



MONGOLIA  
In the Footsteps of  
Roy Chapman Andrews  
August 2007

## DISCOVERY TOURS

Dear Museum Traveler,

In 1921, the American Museum of Natural History launched a series of expeditions to Mongolia's Gobi Desert. These expeditions were led by Roy Chapman Andrews, an explorer of almost mythical proportions whose legacy includes some of the most exciting paleontological finds of the century.

Andrews led five Central Asiatic Expeditions to the remote Gobi, where the Museum team unearthed a treasure trove of fossils including the first known dinosaur eggs and the first skeleton of a Velociraptor. As these discoveries made headlines around the world, Andrews became an instant celebrity who captivated adventure-hungry Americans with tales of battling armed bandits, sandstorms, and snakes.

In 1990, breaking the decades-long ban on Western scientists that forced Andrews to leave Mongolia in 1929, the Mongolian Academy of Sciences invited paleontologists from the American Museum of Natural History on a series of joint expeditions to the Gobi. Now approaching their thirteenth summer season in the Gobi, this remarkable team of fossil hunters led by Dr. Michael Novacek, Senior Vice President and Provost for Science at the Museum, continue to uncover some of the most spectacular fossil finds in the world.

In the company of Museum anthropologist Laila Williamson, we invite you to join us as we retrace the steps of Roy Chapman Andrews and modern-day Museum scientists for an in-depth look at this vast and beautiful nation. Largely inaccessible to the Western world, Mongolia offers a rare glimpse of an ancient land and culture that has changed little over the centuries. We learn about Mongolia's fascinating history, while exploring its many natural and cultural wonders, including groundbreaking paleontological and archaeological discoveries. We also hope to meet with Museum scientists, Dr. Michael Novacek and Dr. Mark Norell, at the legendary Flaming Cliffs.

Mongolia's breathtakingly beautiful landscapes, and fascinating history and culture make it an ideal destination for those seeking an uncommon experience. I hope you will join us on this adventurous expedition to one of the most remarkable regions on earth.

Warm regards,



Alicia V. Stevens  
Director, Discovery Tours  
American Museum of Natural History



### What To Expect...

In order to reap the full rewards of exploring Mongolia, visitors should travel with a spirit of adventure and flexibility. Mongolia's infrastructure is developing and delays or changes in the itinerary are likely. Accommodations are comfortable and clean and include first-class hotels in the capital and, in the more remote areas, traditional nomadic gers—dome-shaped tents constructed of latticed walls, covered by felt and canvas. Ger camps offer an authentic experience of Mongolian culture and provide the unique opportunity to visit areas that otherwise lack tourist accommodations. Meals are hearty, meat-based, and simple. Land transportation is by bus and jeep; roads are most often unpaved and can be very dusty and bumpy. Air travel includes the use of Russian military helicopters. Temperatures can range widely between 50 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit, depending on the area of the country and the time of day. Altitudes range from 4,000 to 6,500 feet. To best enjoy the incredible experiences that Mongolia offers, trip members should be in good physical condition.





*R.C. Andrews with dinosaur egg discovery.*

## Itinerary

Friday, Day 1

New York City

Our program begins in New York City with a welcome dinner in the Museum's newly renovated dinosaur halls, following which we enjoy a private lecture by Charles Gallenkamp, author of the critically acclaimed Andrews biography, *Dragon Hunter*. Plaza Hotel (D)

Saturday – Sunday, Day 2 – 3

New York/Narita, Japan/Beijing, China

We fly from New York to Narita, Japan, and connect with our flight to Beijing, China.

Arriving in Beijing, we transfer to our hotel.

