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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "Local Living Mongolia—Nomadic Life" (AMNL), [but here are some similar trips](#).



## **Local Living Mongolia—Nomadic Life**

10 days, Ulaanbaatar to Ulaanbaatar

Trip code AMNL

### **What's included**

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Local Living Moment: Nomadic Family Stay, Mongolia

- Your Foodie Moment: Mongolian Vodka and Cheese Making Demonstration, Gorkhi Terelj National Park
- Daily lessons and demonstrations of various nomadic skills and techniques while staying with nomadic hosts
- Horseback, oxen cart, and camel rides
- Historic monastery visit
- Mongolian Cultural Show
- National park entrance fees
- Transport between destinations and included activities

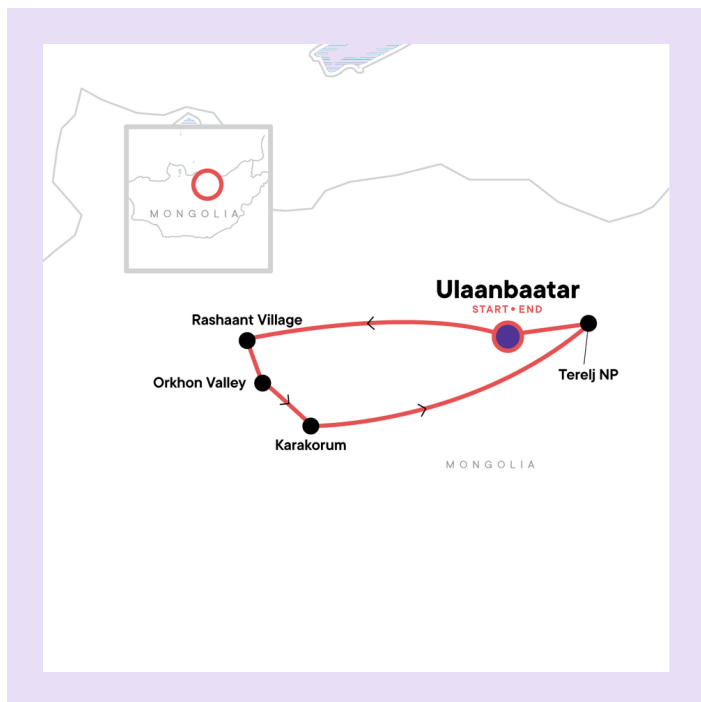
The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one 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.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing October 10th, 2019 and onwards

# Itinerary

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**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

Welcome to Mongolia! Arrive any time, there are no activities planned until the evening welcome meeting with an optional dinner afterwards.

Arriving early may be best, to relax and adjust to the time difference and high altitude with a mountainous view. OR have extra time to explore Mongolia's bustling Capital in the Tuul River valley!

Please note that Ulaanbaatar is really the only chance to stock up on supplies you might have left behind, plus any bottled water, beer/wine/spirits, and coffee you may want. Boiled water and tea is available throughout the stay.



### Today's Activities

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO 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.

Cruise through Central Mongolia's vast oasis and pastures to the village of Rashaant. Meet your nomadic hosts and get to know each other over an authentic lunch.

After the relaxation, take in the afternoon desert landscape on a roundtrip horseback ride visiting the intoxicating Swan Lake. This lake resides at the base of the Mongol Desert Sand Dunes where the two extremes co-exist creating a pristine home to Swan couples - representing strength, tolerance and passion.

Tonight, enjoy dinner with your hosts and sleep like the nomads in a ger tent.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



## Today's Activities

Camel or Horseback Riding

Högnö-Tarna Uul

1h-2h

Hop on a horse or camel and take a ride through two of nature's extremes: lake and desert. Experience the beauty of Swan Lake and marvel at the Mongol Desert Sand Dunes.

Private Vehicle

Ulaanbaatar - Rashaant Sum

4h-5h

280km

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

Day 3

## Rashaant Sum/Orkhon Valley

Roll up those sleeves and experience a typical nomadic morning by helping your hosts with chores, which may include milking the livestock. After breakfast, travel into the countryside by horseback to visit the monuments of Queen Manduhai.

Return to camp for a farewell lunch and tea before moving on to the Orkhon Valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site along the river in Central Mongolia. Orkhon Valley represents the evolution of nomadic pastoral traditions spanning more than two-thousand years.

