

SAMAR MAGIC TOURS

Adventure & Active & Cultural Tours, Family, Group & Private Expedition, since 1997!

2010 NAADAM FESTIVAL TOUR 13 DAYS

***Option No. 1: JULY 10-JULY 22, 2010, from
\$ 2,699 per person at Flower Top Hotel, 3****



***Attendance at Naadam - the largest and most
colorful of all Mongolian festivals***


Samar Magic Tours LLC, since 1997.

Postal Address: Ulaanbaatar 15160, Central Post Office Box 2567, Mongolia.

Tel: (976) 11 311051;  **Fax:** (976) 11 327503

 **E-mail:** info@samarmagictours.com

 **USA Voice Mails/Fax:** (1-206-888-4286)

 **Websites:** www.samarmagictours.com/ or at www.experiencemongolia.org/

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Tour Highlights:

*The Naadam Festival is a Mongolia's celebration of the three manly games: horse racing, archery, and wrestling.

*Visit to the nomadic tented camps that have sprung up, and experience a concentration of nomadic Mongolia at one site.

* Have your first ger camp experience. "Chinggis" Tourist Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia" by the author Michael Kohn.

* Hike, horseback ride, and Mongolian archery.

*Horseback riding exploration to take some amazing photos to the Giant 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse on Tsonjin Boldog Hill is located just ~3kms (~1,5miles) to "Chinggis" Tourist Camp.

*Journey to visit the ruins of Karakorum, Genghis (Chinggis) Khan's 13th century capital and heart of the mighty Mongolian Empire and Okhon river Valley, cradle of Mongolian civilization.

*Meet local nomads and stay in traditional ger camps.

*4WD Expedition to the Spectacular Flaming Cliffs in Gobi desert where many fossilized dinosaur bones and eggs have been found.

*Hiking to the Yolyn Am Canyon in Gobi desert.

*Camel riding safari in the largest sand dunes of Gobi desert and of all Asia. **We would be pleased to have you join us!**

▶ Trip summary:

▶ **Tour Code:** SMT-NF-13D

▶ **Meeting Point:** Ulaanbataar, Mongolia

▶ **Departure Point:** Ulaanbataar, Mongolia

▶ **Group size:** Minimum 3 adults or more participants.

▶ **Length:** 13 days/12 nights

▶ **Difficulty level:** Easy to moderate.

▶ **2010 Regular Tour Calendar:** July 10-July 22

▶ **Block your seats. Names due at 90 days!**

▶ **2010 Tour Costs per person based on twin room:**

10% Discount: If you or your clients register by **March 30th, 2010**, you or they will receive a 10% discount!. ***We would be pleased to have you join us!**

2010 Regular Tour Calendar: July 10-July 22

13 days/12 nights

▶ **OPTION NO. 1:** Price based on double room at Flower Hotel, 3☆☆☆ (Top category) per person: \$ 2,699.00 or 1,942.00 Euro

Supplement based on single occupancy at Flower Hotel, 3☆☆☆: \$ 499.00 or 285.00 Euro

▶ **OPTION NO. 2:** Price based on double room at Kempinsky Luxury Hotel, 4☆☆☆☆, per person: **ON REQUEST!**

Supplement based on single room at Kempinsky Luxury Hotel, 4☆☆☆☆: **ON REQUEST!**

Ulaanbaatar • Naadam Festival • Gandan monastery • Tuul river Nomad's Valley • Terelj National Park-Turtle rock-Arraybal Temple • Karakorum • Erdene zuu monastery • Saikhan Ovoo • Ongii Temple • Flaming Cliffs in Gobi desert • Hongoryn Els Sand dunes in Gobi desert • Gurvashaikhan National Park in Gobi desert • Bagazarin Chuluu-Sum Khukh Burd Temple in Middle Gobi • Ulaanbaatar • Post tour to Khovsgol Lake National Park

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THE NAADAM FESTIVAL MAIN TOUR:

