

JULY 30 – AUGUST 14, 2027

Exclusive musical journey into the soul of Mongolia



Experience Mongolia in a way few travelers ever do. This 14-day journey weaves music, ancient traditions and vast landscapes into a deeply immersive and unforgettable experience.

Dear friends,

For many years, we have been sharing the music, stories and traditions of Mongolia in Europe through our concept "Altai". We have welcomed people in workshops, concerts, events, retreats... always carrying a deep wish: one day, to invite people to experience this culture where it truly lives.

That moment has now arrived.

In 2007, Rowan joined a journey through Mongolia with one of his throat singing teachers. Traveling across vast landscapes, singing in nature, meeting musicians and nomads: that journey became a turning point. It shaped not only his path as a musician, but also the vision that would later grow into Altai. Now, many years later, it feels incredibly meaningful to invite you to join us on our very first journey through Mongolia: together!

This 14-day experience is our way of opening the door to the soul of Mongolia. We will travel slowly and with intention, learning Mongolian throat singing in nature, discovering the Altai Harp with one of its leading masters, and meeting inspiring people who carry these traditions as part of daily life. Along the way, there will be moments of music, silence, tradition and connection: moments that cannot always be planned, only experienced.

This journey would not be possible without the help of our amazing team in Mongolia: musicians, guides, cooks and culture bearers who you will meet throughout the journey. Thanks to our deep personal connections - family, friends and long-time collaborators - we are able to travel in a way that is respectful, authentic and truly special.

Altai was founded with the mission to share Mongolian culture and arts in Europe with care, depth and honesty. With this journey, that mission comes full circle: not only bringing Mongolia to Europe, but now inviting Europe into Mongolia.

We would be honored to travel this path with you.

With warmth,
Rowan & Saran

**What makes this
journey so unique**

What makes this journey so unique.

This journey is unlike any other. It brings together music, nature, people, tradition and the soul of Mongolia in a way that is deeply rooted, carefully guided and hard to find elsewhere. It may sound like a cliché: but we truly put our hearts into creating something genuinely special.



A journey into Mongolia itself: This is not a tour about Mongolia... it is a journey **through** Mongolia. You don't observe from the outside, but travel slowly through the land, guided by people for whom this culture is a living reality.



Music where it was born: You learn Mongolian throat singing and the Altai Harp in the landscapes that shaped these traditions. Singing in nature, listening to the wind, water and silence, you experience how music and environment are inseparable in Mongolian culture.



Altai Harp at its roots: Three full days are dedicated to the Altai Harp at a small-scale yurt camp in nature. Guided by Ganpurev: researcher, composer and one of the key figures in reviving this instrument. You become part of a living musical history.



Daily throat singing workshops in nature: Throughout the journey, throat singer Saruul guides daily workshops at special outdoor locations. Together you explore all the throat singing techniques and experience how they are deeply connected to imitating natural elements such as wind, water and animal sounds.



Shamanic traditions experienced with respect: You are invited to witness and experience shamanic ceremonies and rituals in an authentic way — guided by people who carry these traditions within their families and communities.



Guided by deep personal connections: Thanks to our long-standing relationships in Mongolia, such as family, friends and trusted local partners, we travel in a way that opens doors usually closed to visitors. These connections shape the depth, warmth and authenticity of the journey.



Small-scale and personal: We travel with a consciously small group, allowing space for personal attention, shared moments and genuine connection — with each other, with our guides, and with the land itself.



Fully arranged, yet free to breathe: The journey is fully arranged on the ground, including transport, accommodation, workshops and meals, with private chefs traveling along. At the same time, there is room for flexibility, rest and spontaneous moments — following the rhythm of the land rather than a rigid schedule.

More than a journey: This is our very first time inviting people to travel through Mongolia with us. It brings together everything Altai stands for: sharing Mongolian music, culture and tradition with care, depth and integrity... now, finally, in the place where it all began.

**Meet
the team**

Please meet the team behind this journey.



