



The Responsible Travellers

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Dhaulagiri Circuit

20 Days Grade D+

Dhaulagiri close up, French Pass, Hidden Valley and Glacial crossings.....This is a fantastic and challenging trek well off the beaten track with a myriad of ever changing scenery. starting at 830m altitude in rich cultivated lands, travelling up to Himalayan glaciers and high passes to then exit into Lower Mustang in the sandy valley of the Kali Gandaki.

We trek from Beni acclimatising round the south western reaches of Dhaulagiri before ascending through the French Pass and Hidden Valley to the Dhaulagiri icefall.

We then descend to Yak Kharka and onto Jomsom from where we take a spectacular flight exiting the mountains and passing close to the Annapurnas and Machhapuchre.

Our Dhaulagiri circuit route, takes you around the less frequented western parts of this stunning mountain avoiding the well trodden trail south of Jomsom. A trek which requires crampon and ice axe experience, this is a challenge rewarded with 360 degree views of the Dhaulagiri I – V and a close up experience of the Dhaulagiri I massif. Crossing both the Dhaulagiri and Tukucho ice falls, and two high passes, as well as difficult and rocky terrain, this is a strenuous and technical trek.



Vital Statistics

- 20 Days ex Kathmandu
- 14 nights camping trek
- Maximum Altitude:- 5360m
- 4-9 hours daily walking
- Technical Skills required
- 5 nights city hotel Ktm/Pokhara
- Mountain Flight Jomsom - Pokhara
- Internal Flight Pokhara – Kathmandu

Read on for Itinerary summary



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Itinerary Highlights: There are two options which depends upon the situation of road building at the trailhead. Option 1 is the traditional route in from Beni trailhead which is quoted in the price provided. A potential alternative itinerary- option 2 (if we can arrange transport to Darbung) may be more appealing by cutting out some of the lowland walking phase. This may require 4WD.

For those wishing to trek only, option 1 gives an additional spare day, and on option 2, you can fly to Pokhara on day 17 and stay overnight before flying to KTM on day 18 with the climbers after their descent.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Option 1.</u>	<u>Option 2</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>
Day 1	Arrival	Arrival	Hotel B&B
Day 2	KTM – Briefing	KTM	Hotel B&B
Day 3	Beni – Tatopani	Drive to Darbung (1,180m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 4	Dharapani	Trek to Phallya Gaon (1,800m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 5	Muri	Trek to Jugapani (2,000m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 6	Boghara	Trek to Dobang (2,260m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 7	Dobang	Trek to Soligari (3,100m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 8	Sallegari	Italian Base Camp (3,600m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 9	Italian Base Camp	Italian Base Camp (3,600m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 10	Italian Base Camp	Trek to Chhonbardan Glacier Camp (4,200m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 11	Chhonbardan Glacier Camp	Dhaulagiri Base Camp (4600m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 12	Dhaulagiri BC	Spare Day	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 13	Dhaulagiri BC	Over French Pass (5400m) and camp at Hidden Valley (5050m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 14	Hidden Valley	(Optional) Dampus Peak Ascent (6060m)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 15	(Optional) Dampus Peak Ascent	Yak Kharka (3680)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 16	Yak Kharka	Jomsom (2670)	Fully Catered tented camp
Day 17	Jomsom	Fly to Pokhara	Camp /Hotel B&B
Day 18	Pokhara – KTM	Fly to KTM	Hotel B&B
Day 19	Free Day (incase required in mountains)	Free Day (incase required in mountains)	Hotel B&B
Day 20	Int. Departure	Int. Departure	No Accommodation

Administration & Practicalities

What's included in your holiday?

