

# HIKE TO ORKHON VALLEY AND TSENKHER HOT SPRING

This wonderful trip will take you to discover the very heart of Mongolia. The heartland of Mongolia bestows a wide variety of landscapes with green meadows, huge valleys, and cross pine and larch forests. Also, it hosts fascinating historical and cultural sites and it is a great place to discover most of Mongolia's nomadic lifestyle. Step into the former capital of the Great Mongolian Empire and see its unique Buddhist monasteries. Hike on through the breathtaking Orkhon Valley to the Tsenkher hot springs. This trip offers so many incredible highlights you are sure to never get bored!

It is :

Rocky formations sculpted by erosion,  
mountains tree-filled with pines  
plains scattered with wildflowers and edelweisses,  
rivers and lakes...

## Ulaanbaatar

### **DAY: 1** Arrive in Ulaanbaatar

You will land in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. At the airport, you will meet with your translator who will take you to the city center, and on the way there you will be shown where to change currency if you wish to. If your flight arrives early, you will be taken on a city tour on this day. Your luggage will be dropped off at your hotel before you enjoy the city tour.

During the city tour, you will see the central square of Ulaanbaatar city; the Chinggis Khaan square. Then you will visit the Mongolian national historical museum and the Gandantegchinlen Monastery, the center of Mongolian Buddhism. Then you will be taken to do some shopping if desired before being dropped at your hotel and then see you tomorrow!

## *Ulaanbaatar - Kharkhorum ancient capital 400km -6h*

**DAY: 2** On this morning, you will leave Ulaanbaatar. Just before you leave you will stop at the biggest supermarket at the edge of the city, where your guide, chef, and driver will gather groceries and essentials for the trip. Here you can have a wander and get whatever you might want for the trip. Once you hit the road again you will drive about 400 km to the campsite, but don't worry, there will be breaks for lunch and to take pictures of the scenery if desired. After lunch you and your team will stop at Elsen Tasarkhai sand dunes which are Mongolian mini Gobi; here you can have a stroll on the sand dunes and if you want you can ride a camel for a photo! When you reach Kharkorum city (380km from Ulaanbaatar) you will visit the Erdenezuu monastery museum. This is one of the oldest monasteries in Mongolia. The campsite will be around 20km from there by the Orkhon river get ready for your first camping in Mongolia! Before you go there you will have your dinner at a local restaurant, then you will drive to camping spot

- Breakfast - Hotel
- Lunch - Local restaurant
- Dinner - Local restaurant
- Accommodation – Tent

*Kharkhorum to Berkhiin bulan 25km*

**DAY: 3** After breakfast, you and your team will pack off everything before the first hike with your guide. The hike will be 25km long through the valley and you will be following the beautiful Orkhon river where you will have plenty of opportunities to take all the pictures you desire! During the hike, the chef and drivers won't be too far with their vehicle, just in case you need to leave or take something from the car and to meet you with lunch by the river! They are so nice they will even have the tents up and dinner on the go by the time you arrive at the next camping destination. You can even have a swim in the Orkhon river after the hike if you feel like it!

5-6 hours of hiking

- Breakfast - by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- accommodation - Tent

*Berkhiin Bulan to Nariinii am 23km*

**DAY: 4** Just as before, you will have breakfast in the morning and start hiking to the next destination. For all day you will follow the Orkhon river and the huge steppe, which is called Nariinii Tal in Mongolian. Also, you will see your cars on the way and stop for lunch somewhere. Today camping will be next to the Orkhon river again. On the first day, you will follow this peaceful river, the longest river in Mongolia! (1200 km long) Same as yesterday, when you come to your campsite everything will be ready; tents and dinner etc... Here you can swim again and even take a shower with warm water; that will be nice after the long hike!

- Breakfast - by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- accommodation - Tent

### *Nariinii Am to Ongotstiin Guur 23km*

**DAY: 5** After breakfast, time to pack your tents again, your team will always appreciate your help if you want to get involved in all the packing and cleaning. The day will be spent following the Orkhon river once again and, by this time, cars will find a good spot for camping next to the bridge. Your tent will be waiting for you with a good meal to end the day.

20-23 km 4-5 hours of hiking

- Breakfast-by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- Accommodation- Tent

### *Ongotstiin Guur to Nomadic family 20km*

**DAY: 6** Today the hike will lead to your hosts, a nomad family who herds animals in the Orkhon Valley, close to the famous Orkhon waterfall. With them, you will discover the nomad life and its traditions and herding lifestyle. You will also have a taste of the lovely Mongolian traditional food as your hosting nomad family cooks dinner for you! As you will stay here for the next two days you will have a chance to try, first hand, some of the everyday lifestyles, like milking the yaks. You will sleep in the Mongolian traditional Ger (yurt).

