

REAL weddings & HONEYMOONS

MARTHA STEWART

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Next Great Escapes

A new twist on a popular European city. The latest foodie getaway in South America. An undiscovered Mexico beach escape. (Yes, it does exist!) These eight spots around the world have caught our eye for a variety of exciting reasons—and each one is guaranteed to deliver an unforgettable honeymoon experience you won't find anywhere else.

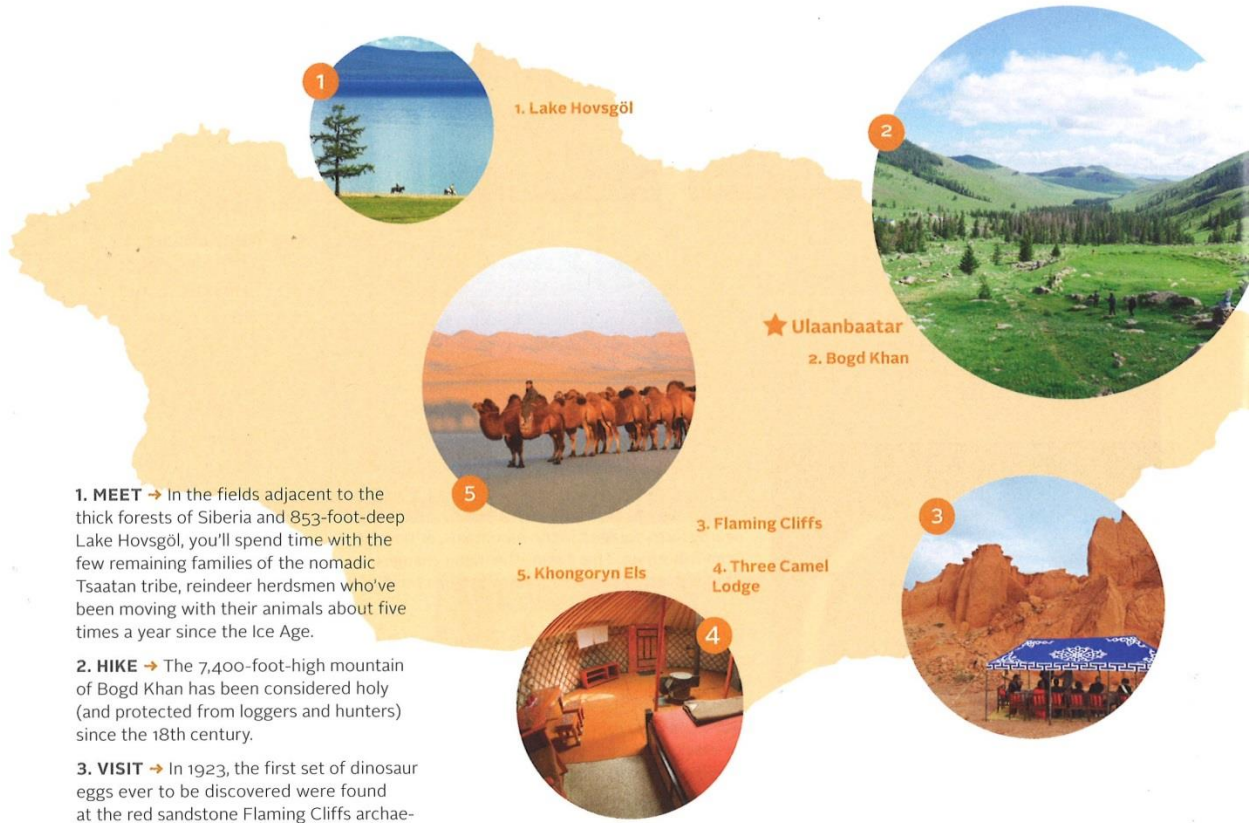
TEXT BY KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS

Relaxing in the pool at the new Sonesta Ocean Point Resort in St. Maarten

COURTESY SONESTA OCEAN POINT

THE ADVENTURE ZONE MONGOLIA

Why Go Now The wide-open grasslands; rugged, wind-hewn mountains; and untamed wildlife here are more accessible than ever, with outfitters tailoring trips for intrepid couples. Get your bearings in Western comfort at the 290-room **Shangri-La Hotel, Ulaanbaatar** (shangri-la.com; doubles from \$200), which opened last June on Great Chinggis Khaan Square. Then join **Nomadic Expeditions** (nomadicexpeditions.com; 14-day trips from \$5,995 per person) for your choice of only-in-Mongolia thrills, including overnights in yurts and visits with local nomadic reindeer herdsman. Below, our point-by-point map to experiences your guide will bring your way.



1. MEET → In the fields adjacent to the thick forests of Siberia and 853-foot-deep Lake Hovsgöl, you'll spend time with the few remaining families of the nomadic Tsaatan tribe, reindeer herdsman who've been moving with their animals about five times a year since the Ice Age.

2. HIKE → The 7,400-foot-high mountain of Bogd Khan has been considered holy (and protected from loggers and hunters) since the 18th century.

3. VISIT → In 1923, the first set of dinosaur eggs ever to be discovered were found at the red sandstone Flaming Cliffs archaeological site. You'll dig for more remains, then enjoy a gourmet picnic dinner.

4. STAY → Consider Three Camel Lodge—a collection of luxe felt-covered gers (yurts) in the Gobi desert—your home base. With private bathrooms, king-size hand-carved beds topped by camel hair blankets, and attendants stoking the fire and proffering thermoses of hot tea, there's nothing cozier.

5. RIDE AND TRACK → Here's a snapshot for the future grandkids: you two atop towering camels traversing the Khongoryn Els, sand dunes that reach up to 2,625 feet. During the winter, you may even spot the endangered (and notoriously elusive) snow leopard; its habitat is the nearby Gegeet Valley, and there are only some 4,000 left in the wild.

Best time to go Early July for warm weather and the Naadam Festival—like Mongolia's own Olympics—which takes place in the Gobi Desert. Late November is best for tracking snow leopards.
Getting there 26 hours from New York City, with one stop; 20 hours from Los Angeles, with one stop.

THE EUROPEAN ESCAPEDE: Faroe Islands

Slung between Iceland and Norway, this archipelago of 18 untrammled isles (population: just over 50,000) was purportedly founded by Vikings, the original adrenaline junkies. Latter-day thrill-seekers can hike the cliffside Bøsdalafossur waterfall, dive some of the globe's cleanest water, and see a colossal puffin population that hovers around one million in summer. The fact that the locavore restaurant scene rivals what you'll find in Copenhagen is just icing on the hazelnut oatcake. Stay at the sod-roofed **Hotel Føroyar** (hotelforoyar.com), which features furniture by Philippe Starck and commanding views of Nólsoy Fjord.

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ALAMY (ULAANBAATAR); COURTESY NOMADIC EXPEDITIONS