



HUNTING WITH EAGLES IN BAYAAN OLGII

Fishing The River Tuul *

How To Get Your Jeep Out Of A Bog *

Full Ulaan Baatar Bar, Restaurant & Nightclub Listings

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Hi, I'm Chris Devonshire-Ellis and welcome to this issue of Mongolia Expat magazine ! This months issue is a Mongolian Buddhism special issue – we take a look at the life of the Fourth subject.

Please also remember the Mongolian Expat Guide to Ulaan Baatar and the Mongolian Countryside can be purchased in Ulaan Bataar from Millies Bookstore, or via email from tuya@mongoliaexpat.com, priced just USD10. At 135 pages, and over 250 photos and illustrations, it is the most comprehensive use friendly guide to the country yet available. We hope you find it of interest – the next issue of the magazine will be out in October.

Best wishes
Chris



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THE OCTOBER EAGLE HUNTING FESTIVAL AT BAYAAN OLGII

– By Chris Devonshire-Ellis

One of the most spectacular events in Mongolia is in the autumn, in the far west of the country. Here, where the Altai mountains maintain the border between North-Western Mongolia and Kazakhstan, the local people – mainly Muslim Kazaks – are partially nomadic as the Mongolians are, live in gers, but are renowned for one of Central Asia's oldest skills – hunting for game with eagles.

The locals have an annual festival for showing off not just their prized birds, but also their hunting and horseman skills. Held at the small hamlet of Bayaan Olgii, this is a five

jeep day trek across Mongolia from UB, or a 3 hour plane ride.

You'll need assistance to book up this trip with sourcing a local jeep and driver as well as accommodation – the town is somewhat off the beaten track and finding somewhere to stay can be difficult unless you are dealing with someone who knows the area. This year's Eagle Festival is held on 16th / 17th October, and I'd recommend booking with Tseren Tours, whose contact details can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Festival at Bayaan Olgii

The festival is held a few miles out of town on a flat plain, with a subsidiary of the Hovd Gol river threading its way through, and smaller rugged mountains dotted about. The participants will ride – these are nomads – some for several days from within this remote wilderness to attend, many even – without passports, knowing the routes across the Altai for generations – from Kazakhstan itself. This is the heart of Central Asia, and eagles are its soul.



Bayaan Olgii Eagle Festival grounds



Parade



The main welcoming Parade is held in Bayaan Olgii town, with small gers erected on the pretty town square, the autumn colors are now out in force, with Mongolia's near ever-present sunshine show the golds, russets and crimson hues off to their best. The horsemen, dressed in their finest, and with their hunters also groomed, slowly trot up the main street, hooded eagles on their arms, to meet and be greeted by the city mayor. Singing, dancing, and the smell of fresh kebabs fill the air, as the entire town comes out to party. Its worth a visit to the gers too, many sell drinks – and it's airag (fermented mares milk) that is the tippie of choice here. Camels milk also is sold – very rich, and a unique sour yet creamy taste – it may not be for everyone – one can appreciate the thorny scrub the camels feed on out here leave a residual bite even in the milky liquid. Children too, dressed in their finest, are out, having a ball, to see the splendour of the horses and the magnificence of the eagles.

Hooded while being ridden on the arm, these are Golden Eagles, being strong enough to tackle most prey, including young wolves. The mountains in this area are full of raptors – but it's the Golden Eagle that is most prized for hunting, although other birds will be on display too.

The Life of a Hunting Bird



Taken from the nest at about three months of age, this is a dangerous occupation requiring stealth and courage. Adult Golden Eagles do not appreciate the theft of their young, and can inflict serious wounds. However the adults are not harmed, and merely have one chick removed from the normal pair that are hatched.

From there, the young fledgling becomes part of human's life. Hooded, so not to excite the bird too much, the youngster is brought into the family ger to introduce it to the sounds and aromas that will be it's initial life. Slowly and patiently, the hunter will use a feed and reward system to train

the bird when it has become accustomed to it's surroundings. Training on the wrist, while riding, begins at nine months, with training for prey, at about a year of age. Birds are encouraged first to fly off and on the wrist on command – usually a series of uttered clicks, and to return. Later they are encouraged to fly to game, put on the ground, and introduced to kills by sight and smell.

