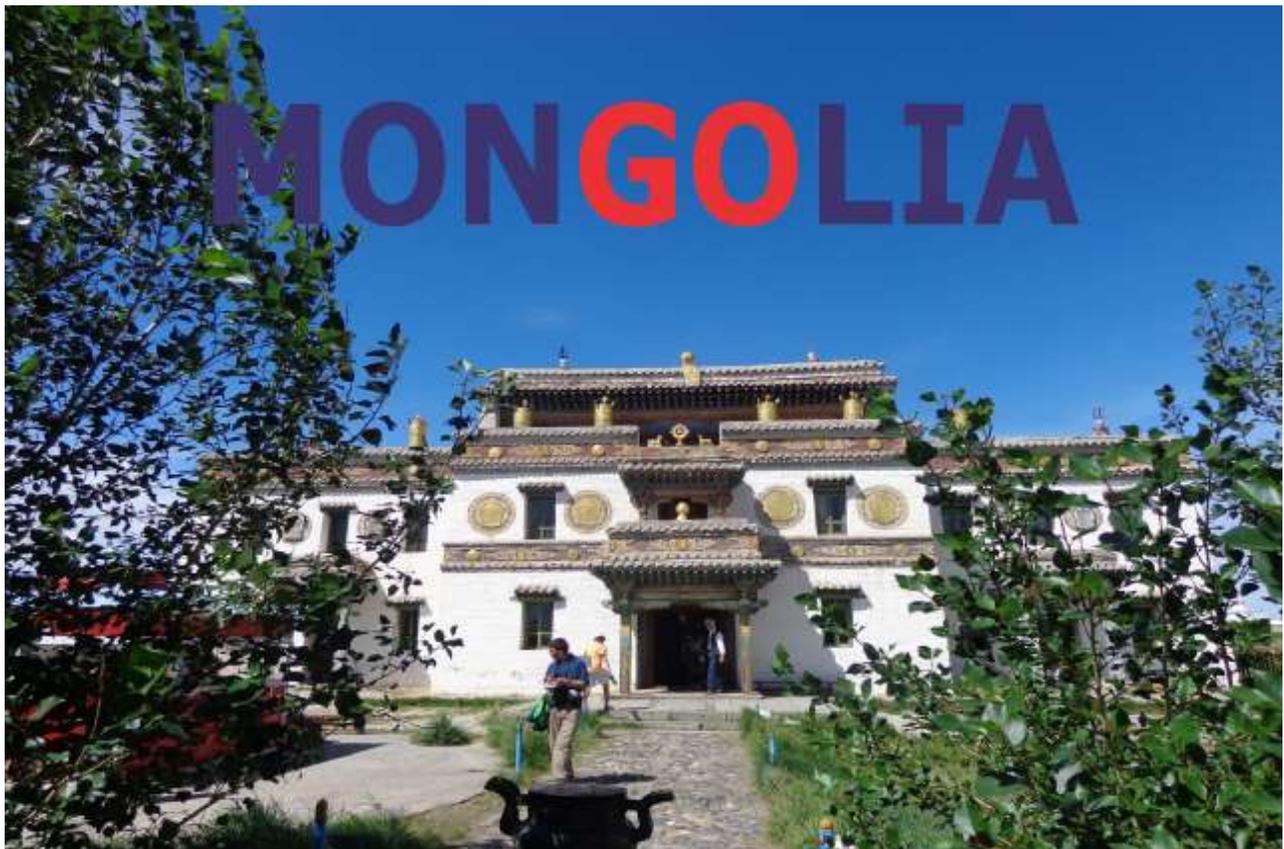
The walls of the monastery's temples were painted, and the Chinese-style roofs were covered with green tiles. From its earliest days, Erdene Zuu housed numerous temples, up to **1,000 resident monks**, and around **300 gers** (traditional Mongolian felt tents), where monks lived either inside or around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

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.



Erdene Zuu was only able to continue existing as a museum because the only monastery officially permitted to remain active in Mongolia at the time was the **Gandantegchinlen** Monastery in Ulaanbaatar. Even after its transformation into a museum, Erdene Zuu only reopened for this purpose in 1965, nearly twenty years later.



This changed with the fall of communism in Mongolia in 1990, when the monastery was returned to the lamas, and Erdene Zuu once again became a place of worship.

Today, it continues to function as an active Buddhist monastery, while also serving as a museum open to tourists, preserving both its religious and cultural legacy.



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.”
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 return journey to Ulaanbaatar, we will explore the **Uvgun Temple**, located in the **Khogno Khan Mountain area**, within the **Khogno Khan Nature Reserve**. This site was destroyed in the **1930s**, yet it remains an important historical and spiritual destination, often included in tours across Mongolia.

The **Uvgun Temple** was built in the **17th century** by **Zanabazar**, one of Mongolia's most revered religious figures and the first Bogd Gegen (spiritual leader). The surrounding park offers a **unique landscape** where the **taiga**, **steppe**, and the **Elsen Tasarkhai sand dunes** (also known as the **Bayangobi Desert**) converge, creating an exceptional natural contrast of forests, grasslands, and desert terrain.



