

Classic Everest

25 DAYS / SMALL GROUP OR PRIVATE TOUR / TREKKING TOUR /

This is a long and demanding, world-class trek that takes you right through beautiful wooded valleys, along cold, clear mountain rivers, and into the soaring, snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas. The trek culminates in a climb to the high mountain glacial region of Everest Base Camp. The trek is justifiably famous for being both challenging and rewarding, and yet remains open to most who have the stamina and determination to make it.



Regular small-group departures run throughout the trekking seasons. Call or check the website for dates and prices. Private and tailor-made options are also available on request.

Please refer to page 4 or website for details.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Kathmandu sightseeing, Trekking in the Everest region, stunning mountain views.

FLIGHTS INCLUDED:*	LOCAL PAYMENT:	ENTRANCE FEES:	AIRPORT TRANSFERS:
X	X	✓	✓

FLIGHT BOOKINGS AVAILABLE

See page 8 for details

TOUR FACTS

Tour Code:	TRNPCE
Group Size & Age:	Min. - 2 Max. - 12 / Min. age - 16
Travel Idea:	Trekking Tour
Activity Level:	Hard (Trekking grade: Difficult)
Max. Altitude:	5,545m (Kallar Pattar)
Comfort Rating:	Basic
Accommodation:	4 nights in hotels, 20 nights in lodges
Transport:	Bus/minibus/jeep and aeroplane
Meals:	24 Breakfasts (B), 20 Lunches (L) and 20 Dinners (D)

YOUR 25 DAY TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1:	Arrive in Kathmandu. Transfer from airport to hotel.
Day 2:	Kathmandu - Sightseeing tour.
Day 3:	Travel by road to Jiri.
Day 4-6:	Jiri to Shivalaya or Junbesi.
Day 7-11:	Junbesi to Namche Bazaar.
Day 12:	Acclimitisation day in Namche Bazaar.
Day 13-15:	Namche Bazaar to Khumjung to Dingboche.
Day 16:	Acclimatization day in Dingboche.
Day 17:	Dingboche to Lobuche.
Day 18-19:	Lobuche - Gorak Shep - Kala Pattar - Everest Base Camp - Lobuche.
Day 20-22:	Lobuche to Namche Bazaar to Lukla.
Day 23:	Lukla to Kathmandu (flight).
Day 24:	Kathmandu - Free day (allows for Lukla flight delays).
Day 25:	Kathmandu - Free time. Transfer to airport for flight.

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Classic Everest continued...



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1 / ARRIVE IN KATHMANDU

We greet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel in the centre of Kathmandu, where our Nepal Uncovered rep welcomes you, helps you settle in, and explains the agenda for the rest of your tour.

Overnight at hotel in Kathmandu.

DAY 2 / KATHMANDU, TOUR

The first part of the morning will be dedicated to a pre-trek briefing and introduction to your trekking guide. This will be followed for you to taken on a guided tour of the fascinating, sprawling city of Kathmandu. We take you to visit Durbar Square with its splendid array of Hindu Temples and the old Royal Palace. We also visit the important Hindu temple of Pasupatinath where you will learn about Hindu traditions and rituals and possibly see some cremations at this holy and auspicious site. Next, we climb up the many steps leading to the immense, and very different, Buddhist Swayambhunath Stupa, which sits upon a hill overlooking Kathmandu and gives a spectacular view out over the city. You will also have some free time to check out the numerous little gift shops that line the maze-like streets.

In the evening your time is free to try out the numerous, restaurants and bars, and soak up the unique nightlife that makes Kathmandu a magnet for travellers from all over the world.

Overnight at hotel in Kathmandu (B).

DAY 3 / KATHMANDU TO JIRI (187 KM)

After breakfast you drive out of the Kathmandu Valley by private car/minibus, through Dhulikel where you can get excellent mountain views, and on using Chinese and Swiss built roads to Jiri (approx. 7 hours). The road passes through small villages, past

terraced fields and beautiful scenery.

Overnight at lodge in Jiri (B L D).

