BAIKALNATURE

The Gobi's Heart — Detailed description

Trip Length: Group: 1-10 Departure: Fixed Period: December - January

Trip overview

The Gobi, great expanse of stones and steppe scattered with dunes, plains and mountains, is the largest desert in Asia. Some famous "Silk Roads" used to lead through this huge area with numerous amazing sceneries which will seduct you. This cold desert is known to be one of the sunniest and, of course, driest places of Mongolia.

Your tour will begin at the train station of Ulan Bator where you will take the mythic Trans-Mongolian heading for Sainshand, the last Mongolian city before the Chinese border. You will enjoy travelling through green steppe before arriving to the impressive sceneries of the Gobi.

You will stay with a nomad family and discover daily life of nomads of desert. You will have an opportunity to ride a horse or a camel - according to your wishes.

The programme also includes visit to the monastery of Khamariin where lived Danzanravjaa, famous Mongolian monk and poet of the 19th century.

Your trip will come to its end with a night train towards Ulan Bator or, should you prefer it, China.

Highlights

- Exploration of one of the most spectacular deserts in the world
- Immersion in a nomad family
- Possibility to continue your way towards China and Beijing
- Stopover on the Trans-Mongolian

Tour type

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Difficulty

Easy - nothing more than normal walking while sight-seeing

Comfort

Basic — most of nights in tents or rooms with shared WC, some nights in comfortable rooms.

Program

Day 1 — -

Day 2 — -

Day 3 — -

Departures

New departures available soon

Note

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What's included

Price includes

- English-speaking guide
- Russian-spaking guide
- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Transport a per itinerary
- Excursions and visits as per itinerary
- Nature reserves and parks entrance permissions
- Bathing in springs
- Airplane/ train tickets
- Letter of invitation
- Horse and equipment rental

Price does not include

- Meals as per itinerary
- Visa invitation and registration of passports (for foreign citizens, if necessary)
- Personal expenses and tips
- Visa fees and travel insurance
- Optional activities

Checklist & Equipment

If you are traveling in the spring or autumn, please check with your manager for a list of recommended equipment and an approximate weather forecast.

Recommended checklist

rubber slippers
raincoat / windproof and waterproof jacket with HOOD!
sunglasses
sunscreen and lip balm
swimsuit / swim trunks
towel
wet wipes and antibacterial hand gel
water bottle/flask
spray against mosquitoes and ticks (for summer outdoor tours)
sleeping bag
trekking telescopic poles
winter (down) jacket and warm pants (windproof and waterproof) / winter suit
thermal underwear
comfortable winter boots (suitable for walking on ice and snow)
fleece jacket/sweater with collar
warm mittens (for convenience, thin gloves and a second layer of mittens with fur) / ski gloves
comfortable warm hat and scarf (snood)
ski mask
winter expedition boots (like Sorel or Baffin)
winter expeditionary down jacket (up to -50°)
moisturizing cream
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Meals

At restaurants and homestays in cities, traditional cuisine consists of local specialties.
If you are a vegetarian or have any particular preferences, please let us know, so we could adapt the menu.

Laundry

Some hotels and inns offer laundry services for a variable sum of money. It is sometimes possible to use laundry services at homestay (when there is running water) for a fee.

Visa

You need a tourist visa to travel to Mongolia. It can be issued for a maximum period of 30 days. Your passport has to be valid for at least six months after the expiry date of your visa and to have at least two blank pages.

Documents to provide consular services:

- a visa application form (completed on computer or with a black ballpen),
- a color photo for documents, 3.5 x 4.5 cm, to stick on the visa application form,
- invitation,
- travel insurance, provided by nsurance company, which protects you throughout your trip .

For more information, please see "Do I need a tourist visa to travel to Russia or Mongolia?" of our FAQ.

Money

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Tipping

All persons who compose the BaikalNature travel team (guides, drivers, cooks, etc.) are paid a decent wage for their services and do not expect any tips from you. So you have no obligation to leave anything. If you really want to express your satisfaction by leaving a gratuity, and if it is in foreign currency, be aware that torn or glued coins and banknotes cannot be exchanged. Anyway, thank you for your tips, left at your discretion in envelopes.

Health

No compulsory vaccination.
You need to get a health examination before a great trip. Consult your doctor. Get a dental checkup. If you have health problems that could worsen during the trip, make sure you have taken all your medications with you.
Provide a first aid kit that includes among other items:

- aspirin or paracetamol,
- anti-diarrheal pills,
- antiseptic,
- adhesive plaster,

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- sterile pads.

If you have individual diseases, make sure you have taken your medications.

Emergency Contact

You can contact BaikalNature by phone: +7 924 531 87 01 (What's App, Telegram, Viber)
In addition, your call will be forwarded to your manager, reachable 7/7.

Legal Mentions

Professional Guarantees: BaikalNature LLC (ООО "БайкалНейче"), United Federal Register of Tour Operators number: RTO 009402. Financial Guarantee: "Gaide insurance company" JSC (АО "Страховая компания Гайде"). Insurance contract N 4875/2422-49 from August 6, 2024. Amount of coverage: 500 000 RUB. Legal and actual address: BaikalNature LLC, 55 Dekabrskikh Sobyti Str., office 204.1 664007 Irkutsk Russia

Travel Insurance

In addition to your personal insurance, you have an opportunity to purchase local insurance. Please, do not hesitate to ask us about our services.

Security

Your safety is very important to us! During the trip we ask you to follow the guide's advice, read the instructions carefully and follow the group. If you have any questions or experience any discomfort, please notify your guide or tour-manager immediately.

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