Finally, the real test comes, when the bird is released after wild game – often Hare, Rabbits, smaller game birds such as Grouse, or Marmot. The bird, it's wing feather deadly silent, swoops down, and captures the prey. Smothering it with it's wings in a shroud of acciptor death, the bird waits until the horseman reaches it, despatches the catch, and rewards the bird with a tidbit.

Catch flung into a saddle bag for the journey home, the bird and his master will work together like this until the eagle is seven years old. Then, so as not to reduce the wild population, they are finally re-introduced to the wild, free to roam, to breed and live once more as wild eagles do. It's a sustainable form of animal-human interaction.

Children are often taught respect for birds while very young and may be given smaller birds of prey, such as kestrels (which are again released after a time back into the wild) to teach them handling and management skills, and these birds too can

Eagles paraded on the wrist



be seen, paraded about by wide eyed but naturally savvy children. (pic 10 here and caption: Young Kazak boy with Kestrel)

Hunting

Eagles are deliberately not fed for a couple of days before hunting, firstly as an eagle is a heavy bird in any event, and to make the bird more keenly aware it needs to kill.



Hooded when on the wrist, when dehooded they know they are about to fly to hunt. Released in the direction of the prey – and often at a gallop – they will sweep upwards, their immensely sharp eyesight searching for the moving target. Then it positions itself, and like a guided missile, swoops down on the hapless prey. It's all over in seconds, and is an impressive display of nature's sheer aggression.



For the competitions, the eagles are firstly taken by hand, up a nearby mountain while his master rides below on his horse. At a sound, the bird is released, and has to fly straight to the wrist while the horseman is at trot. Not all decide to do so – younger birds may feel they need a few minutes on the wing and lazily fly off, leaving the owner to gallop away to retrieve his errant bird. Medals however, are given to those that obey commands and fly to wrist.

Second, a wolf cub is brought out, and released, the eagle has to track the cub, and corner it. While this is not for the faint hearted, it is still an awesome sight to see an eagle dive upon a wolf and detain it. The wolf will survive – for awhile – with a few claw and talon marks to show for it's pains. But it is worth more, in later months, as a



white wolf pelt for fur trading than as eagle food, so it's stay of execution is granted.

Again, marks are awarded for speed and accuracy in dealing with the wolf, as they have been for centuries.

Horse Racing




The Festival also includes a horse race, around a three mile circuit, with Altai dust blowing up, it is a test of stamina and endurance as they complete five rounds. Heavily bet on, the population relaxes on one end of the plain, to sit, watch the fun and wager on who will win. (As a tip, for endurance races – always favor the smallest jockey. He's the lightest to carry. You can cut me in on your winnings later)

Tests of Strength on Horseback

The younger men also, in order to show off to the local girls, have a competition. Facing in opposite directions to each other on horseback, a judge will give them a sheep pelt. Holding tightly onto it, the object is to wrest the pelt away from your opponent. Some of these battles, on horse, can be quite lengthy as spectators need to be wary as they can career into the crowds. Several rounds are competed, and again the local champion decided in an afternoon. It's hot, dusty, and you may be trampled upon if you're not careful – but immense fun and a great spectacle.

Another competition involves the picking up of nine objects placed on the ground, in order, while on horseback. This involves great agility (and suppleness of spine!) as the horseman has to twist and turn, one foot in the stirrup, with his body dangling down the side of the horse, to pick up an item.

