



Tour 240....



Around the Archangaj Mountains



Travel description:

If you want to experience Mongolia in its original form, so not only the Gobi, you are exactly right with this tour. The Archangaj Mountains are located in the center of Mongolia.



On this trip you will experience the typical Mongolian landscape, which is characterized by endless grasslands and mountain massifs with magnificent mountain meadows. Plants that are very rare in Europe can still be found here in their natural environment. At Terchijn Zagaan Nuur, a beautifully situated lake, you can try your luck at fishing and are guaranteed to be successful. Other important sights are of course the Orkhon Waterfall and the old legendary capital of Mongolia - Karakorum.

The origin of Terchijn Zagaan Nuur is volcanic and next to this beautiful lake, we visit the extinct Horgo volcano. On the way to this volcano we pass the rock yurts, which are actually huge gas bubbles in the lava rock. Here it is customary to crawl through the narrow upper opening to be ritually reborn.

The drive over one of the mountain passes of Archangaj will take us almost to the 3,000 meter limit. This part is quite demanding in terms of driving, so we will then relax at the hot springs of Shargalshuut. For those who are then looking for some adventure, there is the possibility to shorten the regular route on a unique mountain trail, but this is highly weather dependent and not to be done in case of rain.

Of course, Karakorum is also on the agenda of this tour. Translated, Karakorum means "Black Mountain", or "Black Stone". Karakorum, the cradle of the Mongolian Empire, offers many interesting historical sights. Active excavations have been carried out in Karakorum in recent years by the University of Bonn. Right next to the former capital, the monastery Erdenee Zuu was built in the 15th - 16th century. The monastery has an eventful history behind it. Destroyed several times, always rebuilt and today, next to the Gandan Monastery, one of the most important Buddhist monasteries in Mongolia.

On this trip you will cover relatively little distance, but you will have a more intensive insight into the life of the people around the Archangaj Mountains.

Route:

Ulaanbaatar – Karakorum – Zezerleg – Terchijn Zagaan Nuur – Kloster Mandal – Baianchongor – Schargalshuut - Arwajcheer – Ulaanbaatar



Itinerary:

1. Tag Arrival in Ulaanbaatar, pick up at the airport, check in at the hotel, program briefing. After that we will visit Ulaanbaatar. You will see the famous Gandan Monastery with the big Buddha statue. Take a tour in the monastery of the Tschojdshjin - Lama and in the evening you will experience a unique Mongolian folklore performance with throat singing and the famous snake girls.
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2. Tag In the early morning you will be picked up by our vehicle at the hotel and the journey begins towards Hogon Han Mountains. Immediately after leaving the city, you will stop at a Mongolian Ovoo to make peace with the earth gods for the rest of the journey. You will get the first impression of the Mongolian steppe. We will have lunch break at the Tuul River. In the early afternoon, we will arrive at the Hogon Han Mountains and take a short hike into the mountains.
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3. Tag We will visit the ancient monastery "Erdene Hamp" in the Hogon Han mountains. The foundation of the monastery dates back to the 13th century. Today's monastery is not as big as it was then. From the Hogon Han Mountains, the trip continues to an ancient Turkish excavation site "Khöschöö Tsaidam". It is the palace ruins of an ancient Turkish general. The Turkish government finances the excavation, because here also the farthest east reaching Turkish traces were found.

Towards afternoon we drive the remaining kilometers to Ogii Nuur, a very beautifully situated lake in the Mongolian steppe. With a little luck, our companions catch a large pike, which are still in large quantities in the lake.
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4. Tag Today's morning can be used to ride a horse, the classic means of transportation in Mongolia, through the steppe. If riding is too uncomfortable for you, you can also make a short trip to the nearby bird watching station. The Ogii Nuur is an important stopover for most migratory birds.

Around noon, we continue to the northern edge of the Achhangai Mountains. We will drive to the hot spring of Tsencher. There we have the opportunity to bathe in the warm thermal springs.
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5. Tag In the morning we will go to the district capital Tsetserleg. There we will buy the necessary things for the next days on the market. On the market the surrounding nomads offer their products and also provide themselves with the most necessary things. It is a colorful hustle and bustle on the market. A small detour leads us to the monastery Zayan Gegeen, which we will visit.

