

Code MEX **Mongolian Expedition**

Tour Dossier Introduction

Dossier Last Updated: 26-03-2014

Tour Code: MEX

Duration: 13 nights / 14 days

Joining City: Ulaan Baatar

Departure City: Ulaan Baatar

Nearest Joining International Airport: Ulan Bator Chinggis Khaan Intl Apt (ULN)

Nearest Departing International Airport: Ulan Bator Chinggis Khaan Intl Apt (ULN)

Please check this document just before departing in case of last minute changes to your tour.

Tour Documents

 PDF Document  Web Page

-  [Packing List for Adventure Tours](#)
-  [Joining Letter for Tours Beginning in Ulaan Baatar](#)
-  [Optional Excursions Guide for Tours to Asia and Russia](#)
-  [Asia Pre Departure Booklet](#)
-  [Mongolia Dossier](#)
-  [Mongolia Booking Form](#)

What's Included

- > Delgeriin Choir Monastery
- > Vulture Valley excursion
- > Singing Sand Dunes
- > Flaming Cliff
- > Ongiin monastery and Khoshuu Monastery
- > Tsenher Jiguur Hot Spring
- > Erdene Zuu Monastery
- > Khustain Nuruu National Park

- > 2 nights in hotels, hostels & guesthouses, 7 nights camping, 4 nights in Mongolian gers / tents
- > 13 breakfasts, 11 lunches, 11 dinners
- > Travel by Public Bus, Private Vehicle, Foot, 4WD, Car
- > English-speaking local guide(s) on excursions

What's not Included

- > International flights and departure taxes
- > Domestic flight taxes if applicable

- > Tips on included excursions, visas, travel insurance, personal items and single rooms.
- > Airport transfers and pre and post tour accommodation
- > Spending money – budget for meals, snacks, drinks, limited souvenirs, laundry, tips and any extras
- > Optional excursions - Please see our optional excursions guide on the dossier page for a comprehensive list of optional activities and excursions available on this tour.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 to 1 - Arrive Ulaanbaatar

The first day of your tour is simply an arrival day with no pre-organised activities. In order to allow time to relax and see some of the sights you may wish to add pre tour accommodation. On arrival please ask at the reception for information on when the pre departure meeting will be held.

At night the temperature drops and gets very cold. We recommend packing a thick winter sleeping bag, matt and warm clothes including a hat for your nights in a traditional Mongolian Ger.

Optional Excursions: Mongolian BBQ

Day 2 to 2 - Baga Gazriin Chuluu

Leaving Mongolia's capital, we head out into the countryside and immediately discover why this country is the least densely populated on earth. We are able to cover great distances without seeing anyone. We come to a stop by Bag Gazrin Chuluu, a granite structure that obtrudes out of the plain and can be spotted from afar and take a tour of the Delgeriin Chior Monastery at the foot of the formation. This afternoon you can hike around the region and visit the picturesque ruins of a small monastery hidden in a protected valley.

Included Excursions: Delgeriin Chior Monastery

Day 3 to 3 - Tsagaan Suvarga

With 30 metre high limestone cliffs over thousands of years the wind has eroded the cliffs creating a dramatic effect. From a distance, the cliffs resemble crumbling ruins of an ancient town but up close, you can see signs of human life from the paintings and carvings etched into the rocks. Below the cliffs lie mud columns rising up from the depths below, some resembling animals.

Day 4 to 4 - Yol Valley & Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park

Today we drive through the gorges of the Altai Mountain Chain and Yoliin Am, translated to Vulture's mouth, in the Goli Gurvansaikhan National Park. Yoliin Am is a dramatic region where the birdlife is protected. It has beautiful rocky cliffs and narrow canyons. We will stop at the small nature museum with a collection of dinosaur eggs and bones, stuffed birds and a snow leopard.

Included Excursions: Vulture Valley

Day 5 to 6 - Khongor

We reach Khongoriin Els, other wise called Duut Mankhan or the Singing Dunes. They have been given this name after the sound they make when the sand is moved by the wind and when the sand collapses in avalanches. The sand dunes are up to 300 metres high and stretch out for over 100 kilometres. You will have the chance to climb to the top of the sand dunes, an exhausting task as with every step forward that you take, two steps are slid backwards. You can also visit a camel breeding family and try camel riding. From the other side of the sand dunes we will catch a glimpse of the black rocky Sevrey Mountain.

Included Excursions: Singing Sand Dunes

Day 7 to 7 - Bayanzag

In 1922, palaeontologist Roy Chapman Andrews found one of the largest collections of dinosaur bones and eggs here making the region famous. Now known as the Flaming Cliffs you can appreciate the eerie beauty of the landscape with its rocks, red sand and piercing sun. You can explore the cliffs by foot or hire a camel.