Upon arrival at your next nomadic family's camp, prepare for a traditional dinner with milk tea and then rest up in their extra ger.

As with all days on this itinerary, it is possible to opt out of the day's activity with the local families in favour of hiking in the surrounding mountains or simply relaxing in the beautiful Mongolian countryside.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Historical Horseback Experience

Rashaant Sum

2h

Saddle up for a visit to the monument of Queen Manduhai, created for the feature film documenting her life.

Private Vehicle

Rashaant Sum - Orkhon Valley

3h30m-4h

210km

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

Day 4

## Orkhon Valley

If you're beginning to feel like a true nomad, help out with the family's morning chores again and herd some yaks or milk the livestock. After breakfast, prepare for the 5-6 km (3mi) trek to the massive Ulaan Tsutgalan waterfall, stopping to take in the scenery along the way (don't forget your camera).

Return to camp for lunch and tea with your hosts. In the afternoon, continue exploring the beautiful Orkhon Valley with another trek to Baga Tsutgalan junior waterfall. Enjoy dinner back at camp with your nomad family, then retire to their extra ger and dream about the therapeutic Orkhon waterfalls!



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Orkhon Waterfall Hike

Orkhon Valley

2h-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.

Junior Flow Waterfall Hike

Orkhon Valley

3h-4h

Get familiar with the Orkhon valley by hiking to Baga Tsutgalan, a small waterfall the locals refer to as "Junior Flow". Some say this waterfall cures rheumatism so don't be afraid to get a little wet!

Day 5

## Orkhon Valley/Kharkhorin

After breakfast, relax during the drive to Kharkhorin - the ancient capital of the Mongol Empire! Spend time exploring the ruins and monasteries inside the fortress walls and admire their unique architecture. Lunch will be served at a nearby ger camp, then travel to Hustain Nuruu protected reserve in Khustai Park to overnight in the comfort of another ger camp.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Erdene Zuu Monastery Visit

Kharkhorin

1h

The beautiful Erdene Zuu Monastery began its construction in 1586 and continued for over 300 years. It was the first centre of Lama Buddhism in Mongolia. At its peak, the monastery housed over 1,000 monks and held 62 temples. In the 1930s, most of the temples were destroyed and monks killed in the Communist purges. Now, the monastery is slowly being restored.

Explore the monastery grounds and, if you're lucky, listen to monks chanting.

Free Time

Kharkhorin

3h

Get adventurous and explore the vast historical sites. From ruins to monasteries there is no shortage of sight seeing!

Private Vehicle

Orkhon Valley - Kharkhorin

2h-2h30m

180km

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

## Kharkhorin/Gorkhi Terej National Park

Spend the morning in Khustain Park learning about the indigenous flora and fauna. Watch the famous wild horses, known as "takhi," graze and gallop in their natural habitat.

After lunch, travel via bus to Terej National Park, a beautiful alpine retreat with imposing rock formations and endless forests. Meet your host and continue North by horseback on a 3km (1.9 mi) journey through the incredibly stunning mountain river valley, crossing the Terej River, to the family's nomadic camp.

During the stay, the host will demonstrate the techniques of how to saddle a horse and prepare an oxcart. Enjoy an evening of traditional Mongolian games with sheep's bones (shagai) and a hot dinner with the hosts. Take in the star-strewn night before going to sleep in the ger.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Kharkhorin - Gorkhi Terej National Park

3h-4h

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

Horse

Gorkhi Terej National Park

24km

Saddle up and giddyup to the next stop along the route. (Chaps not included.)

Participants should be comfortable around and on horses.

Day 7

## Gorkhi Terelj National Park

Make sure to eat all your breakfast, you'll need that energy for the adventurous 24km (5mi) horseback ride through the forested landscape to a picturesque, wide-open, green plain. Meet a locally well-known nomadic seamstress and her family who will serve a well-deserved lunch before you learn how to make patterns for traditional Mongolian garments.

In the evening, opt to help collect firewood by ox cart before enjoying a traditional dinner and tea with the family.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Horse

Gorkhi Terelj National Park

24km

Saddle up and giddyup to the next stop along the route. (Chaps not included.)

Traditional Clothing Demonstration

Gorkhi Terelj National Park

1h30m

Learn how to make Mongolian patterns for traditional garments from a well-known nomadic seamstress.

