

LUXURY EVEREST BASE CAMP



COUNTRIES VISITED: **NEPAL**

TRIP TYPE: Trekking

TRIP GRADE: Demanding

TRIP STYLE: Luxury Lodge

5 Based On 23 Reviews

KG Carbon Footprint

TRIP LEADER: Local Leader

GROUP SIZE: 2 - 10 people

NEXT DEPARTURE: 22 Sep 2024

29 Trees Planted for each Booking

Luxury Everest Base Camp trek uses the higher quality lodges of the Khumbu region of Nepal. Enjoy the most famous walk in the world to see Mount Everest in comfort and style.

Everest Base Camp has a reputation for congested trails with many other trekkers. You can read [how busy the trek to Everest Base Camp is](#) and our advice for avoiding the worst of the crowds. We have been operating treks to the Everest region in Nepal since 2004. Our itineraries include several acclimatisation days to ensure you remain fit and healthy. This increases your chances of reaching Everest Base Camp and Kalapatar.

For further advice take a look at our Blog articles "[Our Seven Tips for a Successful Trek to Everest Base Camp](#)" and "[How To Avoid Altitude Sickness on Everest Base Camp trek?](#)"

Trekking to Everest Base Camp in luxury is the best way of hiking to see Mount Everest. You will follow in the footsteps of famous mountaineers and walk the trail from lodge to lodge. With our Everest itinerary, you hike to both [Ama Dablam Base Camp](#) and Everest Base Camp. This is an ideal choice for those who are new to the delights of trekking at high altitude. Sagarmatha National Park, known as the Khumbu, is in the north-eastern region of Nepal. Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world at an altitude of 8,848m. Ama Dablam, Pumori and Nuptse tower above us making this a magical and inspiring place to visit. We include visits to Sherpa villages and Buddhist monasteries at Thame and Tengboche. You will

meet Sherpas and get to know about their way of life and Buddhist religion.

Your holiday begins with a guided sightseeing tour of Kathmandu. After having explored the capital of Nepal you take the flight to the mountain airstrip at Lukla. From this small town, you start the Everest Base Camp hike into the Himalayas. Up to Pangboche village, we use Everest Summit Lodge ("ESL") and Yeti Mountain Home ("YMH") lodges. These places are at a standard far better than anything else available in the area. They provide a high level of service and facilities. For five nights above Pangboche village, we use standard tea house lodges.

After ten days of walking, we arrive at Everest Base Camp at an elevation of 5,300m. If you are in the Spring season you will see many expeditions climbing Mount Everest. After one night at the lodge in Gorak Shep, we make the ascent of the walking peak of Kala Patar at an elevation of 5,554m. This is the high point of your mountain adventure with a spectacular view of Mount Everest.

If you like to stay at standard tea house lodges take a look at our [Everest Base Camp](#) trek. We also organise an itinerary while staying in tea house lodges with attached bathrooms. This trek is [Everest Base Camp Teahouse Plus+](#). If you prefer to join a shorter trek while staying in higher-end lodges take a look at the [Luxury Ama Dablam Base Camp](#) trek.

REASONS TO CHOOSE US

- For better acclimatisation, we organise a longer trek to Everest Base Camp at 14 days from Lukla. The gradual ascent profile for this trekking holiday has worked well for our past groups. We have a very high success rate of our trekkers reaching Everest Base Camp and the summit of Kala Patar.
- We include all meals at the teahouse lodges (breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner) while on the trek. Importantly, we clearly define what dishes and drinks we provide so there is no confusion in terms of what is allowed. Given the amount of food and drinks we include, there should be no need to spend any extra money on additional food.
- We are Himalayan trekking specialists having operated trips in Nepal for many years. [Roland Hunter](#) has designed the itinerary from his first-hand experience of this trek.
- Our [AITO Traveller Reviews for Everest Base Camp](#) and [AITO Traveller Reviews for Luxury Everest Base Camp](#) have a holiday rating of 100%. Based on client feedback we won the 2018 Gold Award as AITO Tour Operator of the Year. Read more about our [Testimonials and Awards](#).
- Weather forecasts for the Everest region during your trek.
- We send a Thuraya satellite phone on our group treks in Nepal. Your leader will have reliable communications for logistics, planning, and group safety.
- We provide the porters with windproof jackets & trousers and shelter. We follow International Porter Protection Group ("IPPG") guidelines.
- We bring a comprehensive medical aid kit.
- Our team with first-hand knowledge of this trek provides pre-trip support. During high season we have someone from our UK Operations team based in Kathmandu.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All internal transport and transfers including airport collections.
- Internal flights. The flights are Kathmandu - Lukla - Kathmandu. The weight allowance is 15kg for your main bag checked into the hold and 5kg for your day pack.
- One day sightseeing in Kathmandu with a Nepalese cultural guide and private vehicle including all entry tickets.
- Twin-share Deluxe room at Hotel Ambassador in Kathmandu.
- Breakfast only in Kathmandu.
- Twin-share rooms at Everest Summit Lodge ("ESL"), Yeti Mountain Homes ("YMH"), and tea house lodges while on the trek. Complementary drinking water and electricity for charging batteries at ESL and YMH.
- Twin-share rooms for five nights at standard lodges where no higher-end lodges are available. These nights are at Dingboche, Lobuche and Gorak Shep.
- All meals are included while on the trek. Breakfast only in Kathmandu. In total for Luxury Everest Base Camp, we provide 17 Breakfasts, 13 Lunches, and 12 Dinners. The meals at the teahouse lodges cost

in the region of **£350 (US\$445)** per person. You can select your dishes from the menu at the lodge. The trek meals are breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner. Breakfast includes cereal, porridge, or rice pudding and an egg dish with bread or toast. Lunch includes one dish such as fried rice, dal bhat, momos, or pasta. For afternoon tea, you get a hot drink plus biscuits. Dinner is two courses including soup and the main dish chosen by you from the menu. You are allowed two cups of hot drinks per meal so this means a total of seven cups per day.

