



**SAMAR MAGIC TOURS**  
ADVENTURES & EXPEDITIONS

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Member of Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism Mongolia

Adventure & Cultural & Expeditions, since 1997!



### **MONGOLIA SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS**

**MINIMUM DURATION:** 7 days / 6 nights

**TOUR CODE:** **SMT-MGLESP-7D**

**MINIMUM GROUP SIZE:** **2-16** adults or more participants.

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

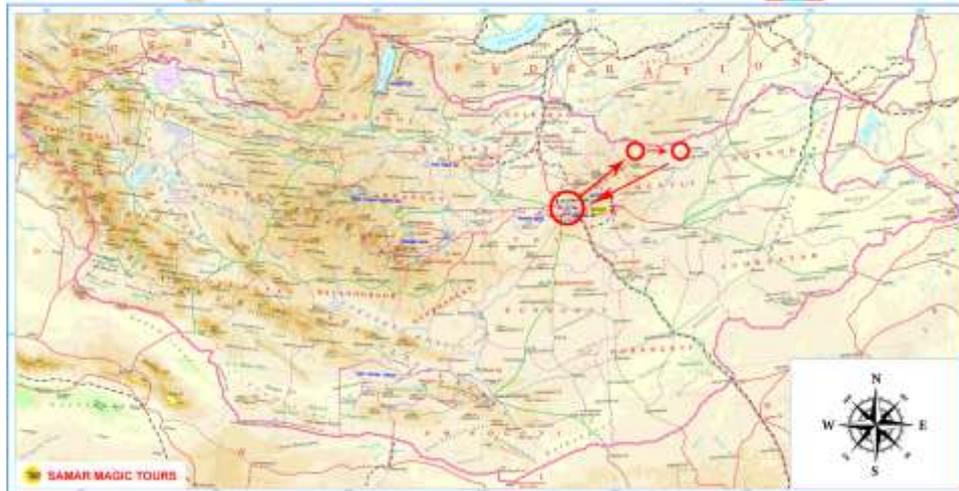
**VALID PRIVATE DEPARTURES:** **JUNE, JULY** (\*except from **July 1-20 - Peak Season!** Please check the special programs and **NAADAM FESTIVAL GROUP RATES**), **AUGUST, UNTIL SEPTEMBER.**

**CHECK GROUP RATES AND HOTELS: CONTACT US**

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## MAP OF MONGOLIA



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

The **spiritual & meditation journeys to Mongolia** offered by **Samar Magic Tours** focus on the experience of **Tibetan Buddhism**, blending the exploration of desert and mountain landscapes with visits to **Mongolia's most important monastery**, the **Gandan Monastery** in Ulaanbaatar. These journeys provide a profound opportunity to connect with **nomadic culture**, meditate in **sacred sites**, and learn about the **prophecies of the Kalachakra Tantra**, which invoke the ideal of **Shambhala** as a hidden Buddhist realm.

- In the first part of this great journey, we will visit the grand "**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 **center of Buddhism in Mongolia**. Its main attraction is an imposing statue approximately **25** meters high. Inside, you 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 **Luvsanchultimjimed 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 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 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 **TashchoimpheI 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 **GungaachoiIing 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.

