



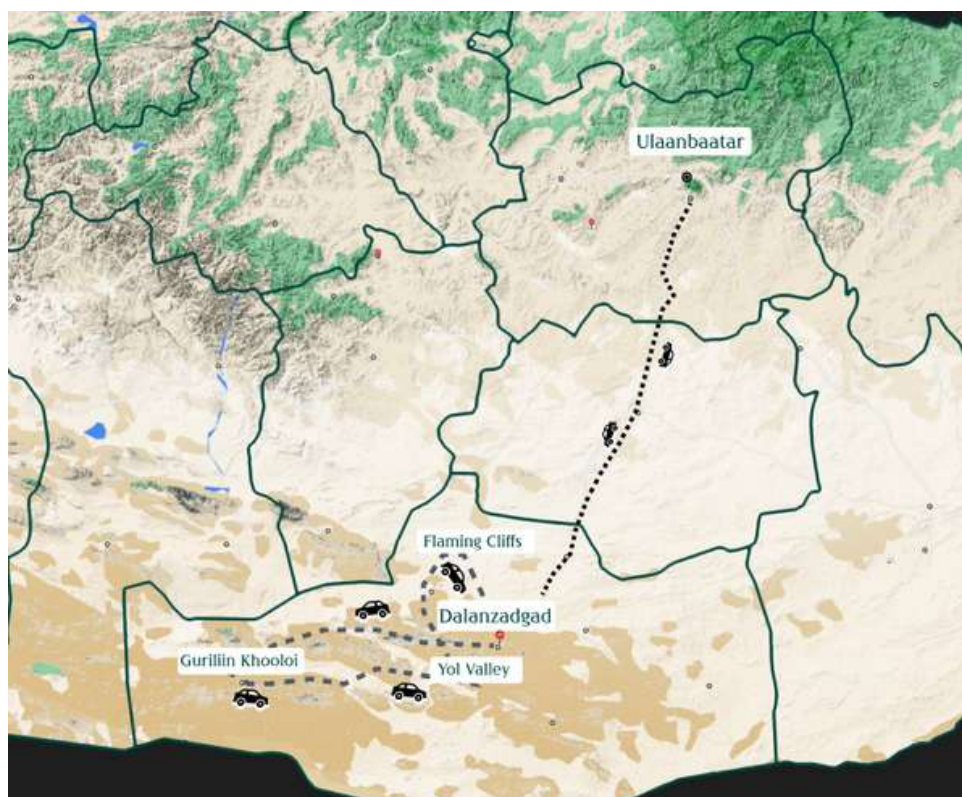
LOST DINOSAURS OF THE GOBI

Special paleontological journey

Trip Date: September 8 – 22, 2026



SCIENTIFIC GOAL AND SIGNIFICANCE



The 2026 expedition will continue fieldwork on theropod specimens first identified in 2025 at one of the most fossil-rich localities in the Gobi Desert.

This work will be a major undertaking and an important contribution to ongoing research on dinosaur diversity and evolution in Mongolia.

In addition to the excavation, the team will collect geochemical information from various fossil-bearing sites across the region. This data will help scientists understand the environments in which these animals lived and provide crucial reference material for efforts to repatriate fossils that were illegally excavated and sold on the black market.

Because many repatriated fossils lack documentation about their original localities, our work focuses on identifying where they came from. Using geochemical fingerprinting, analyzing the elemental composition of fossil bones and surrounding rocks, we aim to match these specimens to their source areas.

Each expedition in the Gobi continues to reveal discoveries and deepen our understanding of dinosaur evolution and the ecosystems they once inhabited.

ABOUT LEADERS



Dr. Phil Bell - With two decades of experience as a dinosaur expert, Australian palaeontologist. Phil Bell pioneered the application of geochemistry to determine the origins of illegally excavate fossils in Mongolia. He has lead expeditions in search of dinosaurs in Australia, Canada and Mongolia.

Dr. Nic Campione - Educated in the Canadian Badlands, Nic is a leading expert in the long-term evolution and extinction of dinosaurs. He is particularly interested in the body size evolution of dinosaurs and has led fieldwork in Canada, Australia, Uruguay, and Mongolia.



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1, SEP 8: ARRIVAL

Upon arrival at the airport, meet your guide and transfer to a centrally located hotel located near downtown Ulaanbaatar.

Enjoy a welcome dinner at a fine local restaurant. Ulaanbaatar offers a contrast between ancient traditions and the dawning of a 21st century democracy, which can be seen in the traditional gers and Buddhist monasteries coexisting with modern high-rises. **(Hotel Bayangol or similar; D)**

DAY 2, SEP 9: GOBI DESERT / GOBI GURVANSAIKHAN MOUNTAINS



After breakfast, begin driving to the vast steppe to the Gobi Desert, comprised of mountains, dunes, and fossil beds. En route, we will enjoy a picnic lunch along the way.

