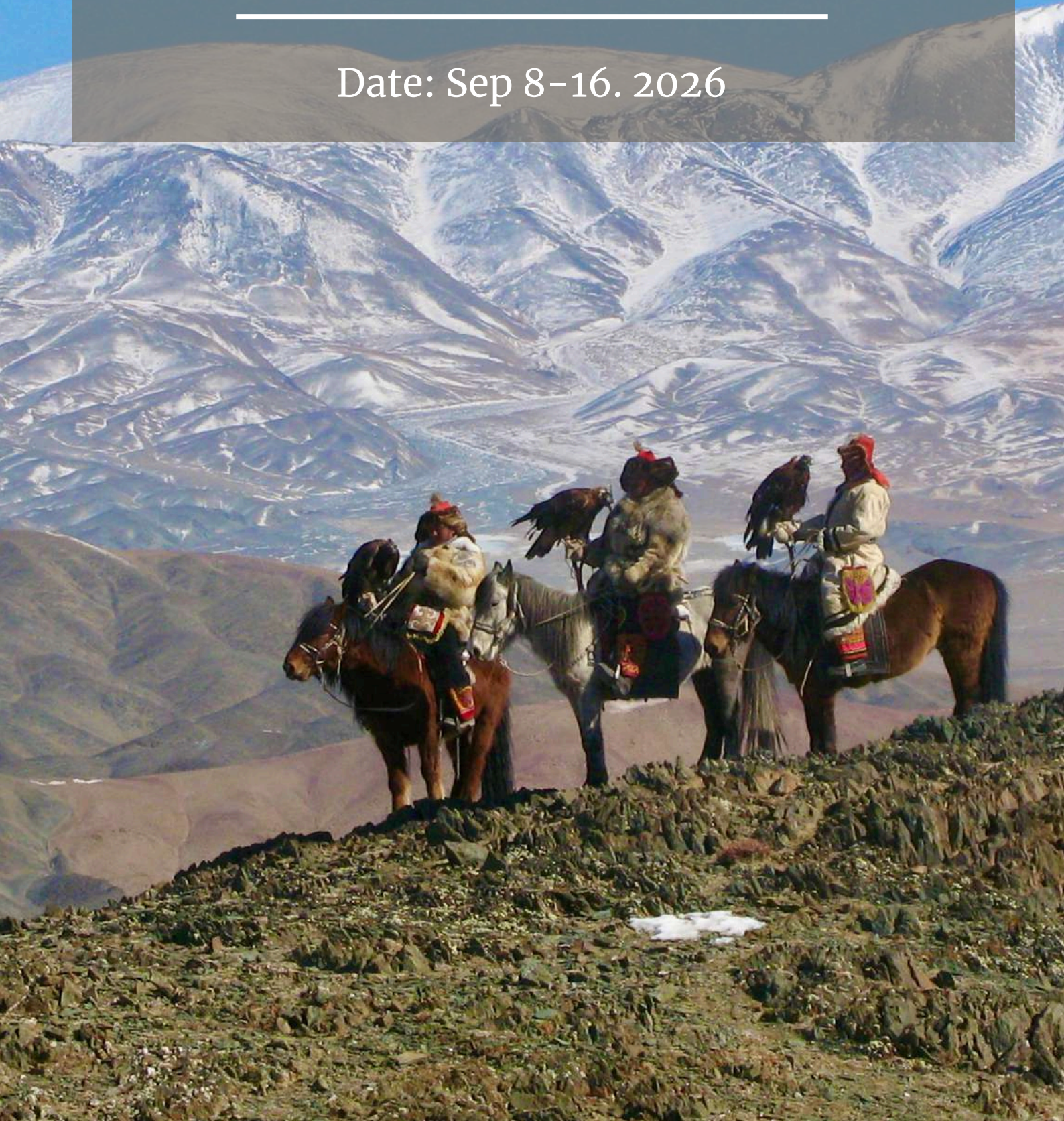


# ALTAI EAGLE FESTIVAL OF WESTERN MONGOLIA

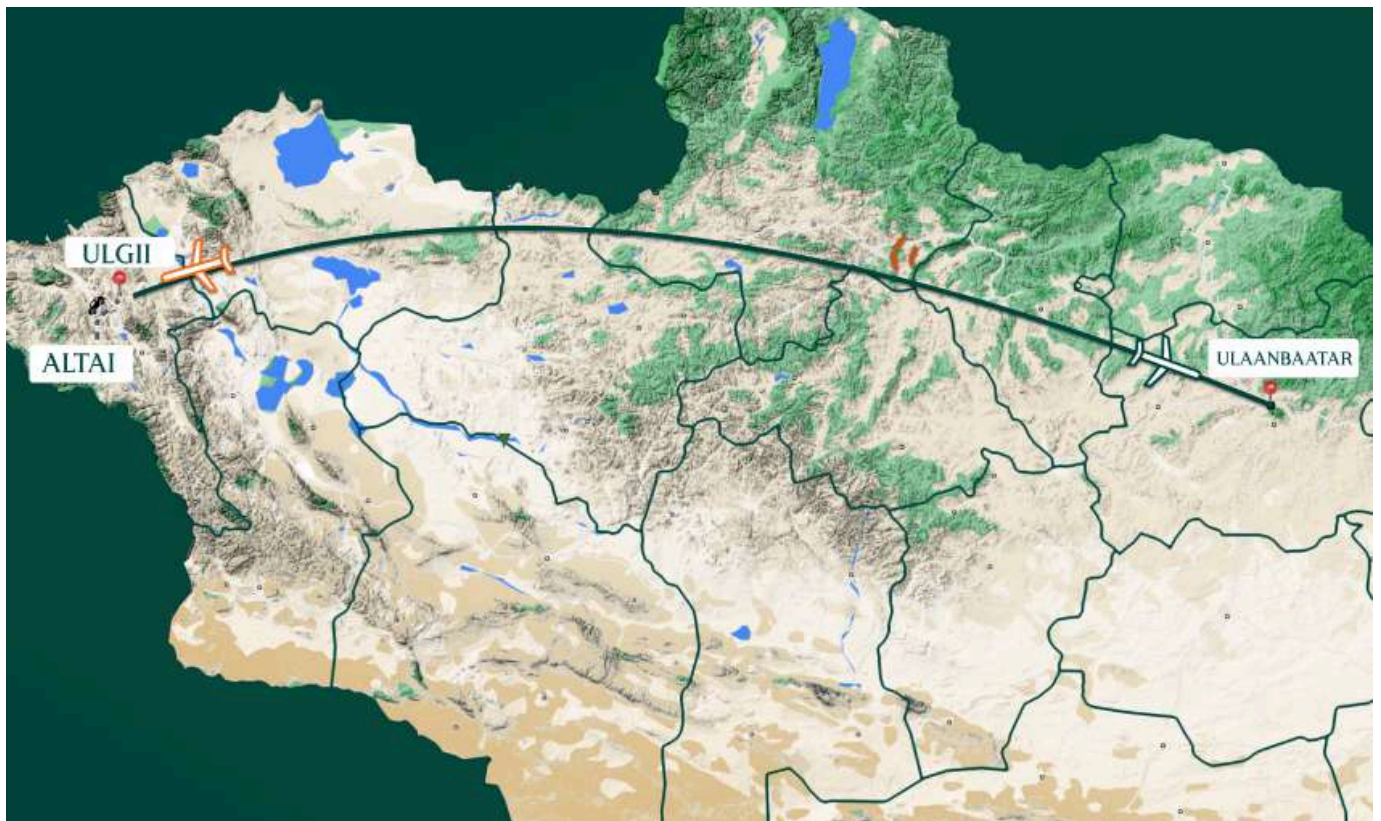
Date: Sep 8-16. 2026



## TRIP SUMMARY

The Altai Eagle Festival offers a rare and intimate experience of Mongolia's Kazakh culture, far from the crowds of the larger events. Held in a remote valley of the Altai Mountains, this community-based gathering celebrates the ancient art of eagle hunting — not as performance, but as living heritage. Families and apprentices come together to honor their ancestors, train young hunters, and keep their traditions alive.

Alongside the festival, you'll stay with Kazakh hosts, learn about their daily life, and experience the deep connection between hunter, eagle, and land. This journey combines cultural discovery, authentic hospitality, and breathtaking mountain scenery for an unforgettable look at Mongolia's living nomadic traditions.



