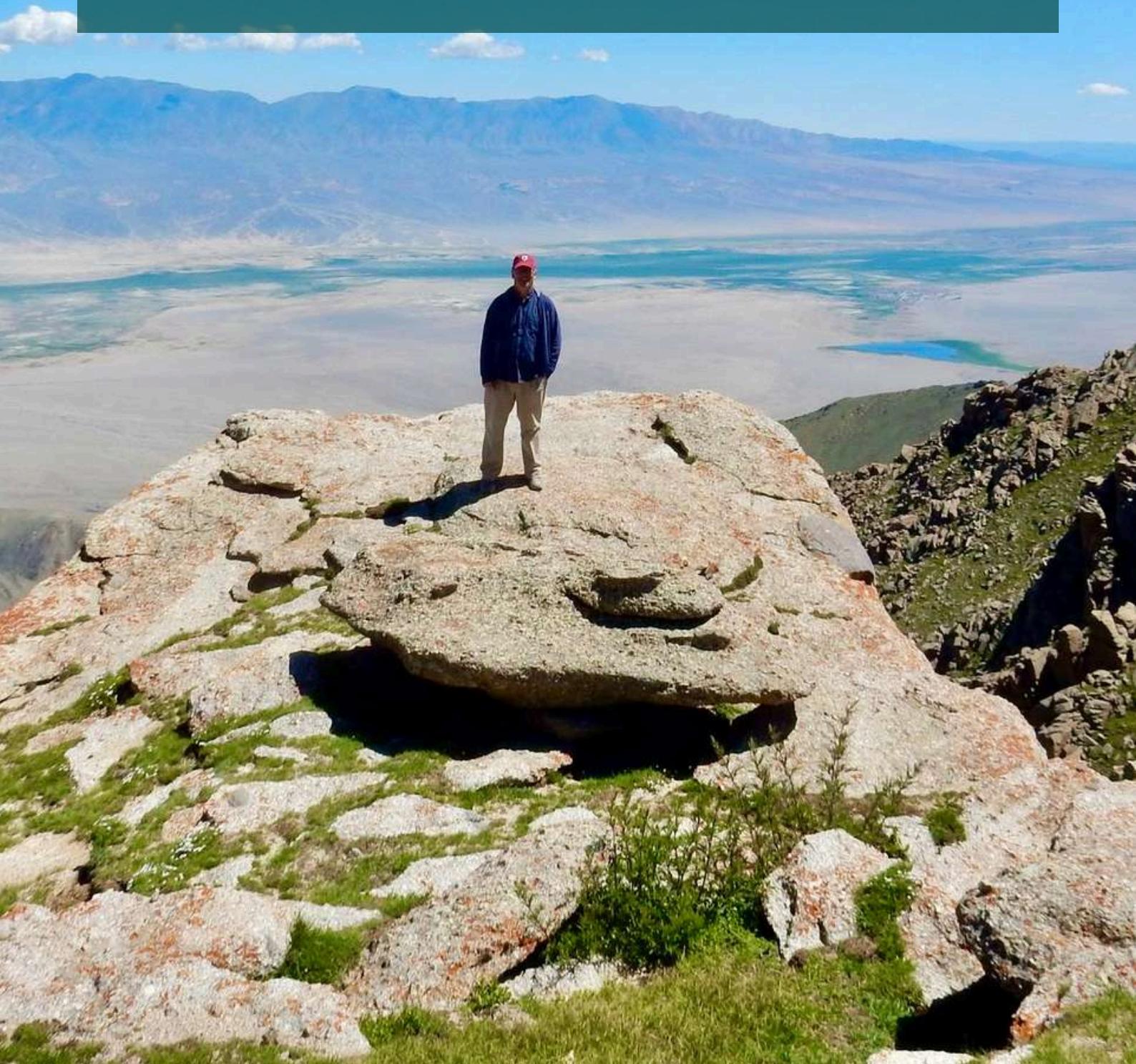




TRUE MONGOLIAN QUEST WITH DR.CHRISTOPHER ATWOOD

(May 27 – Jun 10, 2026)



TRIP SUMMARY



We invite you to join us on this exclusive journey to discover Mongolia with Dr. Christopher Atwood of University of Pennsylvania, USA, one of the leading Mongolian experts in North America. With a focus on history, nomadic culture, flora and fauna and geography, this is one of our most comprehensive quests to date, for discovering Mongolia.

The trip begins in eastern Mongolia, in the footsteps of the founders of 13th century Great Mongolian Empire. The journey takes you to the lesser known historical sites directly linked with the rise of Chinggis Khan. This will be an unique opportunity to learn about the secret ways of early Mongolian noblemen and mysteries surrounding them. The trip continues to western Mongolia, where Mongolia's Altai Mountains loom large. The Altai Mountains has been one of the cradles of Mongolian nomadic civilization and is home to most scenic national parks in the country. With historical heritage from ancient burials to rock paintings and pristine national parks from snowcapped mountains to crystal clear lakes, Altai mountains has long been considered as one of Mongolia's most beautiful areas and a hidden jewel. You will learn about traditional nomadic way of life up-close from visiting authentic nomadic families here.

