

PEOPLE . PLACES

THE EAGLE HUNTERS OF MONGOLIA

52' (GER, ENG subs), 45' (GER, FRE)

While most of the steppe people hunt with falcons, the Berkutschi prefer eagles - the cleverer bird of prey.

When the first snow falls, Baibolat rides up into the mountains with his eagle. This marks the start of the hunting season in the Altai Mountains. Baibolat lives with his wife Altingül and his five-year-old son Baka in a yurt. They are nomads and have just arrived in their autumn camp. Baibolat is a Berkutschi, a Kazakh eagle hunter and in north-western Mongolia, the Berkutschi are held in high esteem. Baibolat the eagle hunter is in pursuit of the sought-after winter fur of hares, marmots and foxes with his bird of prey.

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