



## NATURAL TREASURES OF MONGOLIA WITH SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

### Key Information:

**Trip Length:** 12 days/11 nights.

**Trip Type:** Easy to Moderate.

**Tour Code:** **SMT-NTM-12D**

**Specialty Categories:** Adventure Expedition, Cultural Journey, Camel riding, Birdwatching, Driving tour, E-co Travel, Hiking, Hot springs, Local Culture, Nature, National Parks, UNESCO World Heritage Sites, UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife.

**Meeting/Departure Points:** Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (excluding flights).

**Small Groups:** **6-32 travelers-guaranteed!**

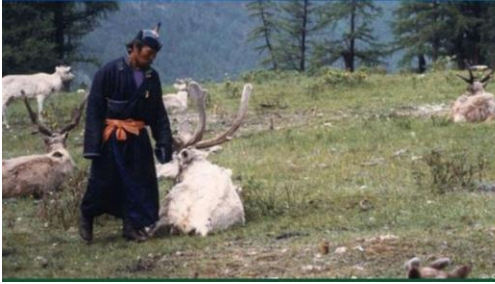
**Valid Season:** **20 May-20 September.**

**Total Distance:** +3000kms/1864miles.

**Airfare or Train Included:** No.

**Tour Highlights:** Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar Genghis Khan New Airport (52 kms/33.2 miles), meet Samar Magic Tours team. **Natural Treasures of Northern and Central Mongolia** gets you from **Grasslands to the Great Khuvsgul Lake National Park** in the Far Northern of Mongolia (close to Siberia) and to the **All Highlights of Central Mongolia**. Enjoy the view of the beautiful lake Khuvsgul, a crystal clear water lake that stretches over 100 miles. **Explore the area on foot or on horseback. See a Tsaataan (Reindeer) people. Ride on a reindeer.** Here, you will have the opportunity to do several optional activities. **Lake Khuvsgul**-is the largest fresh water lake in Mongolia by volume, and it is located in the northwest of Mongolia, near the Russian border, at the foot of the eastern Sayan Mountains. It is 1,645 metres (5,397 feet) above sea level, 136kms (85 miles) long and 262 metres (860 feet) deep. It is the second- most voluminous freshwater lake in Asia, and holds almost 70% of Mongolia's fresh water and 0.4% of all the fresh water in the world and second largest by area. The Park is home to a variety of wildlife such as ibex, argali, elk, wolf, wolverine, musk deer, brown bear, Siberian moose, and sable. **Khuvsgul Lake** was added to **UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves**. The decision was made during the 34th session of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Programme taking place in **Paris, France. We would be pleased to have you join us!**

**The Best Time to Travel to the Northern of Mongolia:** **20 May, June, July and August** are the peaks tourist season. **20 September** is autumn.



## BRIEF ITINERARY:

- Day 1**-Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar, meet Samar Magic Tours team. Grand Ulaanbaatar Tour (L)
- Day 2**-Ulaanbaatar-Amarbayasgalant monastery. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 3**-Uran-Togoo Tulga Uul Natural Park. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 4**-Murun-Deer Stones-Great Lake Khuvsgul National Park. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 5**-Great Lake Khuvsgul National Park. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 6**-Murun-Khangai mountains-Lake Zuun. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 7**-Khorgo Extinct Volcano National Park-Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 8**-Tsetserleg-Tsenkher Hot Springs. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 9**-Tsenkher Hot Springs-Karakorum-Orkhon Valley. (B)(L)(D)
- Day 10**-Desierto Bayangobi (Elsen Tasarkhai Sand Dunes)-Bactrian Camel riding-Ulaanbaatar. (B)(L)
- Day 11**-The Genghis Khan Statue-Gorkhi/Terelj National Park-Ulaanbaatar. (B)(L)
- Day 12**-Departure Mongolia. (B)



