

## The Blue Pearl of Mongolia

### Northern and Central Mongolia, 10 days

#### Day 1. Arrival

Upon arrival in Ulaanbaatar, you will be greeted by your guide and driver. Transfer to a hotel. If time permits optional half or full day city sightseeing is available on request.

#### Day 2. Amarbayasgalant monastery (350 km)

In the morning, start your journey to Amarbayasgalant Monastery, or the "Monastery of Tranquil Felicity" – one of the three largest Buddhist monastic centers in Mongolia. The monastery was established in 1727 and completed in 1736 to serve as a final resting place for Zanabazar (1635–1723), the first Jebtsundamba Khutuktu, or spiritual head of Tibetan Buddhism – the first head of religion in modern Mongolia, equivalent to Catholic Popes. His remains were transferred to a newly created temple in 1788. Amarbayasgalant was



one of the very few monasteries to have partially escaped destruction during the Stalinist purges of 1937. Visit and explore the grounds of the monastery. Dinner and overnight stay in a Ger camp (L/D)

#### Day 3. Bulgan province / Uran Togoo (300 km)

After breakfast, drive to Uran Togoo, an extinct volcano in Bulgan province. You will have a scenic drive with endless green pastures and the deep blue sky. Overnight stay in a Ger camp (BLD).

#### Day 4. Lake Khuvsgul (400 km)



In the morning, drive north to Khuvsgul province – a home to large population of yaks and Central Asia's second largest freshwater lake. Arrival in late afternoon, upon reaching the wondrous Khuvsgul Lake; settle in a Ger camp located by the lake shore (BLD).

#### Day 5. Lake Khuvsgul – Leisure day

Enjoy a leisure by the lake shores of Khovsgol trekking, photo shooting and exploring the area. Optional activities for horse riding and boat riding will be present. Overnight stay in a Ger camp by the lakeshore (BLD).

**Day 6. Jargal Jiguur Hot Spring (280 km)**

After breakfast, start the drive to Jargal Jiguur hot spring. The spring comes out from a depth of 150m and its water is not mixed with soil water due to its high temperature. The camp transfers the hot water via pipes. Enjoy the stargazing in the hot spa in the pool. Overnight stay in a Ger camp (BLD).

**Day 7. Khorgiin Togoo Volcano / Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan (100 km)**

Drive to the magnificent volcanic area of Khorgiin Togoo located on the eastern shore of Lake Terkhiin Tsagaan. You may spend the time relaxing by the lake shores or enjoying a trek up the Volcanic crater to gain a far-reaching view of the area. Overnight stay in a Ger camp (BLD).

**Day 8. Karakorum (320 km)**

In the early morning, after breakfast drive to Karakorum, once the capital of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Great Mongol Empire. Visit the Karakorum museum housing artifacts dateable to even the Turkish period (VII century). Visit Erdene-Zuu Monastery, the first and the largest monastery in Mongolia built on the ruins of the ancient capital. Tour the monastery and visit several temples with excellent examples of Buddhist Thangka paintings and statues dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Dinner and overnight stay in a Ger camp (B/L/D).

**Day 9. Ulaanbaatar (380 km)**

After breakfast, drive back to Ulaanbaatar and check into your hotel. In the evening, enjoy a Mongolian traditional folk concert followed by a dinner at a restaurant. Overnight stay in a hotel (BLD).

**Day 10. Departure**

Transfer to the airport or train station for international departure.

**Departure dates:**

- GROUP 1: 20<sup>th</sup> of June – 29<sup>th</sup> of June/2019
- GROUP 2: 18<sup>th</sup> of July – 27<sup>th</sup> of July/2019
- GROUP 3: 15<sup>th</sup> of August – 24<sup>th</sup> of August/2019
- GROUP 4: 5<sup>th</sup> of September – 14<sup>th</sup> of September/2019

**3. Group size:**

Minimum 3pax  
Maximum 15pax

**4. Tour includes:**

- Transfers upon arrival and departure
- English-speaking guide at all times
- In the countryside all lodging will be in ger camps
- Mongolian traditional performance
- All meals are provided as stated in the itinerary
- Ground transportation: in the countryside by a chauffeured 4WD vehicle, minivan or bus in the city area
- Park entrance fees
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- 1 liter of drinking water per day per person

**5. Package price DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

Accommodation in a hotel or hostel in Ulaanbaatar, hotel extras, such as telephone calls, bar bills and laundry services, travel insurance, medical insurance, visa application fees, alcoholic beverages, personal expenses such as items of personal nature, gratuity to local guides and drivers, international airfare or train tickets, airport taxes, excess baggage charges (over 33 pounds / 15 kilograms), changes of arrival/departure flights, additional services, any charges of force majeure beyond our control (e.g. imposition of quarantine restrictions, etc.), optional excursions unless stated in your itinerary, etc.