Itinerary	Main Schedule
Day 1- July 10 	ULAANBAATAR (D) Upon your arrival in Ulaanbaatar (UB) , you will be met at the airport and are transferred to the hotel. Free time at hotel. This afternoon city tour includes a visit to the " Genghis or Chinggis " Khaan's main monument in the Sukh Bataar square, the National History Museum , where you will see artifacts from Mongolia and Central Asia from the Stone Age to the present. Next stop is the Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum , known as one of the best collections of Buddhist art and artifacts in the world. Have welcome dinner at local restaurant "El Latino", featuring Mongolian and Western specialties. Overnight at hotel.
Day 2-July 11 	NAADAM FESTIVAL (B,L) Today, attend the opening ceremony of the *Festival of Naadam in Ulaanbaatar national stadium. Taking place in the middle of July, the Festival of Naadam sees Mongolians from all over the country converge on the capital to participate in and watch these annual summer sports. See horse racing, wrestling and archery, the three age old national sports. Lunch. In the afternoon, visit the " Bogd Khan " Winter Palace -home to Mongolia's last Khan, Damba Khutugt 8th, the war memorial " Zaisan " Hill and the Buddha's statue . In the evening, 18:00-Enjoy a performance featuring traditional Mongolian dancers and hoomi (throat) singers. Shop for souvenirs, original pure cashmere gifts and garment. Accommodation at hotel.
Day 3-July 12 	NAADAM FESTIVAL (B,L) Full day to enjoy the impressive *Naadam Festival at the National Stadium. The Naadam Festival horse races are continuous over the two main Naadam days, and today we will try our luck early and find a site beyond the restricted zone outside of Ulaanbaatar, where a close up encounter is possible with some 700-1000 children on horseback. In the afternoon, Shop for souvenirs, original pure cashmere gifts and garment . Accommodation at hotel.


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- Day 4-July 13**  **GANDAN-TUUL RIVER NOMAD'S VALLEY-MEET THE NOMADS (B,L,D)**
Breakfast. In the morning, visit **Gandan Lamasery**, the largest Monastery in Mongolia (80 foot tall statue of Buddha, practicing Tibetan Buddhist Lamas), the buddhist ceremony at 10:00AM and experience the Tibetan-Buddhist tradition. Afterward, visit to the **Natural Museum**, where you will see two complete dinosaur skeletons, which were found in the Gobi - the giant flesh-eating Tarbosaurus, 15m tall and four to five tons in weight, and the little duck-billed plant-eating Saurolophus, and displays of Mongolia's geography, flora and fauna. Some shopping. **Lunch in local restaurant.** Afterward, drive to the **"Sacred Tuul river Nomad's Valley"** -this is a beautiful valley of streams. There are national gers in beautiful natural locations, so it's easy to meet with locals and see their daily lives, interact with them, explore, take water adventures, go trekking, swimming in the Tuul river. **Two (2) hours of Mongolian horseback riding tour to the Giant 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse on Tsonjin Boldog Hill is located just ~3kms (~1,5miles) to "Chinggis" Tourist Camp.** Meet with the Nomads, to enjoy this amazing scenery of wide-open steppe with rolling hills in the background and river. **Welcome dinner with traditional mongolian meal (khorkhog)**, which is mutton cooked with hot rock and with vegetables, water, potatoes, and onion. **Have your first ger camp experience .**"Chinggis" Tourist Camp is Highly recommended by "Lonely Planet Mongolia", by the author Michael Kohn.
- Day 5-July 14**  **TERELJ NATIONAL PARK-TURTLE ROCK-ARRYABAL TEMPLE (B,L,D)**
After breakfast, drive to **"Terelj" National Park** for a **walking tour to Turtle Rock and hiking to the "Arryabal" Buddhist monastery** on the top of the mountain. It is famous for its amazing rock formations, pristine alpine scenery and varied bird life. The Terelj National Park incorporates parts of Khenty Mountain Range. The forest consists of Aspen, Larch and Birch trees which support deer, wolf, eagles, birds and others animals. Picnic lunch is provided. In the afternoon, drive back to "Chinggis" tourist traditional ger camp. **Free time for hiking, and Mongolian archery, etc.** Dinner and overnight.
- Day 6-July 15**  **KARAKORUM-THE GENGHIS KHAN'S 13th CENTURY CAPITAL(B,L,D)**
Breakfast. After breakfast, continue next drive seven or eight hours your journey to **Karakhorum, Genghis (Chinggis) Khan's 13th century capital** and heart of the mighty Mongolian Empire. It was the capital of the Mongol Empire until Kublai Khan moved it to Beijing. Visitors, such as Marco Polo, described its ornate building, including a 2500 sq. meters Palace of Worldly Peace. After the collapse of the Mongol Empire it was abandoned and vandalized by Manchurian invading hordes. Most of the remains were used to re-build the first Buddhist Monastery in Mongolia-Erdene Zuu, built-in 1586. 400 meter long with 108 Stupas still surrounds Erdene Zuu Monastery which was built in 1586. It was restored in 1760. In 1792 the Monastery still had 62 temples and 10,000 lamas. But in 1930 it became a victim of the Stalin's purges. All but three of the Temples were destroyed and most of the monks were either killed or sent to Siberia. Today the restoration of the Monastery is the government's top priority. Erdene Zuu retains much of its ancient glory and is well worth visiting. Arrive and transfer to the tourist base ger camp. Free time.


