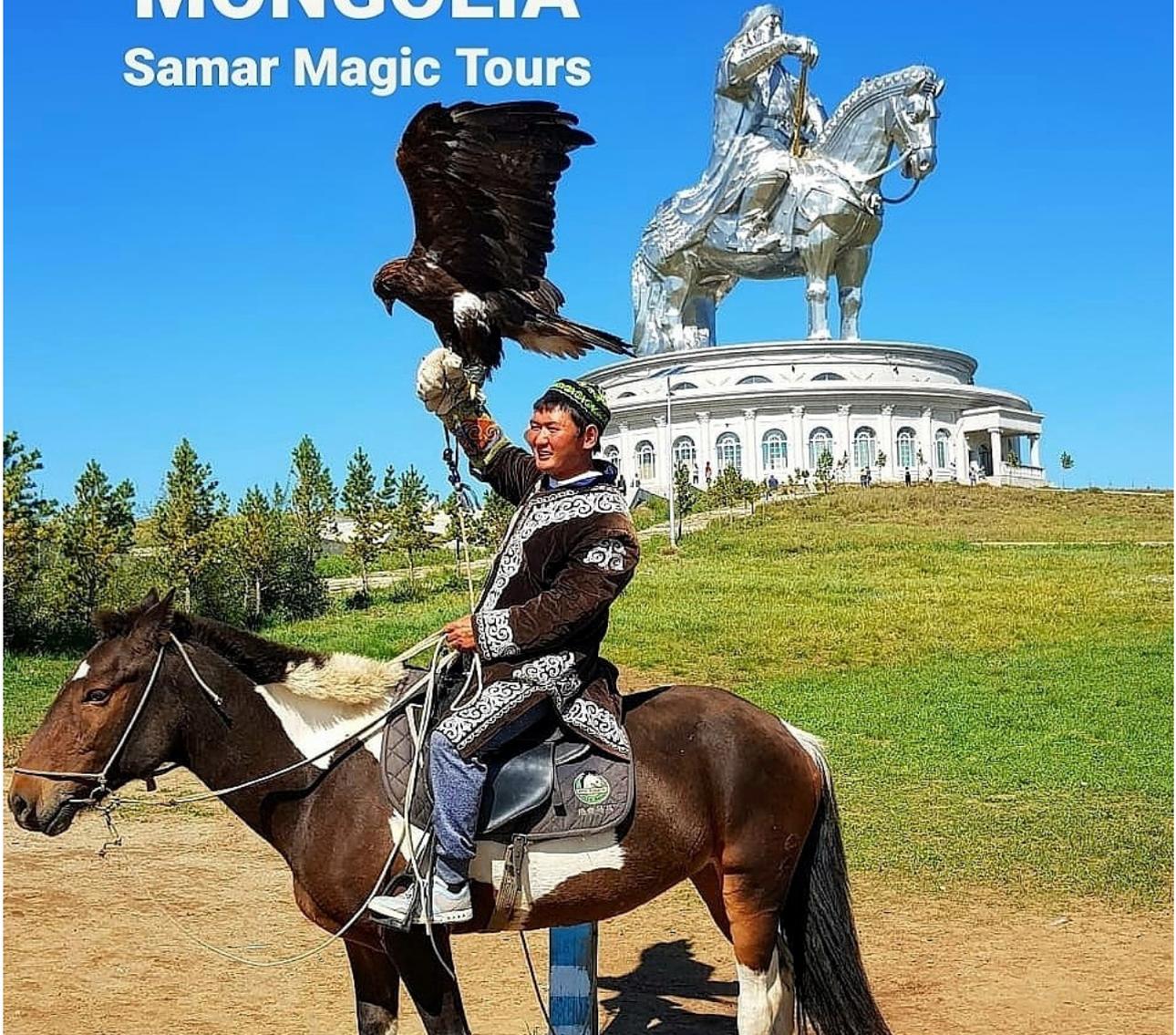




MONGOLIA

Samar Magic Tours



MONGOLIA SPECIAL GROUP TO GOLDEN EAGLE HUNTING FESTIVAL WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

DURATION: 9 days/8 nights

TOUR CODE: **SMT-GEFT-9D**

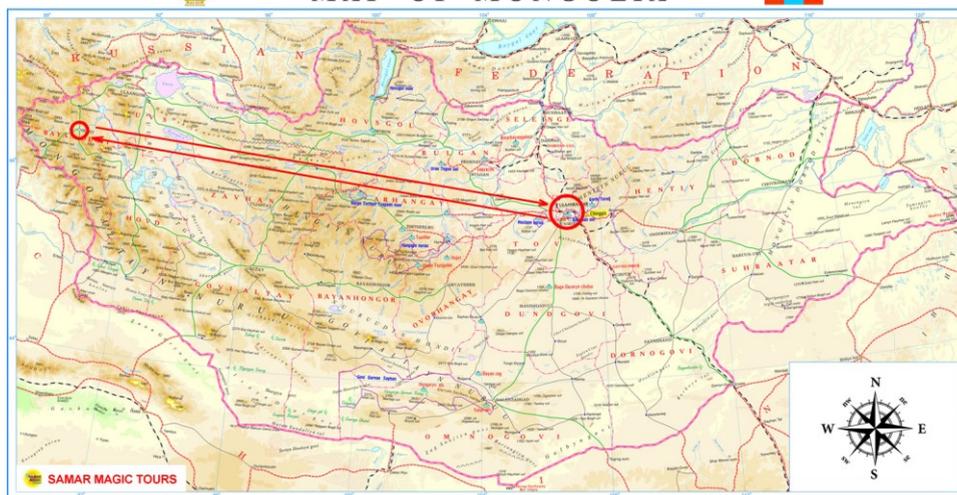
ORIGIN/ENDS IN: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ARE NOT INCLUDED).

MINIMUM GROUP: 6 adults or more participants.

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MAP OF MONGOLIA



MAIN FESTIVAL (IN OCTOBER): This is the largest festival, with up to **80** hunters competing in the "Sayat" field near Bugat. It includes parades, eagle agility tests, and traditional equestrian games such as Kyz Kuar (women's hunting) and Kukbar (goat-skin tug-of-war).

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: FLIGHTS TO WESTERN MONGOLIA ARE **LIMITED**. PAYMENT MUST BE TRANSFERRED AT LEAST **120** BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE TO **GUARANTEE SEATS** ON THESE FLIGHTS.

TENTATIVE FLIGHT SCHEDULE:

ULAANBAATAR (UBN)/ULGII (ULG) FLIGHT: WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS

