

Delegation for Friendship Among Women

-Detailed Itinerary-

September 6, Arrival

The contrast between ancient traditions and a 21st century democracy is most visible in Ulaanbaatar, where traditional gers and Buddhist monasteries sit side by side with modern high-rises.

Upon arrival at the airport you will be welcomed by your private Nomadic Expeditions guide and driver and transferred to the deluxe Shangri-La hotel, luxury hotel located just steps from various museums and shops.

Accommodation: Shangri-La Hotel

Meals: Independent

September 7, Ulaanbaatar

7:30- 8:30 am

Join the fellow delegates for the welcome breakfast briefing meeting.

9:00- 9:45 am

This morning visit **Gandan Monastery**, the seat of Buddhism in Mongolia. Woven through Mongolia's nomadic culture is a rich Tibetan Buddhist tradition in which ancient shamanist practices are still evident. Although Buddhist monasteries were either destroyed or converted into museums during the Stalinist purges of the 1930s, Gandan Monastery continued to operate as a showpiece for government officials. However, in spite of the government's efforts to suppress Buddhism and other religious beliefs, Mongolia's spirituality persisted and a significant resurgence of Buddhism began in 1990 when Mongolia became a democracy. Monasteries across the country are again opening their doors to worshippers, and the few lamas who survived the purges are training the new generation. Enjoy a private blessing ceremony.

10:00- 11:30 am

Group# 1

Next, visit the **Sukhbaatar Square** named in honor of the revolutionary leader who commanded the Mongolian army to fight for the nation's independence from Manchuria with the help of Russian army in 1920s. It is also the site of the Great Khans Memorial built in celebration of the 800th anniversary of the Mongolian Empire. After 80 years of Soviet domination, a time during which it was forbidden by the government to utter the words "Chinggis Khan," many Mongols now celebrate their pride in their great ancestors. Visit the ger districts in the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar.

10:00- 11:45 am

Group# 2

Explore the **National History Museum** for an excellent overview of Mongolia's history and culture with Robin Charpentier of American University of Mongolia.

Robin Charpentier, Academic Consultant

Robin began working at the AUM in 2012 and has worked in Mongolia for 7 years. She has over 20 years of experience in the US working in higher education administration at public, private and Ivy League universities. After receiving her Master's Degree in Mongolian Studies from Indiana University, she served for two years as Resident Director of the American Center for Mongolian Studies in Ulaanbaatar. She was most recently an Advisor in the International Affairs and Cooperation Department and a Visiting Professor in the Institute for Mongolian Studies at the National University of Mongolia, and taught part-time at the University of the Humanities.

12:00 am -1:00 pm

Lunch at *Modern Nomads* restaurant.

1:30– 3:00 pm

Group# 1

Explore the **National History Museum** for an excellent overview of Mongolia's history and culture with Robin Charpentier of American University of Mongolia.

Group # 2

Visit the **Sukhbaatar Square** followed by a visit to the ger districts in the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar.

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

U.S. Embassy Briefing, for more info: <http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/index.html>

6:30- 8:00 pm

U.S. Embassy Hosted Reception at the residence of Manny Micaller.

Accommodation: Shangri-La Hotel

Meals: B, L

September 8, Ulaanbaatar

09:00 am- 10:30am Meeting with Oyungerel

Oyungerel Tsedendamba

She was born and grew up in Huvsgul, a province in the Northern Mongolia. In 1983, after having completed her secondary and high education, Mrs. Oyungerel went to Sverdlovsk, Russia (the then USSR), to study at the Institute of National Economy and graduated in 1988 with a Bachelor's degree in planning economy. She returned to her home province and worked as a sales manager of the province's Supply and Procurement Company until 1991, when she was appointed the Chief of the Labor and Social Security Division of the Huvsgul province. In 1993 Oyungerel moved to Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia, to serve in the National Social Security Office.

