

Mongolia Horse Trekking

Explore the Magnificent Bhukhan Valley by Horseback

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

We love talking travel!
Contact us at info@mtsobek.com
or call **800-974-0300**



Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

Unrivaled Expertise

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

Unique Trip Design

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

Small Groups

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.





Leading the Way

World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.





Why take this trip with us?

REASON 1

MT Sobek has traveled deep into the heart of Mongolia for over 30 years, guiding guests through a rugged, expansive landscape.

REASON 2

Our expert team of local guides offer an immersive discovery journey, nurturing genuine encounters with nomadic cultures.

REASON 3

Experience a remote ger camp with local horseman, nomadic neighbors and a thrilling Naadam festival!

At A Glance

ACTIVITIES

Horseback riding (3.5 - 4 hours per day), visits to nomad camps, cultural touring, as well as optional hikes, fishing trips, yoga, archery, and photography classes.



LODGING

Traditional and comfortable ger camps, as well as the first and last night in a modern city hotel.



CLIMATE

Daytime temperatures range from 70-85°F; nighttime temperatures are cooler and can drop to the 40°Fs. Brief, gentle showers can be expected in the summer.



KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

"What a total comfort to know that with MT Sobek, you're in the hands of professionals who have been doing it so long and so well. That was part of why we landed on them as our operators for our dream trip, and everything about the experience they gave us—from tailored expertise to unwavering professionalism—confirmed the company's emphasis on excellence." - Alex M.



Mongolia Horse Trekking

Explore the Magnificent Bhukhan Valley by Horseback

On this extraordinary adventure discover Mongolia's nomadic culture in the company of renowned photographer Thomas Kelly, who has fostered an intimate relationship with Bhukhan Valley nomads over 15 years! Saddle up and travel across vast rolling steppes on horseback, sleep in white-felt gers, take part in an exciting local festival, and join a Buddhist ceremony on a sacred mountaintop. Practice your archery skill, take optional photo classes, and experience an authentic Nadaam festival. This journey takes in Hustai National Park with its wild Przewalski horses and the magnificent Bhukhan Valley.

14 Days

Start: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

End: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Departing: June, July, August

Activities: Cultural Discovery, Horseback Riding

Lodging: Rustic Lodging, Comfortable Hotels

Group Size: 6-16 Guests

ACTIVITY:



“

“I've taken six MT Sobek trips and they have all exceeded my expectations. The staff, the food, the logistics and the communications have always been exceptional. Thank you for being my "go to" adventure travel company!”

- Margaret I.

Check mtsobek.com for date-specific pricing.

The Itinerary

DAY
01

Arrive in Mongolia

Welcome to the energetic Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar! Upon arrival at Chinggis Khaan International Airport, meet an MT Sobek representative and transfer to the hotel. In the late afternoon, gather for an orientation and trip briefing followed by a welcome Mongolian feast at a traditional restaurant.

MEALS: Dinner

DAY
02

See Wild Horses in Hustai National Park

Visit the beautifully restored 19th-century Gandan (Gandantegchinlen) Monastery in Ulaanbaatar. After a ceremonial butter lamp offering, set off for Hustai National Park and settle into your comfortable ger camp with sweeping views. Visit the Neolithic graves of Ongut, take in the Tuul River with its willows and red-footed falcons, and look out for roaming herds of wild Przewalski's horses, locally called *takhi*.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 3-hour private van transfer

DAY
03

Explore Khogno Khan Reserve & Arrive in Karakorum

Today journey west across vast grasslands, stopping for lunch at Eden Camp nestled into the sacred Khogno Khan Mountain. The arid terrain and rocky landscape of this remote, 46,900-hectare nature reserve is almost surreal. Continue on to Karakorum, a 4-hour drive from Hustai. With a little luck, ride a camel in Elsen Tasarkhai sand dune, also known as "Little Gobi." In the late afternoon, arrive in Karakorum, once the legendary capital of the Mongolian Empire, established by Genghis Khan and his son in the 13th century.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 4-hour private van transfer