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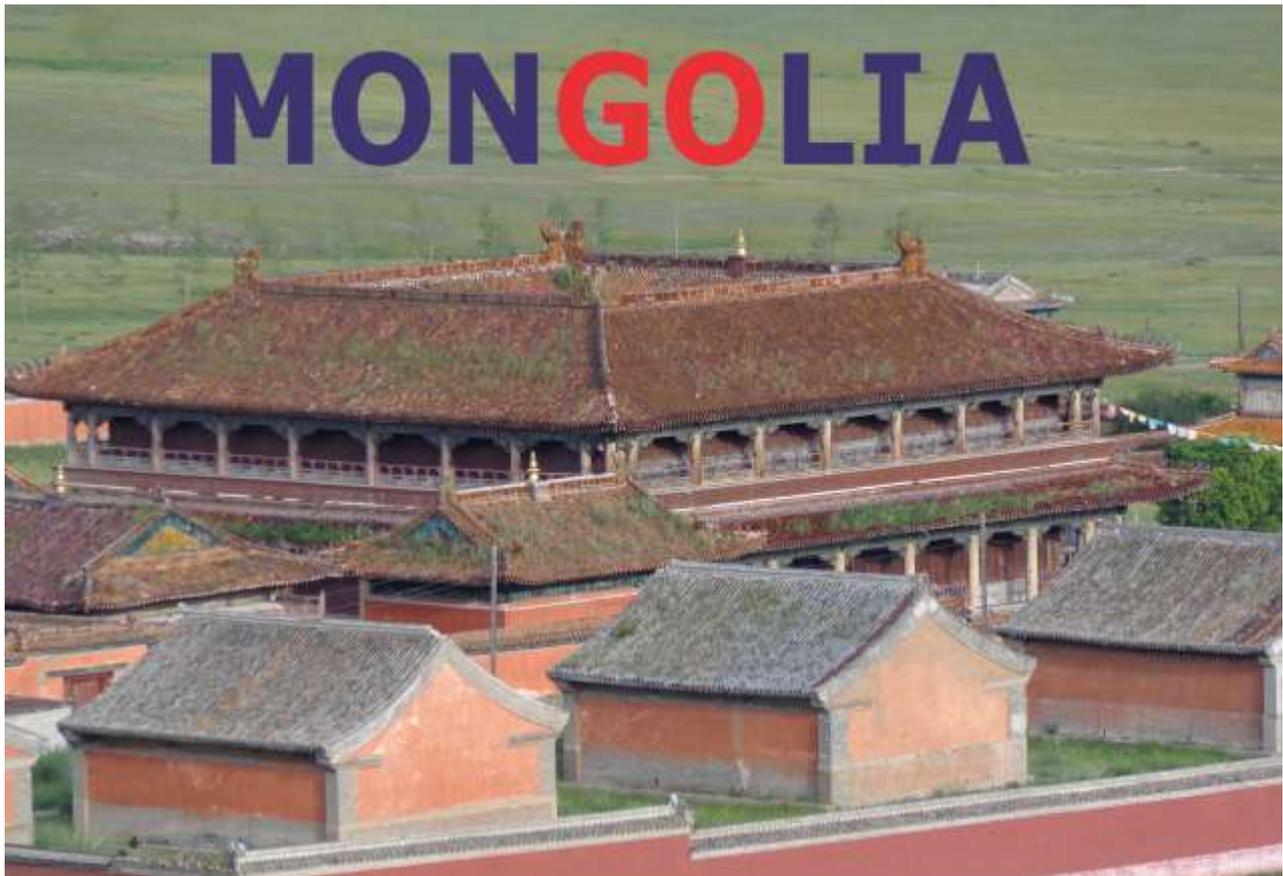
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MONGOLIA



— **In the fourth part of this great journey**, we will head **westward** to attend an **Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show**, which demonstrates the **traditional lifestyle** of Mongolia's nomads — showcasing the breeding and use of the **five main types of livestock** as they migrate from one place to another. The performance features **ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses**, offering travelers a genuine glimpse into Mongolia's enduring nomadic heritage.

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In the fifth part of this great journey, we will head toward the **Amarbayasgalant Monastery**, also known as the "*Monastery of Tranquil Happiness*," one of the **three largest Buddhist centers in Mongolia**. It is located in the **northeast**, about 360 km (224 miles, approximately 6 hours by road) from Ulaanbaatar. The complex lies in the **Iven Valley**, near the **Selenge River**, at the foot of **Mount Buren-Khaan** in the **Baruunburen District** of the **Selenge Province**, in northern Mongolia.

The monastery was **commissioned and financed by order of the Manchu Emperor Yongzheng** (and completed under his successor, Emperor Qianlong, between **1727 and 1736**) to serve as the **final resting place of Zanabazar (1635–1723)** — the **first Jebtsundamba Khutuktu**, or spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism among the Khalkha Mongols, and spiritual mentor to their imperial ancestor, Emperor Kangxi.

According to tradition, while searching for a suitable site for the monastery's construction, the scouting party encountered two children, **Amur and Bayasqulangtu**, playing in the steppe. Inspired by this encounter, they decided to build the monastery on that very spot



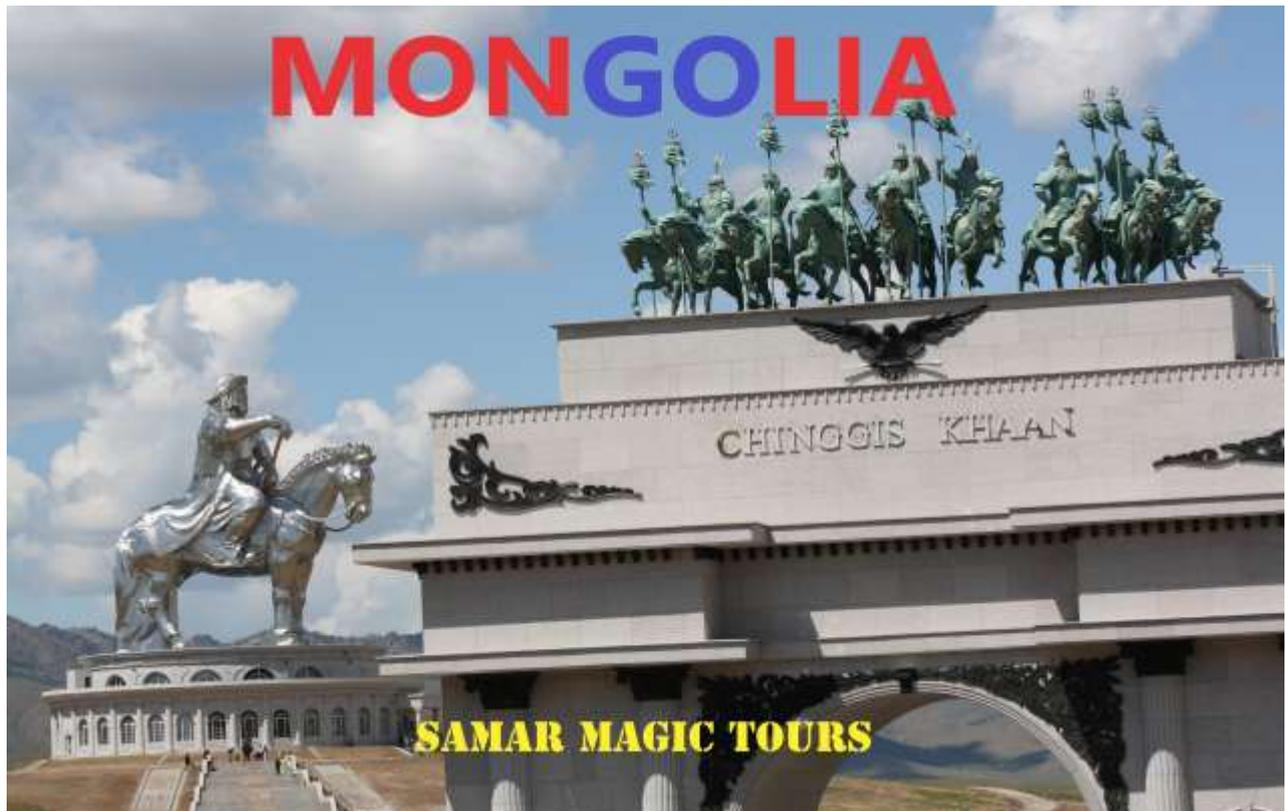
and name it **Amur-Bayasqulangtu**. More likely, the site was chosen because it was where **Da Khuree**, Zanabazar's mobile monastery and main residence, was camped at the time of his death. Construction took place between **1727 and 1736**, and **Zanabazar's remains were transferred** there in **1779**.

