

Hidden Trails

Ph. 1-888-9-TRAILS

*Equestrian Vacations
- on & with Hidden Trails*

About Hidden Trails



Hidden Trails is owned and operated by nature enthusiasts who love horses and adventure activities. We have been involved with riding and other outdoor vacations for over 20 years.

With our partners Voyage du Cheval (France), Pegasus (Germany) as well as Equitour (Switzerland and France) we have collected the best riding destinations all over the world in some hidden places we would like to share with you.

These rides are about galloping on endless beaches, forging rivers, cantering through forests, trotting along age-old trails, gazing at beautiful vistas and encountering foreign cultures. But most of all, these trips are about getting away from the cycle of too much work and never enough free time.

Escape from the rituals, which long ago froze our nights and days into little more than routine and away from the worries of our new tense times. It is so satisfying when we take the plunge of adventure - it's unfortunate that we invent so many reasons to put aside living our dreams of adventure. It is sometimes a tangled web that we weave through life. Some of the threads reveal a work-a-day world of commitments, duties and obligations. Other threads are of a quiet fabric of hope, responsibility and refreshment.

On our adventures you see the real country, its back country and meet the locals. The love for horses has no boundaries but possesses a common language we all speak and understand. The majority of the overseas rides are from inn to inn, some from castle to castle and a few are camping rides.

You will experience new countries and their customs and make new friends. The Hidden Trails trips are the best you can find.

They have been tested by our staff or associates and received our stamp of approval. If you are considering a special riding vacation anywhere in the world, call us first and let our experienced consultants match the perfect trip with your dream.

We will listen to you and give you objective advice to help you choose the best destination and adventure.

Your vacation is the most precious time of the year and we are committed to making it the most memorable time of your life. Wherever you go, have a great time and bring back some peace of mind.

Thank you for your continued support.

Hidden Trails

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Ph: 0- 808 189-0420

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Toll Free Worldwide:

Skype: hiddentrails

Mongol Horsetrails - Mongolia, Asia

Tour Code: IT-MNRT01

11 days / 10 nights ~\$2,550.00

Dates: June to Sept

Trip Rating: ●●●●●

Difficulty: ●●●●●

Lodging: ●●

Tack: Mongolian Buryat Soldier Saddles

Horses: Mongolian

Pace: Moderate, long trots and canters, 5 to...

Walk, Trot, Canter,

Airport: Chinggis Khaan

International Airport (UBN)



Introduction

Khan Khentii, Mongolia

A close encounter with the Mongolian horsemen and their exquisite horse culture!

This horseback journey offers close encounters with Mongolian horsemen, nomadic people who have thus far been able to withstand modern pressures and lifestyles. There is no other nation in the world that depends on horses to such an extent. Mongolian horsemanship is famous and in many ways different than anywhere else. The herders keep their horses in a semi-wild condition, allowing them to live freely in harem groups. During the harsh winter with extreme subzero temperatures, the horses fend for themselves and protect their foals against predators such as wolves. Fences or stables are virtually unknown.

On this trip we will explore two very different environments on horseback: First, we ride across the vast treeless steppe, summer pastureland of Mongolian herders. Gradually we will come through the very scenic forest steppe and up into the southern taiga zone of the Khan Khentii Strictly Protected Area. You will experience steppes, wooded meadows, forests and mountains and enjoy camping along winding rivers. We will undertake this horse ride as a "Nomadic Journey", e.g. without vehicle support, in wild terrain. All our luggage will be loaded onto yak carts; even a ger (Mongolian yurt) will be carried to serve as our mobile restaurant.

Combination

In early July this trip can be combined with the world famous Naadaam in Ulaanbaatar! Reserve early! A once in a lifetime experience for those who wish to immerse themselves in the horse culture of Mongolia!

Accommodation



Accommodations

This is a progressive ride, so you will be staying in different locations during the trip.

Description

You will be staying in a hotel for 2 nights, a low-impact ger camp for 2 nights, and tent tips for 6 nights (changing location every 2 nights), making a total of 5 different locations. All accommodations are based on double occupancy. Private bathrooms are only available for nights spent in Ulaanbaatar. On all other nights, facilities are shared.

