

GOBI & KHUVSGUL LAKE TOUR

Tour duration: 14 nights / 15 Days

Tour days breakdown

Day	Program	Meals	Accommodation
Day 1	Drive to Tsagaan Suvruga "White Stupa"	(L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 2	Drive to Yol Valley "Vulture Canyon"	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 3	Drive to Khongor Sand Dune "Singing Dune"	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 4	Drive to BayanZag flaming cliffs	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 5	Drive to The Ruined Ongi Monastery	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 6	Drive to 13 TH century capital Kharkhorin & Erdene Zuu Monastery	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 7	Drive to Orkhon waterfall "Ulaantsutgalan"	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 8	Drive to Terkhiin tsagaa nuur "White Lake" & Khorgo Volcano	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 9	Drive to Shine Ider Zuun Nuur "salt lake"	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 10	Drive to Khuvsgul Lake	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 11	Leisure day Khuvsgul Lake	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 12	Drive to Urantogoo Volcano	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp

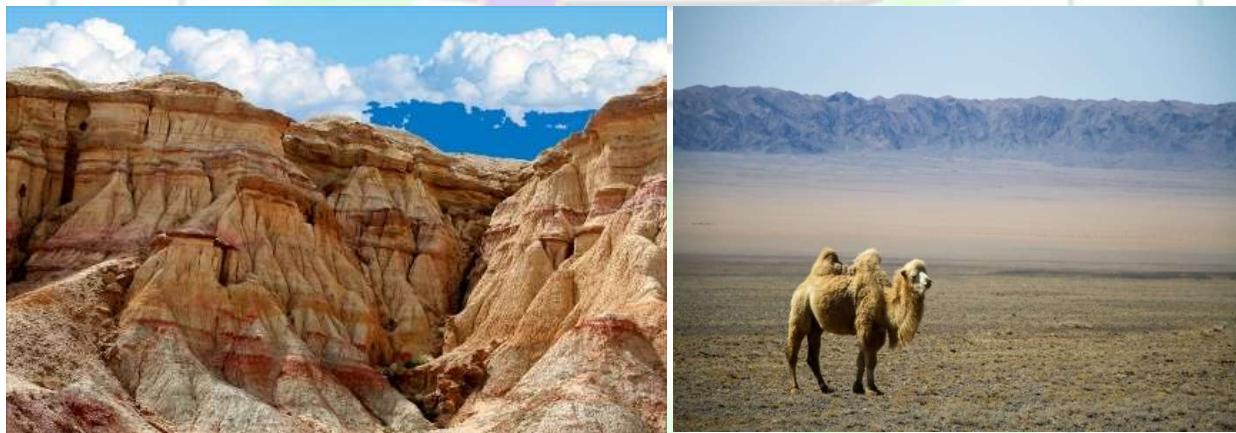
Day 13	Drive to Amarbayasgalant Monastery	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 14	Drive to Terelj National Park	(B/L/D)	Tourist camp
Day 15	Drive back to Ulaanbaatar city via Chinggis Khan Equestrian Statue Complex	(B)	

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1. Drive to Tsagaan Suvruga “White Stupa”, middle-gobi province

This morning, after hearty breakfast at our tourist camp, we will set off for Tsagaan Suvruga. Located in Ulziitsoum, Dundgov Province, this striking white cliff faces east, and from a distance, its slope resembles the ruins of an ancient city. The cliff is 30 meters high and 100 meters wide, making it a dramatic natural landmark.

Along the way, you'll see the unique desert landscapes of Dundgov, so be ready for some beautiful photo opportunities. Comfortable shoes and sun protection are recommended for exploring the site.



Day 2. Drive to Yol Valley “Vulture Canyon”

We will drive to Yol Valley (Vulture Canyon) in the morning. The Vulture Canyon nestles between the beautiful peaks of Gurvansaikhan of the Three Beauties.

After arrival at the canyon, we will take a 2-hour hike and see parts of a glacier left over from the winter months.

We can visit the local Natural History Museum on our way in/out of the park, where dinosaur eggs and bones, petrified trees, and a snow leopard are on display. Once we get there, we will ride a horse for 1 hour with a professional horseman through a beautiful canyon.