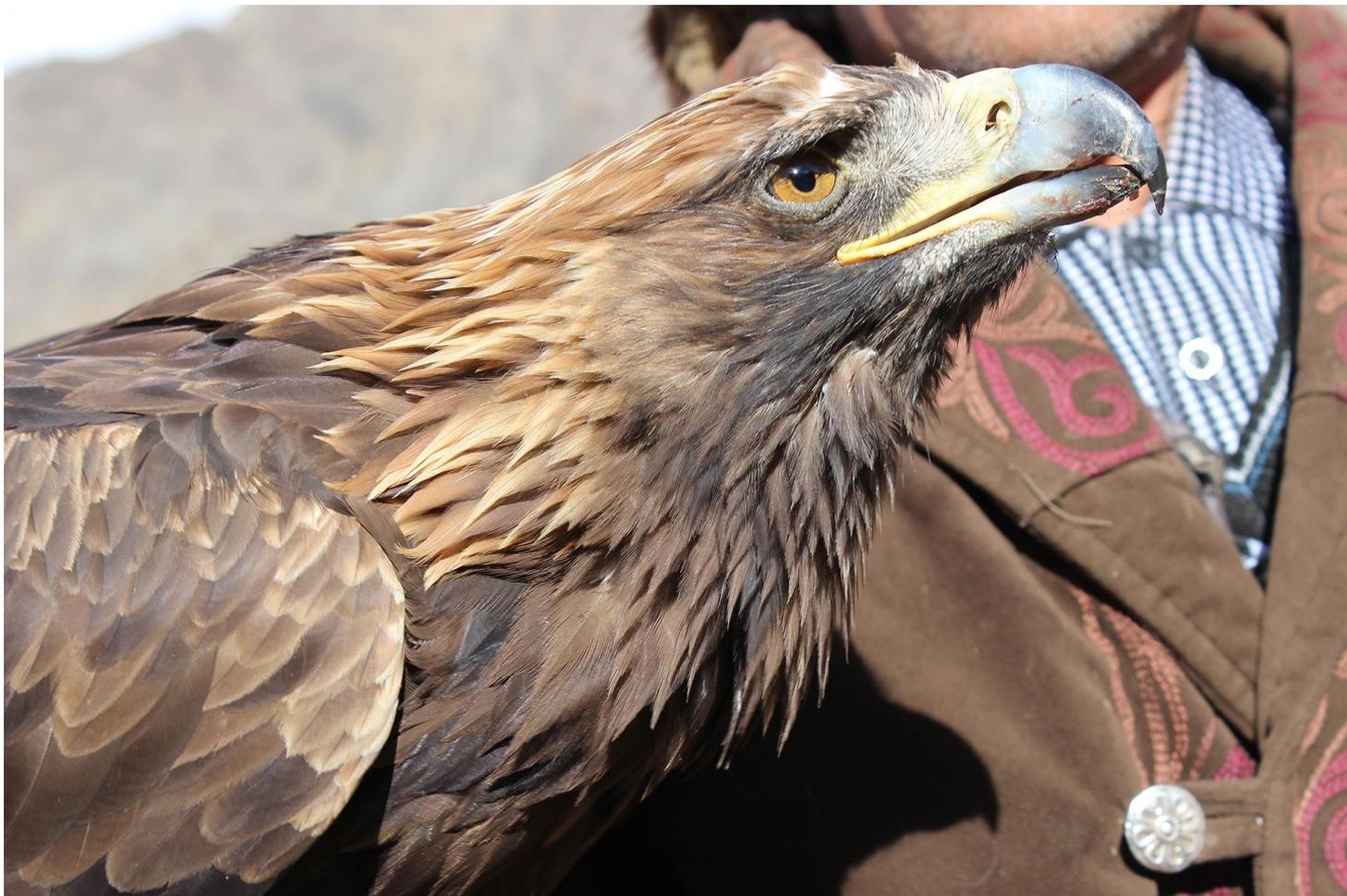
DEPARTURE FROM UBN: 6:45 AM

ARRIVAL IN ULG: 8:05 AM (1 hour, 15 minutes)

ULGII (ULG)/ULAANBAATAR (UBN) FLIGHT:

DEPARTURE FROM ULG: 8:55 AM

ARRIVAL IN UBN: 12:05 PM (3 hours)



TRIP DESCRIPTION: We will begin our journey at the new ``Genghis`` Khan Airport (52 km/31.33 miles, plus 2-3 hours of travel time, depending on traffic) in Ulaanbaatar (ULN), where you will meet the Spanish/English-speaking team from **Samar Magic Tours**. We will then **fly to Ulgii, the capital of Mongolia's westernmost province** (approximately 1.5-3 hours), home to the authentic Kazakhs and other ethnic minority groups. The main event of the festival is eagle hunting, a tradition that has been maintained for almost 2,000 years. During the festival, locals bring over **80** trained eagles to participate in the competitions, along with their traditional costumes, falconry equipment, and adornments. The journey through these areas of Mongolia's far western province is truly special and can be challenging, but if you're prepared and ready for unforgettable adventures, **join us on a trip to the Golden Eagle Festival in the Far West Altai. We'll enjoy the opening ceremony of the eagle hunt**, a horse race, and a demonstration of the eagles' skills.

We'll learn about the local customs of the Kazakh people, their hunting methods using golden eagles to hunt foxes, rabbits, and other animals. This remote area offers spectacular views. A

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golden eagle lives in captivity for approximately 40 years. The hunter grows old alongside his bird of prey, and it is treated as if it were family. This is an extreme trip, and you'll be far removed from civilization. **Come with Samar Magic Tours to Mongolia and discover the Mongolian Golden Eagle Festival.**

CLIMATE IN BAYAN-ULGII PROVINCE (FAR ALTAI OF MONGOLIA): Be prepared for low temperatures. **October** temperatures are cold in the Altai Mountains, and snow is possible. Expect temperatures ranging from **-7°C to +5°C** during the day and from **-10°C to -5°C** at night/evening/morning. Therefore, we suggest you bring warm clothing suitable for sub-0°C temperatures, including wool hats and gloves.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON BAYAN-ULGII PROVINCE:

Bayan-Ulgii is the westernmost of Mongolia's 21 provinces. It is the country's only Muslim-majority province and is Kazakh in number. It was established in August 1940. Its capital is Ulgii.

