

# Mount Kharkhiraa Trek

Western Mongolia 23rd July - 4th August 2012

Uvs province in the far north west of Mongolia is a spectacular region of permanently snow-capped mountains, glaciers, torrential rivers, salt-water and freshwater lakes, sand dunes and a fantastic variety of animals and plants. The local people use camels as well as horses as working animals, and we will be accompanied by local guides on horseback with their camels which carry all the luggage and equipment.

Our 8-day trek to Mount Kharkhiraa and Mount Turgen covers a distance of approximately 120km and includes two high passes at altitudes of 2930 metres and 2944 metres. A moderate level of fitness is required, but the hike is not too strenuous even at the higher levels. The weather is unpredictable in the mountains and we have to be prepared for everything, including snow, even though it is summer.



Mount Kharkhiraa at the base of the pass

**Trek Grading:** Moderate

**Accommodation:**

3 nights hotel in UB  
1 night hotel in Uvs  
8 nights camping

**Group size:** The tour will run with a minimum of 4 people.

**Price per person:** €2695

**Single hotel supplement:** € 100

**Price includes:** Accommodation, meals on trek, internal flights, transfers, local guides and pack camels, interpreter.

**Not included:** International flights, visa costs, lunch and dinner when in UB and Ulaangom.



**Day 1** Arrive Ulaanbaatar.

**Day 2** Take the 3 hour flight to Ulaangom in Uvs. Travel by jeep to the road head and meet the trek crew. Hike up to pass.

**Day 3** Trek down to the Blue Lake, around its shoreline and over four low passes.

**Day 4** Trek along the valley of the Kharkhiraa river to reach the camp opposite a dramatic wall of red cliffs.

**Day 5** Hike up to Kharkhiraa

pass and set up camp in a dramatic valley surrounded by snow covered mountains.

**Day 6** Climb Kharkhiraa pass and across a plateau surrounded by glaciers. Walk by a beautiful lake below Deglee Tsagaan mountain then to Turgen National Park.

**Day 7** Hike up to Yamaatiin Pass, highest point of the trek. Walk down a dramatic steep path into the valley below.

**Day 8** Continue trekking down Yamaatiin valley.

**Day 9** Trek to Khotgor, a small Kazakh village. Meet our driver and travel by jeep to Ulaangom.

**Day 10** Jeep to Ulaangom town over Ulaan Davaa pass. Enjoy the shops and busy market. Overnight local hotel.

**Day 11** Fly back to Ulaanbaatar. Afternoon at leisure.

**Day 12** Free day in Ulaanbaatar to enjoy the museums, art galleries, temples and museums.

**Day 13** Depart.

## Trip Highlights

- » **Stone men** sculptures dating back to the 7th century, marking ancient graves.
- » **Blue Lake** below Uliastai pass is like a sparkling jewel nestling in the emerald mountains
- » **Kazakh** traditional hospitality in Khotgor village.