DAY
04

Visit Erdene Zuu Khiid Monastery & Arrive in the Bhukhan Valley

Today explore Karakorum, once a vibrant place that served as the political, cultural and economic capital of Mongolia for 400 years. Little of the original Karakorum remains, except Erdene Zuu Khiid, a Tibetan-style monastery built in 1586. Wander around the monastery grounds and, schedule permitting, meet with Khambo Lama to learn about the concept of Hiimur (windhorse). After lunch at a local restaurant, continue on to Tsetserleg, "the Garden City," ringed by stone mountains. Stop here for tea and move on to Lapis Sky Camp in the Bhukhan Valley.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

TRANSPORTATION: 5-hour private van transfer

DAY 05

Do Yoga, Take a Photography Class & Go Horseback Riding

Today choose to join an (optional) yoga session or join a photography class by professional photographer, Thomas Kelly with a visit to a nearby nomad camp. Witness nomad neighbors milk yaks and horse mares, brush up on your horseback riding skills, and head out for a warm-up ride in the spectacular Bhukhan Valley. This evening, enjoy dinner and wonderful storytelling by local nomads.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: Yoga session, photography class, 3.5-4 hours horseback riding

DAY 06

Explore Bhukhan Valley

Today you have another opportunity to take an (optional) yoga session, and then join professional photographer Thomas Kelly for a photo walk, to heighten your photographic skills and capture images of the dazzling countryside and nomadic way of life. Go fishing for grayling and lenok trout or practice your aim with a bow and arrow. In the afternoon, mount a horse and pay a visit to nomads camped nearby, to spend time in their gers and learn about their everyday life. In the evening, gather for a feast of traditional Mongolian barbecue.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: Yoga session, photography class, fly-fishing, archery

DAY 07

Trek to Vulture Mountain on Horseback

This morning head out for a birdwatching walk, a fishing activity, or a yoga session - choose what suits you. After lunch at the camp, saddle up and set out on a horseback riding adventure across the sweeping steppes. Ride for 3 hours to Vulture Mountain and camp in a lovely meadow setting.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: 3.5-4 hours horseback riding

DAY 08

Journey to Mandal Mountain by Horseback

Today set out on horseback for an invigorating 5-hour ride over majestic mountain passes, along the way circling Buddhist ovoos, ceremonial cairns set in high places. In the afternoon, camp at the base of Mandal Mountain, a sacred ancestral place for Mongolians.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: 3.5-4 hours horseback riding



Attend a Buddhist Ceremony atop Mandal Mountain

This morning set out for a silent walk up to Mandal Mountain and attend a Buddhist ceremony at a sacred oooo at the mountaintop. Spend the rest of the day exploring Bhukhan Valley - head out for a walk, go fishing, or take an optional horseback ride to a nearby nomad settlement. In the evening, enjoy a feast of traditional Mongolian barbecue and singing around a bonfire.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: 3.5-4 hours horseback riding (optional) or 1.5 – 2 hour RT hike/600' elevation gain/loss (optional)



Return on horseback to Lapis Sky Camp

Today ride back across the steppe to Bhukhan Valley ; alternatively, return by jeep. Settle into your ger at Lapis Sky Camp and enjoy free time to unwind before gathering for a shaman performance, followed by a hearty dinner in the camp's dining ger.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: 3.5-4 hours horseback riding



Experience a Local Naadam Festival

Today take part in an exciting local Naadam festival. Naadam (short for Eriyn Gurvan Naadam) means "Three Manly Games" — bareback horse racing, wrestling, and archery. These festivals take place every summer, and young men train all year to compete. Watch the races, mingle with locals, meet the winners, take photos, and sample delicious local food.

MEALS: Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: Cultural festival



Enjoy a Day of Leisure at Lapis Sky Camp

Today enjoy a day of leisure to soak up the serene surroundings of Lapis Sky Camp. Choose among several activities. Set out on horseback to visit the nomads' winter camp, head out for a hike, go on a fishing expedition to the Tamir River, practice yoga or archery, or just relax at the camp. This evening, listen to a traditional *morinkhuur*, a horse-head fiddle concert, as you sit around the camp's bonfire and bid farewell to the nomad horsemen and your hosts.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

ACTIVITY: Horseback riding, fishing, hiking, yoga, archery (all optional)



Journey back to Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast, journey back to Ulaanbaatar by bus, while enjoying a movie about the history of the Mongol Empire. Stop along the way for lunch at Altan Tul. This evening, enjoy a farewell dinner with the group at Namaste restaurant.

