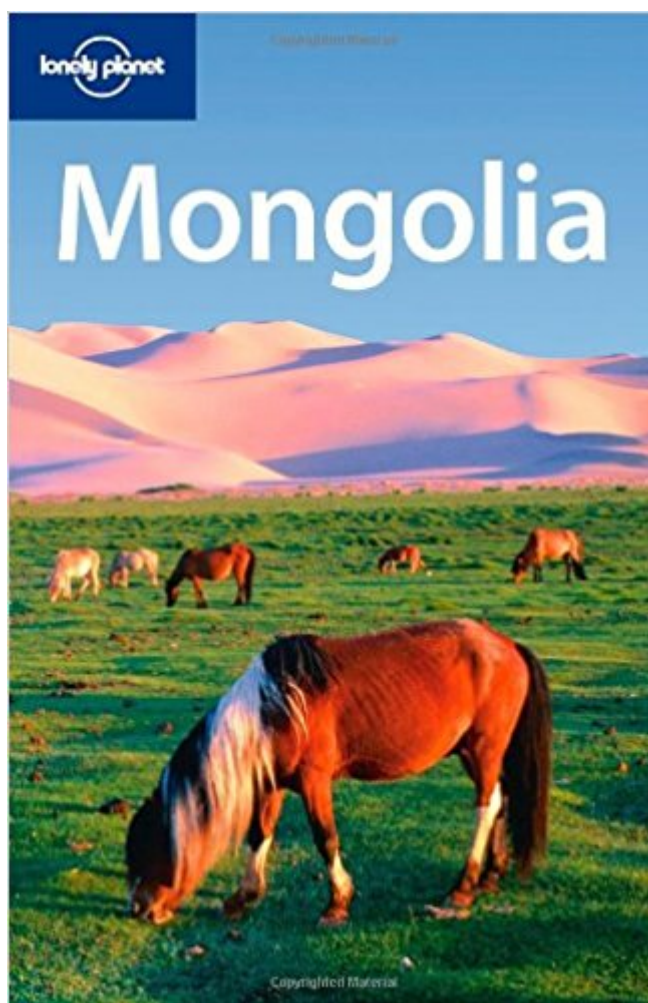


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Lonely Planet Mongolia (Country Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Discover Mongolia
Cling to your camel as a Gobi sandstorm sweeps past
Learn the 'three manly sports' while visiting nomad families on a Ger-to-Ger adventure
Honor the sky gods with the famous vodka dip-and-flick ritual
Stretch out your vocal cords with a throat-singing lesson in Chandmaniln
This Guide: Our intrepid author conducted 180 days' research, covered 8259km and drank 135 cups of salty milk tea
New Outdoors chapter details activities from cycling the Chinggis Khaan trail to horse trekking in the steppes
Content updated daily - visit lonelyplanet.com for up-to-the-minute reviews, news and traveler insights

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Customer Reviews

“Lonely Planet, the intrepid traveler's bible...” --Los Angeles Times, April 2005

Who We Are At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travelers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do* We offer travelers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages.* We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are.* We update our guidebooks by visiting thousands of places in person to get the details right and tell it as it is.* We always offer the trusted filter for those who are curious, open minded and independent.* We challenge our growing community of travelers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world.* We tell it like it is

without fear or favor in service of the travelers; not clouded by any other motive. What We Believe We believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world.

