



Tour Itinerary for
BIRDING & MAMMAL WATCHING IN MONGOLIA



Tour dates: 14 – 28 June

Developed by Wildlife Tours Mongolia

Background information: Mongolia is a vast country with a range of different natural habitats and ecosystems from the taiga forest to the gobi desert. Country is mostly steppe, but boreal forests lie in the north, majestic Altai mountains in the west, grassland steppe in the east and gobi deserts stretching from south east to the south west and north west. At 1,564,600 square kilometer area, just over 3 million people live in Mongolia. About 40% of the entire population live in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar. Many of the Mongolians still live in a nomadic lifestyle herding their livestock throughout the year.

Tour duration: 15 days

Maximum group size: 8 people

The price includes all expenses such as vehicles and fuel, accommodations, food, national park fees in the country. The cost excludes international travels, beverages, tips and laundry.

Vehicle: Toyota Land Cruisers (4WD), there will be some long drives on paved and dirt roads to reach the destinations. We consider that the comfort of our clients is very important so that a max of 3 passengers will sit in each car.

Climate: The weather can be warm to hot in June. Generally, it will be hot during the day, but it will be cooler at night and in the early mornings. Colder weather can be expected at the higher altitudes, and rain is possible at almost any time. Therefore, we recommend you bring warm clothes, waterproof boots and rain jackets.

Accommodation: In Ulaanbaatar we will stay in a modern hotel. Away from there we will either stay in ger camps or our own tented camp.

Key mammal species list for the tour:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Saiga Antelope | 10. Tarbagan Marmot |
| 2. Goitered Gazelle | 11. Corsac Fox |
| 3. Argali Sheep | 12. Red Fox |
| 4. Siberian Ibex | 13. Tolai Hare |
| 5. Mongolian Gazelle | 14. Long-tailed Ground Squirrel |
| 6. Przewalski's Horse | 15. Alashan Ground Squirrel |
| 7. Asiatic Wild Ass | 16. Pallid Ground Squirrel |
| 8. Siberian Wapiti | 17. Pallas's Pika |
| 9. Pallas's Cat | 18. Daurian Pika |

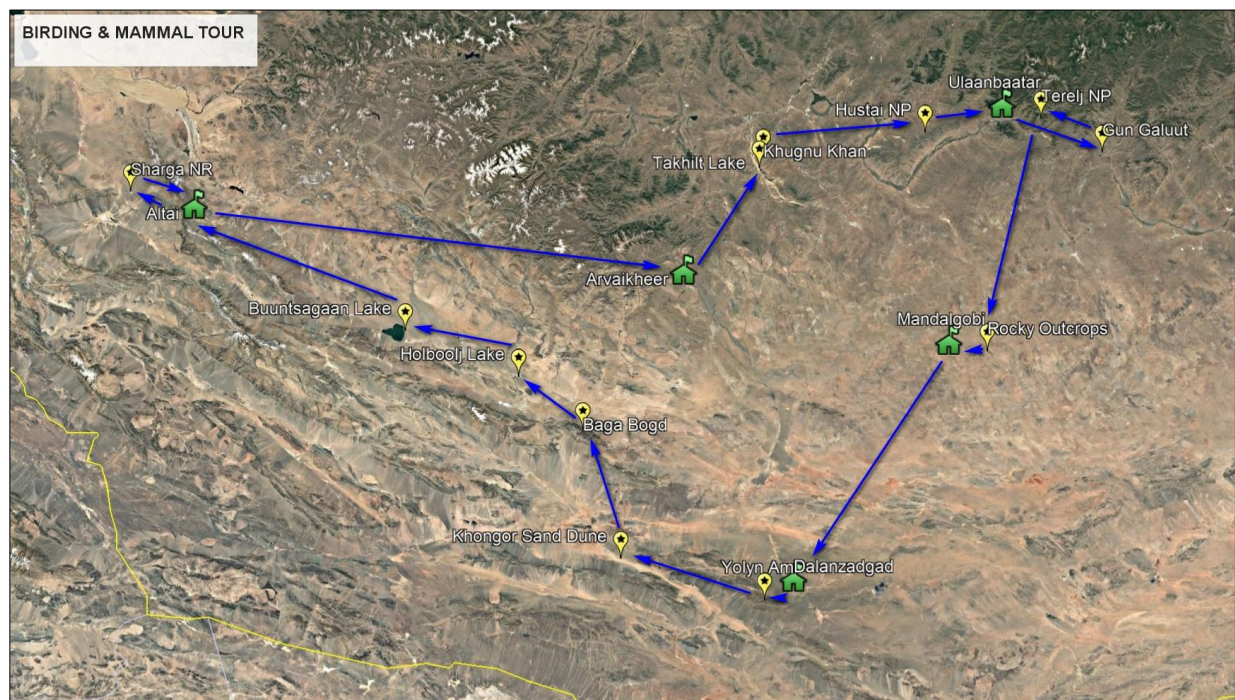
19. Northern Pika
20. Daurian Hedgehog
21. Long-eared Hedgehog
22. Siberian Jerboa
23. Hairy-footed Jerboa

24. Mongolian Gerbil
25. Gobi Altai Vole
26. Brandt's Vole
27. Midday Gerbil

In addition to the mammals, there are opportunities to see a number of key bird species, different ecosystems, cultural and historical sites, and nomadic life styles.