- All meals are included while on the trek. At the tea house lodges, you can select your dishes from the menu at the lodge. The trek meals are breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner. Breakfast includes cereal, porridge, or rice pudding and an egg dish with bread or toast. Lunch includes one dish such as fried rice, dal bhat, momos, or pasta. For afternoon tea, you get a hot drink plus biscuits. Dinner is two courses including soup and the main dish chosen by you from the menu. You are allowed two cups of hot drinks per meal so this means a total of seven cups per day.
- Trekking arrangements. Including permits and fees, Nepalese guide(s), and porter(s). We provide one trekking guide for a group size of two people. We provide two guides for a group size of three people and three guides for a group size of six people plus.
- Porters to carry your main bag. The porterage allowance is 15kg.
- Weather forecasts in the Everest region during your trek.
- Thuraya satellite phone for organising logistics and medical evacuations. It can also be also used for personal calls at extra cost.
- A trekking map is given to you on arrival to Kathmandu.
- UK-registered charity, Pipal Tree, will plant 7 trees for you in the Gurkha Memorial Forest in southern Nepal.
- Full financial protection for bookings from the UK (ATOL) and internationally (ABTOT). Our Air Travel Organiser's Licence (ATOL) number is 10921. Our Association of Bonded Travel Operators Trust (ABTOT) membership number is 5365).
- Pre-departure support and advice from The Mountain Company. We are available by email, phone, Zoom, or face-to-face meetings.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International flight to/from Kathmandu.
- Travel & trekking insurance.
- Nepal visa for 30 days at US\$40 (approx £25).
- Lunch and evening meals in Kathmandu.
- Personal clothing & equipment, please see the Appendix for suggested kit list.
- Tips to the trek crew. Each trekker should budget for giving tips into the group fund. This should be in the region of 11,500 Nepalese rupees (approx. £75 or US\$95)
- Extra accommodation costs due to Lukla flight cancellations. If you have to wait in Kathmandu the cost for your overnight accommodation is not included.
- If there are Lukla flight delays and cancellations it may be possible to pay extra for a helicopter. This would cost US\$300 to US\$400 per person depending on helicopter company.
- Other items not listed in "What is included".

ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN KATHMANDU (1,400M)

Arrive in Kathmandu

No meals

Dusit Princess in Kathmandu

Flying into Kathmandu on a clear day is in itself an unforgettable experience. The Himalayan peaks are only a short distance north of the capital of Nepal as seen from the plane. After customs, you will pass into the passenger pick-up area outside the building. You will see a Mountain Company signboard. Our representative will be waiting to welcome you to Nepal.

After transferring to your hotel we will give you a full trek briefing. The rest of the day will be yours to explore Kathmandu and to make final preparations for the trek. You will hear the Nepalese word for hello 'Namaste', you will never forget that word after this holiday

DAY 2: SIGHTSEEING IN KATHMANDU

Sightseeing in Kathmandu

Breakfast

Dusit Princess in Kathmandu

This is a one day guided sightseeing tour of the Kathmandu Valley. We visit three out of the seven World Heritage Sites. You start off by visiting Patan Durbar Square. Afterwards you drive to the Buddhist stupa at Boudhanath. The last stop of the day at the Hindu shrine of Pashupatinath. The tour is likely to finish around 4pm and the rest of the day is free to further explore Kathmandu.

Three major towns in the valley, Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur. Each place has great artistic and architectural traditions. Kathmandu is the capital and the largest city in the country. Patan, the second largest separated from Kathmandu by Bagmati river. Bhaktapur, the third largest, is towards the eastern end of the valley. Its relative isolation reflected in its slower pace and more medieval atmosphere. In Kathmandu there is a bustle of activity especially in the bazaars and markets. While the city has expanded over the last 10 years it is still possible to see traditional buildings and temples.

DAY 3: FLY TO LUKLA (2,840M), TREK TO PHAKDING (2,610M)

Fly to Lukla (35 minutes)

Walking 7km (4 to 5 hours)

Walking ascent 280m

Walking descent 510m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Yeti Mountain Home in Phakding

We take an early morning flight by a twin propeller plane to Lukla. This is a mountain airstrip called Short Take Off and Landing known as STOL. The late Sir Edmund Hillary's Himalayan Trust created the runway and is now one of the busiest in Nepal.

The best mountain view is on the right side of the plane when we take the flight to Lukla. Along the way we watch the foothills give way to the snowline of the high Himalaya. On a clear day we see many of the world's highest mountains in Nepal and on the border with Tibet. We see Cho Oyu (8,153m), Lhotse (8,516m), Gauri Shankar (7,145m) and the summit of Mount Everest at an altitude of 8,848m.

After landing at Lukla, we get a warm welcome from the porters. They will carry our duffel bags until we return to Lukla. Make sure you have time to get to know them and to acknowledge them even if it is through smiles and hand signs. After a cup of tea at teahouse lodge in Lukla, the porters load up and start the trek. We leave Lukla on a typical stony path that we will follow for most of the way through the upper Khumbu. It is important to take your time and walk at a slow pace especially for the first few days on trek. We need to ease our way into the trek after days of international travel to Nepal.

