

# **Happy Camel Travel**

**Presents**

**Tsambagarav Trekking in  
West Mongolia  
(10 days)**

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**TSAMBAGARAV TREKKING IN WEST MONGOLIA**  
**(10 DAYS)**

10 Days ♦ 8 Nights Tented Camp  
♦ 1 Night in Hotel



*Happy Camel invites you to discover the natural and cultural wonders of Mongolia, one of the last remaining seldom-explored countries. Largely inaccessible to the Western world until only recently, Mongolia offers a rare glimpse into an ancient nomadic culture that has changed little over the centuries.*

*The traveller will discover this untouched country by exploring the rare combination of ancient traditions of Buddhism, nomadic horse-based culture and natural beauties such as the high mountains, the grasslands and more.*



- ◆ Trekking ♦ Sangiin Kherem ♦ Tsambagarav Mountain
- ◆ Belchiriin Uul ♦ Tsast Uul Mountain ♦ Aryaval
- ◆ Tsambagarav waterfall ♦ Bayangol Valley
- ◆ Family Stay



Trip Type: Rigorous Tsambagarav Trekking in West Mongolia

**QUICK ITINERARY REFERENCE**

DAY 1: KHOVD AND SANGIIN KHEREM

DAY 2 : NAMARJIN VALLEY

DAY 3: TSAMBAGARAV MOUNTAIN

DAY 4: BELCHIRIIN UUL AND TSAST UUL MOUNTAIN

DAY 5: TSAMBAGARAV WATERFALL

DAY 6: BAYANGOL VALLEY

DAY 7: MARRA VALLEY

DAY 8: ERDENBUREN VILLAGE

DAY 9: HOVD VILLAGE

DAY 10: FLIGHT BACK TO ULAANBAATAR

## MAP OF THE ITINERARY



## **DETAILED TOUR DESCRIPTION**

### **DAY 1: KHOVD AND SANGIIN KHEREM**

Today we will take the plane for **Hovd aimag**. Hovd is distinguished by its multi-cultural population. It is home to more than 17 nationalities and ethnicities. Each of these groups has its own distinct traditional dwelling and settlement pattern, dress and other cultural distinctions, literary, artistic and musical traditions. There is a rather large minority Kazakh-Mongol population that speaks both Kazakh and Mongolian. After 3 hours of flight we will reach the airport of Hovd where our guides and vehicles will be waiting for us. After a short visit of the town centre and **Sangiin Kherem** we will drive to Namarjin Valley.

**Sangiin Kherem** is the Mongolian name for the remains of the Manchu fort in the Northern part of Hovd city, Mongolia. The fort was built in the 18th century, and later became the seat of the Manchu amban and his office. The fort has a quadratic layout; the walls are made of clay. There were gates at the east and west and watch towers at the four corners. The fort's walls were surrounded by water ditches, with wooden bridges to access the gates. The remaining walls are 3 metres high and 1.5 metres thick, oriented at the four corners of the earth, each side was 0.33 km. According to Russian Geographer M. V. Pevtsov, who visited the city in 1878, the height of the walls back then was 4.5 metres [1]. The southern portion of the fort was occupied by the Manchu amban, treasury, offices, and military barracks. The eastern part was occupied by commercial firms, a Chinese Buddhist temple and a mosque. Since the year 1912 when city Hovd was liberated from the Manchu administration and the fort was taken by force, the citadel declined.

(Tented Camp, L, D)

### **DAY 2 : NAMARJIN VALLEY**

We will meet our nomad family from whom we will get the pack animals for our trek. Later today we will load our gears and start our trek in the **Namarjin Valley**. In the Namarjin Valley we will cross many Kazakh families. We will visit Kazakh families in their traditional Ger bigger than Mongolian Gers and brightly decorated with hand-made rugs. We will enjoy a cup of tea, share with our hosts delicious Kazakh dishes such as Kuz “salted and smoked horse meat” Bisbarmak while chatting and deepening our knowledge of rich Kazakh culture and custom.

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

### **DAY 3: TSAMBAGARAV MOUNTAIN**

For a whole day we will trek into the direction of the Tsambagarav Mountain. On the way you will have excellent views of **Tsambagarav Mountain** (4200 meters), one of Mongolia's most glorious snow-capped peaks. Tsambagarav Mountain, Mongolia's 3<sup>rd</sup> highest peak is located in a

national park of more than 110 thousand hectares. The permanently snow-capped Tsambagarav Uul straddles the border between Khovd and Bayan-Olgii aimags. Tsambagarav Mountain is accessible from either side.

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

**DAY 4: BELCHIRIIN UUL AND TSAST UUL MOUNTAIN**

Today we will climb up the Belchiriin Uul and Tsast Uul Mountains. The area has beautiful scenery, rich wildlife and archaeological sites. Below peaks there are plenty glaciers and glacial beautiful turquoise lakes and waterfalls flowing deep gorges. In summer time the grassland in this valley is covered with a carpet of alpine flowers. The park attracts visitors and offers plenty outside activities in its pristine condition: Hiking, horseback riding and camel riding are the best option to explore the area. Tavan Belchiriin Uul peak or Tsast Uul peak are relatively accessible and easier to climb than the Tavan Bogd Mountain.

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

**DAY 5: TSAMBAGARAV WATERFALL**

Between the mountains is a 7m-high waterfall that flows down a narrow gorge. A couple of kilometres to the east of the waterfall is a glacier and small glacial lake. Serious mountaineers can hike up the glacier to the peak. The whole day we will explore the region of lush valleys, dozens of little lakes and permanently snow-capped peaks.