Since 1996 Mrs. Oyungerel has worked closely with President Elbegdorj. In 1996-1998, Mrs. Oyungerel was the Personal Assistant to President Elbegdorj when he served as the Vice Chairman of the State Ikh Khural and, later in 1998 when President Elbegdorj was the Prime Minister of the country. In 1998-2000 Mrs. Oyungerel headed the staff of the Parliament majority faction (Democratic Union Coalition). In 2000-2003 she advised a Member of Parliament Lamjav Gundalai. In 2004 when President Elbegdorj was appointed the Prime Minister for the second time, Mrs. Oyungerel joined his team as his Advisor.

<http://www.oyungerel.org/>

11:00 am – 12:30 pm Meeting with American University of Mongolia <http://aum.edu.mn/shine/>

Robin Charpentier, Academic Consultant

See above under September 7th schedule.

Enkhtsetseg Ganbold

Enkhtsetseg became Executive Director of AUM in December 2014. She received her Bachelor's degree in Economics from Mongolian State University and earned her Master's degree in Financial Control from Hague University, The Netherlands. She has over 10 years of experience in financial management in an international environment, including project development and implementation, monitoring, analysis and evaluation. She has spent the past 4 years in Washington, DC and has worked for most of her career in the banking and financial sector, with a stint at the UNFPA and US Embassy in Mongolia.

1:00 pm-2:00 pm

Lunch at *Central Garden* restaurant.

2:15 pm- 3:00 pm Visit Fine art Museum with director of the museum Sarantuya Urtnasan

The Museum displays the artistic works of Mongolian masters of the 18-20th Centuries, coral masks, thangkas, as well as the famous paintings of B. Sharav entitled "A Day in Mongolia" and "Airag feast". The Museum contains 13000 objects. The exhibition hall regularly hosts the works of contemporary artists. The G. Zanabazar Museum has been successfully cooperating with

UNESCO for the improvement of the preservation of priceless exhibits and for training of the Museum staff. The tour of the museum begins at the 2nd floor, guiding through the following topics.

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

3:30 pm -5:00 pm Meeting at Art Council of Mongolia

ACM was formed in 2002 by business, civic and arts leaders with generous support and initial funding by the Mongolian Foundation for Open Society (Soros Foundation) as a result of this.

Odgerel Odonchimeg

Odgerel's career in the arts started in 2002 as a volunteer at Arts Council of Mongolia (ACM). In 2003 January, Odgerel has been hired by ACM as Fundraising Coordinator. She worked as Program Coordinator till 2006. In 2006 she has been promoted as Arts Education Program Director of ACM. In 2012 she has been working as Develop Program Director. In 2014 Odgerel has been promoted as Deputy Executive Director for Development. Since January 2016 she is the Executive Director of the Arts Council of Mongolia. Odgerel has profound experience working in contemporary visual art fields.

<http://artscouncil.mn/>

6:00pm – TBA

Counter meetings

September 9, Ulaanbaatar

09:00 am- 10:00 am Meeting at Eagle TV or UB post- TBC

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Choijin lama Temple

Visit Choijin Lama temple, which was originally built by the order of the last king of Mongolia the Bogd Khaan dedicated to his brother and the state oracle Luvsan Haidav Choijin Lama. Consisted of the group of 5 temples, the Choijin Lama Temple museum houses various Buddhist artifacts dating back to 1800–1900s including the masterpieces of the famous Mongolian sculptor Zanabazar, some fine thangkas and the best collection of the tsam masks for the religious ceremonies in the country.

