

MONGOLIA

The Gobi & Three Camel Lodge

Three Days / Two Nights





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Three Camel Lodge & The Gobi: Three Days/Two Nights

With half a million square miles of sand dunes and endless blue sky, the Gobi Desert defines Southern Mongolia. Nestled in the heart of the Omnogobi Aimag (South Gobi Province), the southernmost province bordering northern China, Three Camel Lodge is a serene haven from the hectic modern day. It is nestled in the crossroads of the Gobi's diverse desert eco-systems and serves as a habitat for animals such as shaggy two-humped Bactrian camels, Gobi bears, ibex, and gazelle.

After careful consideration for the preservation of the region's environment, culture, and people, Three Camel Lodge was opened in 2002. It was, and remains, the only luxury eco-lodge in Mongolia's Gobi Desert. Built by and staffed by locals, Three Camel Lodge isn't just a place to stay; it's a state of mind. This unique outcropping of gers, or traditional felt and canvas tents used by Mongolian nomads, rests in the heart of the starkly beautiful Gobi Desert. In addition to over 40 gers, Three Camel Lodge's main lodge was modeled after traditional Buddhist temples, adhering to strict Mongolian Buddhist canons of "soum style." The Lodge is tucked beside a rock outcrop bearing ancient petroglyphs, but it is the vast expanse of desert and the nighttime sky filled with a million twinkling stars that will leave a lasting imprint on your heart.

Three Camel Lodge is a founding member of National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World.

RECOMMENDED FOR:

Time-starved travelers who seek to discover the beauty of The Gobi while staying in an elevated take on the traditional nomadic lifestyle.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Discover the majesty of The Gobi
- Hike Yol Valley National Park
- See ancient petroglyphs
- Ride Bactrian camels through the sands of Moltsoq Els
- Hunt for dinosaur fossils in the Flaming Cliffs

ACCOMMODATIONS:

2 nights at the award-winning Three Camel Lodge, a National Geographic Unique Lodge of the World.

endemic reptiles. The Gobi is also home to some of the Northern Hemisphere's most rare and elusive mammals, such as the dhole, snow leopard, and Gobi bear, known in Mongolian as Mazaalai.

Upon arrival drive to Yol Valley National Park (1 hour), cradled in the foothills of the Altai Mountains. An ancient river carved this surprisingly green valley, and its remnant streams create ice formations at the base of the valley that sometimes persist as late as July. A hike through the valley leads to the habitat of indigenous vulture-like Lammergeiers, Altai snowcocks, ibex, yaks, and Argali mountain sheep.

Next, drive to the Three Camel Lodge (2 hours), an eco-lodge located near the Gurvansaikhan Gobi National Park.

In the evening, if time permits, drive to the Havtsgait Valley, site of ancient rock drawings left by early Gobi settlers for more than 15,000-40,000 years ago. Hundreds of petroglyphs adorn rocks are scattered on top of the mountain.

(Three Camel Lodge, L, D)

Day 2

MOLTSOG ELS / FLAMING CLIFFS

In the morning, drive to Moltsoq Els (1 hour), one of the few regions of the Gobi covered by sand dunes. This would also be your opportunity to ride a Bactrian camel and also to visit a local camel herding family.

Return to the lodge for lunch.

In the afternoon drive to Bayan Zag (1 hour), commonly known as the Flaming Cliffs for the orange glow of its rock at dawn and dusk. It was here in 1923 that Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews and his exploration team from the American Museum of Natural History found the first nest of dinosaur eggs. Although not obvious to the untrained eye, the Flaming Cliffs are rich with dinosaur fossils and have been the site of important paleontological discoveries.

Enjoy dinner at the lodge.

(Three Camel Lodge; B, L, D)

Day 1

FLY TO GOBI / YOL VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

Fly from Ulaanbaatar to Dalanzadgad airport in the Gobi desert (1 1/2 hours). All of the world's arid lands, the Gobi has the greatest air of mystery, perhaps because it lies at the heart of Asia's remotest hinterland between the Siberian wilderness to the north and the Tibetan Plateau to the south. Contrary to the sameness that the word 'desert' suggests, the Gobi is a diverse and fascinating region, and includes sites of some of the most important paleontological discoveries of the 20th century. For the next three days, explore the stunning landscapes of the Gobi, habitat for Bactrian camels, Argali mountain sheep, goitered gazelle, Golden Eagles, Saker Falcons, jerboas (similar to kangaroo rats), and many

Day 3

FLY TO ULAANBAATAR

After an early morning breakfast, transfer to the airport for a flight to Ulaanbaatar.



LAND PRICE FOR 2018

Between July 5 - 20:

1 Traveler: \$4,135
2-3 Travelers: \$2,410 per person, double occupancy
4 Travelers: \$2,185 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: \$545

During June, July & August:

1 Traveler: \$3,835
2-3 Travelers: \$2,260 per person, double occupancy
4 Travelers: \$1,975 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: \$435

During May, September, October:

1 Traveler: \$3,725
2-3 Travelers: \$2,205 per person, double occupancy
4 Travelers: \$1,920 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: \$395

Internal Airfare:

\$300 (subject to change)

LAND PRICE FOR 2019

Between July 5 - 20:

1 Traveler: \$4,705
2-3 Travelers: \$2,750 per person, double occupancy
4 Travelers: \$2,535 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: \$445

During June, July & August:

1 Traveler: \$4,020
2-3 Travelers: \$2,480 per person, double occupancy
4 Travelers: \$2,185 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: \$350

During May, September, October:

1 Traveler: \$3,910
2-3 Travelers: \$2,420 per person, double occupancy
4 Travelers: \$2,125 per person, double occupancy
Single Supplement: \$315

Internal Airfare:

\$300 (subject to change)

LAND PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodations as listed above, based on double occupancy
- Ground transportation in Mongolia as described in the itinerary
- Transfers on arrival and departure
- Meals as noted in itinerary
- Horse and camel riding as noted in the itinerary
- All excursions, entrance fees, and visits as described in itinerary
- Extensive pre-departure Travel Guide, reading list, important information about your trip, map and luggage tags
- English speaking Nomadic Expeditions guide throughout your stay

LAND PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- International and internal airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Comprehensive medical and trip insurance
- Airport taxes
- Excess baggage charges
- Gratuities to guides and drivers
- Photography and video fees
- Food and beverages not included in the group meals
- Alcoholic beverages, laundry and telephone calls

