NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC | G Adventures
EXPEDITIONS
JOURNEYS

Last Updated: October 29, 2026



JOURNEYS: DISCOVER MONGOLIA

14 days, Ulaanbaatar to Ulaanbaatar

Trip code AMENG

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Nomadic Family Desert Ger Building & Archery Lesson Experience, Bulgan
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Yak Milking with Herding Family, Orkhon Valley
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Yak Family Farm Experience, Orkhon Valley
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Erdene Zuu Monastery, Kharkhorin
- Your G for Good Moment: Cafe No Limits Visit, Ulaanbaatar
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
- National Museum of Mongolia Visit & Tour
- Nalaikh Village Family Ger District Lunch
- Genghis Khan Monument Visit
- Gandan Monastery Guided Tour
- Zorgol Khairkhan Mountain & Picnic Lunch
- Baga Gazriin Chuluu National Park Hike
- Yolyn Am Visit
- Moltsog Els Sand Dunes
- Free time in Bulgan, Elsen Tasarkhai
- Flaming Cliffs Visit
- Ongiin Khiid and Hoshuu Monasteries Visit
- Orkhon Waterfall Hike
- Mongolian Dumpling (Buuz) cooking class
- Khorkhog (Mongolia Traditional BBQ)
- Erdene Zuu Monastery
- Karakorum Museum
- Uvgun Monastery Hike
- Khustai National Park (Khustain Nuruu) Visit
- Mongolian Cultural Show
- Arrival Transfer
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

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coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing March 31st, 2025 and onwards

ITINERARY



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1 ULAANBAATAR

Arrive at any time. Arrival transfer is included. After the welcome meeting, join your group for an orientation walk around Ulaanbaatar on the way to an optional welcome dinner.

ACCOMMODATION

Chinggis Khaan Hotel (or similar) Hotel

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Arrival Transfer Ulaanbaatar

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2 ULAANBAATAR

Mongolia's rich history is on full display at the National Museum of Mongolia. Explore the museum with your National Geographic Expedition Leader learning about the traditional ethnic groups of Mongolia and view some of the archaeological artifacts on display. Next, walk to No Limits Cafe, a G for Good project supporting youth with Down Syndrome who work alongside their mothers to serve delicious teas, coffee and snacks. This afternoon, visit Nalaikh Ger Village for a local lunch of Mongolian Buuz dumplings with some of the families who call this place home. After learning about life in a ger village, continue to the imposing statue of Chinggis Khan. The monument of Mongolia's most emblematic figure is observed as you take an elevator to the head of the horse to get the best view of both the statue itself, and the vast expanse of the surrounding Mongolian mountainside. The evening is free for dinner at your leisure.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

ACCOMMODATION

Chinggis Khaan Hotel (or similar) Hotel

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

National Museum of Mongolia Visit & Tour Ulaanbaatar

Visit the National Museum of Mongolia, an important place preserving Mongolia's traditions, history and way of life. Existing as a cultural, scientific and educational center all in one, a tour of this amazing facility helps bring you closer to the intricacies of Mongolian culture and teaches you about the exceptional importance this country has played throughout history.

ACTIVITY

Pop in for a visit to the No Limits Cafe and enjoy coffee, tea, and snacks prepared and served by local youth with Down Syndrome, and their mothers.

The Down Syndrome Association of Mongolia is a non-profit organization that supports children who live with Down syndrome, and their families. The organization focuses on creating community awareness, advocacy, and educational efforts within Mongolia. The No Limits Cafe began as an effort to create job opportunities and training for young people with Down syndrome and their mothers who are often left out of benefitting from economic opportunities. Through the cafe, the program works to break down barriers for people and families living with disabilities.

Nalaikh Village Family Ger District Lunch Ulaanbaatar

Visit a local family's ger home in the Nalaikh Village for a delicious local lunch.

Genghis Khan Monument Visit Ulaanbaatar

Towering over the banks of the Tuul River, the 131ft tall Genghis Khan Equestrian Statue is truly a sight to behold amid the flatlands of Mongolia. According to legend, this is where the mighty Khan discovered a golden whip that aided his many conquests. Stop by the visitors' centre, then ascend into the head of the horse, where a panoramic view of the landscape awaits.