Day 8

## Gorkhi Terelj National Park

Enjoy some free time to explore this scenic region more in-depth. Visit local families by ox cart and learn how to make homemade vodka and cheese, then try them out during lunch and dinner!

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Gorkhi Terelj National Park

Explore the national park scenery with some free time.

#### ACTIVITY

Travel by ox cart through the forest along the Terelj River where a local family will demonstrate how to make homemade vodka and cheese. Compare techniques over a traditional lunch.

Day 9

## Gorkhi Terelj National Park/Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, settle in for the relaxing bus ride back to the modern Ulaanbaatar capital! There will be plenty of time to explore and shop after checking in to the hotel. Opt to visit to the Gandan Monastery, Bogd Khan Palace or Zaisan Hill.

Enjoy a final evening group activity during a folk cultural performance by the Tumen Ekh Ensemble and our farewell dinner after.



### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Local Bus

Gorkhi Terelj National Park - Ulaanbaatar

2h

Climb aboard, grab a seat, and enjoy the ride.

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.

Depart at any time.

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## Meals included

Breakfast

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## Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

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- Your Local Living Moment: Nomadic Family Stay, Mongolia
- Your Foodie Moment: Mongolian Vodka and Cheese Making Demonstration, Gorkhi Terej National Park
- Daily lessons and demonstrations of various nomadic skills and techniques while staying with nomadic hosts
- Horseback, oxen cart, and camel rides
- Historic monastery visit
- Mongolian Cultural Show
- National park entrance fees
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## **What are the main highlights of this trip?**

Sleep in traditional Mongolian gers, Ride across desert landscapes on horseback or camel, learn to make local crafts and garments from nomadic hosts, compete with Mongolian nomads in archery, Mongolian vodka and cheese making demonstration, Orkhon Valley waterfall hikes, Historical Erdene Zuu Monastery visit, Enjoy a Mongolian cultural performance

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Sleep in traditional Mongolian gers, Ride across desert landscapes on horseback or camel, learn to make local crafts and garments from nomadic hosts, compete with Mongolian nomads in archery, Mongolian vodka and cheese making demonstration, Orkhon Valley waterfall hikes, Historical Erdene Zuu Monastery visit, Enjoy a Mongolian cultural performance

## **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?**

Travellers on this tour should be comfortable on and around horses.

## **What is the group leader like?**

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officers (CEO). The aim of the CEO 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.

## **How large will the group be?**

Max 12, avg 9.

## **What meals are included in this trip?**

9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 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 CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. 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?**

Public bus, oxcart, horse.

## **What transportation will we take on this trip?**

We will use public buses to travel between Ulaanbaatar and Terelj National Park. While in the park, we will travel by horse and oxcart. Travellers should be comfortable on and around horses.

## **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?

Traditional ger (6 nts), ger camp (1 nt), basic hotels (2 nts).

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

In Ulaanbaatar accommodation will be in a standard hotel with twin share rooms.

In rural locations you will overnight in a family's extra ger tent (max 5 persons in 1 ger) with basic furnishings. Typically, families will have between 2 to 3 beds and the rest will be provided mattresses – all necessary camping equipment is included and will be provided to you by your CEO upon arrival in Ulaanbaatar. Shower facilities are not available at the camps, except at the Ger Camp on Night 5. Most nomadic families do not have a formal toilet in their camps – expect a basic, screened-in outdoor toilet.

## What is the joining hotel?

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

## What are the joining instructions?

When arriving at Ulaan Baatar Intl Airport you will notice that the airport is actually very close to the city. After you exit from the baggage hall follow the taxi signs and you will find a queue outside the terminal building. Taxis in Mongolia are metered but you may have to bargain for one from the airport. The fare to our starting point hotel will be about 30 USD and should take about 30-40 minutes.

If you have paid in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport to meet you. 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 for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time. Similarly the last day is a departure day during which no activities have been planned.

A G Adventures Representative will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

## What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

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 should I contact in case 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

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this.

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.

### 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

## Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?

You will be on the move a good deal, so pack as lightly as possible (try to stay under 10kg / 22lb). It is in your own interest as you are expected to carry your own luggage. We don't recommend bring suitcases.

# What should be on my packing list?

## 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:

- 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
- Footwear
- 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

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear Note: During the colder months (Oct-Apr) the regions can be very cold, so please make sure you pack warm clothes.