The **Amarbayasgalant Monastery** is dedicated to **Maitreya, Zanabazar's tutelary deity**. Unlike the **Erdene Zuu Monastery**, which consists of a collection of temples of varying styles, **Amarbayasgalant** displays a **remarkable architectural unity**. The predominant style is **Chinese**, with some **Mongolian and Tibetan influences**. The layout of the monastery resembles the **Yonghegong Palace** of Emperor Yongzheng in Beijing (which his son, Emperor Qianlong, later converted into a Buddhist monastery).

Originally comprising **over 40 temples**, **Amarbayasgalant** was laid out in a **symmetrical north-south axis**, with the main buildings aligned along the central axis and secondary structures arranged parallel on either side.

Amarbayasgalant was one of the **few monasteries partially spared** from destruction during the **Stalinist purges of 1937** — only the central section of buildings survived. Many monks were executed under the regime, and the monastery's artifacts, including **thangkas, statues, and manuscripts**, were looted, though some were **hidden and preserved** until better times. Today, **28 temples** remain.

Restoration work began in **1988**, funded by **UNESCO** and private donors, with several new statues **commissioned in New Delhi, India**. Visitors can explore the **monastery and its surrounding landscape**, a serene and spiritually charged site. Currently, around **50 monks** reside at **Amarbayasgalant**, though in **1936** it housed nearly **2,000 monks**.



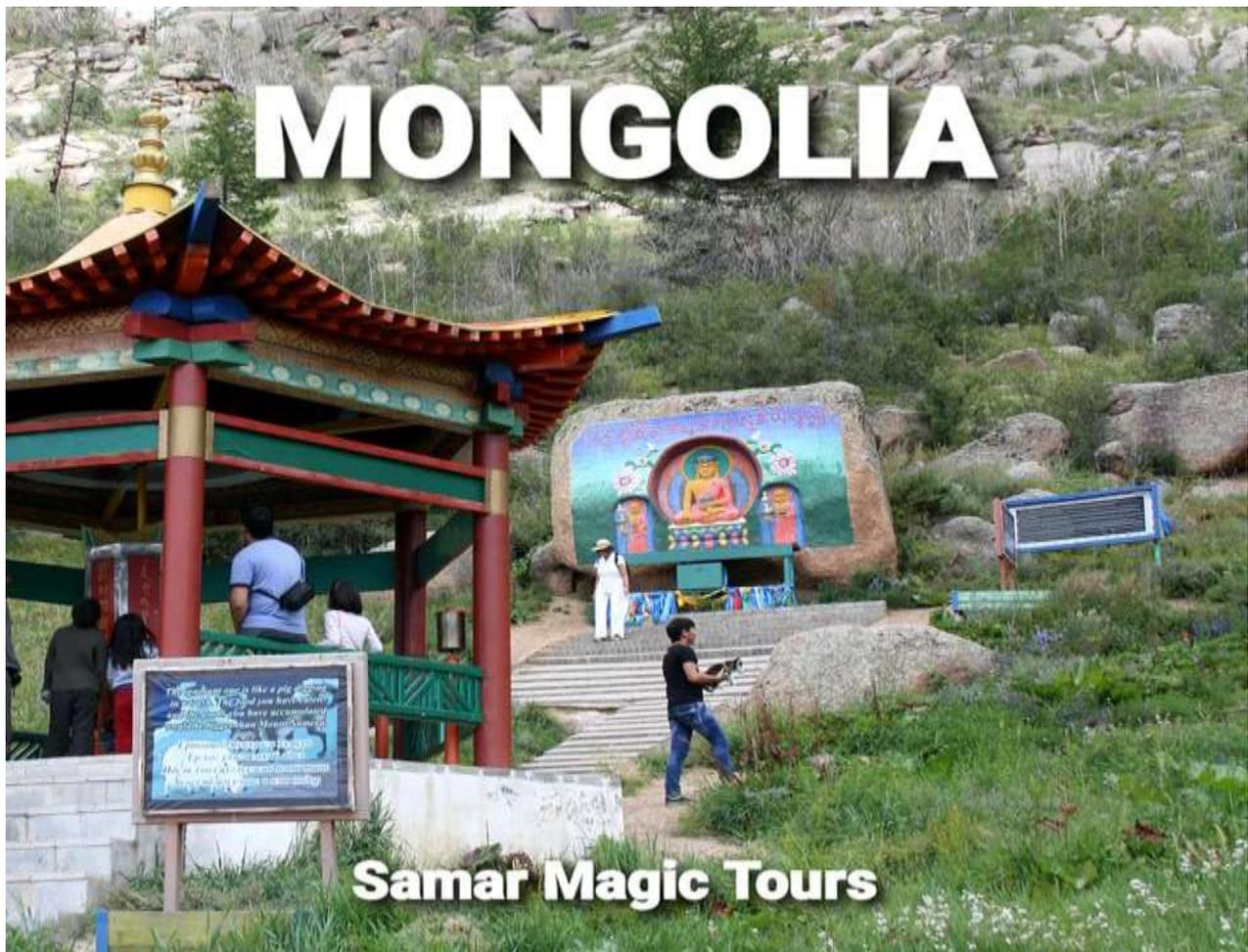
In the final part of this great journey, we will travel northeast to visit the Grand Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan. The statue faces east, symbolically pointing toward the Khentii Province, the birthplace of the Great Khan. At the base of this monumental complex stands a visitor center, rising 10 meters high, supported by 36 columns representing the 36 khans from Genghis to Ligdan Khan. The statue was inaugurated in 2008 and remains one of Mongolia's most iconic landmarks. Visitors can ascend through the horse's chest and neck to reach the horse's head, where a panoramic view of the surrounding landscape awaits.