Continue driving until you arrive at a rustic ger-hostel, located near the Gobi Gurvansaikhon National Park. Overnight in gers or tents. **(Approx. 9 hours driving; Ger or tent stay; B, L, D)**

DAY 3, SEP 10: GURVAN TES AND INGENI KHOVUR BASIN

After breakfast, drive further southeast to the deeper pocket of the Gobi Desert. We will arrive at a remote basin in the Gurbantes soum, one of the most remote regions of the Gobi Desert. Arrive at your base camp and overnight in tents. **(Approx. 6-7 hours driving; Field tent camp; B, L, D)**



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 4-10, SEP 11-17: GURILIIN HOOLOI AND INGENI KHOVUR BASIN SURVEYS



Our fieldwork starts in full earnest today. We will begin by excavating the theropod discovered during the 2025 expedition, while other teams continue fossil surveys and geochemical sampling throughout the Ingeni Khovur Basin. Teams will alternate between excavation work, fossil prospecting, and collecting geochemical samples from key sites to help identify and restore fossils previously removed from Mongolia.

Daily objectives may include visiting historic excavations (quarries), locating poached quarries, and excavating important new finds. Our base camp will most likely be at Guriliin Hooloi locality, which is a secluded but one of the richest paleontological sites in the western Gobi Desert. Guriliin Hooloi locality is located in the Ingeni Khovur Basin of Bayanhongor province and is different from the nearby Nemegt successions in reflecting tectonics and climate factors. This area is considered to be important for understanding the uppermost Cretaceous stratigraphy and vertebrate faunal diversity in the Gobi Desert. The remoteness and vastness of these badland-like exposures make it an ideal location to focus on finding rare finds. Overnight in tents.

(Field Tent camp; B, L, D)



DAY 11, SEP 18: GURILIIN HOOLOI / GOBI GURVANSAIKHAN MOUNTAINS

We will pack our gears this morning and drive back to the interim camp in the Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park. Overnight in gers or tents. (Approx. 8 hours driving; Ger or tent camp; B, L, D)

DAY 12, SEP 19: TUGRIGIIN SHIREE / FLAMING CLIFFS

In the morning, we will begin driving to the Tugrigiin Shiree, which was discovered by Mongolian scientists and co-explored by Polish expeditions in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Tugrigiin Shiree is perhaps most known for its famous "Fighting Dinosaurs" (a fossil of a Protoceratops and a Velociraptor locked in combat), which were discovered in the 1970s. We will explore this white sandstone escarpment for dinosaur fossils.

In the late afternoon, will drive to the legendary Flaming Cliffs, red sandstone formations that stretching over 3 kilometers in width, where hundreds of dinosaur fossils have been discovered over the course of the last century. Paleontological expeditions from many countries, including from the U.S, Poland, Japan and Russia have worked here during last 90 years. Each year, rain and wind reveal yet more fossils and every summer, exceptional new discoveries are made. We will explore the cliffs in the footsteps of legendary American explorer Roy Chapmen Andrews who discovered the first dinosaur eggs here, that the world had ever seen.

Enjoy a sunset view at this majestic place before returning back to our ger camp. (Ger Camp; B, L, D)



DAY 14, SEP 20: GOBI DESERT / ULAANBAATAR

After breakfast, we will drive to Dalanzadagad for our return overland journey back to Ulaanbaatar. Upon arrival, transfer to our hotel and dinner is independent.

Overnight in Hotel Bayangol or similar. (Approx. 9 hours driving; B, L)

DAY 15, SEP 21: ULAANBAATAR

After breakfast, pay a visit to the Institute of Paleontology of Mongolia's Academy of Science. Visit the laboratory and enjoy seeing some of the priceless exhibitions of the institution, including the famous "fighting dinosaur.

The remainder of the day is available for last-minute sightseeing. In the evening, we will attend a performance featuring traditional Mongolian dancers and hoomi (throat) singers. **(Hotel Bayangol or similar; B, L, D)**

DAY 15, SEP 22: DEPARTURE

After breakfast, we will transfer to the airport for departure. **(B)**

B = Breakfast | L = Lunch | D = Dinner

Ger camp = The traditional portable, circular, wooden dwelling used by the nomadic people.

Field camp = A bit more sophisticated camping/glamping, more permanent in nature.

Tent camp = Expedition style, often moving regularly and smaller in size and scale.

MONGOLIA QUEST RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER THE ABOVE ITINERARY IF DEEMED NECESSARY.