The trail descends from the terraces of Lukla and we contour above the Dudh Koshi (river of milk). You pass large stones carved and painted with Buddhist prayers. We see carved mani stones and prayer

wheels which are typical of Sherpa country. We show our respect and pass these sacred monuments in a clockwise direction.

We hike along an undulating trail on the East bank of Dudh Koshi. We pass through several small hamlets of Chaurikharka, Cheplung, Thado Koshi and Ghat. We continue onto the village of Phakding where we stay our first night at the Yeti Mountain Home (YMH) lodge.

Important note: there is a safety risk to consider when flying on airlines in Nepal. If you would like to avoid the STOL flight from Kathmandu to Lukla there is an option to extend your trek. You can walk to Lukla in three days after driving to Salleri. Or you can follow the traditional approach from Jiri taking five to six days walking. There are also safety considerations with driving in Nepal and road traffic accidents happened from time to time. For information about the aviation risk in Nepal read the relevant sections "Threat and Risk Assessment" and "Internal flights in Nepal". Please get in touch with us if you would like to discuss this further.

DAY 4: TREK TO NAMCHE BAZAAR (3,445M)

Walking 9km (6 hours)

1,150m

Walking descent 320m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Yeti Mountain Home in Namche

Today we trek to the Sherpa capital at Namche Bazaar and into the heart of the Upper Khumbu. By now we are familiar with the local protocol for passing Buddhist chortens and mani stones. We enjoy the hustle and bustle of trekking and everyday life that exists in the Khumbu. There will be animal traffic on the trail as yaks and ponies carry supplies up to Namche. For your safety keep away as they can be unpredictable and stay on the uphill side of the trail.

From Phakding we cross a suspension bridge to the East bank of Dudh Koshi and follow the river to the North. It takes 2 or 3 hours to reach Monjo where we enter Sagarmatha National Park. Along this section of the trail we get a good view of Mount Thamserku (6,608m). After descending to the river we cross a bridge to Jorsale. Shortly after leaving this village we cross back to the East side. We follow the river until the trail ascends to the Hilary Bridge. This is an impressive suspension bridge spanning a deep chasm.

The walk up the hill to Namche will be one of the harder sections of the trek. We hike at a slow pace (the Nepalese word is "bistari"). This is the key for acclimatisation and will become the norm for the trek. Halfway up the Namche hill there is a resting place for our first view of Mount Everest. The Everest summit appears behind the high ridge between Nuptse and Lhotse. As we start traversing the hill we get our first views of Namche Bazaar. This Sherpa town has buildings built on terraces in a mountain bowl. It is an impressive sight of colourful houses and lodges and prayer flags. We stay at the Yeti Mountain Home (YMH) lodge.

DAY 5: ACCLIMATISING WALKS AROUND NAMCHE BAZAAR

Day walk around Namche

Walking ascent 450m

Walking descent 450m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Yeti Mountain Home in Namche

We stay for two nights in Namche to help acclimatisation as we are now over 3,000m in height. To help your body adapt to the high altitude we go for a walk by following the golden rule of "climb high, sleep low". We have several options for day walks from Namche. The first option is the long walk to Thame village at 3,800m and back to Namche taking between 7 to 8 hours. If you prefer to have a shorter walk you can visit the Everest View hotel also at 3,800m. This takes around 4 hours and you can visit Khumjung village too. You should listen to your body and do not push too hard on the walk. Having time to rest at high altitude is an important part of the acclimatisation process. We have enough guides so, if required, we can organise both of these walks for different members of the group.

Thame valley is less visited by trekkers as it is away from the main Everest Base Camp trail. We leave Namche on the high trail that contours out the village high above the Bhote Khosi river. We walk through rhododendron forest and then into open pastures. We pass through the small hamlets of Samsing and Thamo. It is a beautiful valley with their traditional houses and terraced fields. We are following the old Tibetan trade route. In the past Tibetans travelled over the Nangpa La to trade in Namche. Before reaching Thame the path descends to a bridge with water roaring below. On the rock there are large wall paintings of Guru Padmasambhava.

The path then climbs to the picturesque village of Thame with a backdrop of snow covered peaks. The late Sherpa Tenzing Norgay's house is near the top of the village where he lived with his first wife. Apa Sherpa who has climbed to the summit of Mount Everest twenty one times also lives in Thame village. Above the village is an important monastery over 600 years old. After lunch at a teahouse lodge we make our return trip on the same trail back to Namche.

DAY 6: TREK TO TASHINGA (3,450M)

Walking 5km (4 hours)

Walking ascent 575m

Walking descent 565m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Everest Summit Lodge in Tashinga

This morning after a short, steep climb we leave Namche on the classic approach route to Everest which contours the hillside high above the Imja Khosi. Today's walk continues to contour the hillside with short steep sections as it crosses over ridges. There are spectacular views of Everest, Lhotse and Nuptse and also the beautifully shaped Ama Dablam (6,812m). Ama Dablam means 'Mothers necklace', the long ridges on each side like the arms of a mother protecting her child, and the hanging glacier thought of as the dablam, the traditional double-pendant containing pictures of gods worn by Sherpa women. There is no doubt that the majestic Ama Dablam is one of the most beautiful mountains in the world. The lodge is located outside the village of Tashinga with views down the valley to Ama Dablam and Everest.

DAY 7: TREK TO PANGBOCHE (3,875M)

Walking 6.5km (6 hours)

Walking ascent 690m

Walking descent 210m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Everest Summit Lodge in Pangboche

From the lodge we make the descent through Tashinga and then on a steep trail to Phunke Tenga by the river. After crossing the bridge we walk uphill through a forest for about two hours to Tengboche. The setting of Tengboche monastery is magical and it is a lovely building.