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## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 (SEPT 8). ARRIVAL IN ULAANBAATAR

Upon your arrival, you will be transferred from the airport to Ulaanbaatar. Today is independent, you may use the time for some personal sightseeing and shopping. Overnight in hotel. **(Hotel Bayangol)**



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### DAY 2 (SEPT 9). ULAANBAATAR/ BAYAN ULGII

In the morning, your guide will pick you up and transfer you to the airport for our flight to Ulgii, the cultural heart of Mongolia's Kazakh minority. Upon arrival, we will enjoy some local refreshments. Ulgii is a vibrant city and the only place in Mongolia where most of the population is Muslim. We will explore the city, taking in the sights and visiting local markets. In the afternoon, we will transfer to Altai Soum. Upon arrival, enjoy Kazakh hospitality with milk tea as you settle in. Dinner and overnight in **(Gers, B, L, D) Approx. 4-5 hours of driving.**



### DAY 3,(SEP 10). EAGLE HUNTER IMMERSION

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 backdrop of the Altai. 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, you can join your host eagle hunter in a scenic horse ride in the local valley, where 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. **(Gers, B, L, D)**



### DAY 4, (SEP 11). NOMADIC LIFE IN THE ALTAI MOUNTAINS

Spend a relaxing day experiencing authentic nomadic life. Join your hosts as they undertake 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. **(Gers, B, L, D)**



## DAY 5, (SEP 12). ALTAI EAGLE FESTIVAL



Attend the first day of the Altai Eagle Festival, a thrilling cultural event celebrating Kazakh heritage and the skill of the eagle hunters. Watch the colorful opening ceremony, featuring riders in ornate traditional dress carrying their eagles proudly on horseback.

Enjoy the contests that test the hunter's precision and the eagles' agility. Explore the festival grounds, where artisans sell handmade crafts, sample local delicacies, and join in the festivities. In the evening, return to your camp for a hearty dinner and share the stories from the day with your hosts and fellow travelers.

**(Gers, B, L, D)**

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## DAY 6 (SEP 13). ALTAI EAGLE FESTIVAL CONTINUED

Continue enjoying the festival as it enters its second day. Today, the festival concludes with an awards ceremony honoring the best eagle and hunter of the year. Meet and photograph the champion eagle hunters, gaining deeper insights into how these competitions help preserve Kazakh cultural identity. Celebrate alongside the local community as music and laughter fill the valley. **(Gers, B, L, D)**

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## DAY 7 (SEP 14). BACK TO ULGII & EVENING CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

Today say goodbye to the eagle hunters and begin traveling south. Our destination today is Khovd city, the capital of Khovd province. Enjoy a packed lunch en route, upon arrival check in to your hotel. The remainder of the day is for relaxing, you may go to the local markets for some shopping should you wish to do so. **(Gers, B, L, D)**



### **DAY 8 (SEP 15). BACK TO ULAANBAATAR**

After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our flight back to UB. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is independent for last-minute shopping and sightseeing. **(Hotel Bayangol, B)**

### **DAY 9 (SEP 16). DEPARTURE**

In the morning, you will be transferred to the airport for your departure from Mongolia.

**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 6-7 participants:   | <b>\$1,955 per person</b> , standard twin occupancy; |
| Based on 4-5 participants:   | <b>\$2,325 per person</b> , standard twin occupancy; |
| Based on 2-3 participants:   | <b>\$2,850 per person</b> , standard twin occupancy; |
| UB-Ulgii round-trip airfare: | <b>\$355 per person</b>                              |
| Optional single supplement:  | <b>\$500 per person</b> , (including a single tent)  |

| LAND PRICES INCLUDE:   | LAND PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land transportation, as indicated in the itinerary based on using cruiser jeeps seating 3 passengers each;</li> <li>• Accommodations in standard gers in the countryside, where needed, or tented camps throughout the journey, based on a twin occupancy.</li> <li>• Airport arrival and departure transfers;</li> <li>• All meals indicated as B, L, or D;</li> <li>• All eagle hunter fees are as indicated in the itinerary.</li> <li>• English-speaking national guide throughout your stay.</li> <li>• Bottled water per person per day and an unlimited supply of boiled water.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic flights;</li> <li>• International and domestic airfare;</li> <li>• Personal laundry;</li> <li>• Drinks not mentioned in the itinerary;</li> <li>• Travel insurance;</li> <li>• Medical evacuation costs;</li> <li>• Excess baggage charges;</li> <li>• Visa fees;</li> <li>• Gratuities;</li> <li>• Any other item not mentioned as included.</li> </ul> |

## 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.

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

## 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 Mongolia is 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!**