DAY 4 / JIRI TO DEURALI

Trekking time - 7½ hrs

You leave Jiri (1950m) walking through thick forest, before heading up hill, and across several suspension bridges ascend towards The Mali Damda, before descending to Shivalaya where you then continue on the trail to Deurali (3,000m). It is a long climb up to Deurali, and you may choose to stop and spend the night at Shivalaya instead.

Overnight at lodge in Shivalaya or Deurali (B L D).

DAY 5 / DEURALI TO SETE

Trekking time - 3 to 8 hrs

Today you head straight down to the Thado Khola and cross the suspension bridge before walking through the river valley to Kinja, where you ascend to Sete.

Overnight at lodge in Sete (B L D).

DAY 6 / SETE TO JUNBESI

Trekking time - 6 hrs

You are now in Sherpa country, and a gradual climb takes you up to the Lamjura Pass (3,500m), which has the first viewpoints of Everest. You then descend to Junbesi with good views of Gaurishankar, Number Himal & Dudha Kunda.

Overnight at lodge in Junbesi (B L D).

DAY 7 / JUNBESI TO NUNTHALA

Trekking time - 7 hrs

Today's trek is along a sloping trail to Solung, where you begin to

descend to the Ringmo Khola before ascending to the Taksindo Pass and then descending to Nunthala.

Overnight at lodge in Nunthala (B L D).

DAY 8 / NUNTHALA TO KHARI KHOLA

Trekking time - 5 hrs

From Nunthala the descent continues to the Dudh Koshi (Milk River) where you then ascend through several Sherpa villages, terraced fields and forests to Khari Khola.

Overnight at lodge Khari Khola (B L D).

DAY 9 / KHARI KHOLA TO PUIYAN

Trekking time - 4 hrs

Today's climb is towards Puiyan, through Sherpa villages and a forest inhabited by monkeys, passing through a narrow canyon before arriving at Puiyan.

Overnight at lodge in Puiyan (B L D).

DAY 10 / PUIYAN TO PHAKDING

Trekking time - 6 hrs

The trail climbs from Puiyan to a ridge before gradually descending to Surke More ascents and descents await us, along with glimpses of spectacular mountain peaks, as you trek along the trail towards Lukla. You finally follow the Dudh Kosi to Phakding (2,652m) where you stay overnight. With luck you'll see your first yaks of the trip about now.

Overnight at lodge in Phakding (B L D).

DAY 11 / PHAKDING TO NAMCHE BAZAAR

Trekking time - 5 hrs

Leaving Phakding, you follow the Dudh

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Khosi northwards through Benkar, Chumowa and Jorsale to a fork in the river. You follow the left fork (of the Kyajo Khola) ascending up to Namche Bazaar (3,446m), the administrative centre for Khumbu. The town has a long history as a trading centre, though trade has diminished considerably from its heyday of exchanging salt for grain.

Overnight at lodge in Namche Bazaar (B L D).

DAY 12 / ACCLIMATISATION DAY IN NAMCHE BAZAAR

You spend today day acclimatising, which gives you the opportunity to explore the town and get a feel for the Sherpa culture, which is prevalent here in Khumbu. You also have the chance to take a walk to the scenic valley of Thame, with its precariously built monastery. You can also visit the Sagarmatha 'National Parks Visitor Centre', with a splendid display of Sherpa culture. The views from around Namche Bazaar can be very good, and (subject to weather) you get your first good sightings of Kwangde, Everest, Nuptse, Lotse and Ama Dablam, and others. There are also several interesting and scenic day walks you can do if you wish.

Overnight at lodge in Namche Bazaar (B L D).

DAY 13 / NAMCHE BAZAAR TO KHUMJUNG

Trekking time - 2½ hrs

From Namche Bazaar you follow a small trail high above the Dudh Kosi River, and are rewarded with incredible mountain views. On a small ridge across the valley, the monastery of Thengboche can be seen. You descend to Khumjung, a beautiful small village where it is possible to sample the local Sherpa hospitality.

Overnight at lodge in Khumjung (B L D).