The main statue area is designed to be encircled by 200 Gers, which are planned to be constructed following the hoofprint pattern once used by Mongol tribes during the 13th century. The museum integrated within the complex features exhibitions related to the Bronze Age and the Xiongnu archaeological cultures of Mongolia. These displays include everyday utensils, belt buckles, knives, and sacred animal depictions. A second exhibition focuses on the Mongol Empire period (13th–14th centuries), showcasing ancient tools, gold and silver craftsmanship, and Nestorian crosses and rosaries.



Adjacent to the museum lies a **tourist recreation center** spanning **212 hectares**. At the base of the statue, visitors can see a **replica of the legendary Golden Whip** of the Great Khan — a symbol of his power and leadership.

Near the **Grand Genghis Khan Statue**, travellers can capture **beautiful photographs** with **Kazakh eagle hunters** and their **Golden Eagles**, enjoy **camelback rides across the steppe**, or experience a **traditional Mongolian horseback ride**, as well as try **archery** (**additional fees apply and are paid directly on-site**).



Next, we will depart toward the **Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**, located in the **northeast**, at an altitude of **1,600** meters above sea level. The Park is characterized by its towering **Mesozoic granite formations**, mountains, vast steppes, alpine forests, and unique rock structures shaped over millions of years — such as the famous **Turtle Rock formation**.



Declared a **National Park in 1990**, **Gorkhi-Terelj** spans an impressive **300,000** hectares. Along the way, we will stop to take **photographs**, shop for **souvenirs**, and enjoy a **gentle walk** to the **Turtle Rock**, a symbolic landmark of the park.

We will then take an **easy hike** to the **Arryabal Meditation Temple**, a **Buddhist meditation center** perched on a **mountain slope**, renowned for its **108** steps leading up to the temple, a **gallery of Buddhist paintings**, and a **thangka** depicting the **myth of Shambhala**. The temple sits atop a serene hill overlooking the valley.

The Stairs: There are **108 steps**, symbolizing the auspicious number in Buddhism and representing the **trunk of an elephant**.

Buddhist Philosophy Gallery: On the ground floor, there are **220 paintings by Bayantsagaan**, each illustrating various Buddhist beliefs.

Main Temple: Dedicated to the **Kalachakra philosophy** ("the Wheel of Time"), it houses a **thangka** of the Shambhala legend and a **Kalachakra mandala**.

Buddha Sculpture: A **modern statue of Buddha** is carved into the rock of a nearby hill, blending spirituality with the surrounding natural beauty.

MONGOLIA GREAT SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

Ulaanbaatar – Bayangobi Desert – Karakorum (Central Mongolia) – Erdene Zuu Monastery – Uvgun Temple in Khogno Khan Nature Reserve – Ulaanbaatar – Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show – Ulaanbaatar – Amarbayasgalant Monastery – Ulaanbaatar – Grand 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 with **Samar Magic Tours** team at the reception area of the new "Genghis" Khan Airport. Transfer to the hotel (52 km/32.3 miles, approx. **2-3** hours driving, depending on traffic). If the clients arrive in Ulaanbaatar on flight **OM138 (Mongolia Airlines)** from Frankfurt, Germany at **05:10AM** or on **TK236 (Turkish Airlines)** from Istanbul, Turkey at **07:10AM**. **Early check-in must be prepaid to access rooms upon arrival. Rooms are available from 2:00PM. No activities or meals are included today. Rest at the hotel to adapt to the local time zone.** Selected Hotel.

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



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

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

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

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

Day 7: Ulaanbaatar/Amarbayasgalant Monastery. Tourist Gers Camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

Day 8: Amarbayasgalant Monastery/Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 9: Ulaanbaatar/Grand Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan/Arryabal Meditation Temple in Gorkhi/Terelj National Park/**Deluxe** Resort. **(B)(L)**

Day 10: Gorkhi-Terelj National Park/Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 11: Grand Tour of Ulaanbaatar/Golden Buddha Statue/Last Shopping. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

Day 12: Hotel check-out in Ulaanbaatar is at **12:00PM**. Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Transfer to the new "Genghis" Khan Airport (52 km/32.3 miles, approx. **4-5** hours driving, depending on Ulaanbaatar traffic). **Departure from Mongolia. END OF THE JOURNEY. (B)**



MONGOLIA GREAT SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

DETAILED ITINERARY:

DAY 1:

ARRIVAL IN ULAANBAATAR / FREE DAY TO ADAPT TO LOCAL TIME

Arrival at Ulaanbaatar's new "Genghis Khan" International Airport, capital of Mongolia. Meet and greet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team. Currency exchange available at airport banks. Transfer to the hotel (52 km / 32.3 miles, approx. **2-3** hours driving, 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 upon arrival or may leave their luggage at the hotel reception until check-in time. No activities or meals are included today.** Rest at the hotel to adjust to the local time zone. Overnight at the selected hotel.

DAY 2:

GRAND CITY TOUR IN ULAANBAATAR / WELCOME LUNCH / MONGOLIAN NATIONAL CONCERT

Breakfast and Lunch

09:00 AM – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Begin a panoramic city tour of Ulaanbaatar: visit the **Gandantegchinlin Monastery, Mongolia's largest and most significant Buddhist monastery**, home to a **25-meter-high Buddha statue. Founded in 1809** under the name "Yellow Temple," it houses a sacred library containing Buddhist scriptures of **Gandjuur (8 volumes)** and **225 commentaries**, all crafted using the **nine precious stones**. Declared a **State Heritage Site in 1994**. Continue to the **Choijin Lama Monastery Museum**, a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture that provides insight into Mongolian Buddhist teachings and rituals. Visitors can admire sculptures, paintings, and ceremonial relics that connect to Mongolia's living spirituality. The complex consists of **six** temples originally inhabited by **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav**, brother of **the 8th Bogd Jetsun Dampa Khan**. He was **the State Oracle and Khutugtu** of "Precious Wisdom and Clear Devotion" at the time. Next, visit **Sukhbaatar Central Main Square** and the **Genghis Khan Monument Complex**, built in 2006 to commemorate the 800th Anniversary of the Founding of the Mongol State or Mongol Empire (1206–2006) by Genghis Khan. The monument stands in front of Mongolia's Parliament House and Government Palace. **Enjoy a Welcome Lunch at a traditional local restaurant. 06:00 PM** – Attend a **Mongolian National Folk Concert**, featuring traditional music, dance, and throat singing. Transfer back to the hotel. **Overnight at the selected hotel. Dinner not included (at your own expense).**

