

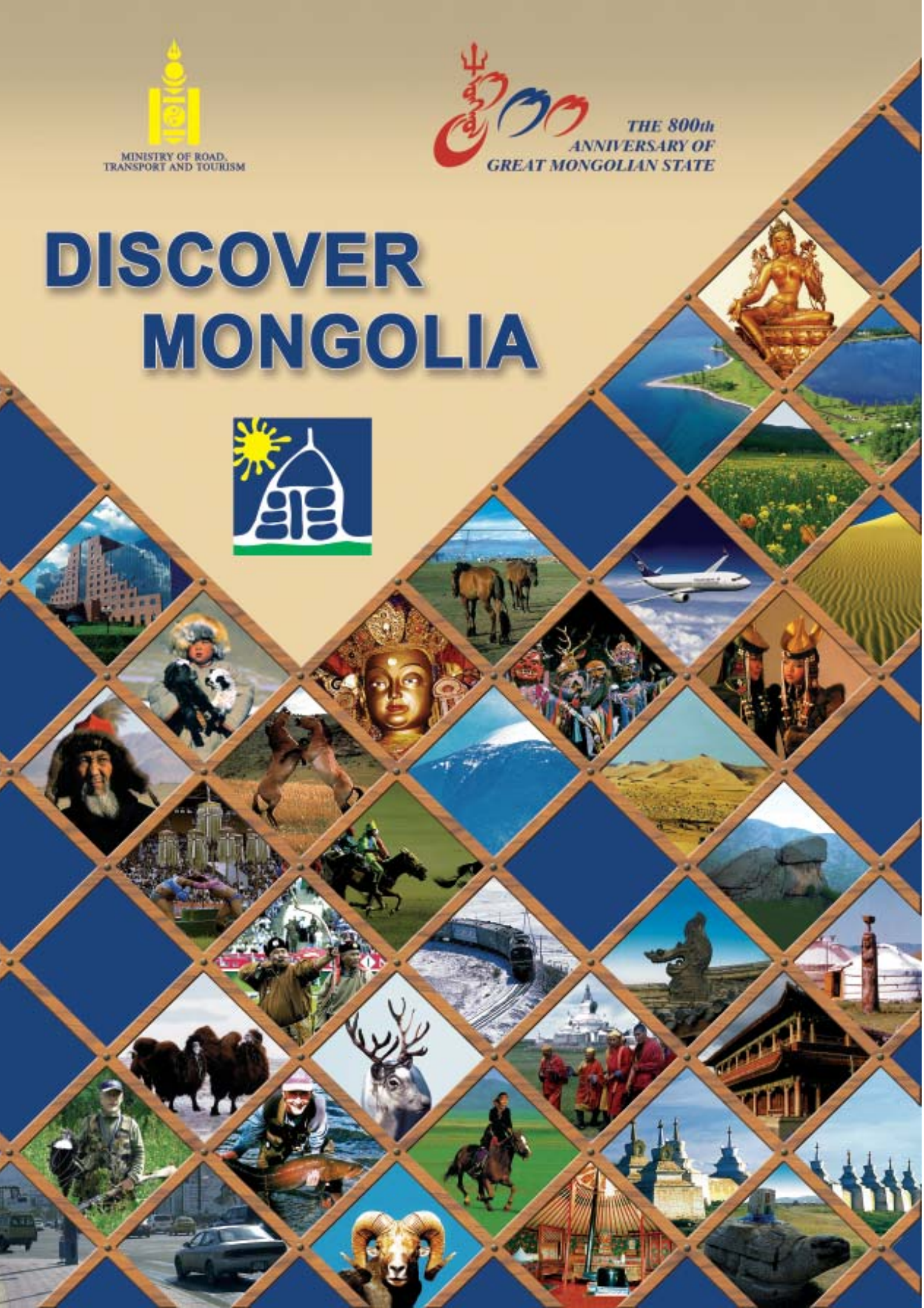


MINISTRY OF ROAD,  
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THE 800th  
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# DISCOVER MONGOLIA





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Office: 414, Khan bank building, 2nd khoroo, Chingeltei district, Ulaanbaatar, MONGOLIA

Tel: (976)-11-318 848, (976)-9191 0565 Fax: (976)-11-318 848

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# DESTINATION MONGOLIA

*Green, ochre and white: Green like the vast sea of grass on the steppes, ochre like the sand dunes of the fabled Gobi desert, and white like the traditional gers, or circular tents. Mongolia is the king of horse countries, where snow-covered mountains mingle with the desert ... Mongolia, land of nomads, Mongals or Kazakhs, shepherds of the wind.*



*Photo by V. Battulga*

## USEFUL INFORMATION

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**Territory:** 1,566,000 sq. km  
**Population:** 2,751,314  
**Density:** 1.5 per sq. km  
**Terrain:** Vast semi-desert and desert plains, mountains in the west and southwest, the Gobi Desert in south and southeast.  
**Climate:** Warm summers and cold winters. Average summer temperature +20°C, average winter temperature -26°C, average rainfall 200-220 mm. Winter lasts from November to late April. Spring runs from May through June. Summer is from July through to September.  
**Average altitude:** 1,580 m above sea-level  
**State structure:** Mongolia is a unitary state and divided administratively into 21 Aimags and a capital city. Aimags are subdivided into sums; sums into bags; a capital city into districts; districts into khorooos.  
**Capital:** Ulaanbaatar (population approx. 800,000)  
**Government:** Parliamentary republic. President elected for four years. The present president is N. Enkhbayar, who was reelected in 2005. The prime minister is appointed by the State Great Khural and serves for a period of four years. The present Prime Minister Mr. M. Enkhbold.  
**Economy:** This traditionally is based on agriculture, livestock breeding (camels, bovine, goats, horses and sheep), and also Mining (mainly gold, coal, copper).  
**Religions:** Buddhism (94%), Muslim, Shamanism and Christian  
**Language:** Khalkha Mongol. Most Mongols speak Russian as a second language because of Mongolia's seventy year experience of Soviet domination, but many also speak a third language. English, German, French and Japanese are widely spoken in the Ulaanbaatar.  
**Time:** +7 hours to GMT  
**Currency:** Tugrik, USD 1 = 1,210 (Feb.06). No limit on foreign currency but must be registered at Mongolian customs. USD and Euros are accepted in hotels and restaurants. Hotels and tourist shops accept credit cards (American Express, Visa, Master card and Diners Club).

**Electric current:** The standard voltage is 220 volts/50Hz.  
**Country code:** 976 and area code for Ulaanbaatar 11.  
**Mobile telephone:** GSM 900 network operated by Mobicom covers centres of provinces and Zamyn-Uud and Zuunkharaa. CDMA network operated by Skytel Company covers Bulgan, Darkhan, Selenge, Ulaanbaatar, Uvurkhangai and Zamyn-Uud. Available rent satellite mobile phone.  
**Internet:** Access is available in Ulaanbaatar at business centres (often located in hotels), internet cafés and at the telephone exchange on province centres. ISPs include Bodicomputers, MagicNet, Railcom and Micom.  
**Passports and visas:** Visa is issued by Mongolian Embassies and Diplomatic Missions around the world, or can be obtained at the Buyant-Ukhaa international airport by those with a formal letter of invitation. If travelling on an organised tour, visas can be obtained through tourism companies or travel agencies. Independent travel is now possible for some nationals (including US nationals, nationals of EU countries and Japan); however some nationals will still require an official invitation.  
**Health:** No specific requirements. Visitors are advised to have medical insurance policy of their native countries. Safety: Mongolia is a very safe country.  
**Tourism season:** From 15 May to 1 October. July and August are the peak months.  
**Accommodation:** There are 116 hotels in Ulaanbaatar, offering over 5000 beds. There are many smaller hotels, guesthouses and hostels of varying standards. Outside the capital, comfortable touristger camps are available.  
**Food:** Mongolian food includes beef, mutton, dairy products, pasta, rice and seasonal fruits and vegetables. A variety of restaurants in Ulaanbaatar offer traditional Mongolian food as well as European and Asian cuisine.  
**Taxis:** official taxi services. Private vehicles serve as taxis.  
**Public holidays:** December 31-January 1 - New Year's day; January/February - Lunar New Year's day (Tsagaan Sar); March 8 - International Women's day; June 1 - Mother and Children's day; July 11-13 - National Holiday (Naadam); November 26 - Independent day.

## HOW TO GET THERE?

### By Air

The majority of visitors arrive to Mongolia by air through Buyant Ukha International Airport located 18 km to the southwest of Ulaanbaatar. Been reconstructed in 1990, immigration and customs formalities as well as luggage delivery are very prompt. The international air transport is operated by MIAT Mongolian Airlines, Aero Mongolia, Korean Air and Air China and AEROFLOT Russian Airlines.

From Europe to Moscow (Russian Federation) then to Ulaanbaatar with Aeroflot (SU) or MIAT Mongolian Airlines (OM).

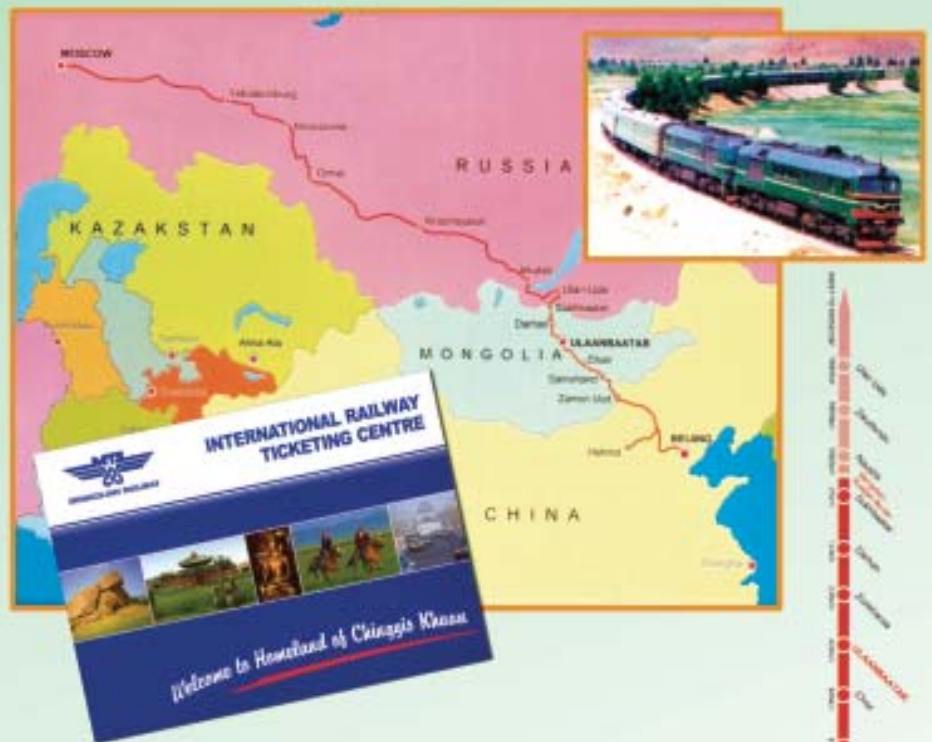
From Europe, USA, East Asia, Australia & New Zealand to Beijing (China) with the major carriers and then to Ulaanbaatar with MIAT (OM) or Air China (CA)

From Berlin (twice in a week) to Ulaanbaatar by MIAT Mongolian Airlines (OM) via Moscow

From Europe, USA, East Asia, Australia & New Zealand to Tokyo (Japan) with major carriers and then to Ulaanbaatar with MIAT Mongolian Airlines (OM) or Air China (CA)

From USA, East Asia, Australia & New Zealand to Seoul by major carriers and then to Ulaanbaatar with MIAT Mongolian Airlines (OM) or Korean Air (KA)

MIAT Mongolian Airlines (OM), the national flag carrier of Mongolia, flies many domestic routes as well as international destinations, including Moscow, Beijing, Berlin, Irkutsk, Seoul, Tokyo and Singapore. Its fleet of twenty-one aircrafts includes the Airbus 310, the Boeing B737-800, and the Antonov (AN24, AN26, and AN30). For flight schedules check the official website: [www.miat.com](http://www.miat.com)



### By Train

The legendary Trans Siberian Railway offers an alternative means of coming to Mongolia. Inside Mongolia this railway become the Trans Mongolia Railway, where it stretches from the Russian border on the north to China on the south, passing through Ulaanbaatar on its way. Exploring Mongolia on the Trans Mongolian and Trans Siberian Railways is an expedition in itself. The total distance by rail from Beijing to St Petersburg is 7,925 km. There are usually nine compartments in each train carriage, with four berths in each carriage. Twin share rail compartments are available for a supplementary price. Check the official the website for current schedules: [www.mtz.mn](http://www.mtz.mn). Alternatively, look up [ubirtc@railcom.mn](mailto:ubirtc@railcom.mn)

## HOW TO GET AROUND:

### By air:

MIAT Mongolian Airlines operates scheduled and charter domestic flights (An-24) within Mongolia 21 provinces. Also Aero Mongolia, Hangard, and Blue Sky run flights. Most flights have their hub in Ulaanbaatar, so getting from one destination to another inside Mongolia often requires a touch-down in UB. Some delays in scheduling are to be taken into account in preparing tourist itineraries.