Elevation: 1,710 m

Area: 45,705 km²

Bayan-Ulgii Province has borders It borders **the Russian Federation and China**, and is located only **40 km from Kazakhstan** (*but does not share a border).

The distance from Ulaanbaatar to the Bayan-Ulgii province is 1709 km / 1062 miles. Bayan-Ulgii, with a population of over 100,000, is 90% ethnically Kazakh.

The Mongolian Altai Mountains are the symbol of Bayan-Ulgii.

Climatic Conditions in Western Mongolia: **Even in summer it is cold**, and weather conditions change very rapidly throughout the day.

Tourist facilities in Bayan-Ulgii province: are not developed, as in the Gobi Desert.

We accept people in good health with good heart conditions; people with lung or respiratory problems are not permitted.

Necessary equipment to bring to Bayan-Ulgii province:

Flashlight + spare batteries.

Lip cream.

Warm clothing, hat, and gloves for high altitudes and cold. Since most of the trip takes place in areas far from population centers, it is advisable to have a basic personal first-aid kit, including sterile gauze, adhesive tape, antibiotics and antiseptics, laxatives, antidiarrheal medication, aspirin, and any other specific medications you are taking.



MONGOLIA SPECIAL GROUP TO GOLDEN EAGLE HUNTING FESTIVAL WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

ITINERARY IN DETAIL:

DAY 1. ARRIVAL IN ULAANBAATOR/WELCOME LUNCH/CITY TOUR

Welcome Lunch Included

Arrival at the new "Genghis" Khan ("Chinggis" Khan) Airport (52 km, + 2-3 hours of travel, depending on traffic) in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. Welcome by the **Samar Magic Tours** team. **Exchange money at the banks in the airport.** Transfer to the hotel (*rooms can be used from **2:00 PM** on the day of arrival (**Early check-in** fee applies). **10:00 AM - Panoramic city tour:** to the Central Square and **the Genghis Khan Monument Complex**, built in 2006 to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Mongolian state or the Mongolian Empire by Genghis Khan (1206-2006). It is located opposite the Mongolian Parliament and Government House. **Welcome lunch at a traditional local restaurant.** Transfer to the hotel. **Enjoy some time at the hotel to adjust to the local time.** Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner not included.**

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DAY 2. GRAND TOUR OF ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch Included

Breakfast. **9:00 AM** - Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. **Panoramic city tour:** We will visit **Gandan Monastery**, Mongolia's tallest and most important Buddhist Monastery, which houses a 25-meter-tall Buddha. **Gandan Monastery** was founded in 1809 as the Yellow Temple. The monastery houses a library containing the Buddhist scriptures of Ganjjuru (8 volumes), its commentaries (225 volumes), and other scriptures inscribed with nine precious stones. It was declared a **national heritage site** in 1994. Visit to the **Zanabazar Museum of Fine Arts**, which contains a large collection of Mongolian art, including works by the 17th-century sculptor and artist **Zanabazar**, as well as the country's most famous painting, "**One Day in Mongolia**," by **B. Sharav**. Next, visit the **Mongolian History Museum**, with its rich collection of historical and cultural artifacts from the Stone Age to the present day. **13:00- Lunch is included at a local restaurant.** Afterward, visit the **new Genghis Khan Museum**, which finally opened on **October 11, 2022**. The museum showcases the history of Mongolian kings from the reign of King Hunnu Modun Shanyu to the abdication of the eighth Jebtsundamba. At **6:00 PM**, enjoy a traditional Mongolian folk song and dance performance. Transfer to your hotel. Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner is not included.**

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DAY 3. FLIGHT TO ULGII/SAGSAI/MEETING WITH KAZAKHS FALCONIST FAMILIES

Full Board

Breakfast. At the appropriate time, transfer to the new "Genghis" Khan ("Chinggis" Khan) Airport (52 km, + 4-5 hours travel time) in Ulaanbaatar. **Flight to Ulgii** (approximately 1.5-3 hours flight time). **Domestic flights subject to final schedule.** Arrival and meeting at Ulgii Airport, capital of the Bayan-Ulgii Province, the most remote province in Mongolia. **Transfer to a Kazakh tourist camp.** Afterwards, departure **for the village of Sagsai**, where we will **visit traditional Kazakh families and observe how eagles are trained. Meeting with Kazakh eagle falconer families** to learn about and experience some training and preparation techniques for the Eagle Festival. Accommodation in a Kazakh tourist camp, based on a Standard Ger.