17-20 km 4-5 hours of hiking

- Breakfast-by your team
- Lunch - By your team
- Dinner - Nomadic family
- Accommodation - Ger

### *Nomad family to Orkhon waterfall 15km*

**DAY: 7** On this day you will go to the Orkhon waterfall, which is one of the most popular places in the area. The waterfall is 20 meters high and 19 meters deep. Depending on the rain, it's with can vary between 5 and 7 meters. Here you can do a little bit of climbing in the rock canyon and if you want you can go for a swim, it is a very nice place to swim. You will be given the choice to ride horses there or to go hiking. After that waterfall, you will go back to the nomad family's home where you can chill for the rest of the day.

13-15 km 4-5 hours of hiking

- Breakfast - by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - Nomad family
- Accommodation- Ger

*Nomad to Tuvkhun monastery 35km*

**DAY: 8** Today we have 35 km of driving and hiking together. From the nomad's home, the first few kilometers (around 15km) will be in the car. After that and having crossed the Orkhon river by the bridge, your driver will drop you on the road. Your hike will leave behind the beautiful Orkhon valley and head towards Tuvkhun monastery. This is one of the oldest monasteries in Mongolia.

But today you will just hike to the mountain which is located next to the monastery which is located at top of the mountain. You will see this place tomorrow. Today you will camp next to the high mountain and forest. From this camping spot, the views will be astonishing. Tents and dinner will be ready the same as before.

20-23 km 5-6 hours of hiking

- Breakfast-by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- Accommodation- Tent

*Tuvkhun monastery to Aguit River 15km*

**DAY: 9** Today you will hike to Tuvkhun monastery. It is located at the top of the mountain that we mentioned before. First, you will hike in the forest and you will cross-forest. After you cross the forest, you will visit the monastery. At the top or before the top your guide will give you the history of this place. This is an amazing place to take photos. After the monastery, you will come back to the campsite for lunch. After lunch, you will hike to the next place with your team. Your second part of hiking will be around 10km.

15-18 km 5-6 hours of hiking

- Breakfast-by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- Accommodation- Tent

*Aguit to Tsagaan Sum 23km*

**DAY: 10** Today's hiking will take you to the next place called Tsagaan Sum valley. This valley is huge and you will enjoy the beauty of the steppe where you will be hiking until

lunch. Lunch will be next to the old ruins of a palace! These ruins used to be the palace of the Uighurs. Around the VIII century, the old Mongolian empire Uighurs lived in this valley and left behind so many big or small ruins, palaces, and tombs which are still being researched by scientists to this day.

The next camping area will be next to the mountain and at the edge of the valley.

Everything will be ready as usual, tents and dinner, etc. After dinner, you can talk about Mongolian history with your team.

23-25 km 5-6 hours of hiking

- Breakfast-by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- Accommodation - Tent

### *Tsagaan Sum to Tsetserleg River 25km*

**DAY: 11** Today you will hike around 23 km to get to the next place. You will spend the day crossing the forest and hiking through the valley until you reach the Tsetserleg river where you will set camp. There will be stops on the way for lunch, taking photos from the top, and enjoying the views and serenity surrounding this tranquil area. You will camp by the river and enjoy a nice meal by the fire.

- Breakfast-by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner - by your team
- Accommodation - Tent

### *Tsetserleg River to Tsenkher Hot Spring 20km*

**DAY: 12** This is the last day of your hiking trip. After breakfast, you will start your hiking to Tsenkher Hot Springs. At the end of the trip, you can have a good soak in the hot water pool. But to get there you will hike around 20 km and you will cross mountains and forest hills! You will stay at the tourist camp for one night. Your guide will show the beginning of the hot spring when you have free time after you get there. Then you can enjoy a good rest in a lovely GER.

20 km 4-5 hours of hiking

- Breakfast - by your team
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner -tourist camp
- Accommodation-Ger

*Tsenkher Hot Spring to Lake Ogii 130km*

**DAY: 13** You will drive 200 km to the last camping spot, next to lake Ogii. Lunch will be somewhere on the road and made by your chef. When you come to the last camping spot your team and you will set up the tents together and you can have a little hike around the lake if you like. This will be your last dinner in the Mongolian countryside, next to the lake. This is the last night to catch up with your team and talk about the highlights of your trip and give them any feedback. Tomorrow you will drive to Ulaanbaatar.

- Breakfast - tourist camp
- Lunch - by your team
- Dinner -by your team
- Accommodation-Tent

*Lake Ogii to Ulaanbaatar 330km*

**DAY: 14** On this morning you'll drive to Ulaanbaatar ( 330 km). The last day in the countryside and the last day of your trip! Lunch will be from a local restaurant well known by your driver and guide. When you arrive in Ulaanbaatar you can go shopping for souvenirs with your team, and at 6 pm you will watch a Mongolian traditional dancing, singing, and khoomii concert by the 'Tumen Ekh' Ensemble of Mongolia. After that, you will be taken to your hotel where you can say your goodbyes and thank you to your team.

- Breakfast - by your team
- Lunch - local restaurant
- Dinner ----- your own
- Accommodation-Hotel

Departure

**DAY; 15** This day is your very last day in Mongolia. Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the airport. The transfer can be organized at whatever time you want, according to the schedule of your flight. Thank you for traveling with us, creating an experience you will never forget!

HAVE A GOOD JOURNEY AND SEE YOU SOON