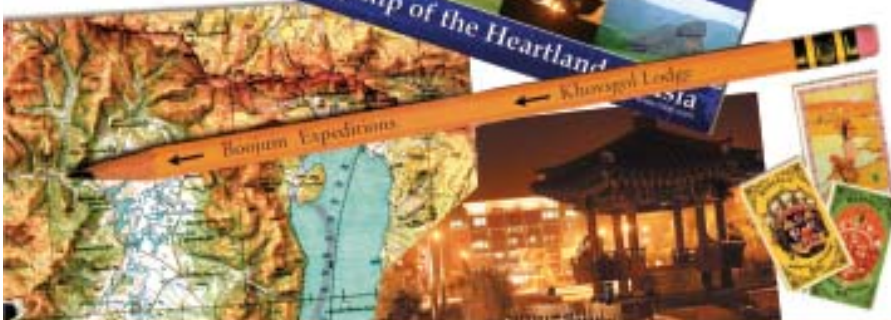
### By road:

Mongolia's road network, including both state and local roads, is total approximately 49,000 kilometers. They connect Mongolia's 211 cities and towns, as well as its 160 smaller villages. There are 11,063 km of state road and 38,187 km of local roads in Mongolia.

Most of the roads in Mongolia are gravel or earth. Only 1,670 km of state and local roads are paved, while an additional 3,820 km of state and local roads are classified as "improved" gravel and earth road.

The majority of roads to tourist camps are in reality just tracks laid out across the steppes by the jeeps that ply those routes with regularity. Thus the time required for a given distance will vary considerably, depending on the quality of the road, as well as variables like the weather, the type of vehicle used, and so forth. For example, a trip to from Ulaanbaatar to Kharkhorum, which is a distance of approx. 360 km, will probably take 4 hours. A trip of equal distance through back-country roads could take a full day or even longer.

The best means of travel in much of Mongolia is the horse or the camel.



## Mongolia: In the steppes of Chinggis Khaan, a land of extremes

Known as "The Land of the Blue Sky", Mongolia is a remarkably sunny country, enjoying 250 sunny days a year. The country has one of the world's most dramatic climates, with extremes in both daily and annual ranges of temperature. Summer temperatures reach as high as 40° C in the Gobi and 33° C in Ulaanbaatar, while in winter the average temperature in most of the country is below the freezing point.

The extensive grasslands of the steppes covering the centre, eastern and western part of the land with a 360° view are the heart of Mongolia. The south is the domain of the Gobi (extending down into China), with large sand dune areas and canyons in the Eastern Gobi, the so-called "dinosaur graveyard".

Mongolia is dotted with about 4,000 lakes, of which the most famous is Lake Hobsgol (alternatively spelled Khuvsgul), which is known as the "dark blue pearl of Mongolia." The network of rivers connecting these lakes offers abundant fishing. In the lake regions the landscape is both spectacular and immense, with towering snow-capped mountains as a backdrop in the distance.



## Mongolia: In the steppes of Chinggis Khaan, the spirit of nature

The seemingly endless expanse of Mongolia's grasslands and deserts provides habitats for wildlife species such as the snow leopard, the Gobi bear, the wild camel, the wild mountain sheep, and the wild horse, to mention but a few. These many wild animals share the land and its resources with half of the country's people, the nomadic herders who move by horse or camel in harmony with nature.

The country has to face the challenge of opening its doors to the world while protecting its natural and cultural heritage. As its wilderness regions become more accessible, the Mongolian government has undertaken a process of creating Protected Areas and National Parks.

Tourist operators in the West have a key role to play in developing an eco-friendly and culturally sensitive approach to tourism in Mongolia, in order to respect and protect this unique form of nomadic life, one of the last such lifestyles still surviving on earth.



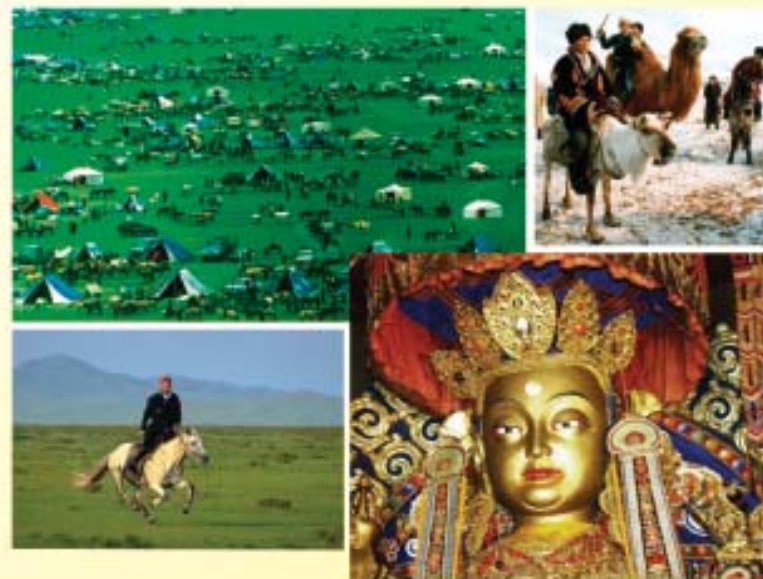
## Mongolia: In the steppes of Chinggis Khaan, a mythical land

Mongolia, the very name evokes images of Chinggis Khaan's Golden Horde galloping through endless steppes, nomadic warriors who inspired an admirable awe. The epic tales of the Mongol Empire reached the West in the writings of intrepid travelers, such as the great Venetian merchant Marco Polo and the Franciscan monk Guillaume de Rubruck and still now the Mongol dream feed the Western imagination. Present-day Mongolia, shut in by the Russian bear and the Chinese dragon, is only a small part of the Great Mongol Empire of the 13th and 14th centuries, which stretched from the Danube to the Yellow River, the largest continuous empire in the History of the world. Of the 4 millions Mongols, only a little more than 2.7 million people live in the Mongolia, the rest live in Russia and in China, Inner Mongolia (an autonomous region of the People's Republic of China largely settled by ethnic Chinese). The Mongolia (Outer) Mongolia or Khalkha, a sovereign nation, founded in 1921 but emerging only recently from the Soviet Union influence is locked between the Great Wall in the south and lake Baikal (Siberia's borders) in the North, and it is larger than Britain, France, Germany and Italy together.



## Mongolia: In the steppes of Chinggis Khaan, a nomad land

On the vast expanse of the steppes, the beauty and wonder of the Mongolia are intertwined with the Mongolian nomadic lifestyle, which is renowned for its hospitality. Here life has little changed through the passage of time. Mongolian culture is shaped by the nomadic experience, where the traditional dwelling is the ger, or yurt. Life in the ger is the focal point of many customs and traditions, as made famous by Chinggis Khaan. The drama and natural beauty of nomadic life is a source of inspiration for many visitors to Mongolia, both the soft adventurers interested in exploring the nomadic lifestyle, and the intrepid travelers interested in more rigorous activities, such as horse-riding and trekking.



# ULAANBAATAR CAPITAL CITY OF MONGOLIA



Ulaanbaatar today is a modern city of approximately 800,000 residents. It reflects both aspects of present day Mongolian society: nomadic culture and modern society. Here high rises stand next to traditional gers, and nomads in traditional costumes share the streets with business men in three piece suits. Cars and cows often cross paths in downtown streets.

Ulaanbaatar is located near the Bogd Khan Mountains (altitude 1,351 m), and is built on the banks of the Tuul River. The city is divided into six districts. Sukhbaatar district is the central district, and hosts the Government House and the Central Post Office, as well as numerous museums and hotels. In the days of the great Mongolian empire, Kharkhorum, which is located to the west in the Orkhon Valley, served as the capital city of the country. However, in the 17th century Kharkhorum was abandoned as capital, and the government opted for an existence as a migratory tent city. This was done in honour of Lama Zanabazar, the famous Mongolian religious leader, painter, sculptor and statesman. This new nomadic settlement was named Urga, and was in reality a large caravan of gers that moved from place to place. Eventually in 1778 it settled in its present location of Ulaanbaatar.



## Shopping

In Ulaanbaatar, there are many duty-free shops and restaurants where convertible currencies are accepted. In all other shops, local currency must be used. The best buys include paintings and tankas, cashmere garments, camel wool blankets, national costumes, boots, jewellery, carpets, books and handicrafts, and small souvenirs, pups, vodka. The notorious "black market" on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar is a large, crowded flea market, which sells a huge variety of items. Most shops accept international credit cards such as VISA, Master card, American Express and JCB.



## WHAT TO SEE?

### NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The museum was established in 1924. Currently it has seven halls with exhibits showing the history of Mongolians since the first arrival of humans to the Eurasian steppes. There are more than 46,000 exhibits of archaeological, historical and ethnographical interest.

Location: Sukhbaatar Street, west of Parliament House.



### NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

This museum was established in 1956 as one hall containing exhibits of geography, flora, fauna and fossils. Since then the museum has constantly enriched its exhibits and in 1992 became the Natural History museum, consisting of 40 different halls.

Location: Khuvrsgalchid Avenue, northwest of Parliament House

### ZANABAZAR MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Named after the pre-eminent religious leader and artist of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the highlights of this museum include the four buddhas sculpted by Zanabazar, a mandala done in silver and gold threads and pearl beads, and the famous painting "One Day in Mongolia", attributed to the artist Sharav.

Location: On Juulchin street, just west of the Trade and Development bank.

### MODERN ART GALLERY

Using innovative methods and techniques, Mongolian artists couple the features the characteristics of both western and oriental art.

Location: Sukhbaatar square 3, Central Cultural Palace A

### THE CHOIJIN LAMA MONASTERY MUSEUM

This complex of temples was built between 1904 and 1908 for the Choijin Lama (a monastic title) Lubsankhaidav, the State Oracle and younger brother of the VIII Bogd Gegeen, and is one of the most beautiful monasteries in Mongolia. Where kept Buddhist ritual use and includes artworks, original silk icons and Tsam dancing masks.

Location: Jamyan Gun Street, north of The National Culture & Recreation Park



### BOGD KHAAN PALACE MUSEUM

The Palace construction began in 1889. It continued for more than a decade and was completed in 1906. The palace complex has 10 Buddhist temples and a two storey wooden house built by blueprints sent by Russian Tzar Nikolai III. Bogd Khaan lived in this house for more than 20 years with his Queen Dondogdulam.

Since 1926 the palace has served as a museum.

### THE MONGOLIAN NATIONAL SONG AND DANCE ACADEMIC ENSEMBLE

The Mongolian National Song and Dance Academic Ensemble was founded in 1945. Now 178 people are working together in the Ensemble including 33 singers, 70 musicians, 40 dancers, contortionists and throat singers with highly professional skills who have been specially trained.