Accommodation Itinerary - subject to changes based on availability

Night 1: Bayangol Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

Night 2-7: Tent Tips

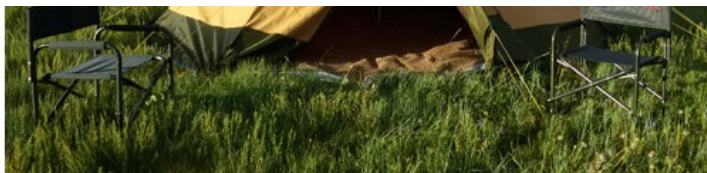
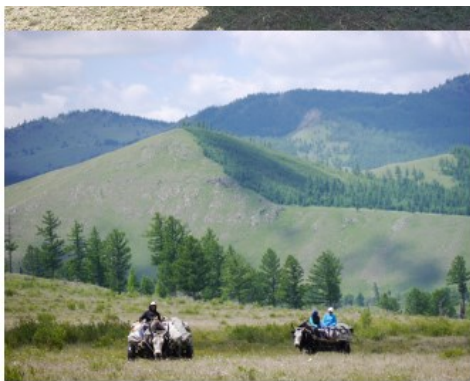
Night 8 and 9: Low-impact ger camp in Jalman Meadows

Night 10: Bayangol Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

Bayangol Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

Ideally located in the city center, this hotel offers elegant and comfortable ensuite bedrooms. Each room is equipped with air conditioning, a TV, free Wi-Fi access and tea and coffee making facilities. Laundry is available for an additional cost.





Tent Tips

Temporary camps in spacious tent tips, with foldable bed-cots. We take along a Mongolian ger (yurt) to serve as our mobile restaurant, as well as showers and compost toilets housed in traditional Mongolian marquee style tents.

Bring your own sleeping bag (if you do not have any you might borrow some locally for an extra fee).

During cold spells early and late in season, there is a slight chance of night temperatures below zero centigrade. Frost is unlikely but can happen between mid-June and early September. Therefore, a four-season sleeping bag is definitely necessary early and late in the season. If you feel cold easy, or your body is small, you should take some care in the selection of a sleeping bag. The idea of a sleeping bag is that your own body heat will maintain and keep the warmth inside the bag. It means that sleeping without clothes is better than having warm clothes on. And small people should not sleep in a very large sleeping bag as they cannot heat the space with their own body temperatures.

If you have never slept under the stars: Don't worry! You will find it a real pleasure!

Toilets tents with a drop toilet with wooden seat and separate shower tents are on site. We ask our clients to bring bio-degradable toiletries only.



Low-impact ger camp in Jalman Meadows

This is a permanent camp where each ger is equipped with cot beds (including full linen), chairs and a table, and a wood burning stove. There are also toilets tents with a drop toilet with wooden seat and separate shower tents are on site. Showers are also on site. We ask our clients to bring bio-degradable toiletries only.

Room Occupancy

Triple occupancy is possible.

Single riders listed as 'willing to share' do not have to pay the single supplement cost if we are unable to find another rider to share.

Meals

All meals except lunch in Ulaanbaatar are included in the trip.

Our cook will prepare the meals. We pride ourselves in having excellent cooks adept at both western and Mongolian cooking on our trips. We can usually buy fresh milk and yogurt from local herdsmen. Traditional Mongols mostly eat meat and milk products. Mongolians who live in the city have adopted Russian and Western food habits. Although, they still like the traditional foods of the countryside, and frequently also eat these. The cuisine features lamb and mutton, the Kazakhs in western Mongolia prefer goat. We usually boil water all the time, and your water bottle may be filled in the evening.

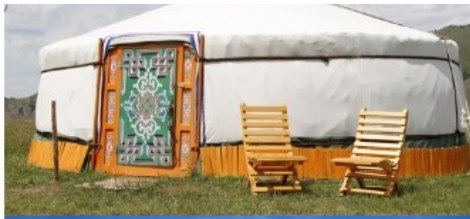
Alcohol is not allowed on this trip.

Dietary Restrictions

We can cater for vegetarians. Please make sure to advise us in advance of any dietary requirements that you may have.

Riding





Mongolia is probably the most equestrian nation in the world. Not only is the Mongol heritage and lifestyle intimately connected with the horse, Mongolia is an exceptionally inviting place for keen horse riders. The absence of fences and the vast expanses of the steppes and forests are ideal for uninterrupted and scenic riding at its best!

We emphasize the quality of human contacts and encounters with local people and respect for the horse and local equestrian traditions, from which many lessons can be learnt.

On this tour, apart from the short drive to the starting point of our horse-riding adventure and back to the city, we will not rely on any motor vehicle support. Instead we utilize traditional wooden carts, that Mongolian families still use moving from one pasture to another.

Riding Experience

You should be a competent rider, fit and capable of riding at all paces confidently. Varying terrain, in the saddle for several hours on most days.

Tack

We will provide you Russian saddles, which are more convenient for "western bottoms" than the Mongolian equivalent. We provide a saddle bag if needed.