### DAY BY DAY ITINERARY:

**Day 1**-Upon your arrival in **Ulaanbaatar Genghis Khan New Airport** and after custom formalities and baggage claim, you will be met by **Samar Magic Tours team** and taken to the centrally located hotel in Ulaanbaatar (by hotels policy the check-in time is after **02:00PM/14:00**). **Ulaanbaatar City Grand Tour:** visit the **Gandantegchinlen Monastery** is a Tibetan-style Buddhist monastery that has been restored and revitalized since 1990. The Tibetan name translates to the "Great Place of Complete Joy". It currently has over 150 monks in residence. It features a 26.5-meter-high statue of Avalokitesvara. It came under state protection in 1994. Here you will have the opportunity to attend a Buddhist ceremony. Next, we will visit a **small museum of dinosaur fossils**. The centerpiece of the museum is the 4m tall, 3 tonne UV light Tarbosaurus bataar (cousin of Tyrannosaurus rex) and a smaller Saurolophus, with its distinctive skull crest. The Tarbosaurus bataar made international headlines in 2012, when it sold for more than US\$1 million at auction in Texas. The Mongolian government protested that the fossil had been illegally removed from Mongolia and demanded its return. The legal battle ended when a US judge ruled in favor of



Mongolia. The museum also includes examples of Velociraptor and Protoceratops, and a nest of Oviraptor eggs. It is located inside the former Lenin Museum, built in the year 1974. Visit the **National History Museum**-where you will see artefacts from Mongolia and Central Asia from the Stone Age to the present. Here you will see a large statue of the **Genghis Khan**-inaugurated in 2006 on the occasion of 800th Anniversary of the Great Mongolian Empire of **Genghis Khan** (1206-2006), the **Sukh Baatar Hero** along with The Parliament House, Stock Exchange, the Drama Theatre and the Palace of Culture. **Welcome lunch in traditional local restaurant.** Next, visit the **New Museum "Genghis Kan" ("Chinggis Khaan")**, opened in the month of **October 11, 2022**. The museum is designed to show the history of the Mongol kings from the reign of King Hunnu Modun Shanyu to the abdication of the Eighth Jebtsundamba. **06:00PM-Evening National Performers** (concert which includes the Tsam dance, traditional Mongolian singers, dancers, Tuvan throat singing and contortionists). Transfer to hotel. Overnight at selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner is not included. (L)**



**Day 2**-Breakfast. **08:00AM**-Meet Samar Magic Tours team at reception of the hotel. Drive towards by comfortable 4WD vehicle to reach **Amarbayasgalant monastery** (360 km /224 miles north of Ulaanbaatar in the Baruunburen soum of Selenge province). Explore on foot, the monastery complex and statues on the mountain. **Amarbayasgalant monastery** was originally built in 1737 by the **Manchurian King Kansu**, who dedicated it to the great Mongolian Buddhist and sculptor, **Zanabazar**. **The valley** is covered throughout its extent with Turkic-era graves of various geometric shapes marked out in large boulders. These important archaeological features which date from the 3rd-7th centuries are the indication that the valley has long-standing sacred associations for the people of Mongolia, associations which continued and uninterrupted into the Buddhist era when they were re-validated by the construction of **Amarbayasgalant Monastery** on this historic site. **Amarbayasgalant** was one of the greatest Buddhist pilgrimage centers where between the 17th and 19th Centuries about one thousand lamas lived, chanted and studied. In 1996, was designated as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Originally,



**Amarbayasgalant Monastery** consisted of over 40 temples built on the special terrace, surrounded by a wall, measuring 207x175 m. Only 28 temples now remain, they have been under State protection since 1944. The monastery has a symmetrical construction. According to which the buildings are hierarchically arranged along the central axis so that all the important buildings run down the centre to north and south. This layout of the Monastery is similar to the general layout of Manchu-style spatial planning of Imperial Palace but stylistically its art has tributary Chinese architectural influences. The size of its Tsogchin (Main) temple is 32x32 m. Its construction expresses the planning features of the Mongolian national architecture and engineering solutions are very original. One of the interesting solutions is routing of roof water through the inside of four columns, under the floor, through stone grooves and away from the Tsogchin temple. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



