



Mongolia

Ghenkis Khan Warrior Training

PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



Do something extraordinary.....

Itinerary

Mongolia • Ghenkis Khan

9 Days • 8 Nights

Ulaanbaator – Maikhan Tolgoi – Terelj – Dund Bayun – Gunjin Temple – Chinggis Troops camp

HIGHLIGHTS

- 🏹 Getting to grips with your archery skills as you gallop across the plains
- 🍷 Sharing koumiss as you make friends with the Mongolian herders
- 📖 Rated one of 40 'Unforgettable Things To Do Before You Die' in a recent BBC book

TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Style	Experiential Travel
Tour Start	Ulaanbaatar
Tour End	Ulaanbaatar
Accommodation	Hotel & Camp
Included Meals	Breakfasts, Lunches, Dinners
Difficulty Level	Medium

Looking for an adventure holiday in Mongolia with a difference? Live the life of a Mongol Warrior under Genghis Khan, as you head out onto the Mongolian steppe and learn what made this the greatest military empire the world had ever seen. Riding techniques, shooting with a bow and arrow, battle tactics and much more are all covered as you stay in a felt ger and don full costume, this is one of Mongolia's most unusual adventures. We can also design bespoke Mongolia holidays.

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Overview

'One must not perceive the attack of the medieval Mongols' as a chaotic advance of a tribe of brutes. It was indeed a well-planned campaign run by highly disciplined and organized army'. - Napoleon Bonaparte 'It exceeded all my expectations; there was a great mixture of fun and a true experience of Mongolian culture and hospitality'. - Caroline Mumford. This trip, featured in the BBC book Unforgettable Things to Do before You Die, will show you first hand what it felt like to be a Mongol warrior under the mighty Genghis Khan. Genghis Khan established the Mongol nation, conquered most of the known world, and rightfully earned the reputation as one of the great military leaders of all time. Uniting a small confederation of rival nomadic tribes on the Central Asian steppes, he created the largest empire the world has ever witnessed. The Mongol warriors under the Khan were the strongest, swiftest and most agile military force of their day, employing highly advanced tactics and strategies. By the time of his death in 1227, the Mongol empire extended all the way from Beijing to the Caspian Sea. The site of his grave has still not been found, although it is believed to be somewhere in the Khentii mountains.

This adventure will show you what it really felt like to be a warrior under the Great Khan and to discover the reasons that made the warriors such a powerful troupe.

Dressed in full costume and staying in felt gers (the portable tents designed for a nomadic lifestyle), you can have a taste of what it felt like to be a Mongol warrior, and discover the reasons that made them such a power. Every aspect of this adventure is a discovery: learn bow and arrow making, orientation techniques, field cooking, how to shoot from a standing position and on horseback, learn the different knots used in the daily life of the steppe nomads, how to herd horses and lasso them, as well as discovering the battle tactics used by the great Khan, such as the art of lighting many campfires quickly so as to confuse the enemy at night. You also prepare your own weaponry, and re-enact different tactical techniques to ensure a successful war campaign.

Mongols moved great distances, and it was only by adopting a basic lifestyle and employing simple but well-proven technologies that they were able to do so. A perfectly organized network of urtuuns - a day's riding - stretched across the entire Mongol Empire, enabling messages to be delivered from as far as the Black Sea in just two weeks. While riding, we visit nomadic families who move across the grasslands in search of good pastures, and share a lifestyle that has not changed in centuries. There will be opportunities to taste the renowned koumiss (fermented mare's milk) and Mongolian milk vodka, and through your interpreter, understand how these people eke out a living in this harsh but astonishingly beautiful landscape. In the evenings, sitting by the campfire, you can listen to the old legends as you gaze up at the unbelievably clear night skies.

On the afternoon of the last riding day you are met by our support team and taken to Ulaanbaatar for a farewell dinner, before transferring to the airport for your flight home the next day.

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Itinerary

DAY 1: ARRIVAL ULAANBAATAR (D)

Arrive in Ulaanbaatar and transfer to the Chinggis Khaan Hotel for overnight accommodation. In the afternoon enjoy a sightseeing tour of Ulaanbaatar, including a visit to the National History Museum and the Mongolian Military Museum. Collect your traditional Mongolian robes or 'del'. A welcome dinner will be served at a local restaurant.

Overnight in hotel

DAY 2: TRAINING CAMP (B,L,D)

This morning you will be met by your guide and travel to the training camp, located 3 hours outside of Ulaanbaatar. Here you will begin your warrior training with introductory lessons in archery and horse riding. After dinner at your ger camp you will mount your horse and ride to a guarding post, maintaining the camp's security and protecting the horses from wolves, enemies and thieves in the same way as Khan's soldiers would have done 800 years ago.

Overnight at ger camp.