Great Wall Sheraton (Meals aloft)

Monday, Day 4

Beijing/Ulaanbaatar

After breakfast we transfer to the airport for our flight to Mongolia. Arriving in Ulaanbaatar, we transfer to our hotel. This evening we enjoy a welcome dinner and cocktails. Chinggis Khaan Hotel (B, Meals aloft, D)

Tuesday, Day 5

Ulaanbaatar/Hustain Nuruu

After breakfast we observe the daily rituals of practicing lamas at Gandan Monastery, the seat of Buddhism in Mongolia, and visit the reconstruction and renovation projects including the Chenrezi and Kalachakra Temples. At the newly remodeled National History Museum, we view a collection of traditional implements of daily nomadic life including historical costumes of Mongolia's minority tribes, sacred religious relics, and agricultural, fishing, and hunting equipment. We are invited to the Mongolian Academy of Sciences for an exclusive behind-the-scenes viewing of the paleontological laboratory's latest fossil discoveries. Afterward, we drive to Hustain Nuruu National Reserve, where the wild Asian horse, also known as Przewalski's horse, roams freely in 222,000 acres of mountainous steppe. Tonight we overnight in



*Transportation used by the Central Asiatic Expedition.*

gers, the traditional felt tents of nomadic herders. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Wednesday, Day 6

Hustain Nuruu/Ulaanbaatar

This morning, during a lecture at the Reserve's visitors center, we learn about the history and current conservation efforts of the Foundation for the Preservation and Protection of Przewalski's horse. We return to Ulaanbaatar and tour Bogd Gegen Palace, the home of Mongolia's last theocrat. In the evening we attend a private reception at the Zanabazar Fine Arts Museum. Named in honor of Zanabazar, the first Buddhist leader of Mongolia and renowned sculptor, artist and politician, the museum contains one of the best collections of Buddhist art and artifacts in the world. Chinggis Khaan Hotel (B, L, D)

Thursday, Days 7

Ulaanbaatar/Lake Hovsgol

Today we fly by private helicopter to the beautiful and mystical Lake Hovsgol with a botanist from the Mongolian National University who accompanies us during our time at Lake Hovsgol. Approximately 78 miles long and 19 miles wide, the lake is fed by mountain tributaries that extend to Lake Baikal in neighboring Siberia. This afternoon we visit one of the nomadic families that live along the lakeshore. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Friday - Saturday, Days 8 & 9

Lake Hovsgol

Untouched by industry and development, the crystal-clear Lake Hovsgol is situated amid the most pristine forests, mountains, and meadows in the world. Bird life and wildflowers abound and we have ample time to explore the area. During the next two days, we visit local nomads' dwellings, try Mongolian-style horseback riding, and fish for Siberian grayling and lenok. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Sunday, Day 10

Lake Hovsgol/Ulaanbaatar

Late this morning we return by private helicopter to Ulaanbaatar. Our afternoon is at leisure until tonight's dinner at a large ger, reminiscent of one owned by Chingis Khan. Chinggis Khaan Hotel (B, L, D)

Monday, Day 11

Amarbayasgalant Hiid/Kharakhorum

This morning our private helicopter brings us to the seventeenth-century Amarbayasgalant Monastery, one of the few surviving examples of traditional Mongolian architecture. Partially destroyed during the Communist purges of the 1930s, the renovation of the main temple was completed four years ago. Later, we fly to Kharakhorum, the capital of Chinghis Khan's Mongol Empire. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Tuesday, Day 12

Erdene Zuu Monastery / Ulaanbaatar

Surrounded by 108 stupas, Erdene Zuu Monastery has been a place of Buddhist activity for more than 1,000 years and is reputedly constructed from the ruins of Kharakhorum. Early

this morning we visit the Monastery to observe the monk's morning prayers and rituals. This afternoon we return to Ulaanbaatar by helicopter. Chinggis Khaan Hotel (B, L, D)

Wednesday, Day 13

Ulaanbaatar/Yol Valley National Park  
After breakfast we fly by private helicopter to the Gobi base camp with a geologist/paleontologist from the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, who accompanies us for the Gobi portion of this trip. We continue by land to Yol Valley National Park, cradled in a green valley of the Gobi-Altai Mountains. During a hike through the valley we watch for lammergeiers, ibex, yaks, and Argali mountain sheep. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Thursday, Day 14

Flaming Cliffs  
Today, through a very special arrangement, we hope to be joined by Dr. Michael Novacek and Dr. Mark Norell, the senior leaders of the Museum's paleontological team, who continue with us to Bayan Zag, the Flaming Cliffs. To the trained eye, the red sandstone of the