DAY 14 / KHUMJUNG TO THENGBOCHE

Trekking time - 2½ hrs

Today you descend to the village of Shanasa and then Trashinga, where the trail drops steeply to cross the Dudh Kosi at Phukitenga (3,250m). You initially climb steeply before the trail levels out to a more gradual ascent to Thengboche. Thengboche is set in a beautiful meadow; high on a ridge surrounded by towering Himalayan peaks and is famous for the Thengboche Monastery.

Overnight at lodge in Thengboche (B L D).

DAY 14 EXTRA OPTIONS

Starts - Gokyo lakes option (7 days, adds 3 days to the tour)

See pages 4-7 for details

DAY 15 / THENGBOCHE TO DINGBOCHE

Trekking time - 4 hrs

You descend through a forest of birch, fir, juniper and rhododendron, to the nunnery at Deboche. You then cross the Imja Khola ascending gradually, with Ama Dablam dominating the skyline, following the trail that climbs over glacial moraine to Dingboche.

Overnight at lodge in Dingboche (B L D).

DAY 16 / ACCLIMATIZATION DAY IN DINGBOCHE

Today you have a full day for acclimatisation and exploring. Dingboche is a beautiful patchwork of small fields enclosed by stone walls, which protect the crops from the strong winds. Those looking for a pleasant walk can head up the valley towards Chukung, where the views are fantastic.

Overnight at lodge in Dingboche (B L D).

DAY 17 / DINGBOCHE TO LOBUCHE

Trekking time - 4 hrs

Now well above the tree line you follow the trail to Dusa where you begin your climb of the Khumbu Glacier. Following the moraine of the glacier, with views of Kalar Pattar and Pumori, you finally reach Lobuche (4,930m).

Overnight at lodge in Lobuche (B L D).

DAY 14 EXTRA OPTIONS

Rejoins - Gokyo lakes option (7 days, adds 3 days to the tour)

See pages 4-7 for details

DAY 18-19 / LOBUCHE TO EVEREST BASE CAMP THEN BACK TO LOBUCHE

Trekking time - 12 hrs in 2 days

The views today are spectacular, as you are afforded the beautiful panorama of Everest, Nuptse and Ama Dablam. If you are up early enough to catch sunrise, you will see this magnificent view just light up in front of you. Your trek today can prove to be both mentally and physically demanding as you follow the glacier up to Gorak Shep (5,288m) where you will spend the night (if you are really feeling the altitude, you may descend 300m to Lobuche). There are two walks to do from here today and tomorrow. Firstly, a short walk takes you to Kala Pattar (5,545m), from the summit of which you can witness one of the most spectacular views in the world, with an almost complete view of Everest. Secondly, is the final trek up to the Everest Base Camp area. There are a number of base camps here dating back to the 1920's; they stretch out around the Khumbu Icefall (4,930m). You may be lucky and see an expedition that is about to set out to climb Everest. Reluctantly it is time to head back from the Base Camp area to Lobuche.

Overnight at lodges in Gorak Shep and Lobuche (2xB 2xL 2xD).

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DAY 20 / LOBUCHHE TO DEVOCHE

Trekking time - 4 hrs

Today you descend, retracing your steps into the Pheriche valley, and back through Pheriche joining up with the main Imja Khola Valley. From here you head to Pangboche (3,860m), where you have chance to visit a gumpa (monastery) that is some three hundred years old. Built at a time when Buddhism was first introduced into this region. You pass superb 'mani' stones, and then drop down to the Imja Khoa River, where you cross and walk through a fine forest of rhododendrons to the village of Devoche (3,820m).

Overnight at lodge in Devoche (B L D).

DAY 21 / DEVOCHE TO NAMCHE BAZAAR

Trekking time - 6 hrs

You ascend through a forest of pine, fir and rhododendrons, with possibilities of seeing wild musk deer along the route. As you arrive at Tengboche (3,867m), whose famous Gumpa was burnt down in 1989, and now rebuilt, you are afforded a brilliant views of Ama Dablam, Everest, Nuptse and other peaks. You then descend to the settlement of Phunki Thangkha (3,247m), with a series of water-driven prayer wheels on the Dudh Kosi. You trek on through forests and then climb steeply en-route to Namche Bazaar (3,440m).

Overnight at lodge in Namche (B L D).

