



Mongolia Horseback Riding Tour

10 Days



Day 1 | Welcome to Mongolia

Get Oriented

From Chinggis Khaan National Airport (UBN), also referred to as New Ulaanbaatar International Airport, we transfer to the Springs Hotel in Ulaanbaatar City. After a refresh and rest or wander, we meet our Wild Women guide for an orientation and group introductions over dinner. The hotel is a walking-friendly distance to the central city square, museums, shops and restaurants. Your Wild Women guide will be able to recommend places and offer support if you need to locate any essential items for the trek.

Included Meals

Dinner

Accommodations

Springs Hotel



Day 2 | Terelj River Valley

Our Trek Begins

After breakfast, we travel by vehicle to the horse trek staging area in the Darkhid Valley, located one and a half hours northeast of Ulaanbaatar City. Here, we meet our horses and re-pack for our horse trek. After lunch, we begin our adventure in this rural area, which leads us to a high pass before entering Gorkhi Terelj National Park and descending into the Terelj River valley. We set up camp near the Terelj River or one of its downstream tributaries, depending on water levels and the pace of the group.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tented camp

The Ride

4 hours in the saddle



Day 3 | The Tuul Valley

Forest Trails, Wildflowers and Open Grasslands

After breakfast, we set out for today's ride traversing two forested passes and blooming valleys. Our lunch break is in the shade of the forest where the horses can graze and rest with us. In the afternoon, we can travel at a slightly faster pace, trotting down a wide valley. When we reach the Tuul valley, we turn north to make our way to our campsite for the night. Take a rejuvenating dip in the river (brace yourself, it's chilly!), before enjoying a peaceful riverside dinner together.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tented camp

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 4 | Ride to Princess Camp

Sleep in a Traditional Ger Tent

Our morning ride takes us through fields of wildflowers before we travel up the wide open valley with the high mountains and plateaus of the Khentii Mountains ahead in the distance. We find our perfect lunch spot among the startling rock formations. Our ride continues through the mesmerizing landscape of undulating hills of grasslands and mighty rock formations of Gorkhi Terelj National Park, up and over the hills to the valley of the Princess Camp. The eco-friendly camp is the only ger camp in this remote area of the national park. If the sun cooperates, solar heaters will permit us to have a hot shower. Dinner is served in the larger communal ger.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Princess Camp, Gorkhi-Terelj National Park

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 5 | Ride to the Ruins

Visit the Princess Temple

Today, the pack team and riders split up. The packers take the pack horses to tonight's campsite via a shorter route, while the riders head out to visit the ruins of the Princess Temple. We enjoy a long lunch break at a high point with dazzling rock formations as a backdrop.

After lunch, we cross the valley floor to head up to another lookout and rest spot. Here, we have a panoramic of the landscapes we have traveled over the last few days. Our tented camp is just a short ride away, where tables set up with snacks and drinks await! We can choose between a refreshing cold plunge in the creek or request a camp shower which will be set up behind a privacy screen at the camp, before enjoying our outdoor dinner with a spectacular view and our horses grazing on the nearby hills.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tented camp

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 6 | High Ridges Ride

Heading for the Hills

Today we split up again so riders can explore the high ridges east of the Baruun Bayn Gol Valley while the pack team sets up camp near the river. We ascend to the highest ridge for lunch before circling back, traveling down a scenic route back into the valley by late afternoon. We turn south at the memorial monument dedicated to a local park ranger before reaching our tented camp where we'll spend the next two nights. This site is a favorite with both horses and guests as it's set back into the shade and shelter of the forest. Surrounded by meadows of wildflowers, verdant forested slopes, rising rock formations and high mountains, this campsite is an easy one to ease into.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tented camp

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 7 | Two River Valleys

Visiting Nomadic Families

Today is dedicated to visiting local families to learn more about their daily life and nomadic livestock husbandry practices. It's a short distance from our camp to reach the Tuul River valley, which we follow to the confluence with the Terelj River.

Continuing up the Terelj River valley, we reach our host family and share a hearty, traditional lunch. Depending on their schedule and daily tasks, we might be able to try making milk products or help with other chores. On our way back, we stop at our horseman's summer home for more snacks and genuine nomad hospitality. We arrive back at our tented camp in the late afternoon and have a light meal (snacks) in the evening.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tented camp

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 8 | Return to the Terelj

Riding in the Open Valley

Today we have the opportunity to ride at a faster pace (for those who wish), trotting or cantering up a broad valley. There are forested sections and open grasslands with pops of yellow poppies and Mongolian asters as well. In the afternoon, our trek continues over another small pass before we drop down into the big open valley of the Terelj River. After one final break in a stand of cottonwood forest, we travel a short distance to our last shaded campsite near a creek. There's time to relax and revel in one last trek dinner together.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Gorkhi-Terelj National Park, in a tented camp

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 9 | The Darkhid Valley

Easy Rider

Today's ride takes us into the upper valley of the Terelj River. It's easy riding along well-established tracks with mostly even terrain and several river crossings. Our last picnic lunch is near the river under the shade of old larch trees before we head up to cross another pass. From the top of this pass, it's an hour's ride back to the Darkhid Valley, where revitalizing snacks and drinks are waiting. The horses, after a quick check-up, are set loose down the valley to join the rest of the herd that stayed behind. It's a wonderful sight to watch them roll around and trot off for their week's break. Our shuttle back to the city should arrive at the Springs Hotel around 8–9 p.m., in time for one last dinner together.

Included Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Accommodations

Springs Hotel

The Ride

6 hours in the saddle



Day 10 | Departure

A Fond Farewell

After breakfast there is a group transfer to Chinggis Khaan International Airport (UBN). For those who are extending their stay in the city, the hotel staff can assist with arranging local guided tours or offer directions to museums, historic sites and souvenir shops.

Included Meals

Breakfast

Accommodations

Sawadi Ecolodge or similar



Trip Details

Know Before You Go

For all of the logistical details you'll need to know prior to departure—including the packing list, arrival and departure details and suggested tipping information, click [HERE](#).

Itinerary version as of March 26, 2024.