Flaming Cliffs is rich with dinosaur fossils. In 1922 Roy Chapman Andrews and the AMNH Expedition team discovered one of the most incredible paleontological finds in history--a nest of dinosaur eggs—and today paleontological expeditions continue to make significant discoveries at this site. This afternoon we explore the region surrounding these magnificent cliffs by camel. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Friday, Day 15

Tugrigin Shiree  
Today we discover the diversity of the Gobi's landscapes as we drive to Tugrigin Shiree, the site of the famous Fighting Dinosaurs fossil. Embedded within the white escarpment, this

amazing fossil was uncovered by paleontologists from a joint Polish-Mongolian expedition and is the only fossil that shows an interaction between dinosaurs. After a picnic lunch we visit Bulgan, a local settlement established near a natural spring. We return to the camp for dinner and a performance featuring Mongolian hoomi (throat) singers. Ger Camp (B, L, D)

Saturday, Day 16

Gobi/Ulaanbaatar  
After a flight to Ulaanbaatar, we visit a cashmere factory and shop. The remainder of the day is then at leisure. Tonight we enjoy a performance featuring traditional Mongolian dancers. Chinggis Khaan Hotel (B, L, D)

Sunday, Day 17

Bogdkhan Mountain Reserve  
Originally built in 1749, Mandshir Monastery is located on the south side of Bogd Khan Mountain, a picturesque site of pine-scented valleys and cliffs. Destroyed by the communists in the 1930s, the main temple has since been rebuilt. A visit to the local museum provides an overview of the region's natural history and a rendition of what the monastery looked like before it was destroyed. After lunch we visit a nomadic family for a display of Mongolian horseriding skills. Tonight we celebrate our journey during a festive farewell dinner. Chinggis Khaan Hotel (B, L, D)

Monday, Day 18

Ulaanbaatar/Beijing  
We fly from Ulaanbaatar to Beijing, China. Arriving in Beijing, we transfer to our hotel. Great Wall Sheraton (B, Meals aloft)

Tuesday, Day 19

Beijing/New York  
This morning we transfer to the airport for our flight to Narita, where we connect with our flight to JFK. (B, meals aloft)



Trip Rates:

Land Only .....\$7,990 per person (double occupancy)  
 Land/Air Package.....\$10,320 per person(double occupancy)  
 Single Supplement ..... \$900 per person (*single gers cannot be guaranteed*)

Trip Rates for Land/Air Include:

- Round-trip coach airfare from New York
- Accommodations in twin-bedded hotel rooms and gers as indicated in itinerary
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner as indicated in the itinerary
- Comprehensive educational program including lectures and discussions by American Museum of Natural History study leaders, professional on-site guides, and local experts
- All land transportation and flights within Mongolia
- All excursions and entrance fees
- Complete packet of pre-departure materials including suggested reading list, periodicals, books, map, luggage tags, and flight bags

- Airport and hotel taxes, baggage handling whenever possible, and group transfers, gratuities to porters, escorts, drivers, and local guides
- Medical insurance coverage up to \$2,500 and emergency evacuation insurance up to \$50,000 for U.S. and foreign residents traveling outside own country.

Rates Do Not Include:

- Medical immunizations • Passport and visa fees • Baggage/cancellation insurance • Excess baggage charges • Meals not specified as included • Video and photography fees • Alcoholic beverages and soft drinks • Laundry, telephone calls and faxes, room service, and other items of a personal nature.

Note: Air schedule and itinerary are subject to change. Prices based on 30 participants.

### Reservation Form

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_place(s) on the American Museum of Natural History's ***Mongolia: In the Footsteps of Roy Chapman Andrews.***

The enclosed deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$600 per person), payable by:

- check, payable to the American Museum of Natural History  
 Visa    MasterCard    American Express    Discover Card

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

should be sent with this form to:



American Museum of Natural History  
 Discovery Tours  
 Central Park West at 79th Street  
 New York, NY 10024-5192

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please note preference of accommodation:

- We would like double accommodations.
- I would like to have single accommodations (not guaranteed in gers).
- I plan to share accommodations with \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to know about possible roommates.    Smoker    Non-Smoker
- I would like information on airfare.    Business-Class Upgrade
- I would like to depart from \_\_\_\_\_(Originating city).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_