Amazing Peaks Rich Culture Pure Adventure

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# August 31<sup>st</sup> - September 12<sup>th</sup> 2024

www.s2mountainadventures.com

## Mongolia - Altai Expedtion

The 2024 Mongolia Expedition Team will explore the highest peaks and most beautiful valleys of Altai Tavan Bogd National Park. Among the highlights are Mt. Khuiten, the highest mountain in Mongolia and on the shared border with China. Niramdel and Malchin Peaks, which share a ridge with Russia (Siberia). The route to high camp climbs the 15 km long Potanin Glacier, which carves out a gorgeous valley providing seemingly unending visibility through this vast wilderness.

Prior to heading west into the national park, we will explore Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar. Our local english-speaking guides have much to share about their experiences, observations, and connection to Mongolian history of their culture as we visit museums and the largest monastery in the country.

On our way out of the park we visit local nomadic families and stay in a Ger camp; the traditional Mongolian homes still in use today by the nomadic peoples of the steppe who share many aspects of daily life with people from the time of Chinggis Khan.

This is a supported climbing and trekking expedition planned by S2 Mountain Adventures with an individual cost of **\$6,200**.

#### Included in cost:

- All trip planning & logistics
- In-country airport transfers
- Ground transportation
- Accommodation (double occupancy)
- All permits, registrations, and entry fees for national parks and organized excursions
- In-country guide service
- All backcountry meals

#### Plus advance assistance with:

- Conditioning
- Preparation
- Gear selection

#### Not included in cost:

- Personal equipment
- International flights
- Insurance of any kind
- Tips & gratuities (~\$300)
- Airport fees
  - Personal expenditures

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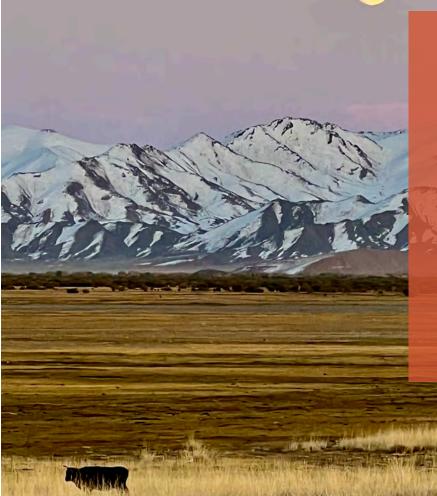


## What to expect

Expect the trip of a lifetime in one of the last truly WILD places on earth! This hybrid trip accommodates intermediate to advanced alpine trekking and entry-level to intermediate mountaineering.

With your experience and goals in mind, S2MA is bringing together the best of Mongolia and the Altai. The itinerary is customized for each team as well as your experience and preferences.

We will travel to Olgii via Mongolian Air and then through the vast land of Kazakh nomads in Soviet era 4x4 UAZ vans, Once we reach the park entrance, we lace up our boots for the beautiful trek to camp. On our trek expect to be passed by local herders and the caravan of camels and horses carrying our team gear and larger packs to basecamp.



The journey overland is one of the last of its kind, you will witness a proud culture that is disappearing as modern life enters this remote corner of the world.

This remarkable journey is punctuated by the warm hospitality of the Kazakh nomads who have inhabited the western province of Bayan-Ölgii for over a thousand years. Here we visit with nomadic shepherds, then head to the snowcapped, glaciated peaks of the Altai.

Geographically, much of the landscape is defined by pastures providing habitat for an abundance of wildlife that includes fox, bear, lynx and a variety of raptors.

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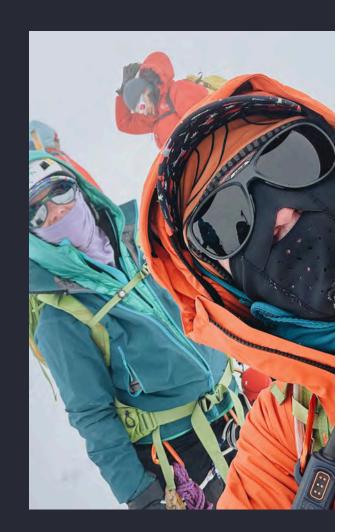
## **Trekking Team**

There are many, many non-technical peaks in the Altai. Trekkers can choose to do some exploration of the region or if you'd like to gain more technical experience we can accommodate that too!

Trekkers are invited to spend time on the glacier to develop and practice basic alpine travel skills such as crampon use and rope team glacier travel. Please let us know if you're interested in joining so we can support your goals!

#### **Trekking Prerequisites**

- Ability to carry 15-25 lbs pack with your personal items for the day
- If you plan to join us at high camp for glacier & snow skills you should be comfortable carrying a 30-35 lbs pack
- Ability to maintain an average pace of approximately 2 mph on rolling terrain





### **Climbing Team**

The climbing team will share many of the same objectives as the rest of the team, but will spend a day making the summit bid for Mt. Khuiten. This is a technical climb and requires glacier travel skills due to crevasses and steep snow/ice slopes.

#### **Climbing Prerequisites**

- All trekking prereqs
- Successful completion of a multi-day alpine training course or equivalent experience such as....
- Mt. Baker, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Washington (winter ascent), or similar peaks
- Glacier travel, self arrest, and confidence on moderate slopes of 45-50 degrees



### Planning & Conditioning

In an effort to help our members prepare, we schedule a series of team meetings to assist with physical conditioning, personal gear selection and individual logistics. Pre-trip planning will include discussions on appropriate gear necessary for a warm and enjoyable experience.

You will also have access to S2MA staff ready to assist you with planning and preparation.

Members are also invited to join us for weekend conditioning treks in the Blue Ridge Mountains (Virginia) for personal assessment.

Finally, we are available to our team members on an individual basis to assist in their personal preparation and planning – we want your experience in Mongolia to be amazing!

### Gear - What should I bring?

We know gear and are more than happy to share our experience with you to help you choose the right gear so you can be comfortable and successful on our Altai Expedition.

Upon registration, all team members will receive a detailed gear list which covers all necessary clothing and equipment. Our gear list includes modern examples of gear that we use ourselves in some of the harshest environments on the planet.

We realize that gear selection can be overwhelming for some and deeply personal for others. Should you need any assistance with selection to ensure performance in the field or help optimize your comfort, we are available to assist.

Group gear is provided and includes items such as tents, cook tents, camp kitchen and other common basic necessities.



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## 2024 Mongolia Altai Expedition