For half a century the Mongolian National Song and Dance Academic Ensemble has contributed to the development of centuries old folk arts, bringing Mongolian arts over a hundred countries from around the world.

Location: Chinggis Avenue, the large red building on the corner of Seoul Street

### GANDAN MONASTERY (Gandantegchinlen)

Gandan is the largest monastery and temple complex in use in Mongolia. It was built in 1810, but was partly destroyed during the Communist oppression days, and has seen some reconstruction. One of the temples hosts the tallest standing Buddha statue in Central and East Asia.





## WHERE TO STAY?



**BAYANGOL HOTEL**  
 Chinggis Khan Avenue 5, PO Box 43 Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: (976-11) 312295  
 Fax: (976-11) 326880  
 E-mail: info@bayangolhotel.mn  
 web: www.bayangolhotel.mn



**CHINGGIS KHAN HOTEL**  
 Toleyo street- 5, Ulaanbaatar 49  
 Tel: (976-11) 312393  
 Fax: (976-11) 312784  
 E-mail: chinggis-hotel@mongol.net  
 web: www.chinggis-hotel.com



**ULANBAATAR HOTEL**  
 Sukhbaatar Square 14, Ulaanbaatar 210945  
 Tel: (976-11) 320620  
 Fax: (976-11) 324485  
 E-mail: info@ubhotel.mn  
 web: www.ubhotel.mn



**PALACE HOTEL**  
 Chinggis Khan Avenue 25A, Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: (976-11) 343595  
 Fax: (976-11) 343051  
 E-mail: palace@mongol.net  
 Web: www.palace.mn



**KHAN PALACE HOTEL**  
 East Cross Road Peace Avenue, Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: 976-11-463463  
 Fax: 976-11-463464  
 E-mail: reservation@khanpalace.com  
 Website: www.khanpalace.com



**NIKA HOTEL**  
 Foreign Embassy Street, Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: (976-11) 319586  
 Fax: (976-11) 327704  
 Email: nikahotel@nika.mn  
 Web: www.nika.mn



**CONTINENTAL HOTEL**  
 Olympic Street, Ulaanbaatar 210948, Mongolia  
 Tel: (976-11) 323829  
 Fax: (976-11) 329530  
 Email: sales@ubcontinentalhotel.com  
 Web: www.ubcontinentalhotel.com



**PUMA IMPERIAL HOTEL**  
 Ih surguli St, Sukhbaatar district, Ulaanbaatar 48  
 Tel: (976-11) 313043  
 Fax: (976-11) 319148  
 E-mail: info@mongolianpumahotel.com  
 Web: www.mongolianpumahotel.com



**UNDRUAL HOTEL**  
 East Cross Road Peace Avenue, Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: (976-11) 457970, 455108  
 Fax: (976-11) 455016, 457072  
 E-mail: undrual@maginet.net  
 Web: www.undrual.mn



## WHERE TO EAT?

There are approximately 181 restaurants in the capital.

**MODERN NOMADS RESTAURANT**  
 Healthy alternative of Mongolian meals.  
 Info@modernnomads.mn  
 www.modernnomads.mn  
 Tel: (976-11) 318744



**BD's Mongolian barbeque RESTAURANT**  
 West of Ayanchin Outfitters,  
 Seoul Street-9 Sukhbaatar District.  
 Tel: (976-11) 311191  
 Fax: (976-11) 311179



**TAJ MAHAL INDIAN RESTAURANT**  
 Chinggis Avenue 5, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Bayangol hotel,  
 Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: (976-11) 311009  
 Fax: (976-11) 311009  
 Email: sahara@maginet.mn



**LOS BANDIDOS RESTAURANT**  
 Baga Toiruu, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
 Tel/Fax: (976 11) 314167  
 E-mail: pawanmudgul@yahoo.com



**SAFFRON ORIENTAL FUSION RESTAURANT**  
 Jamiyan Gun Street, Ulaanbaatar  
 Tel: (976) 95158322  
 Fax: (976-11) 314162  
 Email: pawanmudgul@yahoo.com



**GREAT MONGOL RESTAURANT**  
 Seoul Street, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
 Tel: (976 11) 331206  
 Fax: (976 11) 320450  
 Mobile: 99184845



**PIZZA DELLA CASA RESTAURANT**  
 Peace Avenue, left side of Centrepoint bldg,  
 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
 Tel: (976 11) 324114, 312072



**SILK ROAD RESTAURANT**  
 Jamiyan Gun Street, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
 Tel: (976-11) 318684  
 E-mail: balbayardorj@yahoo.com  
 www.silkroad.mn



**DELHI DARBAR RESTAURANT**  
 Puma Imperial Hotel, Amar Street,  
 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
 Tel: (976 11) 326543  
 Mobile: 99090197, 99710255  
 E-mail: zoleohus@yahoo.com



## EVENTS LIST

### FEBRUARY.2006

- 1-2 White Month Holiday
- 5 -Anklebone games  
-National indoor games festival
- 6 Opera "Oelun Mother"
- 7-9 **Gobi morning package: Sunrise in the Gobi, Camel Polo, Camel Show**
- 17 **"Ice Festival" on Huvsgul Lake**

### MARCH.2006

- 17-20 **1st ASDRA Mid Distance Sled Dog race, Mongolian Sled Dog Federation**
- 18 Exhibition of Mongolian military techniques and weapons
- 22 **Kazakh national custom and celebrations in Bayan Ulgii province**
- 23 **Kazakh cultural events in Bayan Ulgii province**
- 25 **Bii Byelgee (Western Mongolian dances) day, in Uvs province**
- 26 Opera "Chinggis Khaan"
- 27 **Altai Legend songs and Hournii (Throat singing) Festival in Hovd province**



### APRIL.2006

- 10 "Chinggis Khaan" electronic database promotional events
- 21 Premiere of documentary films "Legend of Argusan huurchi" and "Story of two male Zagal"
- 28 **"Great Mongolia-800" art, handicraft, information and advertisement fair**

### JULY.2006

- 1 Opening of the festival "Great Mongolia"
- 1-2, 8-9 Local naadam
- 7 Premiere of a documentary "Chronics of the Founding of the State"
- 8 **-Mini Naadam, Terelj, Samar Magic Tours**  
**-Mongolian National Costume Festival, Juulchin World Tours**
- 9 Parade "History of eight centuries"
- 10 -Opening of the Thousand horsemen's show in Tuv province  
-Naadam concert
- 11 **National Naadam Festival** -main event of the anniversary  
- Performance of 800 horse head fiddle and 800 long song singers  
**-"Beautiful Mongolia" Gala concert**
- 12 **National Naadam Festival**
- 13 Horsetrainers' Naadam  
- "Horsemen" show in Tuv province
- 14 "Great Mongolia-800" art exhibition
- 16 Launch of an open theater in Ikh Gazriin Chuluu (Great Land Stones) in Dundgobi province
- 21-22 Asian Children's Festival
- 26 **Mongol Naadam, "Bogd Khaan" National Park, Juulchin Corporation**
- 29 **"Mongolia's Horse Back Riding", Samar Magic Tours**
- 30 -Closing of "Great Mongolia" festival  
- **One Day Of Mongolia, Terelj National Park, Juulchin Tourism Corporation**



### MAY.2006

- 12 Unveiling of the State Seal Monument
- 19 Premiere of the documentary "Vertical Mongolian Script"
- 26 Promotional events "Mongolian state ceremonial custom and symbols"

### JUNE.2006

- 1 Mothers and Children's Day
- 3 **Mini Naadam, Ar Mongol Travel**
- 9 Horse and harness fair in all provinces
- 10 "Yohor" Buriat dancing festival (Dadal soum, Hentii province)
- 11 Ceremony to greet the 80-elbow Maidar, Tsam-religious dancing
- 19 **"Mongolian mode of life" art exhibition**  
**-Mini Naadam, Samar Magic Tours**
- 21 Parliamentary Ceremonial Session in honor of the Anniversary
- 21-23 National costumes days
- 22 **Ceremony of "Enkhronement of Chinggis Khaan"**  
**"Pride of Chinggis Khaan's Knights"**  
**Folk Art Show**
- 24 **4th Mongolian International Friendship Marathon, Terelj National Park, Juulchin Tourism Corporation**
- 25 **Mongol Naadam, Bogd Khaan National Park, Juulchin Tourism Corporation**





## AUGUST.2006

- 1-2 **Yak Festival, Tsolmon Travel**
- 2 Horse relay to start at Dadal soum in Khentii province: a sample of water and soil from Chinggis Khaan's birthplace to be carried to Karakorum.
- 3 Horse relay to continue  
-Honor the monument dedicated to the Secret History of Mongols. (in Aurag, Khentii province)
- 4 -Horse relay to arrive in Karakorum.  
-Opening of the Convention of World Mongolians  
-International balloon contest  
-"Chinggis Khaan" International Polo Cup
- 5 -Selection of the best proposal of Chinggis Khaan's monument in Karakorum: Naadam in honor of the event  
-The Grand Orchestra Of The Mongolian National Song And Dance, Juulchin World Tours
- 6 -Mini Naadam, Samar Magic Tours  
-"Mongolia's Horse Back Riding", Samar Magic Tours
- 7 **Mongol Naadam, Bogd Khaan National Park, Juulchin Tourism Corporation**
- 12 **Ceremony Of Summoning Spirits Of The Great Chinggis Khaan's Imperial Guards, Juulchin World Tours**
- 13-22 **Follow In The Footsteps Of Chinggis Khaan**  
Horse trip back to the 13th Century, Black Ibex Expeditions
- 20 **Mongol Naadam "Bogd Khaan" National Park, Juulchin Tourism Corporation**
- 21 **Golden Naadam, Juulchin World Tours**
- 22 Exhibition of currencies and coins of Mongols
- 23-24 The 9<sup>th</sup> International Forum of Mongolists
- 26 Reindeer Herder Festival and shaman art performances at Huvsgul lake
- 27 **"Beautiful Mongolia" Gala concert**
- 28 Celebration of Alun Goo Mother's preach in Chandmani-Undur, Khuvsgul province



## SEPTEMBER.2006

- 1 -Mongolian history class day  
-"Mongolia's Autumn Fishing", Samar Magic Tours
- 2 The 26th World Forum of Poets
- 3-12 **Follow In The Footsteps Of Chinggis Khaan** Horse trip back to the 13th Century, Black Ibex Expeditions
- 6 **Mongol Naadam, Bogd Khaan National Park, Juulchin Tourism Corporation**
- 15 **"A Thousand swans assembly tour" NAB Travel**
- 17 **"Nomad-800 festival" NAB Travel**
- 17-18 **"The Nomad's Day" Festival, Selena Travel**
- 18-19 "Miss Mongolia" contest
- 21 Music festival "Great History"
- 22-24 Nomads days in Kherlengiin Huduu aral, Khentii province
- 30 **Eagle Festival, Nomadic Expeditions, Altai Tour**



## NOVEMBER.2006

- 19 "Great Mongolia-800" song contest in honor of the Anniversary
- 25 International poetry festival "Great Mongolia-800"



## OCTOBER.2006

- 1 **Eagle Festival, Nomadic Expeditions, Altai Tour**
- 2-3 National convention of historians and anthropologists on Mongolian history and culture



## DECEMBER.2006

- 29 "Great Mongolia-800" photo exhibitions all over the country
- 30 Anniversary Records Nomination - new year celebration show
- 31 Closing address of the nationwide celebration of the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mongolian State



# IN THE HEARTLAND OF THE STEPPES

The word "steppe" evokes visions of vast primitive expanses of freedom, hordes of horse-men galloping across boundless landscapes...

The Mongolian steppes, which can range from flat plains to rolling plateaus, lie in central and eastern Mongolia, and continue to the mountains' slopes of western Mongolia, the Altai and Khangai Mountains. The geography of Mongolia includes the Siberian taiga forest, the Central Asia steppe, the high Altai Mountains, and the Gobi desert.

