



# Left Field Luxe

A LUXURY TRAVEL MAGAZINE

## *Mongolia: Polo in Marco Polo Land*



Did you know you can play polo in the land that Marco Polo ventured to and met with Kublai Khan? Yes, polo novices (and more experienced players alike) can venture to Mongolia. A country of rugged deserts, crystal lakes and grasslands so deep and green that they look like emerald-coloured velvet carpets from afar.

Mongolia is an interesting place to do polo at the moment because the country is in the middle of a Polo renaissance. Although the Mongols' cavalry used to play polo in the Medieval period, it fell into obscurity until 13 years ago when it was brought back as a national sport.

Since then, the country's most talented polo players have attended international competitions in Asia such as the Beijing International Polo Open Tournament and the World Elephant Polo Association Championship in Nepal. A particularly exciting time for Mongolian polo is the Genghis Khan Polo Cup 27-29 August, which also includes a traditional sporting festival with wrestling, horse racing and archery (Nadaam).



Genghis Khan Polo Club overlooks the river Orkhon in Mongolia. It hosts 60 horses and can accommodate up to 25 guests at a time. It's very beginner family, and very much encourages families with younger children to pay them a

visit. The school has specialised trainers to introduce beginners and even new riders to the game.



Polo training takes place in the afternoon and evening. There are lots of activity options to fill in the free time. Like horse trekking through the lakes and mountains of the Orkhon National Park, archery, fishing, mountain biking

and even a spot of Kendo. Accommodation is in comfortable Gers.