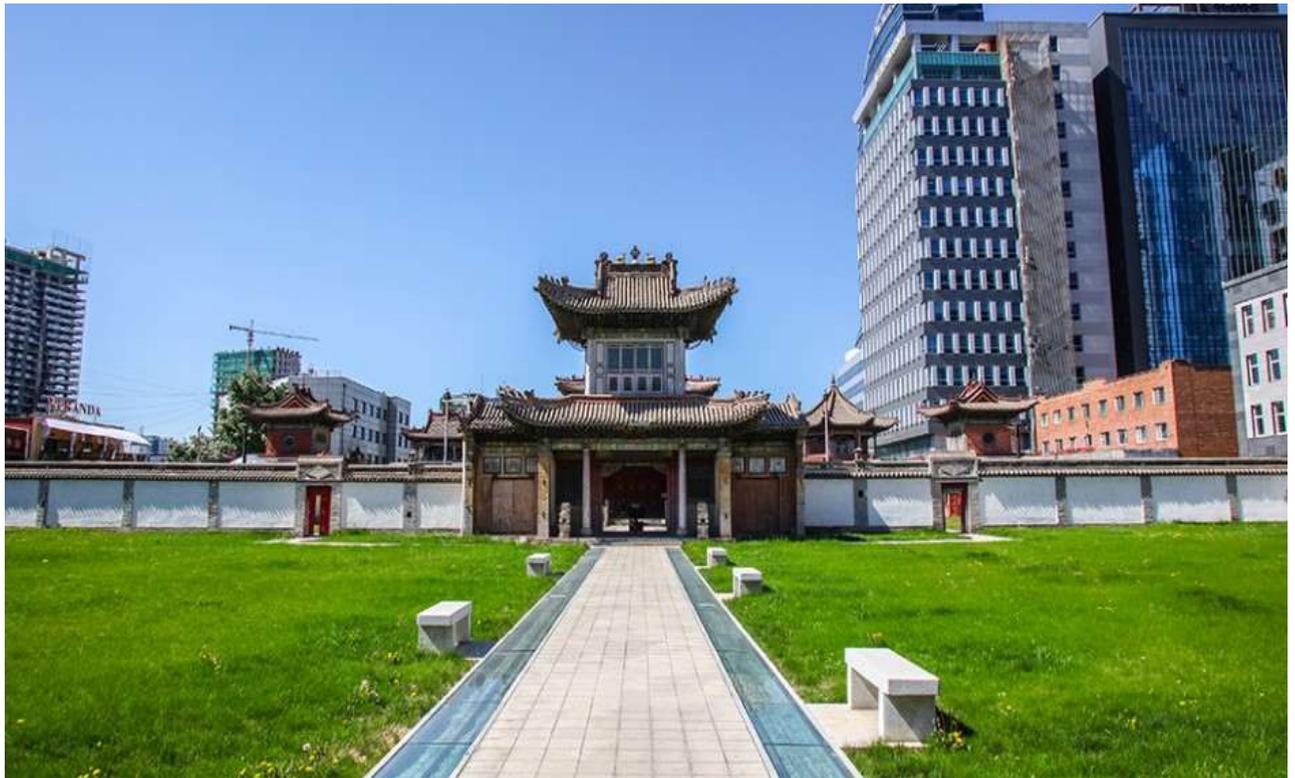


The **Badam Yoga Teaching Center**, built in 1745 by the **Second Bogd Jebzundamba**, was devoted to chanting and prayer recitation. It ceased activity in 1938 and reopened in 2002 at the **Geser Temple**, on the eastern side of Gandan. Its main goal is to practice traditional Mongolian medicine and 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**:

- **Dashchoimphe 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

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**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**.

