



Itinerary designed for Rachel Henighan and Charles Mayer

*Date: July 2 – 14, 2006*

Itinerary  
(As of April 4, 2006)

- Sun, July 2    Ulaanbaatar / Amarbayasgalant  
In the afternoon, start your overland journey north to Amarbayasgalant Monastery. Named after two children named Amar and Bayasgalant, the monastery is located in a beautiful mountain valley and is country's one of largest and best preserved monasteries. Reach a ger camp in time for dinner and overnight in gers.  
(Approximately 5 hours driving; Ger Camp; D)
- Mon, July 3    Amarbayasgalant / Bulgan  
Start driving north-west towards lake Hovsgol. We will drive through Erdenet, a large mining city ranked as country's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city. Pass through Bulgan province and overnight in tents.  
(Approximately 7 hours driving; Tent Camp; B, L)
- Tue, July 4    Bulgan / Muron  
Continue driving north-west until you reach Muron, the provincial capital of Hovsgol province. Overnight on the bank of Delger river where you will have an opportunity to fish. (please bring your own fishing rod).  
(Approximately 9 hours driving; Tent Camp; no meals included)
- Wed, July 5    Muron / Lake Hovsgol  
Today, continue overland to Lake Hovsgol (4 - 5 hours), passing through Mongolian steppe land and forested mountains. Mongolia's largest lake by water volume, Lake Hovsgol extends 85 miles in length, and 18 miles in width, and is fed by over 90 streams and rivers. Water exits the lake only through one river, the Egiin, whose waters eventually reach Lake Baikal in neighboring Siberia. This crystal-clear alpine lake, known as Mongolia's "dark blue pearl" remains untouched by industry and is situated among the most pristine forests, mountains and meadows in the world. Bird life and wildflowers abound and you will have ample time to discover the lake's secrets in the following days. Overnight in gers. (Ger Camp; D)
- Thu, July 6 -    Lake Hovsgol
- Fri, July 7    Spend these day exploring the lakeshore and surrounding mountains

and meadows. For those interested, you will have the opportunity to visit local nomads' dwellings and sample horseback riding, Mongolian-style. Overnight at a ger camp along the lakeshore.

(Ger Camp; B, L, D)

Sat, July 8 Lake Hovsgol / Shine Ider

After an early breakfast, drive south towards Zuun Nuur via Muron. Overnight in tents. (approximately 8-9 hours driving; B, L)

Sun, July 9 Shine Ider / Terhiin Tsagaan Lake

Continue driving through the beautiful landscape of Arkhangai Aimag, known to have the largest stock of yaks in the country. In late afternoon reach the former site of Horgo Volcano and explore this sunken caldera and its dead volcano formations. Explore the local sites of "Youth Cave" and "Yellow Dog's Hell", uniquely formed caves. The crystal-clear Terhiin Tsagaan Lake ("Great White Lake") is the highlight of Khorgo-Terhiin Tsagaan Nuur National Park, established for the conservation of spectacular mountain scenery and endangered flora and fauna. The lake was formed thousands of years ago when lava from the nearby Horgo Volcano flowed into the Terkh River creating a natural dam. Overnight in gers.

(5-6 hours driving; Ger Camp; D)

Mon, July 10 Terhiin Tsagaan / Taikhar Rock

Spend the morning exploring the lake area which is also known for its rare bird population. After lunch, drive to Taikhar Rock ger camp located at the northern Tamir river. Overnight in gers.

(Ger Camp; B, L, D)

Tue, July 11 Naadam Festival

Wed, July 12 After an early breakfast, attend the opening ceremony of Naadam Festival. Naadam is Mongolia's time honored festival and is also an occasion for large feasts and family reunions. Attend the games of wrestling, archery and horse races for to full days.

Time permitting, explore Tsetserleg, provincial capital of Arkhangai, considered as one of the most beautiful provinces in Mongolia. Visit the picturesque Zayayn Gegeenii Temple. Continue driving to Taikhar Rock, a huge stone standing on end. The legend says that in ancient times there was a huge snake threatening the locals and demanding that the most beautiful girls in the area be sacrificed. A young hero put the giant stone on top of the snake's hole and trapped him, thus saving the local people. Overnight in tents. (Tent Camp)

Thu, July 13 Kharakhorun

After breakfast, drive to the legendary Kharakhorun city. It is impossible to mention Mongolia without conjuring up images of the great warrior, Chinggis Khan. The empire created by Chinggis and his descendants was the largest contiguous empire in recorded history, and its scope has never been matched. The great Khan and his son created the beautiful and legendary Kharakhorun to serve as the heart of this monolithic empire. There are only a few traces left of this once great city, but Mongolia's largest monastery, neighboring Erdene Zuu, was reputedly constructed from the ruins of Kharakhorun in the 16th century. Surrounded by 108 stupas, Erdene Zuu has been a place of Buddhist activity for more than 500 years. Explore the monastery grounds and observe the monks as they perform their prayers and rituals. Overnight in gers.

(Approximately 6 hours driving; Ger Camp; B, L, D)

Fri, July 14 Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, drive back to Ulaanbaatar. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotels. (Approximately 7 hours driving; B, L)

*B = Breakfast*

*L = Lunch*

*D = Dinner*

*Nomadic Expeditions reserves the right to alter the above itinerary if deemed necessary.*

Price:

10-11 paying participants: \$1,005 per person, double occupancy;

12-15 paying participants: \$910 per person, double occupancy.

Price includes:

- Ground transportation in Mongolia as described in the itinerary;
- Accommodations based on double occupancy (gers only);
- Meals as noted in itinerary as B, L, or D;
- All excursions, entrance fees, and visits as described in itinerary;
- Bilingual Nomadic Expeditions guide throughout your stay;
- Rent of cooking equipments.

Price does not include: International and domestic airfare; accommodation in hotels and in tents; passport and visa fees; medical and trip insurance; evacuation costs; airport taxes; excess baggage charges; photography and video fees; food and beverages

not included in the group meals; tips to drivers or guides; items of a personal nature, including alcoholic beverages, laundry and telephone calls; other items not specifically mentioned as included.

#### Payment/Cancellation Policy

All cancellations by travelers must be received by Nomadic Expeditions in writing. Cancellation charges are based on the number of days from the date we receive the written cancellation notice until the main trip departure date.

#### Cancellation charges:

45-30 days	30% of land
29-16 days	15% of land
15 - after trip departs	No refund

Full payment is due by 45 days. If full payment is not received 45 days prior to departure, Nomadic Expeditions reserves the right to consider this a cancellation.