DAY 22 / NAMCHE BAZAAR TO LUKLA

Trekking time - 6 hrs

The trail here drops down through pine forest to the river, which you follow before ascending up to the tiny airstrip at Lukla (2,860m). On arrival in Lukla you have time to relax and celebrate the completion of your trek.

Overnight at lodge in Lukla (B L D).

DAY 23 / LUKLA TO KATHMANDU (FLIGHT)

With the trekking finished now you collect up all your kit and fly back to Kathmandu. The spectacular 40-minute flight takes you back to Kathmandu where you can spend the remainder of the day relaxing.

Overnight at hotel in Kathmandu (B).

DAY 24 / FREE DAY IN KATHMANDU

Today is a free day to spend relaxing and recovering from your exertions. We also leave it free in case there have been any delays on your trek, or to the flight back from Lukla.

You may want to spend more time exploring Kathmandu and its surroundings; there are plenty of things to see and do. Perhaps some last minute shopping for presents will fill your last day in Kathmandu.

We offer several options today, including a mountain flight up to Everest, a tour to the nearby ancient areas of Patan and Bhaktapur, or an extension to the tour to visit Chitwan National Park, or to try some exciting rafting on the Bhote Khosi river.

Overnight at hotel in Kathmandu (B).

DAY 24 EXTRA OPTIONS

Patan & Bhaktapur tour option

Everest mountain flight option

Bhote Kosi rafting option

Chitwan safari option

See pages 4-7 for details

DAY 25 / TOUR ENDS

Your tour ends after breakfast and, if required, we transfer you to the airport for your flight home.

(B).

SMALL GROUP, PRIVATE AND TAILOR-MADE TOURS

SMALL GROUP DEPARTURES:

We have regular small group departures on this tour throughout the available seasons. Departure dates are given on our website, and on request.

PRIVATE DEPARTURES:

You can also choose to do the tour privately, following the itinerary above, but on another date. We add a small supplement for these departures. Please contact us first to check availability.

TAILOR-MADE TOURS:

Finally, this tour can also be used as a base for a private tailor-made itinerary, to be run on any dates. You can make adjustments as per your own requirements (for example, adding extra days, slightly shortening the tour, adding some rafting etc.).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OPTIONS:

Booking and paying for options:

Options may be booked by selecting them on our online reservation form, or after you have made your booking. Some options that are not accommodation based may also be added while you are in Nepal, subject to availability at the time. Prices are given on our website and on request. Credit Cards (add 3%), traveller's cheques or cash are accepted in Kathmandu for these payments. A receipt will be provided.

Single room supplement

If you want to guarantee yourself a

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single room throughout the tour, then we need to add a single supplement charge.

If you are a single traveller joining one of our Standard level group tours, then if you are happy to, you may share a twin room with another single traveller on the tour of the same sex. If there are no other single travellers available for you to pair up with at the time of your booking, then we will need to add the single supplement to your tour price, but will refund this or deduct it from your balance payment if we are able to pair you up later on.

Note: We cannot guarantee single rooms in the trekking lodges.

Note: Couples will always be given a private double room, and triple/family rooms are available on request.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Extra days - Price: subject to party make-up

These are available on request in Kathmandu before and after the tour starts and finishes. If you'd like to add extra days into the time elsewhere, then please request a tailor-made tour.

The price includes a night in the hotel, breakfast, all taxes and transfers. Single room supplements apply.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Accommodation upgrades - Price: on request

If you are booking this tour privately (i.e. not joining one of our group departures), then we are happy to arrange to upgrade the accommodation in Kathmandu and/or Chitwan National Park if required. Upgrades would normally be to the following hotels (subject to availability):

Kathmandu:

• Yak & Yeti hotel or Dwarikas hotel.

Chitwan:

• Rhino Residency, Temple Tiger Lodge or Tiger Tops Lodge.