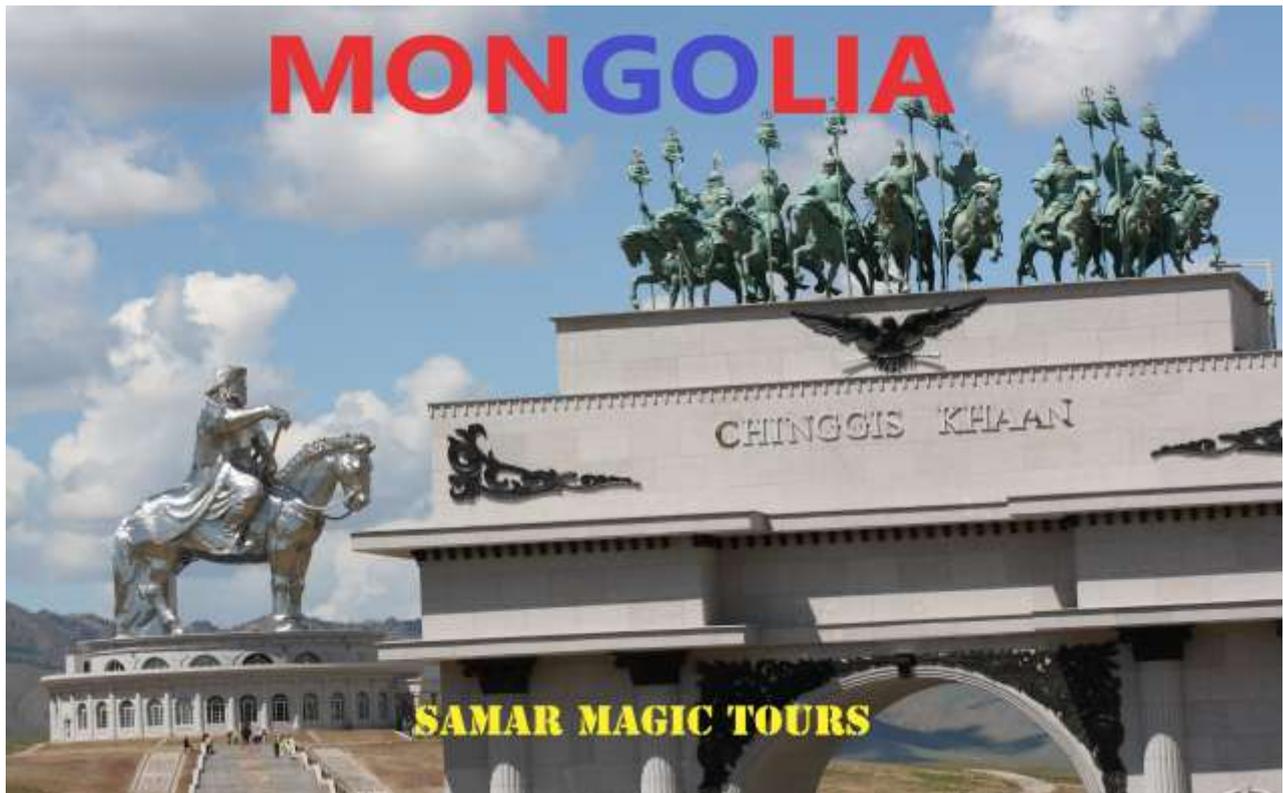
The **Choijin Lama Monastery-Museum** preserves an extraordinarily rich Buddhist heritage. At the height of Mongolia's monastic era, nearly **700 monasteries** existed throughout the country, but among them, **the Choijin Lama Temple** stands out for its distinctive features and history. It represents 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**.



Departure **westward** to attend an **Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show**, which demonstrates the **traditional way of life of Mongolia's nomads**, showcasing the breeding and use of **five types of livestock** as they move from one place to another, utilizing **ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses**.