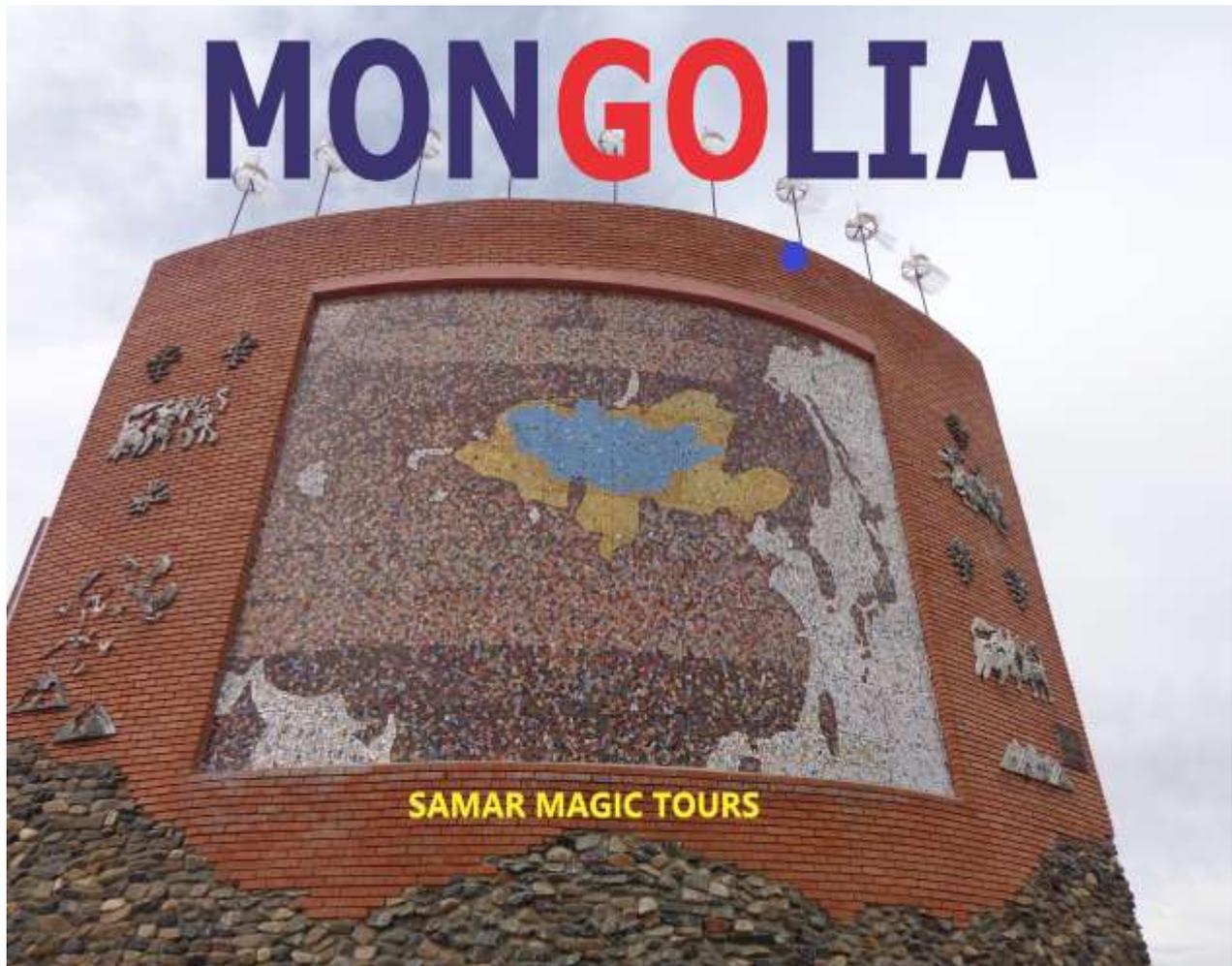


DAY 3:

ULAANBAATAR / BAYANGOBI DESERT / KARAKORUM (CENTRAL MONGOLIA)

Full Board

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Stop to purchase mineral water and other essentials at the **State Department Store (Main Store)**. Afterward, depart **westward** toward the **legendary Karakorum** (approx. 395 km / 245.4 miles, 6–7 hours' drive), located in **Central Mongolia**. **1:00 PM – 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 over **80 km / 50 miles** across a beautiful valley. Enjoy opportunities for light hiking, walking along the dunes, and photographing the stunning landscapes. An included **excursion will take you camel riding on Bactrian (two-humped) camels** across the sand dunes — a true steppe adventure! Continue the journey to **Karakorum** (approx. 100 km / 62.1 miles). Upon arrival, transfer and settle into your accommodation. **Enjoy free time to relax after a long day's travel.** Overnight in a Tourist Gers Camp in Karakorum.



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. Then, visit the **Monument to the Mongol States**, located on a hill overlooking the city of **Karakorum (Kharkhorin)**, on the banks of the Orkhon River. Built in 2004, the monument consists of a large pile of stones (a **shamanic ovo**) carefully assembled in a conical shape, roughly the size of a tipi, with nine poles rising from the top. This structure is set upon a stone and concrete platform and is surrounded by three walls representing three sections of a circle. The outer sides of these walls feature colorful mosaics depicting three maps—one for each of the great empires.

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.

