



*Enriching Lives Through Distinctive Journeys*

For Immediate Release

## MESMERIZING MONGOLIA

### Big Five & Nomadic Expeditions launch *Mongolia: The Private Collection*

Stuart, FL (Nov 1, 2012) – Mongolia is one of those increasingly rare locales that seems to belong to another time. It still calls up images of nomadic tribesmen on the wind-swept Mongolian steppes, the Silk Road, the vast empty Gobi Desert and herds of rugged wild horses.

Until recently, exploring Mongolia has for the most part meant traveling in groups, with little or no flexibility. In an exclusive arrangement, Big Five Tours & Expeditions has teamed with Nomadic Expeditions in create *Mongolia: The Private Collection*. This series of adventures offer exclusive travel into remote, seldom visited regions and encounters with the nomadic communities of the Mongolian steppes on a private basis.

This collection is not intended for everyone. These specialized journeys combine travel by private plane or helicopter with stays in traditional Mongolian gers. There are opportunities to get to know nomadic families of the Mongolian steppes. Big Five has arranged for its guests to enjoy special access such as meeting one of the leading paleontologists of Mongolia in the Gobi Desert to learn about the fascinating dinosaur fossils discovered there.

“We are thrilled with this new collaboration,” said Ashish Sanghrajka, president of Big Five. “because we are partnering with our long-time friend, Jalsa Urubshurow, who is the president and CEO of Nomadic Expeditions.

“As Big Five has done in others regions, including Kenya, Colombia and Ecuador, we are once again taking the lead with new customized adventures to a region that has not received the attention it should have. Our partnership with Nomadic allows us to offer greater depth and authenticity while embracing sustainability.”

One of our new itineraries is Big Five’s 10-day *Mongolia Private Collection: Lake Hovsgol & Gobi Desert*, which features Lake Hovsgol, one of just 17 ancient lakes worldwide that are more than two million years old. It is also one of the most pristine lakes in the world. Guests will meet local families in their traditional homes. Activities include horseback riding - Mongolian-style, hiking and kayaking. The journey takes in the 1,000-year-old Uushgiin Deer Stones, one of the best-preserved monuments of its kind in Mongolia; and includes the vast, dramatic Gobi Desert with its famous Flaming Cliffs. The new Mongolia adventures are part of the Kao Gu Collection, and can be found on: <http://www.bigfive.com/new-reality/kao-gu-collection.html>.

## -2- Big Five Tours & Expeditions

Big Five selects partners that echo its own corporate sustainability practices. Nomadic Expeditions' award-winning, sustainable The Three Camel Lodge is featured in these journeys. This completely solar-powered property serves as a base for scientific research and wildlife monitoring and actively fights against animal poaching and the unauthorized removal of dinosaur fossils from paleontological sites. Hunting has been prohibited within a 12-mile radius of the camp. In an effort to preserve the population of indigenous Gobi plants and provide cover for migratory birds that visit nearby Mt. Bulagtai, the Lodge has planted over 6,000 native plants and trees throughout the camp since 2003.

"We support sustainable operations today," stated Sanghrajka, "to help insure the future of remarkable places like Mongolia," Sanghrajka added.

### **Big Five Tours & Expeditions**

With more than 40 years experience in luxury adventure travel, Big Five Tours & Expeditions offers luxury guided travel to Africa, Asia & the Orient, South & Central America, Arctic and the Antarctica. For more information, contact Big Five, (800) 244 3483, or email: [info@bigfive.com](mailto:info@bigfive.com); in Canada, (888) 244 3483, [info@bigfivetours.ca](mailto:info@bigfivetours.ca).

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*Press kit available*

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