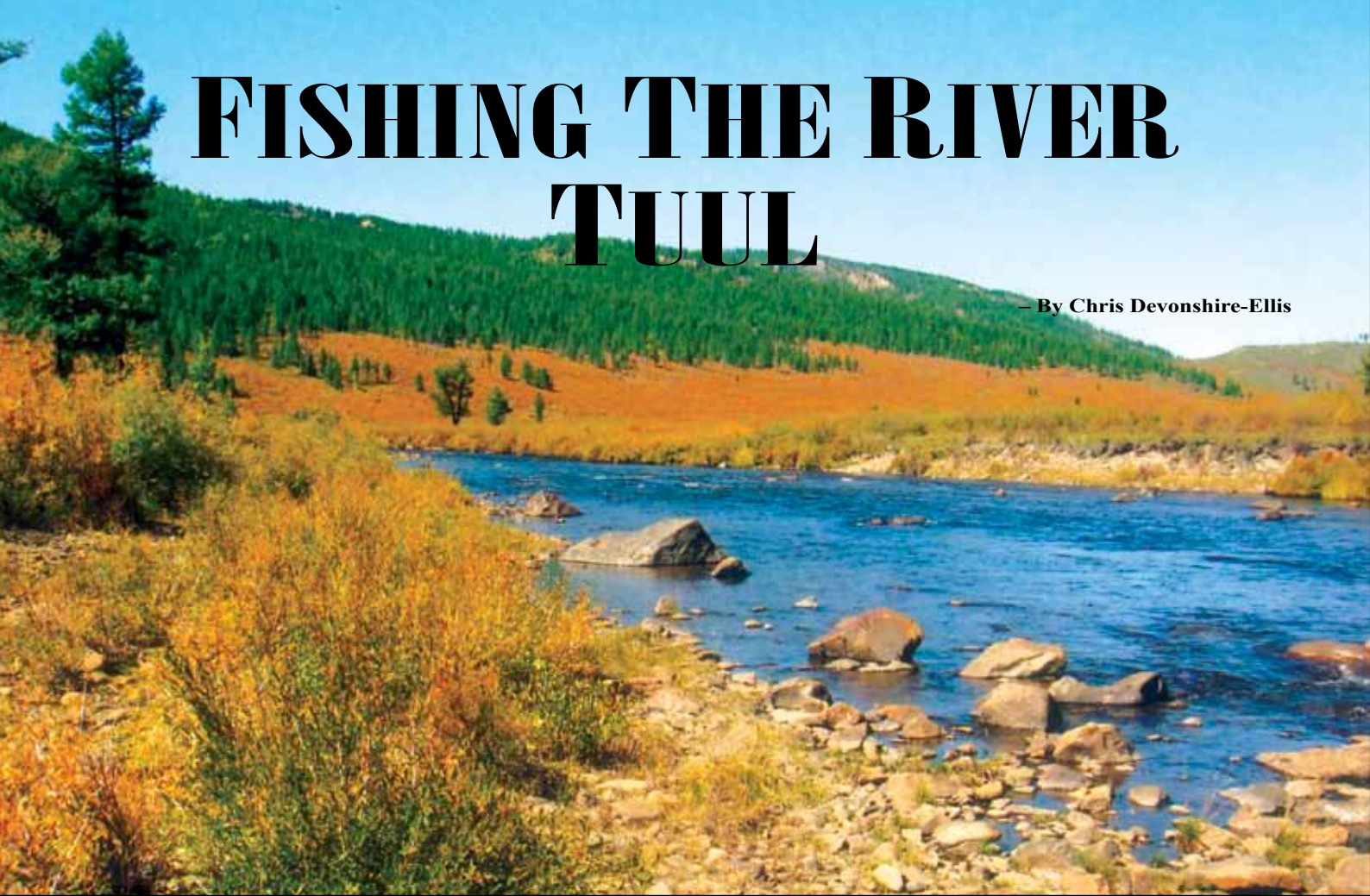
Hunting With Eagles

The use of birds of prey for hunting is thought to have originated in Mongolia, later spreading along the trade routes set up by Chinggis Khan to the Middle East and from there into Europe. Still today, Mongolian birds are prized as the best in falconry and for hunting. The Festival at Bayaan Olgii is a look back – and a lesson in – sustainable relationships between man and creature. Centuries old, the festival demonstrates skills honed down the ages, and is a celebration of the cooperation between man and bird at it's finest. 



