



## Gokyo Chola Pass & Everest base camp Trek (5545m)

### Details Itinerary


This combined trekking program in the Khumbu Region takes you to Everest Base Camp and Gokyo - two wildly popular destinations in Nepal. In addition, you will have magnificent views from Kalapathhar - the must-go Himalayan viewpoint that has close-up views of several peaks of Everest. Along the way you will pass through Sherpa villages, stay in their hospitality, and experience the Sherpa lifestyle in a matter of two weeks.

This challenging trek will test your stamina but it will reward you with memorable views of the Everest peaks such as Mt. Cho Oyu (8,201 m), Mt. Everest (8,848 m), Mt. Lhotshe (8,516 m), and Mt. Makalu (8,4623 m). The journey is filled with all the Everest “essentials” - a flight to Lukla, trekking through alpine forests of rhododendron (for which you have to be here in the proper season), going through a waterfall and camping in the high-altitude yak pasture. In addition, you will go to Ngozumpa Glacier, the longest glacier in the Himalayas.

Highlights of the trek include reaching Gokyo, a beautiful region dotted with glacial lakes and hiking up to Gokyo-Ri. “Ri” in the local language means a peak or an elevated place. From Gokyo-Ri, you will have unforgettable views of the mountains up and the lakes below. Next up in the trek you will reach the most sought-after mountain destination in the world - the Everest Base Camp. See the place where climbers begin to scale the highest peak, and share their enthusiasm at the foot of the giant peak. And while returning, take a detour to Kalapatthar for a mesmerizing sunset view.

This is a completely customizable trekking program from Discovery Mountain Trek. The best time to go on this trek is in autumn when the skies are clear and mountains appear closer than ever. You need a very good stamina as energy levels tend to deplete gradually and you need to rest before moving forward. To avoid altitude sickness we have included the necessary number of acclimatization days in the program. Accommodation will be mostly tea houses and lodges, and even camping, according to your customization during booking.

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Fitness Level:	:	
Group Size:	:	2 to 15 people
Max-Altitude:	:	5545m
Duration:	:	18 Days
Walking Days:	:	15 Days
Activity:	:	Trek
Best Period:	:	MAR   APR   MAY   SEP   OCT   NOV

#### **DAY 1 : ARRIVAL IN KATHMANDU AND TRANSFER TO HOTEL (1365M)**

After your arrival at Kathmandu International Airport, we will pick you up and transfer you to the hotel. You can spend the evening around Thamel.

#### **DAY 2 : FLY TO LUKLA AND TREK TO PHAKDING (2610M) 30M FLIGHT 3/4H**

After breakfast, get on a pre-booked 30-minute flight from Kathmandu. This scenic flight will take you to Lukla, where your staff will be waiting for you at the airport. An easy trek of around three hours will bring you to the village of Phakding at the banks of Dudh-Koshi river, where you will stop for the night.

#### **DAY 3 : TREK FROM PHAKDING TO NAMCHE (3440M) 5/6H TREK**

Begin an early trek along Dudh-Koshi, criss-crossing it several times. Today the destination is Namche Bazaar, the fabled village in the heart of the mountains. The trail is initially lined by views of Mt. Thamserku, and on a really clear day, even Mt. Everest is visible in the distance. As you reach closer to Namche, you will find the trail winding up with approaching views of Everest-Nuptse Wall, Mt. Lhotse and several other peaks. Once at Namche, relax in a hot bath, surf the Internet, enjoy a cup of cappuccino and then call it day.

#### **DAY 4 : ACCLIMATIZE AT NAMCHE**

Take a day off at Namche and enjoy the quiet lifestyle in stark contrast to your regular routine. In the morning, have a hearty breakfast with views of magnificent peaks. Later in the day, take

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short hikes in and around the town - and savour the beauty that is Namche. This is an important day of rest as it will help you acclimatize at the altitude and help you warm up the muscles for an exciting expedition ahead.

#### **DAY 5 : TREK FROM NAMCHE TO PHORTSE THANGA (3640M) 5/6H TREK**

After yesterday's acclimatization at Namche, the trek today seems spectacular when you start off after breakfast. Trek along the main route with great views of Ama Dablam, Nuptse and Lhotse several other high peaks in the world. It's not a hard climb though at times you might feel like taking a short break here and there and take some pictures at the same time. Along the route we will have tea break and lunch, cross Mohang and arrive at the busy place of Phortse Tenga where we will stay overnight in a hotel or a lodge.