The flat steppes become forest mountains steppes, and include mountain ranges such as the Khentii, Altai and Khangai. In the south, the desert steppes border the Gobi.



## KARAKORUM



Mongolia's ancient capital, KARAKORUM, Ghinggis Khan's fabled city, was founded in 1220, in the ORKHON Valley, at the crossroads of the Silk Route. It was from there that the Mongol Empire was governed, until Kublai Khaan moved it to Beijing.



## ERDENE ZUU MONASTERY The symbolic ruins of KARAKORUM

The Karakorum monumental walls (400 m of length), with 108 stupas, surround ERDENE ZUU, the oldest surviving Buddhist monastery in Mongolia. Built in 1586, by 1800 it had come to incorporate some 62 temples, and to house over 10 0,000 lamas. It was closed during the Communist oppression, but in 1990 once more became an active monastery.



Turtles carved from stone mark the boundaries of the complex. Nearby we can see Turkish monuments and rock inscriptions erected in eighth and ninth centuries in memory of outstanding heroes.

The charm of the KARAKORUM complex lies in the magnificent Buddhist architecture that is set in a scene of the great natural beauty of the steppes. A visit to the site - with monastery, museum and ruins - can best be appreciated when accompanied by a qualified guide.

# KARAKORUM

**Activities:** Hiking fishing, horse riding

**Getting there:** Karakorum is located in Ovorkhangai Aimag, 373 km west of Ulaanbaatar. First can fly to Arvaikheer, the province's capital city, and from there drive to Karakorum by jeep.

Alternatively, the jeep drive from Ulaanbaatar is approximately six to eight hours long.

A stop at Bayangobi located 280 km West from Ulaanbaatar and 80 km from Karakorum, is highly recommended, offering a combination of mountains, forests and Gobi-type sand dunes.

## Accommodations:

### On the road to Karakorum:

- **Bayan Gobi Tour Camp** - Ovorkhangai Aimag, Burd somon Tel: 32798 - capacity: 120 beds
- **Khugnu Khaan Tour Camp** - Bulgan Aimag, Rashaant Somon Tel: 312392 - Capacity: 120 beds
- **Burd Tour Camp** - Arkhangai Aimag, Khashaat Somon Tel: 327831 - Capacity: 60 beds
- **Mongol Els Tour Camp** - Bulgan Aimag, Gurvanbulag Somon Tel: 313393 - Capacity: 40 beds

### In Karakorum:

- **Karakorum Tour Camp** - Ovorkhangai Aimag, Karakorum Somon Tel: 322188 - Capacity: 160 beds
- **Chandmani Tour Camp** - Ovorkhangai Aimag, Karakorum Somon Tel: 360768 - Capacity: 100 beds
- **Nomin Tour Camp** - Ovorkhangai Aimag, Karakorum Somon Tel: 452238 - Capacity: 40 beds

# KHORGGO VOLCANO



is a dead volcano covered with basalt lying to the east of Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan National Park in Arkhangai Province.

In Arkhangai Province we find the northeast slope of the Khangai Range, often called "the Switzerland of Mongolia" for its forests, rivers and wooded hills.

**Activities:** caving, horse riding, hiking

**Getting there:** Take the plane to Tsetserleg, Arkhangai's capital. Tsetserleg is a charming city in a mountainous setting (Zayayn Gegenii Khuree monastery) - an hour from Ulaanbaatar.

**Sport & Activities:** Plenty of scopes for adventurous outdoor activities. These include trekking, mountaineering, bird watching, horse riding, rafting, camel riding, yak caravan and overland motorcycle tours. Many of these tours focus strongly on ecology and wildlife. Skiing and cross-country skiing are possible around Ulaanbaatar.

# GORKHI-TERELJ NATIONAL PARK

Terej National Park, created in 1993, borders the Khan Khenii Strictly Protected area, and it is one of the most visited protected areas. Terej, on the Terej River, bank is a spectacular valley with high-eroded rock formations, pine covered mountains and grasslands carpeted with perennial wildflowers and edelweiss.



## KHAN KHENTII

KHAN KHENTII, the native land of Genghis Khan, covered with forests, taiga and mountain forest steppe, is a protected area located north of Ulaanbaatar, and can be reached on foot or horseback.

**Activities:** hiking, trekking, horse riding

**Getting there:** located 54 km northeast of Ulaanbaatar. The trip takes one hour, and has a good paved road

**Accommodation:**

- **Terej-Juulchin** complex include a 120 beds-hotel with restaurant and a "Terej" tour camp - Tel: 324978 Capacity: 280 beds
- **"Gorkhi" tour camp** - Tel: 328737, 321489- Capacity: 30 beds

# MANZUSHIR Monastery and Undur Dov



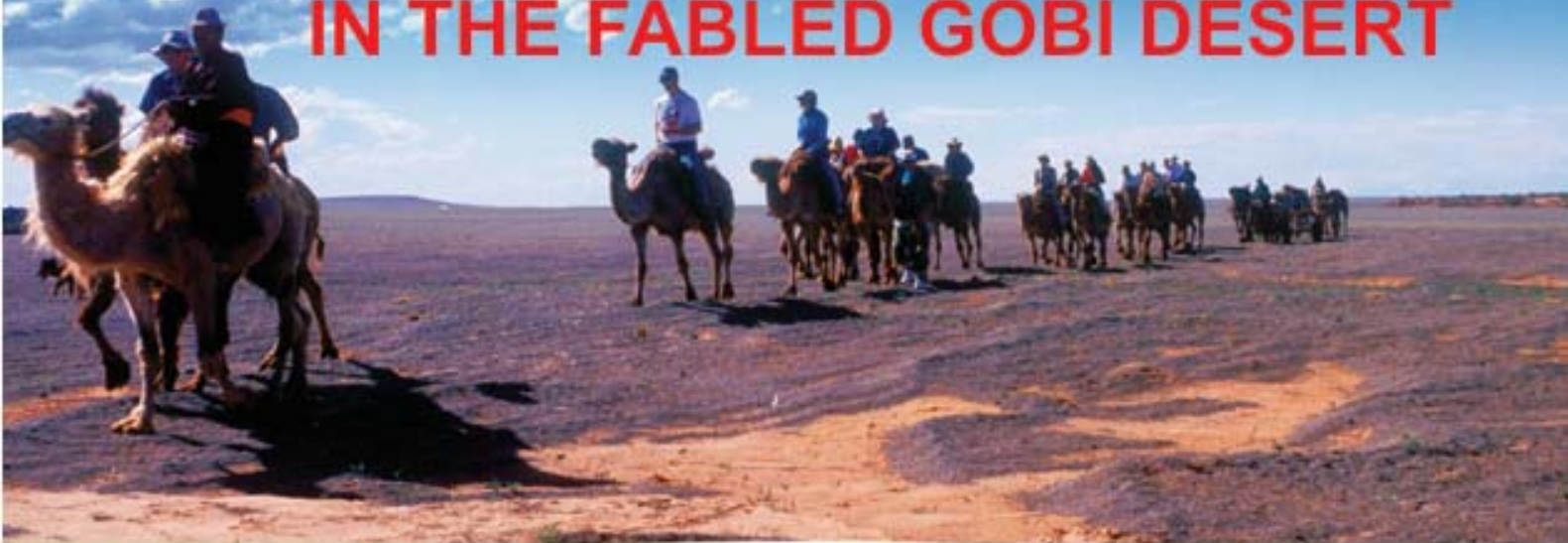
MANZUSHIR Monastery, located in the luxuriant valley of the Bogd Khaan Mountains National Park, Manzushir was established in 1733 and had 70 temples and approximately 1,000 monks. It was destroyed by the Communists in 1932. The only remaining temple has been restored and a museum opened.

**Activities:** hiking

**Getting there:** one hour drive south from Ulaanbaatar

**Accommodation:** Manzushir Tour Camp - Capacity: 30 beds

# ROAMING WITH THE CAMELS IN THE FABLED GOBI DESERT

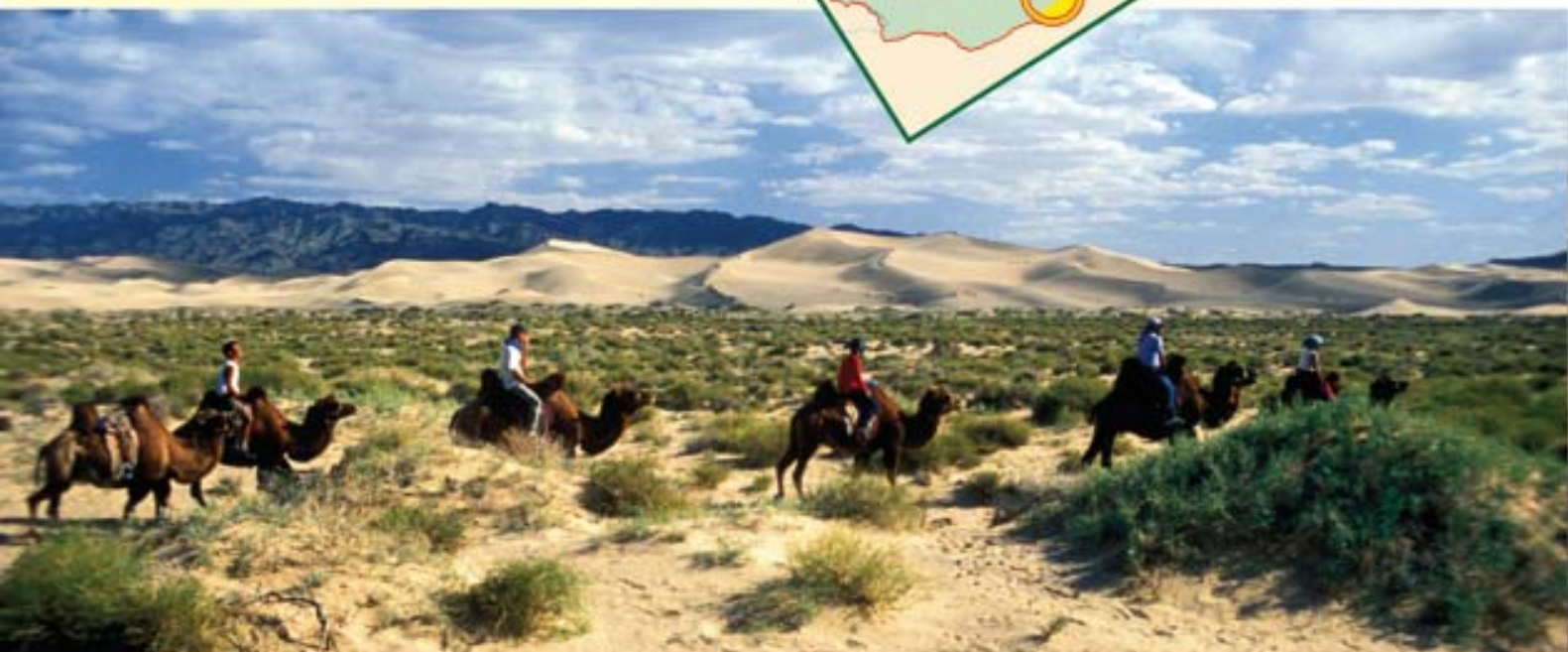


**T**he Mongolian Gobi is a vast zone of desert and desert steppe covering almost 30% of the Mongolian territory and also northeastern China. The Gobi is often imagined as a lifeless desert, but in reality is a land of steppes that serve as a viable habitat to humans and wildlife alike. Many camel breeders inhabit this zone, which is also rich in wildlife and vegetation.

The Mongolians say that there are 33 different Gobi, from which sandy deserts occupies a mere 3% of the total area. The Gobi's climate is extreme, with +40°C in summer and -40°C in winter. It has very little precipitation. The Mongolian Government established the Great Gobi Strictly Protected Area in 1975. In 1991 the United Nations designated the Great Gobi as the fourth largest Biosphere Reserve in the world. The protected area is divided into two ecologically distinct parts, the southern Altai Gobi and the Dzungarian Gobi.