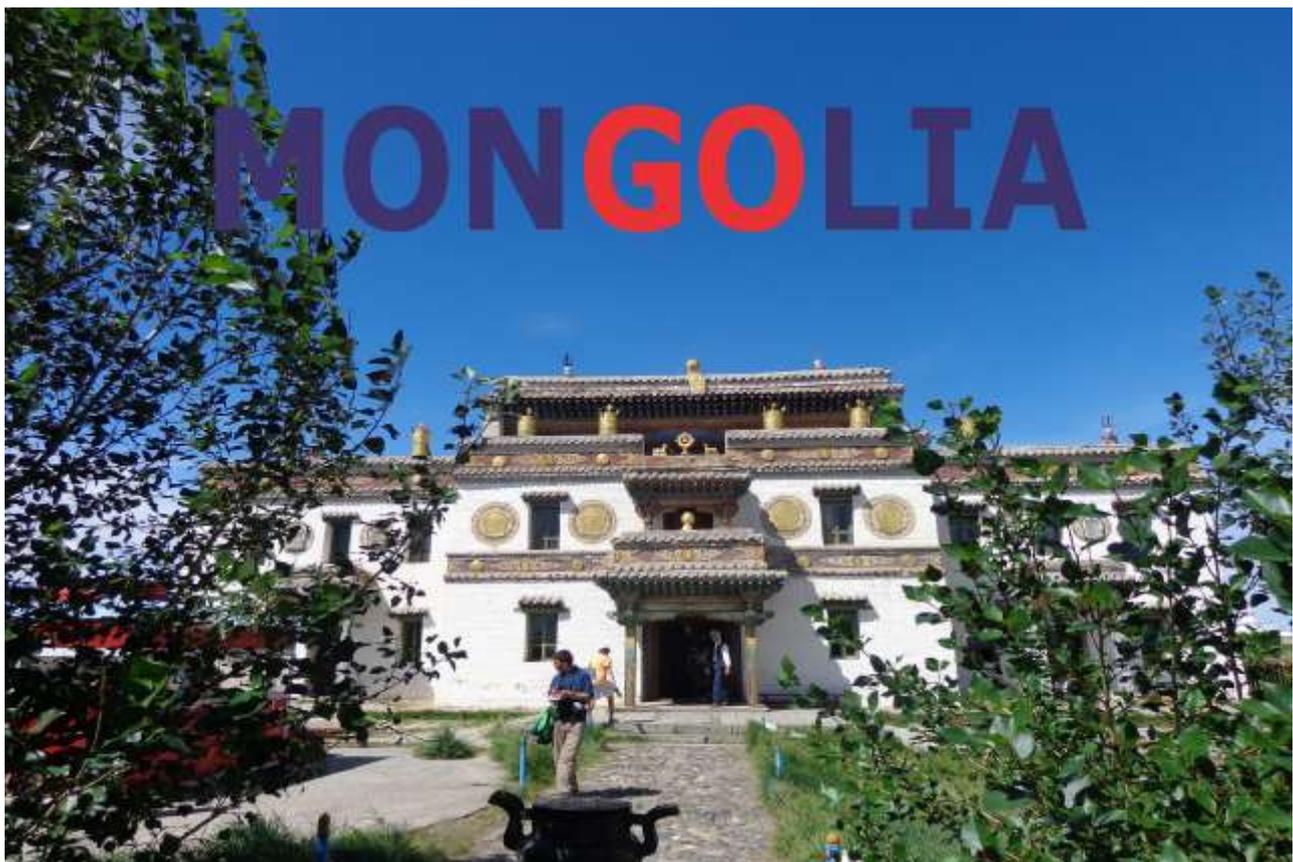


2. It was followed by the **Turkic Khaganate Empire**, established by the Göktürks in 682 and lasting only until 744.
3. Finally—and most famously—**Genghis Khan** founded the **Mongol Empire** during the 13th and 14th centuries.

The monument's iconic location, combined with **the shamanic symbolism of the oboo** at its center, encourages visitors to leave offerings of vodka, milk, tea, rice, and other edible gifts that inevitably attract birds—and occasionally passing herds of goats and sheep. Several animal skulls can also be found scattered around the monument, completing the surreal scene. It is no coincidence that the **Imperial Map Monument** stands in **Kharkhorin**, as this city—then known as **Karakorum**—was once the capital of the Mongol Empire under **Ögedei Khan**, successor of Genghis Khan. The monument offers a wonderful vantage point to contemplate **Kharkhorin and the Orkhon River**, and to imagine what this collection of dirt roads and low buildings might have looked like in its days of imperial glory. Next, visit the **Erdene Zuu Monastery** ("One 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 **108 stupas**, was the first Buddhist lamasery in Mongolia (16th century) and served as the country's most important religious



center. Today, it remains an impressive site, surrounded by steppe grasslands, with its walls, stupas, and temples occupying a **400**-square-meter enclosure. Construction was continued by his son **Ögedei Khan** after his death. Forty years later, **Kublai Khan (Genghis Khan's grandson and host to Marco Polo)** moved the empire's capital to **Beijing (Yuan Dynasty)**. By 1792, there were 62 temples and more than 10,000 lamas. In the 1930s, however, Stalinist purges destroyed most of the temples, and many lamas were exiled to Siberia, where they perished. Of the more than 100 temples that once stood, **only three have survived to this day, making Erdene Zuu one of Mongolia's most significant cultural landmarks.** **Lunch included in front of Erdene Zuu Monastery.** After lunch, transfer and enjoy **free time at leisure.** Overnight in a Tourist Gers 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 driving). 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 driving, depending on traffic upon entry). **1:00 PM – Lunch included in Lun.** Arrival and transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner not included, at your own expense.**



SAMAR MAGIC TOURS
ADVENTURES & EXPEDITIONS

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Member of Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism Mongolia
Adventure & Cultural & Expeditions, since 1997!



www.samarmagictours.com

MONGOLIA



DAY 6: ULAANBAATAR / AUTHENTIC MONGOL NOMADIC 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 how a traditional **Mongolian Ger** 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.**