I've been to Mongolia five times between 2005 and 2010. I book my travel arrangements through an established eco-tour company. And I would still not go to Mongolia without the latest Lonely Planet Mongolia guide. Yes, it's badly out of date now due to being two years old and the fact that Mongolia is changing rapidly. (Much of the current print edition content appears to be on the LP website, but includes restaurants like the UB Deli, which have been out of business for at least two years.) The history and culture sections are really well done. This is important since many people, especially Americans, don't really know much about Mongolia except for Chinggis Khan and his horde (and the knowledge is incomplete, too). The descriptions of the land, people, sights and parks match what I've seen on my trips. The author knows the country well. The directory section in the back puts a lot of really useful information in one place and should be read by anyone planning to go to Mongolia for the first time. I do a quick review before a trip. I found the maps to be somewhat frustrating. There are parts of the Ulaanbaatar maps which make it hard to see where some things are. In general, the maps need to be higher contrast since they aren't easy to read quickly or in less than bright light. I'd like to see more on contemporary music, which is vibrant, fun and gives a special look into Mongol culture. The restaurant section for Ulaanbaatar has worked well for me. I found the descriptions accurate and helpful and have been to about a dozen of the places listed. The telephone section needs a thorough overhaul. Mongolia has skipped a whole generation of technology and gone straight to cell phones. I took my old Motorola Razr (the iPhone works, but the AT&T roaming charges are sky-high-\$14/minute), went to the Mobicom office and for \$8 got a new sim card with a decent number of minutes included. I only speak a smidge of Mongolian, but the woman behind the desk was friendly and helpful. Hotel internet connections are another area that needs more coverage in a new edition. However, service providers come and go and the hotels seem to change what they do from year to year; wired to wireless, free to daily charge, no connection in rooms at all due to construction, etc., so one needs to be, uh, flexible. The guide is good, however, about letting you know where you can find free wi-fi. I'm giving the book four stars, not because of the overall content, which is excellent (Full disclosure: I've met the author and am providing info. for the next edition), but because Lonely Planet really needs to fix the maps and put this guide on a one year cycle. Mongolia is changing fast due to mining activity (huge deposits of copper, gold and coal coming on line), which is bringing rapid economic growth (a Louis Vuitton store opened in UB not long ago).

Also, they need to update the information on the website on an on-going basis, not just post the book content and forget about it. I love Mongolia and always look forward to my next trip there.

I went to Mongolia in May/June 2012, and I saw I wasn't the only one who had this older version of Lonely Planet. We all spoke to each other about how much of this book was already well out of date. It's changing so quickly in Ulaan Bataar (aka "UB")! Do yourself a favour, and go for a much newer guidebook. You'll find descriptions, locations, and costs a lot better represented. P.S. I *love* Mongolia. I will be going again!! ..with another guidebook.

A great guide to the country! As a Peace Corps volunteer, I used this book to read up and familiarize myself with Mongolia prior to my service. Accurate and helpful, if you're going there, buy this book!

If you are going to Mongolia, then you have probably found the limited amount of good information available out there on-line or in-print. This well done, portable book has Lots of it. Recommended

I have lived in Mongolia since 2006 and have been traveling here since 2004. It's clear that some of the info is outdated. Places and prices of course change from year to year. But it's also clear the writer was given incorrect info at the time of writing. Always check info before traveling to Mongolia or places in Mongolia. The Chingiss Khan statue near Terelj park for example, is far from the 13th century camp and there is no accommodation for tourists. UB2 hotel in Terelj was remodeled in 2008 and has terrible service. Food is expensive and not tasty.

I ordered this 2008 edition of Lonely Planet to get some info about Mongolia and there are not many guides for a solo traveller in this region. It seems most people visit Mongolia in groups which can really be off turning for those who want to see the richness of the culture instead of a staged production. I haven't decided whether this has become like the productions in Bhutan for only the wealthy tourists who travel in groups.

I used the Lonely Planet guide for two trips to Mongolia and found it to be very useful. OK, doesn't have everything but not sure a single source could have everything and this is just to supplement your trip there I am assuming and that in deciding to go to such a place you understand that things are a bit different there - especially if you are from the west. Mongolia is a place to go if you want to

experience life as you have not experienced it elsewhere. It is truly unique, but again, if you are unfamiliar to such nations (the "stans" and central asia).It's a guidebook - it's not going to answer anything, but this doesn't take away anything. Part of the journey my friends as well as part of the destination.

I believe I am the first visitor to take the new, 2009 book to Mongolia. I printed it out 1 week after it came out and jumped on a plane to Mongolia. It is the MUST HAVE book for cruising through the country. The UB portion is spot on, and the transportation section in the back is exceptionally accurate. However, if you compare the old version to this one, quite a few restaurants had reviews that were not revisited. While the restaurants haven't really changed, the reviews are stale. For the rest of the country, the authors have done an exceptional job of describing a vast open space. No one else I met in Mongolia had anything other than the LP. PS, I stayed at the Golden Gobi.

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