The drive then takes us via Ikh Tamir, a monolith in the Mongolian steppe to Terchijn Zagaan Nuur.
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6. Tag A full day at Terchijn Zagaan Nuur. We will visit the Khorongo volcano. This volcano has formed the lake by its eruption. There is an ice cave to visit and large "lava caves". The rest of the day everyone can spend according to his taste.
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7. Tag Today the journey goes deep into the Archangai Mountains to Hon Nuur. The roads are not very busy and the yurts of the nomads are only scattered in the mountain valleys. Every now and then our drivers have to inquire about the condition of the road. This is also a nice opportunity for a tea with the nomads. The track leads us up to almost 2500 mtr. Towards the late afternoon we reach the very lonely lake.
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8. Tag After breakfast on the lakeshore, we will head south to the southern side of the Archangai Mountains. The landscape changes completely. The southern Archangai is much drier, here the Gobi has its influence, than the northern part. Besides the yaks, we will now encounter camels much more often. The small Mandal Monastery, which we visit, has survived all the communist turmoil relatively unscathed. It is not particularly large, but the visit is still worthwhile.

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9. Tag In the morning we arrive in Bayankhongor. Here we have the opportunity to replenish our supplies after a long time. After visiting the market and shopping, we drive to the healing springs of Shargalshuut. These springs, a larger area with many different springs, are not only known in Mongolia. Each of these springs cures a particular ailment. If you want, you are welcome to take a bath in the warm springs.

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- 10.Tag Over quite daring tracks we go to the Naima Nuur lakes (eight lakes). Today we get a nice view of the southern Archangai Mountains. The Naima Nuur lakes are located very high and before that we have to overcome a very steep pass. But in the evening we will spend the night on the lakeshore in a uniquely beautiful landscape.

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- 11.Tag From Naima Nuur lakes today we will drive to one of the landmarks of the Archangai Mountains, the Orkhon Waterfall. We will reach the waterfall in the afternoon and there will be enough time for hiking in this nature reserve. If you like, you can also explore the area on horseback.

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- 12.Tag In the Orkhon Valley today we will drive to the legendary former capital of Mongolia, "Karakorum". Detailed sightseeing of Karakorum, the former capital. In Karakorum is also the monastery "Erdene Zuu".

The oldest Buddhist monastery in Mongolia is located in the Öwörchangai-Aimag near Charchorin: Erdene Zuu Khiid. It is an impressive complex, founded as early as the 16th century, and today it is considered a tourist highlight of this area. The current outer wall consists of 108 stupas from the 17th century, which are whitewashed and therefore stand out beautifully against the landscape. Inside, there are now four temples and a monastery, where a few monks still live. Once about 1000 monks are said to have lived, worked and prayed here. In the courtyard of Erdene Zuu there is a relaxed atmosphere. It is advisable not to simply wander from temple to temple, but to sit in the shade and watch the hustle and bustle of the others. In the area, which today also serves as a monastery, no photos may be taken. Instead, here you can taste the famous fermented mare's milk Airag.

In the afternoon we will go back to the Hogon Han mountains and our circle around the Archangai mountains will be closed.

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- 13.Tag Now we are heading back to Ulaanbaatar. The last day in the Mongolian grass steppe has begun. In the afternoon we will reach Ulaanbaatar and there will be time for shopping of travel souvenirs e.g. Kashmir. In the evening we will say goodbye to our drivers in a cozy atmosphere.

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- 14.Tag Early morning, airport transfer and return flight.

Kilometer Street:	1.020
Kilometer Off – Road:	1.450
Kilometer Total:	2.470

Activities not to be specified in time: Staying overnight with nomads in yurt, participation in local naadam festivals.

Due to the conditions (weather conditions, condition of the route, high water) within Mongolia, there may be deviations in the exact itinerary. The tour description is only a guideline for the course of the tour. The tour can be driven in reverse order due to e.g. adverse weather conditions.