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



DAY 7: ULAANBAATAR / AMARBAYASGALANT MONASTERY

Full Board

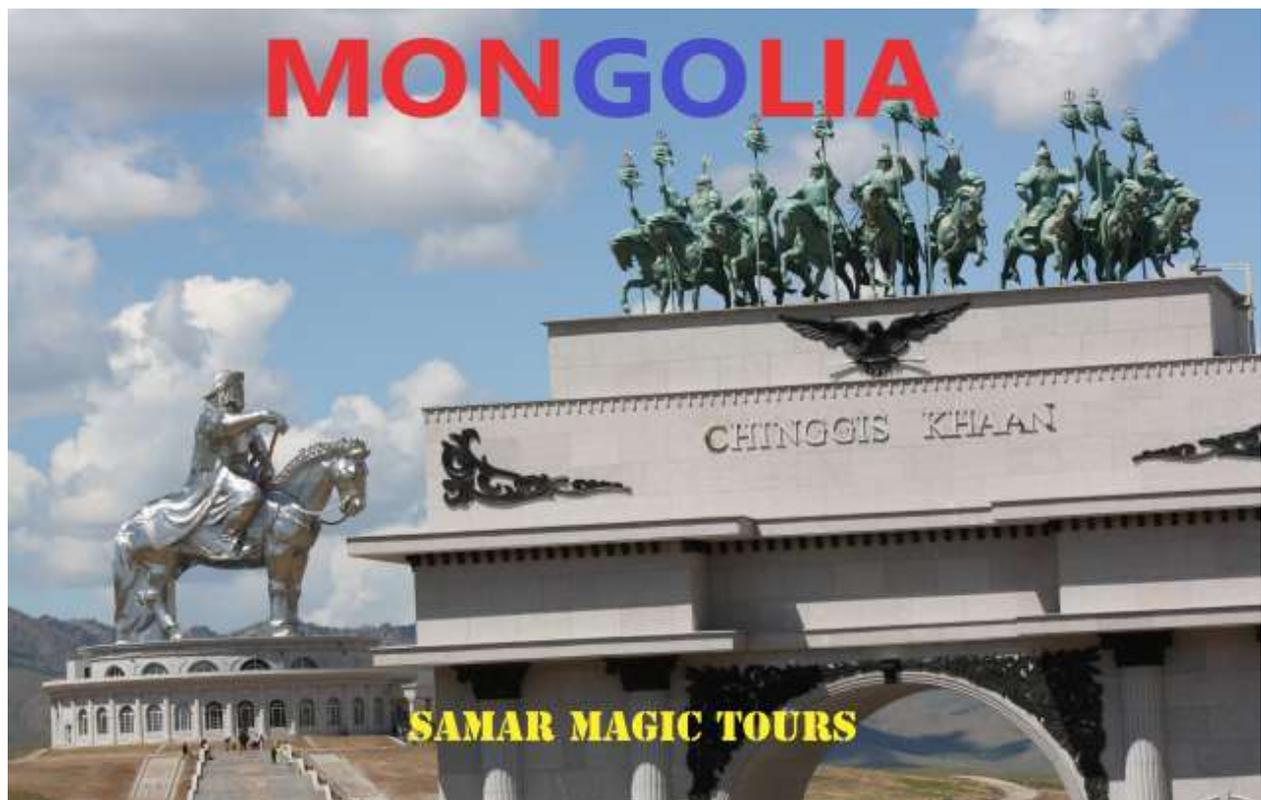
Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team. Depart for the **Amarbayasgalant Monastery**, also called the “**Monastery of Tranquil Felicity**,” one of **Mongolia’s three largest Buddhist centers**. Located northeast, about 360 km (224 miles, approx. 6 hours) from Ulaanbaatar, the complex lies in the **Iven Valley**, near the **Selengé River**, at the foot of **Mount Büren-Khaan** in the **Baruunburen district**, Selenge Province. The monastery was established and funded by order of the **Manchu Emperor Yongzheng** (and completed under his successor, **Emperor Qianlong**, between 1727 and 1736) to serve as the final resting place of **Zanabazar (1635–1723)**—the **first Jebtsundamba Khutuktu, spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism for the Khalkha Mongols**, and mentor to the emperors’ ancestor, **Emperor Kangxi. Arrival and to be transferred.** Between 1975 and 1990, the site was restored with **UNESCO funding** and is now considered the second most important monastery in the country after Erdene Zuu in Karakorum. It is surrounded by double walls, with the main gate facing south, enclosing nearly a dozen temples and **Zanabazar’s tomb. Enjoy light hiking and walking around the area to appreciate the scenic valley landscape.** Overnight in a Tourist Gers Camp.



DAY 8: AMARBAYASGALANT MONASTERY / ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team. In the morning, you may attend a **Buddhist ceremony** (*please ask the monks the day before for the specific schedule). Explore the monastery and its surroundings. Currently, about **50** monks reside here, though in 1936, it housed nearly 2,000. **Return to Ulaanbaatar** (360 km / 224 miles, approx. 6 hours driving). **Lunch included in route**. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the selected hotel. **Dinner not included, at your own expense**.



DAY 9: 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 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, the region where **Genghis Khan** was born. **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 10: GORKHI-TERELJ NATIONAL PARK / ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. **Morning at leisure to enjoy hiking and walks through the national park.** **12:00 PM** – Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the resort reception. **Return to Ulaanbaatar** (70 km / 44 miles, approx. 2 hours driving, depending on traffic). **Lunch included at a local restaurant.** Transfer to the hotel (rooms available from **2:00 PM**). Overnight at the selected hotel. **Dinner not included, at your own expense.**



DAY 11: GRAND CITY TOUR IN ULAANBAATAR / LAST SHOPPING

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – Meet 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. Now a museum, it is the only surviving palace among the four original residences of the **8th Jebtsundamba Khutuktu**, later proclaimed **Bogd Khan of Mongolia**. The complex includes six temples, displaying the Khan's **personal belongings, throne and bed, art collection, taxidermy animals, a ceremonial Ger**, and a pair of **ceremonial boots** gifted by **Tsar Nicholas II of Russia**. Continue to a **pure Mongolian cashmere factory store for last shopping**. Then visit the **Zaisan Memorial**, located south of Ulaanbaatar, and the **Golden Buddha Statue** at its base, standing **75 feet (23 meters)** tall. **1:00 PM – Lunch included at a local restaurant. Final souvenir shopping at the State Department Main Store**. Transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner not included, at your own expense.**



DAY 12: DEPARTURE FROM MONGOLIA

Breakfast

Breakfast. Hotel check-out at **12:00 PM**. Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Transfer to the New "Genghis" Khan International Airport (52 km / 32.3 miles, approx. **4-5** hours' drive, depending on traffic). **Departure from Mongolia. END OF THE GRAND JOURNEY.**

WHAT IS INCLUDED:

- **7** nights of accommodation in the selected and confirmed hotel in Ulaanbaatar, based on a double room with breakfast.
- **3** nights of accommodation in a **Standard Tourist Gers Camp**, based on a minimum group of **2** adults (*or more upon request*), with **shared bathrooms** (1 building for men and 1 for women). If you wish to stay in a **DELUXE Ger (with a private bathroom inside)** in **Karakorum (Central Mongolia, 2 nights)**, 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.**
- **1** night of accommodation in a **Deluxe** Resort at Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, based on a minimum of **2** adults (*or more upon request*).
- Welcome lunch at a traditional local restaurant.
- Meals as specified (**11B, 10L, 3D**) with **1** bottle of mineral water daily.
- 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 complaints will be accepted for these reasons, and no refund will be provided.
- English or Spanish-speaking local guide.
- All entrance fees to the Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue, Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, Karakorum, monuments, museums, monasteries, and temples mentioned in the itinerary.
- Attendance at a Mongolian folklore concert, featuring the fascinating sounds of throat singing (*khoomi*) and traditional dance.
- Attendance at an Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show.
- Camelback excursion across the sand dunes of the Bayangobi Desert.
- Easy hiking through stunning natural landscapes.



