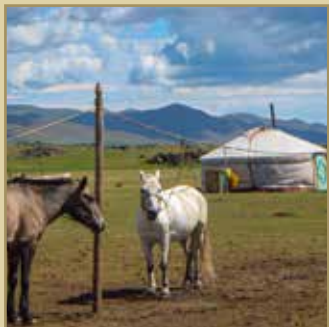


MONGOLIA – *Discover the land of Genghis Khan*



Best Time to Visit:

JUN – SEP



The world's largest landlocked country, bordered by Russia and China, is also the world's least populated sovereign nation. Its vast landscape includes the Gobi Desert, mountains, and grass covered steppe. Mongolia has been inhabited by pastoral nomads since prehistoric times. Cave rock paintings found at the Khoit Tsenkher Cave date from 20,000 years ago showing mammoths, lynx, Bactrian camels, and ostriches. Neolithic agricultural settlements followed by horse-riding nomadism in the Copper and Bronze Age which became the dominant culture that continued throughout history. The incredible horsemanship is one of the many cultural opportunities you will have as a visitor to Mongolia.

The storied past of Mongolia included empires formed by nomads under a designated ruler or Khan. One of these empires, the Xionnu, emerged as the greatest threat to the Qin Dynasty of China, which led to the construction of the Great Wall. Several empires later there was a chieftain named Temujin who succeeded in uniting the Mongol tribes between Manchuria and the Altai Mountains. In 1206, he took the title of Genghis Khan and formed the Mongol Empire – the largest contiguous land empire in world history.

The capital city of Ulaanbaatar is also the largest city and home to about half of the country's population. You will begin your adventure in Ulaanbaatar where you may stay in luxury and comfort in a five-star hotel. Touring the capital city, you will have a chance to view an excellent display of history dating back to the Stone Age in the Mongolian National History Museum. Then fly to the Gobi Desert to experience one of the most exotic areas in the world. Travel to the desert sand dunes and spend a night in a traditional Ger. Mongolia is a resting place of dinosaurs, and you'll have a chance to explore the area called Flaming Cliffs. Return to the capital for more discoveries. Visit Mongolia during Naadam Festival and see the famous games that take place from 11 to 13 of July annually. You'll take away indelible memories from this unique destination.

Mongolia Highlights include:

- Venture into the Gobi Desert for an authentic view of traditional Mongolian nomadic lifestyle
- Listen for the singing sands of the Gurvan Saikhan National Park and stay in a Mongolian ger
- Explore petrified forests, remains of mammals, and skeleton of a hornless rhinoceros in the Cemetery of the Dinosaurs
- Admire the collection of Bogd Khan, ruler of Mongolia in early 20th century at the Winter Palace
- Visit 13th Century Complex for an insight into the lifestyle, art and crafts from the time of Genghis Khan