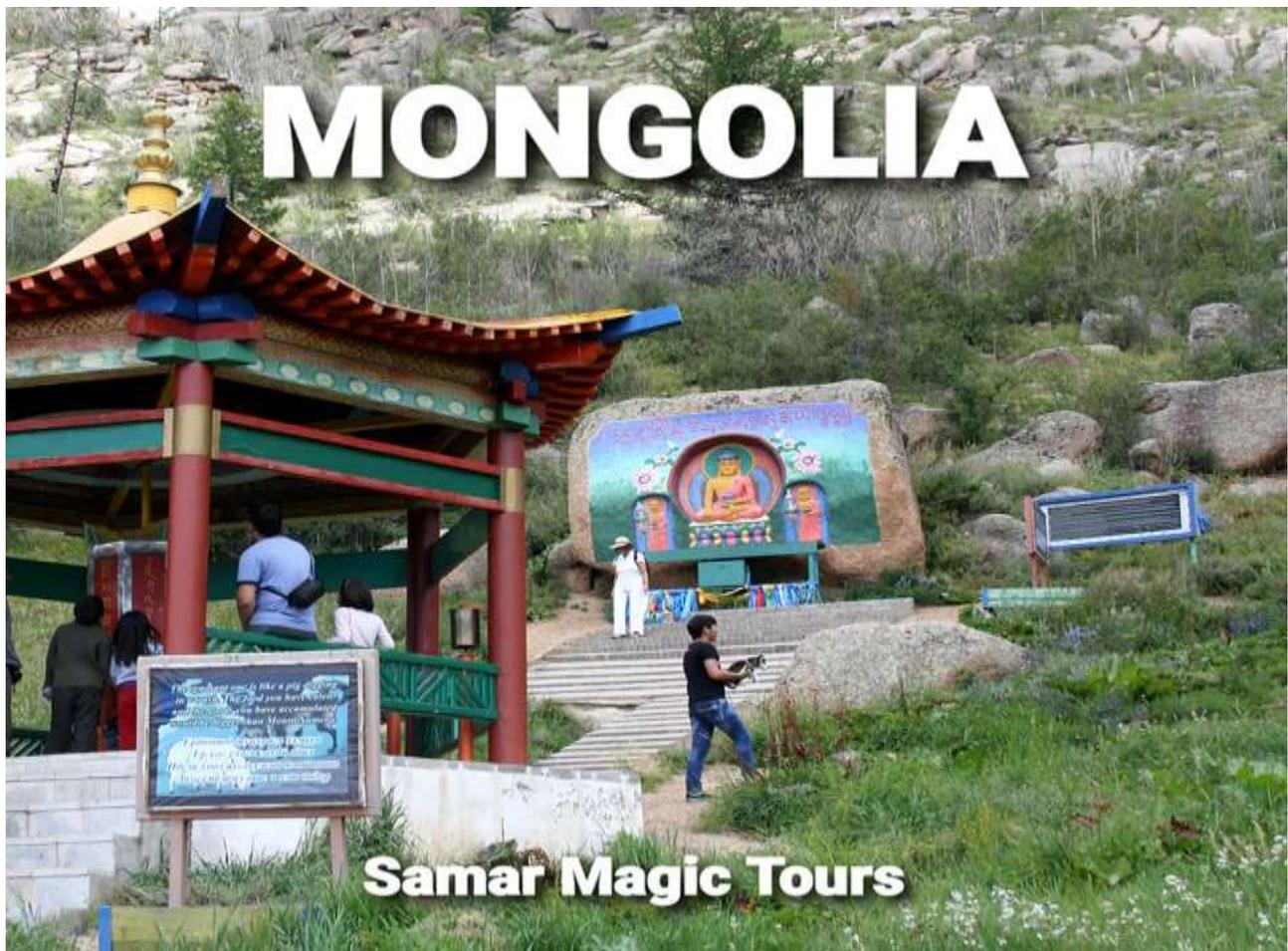


In the final part of this great journey, departure toward the **northeast** to visit the **Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan**. The statue symbolically faces east, toward his birthplace in **Khentii Province**. At the base of the monumental complex stands a **10-meter-high visitor center** supported by **36 columns**, representing the **36 Khans** from Genghis to Ligdan Khan. It was **inaugurated in 2008**. Visitors can ascend to the **horse's head** through the chest and neck of the statue to enjoy a **panoramic view**.

The main statue area will eventually be surrounded by **200 designed Gers** (still under construction), arranged according to the **horse track pattern** used by Mongolian tribes during the **13th century**. The **museum** within the complex features exhibitions related to the **Bronze Age** and **Xiongnu archaeological cultures** of Mongolia, highlighting daily utensils, belt buckles, knives, sacred animals, etc. A second exhibition focuses on the **Great Khan Period (13th–14th centuries)** and displays ancient tools, goldsmithing, and several **Nestorian crosses and rosaries**.



Adjacent to the museum lies a **tourist recreation center** covering **212 hectares**. At the statue's base, visitors can see a **replica of the legendary Golden Whip** of the Great Khan. Near the statue, visitors may take **beautiful photos with Kazakh eagle hunters and their Golden Eagles, enjoy camel or Mongolian horseback rides across the steppes, or practice archery (optional, extra payment on-site).**



Then, the journey continues toward the **Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**, located northeast at an altitude of **1,600** meters above sea level. The Park features **towering Mesozoic granite formations**, mountains, steppes, alpine forests, and fascinating rock formations of curious shapes such as **Turtle Rock**. Declared a **National Park in 1990**, it covers an area of **300,000 hectares**.

Stops will be made for **photos, souvenir shopping, and easy walks** to the **Great Turtle Rock, the symbol of Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**. A gentle hike leads to the **Arryabal Meditation Temple, a Buddhist meditation center** located on a mountain slope, notable



for its **108 steps** leading to the temple, a **gallery with Buddhist paintings**, and a **thangka depicting the myth of Shambhala**, situated atop a hill.

- **The Stairs:** There are **108 steps**, symbolizing the auspicious number in Buddhism and representing the **elephant's trunk**.
- **Gallery of Buddhist Philosophy:** On the lower floor, **220 paintings by Bayantsagaan** represent various Buddhist beliefs.
- **Main Temple:** Dedicated to the **Kalachakra philosophy** ("the Wheel of Time"), it contains a **thangka** of the **myth of Shambhala** and a **Kalachakra mandala**.
- **Buddha Sculpture:** A modern **Buddha sculpture** is carved into the rock of a nearby hillside.