Rowan Hartsuiker

Musician, teacher, and co-founder of Altai. For over twenty years, Rowan has immersed himself in Mongolian throat singing, overtone singing, and traditional instruments such as the Morin Khuur, Tovshuur, Altai Harp, and jaw harp. His music bridges tradition and experience, touching people at their core.

Together with his wife Saran, he shares a passion for cultural exchange through their concept “Altai.” During retreats and workshops, Rowan brings these musical traditions to life in an accessible and personal way.



Saran Myagmarsuren-Hartsuiker

Founder of Altai and born in Mongolia, where she grew up in a traditional yurt on the countryside. Saran embodies her culture – and you feel it in the hospitality, the atmosphere, and the care with which she embraces every retreat and workshop. Her love for cooking and culture makes each experience truly special.

Together with Rowan, she is the heart of Altai: warm, connected, and genuine. She invites you to taste the Mongolian tradition – in every sense of the word.



Altansuvd
Gongor

Suvdaa

Altansuvd Gongor, known as Suvdaa, grew up in a traditional Mongolian yurt and moved to Berlin at the age of eighteen for her studies. Living for many years in Germany, she developed a strong understanding of both Mongolian and European cultures. Since 2006, Suvdaa has been organizing authentic, small-scale journeys through Mongolia for European guests. Thanks to her close connections with nomadic families, musicians and local communities, she offers access to places and traditions that often remain hidden to outsiders.



Saruultugs
Myagmarjav

Saruul

Saruul was born in Chandman, a village in western Mongolia widely regarded as the birthplace of Mongolian throat singing. Growing up in a family of renowned throat singers, he became part of a living tradition passed down through generations.

Today, Saruul works full-time as a professional throat singer based in Ulaanbaatar. Alongside his performances, he is dedicated to teaching and sharing the many styles and techniques of khöömii, helping others experience its deep connection to nature and sound.



Ganpurev
Dagvan

Ganpurev

Ganpurev is a musician, composer and researcher dedicated to the revival of the Altai Harp. After the instrument was discovered in 2008, he played a key role in bringing it back to life, developing modern playing and teaching methods.

Through his research and compositions, Ganpurev connects ancient musical heritage with contemporary practice, making the Altai Harp accessible to new generations while honoring its historical roots.

**Day to day
program**

Full program coming soon.