After leaving Tengboche we descend through pine forest to Deboche and down to the Imja Khola. We cross a bridge over the gorge and then follow the path on the other side. There are stunning views of Ama Dablam ahead. We pass chortens and mani walls as we gain height to reach the village of Pangboche. The walk to Pangboche takes about 2 to 3 hours. We stay at the Everest Summit Lodge in Pangboche village.

We stay at the Everest Summit Lodge in Pangboche village for two nights. This is to help the acclimatisation process now that we are close to 4,000m. We ascend in height at a slow rate to avoid getting altitude sickness higher up.

DAY 8: DAY WALK TO AMA DABLAM BASE CAMP (4,576M)

Walking 8km (5 hours)

Walking ascent 645m

Walking descent 645m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Everest Summit Lodge in Pangboche

After breakfast we head off the walk towards Ama Dablam Base Camp. This is an opportunity to get away from the main trail and explore a quieter area in the Khumbu. Today's walk will also help acclimatisation and you will feel the benefits later on.

We cross Imja Khola on a suspension bridge below Pangboche. We follow a trail uphill through juniper and heather. The mountain views are 360 degrees panorama. Ama Dablam Base Camp is at a height of 4,576m in a yak pasture beneath the west face of the mountain. The summit is 2,300m above us and from here we get a sense of the immense scale of the mountain. The climbing route follows the southwest ridge. Base Camp affords particularly fine views of Kangtega (6,783m), Thamserku (6,618m) and Taboche (6,542m). After enjoying some time at Ama Dablam Base Camp you return by the same trail back to Pangboche.

DAY 9: TREK TO DINGBOCHE (4,410M)

Walking 6.5km (4 to 5 hours)

Walking ascent 600m

Walking descent 120m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Hotel Brightstar in Dingboche

We leave Pangboche on a path that passes through yak herders huts and walled fields. We walk past the lodges at Shomare (4,010m) and Orsho (4,190m). We cross a bridge and make a final steep ascent to Dingboche. The village of Dingboche is a scenic place surrounded by high peaks. The altitude is at 4,240m and we spend two nights here for acclimatisation before moving higher.

Tonight is our first on the trek where we stay in a standard teahouse lodge. There are no higher end lodges above Pangboche so we stay in the best standard lodges for five nights.

DAY 10: ACCLIMATISING WALK UP NANGKARTSHANG PEAK (5,080M)

Walking 3.5km (3 to 4 hours)

Walking ascent 670m

Walking descent 670m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Hotel Brightstar in Dingboche

This morning we walk up Nangkartshang Peak. We follow a steep, rocky trail above Dingboche to the summit at an altitude of 5,080m. There are fantastic views of Ama Dablam, Taboche, Cholatse and Mount Makalu to the East. By walking up Nangkartshang Peak this helps acclimatisation to high altitude. We walk back to our lodge in Pangboche for lunch. In the afternoon it is best to rest to allow your body to adapt before pushing higher tomorrow.

DAY 11: TREK TO LOBUCH (4,931M)

Walking 8km (5 hours)

Walking ascent 620m

Walking descent 100m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Oxygen Resort in Lobuche

From Dingboche we climb the ridge behind the village next to the large chorten. The trail flattens out and we walk across the high grassy plateau above the Pheriche valley. Before Dughla we cross a bridge over a stream and then arrive at the two lodges located here. From Dughla the steep trail climbs onto the terminal moraine of the Khumbu glacier. We pass a poignant place where there is a line of memorials in tribute to the climbers who have died on Everest. The panorama of the peaks from this point is beautiful. From the memorial the route descends a little and follows the side of the valley to Lobuche. Here there is a cluster of teahouse lodges. Taboche and Nuptse Peaks are particularly spectacular from Lobuche.

DAY 12: TREK TO EVEREST BASE CAMP (5,300M) AND BACK TO GORAKSHEP (5,160M)

Walking 12km (8 to 9 hours)

Walking ascent 490m

Walking descent 260m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Snowland lodge in Gorakshep

Today is your big day and the highlight of the trek as you walk to Everest Base Camp. After an early start we follow the undulating trail along the western side of the Khumbu valley. The views today are magnificent with towering snowy peaks. The conical peak of Mount Pumori soon comes into view. The Everest view point of Kala Patar is on a lower ridge of this mountain. After Lobuche pass (5,110m) the trail is rockier as we walk along the lateral moraine of Khumbu glacier. After about 2 to 3 hours from Lobuche we descend to a sandy basin to reach the lodges at Gorakshep. After a light lunch we set off for the walk to Everest Base Camp. This is approximately a 5 to 6 hour return trek back to Gorakshep where we sleep tonight.

After crossing the sandy flats at Gorakshep we climb back onto the lateral moraine. After a couple of hours we drop down onto the glacier. The trail then winds up and down and through icy seracs to Everest Base Camp. From here there are fantastic close up views of the Khumbu icefall. In spring season Base Camp is a tented village with mountaineers from around the world. We celebrate our achievement and enjoy the moment. Afterwards we retrace our trail back to Gorakshep.

DAY 13: ASCEND KALA PATAR (5,545M) AND RETURN TO LOBUCH (4,931M)

Walking 11km (6 to 7 hours)

Walking ascent 450m

Walking descent 679m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Oxygen Resort in Lobuche

In the morning at first light we leave the lodge to climb up to the summit of Kalapatar at an altitude of 5,545m. We do not leave earlier in the morning as it is too cold and walking in the darkness is risky. Kalapatar is the highest point reached on the Everest Base Camp trek. It is hard work walking uphill when at high altitude and you will be out of breath even if well acclimatised. The walk to the top takes about 2 to 3 hour. It is well worth the effort for the great views of the summit of Mount Everest. There are other Himalayan giants of Pumori, Changtse, Nuptse and Lhotse. We spend time on the summit to allow you to sit down and reflect. The majestic beauty of the mountains and ice flutes surrounds us.