## **MONGOLIA SPIRITUAL AND MEDITATION GROUP TOUR WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS**

**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

**Day 1:** Arrival in Ulaanbaatar (UBN). Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the reception of the new “Genghis” Khan Airport. Transfer to the hotel (52 km/32.3 miles, approx. **+2-3** hours depending on traffic). If the clients arrive in Ulaanbaatar with **OM138 (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 on the day of arrival. No activities or meals included today. Rest at the hotel to adapt to local time.** Selected Hotel.

**Day 2: 09:00 AM** – Meet with the **Samar Magic Tours** team in the hotel lobby. Grand City Tour of Ulaanbaatar, followed by a Welcome Lunch. **06:00 PM** – Mongolian National Concert. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

**Day 3:** Ulaanbaatar/Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show /Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

**Day 4:** Ulaanbaatar – Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan – Arryabal Meditation Temple in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park – **Deluxe** Resort. **(B)(L)(D)**

**Day 5:** Gorkhi-Terelj National Park – Ulaanbaatar. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

**Day 6:** Grand City Tour in Ulaanbaatar – Golden Buddha Statue – Last Shopping. Selected Hotel. **(B)(L)**

**Day 7:** Hotel check-out by **12:00 PM**. Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team in the hotel lobby for transfer to the new “Genghis” Khan Airport (52 km/32.3 miles, approx. 4 hours depending on traffic in Ulaanbaatar). **Departure from Mongolia. END OF THE JOURNEY.** **(B)**



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## DETAILED ITINERARY:

### DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN ULAANBAATAR / FREE DAY TO ADJUST TO LOCAL TIME

Arrival at Ulaanbaatar's "Genghis" Khan New Airport, capital of Mongolia. Reception by the **Samar Magic Tours** team. Currency exchange at airport banks. Transfer to the hotel (52 km / 32.3 miles, approximately **2-3** hours, depending on traffic). Hotel rooms will be available starting from **2:00 PM** on the day of arrival. **Early check-in must be paid in advance if tourists wish to access their rooms early; otherwise, luggage can be left at the hotel reception until 2:00 PM. Today there are no planned activities and no meals included.** Rest at the hotel to adjust to the local time zone. Accommodation at the selected hotel.

### DAY 2: ULAN BATOR GRAND CITY TOUR / WELCOME LUNCH / MONGOLIAN NATIONAL CONCERT

#### Breakfast and Lunch

**09:00 AM** – Meeting with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Panoramic city tour of Ulaanbaatar: visit the **most important and highest Buddhist monastery in Mongolia, "Gandan"**, which houses a 25-meter-high Buddha. **The Gandan Monastery** was founded in 1809 under the name "Yellow Temple." It holds a library with Buddhist scriptures of the **Gandjuur** (8 volumes), their commentaries (225 volumes), and other texts written using the **Nine Precious Stones**. It was declared a **State Heritage Site** in 1994. Next, visit the **Choijin Lama Monastery-Museum**, a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture that offers insight into Mongolian Buddhist teachings and practices. You'll see its sculptures, paintings, and rituals, connecting with the spirituality still alive in the country. The complex consists of six temples originally occupied by **Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav**, brother of the **8th Bogd Jetsun Dampa Khan**, who was the **State Oracle and Khutugtu of "Precious Wisdom and Clear Devotion"** at that time. Visit **Sukhbaatar Central Main Square** and the **"Genghis Khan" Monument Complex**, built in 2006 to commemorate the **800th Anniversary of the Founding of the Mongolian State (1206–2006)**, located in front of the Mongolian Parliament and Government House. **Welcome lunch included at a traditional local restaurant. 06:00 PM** – Enjoy a **folkloric performance** featuring Mongolian throat singing and dance. Transfer to the hotel. Accommodation at the selected hotel. **Dinner not included (at your own expense).**