Here is a first glimpse

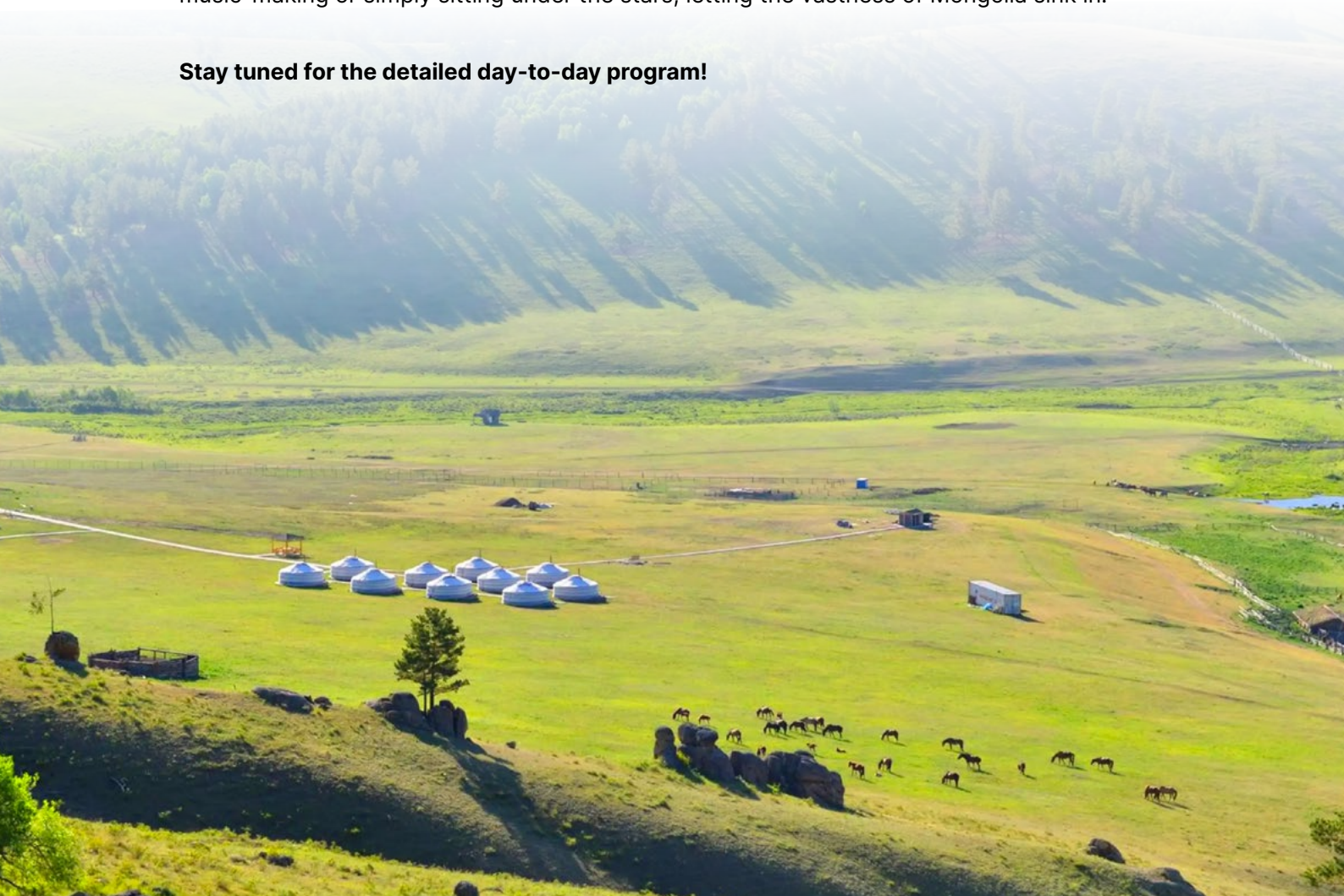
The detailed day-to-day program will be shared soon. Here's a first impression of the flow and spirit of this journey. This 14-day experience unfolds in two deeply connected parts.

We begin with three immersive days at Tsagaan Bulag, a small-scale yurt camp in the heart of Mongolian nature, fully dedicated to learning and discovering the Altai Harp under the guidance of Ganpurev. Days here move at a gentle rhythm, shaped by music sessions, quiet moments in nature, shared meals and space to rest and integrate.

From there, the journey continues into an 11-day fully arranged tour through Central Mongolia. Each day brings a new landscape, a new atmosphere and new encounters — from vast open plains and sacred natural sites to meetings with nomadic families. Music remains a constant companion throughout the journey, with daily throat singing workshops led by Saruul, often held outdoors at places where sound, silence and nature naturally meet.

Days flow organically between travel, walks in nature, musical workshops, cultural encounters and moments of stillness. Evenings are for shared meals, reflection, informal music-making or simply sitting under the stars, letting the vastness of Mongolia sink in.

Stay tuned for the detailed day-to-day program!



Frequently Asked Questions

Who is this journey for?

This journey is for people who feel drawn to music, nature and culture. And of course everyone who has a special interest in Mongolia in general. You don't need prior experience with throat singing, the Altai Harp or Mongolia... curiosity, openness and a willingness to travel mindfully are far more important.

Do I need musical experience?

No. Both the Altai Harp and the throat singing workshops are accessible to beginners. Everything is taught step by step, with space to explore at your own pace.

How does pricing work with different group sizes?

The price of the journey is based on group size. Because we work with a small group and many local partners, the final price becomes lower as more participants join.

Before signing up, you will always see the full price overview, including the minimum and maximum possible price, so you know in advance what range to expect.

