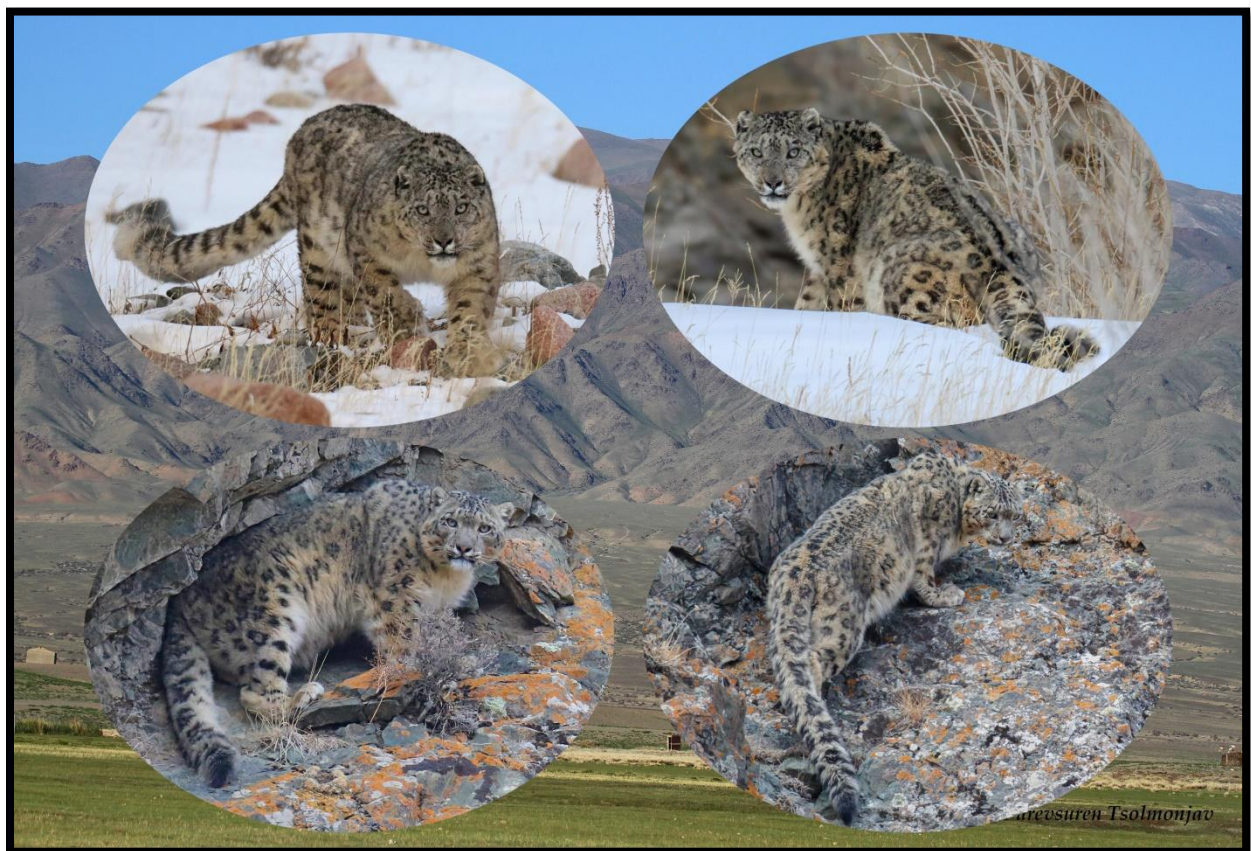




Itinerary for
SNOW LEOPARD TOUR IN WESTERN MONGOLIA



Developed by Wildlife Tours Mongolia

Tour Overview

Mongolia is home to the world's second largest population of Snow Leopards, with an estimated 953 individuals recorded in 2021. In recent years, Snow Leopard tours have become increasingly popular here, as sightings are possible at relatively low elevations of 2,000–3,000 meters — much lower than in most other parts of the species' range.