#### **DAY 6 : TREK FROM PHORTSE THANGA TO MACHHERMO (4455M) 5/6H TREK**

It's a short trekking distance today with around four hours of walking. First we will take a steep trail, ascending which we will arrive at a level ground. Take a brief stop here and enjoy the environment and the blue skies. From here trek to Dole, hike to Lhabarma and on to Luza - all with a couple of breaks in between the lunch and tea. As we come near Machhermo, we will have some fantastic views of the mountains and the surrounding valley. Arriving at Machhermo and according to the preference, we can set up camp, or else we can sleep at a lodge tonight.

#### **DAY 7 : TREK FROM MACHHERMO TO GOKYO (4795M) 4/5H TREK**

After breakfast with superb views at the laps of the giant mountains, we will head towards Gokyo today. The average walking duration is under five hours in a fairly difficult terrain. First climb a ridge and arrive at a valley. From there, arrive at a river bank and trek close to Ngozumpa Glacier. At this point, you have arrived inside the area called Gokyo. Gokyo region consists a system of several lakes in the Khumbu Region with their turquoise and emerald waters. It might even seem like the bounty of nature had been tucked away at this very place, and that you have finally found it after all these years.

#### **DAY 8 : ACCLIMATIZE AT GOKYO**

As we prepare to acclimatize on this day at Gokyo, we will first hike up to Gokyo-Ri in the morning. It's just above two hours, so get up early for the wonderful views. The two hour climb is steep and might seem like it was totally wasted; until you arrive at the peak - and suddenly everything changes. You will wonder in awe and ask yourself - could it be this beautiful? The views of the the world's highest peak seem lined up just for you. Take photographs as much as you like - your battery might drain but your happiness won't. Guaranteed. Mt. Cho Oyu,

Everest, Lhotse, Makalu, and a lot of other peaks from one single point will seem almost surreal. And don't forget to look down upon the emerald lakes of Gokyo. Period. Later, trek down to Gokyo and enjoy the day.

#### **DAY 9 : TREK FROM GOKYO TO THAGNAK (4685M) 2/3H TREK**

It's a relatively easy day of trek today with just around three hours of walking today. Starting from Gokyo, we will trek through Ngozumpa Glacier, reach to the mountain across the glacier and arrive at Thagnak. Along the way you will have views of Cholatse, Changatse, Nuptse, Lhotse, Taboche, Pumori, and Thamsherku mountains looming majestically over the head. Set up camp early and sleep early to replenish the energy levels.

#### **DAY 10 : TREK FROM THAGNAK TO CHO LA PASS THEN DZONGLA 7/8H TREK**

After a quick breakfast, begin the trek from Thagnak. It's a long day of hike today, and tricky too. Sometimes the trail can even get slippery due to the ice. Along the route, you will come across a frozen lake from where we will climb up to Cho-La Pass 5368m. Ama Dablam is the first peak visible at the front. From left to right you will have views of several other peaks. Take a stop here and enjoy the view before heading down to the village of Dzongla 4760m.

#### **DAY 11 : TREK FROM DZONGLA TO LOBUCHE (4910M) 3H TREK**

The village of Lobuche is at an altitude of 4,940 meters, right below the 5K mark. At this altitude you need to tread carefully and slowly so that we do not get low on energy levels. Starting off from Dzongla, we pass through a scenic trail of Lobuche peak. Next, we will cross a river bed and arrive at Lobuche. It's around three hours of walking today with plenty of rest along the way. We stay at Lobuche for the night.

#### **DAY 12 : TREK FROM LOBUCHE TO BASE CAMP TO GORAKSHEP (5150M) 6/7H**

Start at a leisurely pace today. Have a leisurely breakfast, take some photos, and pack your bags. At a normal pace, it's six to seven hours walking duration today. The terrain is mostly rough and rocky today, with a walk over glacial path. Once we reach the Base Camp at 5,360 meters, we take a break and enjoy the scenery and let the surrounding views pass into your long-term memory. Views of Pumori, Nuptse and other peaks are spellbinding! From there, get back to Gorakshop and stay at a lodge.

