



NAURIZ

The Nauriz is one of the oldest celebrations in the world. This is a celebration of spring time and the renewal of life, celebrated for thousands of years by a large majority of the peoples of Central Asia and probably by the people of the Eastern Slavs. There are archaeological traces, corresponding to this event, as well as the writings from the Middle Ages that tell about this festival.

The origin of Nauriz is simply pagan, this had the meaning of celebration of the renewal of life, later on this celebration gained more spiritual aspect and became a part of the ethnical culture, previously it was just to celebrate the beginning of the spring, the day when night and day are of equal length, and the end of winter ...

The name is Nauriz is not only used by Kazakhs but also by the Uzbeks and Uighurs, in Iran it is called Navruz, the Tajiks call it Gulnavruz or sometimes Gulgardon, the Tartars refer to Nargudan and ancient writings of the Greeks when speaking about Patrich.

The day before the celebration everyone cleans the house or the yurt, everybody pays his debts ... makes his life a "white" as the spring snow. The plates are filled with milk, yogurt, source water, corn, to ensure a full next year of all of these elements. The more Day Nauriz is full of joy and ceers, the more the next year will be pleasant and gracious.

In the morning of Nauriz, young and old must remain good, to clean and take actions to make the next year prosperous, to a clean source, or to plant a tree are the things that are done during this day.

Later in the day, three messengers, go around the villages, to call everyone to this big celebration, each takes on a festive and a big parade is then organized, everyone makes good wishes for the new year, sing the song of the Nauryz Nauriz Zhyr, then start the wrestling contest of Zhanylpash (a kind of traditional whistling), there are also horse races organized and the famous challenge where two riders compete fore one goatskin, the..... this "fight" is also practiced with an entire goatskin remembering the hunting of wolves, where before returning to the village, hunters fight for the animal's body so that they can go back to the village as heroes

Then everyone goes home, to enjoy the Dastarkhan, the traditional meal, that consists of seven main courses, the number seven symbolizes the number of days of the week, and also the universal unity.

After the meal are different games and competitions are being organized, where everyone can participate and challenge anyone for a particular game, but that really is a difference between boys and girls of social ranks. And evening competitions of stories and poems are held. In Kazakhstan the celebration lasts for a week.



Discovery of the Kazakh de Mongolian culture.

Meet the falconers.



NAURIZ – Tour with Kazaks of Mongolia

Celebrations of Nauriz

Day 1: Departure from your home country

Day 2: Arrival in UB March 14

Transfer to hotel in Ulaanbaatar. Visit the city and the big Gandan Monastery. There are seven main Ulaanbaatar monasteries and several temples and palaces, among which the most visited are Gandan and the Bogd Khaan, or Winter Palace, whose construction began in 1890.



Ulan Bator was founded on the banks of river Tuul, previously known as Urga, in the honour of the son of well known a Mongolian lord.

The name of Ulaan baatar (the red hero) was given to the capital at the time of the proclamation of people's republic of Mongolia. The streets of the capital are bustling in the summer time and agitating in the night time. The city is divided in several districts which present large diversities and there are even yurts in the very centre of the city. The development of Ulan Bator is surprising and you will find there all the conveniences of a modern city.



Meeting with our team

Day 3: Local flight UB – Ulgii

Early morning departure to the airport.

Ulgii is the capital of the Aimag (province) of Bayan Ulgii.



Ulgii aimag Bayan is the most Western part of the country, bordering with China and Russia; it is a Kazakh territory with 80% of the population while the rest of the country, represents only 5%.

At the foot of the Altai also live another minority of the country, it is the Tuvas, and Turkic-speaking shamanistic ethnic group, that consists of fewer than 2,000 people. It is the most mountainous part and the fringe of the steppes, deserts and hills that border the Altai massif is are narrow.

Ulgii is a city founded in 1921, where you can find just about anything, shops, banks, hotel and guest house, theatre, a beautiful museum with Kazakh culture, a temple and a mosque, of course, the Kazakhs that are Muslims.

The best known expression of the Kazakh culture certainly is the eagle hunting.

A little bit more than 4 hour flight to cross 1700 kilometres and go from one side of the country to an other, beautiful and varied sceneries going from green expanses to sandy deserts.

Arrive at Ulgii in early morning, Kaderbeck will be there to welcome you. Breakfast, then a visit of the area the city, the countryside together with Kaderbeck,...

Ulgii is a surprising city, planted along the river, a city of another "age". Since the landing on the dirt track, we feel that there is another life in here....



City tour and overnight stay with Kaderbeck

Day 4 : Olgii – Sagsay

Sagsai is a small village lost in the middle of immensities.

It is not far from the hamlet where lies the yurt Amarbeck, a Kazakh eagle trainer. Meeting the culture from the depths of ages.

The eaglets are captured in a nest, around the age of 2 months, just before they finished putting their adult plumage. From the moment of their capture, the eaglets will get all care and all of the attention, only one person is allowed to take care of him, feed him, give him confidence day after day, this is the link that unites the hunter to his eagle..



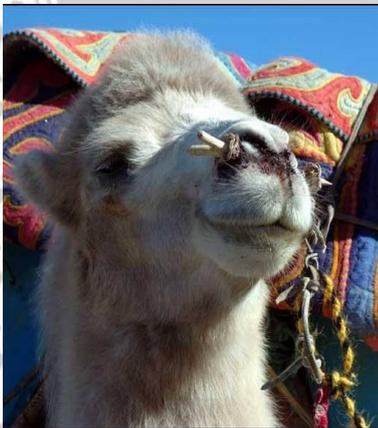
In the afternoon, you will continue your path to reach the Karaskan yurt..
Overnight stay with your Kazakh hosts.