LAND PRICES

Based on 4-5 participants:	\$6,250 per person, twin occupancy;
Based on 6-7 participants:	\$5,940 per person, twin occupancy;
Based on 8-9 participants:	\$5,820 per person, twin occupancy;
Based on 10 and more participants:	\$5,450 per person, twin occupancy;
Optional single supplement:	\$650 per person; (including a single tent)
Domestic flight(If available):	\$350 per person

LAND PRICES INCLUDE:	LAND PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:
• Land transportation as indicated in the itinerary based on using Toyota Land Cruiser jeeps seating 3 passengers each; • Accommodations in a standard room at hotels, gers in the countryside based on a twin occupancy and expedition style camping in the countryside; • Airport arrival and departure transfers; • Sleeping bags; expedition style tents and mats; • All meals indicated as B, L or D; • All entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary; • International trip leaders expenses and fees; • Mongolian paleontologist to accompany the trip throughout; • English-speaking national guide throughout your stay; • Bottled water per person per day and unlimited supply of boiled waters.	• International and domestic airfare; • Personal laundry; • Drinks not mentioned in the itinerary; • Travel insurance; • Medical evacuation costs; • Excess baggage charges; • Visa fees; • Gratuities; • Photography and video fees • Any other item not mentioned as included.

HOW TO BOOK THIS TRIP

You may book any trip with us by filling out our Trip Application Form, which you can download using Adobe Acrobat Reader and can send to us as an electronic file via e-mail at

- Info@MongoliaQuest.com

All reservations are subject to deposit of **\$400 per person**. Deposits are refundable until 90 days prior to the start of the program less a **\$250 administrative fee**. Please arrange a wire transfer to Mongolia Quest bank account as per following instructions:

Beneficiary name: MONGOLIA QUEST LLC

Beneficiary's address:

Suite #1205, Dalai Tower, 1st Horoo, 13th Sud-district, Sukhbaatar District,
Ulaanbaatar 14230, Mongolia;

Tel: (976) 7000 9747

Email: info@MongoliaQuest.com

Beneficiary's account number: 3005111070

Beneficiary's bank name: Golomt bank

Beneficiary's bank address:

Monnis branch

3rd floor, Monnis tower, Chinggis avenue

Khoroo #1, Sukhbaatar district

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Beneficiary's bank swift code: GLMTMNUB

Once we receive your trip application form, we will send you information about how to wire your deposit to us, and a confirmation letter with information related with visa and international airfare reservations. You will also receive our pre-departure Travel Guide, which will include information on weather, suggested reading list, a list of items to pack, etc.

About 4 weeks prior to your arrival date, we will send you Final Departure Information which will include your final itinerary along with any other necessary updated information regarding the logistics of your trip.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION POLICY

As mentioned above, a deposit of \$400 per person is required to reserve space for the trip that you have chosen. Full payment is due 90 days prior to the start of the trip. In the case of a cancellation, please contact us in written form.

Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by Mongolia Quest. At the time, we receive your written cancellation, the following penalties will apply:

- **Up to 90 days** prior to departure: **\$250 per person** handling fee;
- **89-60 days** prior to departure: **20% of the trip cost** per person;
- **60-45 days** prior to departure: **50% of the trip cost** per person;
- **44-30 days** prior to departure: **75% of the trip cost**, per person;
- **29 days** prior to departure, or after the trip starts: **no-refund**.

Some airfares may be nonrefundable. Once an expedition has departed, there will be no refunds from MQ for any unused portions of the trip. The above policy also applies to all extensions and independent travel arrangements made in conjunction with this program.

Tier pricing

Our prices are based on tier pricing. At the time of booking, we will bill you for the amount based on the confirmed number of trip participants. In case the number of travelers increases at the last moment, we will reimburse the balance of your payment in accordance with the corresponding tier pricing, after you return home.

TRAVEL NOTES

How to get to Mongolia

The official Mongolian international civil flight carriers Mongolian Airlines or MIAT. Currently it serves flights between Beijing, Seoul, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Bangkok and Frankfurt. Other popular airlines include Asiana, Pusan and Turkish airlines. South Korea is the most common international gateway city to Ulaanbaatar. Mongolian Airlines and Turkish Airlines fly daily to/from Istanbul. If you are coming from Europe, you may also find Turkish Airlines a convenient connection. During the summer season, if no seats are available on any of these major carriers, there are ways to fly to Mongolia through local cities in China and Russia. Please contact us for more information. The seats are usually in high demand and booking needs to be done well in advance.

Visa Information

U.S, Canadian, Japanese, Australian and citizens of most European counties are allowed to enter Mongolia without a visa for up to 30 days. All other nationals are required to get a visa before entering Mongolia.