Day 3 ULAANBAATAR/ BAGA GAZRIIN CHULUU

Travel by 4×4 to Gandan Monastery, one of the most important temple complexes in all of Mongolia to learn about the history of Buddhism and listen to the monks chant. We then make our way to the

Gobi, one of the world's largest deserts, which covers much of the southern part of Mongolia. On the way, we'll stop for a picturesque pond-side picnic at Zorgol Khairkhan, a sacred mountain considered to be the most beautiful in central Mongolia. Arrive in the afternoon to our first ger camp–we will stay in these traditional Mongolian lodgings through day 12 of the trip. Tonight at the camp, it's time to get competitive and try your hand at some traditional Mongolian Games, like The Knuckle Bone game and Khorol, a Mongolian style dominoes.

This trip covers a lot of ground and we will do so in 4×4 vehicles but there is a lot of driving on some very rough and unmaintained roads. A large part of Mongolia's appeal is its wild, untouched nature and, as such, accommodation and infrastructure can be very basic in nature. As such, hot water and electricity can be uncertain. Mongolia is a country which is very different to anything you will have experienced before and while this means it is not the easiest place to travel, this is also what makes it so special.

Accommodation throughout the trip will be in gers. Gers are traditional Mongolian tents made with wooden frames and layers of felt. The camps we stay at will have 2 beds with mattresses, linens, and extra blankets. The tent is on a platform and while simple, is quite comfortable and offers a truly unique experience. Our locations are remote and some gers do not have built-in ensuite - some camp have shared facilities with toilette's/sinks/showers. Most ger camps have 24 hour electricity with a couple of exceptions that have generators which after 11pm they cut electricity until morning.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Erdene-Ukhaa Ger Camp (or similar) Campground

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Gandan Monastery Guided Tour Ulaanbaatar 1h

Discover one of the most important Mongolian temple complexes, the Gandan Monastery. Learn about the history of Buddhism in the region and see if you can spot some chanting monks. If lucky, a local fortune teller may be around to share some wisdom.

Zorgol Khairkhan Mountain & Picnic Lunch Khairkhan

Enjoy a scenic picnic lunch at the foothills of the picturesque Zorgol Khairkhan Mountain. Different seasons bring different beautiful landscapes, each incredible in their own way.

Private Vehicle Ulaanbaatar - Baga Gadzrïn Chuluu 6h 300km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 4 BAGA GAZRIIN CHULUU/ BULGAN

Continue onwards to the Dundgobi Aimag region—Middle Gobi—and witness the astonishing granitic formations of Baga Gazriin Chuluu. Set off on a hike around the small but historic national park, and visit the ruins of an old temple dating from the 17th century hidden in the massif granite. Continue driving to the South Gobi and the next ger camp-your base for exploring the next 3-days.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Dream Gobi Lodge (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Baga Gazriin Chuluu - Bulgan 6h 435km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Baga Gazriin Chuluu National Park Hike Baga Gazriin Chuluu

Take a short hike through the spectacular rock formations in Baga Gazriin Chuluu National. This park may be small, but what it lacks in size, it makes up for in beauty.

Day 5 BULGAN

Start today with some hands-on skills-imperative to life in remote Mongolia. Learn the basics of constructing a Mongolian ger (yurt,) then, try your hand at archery-one of the most beloved sports in the country. Later, enjoy an excursion through the magnificent gorges of the Altay Mountains to Gurvan Saikhan National Park, a vast protected area comprised of canyons, sand dunes, and a steppe. Stop for a hike in rugged Yolyn Am, known as the "valley of the eagles," keeping an eye out for ibex, gazelles, argali sheep, and countless species of birds.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Dream Gobi Lodge (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY

Visit a desert nomadic family. Gain greater understanding of their simple and incredible way of life, take an archery class and learn how they build a ger (yurt).

Yolyn Am Visit Gurvan Saikhan

One of the main attractions in Gobi Gurvansaikhan National park is Yolyn Am - a narrow gorge in the mountains. It's an amazing place for hikes.

Day 6 BULGAN

After breakfast, drive to Moltsog Els sand dune and witness the seemingly never ending waves of sand. Spend time exploring the ever-changing dunes and learn about this unique and beautiful landscape. Return to the camp for lunch and some down time or choose to join some optional activities, such as traditional massage by a local shaman or take a cooking class. Later, travel by 4×4 to the Flaming Cliff, a rust-coloured sandstone landscape where a vast amount of dinosaur fossils and eggs have been found. Learn about the discoveries made here and spend time exploring the

dramatic crags and canyons and enjoy a fiery red sunset before heading back to camp for the evening.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Dream Gobi Lodge (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Moltsog Els Sand Dunes Moltsog Els

Explore the incredible sand dunes of Moltsog Els. Admire the perfect wisps and peaks of golden sand while walking across the changing formations.

Free Time Bulgan

Enjoy some free time after lunch or join one of the optional activities at camp.