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DAY 4. GOLDEN EAGLE FESTIVAL OPENING CEREMONY/COMPETITIONS BEGIN

Full Board

After breakfast, meet your transport and depart for the **Golden Eagle Festival**. The **official opening ceremony begins** with a parade of participants on horseback with their eagles. The competition starts when each Kazakh displays their hunting attire and accessories. The most elaborate and beautiful clothing and accessories receive the highest points. In the afternoon, the **Golden Eagles** will be tested for speed and agility. The eagles will be released from a cliff, and their handler will stand below and instruct them to land on their arm, as they do during the hunt. Those with the fastest times and best technique will receive the highest scores. In the evening, **we will attend a Kazakh play honoring the Kazakhs and their eagles**. Overnight at a Kazakh tourist camp, based on standard gers.

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DAY 5. GOLDEN EAGLE FESTIVAL/COMPETITION/AWARDS CEREMONY

Full Board

After breakfast, meet your transport and depart for the **Golden Eagle Festival**. Get ready for some exciting action today!. **Golden Eagles** will be released from a cliff to attack fox pelts dragged by their owner on horseback. The eagles will be judged on their success in catching the "fox," their speed, and their "grasping" technique. As points are tallied for the competitions, Kazakhs will compete in their traditional game called "kukbar," which tests riding skills, strength, and agility. In the late afternoon, **the festival winners will be announced at the Golden Eagle Festival Awards and Closing Ceremony**. In the evening, **enjoy a celebratory dinner**. Overnight at a Kazakh tourist camp, based on a standard ger.



DAY 6. FLIGHT ULGII/ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch Included

Breakfast. At the designated time, **transfer to Ulgii Airport. Return flight to Ulaanbaatar's new "Genghis" Khan ("Chinggis" Khan) Airport** (approximately 1.5-3 hours). **Domestic flights subject to final schedule.** Arrival, meet with **Samar Magic Tours**. Transfer to the hotel (*rooms will be available from **2:00 PM** on the day of arrival). **Lunch included at a local restaurant.** Transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner not included.**

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DAY 7. ULAANBAATAR/GREAT EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF GENGHIS KHAN/GORKHITERELJ NATIONAL PARK/ULAANBAATAR

Breakfast and Lunch Included

Breakfast. **9:00 AM** - Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. Then, depart to visit the **Great Equestrian Statue of ``Genghis`` Khan** (approx. 55 km, 1.5 hours, plus 2 hours depending on traffic). The statue symbolically points east, towards his birthplace (Khenti Province). At the base of the sculptural complex is a visitor center, 10 meters high, with 36 columns representing the 36 khans of **``Genghis`` Khan's Ligdan Khanate**. It was inaugurated in 2008. Visitors can reach the horse's head through its chest and neck for a panoramic view. The area around the main statue will be surrounded by 200 gers (traditional Mongolian dwellings), designed (but not yet built) and constructed following the pattern of horse hoofprints used by Mongolian tribes during the 13th century. **The museum** integrated into the complex displays exhibits related to **the Bronze Age and Xiongnu archaeological cultures of Mongolia**, highlighting the tools they used daily. Belt buckles, knives, sacred animals, etc.; and a second exhibition on the great Khan period of the 13th and 14th centuries, displaying ancient tools, goldwork, and some Nestorian crosses and rosaries. Adjacent to the museum is a tourist recreation center, covering 212 hectares. At the base of the statue, visitors can see a `

