

INNER MONGOLIA



Trip Overview

Wrapped up with verdant grasslands in the east and arid deserts in the west, Inner Mongolia is a stirring land of myths, legends, thundering horses and a great conqueror-emperor that needs no introduction – Genghis Khan. Though annexed by China in the 17th century onwards from the independent republic of Mongolia, Inner Mongolia is the only place in the world where the Mongol script is still prevalently displayed in everyday life. The region's main draw is, undoubtedly, its mystique, in both the realms of its seemingly impenetrable landscape and the enigmatic Mongols which are every bit like the images of our popular imagination – nomadic, free-spirited, galloping and without fear. Dive straight into the land of the Mongols with a customised Inner Mongolia tour package from Chan Brothers Travel Private Tours and unravel this sprawling land shrouded behind the legend of possibly one of the greatest warriors the world has ever seen.

Geology all stars

Granite stone forests, volcanic landforms, glacial vestiges, therapeutic thermal springs and desert sand dunes, Hexigten Global Geopark is like an all-star team with the best players of nature's wonders. Spanning a total area of around 800 square kilometres, the national park is an excellent site offering varied highlights at every turn of the head, perfect for those who are greedy with their eyes. It is not just big on the physical, the area possesses a glorious heritage of Mongolian customs and culture as generations of Mongols were born and raised on this bountiful grassland. Interact with the hospitable locals in their yurts where you get to try their specialty milk tea and indulge in a great meal of hand-torn meat together – gregarious, suave and without reservations.

The Mongol games

Huitengxile Grassland is the classic Mongolian scene of remote landscape, mushrooming yurts, rolling plains and flocks sauntering around languidly under the blue boundless sky. Featuring a sea of flowers, countless lakes and Heishan Mountain with its grotesquely-shaped rock formations, the vistas offer plenty of opportunities to whip out the camera. While you take a break from the splendour of your surroundings, get into game mode and try out different traditional Mongolian activities such as horse and camel riding, archery, rodeo competitions or break into your best dance moves with the locals. Oh, and how about going for a unconventional workout with a round of Mongolian wrestling? One of the best times to visit the grassland and participate in all of these activities and more is during the Mongolian Naadam Festival, held for a few days normally during mid July each year, when the whole area erupts into a colourful parade of celebration and festivities.

Singing desert

Xiangshanwan, apart from the sprawl of endless sandy deserts, contains a bizarre but intriguing phenomenon. Known as "sounding sand desert", it produces haunting melodies of echoes when you walk across the sand. Depending on your imprints and contact with the sand, literally, some travellers even reported hearing a rousing engine-like sound while indulging in a fun round of sand surfing. Other than playing rockstar with this natural musical instrument as your band, hopping on a camel and wandering through its golden grounds is a classic highlight not to be missed as well.



EQUATOR
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Trip duration: 8D7N RECOMMENDED

Day 1 Itinerary (Depart for Beijing China)

We'll plan the best flight from whenever you are to Beijing. Thereafter, proceed to Chengde, a city in the Hubei province. Thereafter, proceed to your hotel for a good night's rest.

Day 2 Itinerary (Chengde to Daoxugu to Chifeng)

After breakfast, embark on your journey to Daoxugu. Upon arrival, visit Black River Nature Reserve, where you can see a variety of wild animals and plants. Next, head to other scenic spots in Daoxugu, consisting of a lush jungle, clear rivers, waterfalls and an array of jagged rocks. Thereafter, transfer to Chifeng for your overnight stay.

Day 3 Itinerary (Chifeng to Wulanbutong Grasslands)

Today, we shall explore Wulanbuton Grasslands. This scenic destination used to be the royal hunting ranch of former Qing emperors. Now, it is a popular site for filming. It is also where famed Chinese movies and dramas such as "Legend of Min Yue", "Dynasty Woman Yang Gui Fei", "Wolf Totem" and "Romance of the Three Kingdoms" were filmed.

Day 4 Itinerary (Wulanbutong to Xilamulan Valley to Hot Water Town)

Begin your day by heading out to catch glimpses of panoramic views of the sunrise. Next, transfer to Xilanmulan Valley, hailed as one of the must-see attractions in Inner Mongolia. In Mongolian language, Xilamuren refers to "yellow water" and some locals have also named it as "Zhao River". Thereafter, head to Hot Water Town, also known as Hot Spring Town. Note Please bring along your swimsuit and swim cap for the hot springs.

Day 5 Itinerary (Hot Water Town to Daxingan Mountains and return)

Today, we will venture to Huanggang Liang, the highest peak of Daxingan Mountains, situated at 2029 metres above sea level. Next, explore Asihatu Stone Forest, which encompasses many unique and spectacular rocks and stones. Thereafter, return to Hot Water Town.

Day 6 Itinerary (Hot Water Town to Lake Dalinor to Chifeng)

This morning, visit Dada Line. Next, head to Lake Dalinor, the 2nd-largest inland lake in Inner Mongolia and an important aisle for migrating birds. Thereafter, transfer back to Chifeng and check in to your hotel for your overnight stay.

Day 6 Itinerary (Chifeng to Gubei Water Town to Beijing)

This morning, visit Gubei Water Town, also known as Wuzhen of the north. With a thousand-year history, it possesses an old-fashioned simplicity together with stunning elegance. Then transfer to Beijing.

Day 7 Itinerary (Beijing to home)

After breakfast, spend some time at leisure before you transfer to the airport for your flight home. You may also extend your stay in Beijing to do more shopping or tour.