

Introduction to the North Route

This is a long ride that takes us through some of the most spectacular country in Mongolia. We see grassland steppe, snow capped mountains, volcanic crater lakes, high plateaus, lakes and rivers. We live in Gers and as well as camp by the lakes and rivers. Almost 1900km and two well earned rest days in the journey.

Please note well: The road network in Mongolia is not well developed and weather can have a strong influence on it's condition. River crossings can change quickly and dry track can turn into slippery mud after a solid rainfall. The route, distances and times may need to be changed without notice to accommodate these uncertainties.

North Route				
	From	via	To	Daily
Day 1	Ulaanbaatar	Lun	Rashaant	
Distance	0	132	129	261
Route	A0301		A0301	
Road Type	Paved	Paved	Impr. Unpaved	
Day1 from Ulaanbaatar to Rashaant (261km). The first day is a relatively easy ride on paved (and pot-holed!) roads to the west, after an early start from our camp in UB. As the condition of the road will vary considerably, this day is time to get used to the bike and get a bit of saddle conditioning. The destination is Rashaant.				
Day 2	Rashaant		Kharhorin	
Distance	0		105	105
Route	A0301		A0601	
Road Type	Paved		Paved	
Day 2 from Rashaant to Kharhorin (105km). After a leisurely start we leave for Kharhorin, where there is a Monastery and other points of interest. Closer to Kharhorin the road changes to "improved unpaved" condition. At Kharhorin there is a Tourist information Centre and sites of Paleolithic findings.				
Day 3	Kharhorin	Tsetserlelg	Tariat	
Distance	0	113	161	274
Route	A0602		A0603	
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	
Day 3 from Kharhorin to Tariat (274km). After an early breakfast, we head to the North West. After Tsetserlelg the trail crosses two river valleys and low hills to Tariat. The ride to Tariat is the first taste of "improved unpaved" - the condition of the roads for most of the trip. Arrive at Tariat National Park - home of the Volcano with the crater lake.				
Day 4	Rest and exploring day. Pre-conditioning for the tough ride the next day. Explore the area and hone the riding skills in this difficult terrain.			
Day 5	Tariat	Volcanic Lake	Turn	Jargalant
Distance	0	30	20	34
Route	A0602	nn	nn	nn
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Earth	Earth	Earth
Day 5 from Tariat to Jargalant (84km). The shortest but hardest ride of the journey - through the national park and around the volcano - all cross country to the town of Jargalant. Here thermal springs and a long soak will take the pain out of this days ride. The river Ider is joined here by two smaller mountain streams.				

Day 6	Jargalant	Galt	Shine-Ider	Moron	
Distance	0	58	36	110	204
Route	Earth	Earth	Earth	Earth	
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	
Day 6 from Jargalant to Moron (204 km). This is a comparatively easy ride through valleys of grassland and across the Bulnayan Nuruu (mountain range), to the city of Moron - the biggest in the north of the country and the gateway way to Lake Hovsgol. We stop at Moron to refuel and stock up.					
Day 7	Moron	Alag-Erdene	Hatgal	Hatgal Camp	
Distance	0	59	44	44	147
Route	A1101	A1101	A1101	nn	
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	
Day 7 from Moron to Hovsgol Camp. Up at a leisurely time for the ride to our camp on Hovsgol Lake. Here we will spend 2 nights, resting and recreating. One part of the journey, crossing a dry river bed will take some time but the rest is a straight forward easy ride.					
Day 8	Rest and Exploring Day				
Day 8 Rest and exploring day. Camp is on the edge of the Lake where the water is clear enough to see through and pure enough to drink. The lake is 130 km long and 30km at its widest point. A ferry makes a daily trip to the northern end of the lake to the town of Hanh, the northern-most town in Mongolia and on the border to Russian Siberia. Easy rides to explore the area or just take it easy at the camp.					
Day 9	Hatgal Camp	Hatgal	Moron	Selenge River Camp	
Distance	0	44	103	78	225
Route	nn	A1101	A1101	A0902	
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved	
Day 9 from Hatgal Camp to River Camp. An early start as we retrace our track back to Moron and onto a river camp in the Selenge Valley.					
Day 10	Selenge River Camp	Hutag-Ondor		Bulgan	
Distance	0	121		131	252
Route	A0902	A0902		A0902	
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved		Impr. Unpaved	
Day 10 from Selenge River camp to Bulgan. Heading east we leave the Selenge River valley and head for the hills. This day involves a lot of mountain climbing and river crossings.					
Day 11	Bulgan	Othon		Bayanhangay	
Distance	0	22		207	229
Route	A0901	A0901		A0901	
Road Type	Impr. Unpaved	Impr. Unpaved		Impr. Unpaved	
Day 11 from Bulgan to Bayanhangay (229 km). More mountains and rivers. Skills should be very high by now.					
Day 12	Bayanhangay			Ulaanbaatar	
Distance	0			113	113
Route	A0901			A0301	
Road Type	Paved			Paved	
Day 12 from Bayanhangay to Ulaanbaatar. The last day of riding is an easy one - short and on paved roads. The total journey takes 12 days (with 2 rest days) and covers 1894 km at an average of 190 km per day.					1894



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