#### **DAY 13 : TREK FROM GORAKSHEP TO KALAPATHER THEN PHERICHE 7/8H**

Get up before dawn so that you can catch one of the most amazing sunrises in the mountains. For that, you need to hike up to Kalapatthar located at 5,545 meters. Just before sunrise, arrive at Kalapatthar where you'll see a mesmerizing and colourful sunrise. Try as you might, you can't

not take out your camera and click away till the battery drains. The panoramic views of Everest, Pumori and other giants will leave a mark on your memory. From Kalapatthar, return to Gorakshap, have a hearty breakfast and leave for Pheriche 4240m.

#### **DAY 14 : TREK FROM PHERICHE TO KYANGJUMA (3550M) 6/7H TREK**

After a leisurely breakfast, we pack the bags and leave Pheriche headed to Kyangjuma. Kyangjuma is located at an altitude of 3,550 meters with wonderful close-up views of Mount Ama Dablam. Starting from Pheriche we first trek along a river and then through an alpine forest. As we descend along the trail, vegetation begins to appear and the forest begins to thicken. Including brief stops for tea and lunch, we then descend to Pangboche, and Deboche, cross Tengboche and later arrive at Kyangjuma for the night.

#### **DAY 15 : TREK FROM KYANGJUMA TO PHAKDING (2610M) 5/6H TREK**

First we begin easy. Then we take a gradual ascent and then a gradual descent. This keeps on happening through the trail across the forest and the turns until we arrive at Namche Bazaar. After a stop here, we trek down to Phakding by crossing the Dudh Koshi River and pass through monasteries among Sherpa settlements. We finally arrive at Phakding where we stay for the night in a lodge.

#### **DAY 16 : TREK FROM PHAKDING TO LUKLA (2840M) 3/4H TREK**

As we come near the end of trekking in this program, you will enjoy today's trek more than before. The trail from Phakding to Lukla is an average one with gradual uphill and some level grounds. First you will cross a suspension bridge and then cross several colorful villages. The walk is joyous today with under four hours of trek. Later in the afternoon we arrive at Lukla. Spend the rest of the day sharing your stories in a bar, or enjoy as you see fit.

#### **DAY 17 : FLY BACK TO KATHMANDU**

We take you to the airport in Lukla in the morning, and catch a flight back to Kathmandu. The scenic flight is around 40 minutes, a whisk that will bring you back to bustling Kathmandu. Later in the day we will go on a sightseeing tour of some iconic places in the Kathmandu Valley, that will essentially include UNESCO World Heritage sites. In the evening, you are invited to join us for a farewell dinner.

#### **DAY 18 : FINAL DEPARTURE**

According to your schedule, we will take you to the airport for your flight ahead.

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### INCLUDED IN THE COST

- Staff costs including their salary, insurance, equipment, domestic airfare, food and accommodation
- All necessary paperwork and trekking permits: National park, Khumbu pasang lhamu and TIMS
- Guesthouse accommodation during the trek with: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
- All ground transportation on a comfortable private vehicle as per the itinerary
- An experienced, English-speaking and government-licensed trek guide
- Down jacket and sleeping bag: to be returned after trip completion
- Discovery Mountain's duffel bag, t-shirt and trekking map are yours to take
- 3 -star hotel accommodation in Kathmandu with bed and breakfast
- Assistant guide on your trek: 4 participants: 1 assistant
- Medical kit: carried by your trekking assistant guide
- Energy supplies: Dry fruits, Snicker, Mars and Bounty
- Domestic flight from Kathmandu-Lukla-Kathmandu
- Airport pickups and drops in a private vehicle
- Welcome and farewell dinners in Kathmandu
- Porter service: 2 participants: 1 porter
- Personal insurance for Nepalese trekking staff
- Gamow bag for your safety and security
- All Government and local taxes

### NOT INCLUDED IN THE COST

- Nepalese visa fee
- Excess bagages charge
- International flights
- Travel and rescue insurance
- Tips for guide, porter and driver
- Lunch and evening meals in Kathmandu
- Personal expenses laundry, bar bills, battery recharge, extra porters, bottle or boiled water, shower

### ACCOMMODATIONS

We will be staying at Hotel Manaslu, Moon Light hotel or similar hotel 3 star in Kathmandu: and guesthouses during the trek. All accommodations are on twin-shared basis. Single supplement will be served on request and will cost an additional. Also note that single rooms are readily available in Kathmandu and the trekking regions at lower elevation but it might be difficult to find them at higher elevations.