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- Day 7-July 16**  **ERDENE ZUU MONASTERY-SAIKHAN OVOO IN MIDDLE GOBI (B,L,D)**
In the morning, visit "Erdene Zuu" monastery, and the Tortoise rock. Afterward, our journey continuing further long drive to south towards the Middle Gobi, enjoy endless views of changing scenery and arrive in Saihan-Ovoo village. Visit Ongi Monastery on the river banks of Ongi River and also walk up the sacred mountain. Overnight in Ger Camp.
- Day 8-July 17**  **SAIKHAN OVOO-FLAMING CLIFFS BAYANZAD IN GOBI DESERT (B,L,D)**
Today, we drive to the legendary "Flaming Cliffs"-named for its glowing orange rock that is rich with dinosaur fossils in Bayanzad (dinosaur excavation site) to explore the Gobi Dinosaur Cemetery and to follow the historic trail of paleontologist / explorer Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews. Overnight in traditional ger dwellings at the Tourist camp.
- Day 9-July 18**  **BAYANZAD-TO THE LARGEST SAND DUNES IN GOBI DESERT (B,L,D)**
After breakfast, drive to the largest sand dunes Hongoryn Els in Gobi desert. It is the biggest sand dunes in Mongolia and lasts 200kms and app. 40-50 ms high. Has an extraordinary length of 180 kms and 15-20 m. Climb up the towering piles of sand standing hundreds of metres high and later walk along Hongor River. Wildlife here includes ibex and gazelle and rare wild camels. See the largest sand dunes. Two hours of Bactrian Camel (two-humped) Safari tour. Overnight in traditional ger dwellings at the Tourist camp.
- Day 10-July 19**  **YOL VALLEY PROTECTED AREA-CAMEL FAMILY (B,L,D)**
Breakfast. Drive to "Yol Valley Protected Area in Gobi Gurvan Shaikhan National Park" for trekking and an opportunity to photograph the stunning landscape, the Gobi Glacier and the wildlife of the cradled in the foothills of the Altai Mountains. Hike through the valley before visiting the local natural history museum for an overview of the flora and fauna of the area. Afterward, drive to the camel family. Enjoy Nomad hospitality. Visit a camel-breeding farm to get introduced to their lifestyle and taste the khoormog, camel milk. Optional camel riding. Overnight in tourist ger camp. ger camp.
- Day 11-July 20**  **GOBI-BAGAZARIN CHULUU-SUM KHUKH BURD TEMPLE (B,L,D)**
Drive to Middle Gobi on the way visit ruins of Sum Khukh Burd Temple, one of the few monasteries and temples to survive the communist purges in 1930s. Boxed lunch on the way. Next stop is in Bagazarin Chuluu. Free time for photo opportunities. We recommend you take a walk around the Bagazarin Chuluu. Overnight in tourist ger camp.
- Day 12-July 21**  **BAGAZARIN CHULUU-ULAANBAATAR (B,L,D)**
Early a long drive back to UB city. Transfer to the hotel. Afternoon late at leisure for shopping. Farewell dinner Overnight at hotel.
- Day 13-July 22**  **DEPARTURE MONGOLIA OR POST TOUR TO HOVSGOL LAKE (B)**
Breakfast. Transfer to the airport for departure Mongolia or Post Tour ([online request](#)) to Hosvgol Lake National Park by Air.

THE NAADAM FESTIVAL TOUR COST INCLUDES:

- Four (4) nights at hotel in UB city based on double occupancy.
- Eight (8) nights in tourist class camps throughout the tour based on double occupancy.
- Accompanied by experienced English speaking local guide.
- All Private transport transfers, included the all patrol, with Mongolian speaking driver.


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- All Admission fee as specified: Terelj N.P., Arryabal Temple, Erdene zuu monastery, Gandan monastery, the specified museums, Yolym Am Canyon in Gobi, the sand dunes, Ongii temple, Bayanzad, etc.
- Meals as specified, **B**=Breakfast, **L**=Lunch, **D**=Dinner.
- Evening entertainment as specified;
- Entrance fees to the two main days of *Naadam Festival in ***July 11, and *July 12;**
- One Mongolian traditional folk songs concert in UB in ***July 11.**
- Two (2) hours of Mongolian horseback riding exploration to take some amazing photos to the Giant 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse.
- One Special Welcome dinner with traditional mongolian meal (khorkhog) in ***July 13.**
- Two (2) hours of Bactrian Camel (two-humped) Safari tour.
- Road's taxes.
- All expenses at the nomadic family in Tuul river Nomad's Valley .
- Visa support invitation letter if necessary.