The Gobi was originally an ancient inland sea basin. Later it became home to many species of dinosaurs, and today is reservoir of fossilized dinosaur bones and eggs.

A complete dinosaur skeleton and eggs are exhibited at THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.





**T**HE DZUNGARIAN GOBI is the refuge of the world's only remaining wild horse, the Takhi or Przewalski's horse. Once endangered, it has been successfully reintroduced. Situated west of the city of Dalanzadgad, the Gurvansaikhan National Park (meaning "The Three Beauties of the Gobi") encompasses the eastern end of the Gobi Altai Mountains, which tower 10,000 feet above the surrounding steppe. The park covers rocky and sandy plains.

#### Tourism attractions:

- **YOL AM** (Eagle's Mouth Canyon) shelters glaciers, which remain frozen even in the hottest summer days. A museum is located at the entrance of the valley.
- **THE SINGING SANDS**, a spectacular sea of sand dunes, Hongor Els (30 meters high in some places), ranging along Mt. Sevrei and Mt. Zuulun, an oasis and a Saxaul forest with fossilised eggs
- **BAYAN ZAG** Mountains, the "cemetery of dinosaurs"

**Activities:** camel riding, horse riding, trekking

**Getting there:** 580 km from Ulaanbaatar (1 hour 25 minute, twice flight weekly) to the city of Dalanzadgad, Omnogobi Aimag's capital

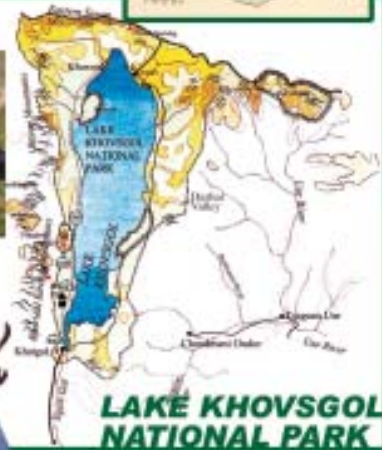
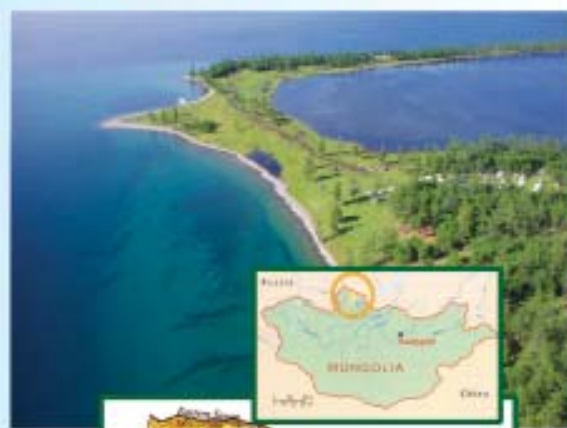


# IN THE LAND OF THE REINDEERERS



**L**AKE KHOVSGOL, famed as the "Dark Blue Pearl," is located in the Mongolia's northernmost province. It is the nation's largest and deepest lake, and shares the largest tributary stream of Lake Baikal. 1645 m above sea level, it is frozen from January until April or May. Two towns, Khatgal in the south and Khankh in the north, lie on the lake's eastern shore. A ferryboat operates between the two towns, and the towns are also connected by a jeep road. DARHAT Valley is famous for its unique breeds of horses, big tailed sheep, and enormous bulls.

Different ethnic groups live within the park, including Mongols, Khalkh, Buryat, Darkhat and Tsaatan. They retain their ancestral culture, which is based on shamanistic rituals and nomadic reindeer herding. The survival of this unique living traditional culture depends upon the preservation of its environment. This is seriously threatened by modernization, and therefore only eco-friendly tour groups are recommended.



*Lake Khovsgol region is a destination in itself and an entire tour could be devoted to this specific part of Mongolia.*





**Activities:**

- **Hiking:** Numerous trails on the west side of the lake offer breathtaking views.
- **Horse riding:** The best way to discover Lake Khovsgol is on horseback. Mongolian horses are ponies by European standards, with a shoulder height of less than 1.5 m. However, they are very strong, with amazing stamina. Traditional Mongolian saddles have a wooden frame with high pommels. Russian saddles are recommended for unskilled riders.
- **Bird watching:** Lake Khovsgol is an important migration route for birds from Siberia.
- **Canoeing** on the lake.
- **Caving:** Dayan Derkhin Cave is famed for its ancient wall paintings. It is located 35 km beyond Tsagaan Nuur Sum, near the Zerley River.

**Getting there:** It is located 900 km northwest of Ulaanbaatar. Fly to Moron, Aimag's capital (1.30 hour), and from there take a jeep to Khatgal by jeep (3 hours on rough roads).

**Access to the Darkhat Valley:** Via the western shore of the lake to Renchinlhumbe.



## ORKHON RIVER AND SELENGE RIVER



ORKHON RIVER AND SELENGE RIVER the two main rivers in Mongolia, flow north to Lake Baikal and are full of fish such as Trout, Pike, Mirror Carp, Baikal Sturgeon, taimen, Sig. River Perch, Siberian Umber, Roach, Ide, Bull Ide, Golden Carp, Amur Catfish and Burbot.

**Fishing Tour:** Duration 12 days (7 fishing days). From June to September. The best season is September. A fishing camp should be settled and local guides with a good knowledge of the rivers are recommended.

**Getting there:** Located 225 miles north from Ulaanbaatar to Selenge Aimag's capital Sukhbaatar.

**Accommodation:**

**Amarbayasgalant Tour Camp** - Selenge Aimag Baruun Buren Somon Tel: 383025 - Capacity: 40 beds

**Shilin Bogd Tour Camp** - Sukhbaatar Aimag, Dariganga Somon Tel: 328428 - Capacity: 56 beds



## AMARBAYASGALANT MONASTERY



AMARBAYASGALANT MONASTERY is the second most important monastery of the area after Erdene Zuu. Built by Zanbazar in the early 18th century, its main attractions are the daily service and the surrounding landscape.



## FISHING

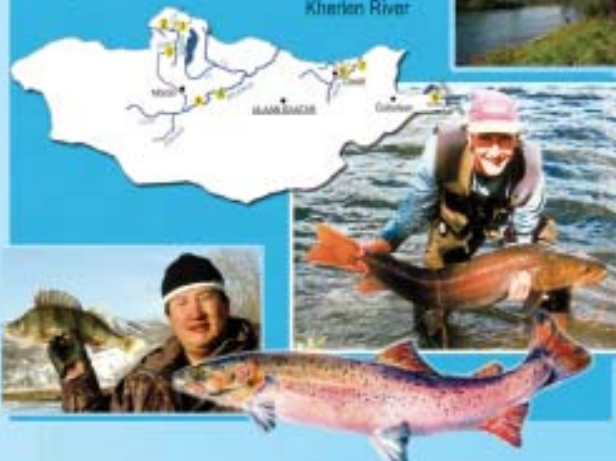


Fishing is allowed providing a permit for USD 3. Fish are abundant in the lake: taimen (Hucho taimen), Siberian whitefish, Siberian grayling, Lenok (Siberian trout), Umber, Baikal Omul, and River Perch.

The most attractive fish is the taimen (Hucho taimen). It reaches the length of 100-130 cm here. The biggest taimen are more than 140 cm in length. The most common fish is the Siberian trout – lenok normally reaching 50 cm, in some areas even more than 70 cm. Next are two types of pike (70-110 cm).

We recommend 2-3 rods for medium and heavy spinning, in lengths of about 270 cm, at least two reels of high quality, lines 0.25-0.50 mm. Successful baits include wobblers 11-25 cm, bigger spinners and rubber fish.

- |                  |                   |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Fisheries</b> | Onon River        | Delgermoran River |
| Tengis River     | Khalkhingol River | Ur River          |
| Changai River    | Orkhon River      | Egingol River     |
| Khug River       | Chuluut River     | Ider River        |
| Selenge River    |                   | Kherlen River     |





# THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE MONGOLS

## CHINGGIS KHAAN'S MYTH

Much of what we know about Chinggis Khan's early life comes from a book known as *The Secret History of the Mongols*, which was composed in 1240. According to this work, "Mongol" is the name of a small nomad clan. A young man of this clan by the name of Temujin eventually emerged as head of the Mongols, and was re-named Chinggis Khan as in recognition of his new status. In the west he became known by the Persian spelling of his name, which is "Chinggis Khaan."

Chinggis conquered the neighbouring tribes and gathered them under his banner, thus creating Mongolia as a nation. This consolidation is generally set at the year 1206. Eventually his territories expanded westward to the Danube, and by the time of his death the Mongol Empire had become the largest continuous empire in human history. His grandson, Khublai added China and the Far East, and moved the capital to Beijing.

A hundred years later the Black Plague closed international trade routes, and eventually brought about the fragmentation of this great empire. The Russian and Middle East spheres declared independence, and then the Chinese wing of the empire was lost to the Ming Chinese. The Mongols retreated north, from where they had originally come, and maintained nationhood over the vast territory stretching from the Great Wall of China to the forests of Siberia, and from the borders of Manchuria on the east to Persia on the West. Today Chinggis Khan remains a remarkable national symbol. His face and his name are often represented and used on everyday items as varied as brand names of vodka and beer, to hotels. His myth is omnipresent throughout the country. Researchers continue to debate over and research the place where Chinggis Khan was buried.

Mongolian culture is based on nomadic life. In earlier days it had hundreds of great works of Buddhist architecture and art. Unfortunately, most of these were destroyed or plundered during the Communist days. Many are now being restored or rebuilt.

Because of Mongolia's fragile situation as a culture reemerging from a great destruction, it is very useful for tour groups to have a competent guide in order to fully benefit from a visit to the country.







# ZANABAZAR

later the Manchus, a close relative of the Mongols, invaded China and overthrew the Ming. Like the Mongols, the Manchus had adopted the Yellow School of Tibetan Buddhism, and were strongly devoted to religion.

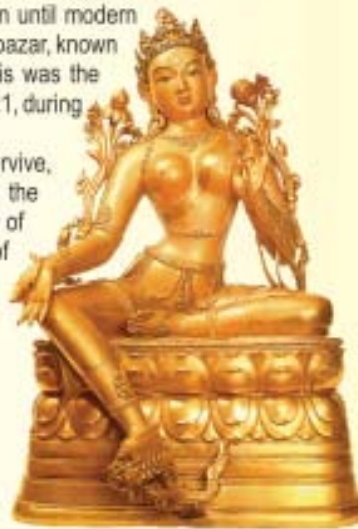
It was during this period that the great Lama Zanbazar appeared on the scene. As a young man he traveled to Tibet and trained under the Panchen Lama, as well as numerous other preeminent Tibetan and Mongolian masters. Later in life he became a great

painter, sculptor, politician and religious leader.

Zanbazar successfully negotiated a treaty of friendship with the Manchu king, based on mutual respect and cooperation, and in the spirit of support of the Yellow hat form of Buddhism. From then until modern times the successive incarnations of Zanbazar, known as the Bogd Lama, ruled Mongolia. This was the case until the Communist takeover of 1921, during the lifetime of the Eighth Bogd Lama.

Many of Zanbazar's sculptures still survive, and are regarded as standing among the greatest works of art in the world. Many of them can be seen in the museums of Ulaanbaatar.

In 1686 Zanbazar also invented an alphabet called Soyombo. The first letter is an ideogram symbolizing the Mongols' freedom and independence. In 1924, the Soyombo was accepted as the country's national emblem and is depicted on the national flag.



# RELIGION BUDDHIST LAMAISM



Buddhism came to Mongolia in three great waves. The first of these occurred in ancient times, as an influence flowing up from the Silk Road, a large section of which ran through the south of what today is Mongolia. The second came during the rule of Kublai Khan, who adopted Chogyal Pakpa, a high lama of the Sakya School, as his guru.