## Volcán Extinto Uran Tolgoo-Tulga



## Samar Magic Tours

**Day 3**-Breakfast. Meet Samar Magic Tours team. Next, drive towards to **Uran-Togoo Tulga Uul Natural Park** in Bulgan province. **Explore the area of Uran extinct volcano on foot.** This area has been protected as a **"Natural Monument"** since 1965, and covers 58 square km. The protected area is the home of numerous kinds of rare animals. **Uran extinct volcano** is at an elevation of 1,686 meters above sea level. On



the top is a crater with a small crater lake of about 20 meters in diameter. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



# Parque Nacional Gran Lago Khuvsgul



## Samar Magic Tours

**Day 4-Breakfast.** Meet Samar Magic Tours team. A long trip via **Murun** towards to the **Great Lake Khuvsgul National Park**-known as **blue pearl of Mongolia**, located close to the Siberian border. **Stop in-route in the Valley of Kings** for the display of the ancient burial grounds of the Turkic nobles and a view of the carved **"Deer Stones"**. **Khuvsgul** is the second largest freshwater lake in



Central Asia. Khuvsgul water is crystal fresh and clear that you can drink the water and see points at as deep as 24.5m. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



# MONGOLIA

## Samar Magic Tours





**Day 5-Breakfast. A free day and relaxation in Khuvsgul Lake National Park.** Enjoy the view of the beautiful lake Khovsgol, a crystal clear water lake that stretches over 100 miles. **Explore the area on foot. See a Tsaataan (Reindeer) people. Optional activities** such as ride on a reindeer, ride horses on the steppes, fishing, boating, sauna, etc (**extra payment on site!**). Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



**Day 6-Breakfast.** Meet Samar Magic Tours team. A long drive towards via Murun & **Khangai mountains**, towards to reach **Lake (Nuur) Zuun**. A perfect stop over for travellers. **Zuun Nuur Lake** is situated about 2000 meters above sea level and it can be really cold (below 13 degrees) in the evening even during summer time. It is a salt water lake and it's so exclusive that it is not even marked on the google map!. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**

**Day 7-Breakfast.** Meet Samar Magic Tours team. Drive towards to **Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan-Khorgo Extinct Volcano National Park**-this is a freshwater lake with volcanic area around **it is certainly the highlight of Arkhangai province**. As you hike up the volcano, the dramatic scenery



of the beautiful alpine lake to the west and volcanic lava flows to the east will open in front of you. **Explore the area on foot.** Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



**Day 8**-Breakfast. Meet Samar Magic Tours team. A long drive towards via **Tsetserleg city** to reach **Tsenkher Hot Springs**, situated in a mountain meadow. **Relaxing and enjoy baths at Tsenkher Hot Spa (89C/192.2F).** Visit a **Yak breeder's family** and experience the **traditional customs** and lifestyle of local residents. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



**Day 9**-Breakfast. Meet Samar Magic Tours team. Continue our great journey to **Karakorum-the Genghis (Chinggis) Khan's 13th century capital and heart of the mighty Mongolian Empire** and Okhon river Valley, cradle of Mongolian civilization. Visitors, such as **Marco Polo**, described its ornate building, including a 2500 sq. meters Palace of Worldly Peace. In 1792 the Monastery still had 62 temples and 10,000 lamas. But in 1930 it became a victim of the Stalin's purges. All but three of the Temples were destroyed and most of the monks were either killed or sent to Siberia. Now there is a museum and restored. Next, we will visit the **Monument to the Mongol States** located on a hill overlooking the city of **Karakorum (Kharkhorin)**, on the bank of the Orkhon River. It was built in 2004. The monument consists of a large pile of stones (a shamanic ovoov) carefully assembled into a cone shape, approximately the same size as a tipi, with nine posts protruding from the top. This structure is mounted on a stone and concrete platform and is surrounded by three walls that represent three sections of a circle. The outer sides of these walls feature three colorful mosaics representing three maps, one for each of the empires.



