

Altay Explorer

Discover Mongolia and Siberia on this unique **discovery style** 4x4 tour across Mongolia to the remote Western Bayan Olgii province to Siberia's strikingly picturesque Altay Republic. Along the way we visit historic Kharkorin and Tsagann Nuur Volcanic National Park. In Siberia our route tracks through the forests and peaks of the Chuysky steppe to remote Kurai Chulyshman and Teletskoe Lake in the Altaian Nature Preserve to scenic Chemal before concluding at Novosibirsk.

Visit Ulaanbaatar, Kharkhorin, Tsagaan Nuur, Ulaan-gom, Chibit, Chulyshman valley, Chemal, Baranaul, Novosibirsk.



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| Length of trip | 18 days |
| Accommodation | Hotels, Ger Camps 2 nights tents |
| Meals included | Yes |
| Travel Style | Discovery style |
| Escort | SRA leader for more than six travellers Local English speaking escort for six or less travellers |
| Maximum group | 12 |
| Sightseeing and entry fees | Included |
| Commences | Ulaanbaatar 5th August 2012 |
| Concludes | Novosibirsk 22nd August 2012 |
| COST | NZ\$8,800 based on twin share. Single Rm Sup NZ\$600 <i>(prices subject to change)</i> |



Itinerary at a Glance :

Sunday, 5 August 2012

Commence Ulaanbaatar

Morning arrival Ulaanbaatar. Afternoon sightseeing in UBT.

Monday, 6 August 2012

Ulaanbaatar

Full day sightseeing including Ganden monastery and the Museum of Natural History. Also visit Cashmere Factory shop. Lunch at Mongolian cuisine restaurant.

Tuesday, 7 August 2012

to Kharakorin

Depart UB by 4x4 cars and head west across the steppe to Kharkhorin. Our route is through the Tuul Gol river basin and Mongol Els dune system. Overnight Ger camp; we're planning a traditional musical performance this evening

Wednesday, 8 August 2012

to Tsenkher Hot Spring

Sightseeing this morning includes Erdene Zuu Monastery and the ruins of Kharkhorin, the 13th century capital of the Mongol Empire. Afternoon drive to Tsenher Jiguur Hot Springs. Overnight Ger Camp

Thursday, 9 August 2012

to Tsagann Lake

Drive to Tsagaan Lake in Arhangai Province. Surrounded by extinct volcanoes, Terkhiin Tsagaan is one of the most beautiful lakes in Mongolia, the lake, bird life and mountains are protected within the 73000-hectare Khorgo-Terkhiin Tsagaan Nuur National Park. Overnight Ger camp

Friday, 10 August 2012

to camp site at Songino

Depart for the drive along the northern shore of Terkhiin Tsagaan Nuur lake on dirt tracks to the formed road over Solongot Pass to the Ider Valley. Lunch at Tosonchengel, around Telten Nuur. Overnight camp in pine forest close to the village.

Saturday, 11 August 2012

to Hyargas Lake

Drive overland across the steppe to Khyargas Nuur Lake and overnight at Hetsuu Had Ger Camp.

Sunday, 12 August 2012

to Ulaangom

Depart for the drive along the northern shore of Terkhiin Tsagaan Nuur lake on dirt tracks to the formed road over Solongot Pass to the Ider Valley. Lunch at Tosonchengel, around Telten Nuur.

Monday, 13 August 2012

to camp site at Achif Nuur

We head towards the foothills near the head of Achif Nuur. We have two major river fords on this route – if the rivers are high we will have a longer drive to the bridge over the Khovd Gol. Our camp site is on a grassy terrace in the foothills.

Tuesday, 14 August 2012

to Chibit

This morning depart for the Mongolia-Siberia border at Tsagaanuur. Meet our Siberian guide and vehicle, complete Russian border formalities and continue to Chibit Yurt Camp

Wednesday, 15 August 2012

excursion to Aktru Glacier

Drive into the mountains via 6 wheeler Ural truck across the steppe and up the 4x4 track thro the larch forest to the Aktru mountaineering base camp where we set out on foot to climb the moraine for views and lunch.

Thursday, 16 August 2012

Chibit

Full day excursion / walk in Chibit area to sample village life and enjoy the alpine setting.

Friday, 17 August 2012

To Chulshman

This morning drive 190km to Chulyshman River in the tribal homelands of Altaians (the Altai-Kizhis) Telengit people adjacent to the Altaiskiy Zapovednik nature preserve. Enroute we will visit the "valley of the Chieftains" now known as the Pazyryk burial mounds dating from the bronze age.

Saturday, 18 August 2012

To Artibash

Drive down valley alongside the wild Chulyshman river valley passing Telengit villages to the 78km long Teletskoe lake and by ferry down the lake (4hrs). Enroute stop at Korbu waterfall. Overnight Teletskoe tourist complex at the end of the lake.

Sunday, 19 August 2012

To Chermal

Today we are back on the road for the 168km trip to Gorno-Altaiisk where we visit the ethnographic museum before continuing up the scenic Katun river valley to the pretty village of Chermal. Afternoon time to walk along the 'gulag' trail to a small monastery perched on a small island mid stream. Wander through the lanes of Chermal village with its wooden houses and garden plots.

Monday, 20 August 2012

To Baranaul

We head north on the 290km drive to Barnaul. Our route takes us back to Gorno-Altaiisk then out of the mountains onto the vast Siberian plain to cross the Ob river at Bysk. Arrive Barnaul late afternoon.

Tuesday, 21 August 2012

Baranaul and Novosibirsk

Morning at Barnaul. Afternoon drive across the Siberian plain to Novosibirsk. Transfer to airport for early morning (26th) departure or

Wednesday, 22 August 2012

Conclude

Flight / Train to Moscow or Beijing