Key bird species list for the tour:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Mongolian Ground-jay | 10. Azure Tit | 18. White-winged Tern |
| 2. Oriental Plover | 11. White-crowned Penduline Tit | 19. Saker Falcon |
| 3. Altai Snowcock | 12. Long-tailed Rosefinch | 20. Amur Falcon |
| 4. Kozlov's Accentor | 13. Beautiful Rosefinch | 21. Mongolian Lark |
| 5. Steppe Eagle | 14. Swan Goose | 22. Small Snowfinch |
| 6. Godlewski's Bunting | 15. Bar-headed Goose | 23. Desert Wheatear |
| 7. Meadow Bunting | 16. White-naped Crane | 24. Asian Desert Warbler |
| 8. Pallas's Reed Bunting | 17. Demoiselle Crane | 25. Pallas's Sandgrouse |
| 9. Wallcreeper | | 26. Pallas's Fish Eagle |



Mongolia Birding & Mammal Watching Tour Route

Day 1. Gun Galuut Nature Reserve (150km mostly on paved road)

After meeting with tour participants in Ulaanbaatar, we will drive to the Gun Galuut Nature Reserve. Gun Galuut NR has a great diversity of ecosystems even though it has a comparatively small area. The complex of mountains, steppes, rivers, lakes and wetlands are kept in their original condition. Key birds to see here are White-naped Crane, Demoiselle Crane and Stejneger's Scoter. Mammals to see here are Argali Sheep, Mongolian Marmot, and Corsac Fox. **Accommodation:** 'Steppe Nomads' Ger Camp.

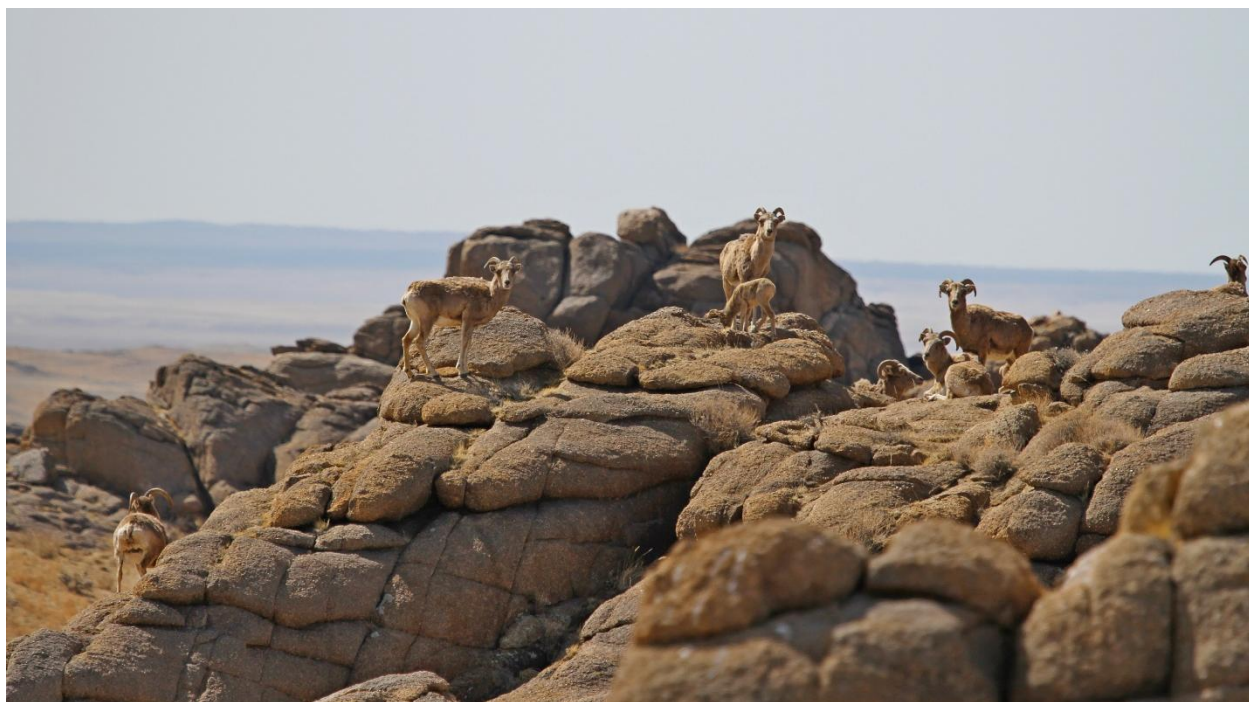


Day 1. Terelj National Park (70 km mostly on paved road)

After breakfast, we will check out the camp and spend some time checking the lakes on the way. Then, we will move to the Terelj National Park which is considered one of the most scenic places in Mongolia. We will explore areas around the camp for some forest birds such as Siberian Rubythroat and Red-throated Thrush and mammals like Siberian Chipmunk, Long-tailed Ground Squirrel and Eurasian Squirrel. **Accommodation:** 'Terelj Lodge' Ger Camp.