Flaming Cliffs Visit Gurvan Saikhan

Explore the Flaming Cliffs. Made of red sandstone, the cliffs and canyons where fossils were found in recent years are a beautiful place to spend some time.

Day 7 BULGAN/ ONGIIN KHIID

Visit the ruins of Ongiin Khiid, a complex of Buddhist monasteries and universities which were tragically destroyed during the communist purges. Tour the site and learn about the monks who have returned here in recent years, bringing new life to the complex. Continue on to the next ger camp and settle in for the evening.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Ger Camp Secret of Ongi (or similar) Campground

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Bulgan – Ongiin Hiid 5h 230km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ongiin Khiid and Hoshuu Monasteries Visit Ongiin Hiid 1h

Both these monasteries were important centres in the region before they were destroyed. The systematic destruction of religious sights under Communist rule was pervasive. Built in 17th century, the Ongiin Khiid monastery was among the largest temples in the country and was a home for over 1,000 monks. See the ruins and learn the sad history of the place.

Day 8 ONGIIN KHIID/ ORKHON VALLEY

Drive to the breathtaking Orkhon Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site that encompasses rolling hills and pastureland, traditional pastoral societies, and archaeological remains. We'll stop for lunch along the way. Then, settle in to camp after arriving in the evening. Enjoy free time to relax before an early start tomorrow, or if you have the energy, opt to do some easier hikes around camp.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Khurkheree Tour Ger Camp (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Ongiin Hiid – Orkhon Valley 8h 470km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 9 ORKHON VALLEY

Rise early to visit the local Yak herding family to assist them in milking the animals. After, head off for a visit to Orkhon Waterfall and walk to the observation point for an incredible view of the carved out cliffside. Return to the camp after working up an appetite–lunch will consist of buuz, Mongolian dumplings that we'll learn to make with the camp chef. In the afternoon, continue your visit with the Yak herder family and learn to make yak tea, cheese and even alcoholic yak yogurt utilizing the milk you helped retrieve earlier in the day. You can also try your hand at spinning yarn from yak's wool. After today's immersive experience, you'll understand the vital role yaks play in Mongolian day-to-day life as a source of food, clothing material, transport and even a cultural symbol. This evening, return to the camp to relax and enjoy a traditional Mongolian barbecue, prepared over hot stones.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Khurkheree Tour Ger Camp (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY

Join the local Yak Herding family for an early rise this morning to join them to milk their yaks! Enjoy the tranquil morning walk to meet the yaks and watch as the family demonstrates the milking of this unique animal.

Orkhon Waterfall Hike Orkhon Valley 3h

Pack a camera and hike to the Ulaan Tsutgalan waterfall along the Ulaan River. Marvel at this 20 m high waterfall, the largest in Mongolia, and enjoy the surrounding landscape.

Mongolian Dumpling (Buuz) Cooking Class Orkhon Valley

Join a cooking class and make buuz, traditional Mongolian dumplings. We'll learn how to make the perfect twisted top of the dumplings, then sit down and enjoy the feast!

ACTIVITY

Visit a local family's horse and yak breeding farm for a cultural immersion like no other. Get to know the family and learn about their daily life and how they make staples such as cheese and butter. Step out of your comfort zone and sample some of their products, including yak cream and yogurt, and fermented mare's milk. Enjoy a peak into rural life during these exciting and interesting demonstrations.

Khorkhog (Mongolia Traditional BBQ) Orkhon Valley

Indulge in the unique and yummy Khorkhog, a traditional Mongolian BBQ. Within a container full of hot stones and water, the meat and vegetables will be cooked. Watch their traditional method and then sit down together for an incredible meal!

Day 10 ORKHON VALLEY/ ELSEN TASARKHAI

Drive to the city of Kharkhorin and onward to nearby Karakorum, Mongolia's ancient capital. Here, Genghis Khan established his headquarters in the early 13th century. Explore the remains of the Erdene Zuu Monastery, considered Mongolia's earliest centre of Buddhism, and meet with the head monk to learn about the communist purges that decimated much of the country's Buddhist heritage.

Finish up the day with a visit the Karakorum Museum, which houses an impressive collection of artifacts from the 13th and 14th centuries as well as a scale model of the ancient capital.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Burd Star Ger Camp (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Orkhon Valley – Kharkhorin 2h-2h30m 180km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Karakorum Museum Kharkhorin

Visit the modern Karakorum Museum, considered one of the best outside Ulaanbaatar. The exhibits display artifacts found from within the area dating from the 13th and 14th centuries. Varied items are on display including statues, a kiln, pottery, and coins. For perspective on the area there also is a scale model of ancient Karakorum.