THE LIST OF THE COUNTRIES TO BE EXEMPTED FROM VISA REQUIREMENTS TO VISIT MONGOLIA UP TO 30 DAYS IN THE YEARS OF 2023-2025

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Czech Republic • Republic of Austria • Kingdom of Belgium • Hungary • Hellenic Republic • Kingdom of Denmark • Kingdom of Spain • Italian Republic • Republic of Latvia • Republic of Lithuania • Swiss Confederation • Republic of Bulgaria • Republic of Ireland • Republic of Philippines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principality of Liechtenstein • Grand Duchy of Luxembourg • Republic of Malta • Kingdom of the Netherlands • Republic of Poland • Portuguese Republic • Slovak Republic • Republic of Slovenia • Republic of Finland • Republic of Croatia • Canada | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingdom of Sweden • French Republic • Republic of Estonia • Kingdom of Norway • Republic of Iceland • Republic of Cyprus • Romania • Principality of Monaco • United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland • Commonwealth of Australia • New Zealand |
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Weather

Mongolia enjoys over 280 sunny days a year. However, because Mongolia has a continental weather pattern, weather can fluctuate drastically during any given day. We recommend packing warm clothes even if you are coming during the hottest months. Our pre-departure information will provide details regarding the weather along with a suggested packing list. Layering is the best plan to be ready for a wide array of Mongolian weather patterns.

Accommodation



Newly renovated Soviet era hotels are located at some of the best locations in downtown Ulaanbaatar. They offer comfortable rooms and friendly services. There are also newer hotels like Kempinski Khan Palace, Ramada Ulaanbaatar and Best Western Inn. The countryside accommodations are arranged in “ger camps,” which provide authentic nomadic felt tents with centralized bathroom and toilet facilities located nearby. They offer clean, comfortable beds and plentiful meals.

Safety

Mongolia is devoid of any political, religious and ethnic sectarian conflicts and is considered one of the safest countries in the world for international travelers. However, like in any other country, crimes do happen, so a good sense of caution and respect shown to the locals can help to avoid unnecessary confrontations. Mongolians are generally hospitable people who love to interact with foreigners.

Food



Mongolia’s capital, Ulaanbaatar, hosts an excellent collection of fine restaurants of international cuisine. In the countryside, tour establishments offer hearty meals with a balance of meat and vegetables. Meat in Mongolians excellent in that the whole country is essentially “free-range” terrain. Even your strictest dietary restrictions can now be met with proper information in advance and preparation by us.

Information about Currency and Payment Methods

Mongolia's national currency is called tugrik and the exchange rate is about 3,400 tugrik to a US dollar. Major currencies can be exchanged at the hotels and pawnshops, and ATM machines are widely available throughout Ulaanbaatar and provincial centers. However, Australian dollars can usually only be exchanged at banks. Traveler's checks can be cashed at banks and major credit cards are accepted at most places in the capital, but only Mongolian cash is accepted in the countryside. We recommend that you travel with Mongolian national currency equal to at least \$200 when touring in the countryside.

Souvenirs

Like any other places, Mongolia offers great souvenirs ranging from camel wool sweaters to cashmere scarves and traditional wooden puzzle games. Mongolian vodkas can be an excellent gift. At several stores, you can also find a range of traditional Mongolian musical instruments such as the famed Morin Khuur or "horse headed fiddle." Bargaining is not very customary; most items are sold for the price on their labels. If you plan to shop for souvenirs, we recommend purchasing locally as many items as possible since your purchases will be a direct contribution to the local community.

Travel Insurance

With Mongolia stretching over 1.5 million square kilometers and its population concentrated in the cities, we will be traveling through some remote areas away from good roads and medical facilities. We strongly recommend that you consider getting standard emergency medical evacuation insurance as a means to protect yourself from unexpected accidents that can happen during any trip. Nothing is better than traveling with peace of mind knowing that you have prepared for the trip as much as possible in advance.

Traveling with Mongolia Quest

Because it is still a developing country, traveling in Mongolia requires a sense of humor and patience. New roads and bridges are being built every year, but the paved road system is still limited in the countryside. You may experience flight delays and find road conditions bumpy and dusty. But the experience of traveling in Mongolia will far exceed some personal compromises in comfort. We like to say that the best part of traveling in Mongolia is spontaneous events and interactions, which lead to unexpected interactions, discoveries, and experiences that will make your trip unique and memorable. At Mongolia Quest, we ensure the integrity of your overall itinerary but at the same time, will go out of our way to make necessary changes in order to enrich your travel experience with us.

ENJOY YOUR TRIP!