Day 3-4. Rocky Outcrops in Middle Gobi (360 km)

We will leave early in the morning and head to the Granite Rocky Outcrops in Dundgobi Province which is 300 km to the south from Ulaanbaatar. **Key mammals:** Red Fox, Corsac Fox and Pallas's Cat. **Accommodation:** Tented Camp (2 nights).



Day 5-6. Dalanzadgad - Yolyn Am (340 km on dirt and paved road)



After having early breakfast, we will drive to Dalanzadgad, a capital of Southgobi Province. We will explore the Yolyn Am on Day 5 and the key species to see here are Wallcreeper, Bearded Vulture, Godlewski's Bunting, Mongolian Accentor, Brown Accentor, Beautiful Rosefinch, Barred Warbler, and Bearded Vulture. Mammals can be seen here are Siberian Ibex, Alashan Ground Squirrel, Midday

Gerbil and Pallas's Pika.

Accommodation: 'Khanbogd' Ger Camp (2 nights).



Day 7. Khongor Sand Dune (180 km on some paved road and dirt road)

After early breakfast, we will move on to the Khongor Sand Dune which stretches about 185 km long and covers an area of 925 km². On the way to the dune, we will look for rare mammals such as Asiatic Wild Ass, Goitered Gazelle and Mongolian Gazelle. After arrival at the camp, we will go and look for Mongolian Ground-jay, Saxaul Sparrow, Asian Desert Warbler, Southern Grey Shrike, Desert Wheatear, and Long-legged Buzzard. Long-eared Hedgehogs are seen around the camp.

Accommodation: 'Gobi Erdene' Ger Camp



Day 8. Baga Bogd Mountain (200 km dirt road)

After breakfast in Khongor Sand Dune, we will drive to the Baga Bogd Mountain. It will be a long drive. Key birds to see here are Altai Snowcock and Sulphur-bellied Warbler. Mammalian species found here are Siberian Ibex, Pallas's Pika and Gobi Altai Mountain Vole. **Accommodation:** Tented camp.



Day 9. Holboolj Lake (120 km on dirt road)

After breakfast, we will put down our camp and move onto the Holboolj Lake which is an important site for a variety of water birds. It is a good place to stop by for Asian Dowitcher and some other water birds. **Accommodation:** Tented camp.



Day 10. Buuntsagaan Lake (160 km on dirt road)

The Buuntsagaan is the largest lake in the area and one of the important bird areas. We will look for Relict Gull, Pallas's Gull, White-winged Tern and Pallas's Fish Eagle and other waterfowls and waders during our stay. At night, we will spotlight for nocturnal rodents such as Jerboas around the camp.

Accommodation: Tented camp.



Day 11. Sharga Nature Reserve (360 km on mainly paved road)

We will head to Sharga Nature Reserve to see Saiga Antelopes. **Accommodation:** Tented camp.



Day 12. Arvaikheer (650 km on paved road)

We will head east towards Arvaikheer town, a capital of Uvurkhanga Province. This will be mainly driving day to Arvaikheer town for refreshing after several nights of camping in tents. **Accommodation:** 'Bogd' Hotel.

Day 13. Takhilt Lake & Khugnu Khan Mountain (200 km mostly on paved road)

The Takhilt is a small lake located near the sand dune called Elsen Tasarkhai. Key birds to see here will be Arctic Loon, Eastern Spot-billed Duck, Swan Goose, Bar-headed Goose, Eastern Marsh Harrier and White-naped Crane. After birding at the Takhilt Lake, we will move to the Khugnu Khan Mountain to look for Eagle Owl.

Accommodation: Tented camp.



Day 14. Hustai National Park (170 km mostly on paved road)

The Hustai National Park is well known for its reintroduced wild horses also known as Przewalski's horse. The park supports a large number of Siberian Wapiti Deer and Mongolian Marmots. On the southern steppe of the park, we will look for Mongolian Gazelles. The park also provides important habitats for a range of bird species, especially raptors like vultures, eagles and falcons.

Key mammals: Wild Horse, Siberian Wapiti Deer, Siberian Marmot, Mongolian Gazelle and Long-tailed Ground Squirrel.

Accommodation: 'Hustai' Ger Camp



Day 15. Hustai National Park to Ulaanbaatar (100 km mostly on paved road)

After breakfast, we will move to Ulaanbaatar and explore around the Mongolica Hotel to see Long-tailed Rosefinch, Azure Tit, Azure-winged Magpie, and White-cheeked Starling.

Accommodation: 'Mongolica' Hotel.