The third wave began in the 1570s, when the great Mongolian emperor Altan Khan requested the famed Tibetan monk Sonam Gyatso of Drepung Monastery to come and teach in Mongolia. This monk was regarded as being a reincarnation of Janraisig, the Buddha of Compassion. Sonam Gyatso arrived in 1578, and Altan was so profoundly impressed by him that he declared him to be not only his person guru, but the spiritual preceptor of all Mongols. Altan then issued a proclamation to this effect, in which he translated the lama's last name, "Gyatso," or "Ocean," into Mongolian. Thus the name "Dalai Lama," or "Oceanic Teacher," was born. A century later Lama Zanbazar, a direct descendent of Genghis Khan, united Mongolia under his rule, and cemented the Yellow Hat School as the national religion of the country. The other Tibetan schools did of course exist in Mongolia, but the Yellow Hat School remained the basis of every monastery and temple. By the beginning of the 20th century, Mongolia had some 700 monasteries and temple complexes, and Buddhism has penetrated into every facet of Mongolian culture.

In the 1930s Buddhism came under sever attack from Communism. All monasteries were closed, and all but three completely destroyed. Most monks or nuns were liquidated or sent to labor camps, where they died.

In 1970, however, Gandan Monastery in Ulaanbaatar was allowed to re-open with a small contingent of 100 monks. For the next two decades it served as the only functioning monastery in the country. Then in 1991 Erdene Zuu, which has been converted into a museum in 1941, re-opened as an active monastery. Since many dozens of other monasteries and temples have re-emerged and have begun to re-establish their study and practice programs, as well as their role of community service.

## SHAMANISM



Mongolian Shamanism derives from worshipping nature. The Mongolians considered the earth "Mother Earth" and the sky "the Father". The shaman acts as intermediary between the man and the spirits. Shamanism determined the behaviour of nomads towards nature. Nowadays, shamanism is still practised especially in the northern region (Lake Hovsgol).

This respect for nature is still alive in the ritual of the ovoos. Before going up a mountain, Mongolian people throw a handful of stones to a cairnlike pile (called ovoos), and walk three times around this pile of stones. To honour the spirits

Bottles of vodka and pieces of blue silk are also added to the stones. A driver will certainly top without notice at the top of a hill to make this ritual. Ovoos are abundant in the countryside on mountains peaks or passes.

Shamanism and Lamaism have both contributed to nomadic customs.

## THE MONGOLIAN LANGUAGE



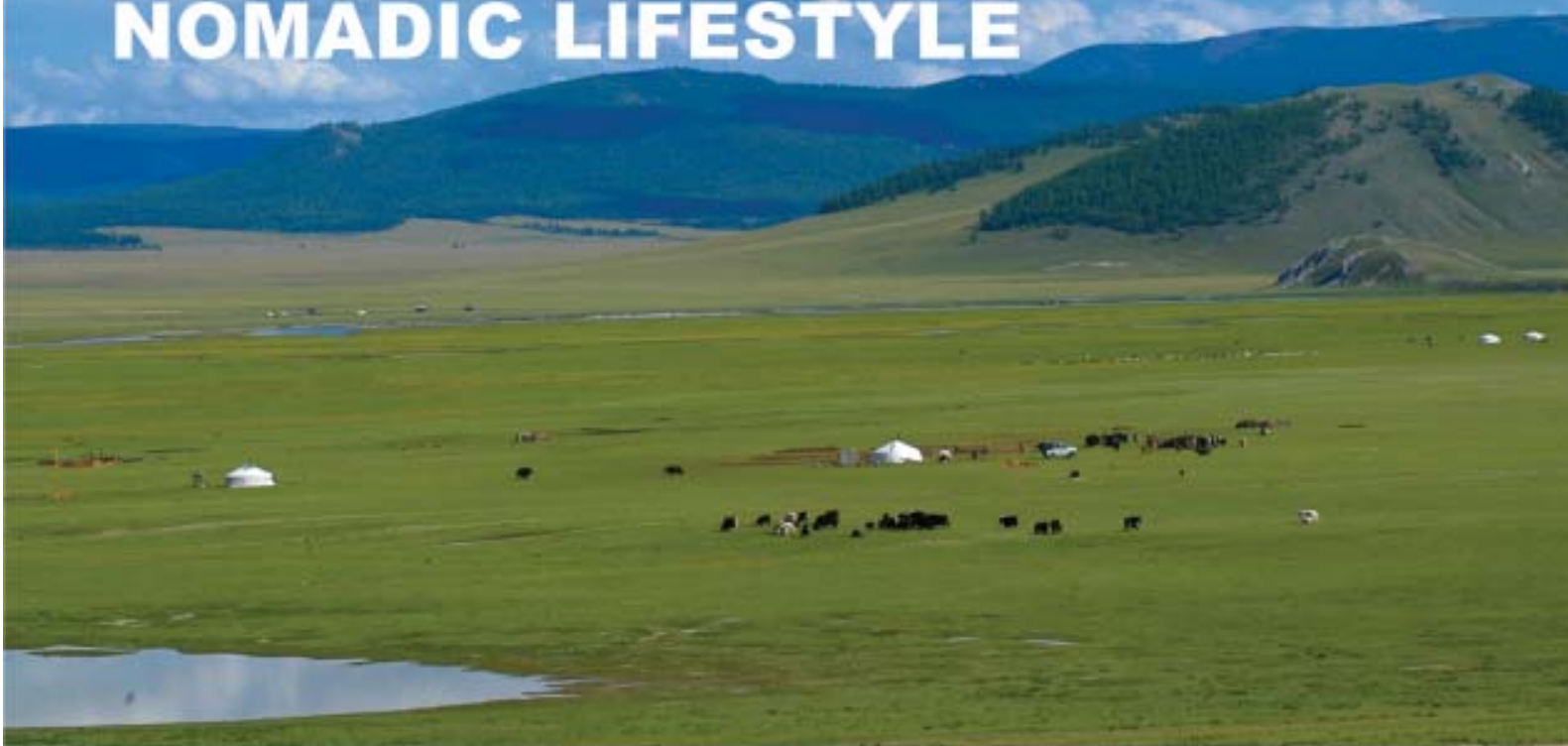
Mongolian is an Altaic language with connections to Turkish.

There are many different dialects of Mongolian, but the Khalkha is the main and official dialect. The traditional Mongolian script is called Vaghintara, and is of Devanagiri origin. It is written vertically.

However, this was replaced by the Cyrillic alphabet in 1945 due

to Russian influence. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, Mongolia has seen a reemergence of its traditional script.

# EXPERIENCING THE NOMADIC LIFESTYLE



## THE FIVE-ANIMAL PEOPLE

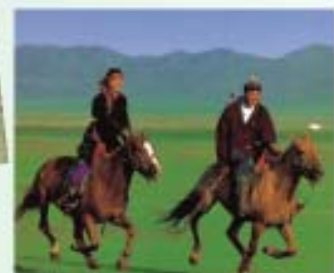
The extreme climate and geography as well as the landlocked condition greatly influenced the Mongols' way of life. Mongols always lived close to their animals and close to the steppes. Thus they are sometimes called "The Five Animal People," because their nomadic society is based on the five principal herd animals: horses, camels, bovines, sheep and goats. Mongols also raise Tibetan yaks, which are used for producing milk and cheese. The horse is the most important of the five animals, for it is the perfect means of transport for the terrain. It is said that children learn to ride before learning to walk. To catch a horse, Mongols use a polo lasso called "uurga." This consists of a rope loop at the end of a long pole. Mares are milked, and the fermented milk is the Mongolians' favourite drink. Known as "airag", it is also distilled into a strong alcohol called "arkhi." This is typical Mongolian vodka. Airag is offered as a ritual to visitors.

The Mongol camel the two-humped Bactrian, which is able to endure the extremes of cold and hot common to Gobi life. The camel, and also the yak, is used to transport the dismantled ger (tents) from place to place.

In Mongolia, a settled agricultural life has not been possible because herders have to move from one pasture to another. Traditionally there were four seasonal moves, but now most nomads move only twice a year, between summer and winter encampments.



*Undoubtedly, one of the main interests in travelling to Mongolia is the exciting discovery of the Mongolian nomadic lifestyle. In the 21st century, Mongolia remains one of the only countries to retain its ancient nomadic culture and traditions.*





## inside of GER



### GER CART

The ger cart is the peculiar creature of the Mongolian nomadic civilization and was widely used in transportation of over long distance.

# THE MONGOLIAN GER

The nomads have developed a circular felt covered dwelling, the ger (or yurt in Turkish language), adapted to the difficult conditions of their daily life (cold, wind, sun) and easy to be moved as can be raised and dismantled in 30 to 60 minutes. The gers have beautiful carved and decorated doors, south oriented. When entering into a ger, airag and cheese are and blown snuff bottles are exchanged.

It is very easy to meet nomads and enter into a ger, Mongolian nomads being very hospitable; besides most Mongolian ground, operators have established agreements with herders. These agreements are a way to make local people benefit from tourism and at the same time to protect nomads from cultural disturbance. Accommodation in ger camps provide a perfect balance between comfort and authenticity and allow tourists to visit remote places with no other accommodation facilities.

### TSAGAAN SAR

The Mongolian New year is celebrated for three days according to the lunar calendar, at the junction of winter and spring. It usually occurs with the new moon of February. It is an opportunity to eat, drink, visit each other and exchange gifts, sing folk songs and dance.

Tsagaan Sar provides a great opportunity to experience nomadic lifestyle, sharing this event with herdsman, in the steppes, out of the crowd, and enjoying winter in Mongolia. An ideal Tsagaan Sar tour takes 8 days.



### DEEL

The Mongolian traditional dress is called the DEEL. Cut in a very simple pattern (in one piece) and buttoned at an angle; it is worn with a bright coloured sash.



# NAADAM FESTIVAL



Naadam was created after the 1921 Revolution to commemorate the great victory, but its roots are ancient. Held every summer between 11-13 July at the Central stadium in Ulaanbaatar, it is a traditional display of Mongolian courage, strength, dexterity and marksmanship.

#### The three major games are:

**Wrestling**, this is the most popular sport in Mongolia. Before wrestling, the sportsmen perform the "eagle dance."

**Archery**: A tradition dating back to Genghis Khan's warriors

**Horseshooting**. The race is over 30 km in distance, and is performed by very young riders, some as young as six years old.