Necessary equipment:

All technical equipment, such as tents, cooking equipment, etc. is provided by Steppenfuchs Reisen. You only need the things for your personal needs. The list given here is only limited to the things that are necessary from our point of view and is only meant to give an indication.

Personal laundry, T-shirt or similar, warm jacket, rainwear, sun hat or similar, warm sleeping bag, warm sleeping clothes for the night, sleeping mat, small pillow, washing utensils, towel, bathing clothes, sturdy shoes, good sunglasses, sunscreen, photo equipment, small flashlight, medicines, if available GPS device. Backpack, or large travel bag to accommodate everything. Suitcases are rather impractical for this type of travel.

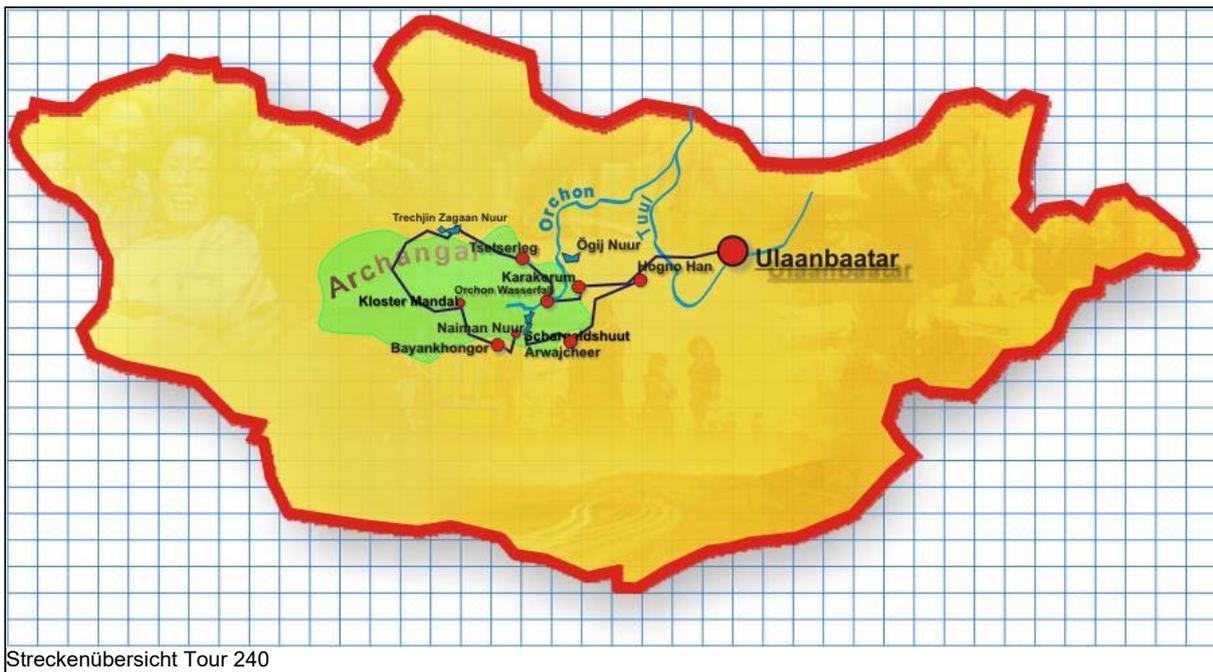
Packing list suggestion: https://www.mongolei.com/pdf_datein/Packliste_EN.pdf

Performance description:

Accommodation in Ulaanbaatar and in the countryside, according to the price category you choose (see below). Airport transfer in Ulaanbaatar, tour guide German speaking, entrance fees for museums, national parks and cultural program, provision of off-road vehicles incl. gasoline and incidental expenses. Costs for horses and / or camels as shown in the program, full board in the country, in Ulaanbaatar according to the price category you have chosen.

Not included:

Costs for personal needs, costs for drinks, such as beer etc., dinner in Ulaanbaatar, travel souvenirs, health costs, film- photo fees (if necessary), tips, visa costs, or costs related to the visa regulations of Mongolia, possibly additional nights in yurt camps, vegetarian food in the country. Depending on the price category you choose, additional costs for accommodation and meals in Ulaanbaatar.