The best time to search for these elusive cats is during the winter months, when they descend to lower altitudes in pursuit of food. Their main natural prey in Mongolia includes the Siberian Ibex (*Capra sibirica*) and Mongolian Marmot (*Marmota sibirica*). However, with marmots hibernating and large wild prey being harder to catch in winter, Snow Leopards are more likely to approach human settlements and prey on domestic animals, particularly goats.

This seasonal behavior offers a unique opportunity to observe one of the world's most elusive big cats in its natural environment. Accompanied by experienced local trackers and guides, this expedition provides a rare chance to witness the Snow Leopard amid the rugged, snow-covered landscapes of Mongolia — a truly unforgettable wildlife experience.

Tour Information

The cost includes all in-country expenses such as domestic flights, vehicle rental and fuel, accommodations, meals, and national park fees. The cost does not include international flights, excess baggage fees on domestic flights, laundry, tips, and beverages.

Vehicle

Our expedition uses reliable Toyota Land Cruisers (4WD) for comfortable and safe travel across Mongolia's rugged terrain. To ensure the comfort of all participants, each vehicle accommodates a maximum of three passengers.

Climate

During the Snow Leopard tours, from November and mid-February to early March, temperatures typically range between -20°C and 0°C. Weather conditions can be unpredictable, and snowstorms may occur at any time.

Accommodation

In Ulaanbaatar, participants will stay in a modern hotel offering comfort before and after the expedition. Outside the city, accommodation will be in traditional ger camps. Our Snow Leopard Camp, operated by local communities, provides a simple but

authentic experience. Each ger is heated with a coal-fired stove and equipped with comfortable beds, blankets, and basic hand-washing facilities. There is an outhouse toilet with a proper seat and warm cover. Please note that flush toilets and showers are not available at the camp.

Recommended Packing List

Clothing

- Insulated winter coat / parka (windproof and waterproof)
- Layering system:
 - Base layers (thermal tops and bottoms)
 - Mid-layers (fleece or wool sweaters)
- Winter pants (insulated or layered for warmth)
- Warm hat / beanie covering ears
- Balaclava or neck gaiter for extra face protection
- Gloves / mittens (preferably waterproof and insulated)
- Warm socks (wool or thermal, multiple pairs)
- Winter boots / insulated trekking boots (waterproof with good grip)
- Gaiters (optional, for deep snow or mud)
- Extra underwear and thermal layers

Gear & Equipment

- Backpack / daypack (small to medium size)
- Trekking poles (helpful on icy or uneven terrain)
- Headlamp with extra batteries
- Water bottle / thermos (insulated to prevent freezing)
- Sunglasses / goggles (for snow glare)
- Camera gear (lightweight is best; extra batteries as cold drains them quickly)
- Binoculars (essential for watching Snow Leopards and wildlife)
- Tripod (optional, for photography)
- Power bank (cold reduces battery life)

Personal Items & Comfort

- Personal medications and first aid kit
- Moisturizer / lip balm (cold, dry weather)
- Books, cards, or small activities (for downtime while waiting for trackers)
- Hand warmers / foot warmers

Optional Items

- Thermal sitting pad / mat (for waiting outdoors)
- Small notebook / journal
- Camera lens cloth / cleaning kit
- Walking shoes / slippers for camp