1. First, there was the Xiongnu Empire, a confederation of nomadic tribes that lived on the steppes from about the 3rd century BC. until the 1st century AD.



2. The Turkish Khaganate Empire followed, established by the Göktürks in 682 and lasting only until 744.

3. Finally, and famously, Genghis Khan founded the Mongol Empire of the 13th and 14th centuries.

The iconic place of the **Mongol Empire** in culture, combined with the shamanic symbolism of the ovoos at the center of the monument, prompts people to leave offerings of vodka, milk, tea, rice and other edible delicacies that inevitably attract birds and some than another herd of goats and sheep passing by. Several animal skulls can also be found around the monument, completing the surreal scene. It is no coincidence that the **Imperial Map Monument** is located in Kharkhorin, as this city (then called Karakorum) was the capital of the Mongol Empire under **Genghis Khan's successor, Ogedei Khan**. **The Imperial Map Monument** is a great vantage point from which to look out over the city of Kharkhorin and the Orkhon River, and imagine what this collection of dirt roads and low-rise buildings may have looked like in its glory days. After, we visit **the legendary Erdene zuu monastery, the turtle monument and the Karakorum museum**, which is recently opened to show the public, remains unique in Kharakorum found during an excavation organized by Mongolia and Germany together. In 1792 the Monastery still had 62 temples and 10,000 lamas. But in 1930 it became a victim of the Stalin's purges. All but three of the Temples were destroyed and most of the monks were either killed or sent to Siberia. Subsequently the **Orkhon Valley** was continuously occupied throughout the Prehistoric and Bronze ages and in proto-historic and early historic times was settled successively by the Huns, Turkic peoples, the Uighurs, the Kidans, and finally the Mongols. Today, the cultural heritage of the valley constitutes a **UNESCO World Heritage Visits Erdene zuu monastery, the turtle monument and the Karakorum museum. Mongol lunch is included front Erdene zuu monastery**. Overnight in tourist Gers camp. **(B)(L)(D)**



**Day 10**-Breakfast. Meet Samar Magic Tours team. Drive to reach **Elsen Tasarkhai (Bayangobi Desert or Mini-Gobi)**, is a part of the 80 km/50 miles long Mongol Els Sand Dunes and is located on about 280kms/174miles west from the capital Ulaanbaatar. The nature in this area is really spectacular and great for relaxing. During the trip, you will also have opportunities **to ride two-humped Bactrian camel** (included), walk on sand dunes, and walk and relax in beautifully serene nature. **Drive back to Ulaanbaatar** (280kms/174miles, +5hrs driving). Transfer to hotel. Overnight at selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner is not included.**



**Day 11**-Breakfast. Breakfast. **09:00AM**-Meet Samar Magic Tours team at reception of the hotel. Drive towards to visit the **40meter /~133,3 feet Genghis Khan Statue on horseback** (55km/34miles) N/E of the Mongolian capital Ulaanbaatar. The statue is symbolically pointed east towards his birthplace. It is on top of the **Genghis Khan Statue Complex**, a visitor center, itself 10 meters (32 ft 10 in) tall, with 36 columns representing the 36 khans from **Genghis** to Ligdan Khan. Visitors walk to the head of the horse through its chest and neck of the horse, where they can have a panoramic view. Near the Great Statue of **Genghis Khan**, we can take beautiful photos with **the Kazakhs and their Golden Eagles, rides on the backs of Bactrian camels, or rides on Mongolian horses** through the steppes, **shooting with a bow and arrow (\*extra payment at the same place)**. **Mongolian lunch is included on the way**. After, continuous drive north further to reach **Gorkhi/Terelj National Park** (50km/31miles). Seeing grasslands and beautiful vistas. The valley is about 20kms/12miles long at 1600m. This picturesque National Park is a part of **Khan Khentii Strictly Protected Area**. It is a great place for hiking, trekking, even you can rock climb here at its natural steep granite walls. Explore the **Turtle shaped original giant rock** - symbol of Gorkhi/Terelj National Park. **Drive back to Ulaanbaatar** (70km/44miles). **Last Shopping for souvenirs and cashmere**. Transfer to hotel. Overnight at selected and confirmed hotel. **Dinner is not included.**  
**(B)(L)**