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replica of the **Great Khan's legendary golden whip**. Near the **Great Statue of Genghis Khan**, you can take beautiful photos with the Kazakhs and their **Golden Eagles**, ride **Bactrian camels**, or take **Mongolian horseback rides** across the steppes, and try **archery** (***extra charge on site**). **A traditional Mongolian lunch is included in the tour**. **Departure towards Gorkhi-Terelj National Park** (50 km, 1 hour), located in the northeast at an altitude of 1600 meters above sea level. The park features towering Mesozoic granite boulders, mountains, steppes, alpine forests, and striking rock formations with curious shapes, such as **Turtle Rock**. **Declared a National Park in 1993**, it covers an area of 300,000 hectares. **Stop for photos, souvenir shopping, and a hike to Turtle Rock, the symbol of Gorkhi-Terelj National Park**. **Return to Ulaanbaatar** (approximately 70 km, plus 2 hours of travel time, depending on traffic). Transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner not included**.

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DAY 8. GRAND TOUR OF ULAANBAATAR

Full Board

Breakfast. **9:00 AM** - Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team at the hotel reception. **Visit the Bogd Khan Palace Museum**, built between 1893 and 1903. This museum complex is located in Ulaanbaatar. It was the **Green Palace of the eighth Jebtsundamba Khutughtu**, who was later proclaimed **Bogd Khan**, or ruler of Mongolia. Besides being the oldest museum, it also boasts one of the largest collections in Mongolia. The palace is the only remaining part of the Bogd Khan's original four residences. With **the Winter Palace, the Gate of Peace and Happiness, the Cooling Pavilion, and six temples**, each containing Buddhist artwork, scriptures, and thangkas, such as the Naidan Temple and the Makhranz Temple, the palace complex comprises approximately 20 structures. The museum has around 8,600 exhibits. On display are many of **Bogd Khan's possessions**, such as his throne and bed, his art collection and stuffed animals, and his ornate Ceremonial Ger, a pair of ceremonial boots presented to the Khan by Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, and also a jeweled outfit worn by **Bogd Khan's pet elephant**. **Visit and last-minute shopping at a pure Mongolian**

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cashmere shop. Next, we will visit the hill south of the city, **the Zaisan Memorial.** We will see **the 75-foot (23-meter) tall Buddha statue** located at the base of the **Zaisan Memorial.** Beneath the statue is a small room containing sutras and images of Buddha and his disciples. **Farewell dinner included at a local restaurant.** Transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the selected and confirmed hotel.

DAY 9. DEPARTURE FROM MONGOLIA

Breakfast included

Breakfast. Rooms must be vacated by **12:00 PM** on the day of departure. Meet the **Samar Magic Tours** team in the hotel lobby. Transfer to the new "Genghis" Khan ("Chinggis" Khaan) Airport (52 km, **+5** hours of travel time). **Departure from Mongolia. END OF THE GREAT JOURNEY.**



SERVICES INCLUDED IN MONGOLIA:

2 round-trip air tickets Ulaanbaatar/ULGII/Ulaanbaatar (*domestic flights subject to final schedule).

5 nights' accommodation in the selected and confirmed hotel, based on the indicated double room with breakfast in Ulaanbaatar.

3 nights' accommodation in a Kazakh tourist camp, based on Standard Ger, in Far Western Mongolia.

Meals as indicated (**8** breakfasts, **8** lunches, **4** dinners) with 1 bottle of mineral water per person/day.

Welcome lunch at a traditional local restaurant.

Farewell dinner at a traditional local restaurant.

All private transfers in Ulaanbaatar, the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan, and Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tourist bus or tourist minibus (*depending on the confirmed group), with all fuel included.

All private transfers in Far Western Mongolia are in a UAZ minivan with a capacity for **5/6** passengers, with all fuel included.

Local Spanish/English-speaking guide with **2** round-trip air tickets Ulaanbaatar/ULGII/Ulaanbaatar, including taxes (**domestic flights subject to final schedule**).

Local Kazakh guide.

All entrance fees to the Golden Eagle Festival, the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan, Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, monuments, museums, and monasteries.

We will attend a Kazakh theater performance honoring the Kazakhs and their eagles in Far Western Mongolia.

Attend a folklore show featuring the fascinating sounds of Khoomi throat singing and Mongolian dance in Ulaanbaatar.

Near the Great Statue of Genghis Khan, we can take beautiful photos with the Kazakhs and their Golden Eagles. Easy walks and hikes through stunning landscapes.