Please contact us for rates if required.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Patan and Bhaktapur tour

This tour starts by crossing the Bagmati River to nearby Patan, often referred to as Lalitpur 'city of beauty'. Here you will spend plenty of time exploring Durbar Square, which has a fabulous concentration of Buddhist temples. After lunch we drive you out to the ancient city of Bhaktapur, for a tour of the many squares and temples, seeing stunning wooden architecture as well as exploring the narrow winding lanes which bustle with life. The tour lasts for a full day, and includes private transport and the services of a professional local tour guide. Single person supplements apply.

Book & Pay in advance or in Kathmandu.

Everest mountain flight option

This flight leaves from Kathmandu early in the morning, and lasts for around an hour, taking you up towards Everest and the surrounding high peaks. You can even get glimpses of the high Tibetan plateau.

The planes have good-sized clear windows, and window seats are guaranteed.

Book & Pay in advance or in Kathmandu.

Bhote Kosi rafting option - Price: Min 2 people (adds 2 days to the tour)

For those wishing to take the rafting to a higher level, this short option takes you to one of Nepal's wildest white water rivers, and one of the best two-day rafting trips in the world. This Grade 4 river (Class -IV to IV+ rapids) is just 3 hours from Kathmandu and makes an excellent adrenaline filled extension to your tour (other easier rivers are available on request).

The minimum age for this option is 16, and you need to be relatively fit and a confident swimmer, and be prepared for continuous,

technical, and demanding rapids.

You will be joining a group operated by one of Nepal's premier rafting operators - please contact us to check availability.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Gokyo Lakes Option (7 Days)

We offer two ways to visit the Gokyo Lakes as part of your Everest base camp trek. Our preferred option is to cross the Cho La Pass after descending slightly from Base Camp, as this is a more direct and exciting route. Please see our **Everest and Gokyo Lakes tour** for full details of this route.

The Cho La Pass is not passable all year round however (avoid December to February). If you would like to visit Gokyo during these parts of the year, or do not want to cross the pass, then the following optional itinerary is available all year round.

If you are joining a group departure, then an extra guide will travel with you throughout the trek and accompany you on this section.

Starts day 14 and makes the whole tour 28 days long

This option extends the trek by 5 days and leaves the group in Pangboche, on your way back from Everest Base Camp. The route then takes you up the Dudh Kosi river valley to the beautiful lakes around Gokyo. The mountain views here are without a doubt the best, and present a spectacular panorama of Everest, Lhotsi and Makalu and Cho Oyu, all 8,000m + peaks.

Note: If you select this option when joining one of our group tours, an extra guide is provided to accompany you when you leave the main group.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Day 14 / Pangboche to Dole

Trekking Time - 5 hrs

From Pangboche, you trek along the

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Imja Khola valley before following the Gokyo Valley northwards, crossing the Dudh Khosi River at Phortse Tenga. The trail climbs steeply through rhododendron forests before this gives way to juniper and large conifers as the elevation increases. This part of the trek is especially beautiful in spring when the rhododendrons are in bloom. You'll spend the night in Dole (4,200m).

Overnight at lodge in Dole (B L D).

Day 15 / Dole to Machhermo

Trekking Time - 2 hrs

From Dole you make your way up to Machhermo (4,410m) As you keep to the west side of the Gokyo Valley, you can't help but note how barren the landscape is, literally strewn with boulders and covered in scrub. Following a couple of longer days, today's walk is fairly short, but you'll feel the gain in altitude.

Overnight at lodge in Machhermo (B L D).

Days 16-17 / Machhermo to Gokyo

Trekking Time - 3½ hrs

Keeping to the west side of the Valley, you ascend a ridge then drop down to river level and follow a fairly flat trail past several lakes to Gokyo (4,750m). The lakes are situated at the western tail end of the Ngozumpa Glacier (reputedly the longest in Nepal). As you progress the views are fantastic, Cho-Oyu dominates the view ahead, by sheer width alone, whilst Everest looking formidably ominous. Behind, you leave splendid views of Kang Tega, magnificently displaying her flanks. The following day you have the option of relaxing in Gokyo itself or ascending Gokyo Ri (5,360m), where you have a magnificent Panorama of High Peaks. These include Everest, Lhotse, and Makalu. There is also the opportunity to view a few more lakes further up the trail. You may on your 2nd night drop back to Na, situated at the base of the Ngozumpa Glacier.