**When 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.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

Mongolia Visa Exemptions: Citizens of the following countries do not require a visa to enter to Mongolia

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Philippines, Malaysia, Kazakhstan, Israel, Hong Kong, Kyrgyzstan, The United States of America, Macau, The Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Japan, Germany, Belarus, Turkey, Serbia, Canada, Russia, Singapore, Uruguay, Peru. Please check (<https://consul.mn/home/eng/consuleng1.php?moduls=23>) for allowed the duration of stay

Citizens that are eligible to apply for E-Visa online: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK.

With E-Visa, no need to request LOI or apply for Visa at Mongolian Consulate or Embassy.

Mongolian E- visa website <https://evisa.mn/main>

Nationalities which are not listed on Mongolia Visa exemptions list or the E-Visa list are required to apply for a Mongolian visa with official Mongolian Letter of Invitation (LOI).

\*\*\*It is the responsibility of the traveller to check with their nearest Embassy and confirm the requirements for entry into Mongolia\*\*\*

**IMPORTANT:** If your country of citizenship is not mentioned on Mongolia Visa exemptions list or not on E visa list & you require an LOI. Once your trip is confirmed, 90 days prior to your entry into Mongolia, you must submit an application for your Letter of Invitation (<https://www.gadventures.com/visa-forms/Mongolia/>). The details will be forwarded to our local agent in Mongolia and you will be emailed your Mongolian Invitation Letter about 14 business days after submission. Mongolia LOI's can be rushed in extreme circumstances.

**IMPORTANT:** Once your trip is confirmed, at 90 days prior to your entry into Mongolia, you must submit an application for your Letter of Invitation. A link will be emailed to you in your confirmation email. The details will be forwarded to our local agent in Mongolia and you will be emailed your Mongolian Invitation Letter about 10 business days after submission. Mongolia LOI's can be rushed in extreme circumstances.

Mongolian visas can be used up to 3 months from the date the visa is issued, and once you have entered Mongolia, the visa is valid for a maximum of 30 days. Therefore, please time your application accordingly and do not apply for the visa more than 3 months in advance of your trip.

Input your name the same way it is in your passport. The information on the application form must match your passport (if you have 2 or more names - all of them have to be listed under "first name").

If you have an umlaut or other character not recognized in the English alphabet in your name (ie. ü), please enter it in the longer form (ie. ue).

If your country has an official Mongolian Consulate/Embassy, you must choose this as your 'Visa pickup Embassy'. If you do not see a local Consulate/Embassy on this list or you are unable to go there due to prior travel arrangements, please contact your Travel Agent or G Adventures for further assistance.

Once you have received your Mongolian LOI and are completing the visa application from the Mongolian Embassy or Consulate, please refer to the LOI for the Supplier details required.

At time of writing, the below documents will be needed to obtain your visa (however, we do advise you confirm this with your nearest Embassy):

1. A standard visa application form from the Embassy or Consulate where you will collect your visa
2. 2 colour, passport sized photos (taken within 14 days)
3. Payment for the visa (this will be dependent on nationality and will sometimes need to be made at a local nearby bank - check with your Embassy to confirm details)
4. Passport with empty pages and at least 6 months validity
5. Mongolia Letter of Invitation
6. We also recommend bringing your vouchers as well as proof of onward travel (flight tickets entering and leaving the country) and a copy of the itinerary, printable from our website. While this may not be needed, we recommend having a copy on hand if needed.

\*\*\*Please carefully check all the information below prior to submitting\*\*\*

Once you have received your LOI you can apply for your visa by going to the Mongolian Embassy you listed in the online application. Please remember that it is your responsibility to check whether passport details, name spelling and dates on the LOI are correct.

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](http://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.

## **How much emergency money should I bring 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.

## **Should I be tipping on my 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 CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group.

Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$2-\$3 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$20-25 USD per person, per week 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.

There are no specific health requirements for this trip. However, you should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information about 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 we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities for some time during this trip, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

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 jewellery 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 Chief Experience Officer (CEO) 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 CEO 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 CEOs 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 rules should I know before joining this trip?

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 CEOs 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.

## Is travel insurance required for my 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 usually hot and humid climate of Asian summers. 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/](http://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.

## How old must I be to join 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 GCO 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.