12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

Lunch at *Silk Road* Restaurant

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Made in Mongolia

MIM's blend of tradition, artistry and contemporary design began in the heart of the shanty district in Ulaanbaatar; the result of a long-standing collaboration between Ireland and Mongolia. Mongolian women are trained in the use of traditional feltmaking skills as part of Asral

NGO's sustainable training programme. With support from the Irish Government and from the Dalai Lama, Mim's superbly crafted products have become identified as the highest quality felt in Mongolia. All our profits go to offering greater self sufficiency to Mongolian women and their families, through Asral NGO's social activities.. Explore workshop with *Chimeddavaa*, the director. <http://www.madeinmongolia.net>

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Nans Cashmere meeting with owner Nansalmaa Sanjmyatav

Nans Cashmere works with the highest quality Mongolian cashmere, prized for its exceptionally soft texture, beauty, and warmth. Ms. Nansalmaa is committed to sourcing the company's raw materials from goats cared for in the finest Mongolian nomadic tradition resulting in the richest, most luxurious, and finest cashmere.

<https://nanscashmere.com>

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Visit Mongolian National Modern Art Gallery with Batbaatar

The Mongolian National Modern Art Gallery (MN MAG) collects, preserves and exhibits modern and contemporary Mongolian artworks. The collection serves an important role in documenting the social, historical and cultural evolution of the country. In 1991, MN MAG separated from the Fine Arts Museum of Mongolia and became an independent organization, dedicated to increasing public appreciation for Mongolian modern visual artworks.

<http://eng.art-gallery.mn>

September 10, Ulaanbaatar, Southgobi Province

05:15 am Departure from the Hotel

Pick up and private transfer to the airport for your flight to the Gobi. Contrary to the sterile sameness that the word 'desert' suggests, the Gobi is a diverse and fascinating region, and includes sites of some of the most important paleontological discoveries of the 20th century. For the next few days, explore the stunning landscapes of the Gobi, habitat for Bactrian camels, Argali mountain sheep, goitered gazelle, Golden Eagles, Saker Falcons, jerboas (similar to kangaroo rats), and many endemic reptiles. The Gobi is also home to some of the Northern Hemisphere's most rare and elusive mammals, such as the dhole, snow leopard, and Gobi bear, known in Mongolian as Mazaalai.

06:55 am – 08:20 am

Domestic flight to Dalanzadgad town, Southgobi province

08:50 am – 10:00 am

Transfer to Three Camel Lodge. Upon arrival check in gers and spend some time at leisure.

12:30 am – 1:30 pm

Lunch

02:00 pm – 03:15 pm

Drive to **Yol Valley National Park**, cradled in the foothills of the Altai Mountains. An ancient river carved this surprisingly green valley, and its remnant streams create ice formations at the base of the valley that sometimes persist as late as July. A hike or optional horse back riding through the valley leads to the habitat of indigenous vulture-like Lammergeiers, Altai snowcocks, ibex, yaks, and Argali mountain sheep.

03:15 pm – 03:35 pm

Visit local Nature History Museum.

03:35 pm – 03:55 pm

Continue driving to Yol Valley

03:55 pm – 04:50 pm

Hike through Yol Valley National Park

04:50 pm – 06:00 pm

Drive back to Three Camel Lodge

07:00 pm – 08:00 pm

Dinner

08:15 pm – TBA

A Mongolian movie night.

September 11, South Gobi Province

08:30 am – 09:30 am

Breakfast

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

In the morning visit a nomadic family and learn about a nomadic way of life and customs and traditions that have existed for centuries.

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch

02:00 pm – 5:30 pm

In the afternoon, drive to the Moltsoq Els and visit with a camel herder family and visit the area on foot or on camelback.

06:30 pm – 07:30 pm

Dinner

08:00 pm – 09:00 pm

Presentation time at conference room at Three Camel Lodge by Oyungerel Tsedendamba.

September 12, South Gobi Province

07:30 am – 08:30 am

Breakfast

09:00 am – 12:30 pm

Rise in the morning, and drive to Bulgan to meet with an agricultural cooperative and women who grow vegetables. Visit the local school before driving back to the lodge.