What else:

The reservation for the trip becomes valid only after the signed registration form has been returned to Steppenfuchs Reisen. We recommend the conclusion of a foreign health and travel cancellation insurance. You can book an insurance here: [Hanse Merkur Versicherung](#)

You can find more very useful information about the itinerary and preparation for the trip at the following link: https://www.mongolei.com/pdf_datein/ReiseInformationen.pdf (German)

Dates:

2023					2024				
Anfang		Ende		Airport.	Start		End		Airport.
05.06	Mo	19.06	So	BER	05.06	Mo	18.06	So	BER
07.07	Fr	21.07	Do	FRA	07.07	Fr	20.07	Do	FRA
16.07	So	30.07	Sa	FRA	16.07	So	29.07	Sa	FRA
30.07	So	13.08	Sa	FRA	30.07	So	12.08	Sa	FRA
15.08	Di	27.08	Sa	FRA	15.08	Di	28.08	Mo	FRA

Individual dates possible from two people

Price:

Steppenfuchs Reisen offers a price range tailored for every budget. From the budget solution, to the "all inclusive" trip. Look for the right offer for you.

Category	2 – 3 Pers*)	4 – 5 Pers*)	ab 6 Pers*)
A	2.320 €	2.220 €	1.890 €
B	2.570 €	2.380 €	1.980 €
C	2.640 €	2.560 €	2.220 €
D	2.890 €	2.780 €	2.320 €

Category:

- A:** In Ulaanbaatar you organize your airport-/ station transfer, accommodation and meals yourself. Overnight stays in tents in the countryside.
- B:** In Ulaanbaatar you organize your accommodation and meals yourself. Nomadic yurts stay overnight in the country.
- C:** In Ulaanbaatar overnight stay in a simple guesthouse. You organize the catering in Ulaanbaatar yourself. In the countryside you will spend the night in tents and nomadic yurts.
- D:** In Ulaanbaatar you stay in a middle class hotel and have an excellent lunch. In the countryside, only ger camps are used.

) All prices without international flights

) Guest yurts at nomad families, simple sanitary conditions

) Yurt camps, two-bed yurts, separate showers and WC, restaurant

Supplements:

Single room hotel plus	250 €	Pauschal
Single yurt	35 €	p.P. / Nacht
Lux yurt (yurt with private bathroom)	45 €	p.P. / Nacht
Tours via NAADAM (10.7. - 13.7.) Price surcharge of	150 €	Pers
Supplement for vegetarian food in the countryside	7 €	Pers/ Day
Airport transfer (return flight) promptly after departure	25 €	Pers

If the minimum number of participants is not reached

Small group surcharge	1 People	800 €	p.P
	2 People	600 €	p.P
	3 People	400 €	p.P

Comments:

All prices in EURO

Schedule information for **2022 / 23**

The travel prices for 2023 are not yet fixed. The travel price of 2022 can be taken as a guideline

Arrival / departure day in Ulaanbaatar

Price without flight plus current airfare MIAT, Aeroflot or Turkish Air

Individual dates are possible

The cheap flight to the trip

Benefit from the fact that Steppenfuchs Reisen has concluded a very favorable agreement with Mongolian Airlines (MIAT) for the necessary flights from Germany to Mongolia. In the season, several times a week directly from Frankfurt or Berlin Tegel to Ulaanbaatar.

Flights from 870 € pers. (if you use our flight dates) and from 950 € for individual flight dates. Please check our website for our flight offers (<https://english.mongolei.com>)

Helpful links:

Packing list suggestion:

https://www.mongolei.com/pdf_datein/Packliste_EN.pdf

Travel insurance

[Hanse Merkur Versicherung](#)

Travel information (german)

https://www.mongolei.com/pdf_datein/ReiseInformationen.pdf

Travel application

https://www.mongolei.com/pdf_datein/Steppenfuchs_Reiseanmeldung.pdf