Day 5: Day in Sagsay with Karaskan.

Departure on a horseback together with the falconers.

The Bourguitchins, also known as falconers, practice hunting in winter, when the eagle feather has grown and is in its maximum weight, usually hunts end in late February. But falconers still go out with their eagle ... for the pleasure and also for the welfare and training of their eagles. The period is no longer the best to go hunting and then everyone's mind has turned towards the big celebration: The Nauriz.



The Kazakhs are both nomadic, free and very proud and the Burguitchins are even more ... themselves could be "masters" of your stay and according to their desires; they could be the ones to choose the program for that day and evening.
Overnight stay with a Kazakh family.



Day 6: Retourning towards Sagsay

Still on a horseback and accompanied by the team of Burguitchins, you will take the path back to Sagsay and the ger of Karaskan.



The landscapes of Bayan Ulgii are splendid, between desert and steppe, between rocks and tall yellow grass....this all at the bottom of the Mongolian Altai Mountains. Immensities or we can very strongly feel the forces of nature ... the rivers thaw, the grass starts to turn green in the sunniest valleys.



Moments of pure happiness.

The high valleys of Bayan Ulgii, are rich with the remains of the Turkish era.

On many occasions tribes coming from Turkey and neighbouring countries have made incursions in Mongolian land, without being real invasions. These tribes have left carved stone statues everywhere all over the country, in the valleys, on mountain passes, raised human sized stones whose fineness depends on the time when they were made.

Night together with your host.

Day 7: Sagsay – Tsengel

Route to a Tuva family that lives in the small hamlet in Tsengel.

Driving in a car and encountering with another culture. The Tuvan people, originally from the Himalayan foothills had known their time of glory a long time ago ... then came the various invasions, the reign of the great Mongol khans, then again the invasions ... centuries of invasions that have destroyed rituals and folklore. But Tuvan is claimed as such and continue to live as their ancestors taught them a long time ago.



Tuva culture is quite close to the Mongolian culture, but the yurts are somewhat different, also as the traditional dishes, the management of their livestock is also different but that one is another story.

As for now, everyone in Bayan Ulgii holds its breath and wait for the approach of Nauriz.



Installation in a yurt.

Day 8 : Tsengel – Sagsay

Morning in the family Tuva and after the lunch, departure by car to Sagsay ... with the imperative to be at Ulgii early the next day.

The day of 21 is very important for Kazakhs, since everyone needs to prepare to enter the new year, pure and white as snow...

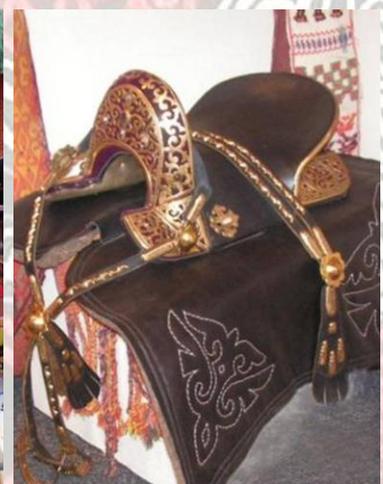
Everyone has to clean his house, his car, his clothes, carpets, yurts and houses....

Everyone has to pay his debts if he has any... and also pay his debts to his neighbourhood.



But occasionally, waiting for the last moment, these debts will be corrected in the field, in public, when "cultural" jousting that does all the folklore and the richness of this timeless celebration that of Nauriz.

A Kazakh evening, Kaderbeck who will be your local guide, will not forget to help you discover their culture and musical talents.



Overnight stay with our Kazakh hosts.

Day 9: Day at Ulgii

Departure from Sagsay in a good time.

Arrival at Ulgii in mid-morning.... A day where you will attend on your tiptoes....

Every good Kazakh will be very busy this day, he will show discretion and allow everyone to go do their tasks and duties.

We could almost call this day a "day of rest" before the celebration



Overnight stay with Kaderbek

Day 10: NAURIZ

The Kazakh New Year

Day celebration and gatherings in the Kazakh rhythm and traditions.

The Nauriz is widely celebrated and there are horse races organized, etc.....



Overnight stay with Kaderbek

Day 11: NAURIZ

The celebration of Nauriz lasts for 2 days, although this second day is rather intended to visit relatives and friends, some exhibitions or cultural events are still organized.



Last evening with Kaderbeck under his Kazakh yurt or in his house ... but no doubt that last night will be celebrated as it should be.



Day 12 : Flight to Ulaanbaatar

Leaving Ulgii the early morning and arriving in Ulaanbaatar in mid-morning. Checking in into the hotel, then a and a free afternoon. A little calm after the extreme Nauriz is always necessary.... also as a good shower! Evening in Ulaanbaatar.

Day 13 : Day in Ulaanbaatar

Day to purchase some souvenirs.
A must to visit the general market of the city reflection of another culture ... reflection of the Mongolian culture.
Late night visit to Ulaanbaatar.

Day 14: Departure

International flight in the morning

Price rate:

The price per person is € / person, based on 2 people.

3 people..... € / pers.

4 people..... € / pers.

5 people € / pers.

The price includes:

- All transportation in Mongolia.
- All accommodation, hotel and homestay nights.
- Your travel assistant and Kazakh translator.
- The food and beverages (tea, coffee, and water)
- The horse activities, exploring of the eagle culture, and guides with Mongolian specialty.
- The performance of traditional Mongolian music and dance
- Driver + Fuel + 4X4 Russian vehicle in Ulgii
- Local flight UB / Ulgii / UB