01:00 pm – 02:00 pm

Lunch

04:00 pm – 07:00 pm

Drive to the legendary Flaming Cliffs, named for the red-orange sandstone that glows brilliantly at sunrise and sunset. It was here in 1923 that Roy Chapman Andrews and his exploration team from the American Museum of Natural History found the first nest of dinosaur eggs the world had ever seen. To the trained eye, the ancient formations of the Flaming Cliffs are rich with fossils, and paleontological expeditions continue to make significant discoveries at this site.

08:30pm – Delegation briefing meeting

September 13, Ulaanbaatar

06:00 am – 06:00 am

Breakfast

06:30 am

Depart to local airport in Dalanzadgad town.

08:40 am – 10:00 am

Fly to Ulaanbaatar, Hunnu Air #1012. Upon arrival, transfer to hotel. Spend some time at leisure.

01:00pm – 02:00 pm

Lunch at *Asiana* restaurant

02:30 pm – 04:00 pm The Nature Conservancy

Meeting with delegates Tsetseglen Galbadrakh, Galbadrakh Davaa and Enkhtuya Oidov from The Nature Conservancy.

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends. The vision is a world where the diversity of life thrives, and people act to conserve nature for its own sake and its ability to fulfill our needs and enrich our lives.

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/asiaandthepacific/mongolia/>

04:30 pm – 05:30 pm Public Hospital # 1

The group will meet with Munkhtsetseg, a senior physician.

06:00 pm – TBA

Counterpart meeting

September 14, Ulaanbaatar

09:00 am – 10:30 am Visit 11th Secondary School of Ulaanbaatar

Meet with Mrs. Enkhjargal, the school director.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Visit National Center Against Violence

Through the use of community development and engagement, NCAV aims to hold the State accountable for the delivery of safe and equitable support services to survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Meet with Director *Enkhjargal Jadamba*.

<http://www.safefuture.mn/en/news.php?action=content&id=1>

12:30 pm -01:30 pm

Lunch at *BDs Mongolian Barbeque* restaurant.

02:00 pm – 03:30 pm

Meeting at Christina Noble Foundation with Lucy Morris. Blue Skies Ger Village, a residential care facility for children who share in a childhood experience that has been shaped by poverty, abuse, and neglect. The village currently provides a safe, happy, and supportive home for 47 children, one where they are surrounded by respect and unconditional love.

<https://www.cncf.org/the-blue-skies-ger-village-project.html>

02:00 pm – 03:30 pm Mongolia University of Science and Technology

Meeting at with professor A. Uranchimeg

<http://www.must.edu.mn/eng/>

03:30 pm – 05:00 pm U.S Ambassador Jennifer Zimdahl Galt

Ambassador Jennifer Zimdahl Galt will meet the delegation of Friendship Among Women.

Ambassador Jennifer Zumdahl Galt

On May 6, 2015, President Barack Obama nominated Jennifer Zimdahl Galt to be Ambassador of the United States of America to Mongolia. She was confirmed by the Senate on August 5, 2015, and was sworn in on September 15, 2015.

Ambassador Galt, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, formerly served as Principal Officer of the U.S. Consulate General in Guangzhou, China, where she had the privilege of leading and mentoring a talented team of nearly 500, comprising 133 American officers, of whom 62 were first- and second-tour, and over 300 locally-engaged Chinese colleagues. Ambassador Galt's previous postings overseas have included Belgrade, Taipei with the American Institute in Taiwan, Mumbai, Beijing, Shanghai, and the U.S. Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels. In Washington, Ambassador Galt served as Senior Advisor in the State Department's Bureau of Public Affairs and as Deputy Director for Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Ambassador Galt holds Master's degrees from National Defense University and from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), as well as a Bachelor's degree in political science, history and languages from Colorado College in her home state of Colorado. She is fluent in Mandarin and French, and also speaks Italian, Spanish and Serbian.

06:00 pm – 07:30 pm

Enjoy traditional performance at Mongolian Song and Dance Academic Ensemble.

September 15, Ulaanbaatar

09:00 am – 10:30 am Zorig Foundation

Meet with Oyun Sanjaasuren, Director of Zorig Foundation.

