

Mongolia Horse Trek w/ Naadam Festival Includes Reindeer People (Dukha) August 27-Sept 14 2006

Day 1 (Aug 27): Arrive Ulaanbaatar, capitol of Mongolia. Ulaanbaatar is also known as UB. Meet your guide at the airport or for a late arrival use your taxi voucher to transfer to your hotel. Your hotel is a four-star hotel conveniently located right downtown. Time permitting; you will be given a short city orientation before dinner.

Day 2: Guided sightseeing in Ulaan Baatar. Visit Sukhbaatar Square and Zaisan Memorial. Zaisan Memorial is the prominent landmark of UB, built in the Bogd Khan Mountain is the best place to view the whole city. Visit Museum of National History and Fine Art Museum of Zanabazar. Hotel.

Day 3: Morning sightseeing and shopping, Afternoon flight to Muren, capitol of Khovsgol. Drive to Hatgal at the southern end of Lake Khovsgol. Ger camp. Forest surrounded, and 100 miles long, Lake Khovsgol is the deepest in Central Asia and holds 2% of the world's fresh water resource. Visit the Park Information Center. Ger camp in Hatgal.

Day 4: Travel by boat (4 hours) on Lake Khovsgol to the base of Jigleg Pass located halfway up the western shore of the lake. Local guides will welcome you at Boojum's Jigleg camp. Overnight in tents.

Day 5: Option of hiking, fishing, relaxing and just enjoying the beautiful surroundings of the Jigleg area. This will be the first day of the horseback riding adventure through Darhad valley. Shakedown ride, meet horse and wranglers. Overnight in tents.

Day 6: Ride 30 miles over Jigleg Pass towards the town of Renchinlumbe in the Darhat Valley. Vehicle supported. Enjoy the spectacular scenery of the mountains surrounded by meadows and beautiful wildflowers. Local wranglers take care of the horses. Overnight in tents.

Day 7: Ride to Renchinlumbe in the Darhat Valley. Our personal luggage and the accoutrements of "catered camping" are transported in the support vehicle making for light, fast travel on horseback. During the ride you will visit local herders family to experience the hospitality of the nomads. Overnight at Boojum ger camp.

Day 8: Ride 20 miles through Darhat Valley, toward Hogrog. Overnight in tents.

Day 9: Ride 20 miles. Arrive at Hogrog, jumping off point to visit the Reindeer People. Overnight in tents.

Day 10 - 11: Pack trip into the northern mountains to the summer camp of the Dukha (reindeer people). Ride approximately 15 miles per day, depending on location of Dukha camp. Camp out with packhorse support.

Day 12: Free day at the Boojum Lodge at Shishgid/ Tengis confluence. This is a day of leisure to fish, relax or ride horseback along the Shishgid River.

Day 13-14: Ride to Renchinlumbe. Stay at Boojum ger camp. Have hot showers and rest.

Day 15: All day at Naadam Festival in Renchinlumbe. Mongolia's annual summer celebration with horse races, wrestling and archery also called "Three manly games". Naadam, or "festival", has occurred for centuries in Mongolia as an exhibition of horse racing (racers are generally ages 7-11 and race 15-30 kilometers), wrestling (men only) and archery (women and men). July 11th is the official date of Naadam established by the Mongolian government. Stay overnight in ger camp. Boojum Ger Camp.

Day 16: Drive to southern end of Darhat Valley, visit famous springs. Ger camp..

Day 17: Drive to Muren, evening return flight to Ulaan Baatar. Overnight in hotel.

Day 18: Free day in UB. Hotel.

Day 19: Airport transfer for your return flight home.