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# MONGOLIA



## DAY 3: ULAANBAATAR / AUTHENTIC MONGOL NOMAD SHOW / ULAANBAATAR

### Breakfast and Lunch

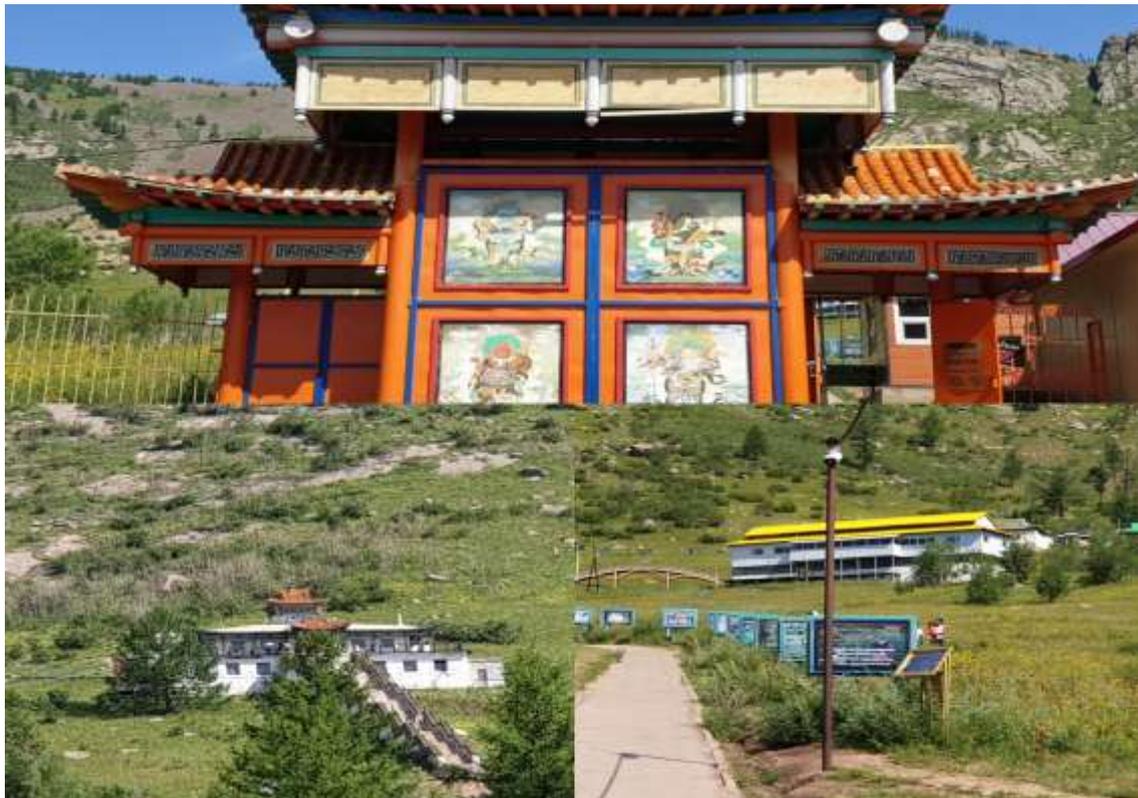
Breakfast. **07:00 AM** – Meeting with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Departure westward to attend an **Authentic Mongol Nomad Show** (35 km / 22 miles, about **2** hours of travel depending on traffic), from **10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**. The **Authentic Mongol Nomad Show** demonstrates the traditional lifestyle of Mongolia's nomads, including the breeding and use of the **five types of livestock**, moving from place to place using **ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses**. You will also see **how a traditional Mongolian Ger (traditional Mongol nomadic tent)** is made — one of **Mongolia's most recognizable symbols** — crafted by hand and furnished with antique furniture, cookware, and garments reflecting the lifestyle of the central Khalkh nomads. **Traditional Mongolian lunch included on-site**. Return to **Ulaanbaatar** (35 km / 22 miles, about **2** hours of travel depending on traffic). Transfer to the hotel. Accommodation at the selected hotel. **Dinner not included (at your own expense)**.



**DAY 4: ULAANBAATAR / GENGHIS KHAN EQUESTRIAN STATUE / GORKHI-TERELJ NATIONAL PARK / UVGUN MEDITATION TEMPLE**

**Full board**

Breakfast. **09:00 AM** – **Meeting** with the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Departure northeast toward the **Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue** (55 km / 34.2 miles, about **2** hours depending on traffic). Part of the **Genghis Khan Sculpture Complex**, this impressive **40-meter-tall statue of Genghis Khan on horseback** stands on the bank of the Tuul River. The statue symbolically faces east, toward his birthplace. At the base of the complex lies a **10-meter-high visitor center** supported by **36 columns**, representing the **36 khans from Genghis Khan to Ligdan Khan**. Designed by sculptor D. Erdenebileg and architect J. Enkhjargal, the monument **was inaugurated in 2008**. Visitors can ascend to the **horse's head** via an internal staircase through its chest and neck, enjoying a **panoramic view** from above.