Private Vehicle Kharkhorin – Elsen Tasarkhai 1h30m 90km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

Part of the Orkhon Valley Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site, Erdene Zuu Monastery is one of the earliest surviving Buddhist monasteries in Mongolia. Still being used today as a place of worship, we'll havre a chance to meet with the local monks for a special opportunity to learn more.

Day 11 ELSEN TASARKHAI

This morning, drive to Khungu Khan Mountain to hike up to the ruins of the 16th century Uvgun Monastery, perfectly on display atop the boulder covered mountain. From the monastery, admire the

spectacular views of the valley below, and sand dunes expanding into the distance. Hike back down and return to the ger camp for some free time.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Burd Star Ger Camp (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Free Time Elsen Tasarkhai

Enjoy the evening free to rest or explore the area.

Uvgun Monastery Hike Elsen Tasarkhai

Hike to the Uvgun Monastery and admire the incredibly pristine nature surrounding it. The White monastery stands out against the green valley and rocky mountainside, making for a picturesque location.

Day 12 ELSEN TASARKHAI/ KHUSTAI NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, drive to Khustai National Park, where some of the earth's last wild horses roam. The takhi or Przewalski's horse native to these grasslands had nearly vanished from the wild, until the species was reintroduced here as a result of a successful captive breeding program. Meet with park staff to learn about the takhi reintroduction project, and keep an eye out for these stocky, coffee-coloured horses that have never been domesticated. Continue on to our last camp and settle into your ger for the night.

Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Moltsog Els Ger Camp (or similar) Ger

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle Elsen Tasarkhai – Khustai National Park 2h30m 130km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Khustai National Park (Khustain Nuruu) Visit Khustai National Park

Home to the last of the truly wild horses in the world, the park is a wonderful chance to see the Takhi horses in their natural environment. At one point there were none in the wild, but after a hugely successful captive breeding program in various worldwide zoos, they were reintroduced.

Day 13 KHUSTAI NATIONAL PARK/ ULAANBAATAR

Settle in for a long drive through the Mongolian countryside to Ulaanbaatar, arriving in the early evening. Enjoy a farewell dinner accompanied by a memorable performance of traditional Mongolian song and dance.

Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

ACCOMMODATION

Chinggis Khaan Hotel (or similar) Hotel

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Mongolian Cultural Show Ulaanbaatar 1h30m

Enjoy an evening of song and dance at the Mongolian Cultural Show. The show includes 15 different performances, including traditional songs, dancing, throat singing, and contortionists.

Private Vehicle | Khustai National Park – Ulaanbaatar | 2h30m | 90km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 14 ULAANBAATAR

Depart at any time.

Meals included

Breakfast

What's included

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What are the main highlights of this trip?

Visit with a nomadic camel-herding family in the Gobi to learn how to build a local ger (yurt) and take a lesson in archery: Mongolia's national sport, Experience the uniqueness of Mongolia's incredible culture up close with a visit to a yak herding family to milk watch them milk the yaks and try their fresh yak milk products, Discuss the history of Buddhism in Mongolia with the head monk of Erdeni Dzu Monastery-one of the oldest Buddhist complexes in the region, Hear from rangers at Hustai National Park and track wild horses across the grassy steppe.

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

ACCOMMODATION NOTE:
Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our National Geographic Expedition Leader throughout. The aim of the Expedition Leaders is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

What is the maximum and typical number of participants on this tour?

Max 14, avg 12

What meals are included in this trip?

13 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 11 dinners

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your Expedition Leader will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. Included breakfasts will usually be asian style consisting of noodles or congee (rice porridge) or bread and eggs. Vegetarians will be able to find a range of different foods, although in some areas the choice maybe limited. While trekking in remote regions food is included, plentiful and made of fresh local ingredients. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private vehicles, 4x4, walking, hiking.

How will we travel between destinations?

This trip visits beautiful and well preserved natural environments. Specifically places like the Gobi desert. The remoteness of these locations means that roads are often unpaved and terrain can be a bit rough while driving. We use 4x4 vehicles that are tough & durable. The 4x4 SUVs have tinted windows to protect your from the harsh desert sun.

Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels – 3 nts, Ger camps – 9 nts with ensuite bathroom; 1 nt with shared bathroom.

Do any exceptions apply to Rooming or “My Own Room” on my tour?

Night 7, 8 & 9.

What should I expect from the accommodations on this trip?

Gers are traditional Mongolian tents made with wooden frames and layers of felt. The camps we stay at will have 2 beds with mattresses, linens, and extra blankets. The tent is on a platform and while simple, is quite comfortable and offers a truly unique experience. Most ger camps have 24 hour electricity with a couple of exceptions that have generators which after 11pm they cut electricity until morning.