The journey then continues to the Gobi Desert, the land of dinosaurs and snow leopards, with a focus on natural history. Dr. Atwood's special presentations and talks throughout the journey will enrich this trip like non other. There will also be opportunities to fish, trek and ride horse and camels on this trip, while staying on both expedition style tents and traditional gers throughout.

ABOUT GUEST LECTURER



DR. CHRISTOPHER P. ATWOOD

PhD, Scholar of Mongol and Chinese History,
Department Chair and Professor, East Asian
Languages and Civilizations, University of
Pennsylvania

Christopher Atwood is the Chair and Professor of the Mongolian and Chinese Frontier and Ethnic History Department at the University of Pennsylvania. His initial research, showcased in his dissertation and first book ("Young Mongols and Vigilantes in Inner Mongolia's Interregnum Decades, 1911-1931"), delves into the nationalist movement in Inner Mongolia.

Currently, his active research areas include employing source-critical methods to reconstruct lost Mongolian sources of the Mongol Empire and developing a new, non- "tribal" framework for the social history of Central Eurasian nomads. A recognized expert, he has made appearances on numerous television shows exploring the Mongol world empire and is the author of the "Encyclopedia of Mongolia and the Mongol Empire."

Among his recent accomplishments is an inventive and important new translation of Mongolia's historical classic, "The Secret History of Mongolia," into English. Since his initial visit in 1989, Professor Atwood has been a frequent visitor to Mongolia, indulging in his passion for exploring the countryside during his free time. An avid bird watcher, he equally enjoys a range of field activities, from camping to horse and camel riding, as well as hiking.

ITINERARY

DAY 1, MAY 27 ARRIVAL



Upon arrival at the Chinggis Khan International Airport in Ulaanbaatar, meet your national guide and transfer to your hotel. After resting in your hotel room, enjoy a brief city tour including a visit to the Zaisan Hill where you can get a bird's eye view of the city. This old Soviet period relic is a popular place for locals to hang out and offers a great view of the entire city. In the evening, meet Dr. Atwood and enjoy a welcome dinner at one of fine local restaurants.

(Hotel Bayangol or similar; D)

DAY 2, MAY 28: ULAANBAATAR / DELGERKHAAN

In the morning, depart southeast toward Delgerkhaan (approx. 300 km), a small county with fewer than 3,000 residents. Upon arrival, visit several nearby historic sites, including Khuduu Aral, the famed site where Chinggis Khan was enthroned in 1206 in The Secret History of the Mongols. We can also visit a nearby spa and hot spring where Mongolians take medicinal cures. Later in the day, settle into camp, enjoy dinner, and rest for the evening. (Approx. 5-6 hours driving; Field camp; B, L, D)

DAY 3, MAY 29: DELGERKHAAN



After breakfast, take a short drive or hike to explore nearby archaeological sites including the site of Awraga, where a temple to Chinggis Khan was erected under Kubilai Khan, and with a small museum. There is also a monument to the famous Secret History of the Mongols, near the "Seven Hills" (Doloon Boldog) where the work was composed. In the afternoon, stop by a local herding family's home to enjoy tea and gain insight into traditional nomadic life. (Field camp; B, L, D)

DAY 4, MAY 30: BALDAN BEREVEN MONASTERY

This morning, we will begin driving to western Khentii province. Reach your campsite at the magnificent Baldan Bereeven, one of Mongolia's most beautiful monastery grounds. Here, we will camp by a larch forest and explore the monastery grounds in the evening.

This picturesque monastery is surrounded by several Buddhist relics, which we will explore and thoroughly examine. This stop will offer an excellent opportunity to explore Mongolia's Buddhist history. Overnight in tents.

(Approx. 5-6 hours driving; Tent Camp; B, L, D)



DAY 5, MAY 31: KHAR ZURKHNII KHUKH LAKE

After breakfast, we began driving to Khar Zurkhnii Khukh Lake, a sacred place for Mongolians as it was here that Chinggis Khan was coronated. As the crew begins making camp, we will visit the lakeshore and listen to Dr. Atwood's insights into this historical place. (Approx. 5-6 hours driving; Tent Camp; B, L, D)

DAY 6, JUNE 1: ULAANBAATAR

After breakfast, begin driving back to Ulaanbaatar, enjoying a picnic lunch along the way. Enroute stop at Chinggis Khan Equestrian Statue – the largest of its kind in the world. Upon arrival in UB, check-in to your hotel. Dinner is independent.