2 x overnight at lodge in Gokyo (2B 2L 2D).

Day 18 / Gokyo to Dole

Trekking Time - 6 hrs

You have an early start with excellent views of Tamserku ahead. You stay on the eastern side of the Gokyo Valley, as you head back down the valley. The views are incredible as you leave the glacial moraine behind, and walk amongst green vegetation again. Eventually you arrive back at Dole (4,200m).

Overnight at lodge in Dole (B L D).

Day 19 / Dole to Namche Bazaar

Trekking Time - 4 hrs

From Dole, you descend the Gokyo Valley along the Dudh Khosi. As you travel, you are rewarded with spectacular views of Khumbila and Taboche Peak. From Photse Tenga ascend the valley to Khumjung before a final descent takes us to Namche Bazaar.

Overnight at lodge in Namche Bazaar (B L D).

Day 20 / Rejoin main trek

You now rejoin and continue with the main trek itinerary from Namche Bazaar to Lukla as per Day 15.

Chitwan safari extension option

We offer an extension to the end of the tour to take a 3-day, 3-night wildlife safari to Chitwan National Park. You'll enjoy jungle walks, canoe trips, elephant rides and cultural shows in this wonderfully idyllic setting. All park activities and entrance fees are included. Single room and single traveller supplements apply.

Your itinerary would run as follows:

Day 24 / Drive to Chitwan

This morning, we drive from Kathmandu to the Royal Chitwan National Park (approx. 7 hours). You will be at the park for three

nights and during this time you have an exciting itinerary with two full days in and around the park. Once settled into your lodge, you can eat, drink and relax and take in some of the spectacular settings that surround you.

Overnight at safari lodge in Chitwan (B D).

Day 25-26 / Chitwan National Park

Over the next two days you will enjoy a number of exciting activities in and around the park, including:

- An elephant back ride into the park in search of the rare, Indian one horned rhino.
- A canoe ride down the Rapti River to observe the many bird species native to Nepal. You should also see many of the 160 species of migratory birds, which visit Chitwan seasonally. You may also see Gharial crocodiles sunning themselves on the riverbanks.
- A half-day jungle walk where you should see spotted deer and antelope and hopefully spot some more rhino.
- Another excursion takes you further into the park, this time travelling by jeep. The greater distances you are able to cover with the jeeps allow you to see more different habitats and visit the crocodile-breeding centre, located deep inside the park (Note: Jeep safaris are not always available, and will be replaced by another activity if they are not running).
- You will also make a tour of a local village where you can gain insights into the daily life of the people of this Terai region.
- Your lodge will also arrange an evening cultural program for you to attend, and, perhaps, participate in.

Overnight at safari lodge in Chitwan (2xB 2xL 2xD).

Day 27 / Drive to Kathmandu

Today you leave early for the drive back

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to Kathmandu. The 7-hour drive (a flight upgrade can be arranged if required) gives you one final chance to take in the beautiful scenery, which makes Nepal such a popular country to visit.

Overnight at hotel in Kathmandu (B).

Day 28 / Tour ends

Your tour ends after breakfast and your time is free for some final sightseeing and shopping before we transfer you to the airport for your flight home. (B).

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- All accommodation
- Sightseeing tours as indicated on the itinerary
- Entrance fees in Kathmandu
- Registered trekking guides & porters
- Trekking pack (sleeping bag, trekking poles, down jacket)
- All transport & transfers
- Internal Flights
- Everest Conservation Area entry permits
- Trekking permit

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- International airfares
- Visa costs
- Meals not indicated on the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks, tips, and other personal expenses
- Travel insurance - please see the policies available on our website
- Any other items not mentioned above
- Departure taxes

ACCOMMODATION:

1. Hotels in Kathmandu

We use comfortable tourist class hotels in Kathmandu for this trek, based in or close to the main Thamel tourist area of the city (approx. 3-star).

2. Trekking with lodges

For this lodge-based trek, we will use a variety of Lodges and Teahouses. In recent years many new lodges have sprung up and many offer quite good facilities and amenities. However, in some areas the lodges can be run on a very simple basis where toilets and washing facilities are outside the building. We can't promise that you will always have full amenities all the time, so you should understand this before embarking on this trek.