We return down the same trail back to the teahouse lodge at Gorakshep. We have lunch and then head off on the short walk back to Lobuche.

DAY 14: TREK BACK TO PANGBOCHE (3,875M)

Walking 12km (5 to 6 hours)

Walking ascent 55m

Walking descent 1,110m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Everest Summit Lodge in Pangboche

From Lobuche we descend past the Sherpa memorials to Dughla and then follow the lower trail to Pheriche. You will now start to feel the warmth and rich air of walking at a lower altitude. Shortly after leaving Pheriche we cross a small bridge and have a short, steep climb before descending to join the main Imja Khola Valley. We follow this beautiful valley down to Pangboche through an alpine meadow landscape remembering to stop and turn around to view the mountains.

DAY 15: TREK BACK TO NAMCHE BAZAAR (3,445M)

Walking 11km (7 hours)

Walking ascent 400m

Walking descent 835m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Yeti Mountain Home in Namche

From Pangboche we follow the same trail that we took on the way up. We walk through birch and rhododendron forest past Deboche up to Tengboche. From there we descend through forest to the bridge over the Dudh Kosi at Phunki Teng. We climb up on a steep trail past Tashinga then contour around the hillside to Kenjuma and on to Namche Bazaar. This is a lovely day's walk. We enjoy the descent with the hard work behind us. Our return journey has different views that we passed on our ascent. Tonight we stay at the Yeti Mountain Homes lodge.

DAY 16: TREK BACK TO LUKLA (2,840M)

Walking 15.5km (7 to 8 hours)

Walking ascent 830m

Walking descent 1,430m

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Everest Summit Lodge in Lukla

From Namche we continue our descent down the trail following the Dudh Koshi valley. This is along the same trail as our ascent and the villages we pass through will be familiar. At Chaurikharka we start the ascent of the final hill of the trek to reach Lukla. On arriving at Everest Summit Lodge we can enjoy our last evening with the guides and wonderful porters.

DAY 17: FLY BACK TO KATHMANDU

Fly to Kathmandu

Breakfast

Dusit Princess in Kathmandu

If the weather is clear in Lukla then we will get a morning flight back to Kathmandu. We will meet you at the airport and drive you back to the hotel. You can then spend the rest of the day doing what you please.

DAY 18: AT LEISURE IN KATHMANDU

Breakfast

Dusit Princess in Kathmandu

Today is a free day to relax in Kathmandu after the trek. You can do some independent sightseeing around the city. You can enjoy spending time at the restaurants and cafes. The reason for having an extra day as a buffer is in case of any delays or cancellations flying back from Lukla. This helps to minimise the risk of missing your international flight back home.

DAY 19: FLY BACK HOME

Fly home

Breakfast

Transfer to Kathmandu airport for the flight back home. End of trip.

DATES & PRICES

2024

Dates	Trip Leader	Price	Single Supplement: Room/ Tent	Availability
22 Sep 2024 to 10 Oct 2024	Local Leader	US\$4,095pp	US\$975pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
06 Oct 2024 to 24 Oct 2024	Local Leader	US\$4,095pp	US\$975pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
20 Oct 2024 to 07 Nov 2024	Local Leader	US\$4,095pp	US\$975pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
10 Nov 2024 to 28 Nov 2024	Local Leader	US\$4,095pp	US\$975pp / NA	Guaranteed
01 Dec 2024 to 19 Dec 2024	Local Leader	US\$4,095pp	US\$975pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee

2025

Dates	Trip Leader	Price	Single Supplement: Room/ Tent	Availability
09 Mar 2025 to 27 Mar 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
23 Mar 2025 to 10 Apr 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
06 Apr 2025 to 24 Apr 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
27 Apr 2025 to 15 May 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
21 Sep 2025 to 09 Oct	Local	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to

Dates	Trip Leader	Price	Single Supplement: Room/Tent	Availability
2025	Leader			Guarantee
05 Oct 2025 to 23 Oct 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
19 Oct 2025 to 06 Nov 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
09 Nov 2025 to 27 Nov 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$1,000pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee
30 Nov 2025 to 18 Dec 2025	Local Leader	US\$4,150pp	US\$0pp / NA	2 Left to Guarantee

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

A Typical Day On Trek

TYPICAL DAY ON A LUXURY LODGE TREK IN NEPAL

We provide a comfortable experience on our luxury lodge style treks. Our team works hard to support you so that you can relax and enjoy [trekking in Nepal](#). The lodges provide your meals in a communal dining room. You will sleep in private rooms with an attached bathroom.

The day starts with getting up in your room with the convenience of washing in the en-suite bathroom. Before heading for breakfast you pack your overnight gear into your duffel bag. At the designated time the group will assemble in the dining room to eat breakfast. The menu has a range of items to choose from such as porridge, cereals, chapattis, and a choice of egg dishes. There is also the choice of tea or coffee plus other hot drinks like the popular ginger, lemon honey drink.

While the group is having breakfast the porters arrange their loads and set off in the cool of the morning. After breakfast, between 7am and 8am, we start walking. The pace of the trek is moderate as there is plenty of time in the itinerary to reach the lodge for tonight. There will be plenty of time to enjoy the scenery, take photos and explore the local villages. Lunch will be around midday at a teahouse lodge by the side of the trail.