To confirm your participation, you first pay a deposit of €250. Approximately six months before the start of the journey, once the group size is clear, you will receive an email confirming the final price and an invoice for the remaining balance. This way, you always know where you stand and there are no surprises.

What kind of food can I expect during the journey?

We travel with a private cook, which allows us to offer nourishing, freshly prepared meals and to accommodate (dietary) wishes as much as possible.

Mongolia is a country of extremes... including when it comes to food availability. This means that in remote areas, flexibility is sometimes required and ingredients depend on what is locally available.

Rowan and Saran have been vegetarian/vegan for over 10 years and live with a strong awareness of animal welfare and respect for animals. During the journey, they will eat vegetarian and vegan whenever possible, and this mindset is reflected in the meals we aim to provide. However, we cannot guarantee that animal products will never be present or prepared, especially in remote regions where traditional cuisine and availability play an important role.

If you have specific dietary wishes or requirements (vegetarian, vegan, allergies, intolerances, medical reasons), please let us know well in advance. We are happy to discuss what is realistically possible.

Is this journey physically demanding?

The journey includes travel days, walks in nature and time spent outdoors. A basic level of fitness is recommended, but activities are generally accessible and adapted to the group. Participation is always voluntary... listening to your body is encouraged.

What is the group size?

We travel with a small group, allowing for personal attention, flexibility and genuine connection. This is an intentional choice to keep the experience intimate and meaningful. We hope to welcome a group of around 10 to 12 people.

What language is spoken during the journey?

The journey is conducted primarily in English. Rowan and Saran also speak Dutch and Mongolian, and Suvdaa speaks also German and English. Mongolian will naturally be spoken by local guides and musicians, and translations will be provided whenever needed.

Do I need a visa for Mongolia?

Visa requirements depend on your nationality. Participants are responsible for checking whether a tourist visa is required and arranging this in advance if needed. Please consult the Mongolian embassy or consulate in your country for the most up-to-date information.

Is travel insurance required?

Yes. A valid travel insurance is mandatory. We also strongly recommend taking out cancellation insurance, as we cannot guarantee refunds in case of personal cancellation.

Is this a spiritual or religious journey?

This journey includes encounters with shamanic (and Buddhist) traditions and rituals, experienced respectfully and authentically. Participation is always optional. No specific beliefs are required — openness and respect are key.

Is the program fixed?

Mongolia asks for flexibility. While the journey is carefully planned, the program may be adjusted due to weather, local circumstances or safety considerations. We see this as part of traveling in harmony with the land.

I still have questions — what should I do?

Feel free to reach out to us anytime. We're happy to answer questions and help you decide whether this journey is the right fit for you.

Pricing and Information

Pricing and Information

Because we organize this trip together with our local partners, we can lower the price when the group grows. However, we keep the group aware small and personal — our ideal is 10—12 participants, so that everyone gets full attention and guidance.

- 7 participants: €3.450 p.p.
- 8 participants: €3.300 p.p.
- 9 participants: €3.200 p.p.
- 10 participants: €3.100 p.p.
- 11 participants: €3.050 p.p.
- 12 participants: €3.000 p.p.
- 13 participants: €2.950 p.p.
- 14—15 participants: €2.850 p.p.

Airline tickets not included. If you book early enough, these costs are between €500-800.

The above price includes:

- 3-days Altai Harp workshops guided by expert
- Daily musical throat singing workshops accompanied by Saruul
- A unique 14-day, fully arranged tour in a small group
- Visit to some of Mongolia's most beautiful places
- Authentic encounters with nomads, guided by Mongolia experts
- Shamanic rituals and spiritual moments
- The power of silence and space like you don't feel anywhere else
- Experience the real dark, with unprecedentedly clear starry skies
- Singing in nature in places with magical acoustics
- Meetings with Mongolian professional artists
- A private chef who travels with you

Ready to sign up?

Simply send us an email (rowan@altaiyurt.nl) or WhatsApp message: **+31 6 40 85 18 46** to receive information about the registration.