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

**DAY 6: BAYANGOL VALLEY**

From the top we will trek downwards into the **Bayangol Valley**. From the top of this valley we will have great views on the Khar Us Nuur Lake and you might be able to rent a horse for the hour-long ride to the Kazakh-populated Marra valley.

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

**DAY 7: MARRA VALLEY**

We will trek through the **Marra Valley** and meet some Kazakh families on the way. We will be interacting with the family members (Kazakh people tend to have large families) and experiencing their daily life. Kazakh people are known with their warm hospitality so prepare to feel greatly welcome in their home

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

**DAY 8: ERDENBUREN VILLAGE**

Today will be our last trekking day. We will reach **Erdeneburen village** in the evening where our vehicles will be waiting for us.

(Tented Camp, B, L, D)

**DAY 9: HOVD VILLAGE**

Today we will drive back to Hovd town. Enjoy your free afternoon to explore further this little community.

(Hotel B, L, D)

**DAY 10: FLIGHT BACK TO ULAANBAATAR**

Flight back to Ulaanbaatar. We will drive back to Ulaanbaatar, the capital city. Our team will take you directly to your hotel. You may enjoy the free afternoon to catch up all the places you haven't visited yet.

(B, L)

**RESERVATION**

Your trip will be confirmed after a deposit of 35% of the due amount is paid to our bank account. Once the payment is done, we will start organizing your trip and book accommodation.

**INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

- Land transportation
- Domestic flight
- Airpor transfer
- Hotel stay
- Family stay
- Tented camp stay
- Meals 9B, 10L, 9D
- Tour guides
- Camping and kitchen equipment
- National park entrance fees/Museum and Monasteries entrance tickets

**NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

- Hotel in Ulaanbaatar
- City touring
- International transport
- Passport and visa costs
- Medical, trip insurance and evacuation costs
- International airport taxes, excess baggage charges. Local flights are limited to 10 kg
- Alcoholic and soft drinks
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Laundry
- Telephone calls
- Items of personal nature

- Other items not specifically mentioned as included

## **DELAYS**

We are not responsible for any additional charges incurred arising from the delay or extension of a trip due to weather, equipment failure, illness, or other causes beyond our control. No refunds can be made for any unused services or accommodations on the trip.

## **TRANSPORT**

Toyota Land Cruisers series 80, 100, 105 - have 4 passenger seats. Comfortable on our bumpy road, forward facing seats equipped with seat belts and has air condition and plenty space for luggage in trunk and on roof track.

Delica -Japanese 4X4 van. Delicas have 5 passenger seats. Comfortable on our bumpy road, bit slower on off-road than Land Cruisers. Forward facing seats equipped with seat belts and has air condition. Panoramic view windows. Having not much space in trunk, luggage mostly put on roof rack.

Furgon -Russian military van. Furgons have 7 passenger seats. Mostly forward facing seats. It has plenty space. Furgons have no air condition and not equipped with seat belts. If you are in group and looking for adventure on tight budget it might be a good solution. Excellent vehicle on rough off-road condition. However less comfortable than Land Cruisers and Delicas.

## **FOOD**

Traditional Mongolian food based on different type of meat: mutton, beef, goat, horse and camel. As well as we eat dairies and usually heavy meals due to our radical climate of cold long winter and hot dry summer. However nowadays our food culture is becoming more diverse and you can easily find international food in restaurants and buy diverse imported food at supermarkets. We will do our best to accommodate your food requirement. Please let us know in advance if you have any special food requirement.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

In Ulaanbaatar we can book your hotel. We offer accommodation from guesthouse to the most prestigious 5 star hotels with suites.

All hotel we recommend are centrally located and in walking distances from restaurant, shops and museums.

While in the countryside, depending on the trip you choose, you will overnight in Ger Camps, Family Stay and Tented Camp.

Gers from Ger Camp are the traditional felt tents of nomadic herders. Each ger is furnished with a wood stove and beautifully painted furniture

such as beds, a table and stools. Gers are based on double occupancy. Each ger camp has its restaurant, western style toilet and hot water showers. Most visitors find their stay in gers, which provide an authentic taste of Mongolian culture and adventure, their most enjoyable experience in Mongolia.

Family Stay. In summer time many nomads build extra Gers next to theirs and welcome guests. You will have mostly your private Ger. However, facilities stay basic and simple

Tented Camp is a camp build on a nice spot. The travellers will sleep in Western style tents. We will however do our best to offer you the best available service. We pride ourselves on the level of comfort we provide while camping in these remote areas, but camping is not for everyone. It is important to remain open-minded and physically willing.

### **REMARK**

Mongolia is a developing country in terms of infrastructure. The standard of the roads is very low, with no tarmac outside the capital. As a result be prepared for bumpy and dusty rides.

Travelling in a seldom-explored country, with very little infrastructure requires flexibility, tolerance, a spirit of adventure and respect and understanding for cultural differences. The trip itinerary is subject to changes due to weather, trail conditions, government restrictions, or other reasons beyond our control. We will however do every attempt to adhere to the given schedule.

### **PAYMENTS**

Your trip will be confirmed after a non-refundable deposit of 35% of the due amount payable by bank transfer or visa. The rest payment is due to settle once you are in Mongolia before your trip starts.