<http://zorigfoundation.org>

Oyun Sanjaasuren

Oyun was born in Ulaanbaatar in 1964. In 1987 she finished her studies in geochemistry at the Charles University of Prague. In 1996 she earned a PhD in geology from the Department of Earth Sciences at University of Cambridge. Afterwards, she began working for a multinational mining company called Rio Tinto.

After the murder of her brother S. Zorig, a Mongolian pro-democracy leader, in October 1998, she entered politics. She won the by-elections in her brother's constituency in Dornod, the birthplace of their father Sanjaasuren. In March 2000, she founded the Civil Will Party. The Civil Will Party

holds about ten percent of the public's support (as of the 2008 parliamentary elections). She also served as the Vice-Speaker of Parliament (between 2004-2005) and the Minister of Foreign Affairs (between 2007-2008).

She served as a Minister of Environment and Green Development of Mongolia. Since June, 24th 2014 Dr. Oyun Sanjaasuren is working as the first president of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA). Besides Mongolian, Oyun speaks fluently in Russian, English, and Czech.

11:00 am – 12:30 pm Lotus Children's Center

Founded in 1995 by Didi Ananda Kalika, the Lotus Children's Centre has been up and running for over 20 years.

<http://www.lotuschild.org/about/history/>

1:00 pm – 02:00 pm

Lunch with First lady Bolormaa

2:30 pm – 03:30 pm

Meeting with mining company – TBC

4:00 pm – 05:00 pm Bogd Gegen Winter Palace

We will visit the Bogd Khan Palace, home of Mongolia's last theocrat, Bogd Jabtzan Damba Hutagt VIII, which displays elaborate ceremonial robes, other personal effects of Mongolia's '8th Living Buddha.'

5:00 pm – TBA

Counterpart meeting

September 16, Ulaanbaatar

9:00 am – 10:30 am Current Member of the Parliament

Meeting with Undraa Agvaanluvsan, the current Member of the Parliament.

She has served on several advisory roles for the Mongolian government on issues of nuclear sector development and is still actively collaborating with CISAC scholars on nuclear energy and nuclear proliferation in Asia. She obtained her PhD in 2002 at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, studying nuclear reactions and quantum chaos in nuclei. Following completion of her doctorate, she conducted postdoctoral research work in the Nuclear Experimental Physics group at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She published and co-authored several dozen articles in peer-reviewed journals. At Stanford, Dr. Agvaanluvsan directed an undergraduate research project under the auspices of the Bing Overseas Studies Program. She also taught nuclear energy policy in the International Policy Studies program.

In the past several years, Dr. Agvaanluvsan's research interests have broadened to include policy studies. In the policy arena, she served as an adviser to Mongolia's Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 2010, she was appointed as an Ambassador-at-large on nuclear energy issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Mongolia. Currently, she is a member of the Parliament.

11:00 am – 12:30 pm Mary and Martha

Founded in 2007 with the express intention of running an ethical, fair and transparent business that has a primary objective of supporting the growth of small and micro indigenous businesses in Mongolia. Mary & Martha is a company that stands or falls on the products it sells; it has to make a profit to be self sustaining and to have the cash flow to fund the expanding business and those of its artisans. We believe that we should show ethical, fair and transparent businesses can compete head to head with main stream businesses, without major donations and without running at a loss. Ethical, fair and transparent because that is in our DNA and because many said it was not possible in Mongolia. We follow the principles of “Unashamedly Ethical” personally and corporately ([Unashamedly Ethical Link](#)) and we adhere to the 10 Fair Trade principles used by the World Fair Trade Organisation ([WFTO](#)). We have been members of WFTO since 2011.

<http://www.mmmongolia.com/index.html>

01:00 pm – 02:00 pm

Lunch at *Seoul* restaurant

06:30 pm – 08:30pm

Farewell Reception and dinner at Blue Fin.

September 17, Departure

In the morning, transfer to the airport for your flight home.