Naadam occurs during peak tourist season in Mongolia, and all accommodations are fully booked for this very appreciated



### MORIN HUUR

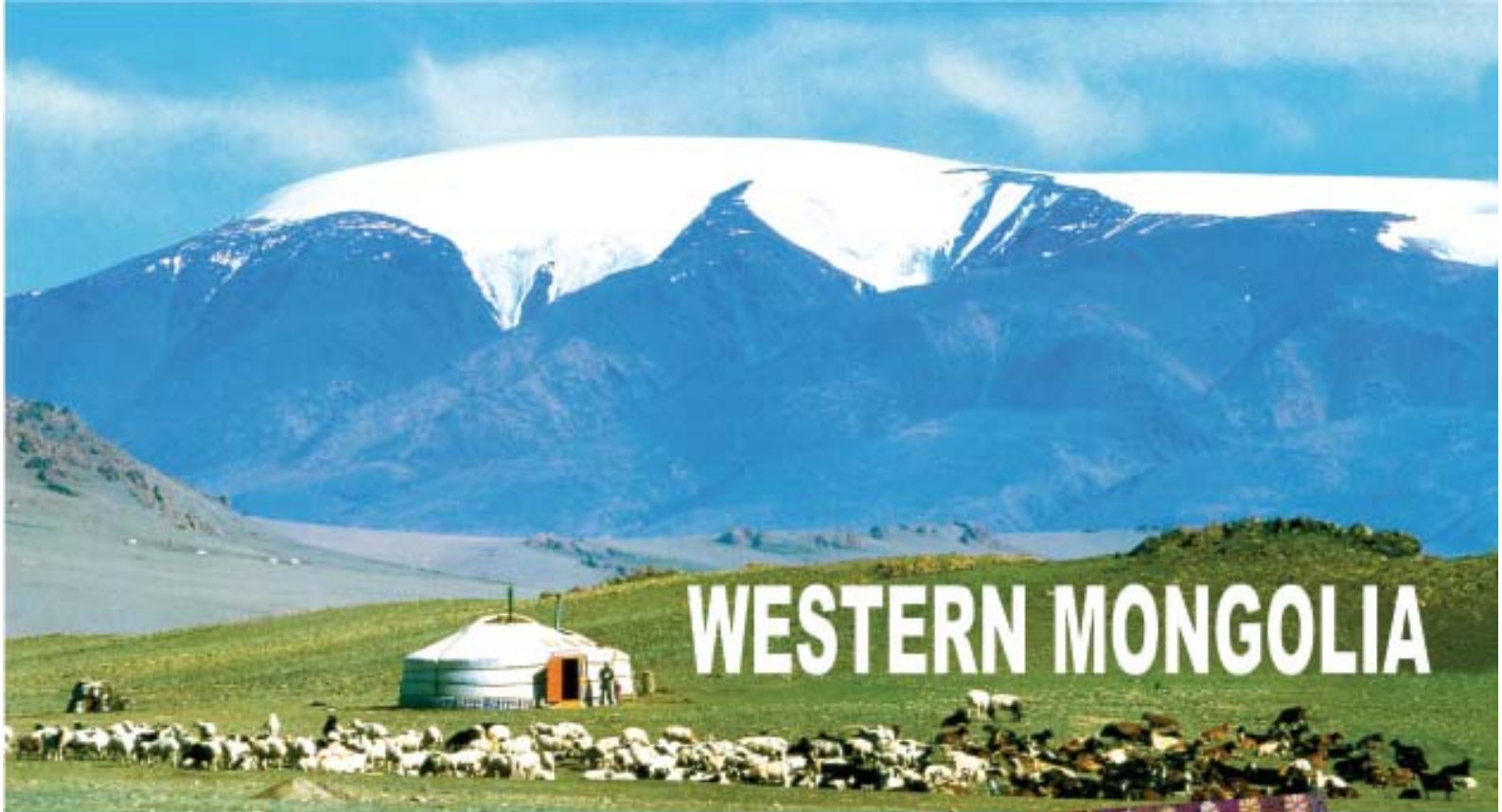
Morin huur is the main musical instrument that Mongolians have been using since ancient time.

Many ethnomusicologists believe that the Mongols introduced it to Europe, where it developed into

### Mongolian diet

Mongolian diet is based on mutton, beef, camel, dairy products, pasta and rice, as well as seasonal (with canned and dried) fruits and vegetables. Mongols especially love fatty boiled mutton, and consider the whole sheep to be good for eating. Steamed or boiled meat dumplings are the most popular dish of all.





# WESTERN MONGOLIA

**C**alled "The Roof of the World," Bayan-Olgii is a far off land of high mountains, the Mongol Altai Tavan Bogd Mountains, with 4,300 m peaks. It boasts torrential rivers and glaciers, and is inhabited by Kazakhs, a minority community with a unique culture. They herd yaks and goats, and hunt with trained eagles. The Khovd River flows through the Aimag, passing primitive wildlife areas with mountain steppe vegetation.



## BAYAN-OLGII



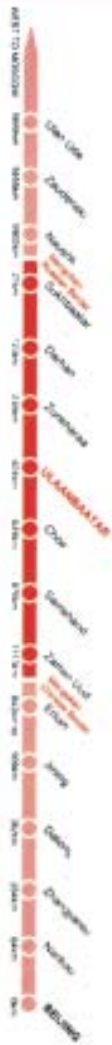
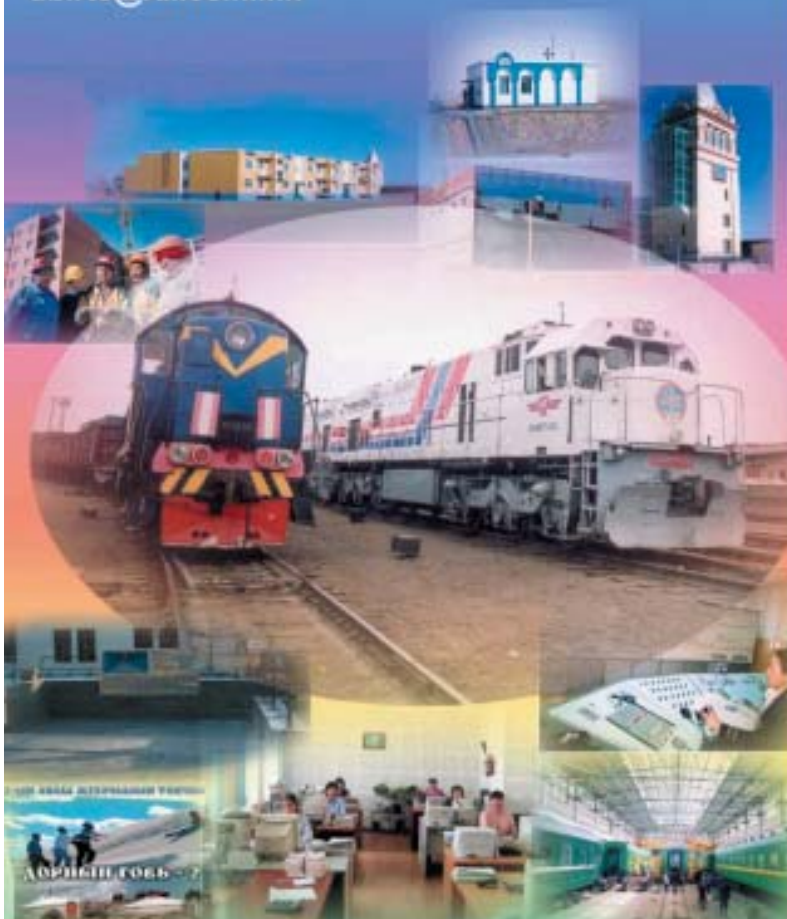
## HUNTING

Hunting in Mongolia is an authentic adventure and a great sporting challenge. Enjoy hunting Siberian ibex and Argali sheep, the world's largest wild sheep, in the majestic high Altai Mountains. Stalk and a huge Mongolian Elk are in the Khenlii or Khangai mountains, or hunt the famous Gobi Desert for a Gobi sheep, ibex, gazelle or wolf.



# Mongolian Railway

www.mtz.mn.  
ubirtc@railcom.mn



## USEFUL

## PHONE NUMBERS IN UB

Ambulance	103
Police	102
Fire	101
Tourist information	311409
Air Ticketing Information	1818
Train Ticketing Office	
- Domestic	24137
- International	24133
City Taxi	300000
Traffic police	321008
Domestic Distant Call	
Inquiry	117
International Call Inquiry	106, 116
Ulaanbaatar telephone	
Inquiry	109
Airport Inquiry	198
Railway Inquiry	24194



**Mongol Post Co. Ltd**

**Postage Stamps Authority**



Stamps celebrating 800 Years since the birth of Chinggis Khaan, 1962  
The set had been on sale only for 3 days, for 28 years after it had being forbidden to public it became available again in 1990.



The first issue celebrating 800 years Anniversary of the Great Mongolian Empire in 2002



The story of the Mongolian "Ger". Stamp depicting the development of the mongolian dwelling as so called "ger".



"Man of the Millenium Chinggis khaan" sticker, golden stamp of 23 krt.1999  
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# HUSTAI NATIONAL PARK

## Przewalski horses



The main attraction of the Hustai National Park, located 95 km west of Ulaanbaatar, are the **Przewalski horses** that have been successfully reintroduced into the wild. Approximately 50 years ago, this primeval wild horse ("Takh" in Mongolian) was close to extinction. Thanks to the success of a captive breeding programme, the population of this wild horse is now considered as out of danger: almost 200 animals can be admired in their natural habitat in the Hustai National Park.



## Wildlife



In addition to the *takhis*, many other **wild animals** have found a refuge in the fascinating hilly landscape of the Hustai National Park. Most impressive are the large red deer with their enormous wide antlers. Marmots are more numerous and less shy than anywhere else in Mongolia. With a little luck, visitors can see roe deer, wolves, wild boar or even the rare lynx. With 161 species, the bird fauna is also well represented and can be observed easily in the open landscape of the steppe. Demoiselle cranes, cinereous vultures, black storks and great bustards are particularly eye-catching.



## Community Based Tourism



The Hustai National Park supports the nomads who live in the surroundings of the park in their **community based tourism** initiative. This initiative is meant to provide visitors with a realistic experience of nomadic life in Mongolia. Visitors are invited to participate in activities typical of the nomads' daily life, such as milking the grazing animals or producing felt products from sheep's wool. In return, the nomads have the opportunity to share in the increasing economic success of tourism.



## Hustai Tourist Resort



Overnight accommodation is offered by the **Hustai Tourist Resort**, a comfortable ger camp, which has been constructed by the park administration adjacent to the entrance of the Hustai National Park. It also houses an information centre and a souvenir shop with many locally manufactured products, both of which are worth a visit.



