



「The unforgettable landscape I encountered in Mongolia」

— Miyakonojo City Hall Employee Kondo Haruka —

Hello everyone of MIA NEWS, my name is Haruka Kondo and I am with the Japanese Embassy stationed in Mongolia. In 2017 I began employment at Miyakonojo City Hall and worked in Miyakonojo City however, I am fortunate to now work in Mongolia on a two year limited time stay. I transferred to Mongolia in June and experienced firsthand the fervor that came with welcoming the Japanese Emperor and Empress during their visit to Mongolia. Shortly after assuming my post, I was fortunate to be given such a valuable experience. On the other hand, when I first began my post the weather was amicable but my Miyazaki raised self was shocked by the chilly weather that began during the last ten days of August.

Well, with that being said, what sort of impressions do you all have pertaining Mongolia? Those who pictured sumo wrestlers, the drama *VIVANT*, nomads, prairies and deserts, etc. are probably in the majority. Personally, I still vividly remember the moment I was taken aback by the meadows that stretch as far as the eye can see. There is also Ulaanbaatar, the city that ratified a sister city relation with Miyakonojo in 1999, with its lined up high-rise buildings—truly a metropolis. I sensed that being able to appreciate both metropolitan townscapes plus magnificent nature combines together to form Mongolia's allure.

With that being said, while only showcasing a small part and through pictures, I'd like to share with you the Mongolia that I experienced.

Firstly, as expected the nature is grandiose. Miyazaki-prefecture is a land also abundant with nature but Mongolia's nature holds a charm different to Miyazaki. In August I made a trip to a countryside area called Kharkhorin. By car it took around 4 hours one way but

for Mongolia that is apparently considered "close" lol. During the journey, there were seemingly infinitely spanning meadows and I got so excited feeling like I had come to a new world (my gamer self was reminded of the Legend of Zelda lol). While dazedly staring at that scenery and doing absolutely nothing, I felt my soul be cleansed. Additionally, there were countless cows, sheep, and horses in the meadows and I even got to witness them crossing the street in a group. Driving along the plains in a car on unpaved roads or trackless paths had a feeling of thrilling adventure.

When I stayed in the nomadic tribe's yurt, my heart was taken by the interior's colorful and adorable hues and patterns, as well as undeniably, by the yurt's livability! Not only do you not feel the morning or the evening's cold, even though there aren't windows the structure doesn't let heat buildup, making it a very comfortable environment perfect for a nap lol. Also, in Mongolia you are able to experience riding horses and camels. There is of course a danger of falling off of your ride so you have to be careful but the strolling on the back of a horse or camel through meadows and deserts is a special sensation that you can't experience in Japan.

Mongolia possesses an allure that can't be fully illustrated with just this article alone. I would be so glad if there were even a few among you who think "I want to go to Mongolia/I want to know more!" Mongolia's comfortable season is summer time. Please consider Mongolia as a future travel destination!



**Movies info** C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571)  
17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki Map-Code (GPS): 117 488 540\*55



- Avatar Fire and Ash
- Zootopia 2
- Scarlet
- Tokyo Taxi
- Bomb \*Bakudan

- Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba – The Movie: Infinity Castle
- Hatsukoi Geinin (The First Love Comedian)
- Last Man: First Love
- Mobile Suit Gundam Hathaway's Flash: The Witch of Circe (1/30)