FISHING THE RIVER TUUL

– By Chris Devonshire-Ellis



The Tuul River flows through Ulaan Baatar but from a source further North-East – and driving up into Terelj and into Tov Province provides both an excellent relaxing break away from UB but also opportunities for some fine fishing.

Our three day trip took us by road to the Turtle Head Rock, then almost immediately overland. This is camping country – gets start to become sporadic along the river as it winds its spectacular way north-east, and you will need a good 4WD as well as camping gear and food supplies to last for your trip.

The autumn colors of the trees are in evidence from last August, and the River, with sparkling clear waters, is in fine health with many aquatic species of river weed, flowers and so on flourishing both underwater and along its banks. Many species of bird also, can be found along the river, from Ruddy Shelduck, Goldeneye and Mallard to Whooper Swans and occasionally, during the migratory season, the odd Pelican.

The Tuul is home to indigenous Brown Trout, which can be caught on the fly (although it takes a bit of local know-how,

which may mean a good examination of local insects) to entice. The locals tend to spin, which of course yields results but is not necessarily quite as sporting. Regardless, the river needs to be constantly scanned for pools, and the tell-tale sign of slightly undulating fish, noses upstream, looked out for. Trout here tend to favor spots where there is a confluence of waters, and especially from unconnected rivers feeding the Tuul. This will require a decent map, as the River Tuul itself tends to split up into various streams, rejoining for awhile only to fragment again.

Catch and release of course is really the way to go – although the locals do tend to keep everything they catch. Hopefully this can be changed with a bit of education. Taimen also frequent these waters, but as





nocturnal feeders, and quite ferocious these will need to be played with a lure, usually in the shape of a small rodent, arranged so that it appears to be swimming in the water. Taimen – the worlds largest salmonid – attack from below.

Whatever your pleasure – fishing, birdwatching or just taking in the scenery – The River Tuul is an excellent three-four day trip and well worth the time spent under canvas. [ME](#)



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GETTING YOUR JEEP OUT OF A BOG

– By Chris Devonshire-Ellis



We've all been there – bumping around like crazy on Mongolia's Off Road trails – bouncing around at 3 miles an hour as all four wheels seem to want to go in different directions at once. This is rough terrain, it's muddy, yet the track leads on, through larch forest, with underground springs, and dense vegetation.

Your Mongolian driver is enjoying himself, pitting his wits against those of the trail – and he has revved up and down, switched from 4WD to 2WD, and skillfully manoeuvred all the potholes. Mud splashes up around the windscreen, and those in the back are being thrown about like puppets. Then it happens – a loud squelch, much to-ing and fro-ing, exhaust fumes swirling, and the jeep comes to a full stop. Stuck.

Everyone piles out, to lessen the weight, while the driver attacks the bog with more torque. But the spinning wheels only sink further into the quagmire. Very stuck.

This is where you need to have ensured your driver is well equipped. Mud in Mongolia's outback can be treacherous stuff – sticky, and held together by centuries of decaying

roots and other dead vegetation, it can be notoriously difficult to dig out – the roots holding it together can be hard to break through – and its consistency can apply enough tension to physically keep a one tonne load immobile.



A shovel, at the very least, needs to be procured, and ideally a jack and block too. For the name of the game when stuck in a Mongolian Bog is this – quite simply – you are going to have to dig the jeep out – and then insert a 'bridge' under all four tires – to provide a stable platform along which the jeep can grab traction and haul itself out.

Digging of course, depends upon how much the jeeps tires are embedded in the quagmire. In our case, four feet of mud. Using the jack to force the wheels up in the air, and a wooden block to secure it, it took additional leverage, supplied by the handy finding of a derelict tree trunk, to force enough weight to spring the wheel out of the grip of the cloying mud. Then more logs, and cut down branches of shrub were placed underneath – front and back – to give the wheel enough support – and traction to enable it to spring free. This has to be carried out on all four wheels....

Three hours later, and covered in mud, we were free.

