



The Life & Legacy of Genghis Khan Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What dates and hours are the museum and this temporary exhibit open?

A. *The Life & Legacy of Genghis Khan* will be on view at OMSI from Oct. 24, 2020, to Feb. 15, 2021. Please visit omsi.edu for the latest information on dates and times.

Q. How much does it cost to attend the exhibit? Where can I purchase tickets?

A. Guests can purchase tickets to *The Life & Legacy of Genghis Khan* online at omsi.edu or via phone at 503.797.4000.

	Non-Member Pricing	OMSI Member Pricing
Adults (14+)	\$12	Free
Youth (3-13)	\$10	Free
Seniors (63+)	\$8	Free

Learn more about becoming an [OMSI Member](#)!

Q. How long does it take to see the exhibit?

A. Individual visit times will vary, but most guests can anticipate spending 60 to 90 minutes viewing *The Life & Legacy of Genghis Khan*. There is no time limit within the exhibit, and guests may enjoy it for as long as the museum is open.

Q. Is photography permitted in the exhibit?

A. Absolutely! Guests are encouraged to take photos so they can share with their friends and family (don't forget to tag the museum: @omsi and #omsi). Guests should respect the privacy of others and not use flash, so as not to distract from the exhibit experience.

Q. Are food and drink permitted in the exhibit?

A. Food or drink are not permitted in the featured exhibit hall.

Q. Can I bring my stroller into the exhibit if I have young children with me?

A. Yes. Strollers are permitted inside the exhibit.

Q. What COVID-19 related measures is OMSI taking to ensure everyone's health and safety?

A. We have taken several measures to prioritize everyone's health and safety:

- Exhibit admissions are limited to 25% of regular capacity and timed entries are staggered.
- Guests and staff are required to wear face coverings
- Social distancing reminder signs help decrease crowding.
- Enhanced cleaning protocols and additional hand sanitizing stations have been implemented throughout the exhibit.

Q. What is *The Life & Legacy of Genghis Khan*?

A. This exhibit tells the story of how Genghis Khan—a poor, fatherless, nomadic boy—developed the skill and cunning to establish the largest land empire ever to exist. Visitors will learn how his descendants established the modern borders of nations from India to Iran, and Korea to China, and opened the trade routes that united East and West, forever after.

The exhibit also features nearly 300 spectacular objects. These rare and sophisticated weapons, costumes, jewels, ornaments, instruments, and numerous other fascinating relics and artifacts present the story of how Genghis Khan impacted world history.

Q. Is this exhibit appropriate for children?

A. This exhibit is appropriate for audiences of all ages, including younger guests. While it does cover many of the aggressive aspects of Genghis Khan and the Mongol Army, the violence of war is not glorified—rather, it is examined through a historical lens that lends itself to teaching and learning opportunities.

However, we recognize that every family is different and individual children are at varying stages of development. We recommend that you become familiar with and discuss the exhibition with any accompanying children before deciding whether or not to share this experience with them.

In addition to several fascinating cultural artifacts and large immersive sets, character cards provide an opportunity for younger guests to understand what life might have been like for someone living in Genghis Khan’s time. Children can easily engage with this element of the exhibit, and follow the unique story of their individual character throughout the exhibit.

Q. What is the Genetic Connection?

A. The Genetic Connection exhibit explores gene inheritance and Y-chromosomal lineages to examine how DNA research has found 16 million modern-day men to be descendants of Genghis Khan. Topics of genetic inheritance and biological relationships are framed primarily through a scientific lens.

Guests visiting OMSI with or without their biological relatives will be able to consider their genes and understand the science behind their physical traits. The exhibit also discusses environmental impacts on traits as well as learned behaviors. We hope this exhibit content challenges visitors to reflect on their own personal identity, especially considering whether or not their DNA influences their feelings of identity—e.g., if a DNA test revealed ancestry you were previously unaware of, how might that alter your identity?

Q. Can we say with absolute certainty that Genghis is the actual progenitor of so many people?

A. No, researchers can’t say with 100% certainty that he is the ancestor of so many, given Genghis Khan’s burial site has never been discovered. Without his body, scientists can’t test his DNA.

However, other forms of scientific evidence suggest Genghis Khan as the originator. Given where he lived in Mongolia during the 13th century, the power he wielded as a ruler, the populations that contain his specific Y chromosome, and by tracing the timeline from where the Y chromosome originated, researchers are generally confident that Genghis Khan is the most likely forbearer of millions of people.

Q. Does this exhibit give visitors the opportunity to explore different perceptions of Genghis Khan?

A. It is clear that the social and political advancements made by Genghis Khan came at an extreme human and social cost. The Mongol warriors were responsible for several millions deaths. The rape and mistreatment of women at the hands of Genghis Khan was also significant, and is one of the topics addressed in The Genetic Connection gallery of the exhibit.

OMSI aims to provide visitors with space to consider and discuss the many sides of Genghis Khan. We encourage visitors to share their thoughts and reflections through a digital talk-back board located in The Genetic Connection part of the exhibit.