Staying in lodges gives you more comfort overnight than camping, and also allows you to meet up with and talk with other trekkers and guides at the end of the day. It also allows us to put more back into the local economies than if we were bringing everything with us.

Rooms in lodges are normally based on same sex sharing of twin rooms (though couples will be able to share). Some sheets & blankets are provided but a sleeping bag is still required. We provide include sleeping bag hire in our tour prices, though you may still wish to bring your own inner sleeping bag liner or sleep sheet if you wish. Warm showers are available for a small fee at most lodges, though these may be bucket showers higher up.

3. Safari lodges in Chitwan National Park (for extension option)

At Chitwan National Park, we use safari lodges with comfortable clean rooms and en-suite bathrooms. We normally use lodges in and around the village of Sauraha on the edge of the park, which increases the number of activities you can do while at the park (normally Riverview or Rhino Lodge).

For further details on the hotels and accommodation used on this tour, please check out the information on our website.

Upgrades to Superior level hotels are available on request on private departures - see the Options section above or contact us for details and prices.

TRANSPORT & TRANSFERS:

We use private cars or minibuses for all the main transfers & journeys on this tour. An internal flight is used for the journeys between Kathmandu and Lukla. A variety of transport including jeeps, elephants & canoes is used if you visit Chitwan.

Upgrades to internal flights are available on request.

Both your airport arrival and departure airport transfers are included (24-hour service).

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS:

In order to keep our tours flexible, and to make them accessible to as many people as possible, we do not include your international flights in the set tour itinerary or price.

However, we do hold an ATOL (UK flight sales license) and are happy to book your flights for you. If you let us know your ideal dates and departure airport, then we will be happy to provide you with some flight options that we can arrange for you. You can then choose whether to book the flights through us, or make your own arrangements. Either way, your airport arrival & departure transfers are included.

TOUR GUIDES & ENTRANCE FEES:

All your entry fees and permits are included (to cover entry into the trekking conservation areas, and sites on the city

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Please quote Tour Code: TRNPCE when booking

* LAND ONLY PRICE (SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL PRICE LIST), FLIGHT QUOTES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

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tour).

On the Chitwan Extension, all National Park activity costs are included, to cover one of each of the following: Elephant Ride, Jeep Safari, Jungle Walk, Village Walk, River canoe trip.

Fully trained English-speaking Nepalese trekking guides are provided throughout the trek, and many of our travellers consider them a highlight of their tour. We also provide a fully trained English-speaking guide for any sightseeing tours.

We support and follow international guidelines for the employment of any trekking porters we use, including those of the IPPG (International Porter Protection Group)

To help support the local people and economy, and because we know it works best, our policy at Nepal Uncovered is to use only local guides and tour leaders on this tour. Please check our website for further details.

TREKKING TIMES:

The trekking times given above are approximate, and will vary depending on your fitness, and also importantly, on the speed you want to walk. We will normally set off early in the morning, and have plenty of breaks during the day, before finishing trekking in mid-late afternoon. Some days will be longer than others, and your guide will let you know when there is a long day ahead.

Acclimatisation days are added into all our itineraries where required, and these cannot be missed out. You can however, slightly adjust the itinerary as you go along if you are struggling on a particular day, or you want to forge ahead. If travelling with a group, you should be prepared to walk at the speed of the slowest member.

We have graded this trek as: **DIFFICULT:**

"A serious trek, where we would expect you to have had previous trekking experience. You should be very confident of your trekking ability and be prepared to walk some long days perhaps on a steep

climb (or descent). You may also have to walk difficult terrain for a number of days. This is definitely the kind of trek where you are more likely to experience extremes of altitude and/or weather. You may also be required to use an ice axe and crampons for part of this trek."

For more information on trekking with us in Nepal, please check the Trekking Activity Guide page on our website.

MEALS:

Kathmandu:

Breakfasts only are provided in the hotel. Kathmandu has a wealth of restaurants serving excellent food from all over the world, so you will never be short of ideas or places to eat within a short walk of the hotel.