Equipment Required:

Shovel

Jack & Block

Any tree trunks or branches handily lying around

General foliage

Elbow Grease

Beer 



Attendance at Bog Sticking events by beautiful women is essential during this growing countryside pastime

ULAAN BAATAR LISTINGS

This section of Mongolia Expat is a free listings section of bars, restaurants and nightclubs in Ulaan Baatar. Things change, and places close and new places open, so check before you go. If you think you should be listed in this section please contact editor@mongoliaexpat.com with details.

BARS



Ulaan Baatar has a wealth of bars and there are many to choose from. Here we feature some of the best known and well established, but new bars open up regularly, so ask around for what's hot and where's new. Most bars open 'til late – UB is a late night party city.

Budweiser Bar

Sukhbataar Square, West Side
The original Czech Budweiser, not the pale American imitation, this bar is sited right on Sukhbataar Square and is a good venue to go for the real beer and fried lamb and chicken. Good value.

Ikh Mongol

Seoul Street, next to the State Circus
This large venue is German in style and look with a big central room and various smaller rooms at the back. With a very large outdoor terrace overlooking the circus, it gets very busy during the summer months. Ikh Mongol is a fun place to spend the Oktoberfest as well as those cold winter nights. With their own brews on tap, there is plenty of choice in both drinks and food – German inspired – this is a happening place with live Mongolian bands on the busy nights and a DJ after hours.

Dublin

Seoul Street, on the corner with the circus
The Dublin is a small pub on the corner facing the circus, this extremely popular locale serves Irish and international beers in a clean, comfortable and safe environment, while the service is swift and efficient. A typical Irish style expat bar, and there's nothing wrong with that.

Grand Khan Irish Pub

Seoul Street, Next to the National Theatre
This is by far the largest and most popular bar in town. This large glass structure houses the Irish bar on the ground floor and the VIP rooms as well as a beauty centre on the first floor. The bar itself is large and commercial in its look but always full of expats and wealthy Mongolians, great for meetings or groups, the level of service is professional and the quality constant. In summer there is a large terrace and a stage for the live band. Situated just across from the Prime Minister's residence and next to the National Theatre it is easily accessible by foot from anywhere in the city centre. Who knows? You may see the PM himself in for a pint.

Chinggis Brewery and Pub Sukhbataaryn Gudamj

A pub sited right next to Ulaan Baatars Chinggis Brewery – how cool is that? Talk about the freshest beer in town – glass walls between the pub and the brewery mean you can see your future

pints brewing away. A variety of light and dark beers are on tap and there is a good German themed menu.

Isimuss

Just opposite the Wrestling Stadium on Peace Avenue East
Tel: 461146
Worth the visit just to take in the huge statue of Stalin – which used to be opposite the Central library – that now graces this Soviet themed bar. Well cool, and Uncle Joe even suggests a smirk as young buxom beauties cavort around his feet.

Khan Brau, German Beer Garden Chingisiin Orgon Choloo Tel 326 626

The German bier garden by excellence. Klaus, the owner of Khan Brau is usually spotted at the regular's table. He will entertain you with his tales of Mongolia while you drink a pint of his excellent home brewed bier and listen to the live Mongolian band. Situated just across from the National Theatre, it is a favourite hang out of the German community of Ulaan Baatar.

Dave's Place

Sukhbataar Square
Tel 99798185
Dave is the archetypal British pub landlord, and will look after you in his small bar in the basement of the Cultural Palace – or in the summer, on his impressive veranda right on Sukhbataar Square. Homebase of the UB Yaks, the local rugby team as well as the final target of the Mongol Rally, this bar is popular all year round. Thursday's feature a well attended pub quiz. In winter it is cosy with assorted British regulars there most nights. Typical British menu and beers on tap.

Crystal Lounge

Peace Avenue, just across from the State Dept Store
Ulaan Baatars first lounge bar is a classy, minimalist, all white bar with an eclectic selection of spirits, liquors and wines. The place to come if you want to splash 700USD on a bottle of Cristal. However, cocktails are reasonably priced and it's an inventive menu. Probably not the type of place to turn up in at desert boots and rucksack, so pack your guccis if you want to get in.