Included Excursions: Flaming Cliff

Day 8 to 8 - Ongiyn Golyn

Today we visit both the Barlim Khiid and the Khutagt Khiid, both monasteries separated by the river and known collectively as Ongiin Khid, once home to

over 1000 monks. We take a guided tour of the ruins and hike through the rocky hills cut out by the river

Included Excursions: Barlim Khiid & Khutagt Khiid

Day 9 to 10 - Tsenher

We take some time to relax in the remote Tsenher Jiguur Hot Springs. The hot water springs from the earth at over 80°C and is fed to bathing pools by a complex system of pipelines which regulates the temperature. This is an ideal place to relax, sit back and enjoy the nature around you. With a full day here you can make the most of the pools or visit a local family, trying home made dairy products and horse riding through the valley.

Included Excursions: Tsenher Jiguur Hot Springs

Day 11 to 11 - Kharhorin

We have a long drive today as we head to Kharkhorin, the very place where Ghenghis Khan planned his capital. The city was the political, cultural and economic centre of his empire but was only completed after his death, and was later destroyed by Manchurian invaders. The Kharkhorin of today is a small settlement with little focus on tourism.

Included Excursions: Guided tour of Erdene Zuu Monastery

Day 12 to 12 - Khustain Nuruu National Park

Established in 1993 to protect Mongolia's wild horse population, you can see the takhi in the wild at Khustain Nuruu National Park. The takhi were reintroduced to the park in the 1990's after the wild horse had been completely wiped out from the wild. Today Mongolia's wild horse population descends from three stallions and there are over 250 of the animals in this park alone making it one of the world's greatest conservation success stories. The park is also home to red deer, boar, wolf and lynx among other animals and wildlife viewing is best at dawn and dusk. We will have time to explore the park by jeep, on foot or on horseback and we will visit staff at the park to learn more about their conservation efforts.

Included Excursions: Khustain Nuruu National Park

Day 13 to 13 - Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast we return to Ulaanbaatar for some last minute souvenir shopping. You might have time to visit the Museum of Archeology where you can see some of the artefacts rescued from the regions we have explored.

Day 14 to 14 - Depart Ulaanbaatar

Your adventure of a lifetime comes to an end today. If you have a late flight or have lengthened your stay by adding post tour accommodation you will have more time to explore the sights.

This itinerary is a guide. Changes may be made before or during your tour to improve the running or due to unforeseen circumstances.

Travel Style

This is an **Adventure Tour**. We see a destination from the locals' perspective using a variety of transport and staying in small locally owned accommodation. There is a maximum of 16 travellers with an average group size of 8-12.

Packing List

We have a detailed packing list for all of our Adventure Tours [here](#).

Baggage

On all of our Adventure Tours, you will be required to carry your luggage long distances down unpaved and uneven roads or up flights of stairs when elevators are not available. It is important that you choose a durable and lightweight soft bag that you can carry comfortably on your back.

You will also need a small daypack, large enough to carry everything you might need on overnight excursions.

Add-ons & Extras

On many of our Group Tours, we spend one night in our arrival and departure cities. If you want to explore these cities more we can book pre and post tour accommodation, city tours and airport transfers for you. Price information can be found on the price page of each tour. We also have **Add-ons** - short

packages that can be booked alongside a tour or on their own and have been carefully designed to ensure you don't miss out on popular highlights.

Rooming

All our **Adventure Tours** are priced per person on a shared room basis meaning there is no compulsory extra payment for those travelling on their own.

I'd like my own room

If you are a solo traveller, a single room is available on most occasions at an extra cost. Price information can be found on the price page of each tour.

Day by Day Itinerary

Day	Activity	Country	Meals
Day 1	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia	
Day 2	Baga Gazriin Chuluu		BLD
Day 3	Tsagaan Suvarga		BLD
Day 4	Yol Valley- Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park		BLD
Day 5	Khongor		BLD
Day 6	Khongor		BLD
Day 7	Bayanzag		BLD
Day 8	Ongiyin Golyn		BLD
Day 9	Tsenher		BLD
Day 10	Tsenher		BLD
Day 11	Kharhorin		BLD
Day 12	Khustain Nuruu National Park		BLD
Day 13	Ulaanbaatar		B
Day 14	Ulaanbaatar		B

(B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner included)

Please note the day to day itinerary above is given as a GUIDELINE ONLY.

For tours that include the option of a single supplement, a ? will indicate in which destinations single rooms are available.