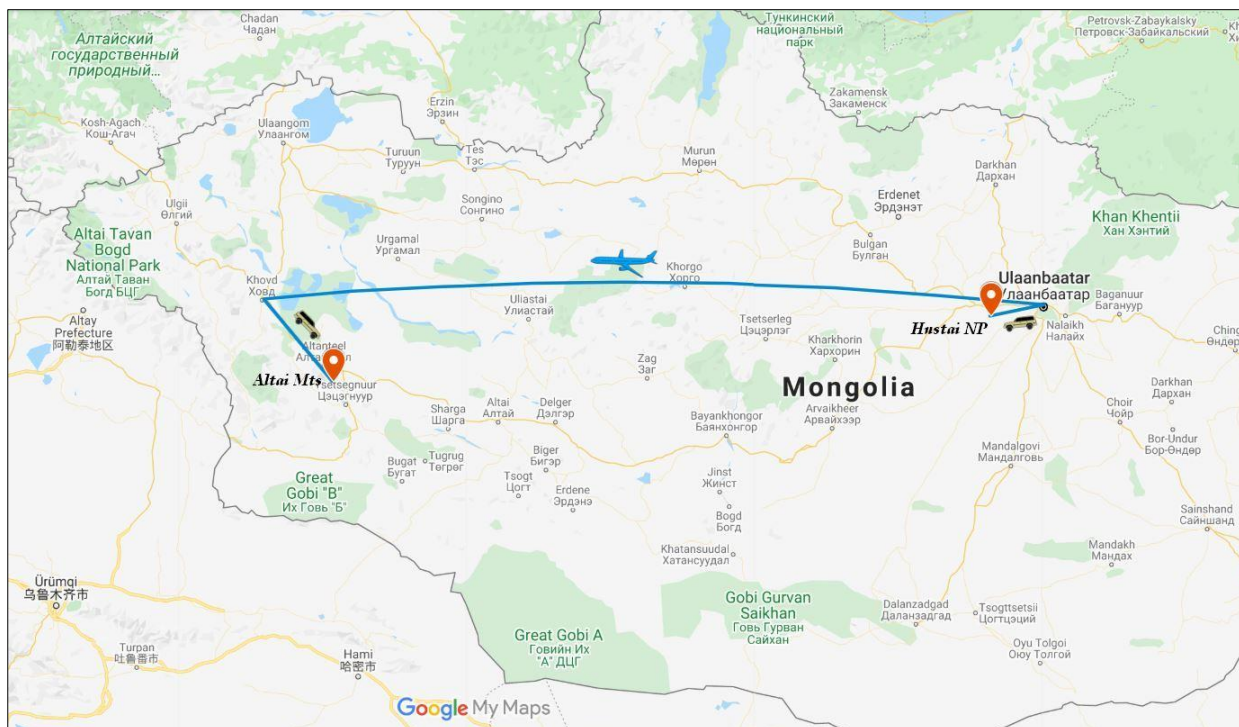
Requirements

Participants should be physically fit and able to hike 4–8 km per day over rugged terrain while carrying their own belongings.

It is important to be respectful toward local staff, trackers, and fellow participants, ensuring a positive and cooperative atmosphere throughout the expedition.

Mammal list for the tour:

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|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Snow Leopard | 7. Mongolian Gazelle |
| 2. Saiga Antelope | 8. Tolai Hare |
| 3. Przewalski's Horse | 9. Corsac Fox |
| 4. Siberian Wapiti | 10. Red Fox |
| 5. Siberian Ibex | 11. Mongolian Gerbil |
| 6. Goitered Gazelle | 12. Brandt's Vole |



Snow Leopard Tour Route

Day 1. Ulaanbaatar (UB)

We will welcome our clients, transfer to the hotel and have a short city tour.

Day 2-11. Altai Mountains in search of Snow Leopard

We will fly to western Mongolia. After landing at the local airport in Khovd town, we will transfer to our Snow Leopard base camp (~100 km) which is operated by the local communities. We will spend 7-9 days in the Altai Mountains and adjacent semi-deserts in western Mongolia in search of elusive Snow Leopard, and other wildlife and birds such as Saiga Antelope, Siberian Ibex and Bearded Vulture. Our experienced local guides/trackers will help us spot the Snow Leopard and other wildlife during our stay.

Accommodation: Snow Leopard Ger camp



Our Snow Leopard Ger camp at the base of Altai Mountains



Our Snow Leopard valley



Our Snow Leopard valley

Day 12. Hustai National Park

We will visit the Hustai National Park for a day. The park was established in 1992 to protect reintroduced wild horses also known as Przewalski's Horses or Takhi. The park also supports a large number of Siberian Wapiti. We might see some Mongolian Gazelles on the southern part of the park. The park provides important habitats for a range of bird species, especially raptors like vultures, eagles and falcons.

Accommodation: Hotel in Ulaanbaatar



Przewalski's Horses in Hustai National Park



A Wapiti Deer in Hustai National Park