We will also visit the **museum integrated into the complex**, which displays exhibits related to **the Bronze Age and the Xiongnu archaeological cultures of Mongolia**, featuring everyday utensils, belt buckles, knives, sacred animal figures, etc. A second exhibition focuses on the **Great Khan period (13th–14th centuries)**, showcasing ancient tools, metalwork, and Nestorian crosses and rosaries.



At this location, visitors can **rent horses or camels with local guides** and **take photos with Golden Eagles and Kazakh handlers (extra cost paid directly to locals on-site). Traditional Mongolian lunch included in route.** Then, continue toward the **Gorkhi-Terelj National Park** (50 km / 31.1 miles, about 1 hour). Situated in the northeast at an altitude of **1,600 meters above sea level**, the park features **Mesozoic granite rock formations**, mountains, steppes, alpine forests, and large rock formations with unique shapes such as the **Turtle Rock**, among others. Located at the foot of the Khentii Mountains, the region is believed to be the birthplace of Genghis Khan. Declared a **National Park** in 1993, Gorkhi-Terelj covers an area of **300,000 hectares**. We'll stop for photos, souvenir shopping, and a leisurely walk to **Turtle Rock**, the park's iconic symbol. Continue with a **gentle hike to the Arryabal Meditation Temple**, a Buddhist meditation center located on a mountain slope, notable for its **108 steps leading to the temple**, a **gallery of Buddhist paintings**, and a **thangka depicting the myth of Shambhala**. Transfer to a **Deluxe** Resort located within Gorkhi-Terelj National Park. **Dinner not included (at your own expense).**

## **DAY 5: 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 6: 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 7: 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?

- **5** nights of accommodation in the selected and confirmed hotel, based on a double room with breakfast, in Ulaanbaatar.
- **1** night of accommodation in a **Deluxe** Resort in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, based on a minimum group of **2** adults (\*or more people upon request).
- Welcome lunch at a traditional local restaurant.
- Meals as specified (**6B, 5L, 1D**) with 1 bottle of mineral water per day.
- All private transfers in a comfortable Japanese vehicle or similar, with all fuel included, for the entire route. **Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to change the vehicle depending on the number of participants; under no circumstances will we accept claims for these reasons, and no refunds will be issued.
- English or Spanish-speaking local guide.
- All entrance fees to the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan, Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, monuments, museums, and all monasteries and temples indicated.
- Admission to a folk show featuring the fascinating sounds of the Khoomi throat singing and Mongolian dance.
- Admission to an Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show.
- Excursion on Bactrian camels over the sand dunes.
- Light hiking through beautiful landscapes.
- Service fees include 10% VAT, 2% Ulaanbaatar city tax, and 5% hotel service charge in the city of Ulaanbaatar.

### WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- Flights or trains.
- Occasional flight delays or cancellations.
- **Early check-in at hotel rooms.**
- **Late check-out from hotel rooms.**
- Excess luggage in our vehicles (weight limit: **15** kg per person. Extra luggage **must be left for free** at the hotel in Ulaanbaatar).
- Visa.
- Any rescue or early departure costs.
- Change of departure date from Ulaanbaatar.
- Travelers are responsible for having the proper travel documents, such as a valid passport and necessary passport photos.
- Travel insurance.

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- Personal expenses such as hotel porter tips, telephone/telex/fax charges, laundry, drinks, meals, optional activities, and services not specified in the itinerary.
- **Mongolia is not recommended** for travellers with respiratory or heart problems, those using wheelchairs, disabled persons, or children under **3** years old (**\*it is necessary to inform in advance and pay a supplement for disability, wheelchair, etc.\***).
- Any circumstance beyond our control, such as quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, road conditions, etc.