- All service charges include 10% VAT, 2% Ulaanbaatar city tax, and 5% hotel service charge in Ulaanbaatar.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:

- International or domestic flights and trains.
- Flight delays or cancellations.
- **Early check-in at hotels.**
- **Late check-out at hotels.**
- Excess baggage in vehicles (**limit: 15** kg per person; excess luggage **must be left free of charge** at the hotel in Ulaanbaatar).
- Visa fees.
- Rescue or early departure costs.
- Change of departure date from Ulaanbaatar.
- The traveller is responsible for having valid travel documents, such as a passport and passport-size photos.
- Travel insurance.
- Personal expenses, such as hotel porter tips, phone/fax charges, laundry, beverages, optional meals or activities, and services not specified in the itinerary.
- **Mongolia is not recommended** for people with respiratory or heart problems, those in wheelchairs, or children under **3** years old (**must be informed in advance and an additional supplement paid**).
- Any unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, such as quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, or road closures.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Visit the Gandantegchinlin Monastery, known as "The Great Place of Complete Joy," a historic Buddhist monastery in Ulaanbaatar.
- Visit the Choijin Lama Monastery Museum, a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture offering insight into Mongolian Buddhist art, rituals, and teachings.
- Enjoy the mesmerizing throat singing (*khoomi*) during a traditional Mongolian dance performance.



- Explore and climb the Bayangobi Desert dunes, experiencing the vast beauty of Mongolia's steppe.
- Take a camelback ride across the sand dunes of Bayangobi.
- Visit the Erdene Zuu Monastery, Turtle Monument, and Karakorum Museum to see relics of the ancient Mongol Empire's capital.
- Attend an Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show, showcasing the nomadic lifestyle and livestock traditions using ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses.
- Visit Amarbayasgalant Monastery, or the "Monastery of Tranquil Felicity," one of Mongolia's three major Buddhist centers.
- Visit the Grand Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan, Mongolia's most iconic modern landmark.
- Hike to the Arryabal Meditation Temple in Gorkhi/Terelj National Park, with its 108 symbolic steps, Buddhist art gallery, and scenic mountaintop views.
- Enjoy nature walks through Gorkhi/Terelj National Park's Mesozoic granite mountains, alpine forests, and iconic formations such as Turtle Rock.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- Mongolian visa not included.
- International flights not included.
- Hotel check-in in Ulaanbaatar is at **2:00 PM** — early check-in not included.
- Hotel check-out is at **12:00 PM (noon)** — late check-out not included.
- A surcharge applies during the **Naadam Festival (July 1–20), Mongolia's peak travel season**, when all services and accommodations are in high demand.
- **Dinners are not included** in **Ulaanbaatar & Gorkhi-Terelj National Park. It's on you.**
- **Samar Magic Tours reserves the right** to organize lunches at available stops and to change vehicles depending on group size — no complaints or refunds accepted.
- **Vegetarians must pay a supplement due to the high cost of vegetables** in Mongolia, where the diet is primarily meat-based. Notice must be given in advance.
- When visiting **nomadic families**, guests should enter the ger **from the left side using the right foot first**. It is customary to bring **small gifts for children** (sweets, cookies, chocolates, crayons, caps), but **never money**, as it is considered offensive.



- **Mongolia is not suitable** for travellers with heart or respiratory illnesses, wheelchair users, or those with limited mobility (**supplement required if assistance needed**). Children under **3** years old (**must be informed in advance and an additional supplement paid**).
- **All photos** are property of **Samar Magic Tours**. They may be used for promotional purposes only when collaborating with **Samar Magic Tours**. **Using these images to promote other Mongolian tour operators is strictly prohibited.**



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 Ger camps feature on-site restaurants.

NOTES:

- 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.**
- 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.
- 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:

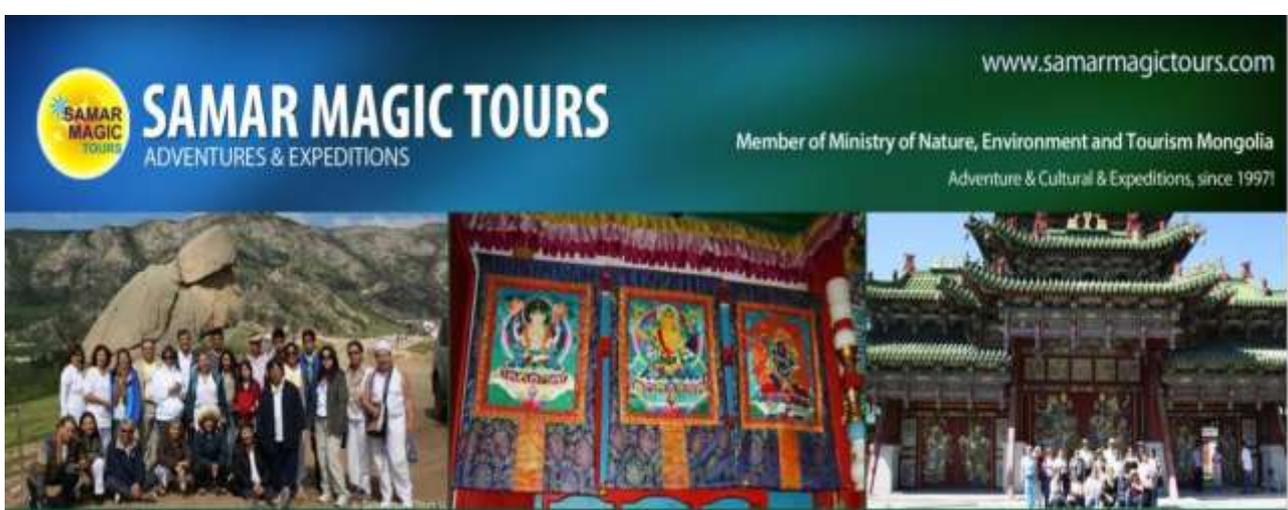
180-91 days before arrival: the reservation guarantee is non-refundable.

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 cancelled on the same day of issuance.

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



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

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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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