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## MEALS

All meals will be provided during trekking while only breakfast will be available in Kathmandu. There will also be welcome and farewell dinners for guests. While on trek, we have breakfast and dinner in the tea-houses/lodges we spend the night and lunch on our way to the next destination. Nepalese, Tibetan, the more common continental and Indian cuisines are common choices in the menu.

## PHYSICAL CONDITION REQUIREMENT

Discovery Mountain Trek can offer advice and recommendations about health requirements but it is the individual responsibility of each trekker to acquire any necessary documents and medical care. The information on the technical sheet provided is indicative, it is your responsibility to check with the authorities concerned for the exact requirements for your chosen destination at the time of travel. If you do not obtain any necessary medical consultations or travel documents and are not allowed to enter a country, or suffer personal injury or death as a result, we have no liability to you for any cost, loss or damage which you suffer nor will we refund you the cost of any unused portion of your travel arrangements. It is your responsibility to comply with the regulations and procedures of police, customs and health at all times throughout your trip.

## BEST TIME TO TRAVEL

The best time to trek to the Everest Base Camp Trek is in spring (February to May) and autumn (September to November). The temperature is moderate in these seasons and guarantees amazing views through the trip. Although this trek can be undertaken during winter, the cold temperature might not be suitable for everyone.

## GUIDE & STAFF ARRANGEMENT

The most significant thing that makes this trek enjoyable and memorable is the skilled, experienced and helpful Guide and crew member who have the ability of guiding our trek on the mountain smoothly. Our trip will be led by the best and most professional Guide. All of Discovery Mountain Trekking Guide's are carefully selected on the basis of their appropriate experience, skills and personal aptitude. With an objective of sustaining local communities, Discovery Mountain only employs local Staff, who have knowledge about culture, ecosystem, flora, fauna, geography, and history of their local region.

## PORTER CARE

We are firmly committed to porter rights. We make sure that all our porters are well treated, well paid and we provide the level of shelter, clothing and footwear that these harsh environments demand. Porters who become sick are treated with the same care and attention as other team members and we have previously used helicopters - at our expense - to rescue porters from dangerous situations. We support the work of the International Porter Protection Group (IPPG), making our resources available to them to help improve the working conditions of the porters. International Porters Progress Group.

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## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The Everest Region is stunningly beautiful, but equally fragile. Future generations have just as much of a right to appreciate it as much as we do. Therefore, we believe that the tourism industry has an obligation to protect and preserve it. Discovery Mountain employs a 'zero impact' policy on the natural environment and the traditional communities that live there. Discovery Mountain, therefore, enforces a number of do's and don'ts. Please talk to your trek leader to avoid environmental impacts.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition upon joining any of Discovery Mountain's trips that all clients be insured for comprehensive expenses that might incur due to medical issues or accidents (this includes air ambulance, helicopter rescue, and treatment costs). Please note that we don't arrange or sell insurance.

## ACCLIMATIZATION

This trek's itinerary is planned with a high degree of awareness of AMS (Acute Mountain Sickness). Going up at higher altitudes too fast causes a medical condition serious enough to result in death. The higher the altitude, the less oxygen will be in the air. For example, at an altitude above of 5000m, there is 50% less oxygen than at sea level. Therefore, our body needs many days to adapt to an environment with less oxygen. During this trip, we take rest in Namche Bazaar and Dingboche which will help us acclimatize to the high altitude.

## EQUIPMENTS LIST

This list is a guideline to help you pack for your adventure. Also understand that the items listed below will vary a little according to the season and the trek duration. Those items marked by an asterisk (\*) are provided by Discovery Mountain Trek inclusive in the service. The weight limit for your luggage is 15 kg.