Canuckz, Canadian Pub

Embassy area in front of the German Embassy – Negdsen Undestnii Gudamj
Welcome to Tyler and Canuckz new pub. Opened by a Canadian Hockey player and English Teacher, this is a home from home for Canadians in UB. The main room has been decorated by the students of the art college. Normal range of imported beers and a limited but good menu.

The Steppe Inn

British Embassy
Fridays only, from 6pm, sited in the British Embassy, this is the longest running bar in UB. You need to be a British national and / or invited by a member to get in. To be on the safe side it is better to call the Embassy to ask for permission to attend: Tel: 458 036. Pints are pulled by the Ambassador which is an excellent way to deploy Her Majesties diplomats.

RESTAURANTS



City Coffee

Chingisiin Orgon Choloo
Tel 329 077
City Coffee is located next to Khan Brau. It is a cafe, a bakery, internet and library. They also have some good dishes – mainly Chinese, and a selection of beers and coffees.

Orange Café

By the German Embassy
Orange is a warm relaxing place, with a German menu and imported magazines
There is another Orange café next to the Natural History Museum

Micheles Bakery

1st Khoroo, Chingeltei
(turn left on Peace Avenue opposite the Russian Embassy)
Tel: 9916 9970
Michele's is back! For all of you who missed your daily French fix of coffee and croissants - Alex has reopened with all his usual array of home baked pastries. Open 8am to 8pm, great snacks or for lunch.

Millie's Café

Marco Polo Building, the café faces the Monastery of Chojin Lama.
Tel 330 338
Millie's is an Institution for expats in UB and its perfect location attracts tourists too. Millie's is well known not only because of the location but also for their excellent shakes and smoothies, chocolate cake or the Apple pie, or to enjoy a great breakfast while glancing through their wide selection of magazines. Just next door is the Xanadu bookstore, it's a mandatory stop to stock up on English language Mongolian guides, books, and novels.

Sachers, German Bakery

Peace Avenue and a branch behind the Trade and Development bank (our favourite of the two)
Tel 324 734
An appealing German bakery with a charming cozy atmosphere. Fresh flowers on the tables
Drinks: Coffee, Café Latte, Tea, chocolate; Soft drink: Juice, milkshake; All day Breakfasts Classic German and non –German pastries : apple strudel, quarchle strudel, pineapple pie, bretzle, donut bagels, freshly baked. Also open in the evening, doubling up as a wine bar.

Chez Bernard, European

Peace Avenue 27
Tel 324 622
Chez Bernard is located on central Peace Avenue. It offers a nice, warm atmosphere and is a backpackers favorite, with its notice board used to find travel mates to go to the countryside, second hand gear and so on. Mainly frequented by tourists.

Mongolian Restaurants

World Restaurant

Located behind the London Pub this restaurant serves proper Mongolian food while a reasonable try is made of occidental dishes but they are of varying quality. Big mirrors and world maps decorate this local. Tuya the owner speaks French and would be happy to assist you in any way.

New Mongolia

Behind the State Department Store, you will recognize the restaurant from the sign outside
Tel : 88828999.
Inexpensive but excellent Mongolian, Asian and Central European dishes.

Nomad Legend

Located on the left side of the central museum.
Mongolian Food at a reasonable price.
Tel: 330633.

City Nomads

West side of Sukhbataar square next to the Golomt bank.
Tel : 327700
A buffet restaurant offering good Mongolian dishes and a favourite with expats and locals.

History Club

Juulchin street, near Channel 25 building,
Tel: 311732
Newly open Mongolian restaurant. They serve European dishes and Mongolian traditional food prepared by a professional Mongolian chef.

Talin Mongol restaurant

Chingeltei district, 4th horoo trade street CIA building, 2nd floor
Tel: 319451
Serving traditional Mongolian food, with an excellent barbecue

Modern Nomads

Baga Toiruu north. Just opposite to Chinggis Club.

Tel 318 744 – Reservation recommended the place is always packed!

<http://www.modernnomads.mn/>

If you feel like trying Mongolian Food but do not feel like going to those small street restaurants this is your place - offering high-quality traditional Mongolian dishes". Selection of wine. Nice atmosphere, an outdoor terrace and a favourite of locals and expats.