Day 3. Drive to Khongor Sand Dunes “Singing Dune”

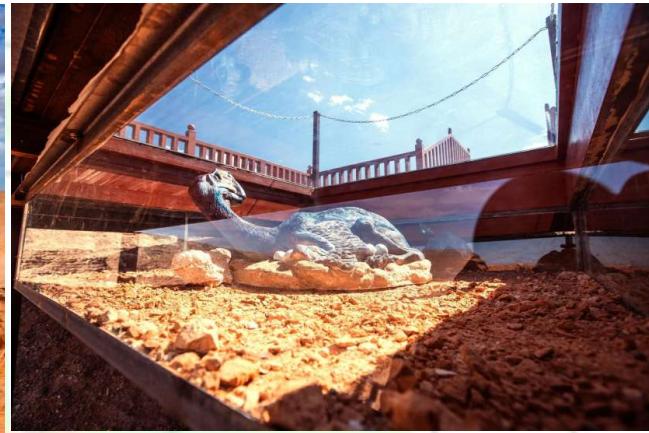
This morning, we will drive to Khongor sand dune, one of Mongolia's largest and most spectacular dunes, standing as high as 200 meters above the ground, 7-8 km wide, and 180 km long. Climbing the dunes is breathtaking, not just for the top view. It surprises climbers that the dunes make a singing sound while you climb; that is why it is nicknamed the singing dunes. The sand dunes make you feel extraordinary comfort and infinite peace.



Day 4. Drive to Bayanzag Flaming Cliffs

This morning, we will drive to the Bayanzag area, famously known as the Flaming Cliffs and often called the “Cradle of Dinosaurs.” This iconic red sandstone landscape is where paleontologist Roy Chapman Andrews and his team made the historic discovery of the world's first dinosaur egg nest in 1922.

Upon arrival, we'll explore the dramatic cliffs glowing in deep orange hues, especially striking in the sunlight. The area is not only important for its rich fossil finds but also for its saxaul tree forest, one of the few places in Mongolia where these rare desert trees grow. As we walk through Bayanzag, you'll have time to enjoy the sweeping desert scenery, learn about its paleontological significance, and take in the unique beauty of this legendary site.



Day 5. Drive to The Ruined Ongi Monastery

We will then drive to Ongi Monastery, a historic complex built in the late 18th century to commemorate the first visit of a Dalai Lama to Mongolia. Once one of the largest monastic centers in the country, Ongi Monastery comprised two temple complexes on opposite sides of the Ongi River and housed hundreds of monks at its height.

Although much of the monastery was destroyed in the 1930s during political repression, the area remains a peaceful and meaningful place to visit. Today, several small temples and reconstructed structures stand among the ruins, offering a glimpse into Mongolia's Buddhist heritage. As we explore the site, we can walk through the remains of the old temples, enjoy views of the surrounding rocky hills, and learn about the monastery's history, resilience, and ongoing restoration efforts.



Day 6. Drive to 13TH century capital Kharkhorum & Erdene Zuu Monastery

Today, after enjoying a hearty breakfast, we will drive to Kharkhorum, the 13th-century capital of the Mongol Empire. Once the heart of Chinggis Khan's vast empire, Kharkhorum was a major center of politics, craftsmanship, and international trade. Although little of the ancient city remains above ground, the area is rich in history and archaeological significance.

We will also visit Erdene Zuu Monastery, Mongolia's oldest Buddhist monastery, founded in 1586. Surrounded by its iconic wall of 108 stupas, the monastery sits on the very site of ancient Kharkhorum. Today, Erdene Zuu functions both as an active place of worship and an open-air museum, housing beautifully decorated temples, Buddhist artworks, and relics that reflect Mongolia's spiritual heritage. As we explore the grounds, we'll learn about the rise and fall of the ancient capital, the introduction of Buddhism to Mongolia, and the cultural importance of this historic region.



Day 7. Drive to Orkhon Waterfall

Today, we will drive to the Orkhon Valley, which was designated a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site in 2005. This valley is rich with Mongolia's ancient monuments and historical landmarks. One highlight is the Orkhon Waterfall (Ulaan Tsutgalan), formed by volcanic activity around 20,000 years ago. The waterfall cascades 22 meters high and 10 meters wide, creating a stunning sight surrounded by lush scenery.

Along the way, you'll enjoy views of the wide, open valley and traditional nomadic herding landscapes. Comfortable shoes are recommended, as there is a short walk to reach the waterfall, and the area offers plenty of opportunities for photography.



Day 8. Drive to White Lake & Khorgo Volcano

After breakfast, we will drive to the extinct Khorgo Volcano, whose crater was formed during its last major eruption about 7,000 years ago. The area is dotted with fascinating volcanic formations, including basalt walls, hidden caves, and ancient lava fields that show how powerful the eruption once was. We'll have time to explore the crater rim and enjoy the sweeping views of the surrounding landscape.

Next, we will continue to Terkhiin Tsagaan Lake, a scenic freshwater lake formed when lava from the Khorgo eruption blocked the Suman River. Over time, the river carved a deep gorge through the basalt, leaving behind dramatic cliffs and unique rock formations. The lake is known for its crystal-clear water, birdlife, and peaceful atmosphere, making it one of the most beautiful natural sites in central Mongolia.