MEALS: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

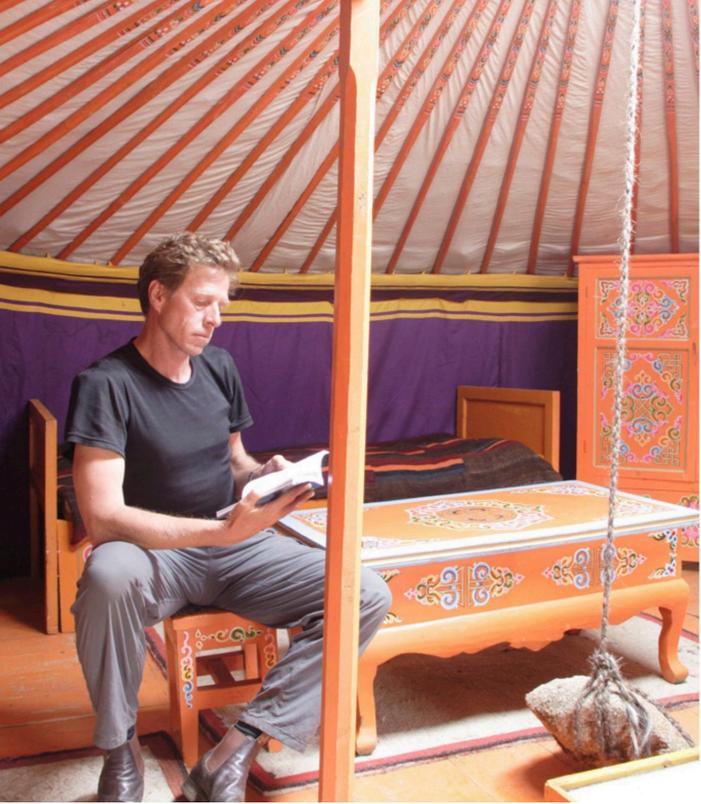
TRANSPORTATION: 9-hour private van transfer



Depart from Ulaanbaatar

Bid farewell to Mongolia and transfer to the airport for your homeward-bound or onward flight.

MEALS: Breakfast



Where You'll Stay

These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.

Best Western Premier Tuushin Hotel

Right at the heart of Ulaanbaatar, this five-star hotel is a stone's throw away from the city's landmark attractions and sights. Contemporary rooms and suites showcase spectacular views of the city skyline, and on-site facilities are extensive — including three restaurants, a 25th-floor lounge bar, and a spa with two saunas, a Jacuzzi, and massage treatments with bamboo and hot stones.

Gachuurt Reserve Park Ger Camp

This ger camp occupies a beautiful location in Hustai National Park. Enjoy sweeping views of the rolling grassland, roaming Takhi horses, and historical Ongut statues. The gers are clean, warm, and comfortable, and the camp's architecture is authentically Mongolian. Guests can enjoy supreme views and feel part of the natural environment.

Urguu Gher Camp

Located 4 miles from Karakorum, this unique camp is noted for its spacious gers, warm hospitality, and hot showers. It has the biggest restaurant on a campsite in the entire country, which makes for a fun mealtime experience. Other onsite amenities include a special Mongolian movie viewing room, and space to play the country's popular ankle bone game. You can also see nomads herding animals from your ger!



Where You'll Stay

These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.

Lapis Sky Camp

A rustic eco-camp in Mongolia's spectacular Bunkhan Valley, also known as the "Valley of the Ancestors," Lapis Sky Camp has a majestic setting near the Tamir River, with remarkable views of mountains. At this family-style wilderness camp, staff comes from the local nomadic community, meals are homemade and served in the dining tent, and each ger comes with its own wood-burning stove.

MT Sobek Camp - Mongolia

Enjoy one of our most unique wilderness camping experiences in a truly remote setting. Two guests will share spacious three person tents, which come with thick sleeping pads and blankets to ensure a level of coziness and comfort in this wild environment. The camp is also conveniently equipped with a dining tent and three bathroom tents.

Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: June, July, August

What's Included

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses



MT SOBEK™

The Adventure Company | Est. 1969

YOUR ADVENTURE AWAITS.

70 Countries | 150+ Destinations | Infinite Possibilities

Call **800.974.0300** or visit **mtsobek.com**
AND BOOK TODAY!