Western Restaurants**Chinggis Brewery Area – Sukhbataaryn Gudamj**

(to the North of Sukhbaatar Square)

Bella - Italian restaurant

Good English Pleasant atmosphere – Piano concert in summer

Very well established and authentic Italian restaurant, with wide selection of pasta and regional Italian dishes and French and Italian wines.

Bora Bora

Just down from the State Department Store towards the Circus on the left hand side, this white minimalist trendy joint does good cheap Italian and Japanese style food.

Los Bandidos, Mexican Indian Restaurant

Baga toiruu ikh surguuliin gudamj

Tel 314167. 99194618. 99095746

A unique combination of Mexican and Indian foods – and very good they are too!

Chinggis Restaurant (Korean)

Huge wood panelled dining room, perfect for groups!

Concert and live band, and an excellent Teppanyaki buffet

French & Australian wines

The Gate Restaurant and Pub

Tel : 11332009

Nice atmosphere, elegant setting. Very friendly staff

Great for business lunch or to spoil yourself, this restaurant was recently chosen to host the Mongolian music awards, and is often regarded as having the best burgers in town. Add to that great desserts and an exhaustive wine list French, Italian, Australian, Chile.. and a cocktails master.

Choijin Lama Monastery Area

(to the South of Sukhbaatar Square)

The Silk Road restaurant

Jamiyan Guunii Gudamj, Close to the Monastery

Tel 91910211

<http://www.silk-road.mn>

A charming, well located restaurant with an open terrace facing the Temple. Good for Mediterranean style cuisine and a great chilled out atmosphere.

La Veranda, European Style

Above Silk Road. Same location, Jamiyan Guunii Gudamj

Great view over the Monastery. Great atmosphere, relaxing place with big sofa, perfect for a date.

The cuisine is good, they have a good selection of wines...and they have that view....

Circus Area

(Just south of the State Department Store)

Marco Polo, Italian restaurant

Seoul Street 27

Tel 325 240

Wood fired Pizza oven in the entrance, with a warm atmosphere, perfect for winter lunch and dinner. You will enjoy the outdoor terrace during summer. Voted best pizzas by many of UB residents. Beware of same named Strip Bar upstairs if you're with kids, but that doesn't open until midnight.

UB Deli

Seoul Street 48

Tel 325 240

The UB Deli serves gourmet sandwiches with salads, pasta and pizza. It has a cosy and comfortable atmosphere. Managed by Lee Cashell the American entrepreneur, the UB Deli has become a popular location for parties and meetings while the English speaking staff is always happy to help with tips and info about Mongolia.

California

Seoul Street. Same street same side as Marco Polo but a bit further along.

Tel 319 031

Nice atmosphere, US styled bar / diner, with red leather bench seating, and an enclosed front terrace. Great steak and salads, western / American dishes but Mongolian dishes as well. Good selection of wines. Reservation recommended the place is often packed. Very popular with the American community.

Emerald Bay

Tserendorjiin Gudamj - the street leading from the State Department Store to the Circus. Opposite to Michele's Bakery. Located above a disc shop, Emerald Bay restaurant offers a small outdoor terrace and great Greek and Mediterranean food

Other Locations**Le Bistrot Français, French Food**

Surguuliin Gudamj

Tel (976) 11 32 00 22

More info on their website – in French only - <http://www.bistrot-mongolia.mn/links.html>

Styled as a traditional French Bistrot, Guy the owner manages to import the traditional French Bistrot Atmosphere, with small coffee tables in the entrance, a bar as in every bistrot, French magazines, and traditional French cuisine, with a good selection of wines. A popular place.

Hazara, Indian Restaurant

Behind the Wrestling Palace

Tel 9919 5701

East of the city centre, Hazara, is UB's first Indian restaurant and is a long term expat favourite for their North Indian dishes. They have their own tandoori oven. Recommended by local expats as the best Indian in UB.