- Carbon Balancing of international flights
- ✓ Internal flight Jomson- Pokhara - Ktm
- ✓ 5 nights hotel B&B accommodation
- ✓ 14 nights fully catered tented camp
- ✓ All transportation included in the itinerary
- ✓ Porterage and guides fees
- ✓ National Park Entrance fees & permits
- ✓ 100% profits donated to charity

What's not included:

- ❖ International flights & airport taxes
- ❖ Meals: lunch and dinner whilst on City B&B
- ❖ Incidental extra personal expenses
- ❖ Nepal Tourist Entry Visa
- ❖ Single persons supplement
- ❖ Additional sightseeing not specified in the itinerary
- ❖ Travel Insurance
- ❖ Staff tips

Travelling alone

Prices quoted are based on twin sharing basis. If you wish to have a single room / tent the supplement for this trip will be £125. Alternatively, you can be paired up with someone of the same sex to join in a double occupancy.

Equipment

You are required need to provide your own personal clothing and equipment. Some items of equipment are available for hire in Kathmandu, however some items are highly recommended to be purchased and tested by yourselves (e.g. Trekking boots) please contact us for more details.

The following specialist equipment is required:

- Trekking boots that will take a walking crampon.
- Ice Axe
- Crampons

If you would like to attempt Dampus Peak, you also need:

- Harness.
- 2 x Tape sling
- 2 x Screw gate Karabiners
- 2 x Open gate Karabiners
- Abseil Device.
- Ascender (e.g. Jumar)
- Prussic cords.
- Plastic Mountaineering Boots.

A complete kit list is contained in the pre departure details which are sent to you on receipt of your booking deposit.

Experience Required

Dhaulagiri Circuit is graded D+

The Dhaulagiri Circuit is one of the most difficult trekking trips and requires previous experience at altitude. The trek will involve prolonged periods at altitude in the mountains negotiating high passes, glacier crossings and rocky terrain involving difficult trails, which are sometimes extremely exposed and may have loose ground underfoot. You will require a high level of fitness and stamina. This is an expedition style camping trek which requires use of crampon and ice axe. You can expect to walk for up to 9 hours per day on the longest days.

Team Composition

The trek will be led by one of our Group Leaders – Siling Ghale who is highly qualified trek leader and experienced at high altitude. As well as 10 years experience in the Himalayas he has NMA mountaineering guide certification and mountain safety and wilderness first aid qualifications. He will have a technical leader who will be responsible for fixing ropes where necessary and leader for the optional Dampus Peak ascent. Further trek assistants or Sherpas will be accompanying the group and this will depend on the number of members. Your cook crew and porter crew will be hand selected for their ability to provide the best service at these altitudes.

We will take a maximum of 12 people on this trek, and a minimum of 6.

Itinerary: All that is possible will be done to ensure the trip follows the outlined itinerary. However, due to factors beyond our control such as local weather, politics and airlines it may be necessary to vary one or more of the days. If this does occur we shall do our utmost to ensure minimal impact to you.

Insurance: It is compulsory to take full holiday insurance which covers trekking to the maximum altitude of your trek/trip, and also covers full rescue and repatriation costs. You will need to provide a copy of your insurance details, including an emergency 24 hour telephone number to the trek leader before departing Leh. This should include any correspondence stating clarification of the required cover. If your policy documents are not available or prove to provide insufficient cover you may not be able to continue your trip. Please ensure that your policy also covers any extra activity outside of the stated itinerary you wish to do if you are extending your trip.

Warning: Our trips take you remote and exhilarating parts of the Himalaya. This is an adventurous and exciting undertaking, however, your booking is accepted on the basis that the risks associated with the trip are understood. The risk of accident, injury, or loss or damage to property, may be higher than normal. You will be trekking at high altitude and it is the responsibility of all clients to ensure they have the appropriate level of health & fitness prior to undertaking the trip.

Again, due to the nature of the destination, it is necessary to have a flexible approach to the trip. The outline itinerary provided by the Company is a guide and not contractual obligation. It should be understood that delays and alterations and the associated impacts of inconvenience and discomfort may occur (caused by local flight cancellations or delays, political conditions, weather conditions, border regulations, sickness or other unforeseeable circumstances). Should any changes be required, the Company will endeavor to make every effort to minimize the impact of this change. The decision of the trip Leader will be final.