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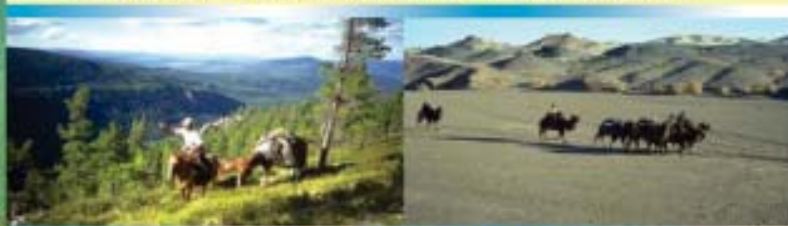
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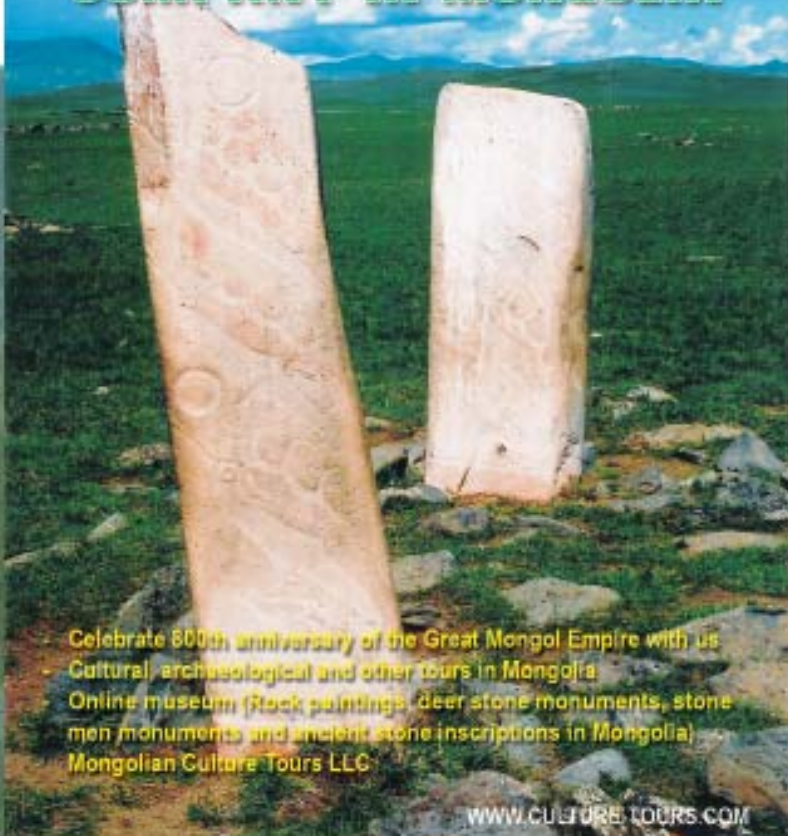
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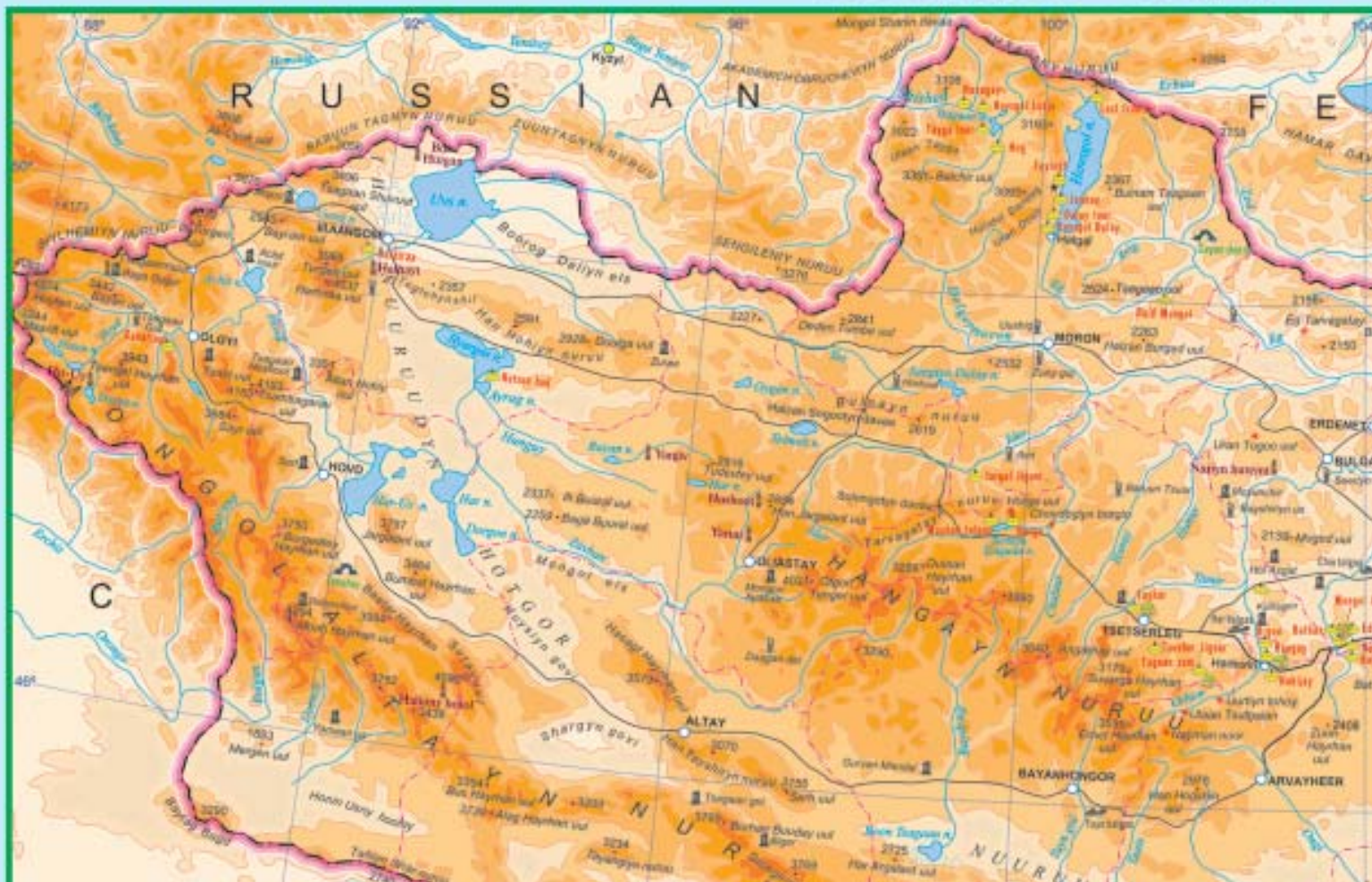
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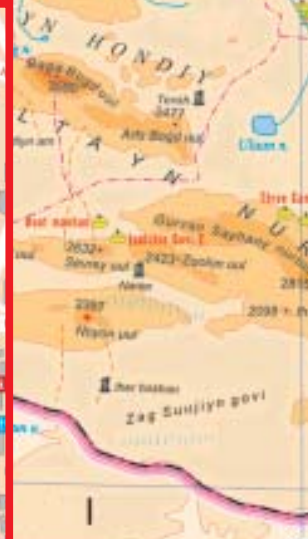
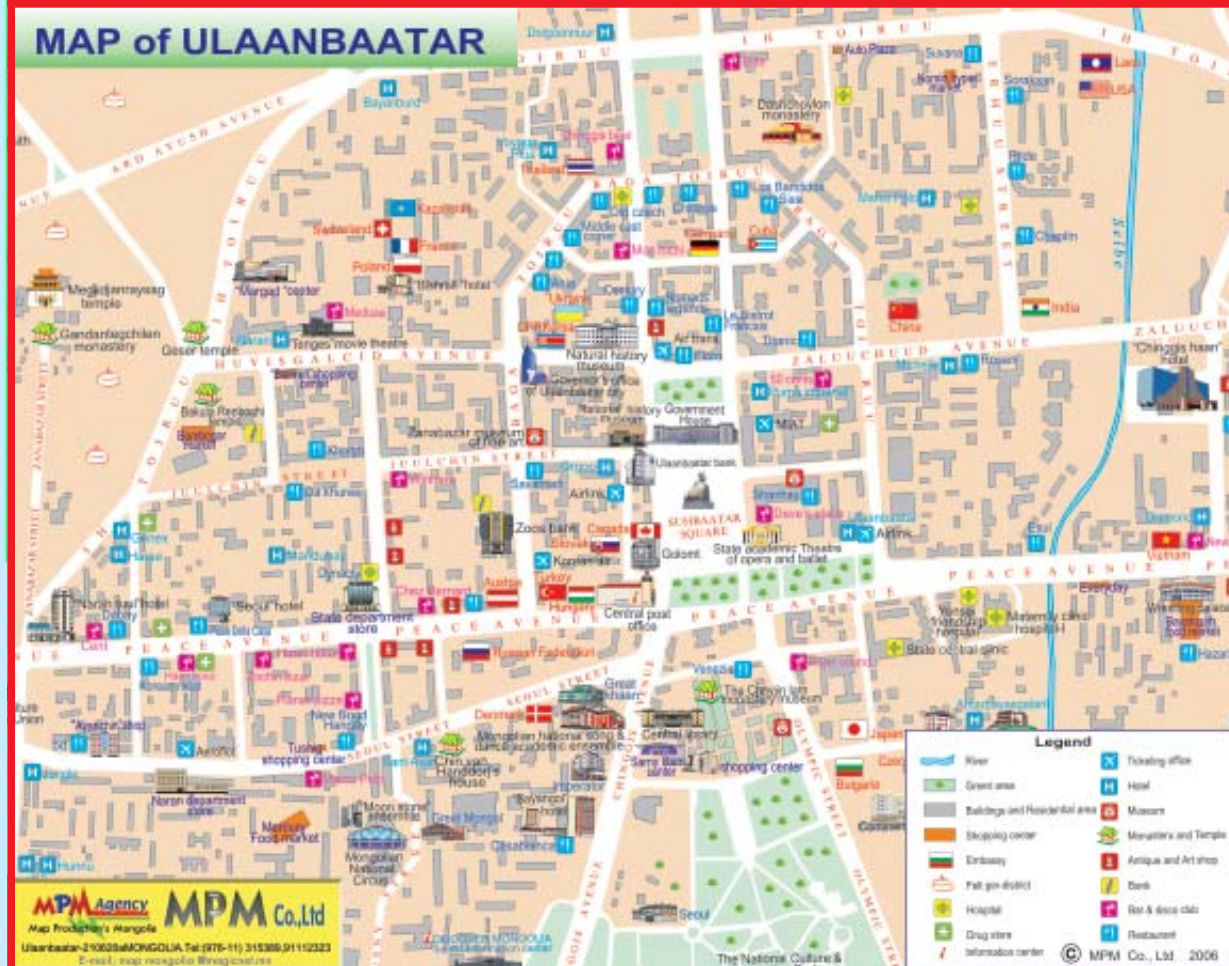
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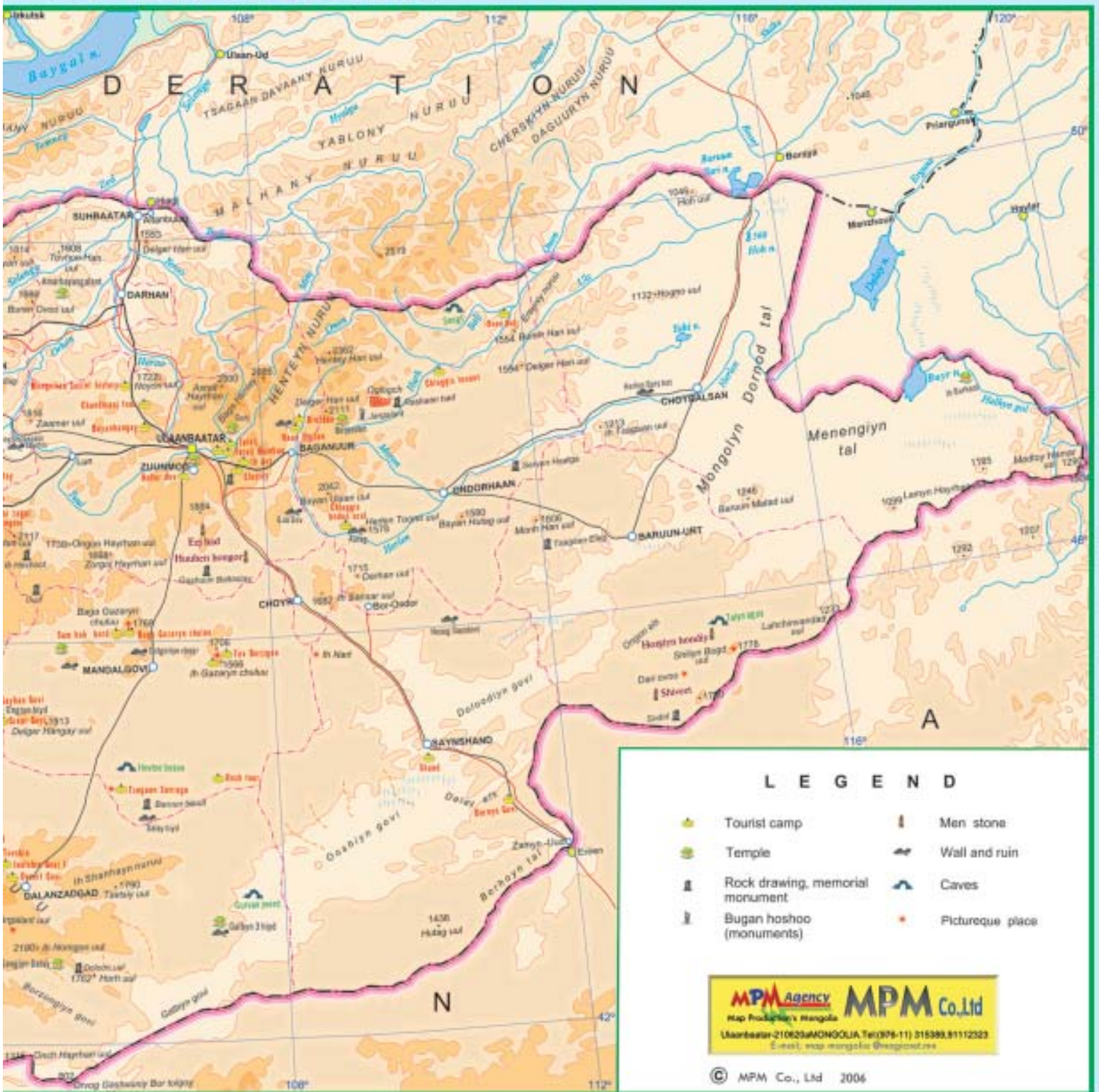
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