Day 10. Drive to Shine Ider, Zuun Lake “Salt Lake

We will travel to Shine-Ider province, crossing wide, rolling steppes that are often carpeted with wildflowers in spring and early summer. Along the way, we'll visit Zuun Nuur, a small but striking saltwater lake known as a peaceful haven for many bird species. The quiet shoreline and open views make it a pleasant spot to pause and enjoy the surrounding nature. After visiting the lake, we will continue driving for about 10 kilometers until we reach our camp for the night.



Day 11. Drive to Khuvgul Lake

Today, we will drive to Khuvgul Lake, the freshest and deepest lake in Central Asia, renowned for its stunning natural beauty. The lake stretches in a north-south direction with an elegant oval shape. As the second-largest freshwater lake in the region after Lake Baikal, Khuvgul is truly awe-inspiring. It is surrounded by majestic mountains, many of whose rivers flow into the lake, creating crystal-clear waters and breathtaking scenery. Along the way, you'll have plenty of opportunities to enjoy the landscape, take photographs, and experience the peaceful atmosphere of this pristine natural wonder.



Day 12. A Leisure day at Khuvsgul Lake

Today is a free day to enjoy the stunning Khuvsgul Lake. You can take the time to walk, hike, or simply explore the surrounding area at your own pace—everything is flexible. If you wish, we can rent a boat to visit Khusliin Khad Island, a small island famous for its tradition of making wishes. Visitors often come here to whisper their wishes, believing that the island helps them come true, making it a magical and memorable experience.



Day 13. Drive to Urantogoo Volcano

Today, we will drive to a spectacular area of extinct volcanoes, surrounded by lush coniferous forests and colorful wildflowers. The volcano itself features striking red rock formations, creating a dramatic and photogenic landscape.

There is an opportunity to trek on the volcano, allowing you to explore its unique terrain and enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding forested hills. Comfortable shoes and sun protection are recommended, and be prepared for uneven ground while trekking.



Day 13. Drive to Amarbayasgalan Monastery

Today we will drive to Amarbayasgalant. Built between 1727 – and 1736, this is one of the largest monasteries in Mongolia. The Journey travels across the southern approaches of Siberia. The monastery is located in the beautiful Iven Gol River Valley at the foot of Burenkhan Mountain.

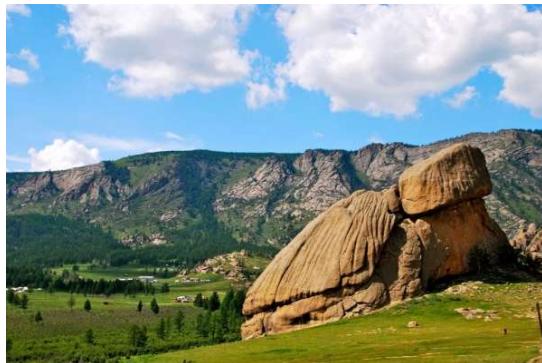
It has incredible art and decorations, and the outstanding architectural construction makes it one of the most magnificent monasteries in Asia.



Day 14. Drive to Terelj National Park

Today, we will drive to Terelj National Park, renowned for its stunning natural beauty. The park is a perfect blend of dramatic mountain landscapes, towering granite cliffs, lush forests, and winding rivers, making it one of Mongolia's most picturesque destinations. Upon arrival, we will visit the Aryabal Buddhist Meditation Temple, where you can enjoy a peaceful and reflective atmosphere.

From the top of the temple, the view of the surrounding park is breathtaking and serene. We will also stop to see the famous Turtle Rock, a unique natural formation resembling a turtle, which is a popular landmark in the area. The park's tranquil beauty, combined with its remarkable sights, makes this a truly unforgettable experience.



Day 15. Drive back to Ulaanbaatar city via Chinggis Khan Equestrian Statue Complex

This morning, after a hearty breakfast, we will set off on our drive back to the city, with a highlight stop at the magnificent Chinggis Khan Equestrian Statue Complex. Towering 40 meters high, this iconic statue pays tribute to Mongolia's legendary leader and offers breathtaking panoramic views over the surrounding steppe. You'll have time to walk around the complex, take memorable photos, and soak in the grandeur of the landscape.

Afterwards, we will transfer you back to your hotel or hostel, marking the end of your tour. We hope you leave with a deep appreciation for Mongolia's stunning landscapes, rich history, and vibrant culture. Thank you for traveling with us, and may the memories of this adventure stay with you forever.



Tour price inclusion

- Pick up and drop off service from /to hotel
- Private transportation
- Fuel
- Professional driver
- English-speaking tour guide
- Accommodations at tourist camps
- Three meals per day Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (B/L/D) as indicated in the itinerary
- All taxes & entrance fees
- Sightseeing costs

Tour price exclusion

- Snacks & sweets
- Alcoholic drinks & beverage except for Mongolian traditional milk tea, Lipton tea and hot water
- Tips "optional"

Thank you very much for traveling with us!