



Photo: Fredrik Sträng



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Photos: Jan Wigsten

Jalman Meadows

Khan Khentii Strictly Protected Area

In the uppermost parts of the Tuul River Valley, just a one day ride from the watershed of Asia, is Jalman Mountain and Jalman Meadows, a huge meadow along the Tuul River with a lot of wildflowers in the summer. It is located within the Khan Khentii Strictly Protected Area, which is Mongolia's only true wilderness area, extending all the way up to the Russian-Siberian frontier. Terelj National Park is the southernmost extension of that same wilderness area. In Terelj conventional tourism has been allowed to develop. Nomadic Journeys' low impact ger camp, Jalman Meadows Ger Camp, is located next to the Tuul River and Jalman Meadows.

Location

The area is in the transition zone of steppe and taiga forest in the uppermost parts of the Tuul River Valley, only a full day ride from where the river originates. Hence, there are steppe valleys, meadows along the Tuul River, larch forests with patches of birch. Wildlife such as wolf, lynx, brown bear, red deer, gazelle, moose and wild boar are certainly present but hard to see during the summer. Jalman Meadows is located in the autumn and winter pastures of nomadic herders of Erdene soum. A few remain, but most families leave the area with their animals to allow for good seasonal pasture. North from the meadows is complete wilderness and a two day hike south, you will find the summer pastures of the nomadic families. This is the reason for a profusion of wildflowers around Jalman Meadows.

Activities

Dayhikes: From the lookout point of Hifte Gatsaa there is a beautiful view over the Jalman Meadows and the Tuul River. You can order a picnic lunch from camp and make day hikes in any direction. Included.

Yak cart rafting: Load a lightweight catamaran inflatable raft onto a yak cart. A herdsman will follow as you trek for half a day up the Tuul River. You'll have your picnic lunch at noon and return by the raft downstream through the Jalman Meadows to camp. Life vests, paddles and picnic lunch are provided. USD 15 p.p. half day, USD 30 p.p. full day.

Swimming: The Tuul River is at its most pristine way up here and next to the camp. The water may be cold, but usually pleasant during parts of July and August. The river is crystal clear and transparent with regular deep pools.



Reading: A small library on Mongolia, with many recent additions, has been collected over the years and is available to guests in the Library Ger next to our Restaurant Ger. It is mostly in Mongolian, Swedish or the English language, but also some are in German and French.

Horse riding: Hourly, half days and full day rides are organized with local horsemen at an additional cost. Picnic lunch can be provided from the camp. There are a few hard hats and chaps, which is why serious riders are best advised to bring their own. Full day rides should be preordered. USD 35 p.p. full day; USD 18 p.p. half day and USD 7 per hour.

Mountain biking: There are two mountain bikes that may be rented for the day for excellent excursions in the area.

Yak cart sauna: Bring a folded ger to the river by yak cart and build your own riverside sauna from it. Optional.

Birding: You may admire the avifauna that comes in sizes from azure tits to majestic steppe eagles. You will get 80 percent of Mongolian species with a European bird guide book. There is one in the library ger.

Conferences & lectures: At an additional cost for groups, seminars on contemporary, historical or natural Mongolia can be organized, along with subjects like traditional Mongolian medicine and music.

Additional trips: The relatively remote location of Jalman Meadows merits other extended trips, such as traveling to the remote lakes at **Hagiin Har Nuur** deep in the Khan Khentii taiga as well as our **Yak Trek** and **Mongol Horse Trails**. All are based at Jalman Meadows since it is the common starting point for each of them. Please. ask for details of these additional, interesting trips.

Low Impact Ger Camp

Nomadic Journeys is committed to the principles of Ecotourism and have entered into a concession agreement with Erdene Soum and The Khan Khentii Protected Area administration to bring additional jobs into the area based on traditional livelihoods. These involve the provision of yak carts, packhorses, riding

horses and labor. The camp has a maximum capacity of 30 guests in double occupancy gers and vehicles are parked away from the camp. The entire ger camp is fully collapsible, and do not have shower nor WC blocks. The toilets are long drop style allowing for natural decomposition. Showers are provided in a small ger with hot water using portable showers. All trash is separated. The camp can be relocated leaving no more impact on the area than a herdsman family would. Solar panels and windmills generate some electricity for refrigerator and kitchen use. Jalman Meadows Ger Camp is indeed a fully collapsible hotel.

Practicalities

Transfers: Operates to/from Jalman Meadows on Wednesdays and Saturdays. These are subsidized and shared with staff. You can at all times order a private transfer at any time suitable to you. The entire drive from Ulaanbaatar to Jalman Meadows with a 4WD vehicle is 3 hours and with a bus 3,5 hours.

PRICE 2012 ex Ulaanbaatar:

Wednesdays 4d/3n: **USD 310 p.p.**
Saturdays 5d/4n: **USD 375 p.p.**

Single Supplement: **USD 30 per night.**

Additional night: **USD 65 per night.**

Rent of riding horse: **USD 35 per day**

Transfer Supplement on another day or hour: **USD 70 per vehicle.**

Transport supplement by Japanese jeep: **USD 130.**

Includes: All meals outside Ulaanbaatar. All overnights in double occupancy ger. Transfers to and out of camp on scheduled dates.

Excludes: Laundry, imported drinks. Arrival and departure transfers and hotel nights in Ulaanbaatar.

Children: 1-4 years free. 5-12 years 50%.

Transfer schedule 18May-21Sep:

Wednesday/ Saturday

from UB: **09:00**

from camp: **14:00**