**Day 12-** Breakfast. The rooms must be vacated before **12 noon** on the day of departure. Meeting with Samar Magic Tours at the hotel reception. Transfer to Ulaanbaatar "Genghis Kan" ("Chinggis Khaan") New Airport (52 km/33 miles,+2 hrs driving). **Departure Mongolia (B). Great Tour Ends.**

### **INCLUDED SERVICES:**

**3** nights of accommodation in the selected and confirmed hotel, based on the indicated double room, with breakfast.

**8** nights of lodging in the typical traditional tourist camps based on standard Ger for **2** people or more (according to the request!) with bathrooms outside (that is, shared, 1 building for the gentlemen, and 1 building for the ladies), in the rest of the route.

Food as specified (**11** BREAKFASTS, **11** LUNCHESS, **8** DINNERS) with 1 bottle of mineral water per person/daily

Welcome lunch in a traditional restaurant.

All transfers in private, traveling in a comfortable Japanese Land Cruiser Toyota 4x4 or similar (occupancy: **4-5** tourists + **1** Mongolian speaking driver in **1** vehicle, Limit: **15** kg per person) on the rest of the route, with all fuel included.

English or Spanish speaking local guide (\*according to early request!).

All entrance fees to all specified National Parks, Natural Reserves, monuments, museums, and monasteries.

Visits to authentic nomadic families with farms for horses, yaks, bulls on the route, meet the Tsaataan (Reindeer) people.

Attend a folk show with the fascinating sounds of khoomi throat singing and Mongolian dance.

Excursion to explore the dunes on the back of a Bactrian camel.

**1** hour relaxing and enjoy baths at Tsenkher Hot Spa (89C/192.2F).

Gentle hiking through wonderful landscapes.

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

### **What's Not Included?**

Airfares. Occasional flight delays or cancellation. Excess baggage. Visa. Any rescue costs or costs of early departure. Changing of date of departure from Ulaanbaatar. **Early Check-in at hotels. Late Check-out from the hotels.** The traveller is responsible for having proper travel documents, such as a valid passport, and the necessary passport pictures. Travel insurance. Items of personal nature such as gratuities to porters at hotels, telephone / telex / fax charges, laundry, beverages, meals, optional activities, and services not specified in the itinerary. Any circumstances beyond of our control, such as the imposition of quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, Mongolia road conditions, etc.





## EXPERIENCES:

- This journey designed especially for families, private trip, honey moon, and funny travel.
- Enjoy the view of the beautiful Great Lake Khuvsgul, a crystal-clear water lake that stretches over 100 miles.
- Explore the area on foot or on horseback. Enjoy horse riding. Here, you will have the opportunity to do several optional activities.
- Here also, you will have the opportunity to take a boat tour (optional payment on site!).
- Meeting True Nomadic people (Tsaatan-Reindeer people). Ride on a reindeer.
- Vacation on the Great Lake Khuvsgul gets you to the Natural Wonder of Northern Mongolia.



## TO CONSIDER:

- Guaranteed services from **6-32** people.
- Mongolian visa not included.
- International flights not included.
- Accommodation outside Ulaanbaatar is in the tourist camps in Ger Standard for 2 people with bathrooms outside (so shared, 1 building for men, and 1 building for women). The tourist camps in Gers do not have an official category.
- The hotel category information is for the Ulaanbaatar hotel.