Experience and knowledge of true nomadic life.

Service fees include 10% VAT, 2% Ulaanbaatar city tax, and a 5% service charge at Ulaanbaatar hotels.

SERVICES EXCLUDED IN MONGOLIA:

Flights not specified.

Schedule changes, delays, or cancellations.

Domestic flights pending final schedule confirmation. Samar Magic Tours reserves the right to change the program based on unexpected changes to domestic flights in Mongolia. Under no circumstances will we accept claims for these reasons, and no refund will be issued.

Visa.

Excess baggage (*domestic flights allow **5** kg overhead and **10** kg underhand per person; excess weight fee: approx. US\$1.50 per kg).

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Single supplement at hotels.

Loss of luggage, belongings, or passport.

Meals not specified.

Cold drinks outside of Ulaanbaatar.

Visits and excursions not specified, such as horseback riding, sauna, etc.

Photographs and videos inside monasteries and museums.

Personal expenses, laundry, telephone, etc.

Travel insurance.

Beverages.

People with respiratory problems, heart problems, and people who don't want to relinquish certain preconceived notions about how things should be according to our mindset and are open to what this country has to offer, etc.

Camera, binoculars, telescopes, tripod, and drone with camera (if necessary).

Any rescue costs or early departure fees.

Weather conditions.

Changes to the indicated schedule.

Any other item not mentioned as included.



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.</p> <p>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>



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

★ 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 Palace Hotel 4** ★ 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



HIGHLIGHTS:

- We will visit where authentic Kazakhs and ethnic minority groups live. The main event of the festival is eagle hunting, a tradition that has been maintained for almost 2,000 years. During the festival, locals bring more than 80 trained eagles to participate in the competitions, along with their traditional costumes, falconry equipment, and adornments.
- We will visit the Great Equestrian Statue of Genghis Khan. At the base of the sculptural complex is a visitor center, 10 meters high, with 36 columns representing the 36 khans of Genghis Khan's Ligdan Khanate. We will visit the stunning Gorkhi/Terelj National Park, located in the northeast at an altitude of 1,600 meters above sea level. It features towering Mesozoic granite boulders, mountains, steppes, alpine forests, and striking Mesozoic rock formations with curious shapes, such as Turtle Rock and Monk Reading a Book.
- Listen to the captivating sounds of Khoomi throat singing during a traditional dance performance.

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PLEASE NOTE:

- Services guaranteed for groups of **6** adults or more participants.
- Mongolian visa not included.
- International flights not included.
- Check-in at Ulaanbaatar hotels is at **2:00 PM (14:00). Early check-in is not included.**
- Check-out at Ulaanbaatar hotels is at **12:00 PM (12:00). Late check-out is not included.**
- Single supplement.
- Suitable for all photography levels.
- A trip you can't miss!
- Travel to Mongolia's Eagle Festival and enjoy the adventure with your camera!
- **Domestic flights subject to final schedule. Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to change the program based on unexpected changes to domestic flights in Mongolia. Under no circumstances will we accept claims for these reasons, and no refunds will be issued.
- **Weather Conditions in Far Western Mongolia:** Even in summer it is cold, and weather conditions change very rapidly throughout the day.
- **Samar Magic Tours** reserves the right to change the program due to unexpected changes in domestic flights within Mongolia. Under no circumstances will we accept claims for these reasons, and no refund will be issued.



LIST OF RECOMMENDED PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT TO BRING TO MONGOLIA:

1. Camera.
2. Wide-angle lens. For example, 14-24mm or 16-35mm. ...
3. Medium zoom lens. For example, 24-70mm.
4. Telephoto lens. For example, a 70-200mm telephoto lens. ...
5. Prime portrait lens. For example, a 14mm f/1.8 or a 20mm f/1.4. ...
6. Tripod. The more stable the tripod, the better.
7. Filters. ...
8. Remote shutter release.
9. Camera drone.



ACCOMMODATION IN WESTERN MONGOLIA



There are **12 traditional Kazakh-style Gers** and **three houses with private bathrooms**, offering accommodation for up to 40 guests. **The Kazakh camp** is located about 2 km west of Bayan-Ulgii Airport and 8 km from the town of Ulgii. It features a modern restaurant, modern bathrooms with toilets and comfortable showers with hot and cold running water powered by a 220V solar energy system, and its own deep well of clean water. The camp has full access to mobile phones.