After lunch we continue the walk and on most days we arrive at the lodge by mid afternoon. On arrival you will get a hot drink and biscuits or a slice of cake. For dinner you get a three course dinner. The menus vary depending on the lodge. There is a range of Nepalese, Indian and continental dishes. Nepalese food includes dal bhat, momos and the famous Sherpa stew. Dal bhat is the Nepalese dish of rice and lentils with vegetable curry. Continental dishes such as spaghetti and pasta; pizzas; vegetable burgers and chips are also available.

After supper the leaders will discuss the plan for the next day. Afterwards people might stay in the dining room chatting about the day's events or playing cards. After a tiring day most people head to their rooms quite early for the night. Tomorrow is likely to be very similar as today!

We cater for a variety of dietary requirements. There are always meals that are suitable for vegetarians. During booking we find out if you have any dietary needs and agree upon meal plans before departure. If you have any questions about the food provided please get in touch with us to discuss further.

You can read more about [Luxury Lodge Trekking in Nepal](#) on our Blog. This article explains about the facilities available at a luxury lodge. It also describes the advantages and disadvantages versus teahouse style treks.

Meal Plan

MEAL PLAN

We include all meals at the teahouse lodges (breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner) while on the trek. Importantly, we clearly define what dishes and drinks we provide so there is no confusion in terms of what is allowed. Given the amount of food and drinks we include, there should be no need to spend any extra money on additional food. However, some people will pay for extra treats along the way such as to get cake and a coffee at the bakeries and cafes!

If you are comparing our prices with other operators you should be careful to compare apples with apples. These days many operators do not include meals in their packages when staying at the teahouse lodges. The food at the lodges is expensive and will cost an average of £25 (US\$35) per person per day. If you are paying for the meals directly to the lodges you would need to carry a lot of cash including the tip money too. Having this amount of money with you will be a security risk and for peace of mind, it is better to pay for the meals to us when booking the trip. Also, it will be difficult to know in advance how much cash to bring with you on the trek (there are no ATMs when on trek). Furthermore, in practice, it will be complicated and time-consuming for you and the guides to work out individual bills after checking out each day from the lodge.

With our meal plan, you can select your dishes from the menu at the lodge. In our package, we include the cost of your breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner. Breakfast includes cereal, porridge, or rice pudding and an egg dish with bread or toast. Lunch includes one dish such as fried rice, dal bhat, momos, or pasta. For afternoon tea, you get a hot drink plus biscuits. Dinner is two courses including soup and the main dish chosen by you from the menu. You are allowed two cups of hot drinks per meal so this means a total of seven cups per day.

We cater to a variety of dietary requirements. There are always meals that are suitable for vegetarians. During booking, we find out if you have any dietary needs and agree upon meal plans before departure. If you have any questions about the food provided please get in touch with us to discuss further.

Communications

COMMUNICATIONS

We bring a Thuraya satellite phone for logistical, safety and personal use. Personal calls charged at £4 (US\$5 or €4.50) per minute and £2 (US\$3 €4.50) to send and receive SMS text.

Kit List

KIT LIST FOR EVEREST BASE CAMP TREK

This is the mandatory kit list for the safety of everyone in the group and to ensure a successful trek. You must have the following items tailored for Everest Base Camp trek. The group leader will check your gear in Kathmandu before departure for the trek.

As a reminder, the weather on this trek will vary season to season and day to day as you ascend to higher elevations. At the start of the trek you will experience warm conditions with temperatures up to 20 Celsius. You experience the coldest temperatures in Gorak Shep at an altitude of 5,200m. Overnight lows here will be down to around -15 Celsius.

You should bring a rucksack or backpack for gear required during the day. Your pack should contain items such as warm clothes, jacket, camera, water bottles, personal first aid kit and snacks. **The weight limit is 5kg.** A porter will carry the rest of your personal equipment packed in a duffel or kit bag. **The weight limit for your duffel bag is 15kg.** Please mark your bag on the outside for easy identification.

Print the kit list and tick items off as you pack them then weigh your kit bag before you come on trek.

Footwear

- Walking Boots. A pair of water repellent boots with ankle support. Boots must be in good condition, the best approach is to get new boots and break in before the trek.
- Trail shoes. Used around lodge.

- Walking socks.
- Gaiters. A pair of knee high gaiters used to keep boots dry if walking through snow or on wet ground.

Clothing

- Waterproof and Windproof jacket (with hood) and trousers (goretex or similar). For use if it rains or snows during the trek and in windy conditions.
- Trekking trousers. (eg. Mountain Hardwear Mesa V2 or The North Face Paramount Peak).
- Soft Shell Trousers.
- Long sleeve tops or shirts (not cotton).
- Micro fleece.
- Mid to heavyweight fleece or synthetic/ primaloft top.
- Sleeveless/ gilet or body warmer type fleece / synthetic top. This will help keep your core warm while not bulking when layering up. Gilet used in combination with base layers, other fleeces and down jacket. This provides the most warmth and insulation.
- Thermals or base layer for top & bottom (merino wool or synthetic).
- Fleece or synthetic leggings. Worn around the camp or added as a layer when the temperatures start to drop higher up.
- Medium weight down jacket.

Heads and Gloves

- Fleece gloves.
- Warm mittens and/or gloves.
- Wool or fleece hat.
- Sun hat.
- Bandana or scarf (eg. Buff Headwear).
- Head torch. Bring extra batteries.
- Sunglasses. The lenses need to be Category 4 rated. They should have side protection or wraparound design.