Night Clubs

There are a growing number of night clubs in Ulaan Baatar where the city gets up, out and has a good time, dancing to the latest hip hop and cool tunes out of the US or Europe. UB increasingly has a growing selection of upmarket clubs and you can buy anything here from beer on tap to bottles of Krug. Again, places change and go in and out of fashion so check before you turn up. These listed however represent some of the most popular and reliable.

River Sounds

Olympiin Orgon Choloo – south of Sukhbaatar Square

River sounds is one of the most established and best located night clubs in UB. Just south of Sukhbaatar square along Olympic avenue it is easily recognizable by its neon lights spelling out it's name. The inside is modern with a large dance floor surrounded by sofas and chairs. A variety of bands and artists play on Friday and Saturday nights to offer a very wide variety of musical styles. A cover charge is applicable. The River Sounds crowd is generally slightly older than most of the other clubs, it is a favourite spot with the consultants and executives from the expat community.

Strings

Strings is modeled after the Hard Rock Café in Beijing, and is also one of the most popular night clubs of the moment. It's a little hard to find at the back of a little alley way slightly outside of the city centre. It is set on two floors with a large central stage where a live band plays on most nights. Strings is popular with the local Mongolian youth, usually packed on Friday's and Saturday's. Some of the younger expats attend but generally it's a crowded and entertaining venue. The upstairs seating is quieter and has its own bar which is not as busy at the main bar downstairs.

Flux

An enormous night club set just to the south of Sukhbaatar square with bright red neon lights. The inside of the club has a feel of the American 70's while the local crowd dances away on the heavy house music. Popular with locals and worth a visit.

The Oasis Club and Lounge

The Oasis club is the newest and swankiest lounge club in Ulaan Baatar, it is an entirely new and unique concept in Mongolia with a trendy, relaxed and cool interior design which allows you to pose or be more modest, settling down into deep

sofas. They play the latest tunes from the UK and France and is a firm favourite with the expats in UB. Christophe, the French manager of the bar is usually found behind it serving his unique cocktail creations and various alcohols he has travelled the world to find. The Oasis Club and Lounge is situated in the courtyard just behind the popular UB Delicatessen restaurant. In summer there is vast and comfortable seating in the lounge own courtyard with a BBQ and fountains to set the town. An extremely popular venue for the weary travellers after a long tour in the Gobi seeking peace and relaxation from the hustle and bustle of Ulaan Baatar.

Hollywood

Zaluus Youth & Cultural Center, Zaluuchuudyn Orgon Choloo

Located near the Indian Embassy, this small club is pretty cool and popular with the locals. Relatively upmarket with a Hollywood movie theme, the film inspired décor is interesting and it plays the latest tunes.

Muse

Maral Tavern Bldg, Baga Toiruu

Very popular with the new yuppie Mongolians who have just discovered the fun that can be had dancing and dressing up for the occasion. This small venue gets quickly packed but can form the basis of a great night out.

Face

Juulchin Gudamj

Always busy, very popular with the young Mongolians and expats, very black and dark interior decoration with large mirrors and lots of flashing lights. A place to dance rather than relax.

UB Palace

Chingunjavijn Gudamj

The UB palace is a large entertainment complex with several venues within it. It is located north of Peace Avenue on the east side of the 1st micro-district. It plays different music styles to suit all tastes. Plenty of cheap drinks and bar fines for heaving up on the dance floor.

Berlin

Baruun Selbe 14/1

Loud techno joint popular with locals and Russian expats and travelers, open until 5am.

Marco Polo Club

Seoul Street 27

Somewhat notorious, the Marco Polo club is situated above the pizza restaurant of the same name; the club is accessed by a discreet door to the rear of the restaurant, with a cover charge to gain entry. The club was UB's first strip joint and is reasonably classy, with sashaying ladies in various state of undress suggestively dancing along the lounge. 5,000 tg tips tucked in suspenders and underwear will usually result in speedier removal, but no touching.

Seoul Hotel Nightclub

Peace Avenue, to the west of the State Department Store

Another popular strip club, with various assorted views of some spectacular Mongolian hills and valleys.

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