## SLEEPING

- 1 sleeping bag: -10° or -15° (\*)
- Fleece sleeping bag liner (optional)

## FROM HEAD TO TOE

- A cap or sunhat
- 2-pair of thermals
- Thick walking socks
- Warm gloves
- Hat and scarf
- Suitable shorts
- Walking trousers
- Discovery Mountain Trek's down Jacket (\*)
- Discovery Mountain Trek's half T-shirt (\*)
- Lightweight waterproof over trousers



- A pair of high rise walking boots
- long-sleeved thermal tops and full-length long johns
- A breathable windproof, water proof jacket (Gore-Tex...)
- A light fleece or equivalent (plus extra warm layers if necessary)
- A pair of sandals or equivalent casual shoes for cities, villages and evenings
- Long-sleeved and short sleeved t-shirts, preferably in quick-drying technical material.

#### **DAY BAGS/ SHOULDER BAG**

- 1 medium shoulder bag: 50-70 liter cubic inches, can be used for an airplane carryon
- A small daypack/backpack for carrying your valuables,

#### **PRACTICAL ITEMS**

- 1 small roll of repair tape, 1 sewing-repair kit
- 1 digital camera with extra cards and batteries
- 1 medium-sized quick drying towel
- 1 compass or GPS (optional)
- Female hygiene products
- Wet wipes (baby wipes)
- Anti-bacterial hand wash
- Tissue /toilet roll

#### **MEDICAL**

- 1 skin-blister repair kit
- Anti-diarrhea pills
- Anti-headache pills
- Cough and/or cold medicine
- Water purification tablets or water filter
- Small personal first-aid kit simple and light
- Aspirin, first-aid tape, and plasters (Band-Aids)
- Anti-altitude sickness pills: Diamox or Acetylzolamide
- Stomach antibiotic: Ciprofloxacin, etc. Do not bring sleeping pills as they are a respiratory depressant.

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Discovery Mountain Trek & Expeditions Company is a trustworthy and registered Company under the laws of Nepal Tourism Industry and accepts your bookings under the following terms and conditions.

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### Booking Terms

Booking your trip with Discovery Mountain Trek accept with terms and conditions of sale. Every trekker is required to complete the form of registrations. At the time of registration, Trekker's are expected to pay a deposit 25% of total cost to complete your booking. Please note the trip cost is required to make in advance as per the company policy, this deposit help us to make confirm reservation of Hotels in City, domestic flights and all other trip arrangements for final trip booking. Along with deposit we need detailed name lists of participants, same as passport, Gender, Nationality, Date of birth, passport number, passport issue/ Expiry dates & profession. You need to send us passport copy, photo identity and e-ticket by e-mail for all trips in Nepal.

### Cancellation Policy

If any reason you have to cancel your trip, we Discovery Mountain Trek require written confirmation of your decision. The amount you have paid to us will be refunded according to the following terms:

- Cancellation more than 35 days before your departure date: \$60 will charged
- Cancellation more than 35 to 19 days before your departure date: your deposit, 25% will charged
- Cancellation more than 18 to 10 days before your departure date: 50% will charged
- Cancellation more than 9 to 05 days before your departure date: 75% will charged
- Cancellation less than 4 days before your departure date: 100% of the total will charged

I reserve the right to revise pricing rates declared under any circumstances, or on the pressure of various external factors that are further than our control, for instance changes in exchange rate, government action etc. But, I declared forth effort to keep on the present rate. In case of minor increase in flights fares, hotels or other related factors, we don't revise the cost of the trip which was already confirmed & booked by deposit.

### RISK & RESPONSIBILITY

Your safety and enjoyment is my prime concern. I therefore carry out my responsibility honestly & sincerely to ensure your holiday trouble – free as well as you have desired. Nevertheless, unless stated otherwise, trip may be change under uncertain and inherent circumstances such as land-slides, road blockage, flood, snow political unrest, cancellation of flight, delay arrival, sickness or accidents etc. Any extra cost incurring there is your personal responsibility and should be borne on the spot.

### IMPORTANT NOTE

Your safety is of paramount concern while traveling with Discovery Mountain Trek. Please note that your guide has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. The guide will try to ensure that the trip runs according to plan, but please be prepared to be flexible if required. Bad weather in mountain regions can cause domestic flight delays, particularly in the Everest, Lukla, Jomsom, phaplu, Kanchenjunga and any other remote mountain regions in Nepal.