Personal equipment

- Sleeping bag. Overnight lows down to -15 Celsius. It is possible to rent a bag from Shonas Rental in Kathmandu.
- Fleece or silk liner for your sleeping bag. A liner protects your sleeping bag from getting dirty. Also helps by adding extra insulation to keep you warm at night.
- Day pack. Recommended size is around 30 litres. You need to have enough space to carry water bottles, camera, snacks and extra clothing. The pack should have a good waist belt. It is also a good idea to bring a rain cover to keep the contents dry.
- Trekking poles (Black Diamond with "Flick Lock" are best). Two poles are mandatory for your safety. These will be helpful on steep sections of the trail and river crossings. Also for walking on snow or ice higher up.
- Stuff sacks for keeping your gear dry and organised. Or even better are fold dry bags such as from Exped.
- Two water bottles. Nalgene wide mouth bottles are the best. You may use a hydration pack lower down but the tube will freeze in the cold so ensure you still have two water bottles.
- Pee bottle. Recommended as means you do not have to get up to find the toilet tent at night! For men you can use an old water bottle. For women take a look at SheWee.
- Sunscreen and lip salve with a high SPF.
- Water purification tablets (Pristine, Biox Aqua or Aqua Mira).
- Favourite snack food.
- Books and cards etc.
- Camera with spare batteries and memory cards.
- Insurance certificate.
- Earplugs (optional).
- Baby wipes (optional).
- Hand sanitizer. Keep this in your day pack for use after a toilet break during the trek or before eating any snacks. We provide sanitizer for use before meals.

Travelling

- Duffel bag for your personal gear on the trek. Will be carried by a porter. Rugged and waterproof made of a plastic material. Size 80-100 litres. Eg. Mountain Equipment or Rab. Bring a small combination padlock to secure the bag.
- Travel clothes. You will need casual clothing for air travel days and time spent in Kathmandu.
- Toiletry bag with soap, travel towel, toilet paper, toothbrush etc.

We provide a [comprehensive group first aid kit](#). Please bring personal medications and other items you might use such as:

- Any personal medications.
- Blister treatment (Compeed patches are the best)
- Rehydration powder (eg Dioralyte).
- Analgesics (paracetamol, ibuprofen and aspirin).
- Plasters and zinc oxide tape.
- Throat lozenges.
- Diamox (helps with acclimatisation).

Threat and risk assessment

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR EVEREST TREKS

You should be aware trekking in a developing country involves a risk of personal injury or death. You must accept these risks and be responsible for your own actions and involvement. Adventure travel requires an open and flexible attitude. You may experience extreme conditions and unpredictable weather. There could be last-minute changes to the itinerary beyond our control. The ability to work in a team is an important aspect of our trips.

We have performed a threat and risk assessment for our Everest trek. Our trips have a degree of risk. This is part of the attraction of adventure travel and why so many people choose to join this type of holiday. By identifying the hazards we assess the level of risk. We have control measures in place to reduce this happening or to reduce the impact.

Our risk assessment is available to clients on request. We have listed below a summary of the significant risks and hazards identified by us:

- Falls and trips resulting in physical injury eg. slipping on ice or falling off the path.
- Altitude illness including but not limited to AMS, HACE, and HAPE.
- Climatic injuries (dehydration, sunburn, heat exhaustion, hypothermia, or heat stroke). Please note during the months of April and October it will be very hot and humid for the first three days of the trek.
- Crossing a river with no bridge resulting in drowning and/ or a fall.
- Rockfall and landslides.
- Snow and ice avalanches.
- Lightning strike.
- Wildlife, pack animals (e.g. donkeys or horses) or stray dogs. Pack animals can knock people off the path. Dogs can attack and bite. Discuss rabies vaccination with your doctor.
- Earthquake.
- Risk of fire in the hotel or lodge.
- Endemic local diseases. Discuss vaccinations with your doctor before departure.
- Physiological injury. Such as heart attack, appendicitis, hernia, toothache, etc. in a remote area.
- Road traffics.
- Flight accidents. Read paragraph "Internal flight".
- Contaminated food and/ or water.

This trip visits a remote area. You are away from the usual emergency services and medical facilities. Evacuation for a serious injury requiring hospitalisation could take up to several days. This delay could impede your ensuing recovery. Helicopters are the usual means of evacuation. They are not always available or hindered by poor weather and flying conditions.

Internal Flights

INTERNAL FLIGHTS IN NEPAL

Flights from Nepal's Short Take-Off & Landing ("STOL") airstrips are dependent on weather. Delays often happen if there is poor visibility or high winds. For our itineraries with flights to or from STOL, we include one extra day in Kathmandu at the end of the trip. This is in case of delays flying back. If the delays are longer we will help reschedule your international flights. There is likely to be a fee charged by the airline for this. You also have to pay for costs incurred in Kathmandu as a result of the delay such as accommodation and meals.

You should read the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office ("FCDO") travel advice for Nepal. For their latest advice take a look at their [Safety & Security section under Air Travel](#). There have been some recent air accidents in Nepal. The European Union has banned Nepalese airlines from flying to Europe. For more information on Nepal's air safety profile take a look at [Aviation Safety Network](#).

Weather and conditions

WEATHER AND CONDITIONS FOR EVEREST BASE CAMP TREK

Everest Base Camp trek has a wide range of temperatures. This depends on the season, altitude and time of day. Below Namche Bazaar the nights will be cool around 5 Celsius. During the day temperatures sometimes rise to 20 Celsius. At higher altitudes temperatures range from about 15 Celsius to -15 Celsius.

The trekking season in Nepal is late September to May. October and November is generally recognised as having the best weather. Spring is a popular time of year with warmer weather than in Autumn. Also there is the advantage of seeing spring flowers and rhododendrons in bloom.