TRANSPORTATION IN FAR WESTERN MONGOLIA

Land transportation in Far Western Mongolia is by UAZ minivan with a capacity of **5/6** passengers. Some roads can be rough and uneven, but our drivers are among the most experienced and reliable in the country.



BOOKING AND FINAL PAYMENT CONDITIONS

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

SPECIAL PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR THE EAGLE FESTIVAL: A completed **booking form** and an immediate deposit of 800.00 € or USD 800.00 per person via bank transfer to a primary account are required **before April 15th**. A photocopy of your passport (*minimum issue date: **6 months**) must be sent immediately to guarantee your booking and the two flight tickets to Extreme Altai (**LIMITED AVAILABILITY**).

Balance payment (FINAL AMOUNT): The balance of the tour cost is due **before May 15th** via bank transfer to a secondary account. **Your trip price is guaranteed once we have received your full payment.**

Refunds: Deposits are non-refundable.

60-19 business days prior to departure: 50% of the land cost.

18-00 business days prior to departure: No refund.

Airfare cancellation terms are additional: Airfares are subject to change based on availability at the time of booking. **Domestic flights are subject to final schedule confirmation.** Samar Magic Tours reserves the right to change the program based on unexpected changes to domestic flights within Mongolia. Under no circumstances will we accept claims for these reasons, and no refund will be issued. Domestic flight fares are only confirmed upon ticket issuance and full payment. Tickets are non-refundable and can only be canceled on the day of issuance. All cancellation requests must be in writing. Telephone/verbal cancellations are not accepted.

Banks in Mongolia are closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mongolian public holidays, such as March 8, June 1, and the Naadam Festival (July 1-15). Bank transfers take up to **5** business days to be received.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: If you do not pay us by the indicated dates, we cannot guarantee the services listed (*in this case, you need to check the new rates and availability at other hotels).

HOTEL AND ROOM OCCUPANCY IN ULAANBAATOR: Rooms can be occupied from **2:00 PM** on the day of arrival and must be vacated by **12:00 PM** on the day of departure.



INFRASTRUCTURE IN WESTERN MONGOLIA: Infrastructure is currently under development. Mongolia is vast, requiring many hours of travel between locations and incurring significant fuel costs. In such cases, we will do everything within our power to find the best available solution. However, we will not accept any claims for consequences such as lost road travel, missed visits, or lost free time without a refund.

PERSONAL TRAVELING FREE OF CHARGE IN MONGOLIA:

A) If the group consists of **16** people (**15** paid passengers + **1** free person traveling by land, based on **DOUBLE** occupancy: **8**), **Samar Magic Tours** will cover all land expenses and accommodations in **DOUBLE** rooms. **Not included: domestic airfare (2 round-trip tickets Ulaanbaatar/Ulgii/Ulaanbaatar) and single room accommodations.**

B) If the group consists of **32** people (**30** paid guests + **2** free people for land travel, based solely on **DOUBLE** room accommodations: **16**). **Samar Magic Tours** will cover all land expenses and accommodations in **DOUBLE** rooms. **Not included: domestic airfare (2 round-trip tickets Ulaanbaatar/ULGII/Ulaanbaatar) and single room accommodation.**

FORCE MAJEURE CONDITIONS: While it is our absolute desire to ensure the trip proceeds as detailed in the program, occasionally force majeure circumstances may necessitate modifications. **Samar Magic Tours** is not legally responsible for force majeure circumstances beyond the control of the tour organizers that may require changes to the travel program. These force majeure circumstances include potential safety issues for travelers, political instability or violence, rebellions or risk of rebellion, strikes, riots and violent actions, decisions by governments or local authorities, technical or maintenance problems related to transportation, changes in flight or road schedules or routes, natural disasters, epidemics, adverse weather conditions, as well as any other circumstances beyond the control of **Samar Magic Tours**. If a trip cancellation is necessary due to unusual force majeure circumstances, no compensation is payable.



HOTEL BLUE SKY & TOWER 5 * (BASED ON DELUXE ROOMS)



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HOLIDAY INN HOTEL 5*



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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 watercolours. 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.