(Approx. 270 km driving; Hotel Bayangol or similar; B, L)



DAY 7, JUNE 2: ULAANBAATAR / BAYAN-ULGII

In the morning, fly over central Mongolia to reach western Mongolia's Bayan- Ulgii province(2.5 hours), home to the legendary eagle hunters. Upon arrival, we will enjoy some local refreshments and then begin driving to Altai Soum. Upon arrival we will meet our host eagle hunter family and settle into our camp. (Approx. 4-5 hours driving; Tent camp; B, L, D)



DAY 8, JUNE 3: EXPLORING NOMADIC WAY OF LIVING

After breakfast we will be formally introduced to our host and have an exclusive photo shoot with the eagle hunter and his golden eagle against the majestic country of the Altai's. This is one of the highlights of this trip. We will learn how the eagles are trained, fed, and cared for. Observing the hunter's deep bond with his bird passed down through generations.

After lunch, if you would like to join your host eagle hunter in a scenic horse ride in the local valley, the eagle hunter will demonstrate traditional hunting techniques passed down through generations. In the evening, we will be invited into the home of the Eagle hunter and enjoy a traditional Kazakh meal. (Tent camp; B, L, D)



DAY 9, JUNE 4: NOMADIC LIFE IN THE ALTAI MOUNTAINS

Spend a relaxing day experiencing authentic nomadic life. Join your hosts in their daily tasks such as herding yaks and milking livestock. In the afternoon you may continue to explore the surrounding area and observe the natural rhythms of nomadic life, from animal husbandry to traditional crafts.

(Tent camp; B, L, D)



DAY 10, JUNE 5: BACK TO ULGII & EVENING CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

After breakfast, bid farewell to your host family and drive back to Ulgii city. Upon arrival check into your local hotel, you may spend the rest of the afternoon for last minute sightseeing and shopping. In the evening enjoy dinner in a fine local restaurant, followed by a traditional Kazakh performance. (Local Hotel, B, L, D) Approx. 4-5 hours of driving.

DAY 11, JUNE 6: ULGII/ ULAANBAATAR

After an early morning breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight back to Ulaanbaatar. Upon arrival, check-into your hotel and the remainder of the day is free for resting. Dinner is independent. (Hotel Bayangol; B, L)

DAY 12, JUNE 7: ULAANBAATAR / GOBI DESERT / MOLTSOG ELS



After an early morning check-out, transfer to the airport for your flight south to the Gobi Desert. Upon arrival, drive to your ger camp for a short rest

After lunch, drive to moltsog els otherwise known as the mini sand dunes. It is here where we will meet a local camel herder, who will introduce us to nomadic life in the Gobi, afterwards if you wish to do so we can go for a short camel ride along the sand dunes or walk depending on your choice. (Ger Camp, B, L, D)

DAY 13, JUNE 8: YOL VALLEY/ FLAMING CLIFFS



In the morning, we will drive to the scenic Yol Valley located in the Gobi Gurvansaikhan National Park, the largest park in size in the country. Yol Valley is named after the “Yol” or Lammergeyer, the huge, rare birds of prey who dwell in the higher cliffs of the valley.

Ice built up by a small stream over winter persists in the valley’s canyon as late as July. This starkly picturesque valley is home to many of the Gobi’s wildlife, including Ibex, Argali sheep and Snow leopard.

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 the 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 Chapman 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, JUNE 9: GOBI DESERT / ULAANBAATAR

After an early morning breakfast, begin driving back to the airport for our flight back to Ulaanbaatar. Upon arrival, we will transfer to our hotel. In the evening, enjoy a traditional Mongolian cultural performance followed by a farewell dinner at a fine local restaurant.
(Hotel Bayangol; B, L, D)

DAY 15, JUNE 10. DEPARTURE

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your return flight home. (B)

B = Breakfast | L = Lunch | D = Dinner

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

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 6-8 participants:

\$6,405 per person, standard twin occupancy;

Based on 19-12+ participants:

\$5,995 per person, standard twin occupancy;

Optional single supplement:

\$600 per person, (including a single tent)

***Please note:** As a part of our effort to support international and Mongolian research and conservation efforts, Mongolia Quest may decide to subsidize the trip cost for one or two students or scholars in joining this expedition. **They will not influence the tier pricing and only fully paid participants will determine the final per person price.**

LAND PRICES INCLUDE:	LAND PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic flights as indicated in the itinerary; • 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; • Guest lecturer's Mongolia land expenses and participation; • English speaking national guide throughout your stay; • Bottled water per person per day and unlimited supply of boiled waters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International 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 14231, 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.

***Please note:** As a part of our effort to support international and Mongolian research and conservation efforts, Mongolia Quest may decide to subsidize the trip cost for one or two students or scholars in joining this expedition. They will not influence the tier pricing and only fully paid participants will determine the final per person price.

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 countries 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

- 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

- 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

- 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

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!