Staff

A Mongolian English-speaking guide will accompany the group at all times. A cook will follow with the yak cart caravan. In addition, the services of local herdsman will be employed along with their animals. The horsemen follow a traditional lifestyle in the areas where we will be riding. If the group consists of 4 riders or more, we will also have a Mongolian doctor come along as part of the crew. We are supported by a caravan of yak carts and local nomads.



Itinerary



Sample Itinerary - subject to changes

Note: Riding tours may be done in the reverse for operational reasons.

Day 1: Arrival

Arrive in Ulaanbaatar. Transfer to your hotel. Tour briefing after dinner.

Meals included: Dinner

Overnight at Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

Day 2-3: Introductory Ride

In the morning of Day 2, we visit the Gandan Lamasery, the center for the Buddhist revival in Mongolia, possibly in time to see the prayers. Mongolians follow Lamaism (Tibetan Buddhism), with the Dalai Lama being the supreme theocratic leader. We then drive out of the city, and gradually the wide-open Mongolian landscape unfolds before our eyes.

We will be pitching camp near some nomadic families. Here we will meet the local herders with the yak carts and our horses. We will get to know the horses and go on a short trail ride.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight in Tipis

Day 4: Steppe Ride

All our provisions, camping equipment and luggage will be loaded onto yak carts. Even a ger (yurt) will be brought, and we will learn how to set it up. We ride across open steppe, but also cover hilly terrain with occasional patches of birch forest. Throughout the ride we will have the chance to meet with local herdsman, often relatives and friends of our local horsetrail guides.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight in Tipis

Day 5: Khentii wilderness Ride

Forests will suddenly start to appear and we are now riding towards the Khentii wilderness area, which includes the Khan Khentii Strictly Protected Area and Gorkhi Terej National Park. In Mongolia, the Siberian boreal forest meets the Central Asian desert and steppe and will be riding through the transitional zone between grasslands and northern Larch forests.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight in Tipis

Day 6-7: Sharbulag Valley

The horses will now permit us riding through the larch forests, up the slopes of the mountains following the ridges with superb scenery whilst the yak carts will follow the broad river valleys. We will arrive and pitch camp at the Sharbulag Valley. We will spend two nights here, and it will allow for some flexibility in the middle of our ride.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight in Tipis

Day 8-9: To Jalman Meadows

We will ride towards the Jalman Meadows, famous for its wildflowers and reach our semi-permanent ger camp. It is situated next to a beautiful wooded meadow on the upper parts of the Tuul River. Here, we say goodbye to the herders and their yak carts caravan. We will have a superb last day ride in the surrounding area.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Overnight in Ger camp at Jalman Meadows

Day 10: Back to Ulaanbaatar

We are picked up by a driver and returned to Ulaanbaatar to check into the hotel. See the capital city on your own. Distances are short. The local guide is standing by to assist where your points of interest are located. Farewell dinner in a local restaurant as well as entertainment.

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner
Overnight at Hotel in Ulaanbaatar

Day 11: Departure

Transfer back home or on to your next destination.
Meals included: Breakfast



Naadam Games Extension (optional for June 30th, 2020 departure)

July 10th: Ulaanbaatar

Conclusion of horseback riding trip after breakfast. Today, one day before the National Naadam officially begins, we will drive out of the city and attend smaller, more intimate "country-style" Naadam festivals, usually held in three communities some 50-60km away. This failing, the big horse races also start on the Hui Doloon Hudag plains today. In the countryside you have the chance to get up close to the horse races, and also to the wrestling matches. Local people usually wear their finest traditional dresses, adding to the colorful, festive atmosphere. We have a picnic lunch nearby and head back to Ulaanbaatar in the afternoon.

July 11th: Ulaanbaatar

Today Naadam is officially opened by the President of Mongolia. Soldiers on horseback, dressed in warrior regalia, ceremonially bring Genghis Khan's nine white horsetail banners from the parliament, where they are normally displayed, to the stadium. We will attend the impressive opening ceremony, after which the first round of wrestling will immediately follow. In most years 512 wrestlers from all over Mongolia compete, but in some years there are 1024! There are no judges, no time limits and no weight limits. We may try and attend the archery competitions (if not done the previous day) and later make our way out to the steppe area on the fringes of the city, where the horse races take place. We visit the nomadic tented camps that have sprung up, and experience a concentrated version of nomadic Mongolia. Herdsmen have come with their horses and all provisions for the festivities, which of course include airag (koumiss; fermented mares milk) for the merry making. Stroll around the area and you are likely to be invited in somewhere. You may also try your luck at the finals of the horse races, but prior instructions are necessary, since the finishing line of a full horse race of several hundred, is a potentially hazardous environment.