### HIGHLIGHTED EXPERIENCES:

- We will visit the great monastery of "Gandantegchinlin", or "Gandan" Monastery, a historic Buddhist monastery in Ulaanbaatar, known as the "Great Place of Complete Joy."
- We will visit the "Choijin Lama" Monastery-Museum. This monastery, a masterpiece of Buddhist architecture, offers insight into Mongolian Buddhist teachings and practices. Visitors can observe its sculptures, paintings, and rituals, connecting with the spirituality that is still alive in the country. The complex consists of six temples originally occupied by the brother of the Eighth Bogd Jetsun Dampa Khan, Choijin Lama Luvsankhaidav.
- Listen to the fascinating sounds of Khoomi throat singing during a traditional dance performance.
- We will attend an Authentic Mongolian Nomadic Show, which demonstrates the traditional lifestyle of Mongolia's nomads, the breeding and use of five types of livestock in motion from one place to another, using ox carts, yaks, camels, and horses.
- We will visit the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan.
- We will visit the "Arryabal Meditation Temple", located in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park. It is a Buddhist meditation center situated on a mountain slope, notable for its 108 steps leading to the temple and a gallery of Buddhist paintings.
- Excursion and hiking in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, located in the N/E at 1600 m above sea level, featuring high granite rocks from the Mesozoic era, mountains, steppes, alpine forests, and large rock formations of curious shapes from the Mesozoic period such as the Turtle Rock, among others.



## IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- Mongolia visa not included.
- International flights and trains not included.
- Hotel check-in time in Ulaanbaatar is at **02:00PM**. Early check-in is not included.
- Hotel check-out time in Ulaanbaatar is at **12:00 noon**. Late check-out is not included.
- There is a surcharge during the **Naadam Festival**, applicable for travel between **July 1 and July 20 – Peak Season in Mongolia**, when all services and accommodations are fully booked.
- **In the capital city of Ulaanbaatar & in Gorkhi-Terelj National Park: Dinners are not confirmed. Dinners are on your own.**
- **Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to arrange lunches on the route where possible. In no case will complaints be accepted on these grounds, nor will refunds be issued.
- **Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to change the vehicle depending on the number of participants. In no case will complaints be accepted on these grounds, nor will refunds be issued.
- **Vegetarians must pay a supplement, since vegetables are very expensive in Mongolia**, and the Mongolian diet is based on meat rather than vegetables. You must notify us in advance and pay the supplement, which depends on the number of days in Mongolia.
- Please note: **MONGOLIA** is not recommended for people with respiratory or heart problems, wheelchair users, disabled travellers, or children under **3** years of age.
- **When visiting nomadic families:** you must enter the Ger on the left side and step in with your right foot. Once you cross the threshold, your hosts will invite you inside and indicate where you should sit. It is customary to bring a small gift for the nomadic children, but never money, as it is offensive. Acceptable gifts include sweets, cookies, chocolates, candies, colored pencils, caps... small treats of this kind.
- All photos are the property of **Samar Magic Tours**. They may be used for promotional purposes when working with **Samar Magic Tours**. **Our photos are strictly prohibited from being used to promote work with other Mongolian tour operators.**



**PROPOSED HOTELS IN ULAANBAATAR**

HOTELS	ROOM	LOCATION
<p><b>BLUE SKY &amp; TOWER HOTEL 5*</b></p> 	<p><b>DELUXE TWIN ROOM</b></p> 	<p><b>Blue Sky &amp; Tower Hotel 5★</b>            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.  <b>Check-in: from 14:00</b>  <b>Check-out: by 12:00 noon</b></p>
<p><b>HOLIDAY INN HOTEL 5*</b></p> 	<p><b>STANDART TWIN ROOM</b></p> 	<p><b>Holiday Inn Hotel 5★</b>            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.  <b>Check-in: from 14:00</b>  <b>Check-out: by 12:00 noon</b></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 m<sup>2</sup> ballroom adaptable for events.

**Check-in: from 14:00**  
**Check-out: by 12:00 noon**



### **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.**

**18–00 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. **(It is necessary to inform us before arriving in Mongolia and pay the required supplement for travelers with disabilities, wheelchair users, etc.)**

#### **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:

<b>Spring:</b>	<b>May</b>	[around 14°C daytime, 6° °C nighttime. Occasional rain, generally cool.]
<b>Summer:</b>	<b>June-August</b>	[28–30 °C daytime, 18 °C nighttime. Mostly dry with occasional rain.]
<b>Autumn:</b>	<b>September.</b>	[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

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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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