



# Naadam Adventure

Days	Westbound	Countries	Distance	Activity level
8	Ulaanbaatar to Ulaanbaatar	Mongolia	870km	●●●○○



Celebrate the Naadam Festival with the locals as remote Mongolia relives its finest traditions dating from the days of Genghis Khan and his ferocious nomadic warriors. Witness skilful displays of archery and wrestling, and colourful horseracing events during the nation's most important festival.

# Itinerary

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## Days 1: Arrive Ulaanbaatar

We begin our adventure in Ulaanbaatar and join your Tour Leader and fellow travellers on Day 1 at 4:00pm for your Welcome Meeting.

On the first evening we are treated to a wonderful show of traditional arts, music and song, including the unforgettable 'throat-singing' as a welcome to Mongolia.

Mongolia's political, commercial and cultural capital since 1649, today much of the modern city of Ulaanbaatar is dominated by Soviet architecture from the 20th century, but traditional culture is still alive and well amongst the city's population.

Sightseeing - Evening performance – Wonders of Mongolian Art

## Day 2: Let the festivities commence!

Let the festivities commence! It is time to make our way with the crowds to the National Sports Stadium for the spectacular Opening Ceremony. Imagine the fanfare of an Olympic opening ceremony, the national pride of Independence Day and the athletic spectacle of the Commonwealth Games all rolled into one. Taking our place for the procession, we see not only athletes, but monks, officials and local celebrities – it seems that everyone makes their way here.

The procession presents a magnificent sight with hundreds of horses with riders dressed in colourful national costumes on parade. The first rounds of wrestling and archery begin.

Sightseeing - Naadam Festival Opening Ceremony

Meals - Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

## Day 3: Naadam Festival

Horseracing is the focus on the second day of the festival, out of town on the steppe we go. These races are the domain of the younger children, who compete for the title 'Tumnii Ekh' ('Leader of Ten Thousand'). Join the crowds, who are often as entertaining as the competitors themselves, in cheering the winners and serenading the losers in song!

Sightseeing - Naadam Festival Horse Racing.

Meals - Breakfast

## Day 4: Naadam Festival and to Bayangobi

Naadam festivities continue outside of the city. This morning we make our way to the Khui Doolon Khudag Valley for the Horse Trainers Festival before continuing to the serenity and unique landscapes of the Bayangobi.

Sightseeing - Naadam Festival – Horse Trainer's Naadam including entrance.

Meals - Breakfast & Dinner

## Itinerary (cont.)

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### Day 5: To Kharkhorin

We continue across the steppe to Kharkhorin, the capital of Mongolia in the 13th century during the reign of the infamous Genghis Khan. Little remains of over 100 temples with many destroyed during the Soviet era. However, Erdene Zuu Monastery, built in 1856, the largest and first Buddhist centre in the country is what we have come to visit. Most remarkably it retains most of its former glory and treasures.

Sightseeing - Kharkhorin and Erdene Zuu Monastery

Meals - Breakfast & Dinner

### Day 6: Khutsai National Park

From Kharkhorin we travel to Khustai National Park where Prezwalski horses, known locally as 'Takhi', were introduced after previously becoming extinct in their native habitat. We stay in a ger – traditional Mongolian felt tents, with plenty of time to relax and learn more about the lifestyle of Mongolia's nomadic peoples.

Sightseeing - Khutsai National Park Excursion

Meals - Breakfast & Dinner

### Day 7: Return to Ulaanbaatar

Making our way back to the bright lights of the city where life is slowly returning to normal after the most important festivities of the year, we stop en route to take in the incredible panoramic views of the city at Zaisan Memorial after mingling with monks at Gandaan Khiid, the country's largest remaining monastery. Here our fascinating journey concludes.

Sightseeing - Nomadic Culture demonstration, and Ulaanbaatar City tour including National History Museum

Meals - Breakfast & Lunch

### Day 8: Ulaanbaatar

Our adventure has drawn to a close. Say farewell to your travelling companions and tour leader before departing your hotel this morning.

Meals - Breakfast

## Itinerary (cont.)

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### Journey Summary

Day 1	Ulaanbaatar
Day 2	Ulaanbaatar - Naadam Festival
Day 3	Ulaanbaatar - Naadam Festival
Day 4	To Bayangobi
Day 5	Kharkhorin
Day 6	Bayangobi and Khustai National Park
Day 7	Return to Ulaanbaatar
Day 8	Ulaanbaatar

## What's included

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### Group size

24 maximum



### Meals

9 breakfasts  
2 lunches  
4 dinners



### Transfers

All transfers including to and from the airport.



### Accommodation

5 hotels (twin share)  
4 nights Mongolian gers (shared)

*Optional single supplement available for hotel stays on this journey. Prices available on request.*



### Sightseeing

Comprehensive schedule of sightseeing with certified Local Guides. You'll have a generous sprinkling of free time to relax or explore on your own.



### Expertise

An experienced Tour Leader accompanies the whole journey to keep your adventure on track. Local Guides are native to each destination and as certified professionals will share their immense knowledge with you. 24/7 support is available in the office and on the ground.

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## Contact Us

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### Client enquiries and reservations

Australia: 1300 559 860  
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