▣ NOT INCLUDED FEATURES

- ❖ Airfare from home city to/from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ❖ Visa.
- ❖ Single supplement at hotel in UB city.
- ❖ Changing of date of departure from UB city.
- ❖ Occasional flight delays or cancellation. Samar Magic Tours cannot take over the responsibility for the National or the International Airlines.
- ❖ Additional meal, services or night at hotel in UB city.
- ❖ Excess baggage. Extra luggage can be stored at hotel in UB city, free of cost.
- ❖ Optional activities: camel riding, horseback riding, boating, fishing, transport inside Khovsgol Lake National Park, etc.
- ❖ Entrance fee to the Giant 40 meter (~133,3 feet) Statue of "Genghis or Chinggis" Khan on a big horse.
- ❖ The traveler is responsible for having proper travel documents, such as a valid passport, proper visa, the necessary passport pictures, and the International airfares.
- ❖ Travel insurance.
- ❖ Items of personal nature such as gratuities to porters at hotels, telephone / telex / fax charges, laundry, beverages, meals, optional activities, and services not specified in the itinerary.
- ❖ Any circumstances beyond of our control, such as the imposition of quarantine restrictions, weather conditions, any changes in Naadam Festival schedule, etc.

SOME COMMENTS ABOUT MONGOLIAN TOURS

- Tour and Tour Information are subject to change.
- Hotels are based on double occupancy in Ulaanbaatar city.
- Check-in at hotels is at 12:00m/Check-out at hotels is at 12:00m.
- Single gers are NOT available, during the high seasonal in Mongolia. Single supplements reflect sharing in gers and *single rooms in hotels in Ulaanbaatar.
- Accommodation in the countryside of Mongolia:** Most tourists will stay in specially constructed gers camps. These camps provide accommodation in the round felt houses used by nomads and usually have separate toilet, washing and restaurant facilities.
- Mongolia's tourism infrastructure is in its infancy which requires a flexible and adventurous attitude and patience.
- Your tour involves some days of travelling off the beaten track, with long road journeys by 4WD transport (inside Mongolia) over difficult terrain.
- Mongolia Weight Limit:** 15 kgs (33lbs). Extra luggage can be stored at hotel in Ulaanbataar, free of cost.
- Please, make your reservations at your earliest convenience, **180-90** days prior to departure. Especially flights to and inside Mongolia are fully booked at this time. Seats can be difficult to get in Summer seasonal.


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-The internal flight schedule sometimes means we have an extra day at the tourist camp or at hotel in Ulaanbaatar city, the ground agents and leader will adjust the itinerary accordingly when the flight schedule becomes available.

-These Complete Tours include arrival and departure transfer services to/from Airport. All you have to do is to make necessary International air arrangements.

SPECIAL PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND THE RESERVATION PROCEDURES FOR NAADAM FESTIVAL TOURS

-Reservations will be accepted in order of receipt if accompanied by a completed reservation form and a deposit of \$600.00 or 500.00 Eur per person.

-The final balance is due by **April 15, 2010**.

-The following cancellation penalties will be assessed. Air or train cancellation terms are additional.

For cancellations received: Refunds, less a cancellation fee of \$600.00 or 500.00 Eur per person, will be made if we are notified on or before **April 15, 2010**. No refunds will be granted after that date.

-All cancellation requests are required in writing. Telephone / verbal cancellation is not accepted.

-We strongly recommend Trip Cancellation, Interruption and Travel insurance.

-Price Guarantee: Your tour price is guaranteed once Samar Magic Tours has received your full payment.

-If your balance due is not received by the due date before **APRIL 15, 2010**, the reservation will be subject to cancellation without notice. If a booking is made within 90 days of the departure date, full payments are due immediately.

CHARGE FOR CHILDREN:

0-3 years old: free

4-11 years old: 70% at the regular adult price.

12 years old and above: 100% at the regular adult price.

For children 11 and under, if they are sharing bed with either parent and do not ask for a third bed in the same room, they will be charged the child fare. If they need the third bed in parents' room, they will be charged 80% of the adult fare. For children 12 and over, they will be charged at the regular adult price.

THE BEST TIME TO GO

Mongolia is vast! Generally, it is recommended to pay your visit from May to September when the grass is green.

-Please note when you choose your clothes:

April to May, or on September: warm days and cool nights around (6-10°C).

June, July to August: is summertime, days around (15°C-30°C), nights around (10/20°C).

DANGERS/ANNOYANCES

Mongolia is a safe place to be. As a visitor you are unlikely to experience any serious problems. However, like anywhere else there are a few things that visitors should be aware of, things that will need extra care and attention. Pick pocketing and bag slitting is most common in crowded places such as the black market, on buses or at tourist attractions such as Gandan Monastery. Bag-slashers attack "obvious tourists" frequently at the following locations: Black Market (bazaar), outside Post Office, Railway station, and crowded bus lines in Ulaanbaatar city. Valuables should be kept in a money belt and kept underneath your clothing or in the security box at your hotel in Ulaanbaatar city. Be careful about being seen with large amounts of money outside. **In the countryside of Mongolia:** there is not any problem. The nomadic families are very hospitable. We ask you to remember that when we visit the nomadic people, we are guests in their homes, so it is appropriate to offer them small gifts in return for their hospitality.

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