Lodge trek:

All your meals are included on the trek, based on a set number of items from the menu per meal plus one drink. You may add to these if you wish, but a substantial & healthy meal is always provided. Many of the lodges along the route offer an excellent variety of food. In places the menu might be limited but the food is always nourishing and wholesome. To protect the limited resources available in trekking areas, we politely suggest that you either eat the same meals as the guides and lodge staff, or try not to order too many different items from the menu.

WHEN TO GO:

Monsoon season:

June to mid-September

Trekking is possible in the Everest region throughout the year, including during the monsoon season. However, visibility may not be great lower down, with a good chance of rain, or snow higher up, and the trails can be slippery. Wear gaiters to protect from leeches lower down!

Winter season:

December to mid-February

You can trek in the Everest region during the winter season. However, it will be particularly cold at night at higher altitudes and there is a risk of snow which will make the scenery more beautiful but the trekking a little harder and possibly slippery.

Good trekking:

Mid-September to end of November, mid-February to May:

These seasons are the best time for trekking, with good visibility and fine weather. Mid-September, October and November are the most popular, with the busiest trails and lodges, with March-April also good but a little quieter.

TIPPING:

While an accepted part of the culture and customs in Nepal, tipping is always optional, and any amounts paid should reflect excellent service. It is normal and accepted for people to tip differently, and you should not feel under any pressure to tip any particular amount.

We are often asked for advice on common amounts however, and suggest that approx. 5% of the tour price would be a suitable budget.

COUNTRY GUIDE:

For an in-depth overview of Nepal, including up-to-date regional security advice and information, please checkout the country guide pages on our website.

DATES & PRICES:

We run several small-group departures during the main trekking seasons. These departure dates and prices are listed

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on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet available on request. We can also run the set tour itinerary privately for you on other dates, or customise it to make a tailor-made tour to fit your personal requirements.

HEALTH:

Recommended vaccinations and other health protection measures vary according to the country you are visiting, and where you are travelling from. You must obtain professional advice from your medical practitioner or a travel clinic on current vaccinations needed for your destination (1st Contact travel clinic gives free advice tel. 0800 0393073). In general, most recommendations for Nepal include: Tetanus, Typhoid, Hepatitis A, Polio, Meningitis, Rabies and Malaria prophylactics.

VISAS:

Many nationals can obtain their Nepalese visa in Kathmandu airport upon arrival (including UK, European & US citizens). The cost is US\$40 (UK Pounds also accepted) and the visa is obtained in the immigration area at the point where your passport is stamped (i.e. you don't need to join an extra queue). For further information, please check out the visa pages on our website, or contact us directly.

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM:

We take responsible travel seriously, and as well as taking this into consideration when we design our itineraries, and select the people and agents we work with, we also donate £2 for every person travelling on of our Nepalese tours. This is split between two projects:

- Shree Nalang primary school, which is situated 80km NW of Kathmandu and caters for 5-11 year old children. Our donations are helping with renovations and building of new classrooms.

- Bardia eco lodge. We are helping to build a carbon neutral wildlife lodge with the aim of providing an environmentally sympathetic and sustainable destination for tourists, which will also benefit the local community.

If you would like to visit or support either of these projects while you are in Nepal, please let your guide or our Kathmandu representative know. Full details of our responsible travel policy are given on our website.

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION:

After booking, we will provide you with detailed information to help you prepare for the tour. This will include helpful advice on money, health, insurance, tipping, climate, clothing etc.

Further information is also available in the County & Travel guides on our website.

FACEBOOK / TWITTER / COMMUNITY

Uncover the World recently joined the Facebook community; it would be great if you joined us and shared some of your travel photos and stories. It's also a great way to stay in touch with your fellow travellers, share photos, and also keep updated with special offers and news about new tours and destinations from us - click on www.facebook.com/UncoverTheWorld and 'Like' us.

You can also follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/utworld
If you'd like to post a blog about your trip you can also visit our community page - <http://yourspace.uncovertheworld.travel>

We are fully bonded for your complete financial protection.



'Nepal Uncovered' is a trading name of Uncover the World Ltd.

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