We have written a blog article [When is the best time to go trekking in Nepal Himalaya?](#) This has information about the weather and conditions in Spring and Autumn seasons. It also explains the differences between the trekking regions of Nepal.

Suggested reading

SUGGESTED READING AND MAPS FOR EVEREST TREKS

Maps

Nepal Trekking Map Himalayan Maphouse Scale: 1:900,000 This map will be included in your welcome pack when you arrive in Nepal.

Mount Everest Schweizerische Stiftung fur Alpine Forschung (Swiss Foundation For Alpine Research) 1:50,000

Mount Everest National Geographic Society 1:50,000

Books

Everest- 50 years on top of the world by George Band

Above the clouds by Anatoli Boukreev

Eric Shipton- Everest and beyond by Peter Steele

Touching my father's soul by Jamling Tenzing Norgay

Into Thin Air by John Krakauer

The Ascent of Rum Doodle by WE Bowman

ACCOMMODATION

TEA HOUSE LODGE IN EVEREST REGION



In a tea house lodge in Nepal there are twin share rooms with a common bathroom and a heated communal dining room. We inspect and select the best lodges in each location.

We provide all meals at the lodges. This includes breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and biscuits plus two course dinner (soup and main meal). You can choose your dishes for all meals from the menu. We also provide two hot drinks included per meal.

LUXURY LODGES IN EVEREST REGION



In the Everest region we use both the Everest Summit Lodge (“ESL”) and Yeti Mountain Home (“YMH”) lodges. These properties provide a high level of service. They have attractive gardens, comfortable lounges and bedrooms. These include hot showers and western toilets.

DUSIT PRINCESS IN KATHMANDU



[Dusit Princess](#) is a new hotel in Kathmandu that opened in 2023. Unlike many other modern hotels in

Kathmandu, the Dusit has been built in Tibetan style both inside and outside. This is authentic as the owners are Tibetan family. This is our first choice hotel for our luxury groups to stay at when in Kathmandu. Rooms are well appointed with a reliable supply of hot water for use in the shower. There is an infinity swimming pool on the rooftop with superb views of the city and surrounding hills. You also get complementary access to their sauna, and gym. They serve an excellent breakfast buffet from 7am to 10am. A sundowner on their rooftop bar and restaurant is a must-do!

TRIP REVIEWS

REVIEW BY RMM ON 27/01/2024

Luxury Everest Trek done right! Three weeks of trekking, customized by Roland to provide the right experience for us - lodging, guide, itinerary, and support. From booking the bespoke trek to returning home after the experience, The Mountain Company provided thorough, professional, and excellent service and attention...making it a memorable experience. It was the second trek I have arranged with The Mountain Company - and certainly won't be the last. The Mountain Company, run by Roland Hunter and supported by a solid team of local professionals, provides a terrific personalized experience. Whether joining an existing group or having him and his team organize a customized itinerary and experience, I found other trekkers I encountered jealous...from the itinerary and care taken to safely and successfully complete the trek, to the local connections that gave us an advantage with existing and ongoing relationships with lodges and tea houses. Walking into lodges with The Mountain Company made us feel so welcomed by the lodge owners and staff. From planning, to execution, Roland and Team is my go-to for any trek in Asia. ...

REVIEW BY PAT 08/11/2023

Wonderful Everest Base Camp Luxury Lodge trekMy wife and I (age 59 and 61) did our trek in October 2023. We picked The Mountain Company because of its longer itinerary (3 acclimatization days v. 2 for most other operators we saw), the amount of detail provided in advance about the trek, gear needed and preparation, and the good reviews from other trekkers. While we had done a lot of day hiking we had not attempted a trek like this before. The trek itinerary is well-thought out, with plenty of time to complete each day's distance at a leisurely pace with of time for photo and rest stops, and sightseeing. In particular we thought the acclimatization schedule was very helpful. TMC was extremely responsive, from answering our initial question via email and Zoom to being very flexible in adjusting plans for changing conditions. For example on very short notice TMC was able to move up our arrival flight into Lukla to avoid projected bad weather. Also when we came down with respiratory infections TMC was able to extend our stay at two of the lodges during our ascent to allow us to recover. We were the only two people in our group so that made it easier, but I think it was indicative of how TMC can quickly adjust (to the extent feasible) the itinerary if necessary. Roland Hunter was always available by phone, email and text. ...

REVIEW BY MP NEPAL 17/11/2023

Luxury Everest Base Camp Trek through NepalThis was a 15 day trekking trip from Lukla to Everest Base Camp, staying in good tee house lodges for most of the way up towards EBC, which is at 17.5K feet, or 5.3K m elevation. The trail and journey to EBC was astonishingly beautiful and worth pushing oneself to physical and mental limits to push through 4-8 hours of walking each day for a collective 67 miles out and back. TMC did a tremendous job preparing us for this once-in-a-lifetime experience, preparing us for the slipping of standards of accommodation the higher up we went, and the drop in temperatures, but that the views and experience would be worth it, and they were not wrong. The trip leader, Robert Andreson (get him if you can!) and the sherpas, guides and porters were phenomenal. As above, The Mountain Company took care of all the necessary details in advance, during and after the trip concluded. The attention to detail and the care and guidance on the trip was exceptional. Robert made the trip. His extensive experience, great sense of humor and positive attitude, along with our guides and porters, meant that 100% of our group made it up and back safely, when so much could have gone wrong. I highly recommend TMC if you're interested in trekking in Nepal! ...

Notes downloaded on: 29-04-2024

