# The Gobi Desert

**Destination:** South Gobi

Hot spots: Flamming Cliffs, Khongoryn sand dunes and Yol Valley

**Lengths:** 3 nights/4days **Adventure level:** Moderate **Total driving km:** 650 km

Vehicle type: drive-fly, 4 wheel driving Japanese jeep

**Season:** May 15 – September 15



Two humped Bacterian Camel known as "Ship of the Desert" is the most useful and appropriate animal to ride and transportation. This fascinating animal has developed unique qualities in order to survive in the desert. Bacterian Camels are herbivorous, ruminant animals that consume tender leaves. They thrive well on the salty scrub of the wild desert and well known for its survival ability without drinking water for long period. Camels are friendly animals and despite moving

at slow pace camel can travel as long as 29 miles a day. This beautiful animal has thick, warm, long and shaggy coats in winter and is equipped for very extreme temperatures. They can withstand cold down to 40 degrees below zero. In summer they shed and can take heat up to 45 Celsius degree. Desert Mongols depend heavily on camel for food too, as there is hardly any vegetation in the desert. Camel milk has a high nutritive value and is wholesome food. Known as "Desert Vitamin" this has a relative advantage over cow's milk as the cholesterol content is 40 per cent less than the latter.

**Park.** In the early morning, our guide and driver will pick you up from your hotel and we take our flight to the famous Gobi Desert. Once we land, we drive to the majestic Gobi Gurvan Saikhan National Park where we will enjoy incredible "Yol Valley". The valley is the unusual narrow canyon of a river that flows through the Zuun Saikhan Mountain. The sheer rock walls stand 200m and the canyon has stunning green meadows with thick glacier layer that is deeply set



between the walls. During the summer rainfall water runs from the top of the walls forming waterfalls. We can trek along the canyon and may have an opportunity to glimpse rarely found wild sheep Argali, mountain goat Ibex and Yol Lammergeier. In the afternoon we drive to Khavtsgait valley famous for its ancient rock drawings left by early Gobi settlers. Capture the striking petroglyphs in their best light. Return to ger camp for overnight.

**Day 2. Khongoriin Els Sand Dunes.** We will drive to the Khongor els sand dunes. In the afternoon we will see marvelous Khongoriin Els dunes that stretch for an extraordinary 180 kms as wide as 7-20km. The dunes lie on the northern part of beautifully formed mountain range Servei and Zuulun. The sound of masses of wind-blown sand can be heard from the long distance. This sound is so melodic so 200m high sand dunes called as "Singing Dunes". There is an oasis called Khongor river with stunning greenery in the summer. We will have an opportunity to ride two humped Bacterian camel named by locals "Prince of Gobi" and see camel breeder's every day life. Overnight at the ger camp.



Day 3. Bayanzag/Flamming Cliffs. A relaxed breakfast at the camp and start surfing to the Bayanzag known as a Flamming Cliffs to the world. Through the journey we see arid steppe landscape with many camel herds and herding families. In the afternoon we arrive in the ancient red rock creation, Bayanzag formed 60-70 million years ago, famous as

Flamming Cliifs named by Roy Andrew Chapman, an American explorer who visited Mongolia in 1920s. The striking red Bayanzag cliffs have dinosaur fossils, eggs and bones all over the place and neighbored by bushy Saxual tree forests. We do optional trekking around surrounding areas or riding camels. Overnight in the ger camp.

**Day 4. Ulaanbaatar.** We catch an early morning flight back to Ulaanbaatar.

## Package price per person in USD:

1 pax	2 pax	3-5 pax	6-9 pax
\$1994	\$1330	\$1111	\$993

### The package includes:

- 3 meals a day during the trip
- English speaking guide
- Transportation
- Accommodation at Mongolian ger camps
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Entrance fees to museum and National Park

### **Upgrade:**

Deluxe ger with private bath and shower- \$55 per person per night in twin sharing ger

#### Single supplement:

Single standard ger - \$30 per ger per night Single deluxe ger - \$55 per ger per night

### Supplement for other languages:

- German speaking guide- \$25 per day
- French speaking guide \$50 per day