- The entrance to the rooms in the hotels of Ulaanbaatar is at **02:00PM (14:00)**. Early entry to rooms is not included.
- The departure of the rooms in the hotels of Ulaanbaatar is at **12:00M**. Late check-out of rooms is not included.
- Excess baggage must be left for free at hotels in Ulaanbaatar before departure to the countryside of Mongolia.

## RESERVATION CONDITIONS AND FINAL PAYMENT

**Please note: Naadam Festival** surcharge applies for travel from **Jul 01 to Jul 15 - Peak Season in Mongolia**, where **all services, accommodations are overcrowded**.

- At the time of registering for the trip, the amount of 660 € or \$ US 660 (six hundred and sixty) per person will be paid immediately by bank wire transfer as a **guarantee deposit**, with a minimum advance notice of **180-150 business days**, before arrival in Mongolia.
- You must send us a photocopy of the original passport with a minimum validity of **6 months**, in order to reserve and purchase domestic air tickets in Mongolia, hotels in Ulaanbaatar, and tickets to the **Naadam Festival in the month of July**.
- No registration will be considered valid until these requirements are formalized.
- The final payment of the trip will be made by bank transfer **120** business days before arrival in Mongolia, in order to guarantee the all the indicated reservations.

**VERY IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you do not pay us on the indicated dates, we cannot guarantee the indicated services (\*so in this case, you need to check the new rates and if there is availability in other hotels).

## CANCELLATION

**Refunds for Mongolia tours:** Deposits are non-refundable.

**90-19 days:** 50%

**18-00 business days:** 100%-NO REFUND.

**In the case of cancellations of air and train tickets: it is another concept.** The rates of air tickets or international and national trains subject to modifications, depending on availability at the time of entering the reservation. Rates on air tickets or on international and national trains are only frozen with the issuance and full payment of the tickets. Tickets are non-refundable and can only be cancelled on the day of issue.



### PERSONAL TRAVELING FOR FREE IN MONGOLIA:

A) If the group is of **16** people (**15** pax subscribers + **1** person for free by land, based only on **DOUBLE** room: **8**). Samar Magic Tours will pay all expenses for land, accommodation in **DOUBLE** room. **Not included: accommodation in a single room, and domestic air tickets.**

B) If the group is of **32** people (**30** pax subscribers + **2** people for free by land, based only on **DOUBLE** room: **16**). Samar Magic Tours will pay all expenses for land, accommodation in **DOUBLE** room. **Not included: accommodation in a single room, and domestic air tickets.**

### CHARGE FOR CHILDREN IN MONGOLIA:

**0-3 years:** free;

**From 4 to 11 years old:** 50% of the usual adult price.

**From 12 years old:** 100% of the regular adult price.

### FORM TO FILL IN:

**NAMES AND SURNAMES (\*HOW IT IS WRITTEN ON THE PASSPORT):**

**CITIZENSHIP:**

**VALID PASSPORT NUMBER:**

**SEX:**

**DATE OF ARRIVAL IN ULAN BATOR, NO. OF THE FLIGHT AND TIME OF ARRIVAL:**

**DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM MONGOLIA, NO. OF THE FLIGHT AND THE SCHEDULE:**

**THE SELECTED HOTEL'S NAME FROM OUR HOTEL'S LIST:**

**CONDITIONS OF FORCE MAJEURE:** Although it is our absolute desire to fulfil the trip as detailed in the program, sometimes there are conditions of force majeure that mean that it may be modified. Samar Magic Tours is not legally responsible for those conditions of force majeure outside the organization of the trip that may force changes to the travel program. These reasons and circumstances of force majeure include possible situations of insecurity for the traveller, political instability or violence, rebellions or risk of rebellion, strikes, altercations and violent actions, decisions of governments or local authorities, technical or maintenance problems related to transportation. , changes in schedules or aviation or road routes, natural disasters, epidemics, adverse weather conditions, as well as any other circumstance beyond the control of Samar Magic Tours. If due to unusual circumstances of force majeure it is necessary to carry out a cancellation of the trip, there is no obligation for compensation.