DAY 3: LEARNING TO COOK AS A TRUE MONGOL WARRIOR (B,L,D)

After breakfast, collect your horses and learn how to cook a meal fit for a true Mongol warrior (this will then become your lunch later in the day). You will also learn how to make Mongolian milk products, including some special recipes which are still common. Later in the day you will master your riding skills and learn traditional Mongolian techniques for lassoing horses. Further archery lessons, learning to shoot from a standing position and on horseback before returning to the ger camp for dinner.

Overnight at ger camp.



DAY 4: CLASSES (B,L,D)

After breakfast there are several battle tactics classes for you to participate in, designed to give you a good general knowledge of Khan's most successful battle methods. This will include a lesson on Mongolian wrestling tricks, and a tactics performance. Later in the afternoon there is a chance to learn an ancient Mongolian song to sing during the

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farewell festival and arts performance. Before setting off for war, Genghis Khan would invite a shaman to call the spirit of war victory, followed by a festival of food and arts.

Overnight at ger camp.

DAY 5: MAIKHAN TOLGOI TO TEREJ (B,L,D)

Mongols moved great distances. The extremely simple life style and employment of simple but well proven technologies enabled them to do so. You will do exactly the same over the next 3 days, days which will be truly challenging. The skills you have acquired in the past few days will help you to survive on the Mongol Ride. Begin a day of riding from Maikhan Tolgoi to Terelj (35km).

Overnight in a tented camp.



DAY 6: TEREJ TO DUND BAYAN (B,L,D)

Another day of riding, from Terelj to Dund Bayan (35km).

Overnight in a tented camp.

DAY 7: DUND BAYAN TO GUNJIN TEMPLE (B,L,D)

Final ride from Dund Bayan to Gunjin Temple, a scenic and rewarding ride, with an evening return to Gunjin camp area (30km).

Overnight in a tented camp.

DAY 8: CHINGGIS TROOPS CAMP (B,L,D)

After a relaxed morning you will be driven to 'Chinggis Troops camp' where you will have an opportunity to disclose your natural talent, as well as test your agility and accuracy by the use of a variety of weapons to shoot static and moving targets. In the afternoon you will be taken to Ulaanbaatar for a farewell dinner, where you will receive your certificate of achievement.

Overnight in hotel.

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DAY 9: FLIGHT HOME (B)

Transfer to the airport for your international departure.

What our clients have said

'Bottom line - one of the best overseas trips I've ever taken. Far exceeded my expectations! Extraordinary, helpful, friendly staff who went out of their way ensure our safety, comfort and enjoyment. If you need a reference for this trip in the future don't hesitate to use me.'

- W. Bayne

"The best holiday ever! Mongolia takes your breath away and the Tour is very well organized: The activities, the demonstrations and the shows leave no space to boredom."

- B. Parigi

"I felt so privileged to be surrounded by such beauty in all senses. I shall tell as many people as possible what a truly wonderful experience it was"

- M. Gibb

"The whole trip was very memorable, horse riding, local, landscape, culture everything was amazing. The locals were key to the whole trip and were very happy to be sharing their culture. Some wonderful memories, I would not hesitate to recommend it to a friend"

- D. Redfern

Important Information

INCLUDED

- 🍽️ All meals as described (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)
- 🍀 All activities as mentioned
- 🍀 Services of an English-speaking guide throughout
- 🍀 All transportation and transfers
- 🍀 All sightseeing costs
- 🍀 Horse/camel men and camp assistants

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights and taxes
- Personal spending money
- Alcoholic drinks
- Tips and gratuities
- Mongolian Visa
- Travel insurance
- Tailor-made Mongolian robe (available to purchase at end of holiday)

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Additional Information

ACTIVITY DURATION	9 days 8 nights
SEASON	This tour can only be carried out from June – September.
GROUP SIZE	2-8 pax
EXPEDITION SCHEDULE	Tailor made departures are available on request.
TRIP COMMENTS AND STYLE	This extraordinary adventure really lets you feel what it was like to live like a warrior under Genghis Khan, in an area whose nomadic customs have remained surprisingly unchanged since the thirteenth century. You will learn a number of new skills, and have experiences that are likely to stay with you forever. We do recommend that you have at least some previous riding experience to get the most out of the adventure, but beginners are well catered for too.
FOOD	A mixture of local and western food, with opportunities to sample specialities such as koumyss (fermented mare's milk). Vegetarians are recommended to take along supplementary snacks and will consume lots of eggs!
JOINING DETAILS	Your final instructions and any relevant tickets will be sent to you approximately 4 weeks before date of travel, after full payment has been received.
INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS	We can help you organise and book your flights if departing from the UK, if you have not already done so. Please contact us for information and a quote.
MAXIMUM ELEVATION	Around 1,500 metres.
KIT LIST	This can be sent to you upon payment of your deposit at your request, otherwise a copy will be sent with your final documents.
DIFFICULTY LEVEL	Our grades have been designated based on our perception of the degree of physical activity you are likely to require to enjoy the adventure. These are only a guideline. This itinerary has a 'Medium' level (2-5 hours per day). This means that you will need an average level of fitness.