July 12th: Ulaanbaatar

Our services end after breakfast (and transfer to the airport if applicable), as we have covered all aspects and the highlights of Naadam by now. You may of course remain in the city to attend the final rounds of wrestling and the awards, or continue for one of our trips further into the great Mongolian void. You need to be attentive with hotel reservations and advise us early if intending to stay beyond mid-day.





Other Info

Meeting: Ulaanbaatar

Airport: Chinggis Khaan International Airport (UBN)

Train station: Ulaanbaatar railway station

Transfer: Ulaanbaatar

Distance: 15km

Pick-up/ drop-off for this trip is from Chinggis Khaan International Airport in Ulaanbaatar (UBN). You will be met for your arrival flight on Day 1 of the trip. Check-out from your hotel on the last day: 12:00pm.

Tack: Mongolian Buryat Soldier Saddles

Horses: Mongolian

Pace: Moderate, long trots and canters, 5 to 8 riding hours daily

Walk | Trot | Canter |

Level: 🐾🐾🐾🐾 (3 to 4 out of 5) Intermediate+

Age: Min 12 Max 75

Weight: 200 lbs

Riders: Min 2 riders Max 10 riders

Rates and Dates 2024 - IT-MNRT01

Rates include: Accommodations, Most meals, 8 riding days & Transfers
There are other language guides such as Russian, French, German, Italian, Korean etc. available at additional cost

Packages and Options

Season	Description	~US\$
A 2024	11 day trip	\$2550
B 2024	13 day trip, incl. Naadam Games	\$3450

Transfer Option

Description

2024	Transfers from/to Ulaanbaatar airport included	
2024	Single room/ tent/ ger supplement	\$400
2024	No single supplement if willing to share	
2024	Private trip supplement (2-4 pax), per trip	\$500
2024	Private trip supplement (5+ pax) - no extra charge	

Tour Dates

Season	Tour Dates		
A 2024	06/15/2024 - 06/25/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip
B 2024	06/30/2024 - 07/12/2024	13d / 12n	13 day trip, incl. Naadam Games
A 2024	06/30/2024 - 07/10/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip
A 2024	07/21/2024 - 07/31/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip
A 2024	08/17/2024 - 08/27/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip
A 2024	09/01/2024 - 09/11/2024	11d / 10n	11 day trip

Min/Max: 2/10

Rates do not include: Gratuities, Airport departure tax, Lunches & Dinners in Ulaanbaatar (except for welcome and farewell dinner), Alcoholic drinks & Health and accident insurance (mandatory)
Bring your own sleeping bag



Reservation Form

Tour : _____ Code #: _____ from: _____ to : _____

The Travelers (Last Name, First Name)	Male Female	Single room / or tent	Birth Date MM/DD/YY	Height	Weight	Special diets													
						Special diets	Beginner	Novice	Intermediate	Strong Inter.	Advanced	ride English	ride Western	mostly arena	mostly hacking				
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Special Diets: _____

Your fitness level: Excellent ☐ Moderate ☐ Poor ☐ How long have you been riding? _____

How often do you ride? _____ Have you been on other riding tours? No ☐ Yes ☐ last trip when? _____

If Hidden Trails offers a transfer from the local airport/station: I would like the transfer to be included: YES ☐ NO ☐

In an emergency, name and phone number of contact: _____

Attention: Please, if there is more than one participant, all have to sign the reservation form - make copies if needed

With my signature I confirm my reservation of the listed program(s) under the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions. I'm aware, and I made all participants aware of the risk involved with these outdoor adventure activities. All participants have read and agree with the Hidden Trails Booking Conditions and the Hidden Trails Recreational Activity Release and Indemnity Agreement in this brochure or as listed on the Internet.

I (we) will sign and forward the Recreational Activity Release and Indemnity Agreement at least 10 weeks before trip starting date.

Last Name and First Name (The Traveler) _____

Street _____ e-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

Phone (wk) _____ (hm) _____ Cell _____ Fax _____

Date _____ Signature (mandatory) 1. _____

Please, charge a 25% deposit (minimum \$ 350 per person) now and full payment 10 weeks before the travel date to my credit card.

For payments by VISA ☐ or Mastercard ☐ (no debit cards)

Cardholder: _____

Card # _____ 3 digit Security # _____

Exp.Date: _____ Signature _____

Billing Address for Credit Card (if different than mailing address):

I have enclosed a check for the deposit ☐

Additional Signatures:

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Travel Cancellation Insurance Credit Card required

Sign me (us) up ☐ initial _____

No, we will provide our own ☐ initial _____

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