Practical info and Terms

Participation & Payment: To confirm your participation, a deposit of €250 is required. The remaining balance will be invoiced approximately six to four months before departure.

Visa Requirements: Participants are responsible for checking whether their nationality requires a tourist visa for Mongolia. If a visa is required, it must be arranged independently and in advance. Visa regulations can change every year, so we recommend consulting the official website of the Mongolian embassy or consulate in your country.

Cancellation by Participant: You may cancel free of charge up to 4 months before the journey. If you cancel within 4 months of the start date, we can only refund your payment if we are able to fill your spot with another participant. For this reason, we strongly recommend taking out a cancellation insurance.

Cancellation by Altai: We reserve the right to cancel the journey if there are fewer than 7 participants. In this case, you will receive a full refund of all payments made.

In the event of force majeure (such as extreme weather, political instability or other circumstances beyond our control), we are not obliged to issue a refund. In such cases, we will always work with you to find a suitable solution, such as rescheduling or a credit for a future journey. Altai cannot be held responsible for additional costs such as flights or insurance.

Insurance: A valid travel insurance is mandatory for participation. Participants book their own flight tickets and are responsible for arranging appropriate travel and (optional) cancellation insurance themselves.

Program Flexibility: The itinerary may be slightly adjusted due to weather conditions, safety considerations or local circumstances. Any changes will always be made with the quality and safety of the experience in mind.

Language: The journey is conducted primarily in English. Rowan also speaks Dutch and Mongolian, Suvdaa speaks fluent Mongolian, German and English, Saran speaks fluent Dutch and Mongolian. During the journey, Mongolian will naturally be spoken (for example by Saruul or local hosts). Whenever needed, translation will be provided to ensure everyone feels included.

Important to Know: Altai is not a travel company, but offers a small-scale cultural journey in close cooperation with reliable Mongolian partners. Transportation, accommodations and on-site activities are carried out by experienced local professionals. By signing up, you acknowledge that you travel at your own responsibility and participate properly insured.

General Terms and Conditions

1. Organization & Responsibility

- Altai (Rowan & Saran) is not a registered travel agency.
- This journey is organized in collaboration with local Mongolian partners, who are responsible for transportation, accommodation and activities on site.
- Participation is at the traveler's own responsibility, and participants must be physically and mentally fit to join the program.

2. Flights & Insurance

- Participants are responsible for booking their own international flights to and from Mongolia.
- A valid travel insurance is mandatory for participation.
- We strongly recommend taking out cancellation insurance, which covers costs in case of illness or other unforeseen circumstances.

3. Payment

- Participation is confirmed after receipt of the deposit.
- The remaining balance must be paid approximately four months prior to departure.
- Failure to complete payment may result in cancellation of participation.

4. Cancellation by Participant

- In case of cancellation, Altai cannot guarantee a full refund, as costs are incurred with local partners in advance.
- Any eligible reimbursement should be claimed through the participant's own cancellation insurance.
- Altai reserves the right to charge reasonable administration costs.

5. Program Changes

- The itinerary may be adjusted due to weather conditions, safety concerns or unforeseen local circumstances.
- Altai reserves the right to modify routes, locations or activities when necessary.
- Wherever possible, suitable alternatives will be offered.

6. Liability

- Participation in this journey is entirely at the participant's own risk.
- Altai is not liable for injury, loss, damage, delays or changes caused by third parties or circumstances beyond our control.
- Adequate insurance is the responsibility of each participant.

7. Conduct & Group Dynamics

- This journey is designed for a small and harmonious group.
- Altai reserves the right to refuse or terminate participation if a participant's behavior negatively affects the group, safety or overall experience.

8. Photography & Media

- Photos and videos may be taken during the journey.
- By participating, you grant permission for the use of such material for Altai promotional purposes, unless you notify us in writing beforehand.

9. Acceptance of Terms

- By registering for this journey, participants confirm that they have read, understood and agreed to these General Terms & Conditions.