What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

What should I do if I can't find my airport transfer or experience arrival issues?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who do I contact for arrival issues or in the event of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER
Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. Included arrival transfers are provided from the nearest airport to your starting location. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense.

If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area, please try the contact below first. If you do not receive a response, we ask that you please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

If your call is specifically concerning Airport Transfer complications please call our local G Adventures Representative directly at:

Mr. Uuganbaatar Tsogoo
Mobile: +97680040400

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Mr Laziz Otayarov (Operations Manager - Central Asia)
Mobile 1: +99890 963 4779 (24h)
Mobile 2: +99897 921 7087 (24h)

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found here.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100
Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000
Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000
Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618
Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307
Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What details should I be aware of when planning my departure day?

If you would like to book an airport Departure transfer for your tour, please contact our Sales Team or your Travel Agent in advance of travel.

What are the packing guidelines and luggage restrictions?

We suggest that you pack as lightly as possible as your are expected to carry your own luggage and this trip covers a lot of ground. As a rule we try not to have to walk more than 15-20 mintues with your bags which is why we recommend keeping the weight of your bags between 10-15kg/22-30lb. Hard suitcases are not recommended, most travellers carry a backpack or rolling bag of small to medium size (no XXL ones please!). You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like ipods and mobile phones.

What should I pack for this trip?

Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Footwear (required) (Closed toe suggested)
- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/ wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

Light Hiking:

- Hiking boots/sturdy walking shoes
- Hiking pants (Convertible/Zip-off and quick dry recommended)
- Walking poles

Sleep Sheet:

- Sleeping bag liner/sleep sheet

Smart Dress:

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/ skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

Where can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Please note that visas are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as much as possible, but rules do change. It is important that you check for yourself with the Embassy of Mongolia. Please, keep in mind that all countries require passports valid for at least 6 months from the moment of departure from the country.
Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page here

If you require a Letter of Invitation (LOI) to apply for a Mongolia visa, please fill out & submit the following request form

You must have at least two blank passport pages available for each country you will visit on your tour. These are required for entry & exit stamps.

Information accurate as of March 28th, 2022

Where can I read detailed notes about this trip?

Mongolia is a fascinating destination to visit, full of natural, wild beauty and traditional life. Travel is becoming easier for foreigners but please be aware that English is still not widely spoken outside the large cities and that accommodation, toilet facilities and some transportation is not yet at the same level as you would expect in developed countries. If you are able to bring with you a lot of patience, a great sense of humour and a willingness to try and interact with the local people, your travel experience will be greatly enhanced.

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

The currency used in Mongolia is the Mongolian Tugriks (MNT).

As currency exchange rates in Asia fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

There are many ATM machines that accept both Visa and Mastercard but these are limited to major cities. We also recommend the use of cash and travellers cheques in USD currency. Major credit cards are accepted in most shops but they may charge a 2-4% transaction fee.

One of the main things to remember is that Mongolian Tugriks can't be exchanged outside Mongolia.

Because of bank regulations and exchange rate the best USD notes to have are $50 and $100 without any marks/ stamps/holes or stains on them. If a banknote has a mark it might be refused to be exchanged.

What emergency funds do I need access to on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD $200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Do I need to pay a departure tax?

International Departure tax is included in the flight ticket.

What are the tipping guidelines for this trip?

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels.

There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your Expedition Leader will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from $5-$7 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your Expedition Leader for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your National Geographic Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline $8-10 USD per person, per day can be used.

What activities are optional on this trip?

- No optional activities

Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. In Asia pharmacies tend to stock the same western drugs as you get at home but they are usually produced locally so please bring the full drug name with you when trying to purchase a prescription drug.

When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our Expedition Leader they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

What general safety tips and free-time guidelines should I follow?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewelery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions. Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our Expedition Leaders to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s). Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. Read more about travel safety for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What are the mandatory group rules regarding laws and behaviour?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

What are the mandatory travel insurance requirements for this trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.
G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with Planeterra Foundation.

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating $1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

In Asia the dress standard is more conservative than it is back home. When packing try to pick loose, lightweight, long clothing that will keep you cool in the day and can be layered in cool evenings. In predominately Buddhist countries we ask that you dress respectfully and avoid very short shorts/skirts and singlets/tanktops when visiting temples or other holy sites.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to $100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of $100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is $100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for Planeterra's monthly news to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

What are the age restrictions for this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your National Geographic Signature Specialist or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our LGBTQ+ page for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.