

Lhotse Expedition

Trip code	
Package name	Lhotse Expedition
Duration	51
Max. elevation	8516 m
Level	ADVANCE
Transportation	Kathmandu - Lukla - Kathmandu by domestic flight.
Accommodation	3***Hotel in Kathmandu, Lodge + Camping twin sharing bed basis during the trek and Expedition session.
Starts at	Kathmandu
Ends at	Kathmandu
Trip route	Kathmandu - Lukla - Phakding - Namche Bazar - Tengbuche - Dingbuche - Lobuche - Everest Base Camp - (Climbing period - 35 days) - Periche - Namche Bazar - Lukla - Kathmandu.
Cost	USD 35,500 per person

Highlights

- High quality equipment and services, well-stocked base camp, excellent food and one tent per team member
- Shares much of the route with Everest and similar in technicality
- Veteran Sherpa Guides have summited Everest and Lhotse many times and are highly experienced in 8000-meter mountains
- Our Sherpas will go ahead to prepare the camps allowing you to take the time you need, and focus on climbing rather than logistics
- Having your own veteran Sherpa climbing guide allows maximum flexibility of pace and summit attempt

Overview

Lhotse, the fourth highest mountain in the world, offers a challenging and awe-inspiring expedition for experienced mountaineers. Located in the Everest region of Nepal, Lhotse stands at an impressive elevation of 8,516 meters (27,940 feet) and shares a close connection with the iconic Mount Everest. Lhotse Expedition is a demanding and rewarding journey that takes climbers into the heart of the Himalayas.

The journey to Lhotse Expedition begins with a scenic flight from Kathmandu to Lukla, a small mountain airstrip in the Khumbu region. From Lukla, climbers embark on a challenging trek, following the classic Everest Base Camp trail. The trek takes climbers through picturesque Sherpa villages, suspension bridges, and the stunning Dudh Koshi River valley, gradually gaining altitude and allowing for acclimatization.

Reaching Everest Base Camp is a significant milestone and a central hub for climbers attempting Lhotse. It serves as the starting point for the Lhotse Expedition, where climbers establish their base camp and make preparations for the ascent. The climbing route follows the southeast ridge of Lhotse, which is shared with climbers attempting Everest.

Climbing Lhotse requires technical mountaineering skills, physical fitness, and previous experience in high-altitude expeditions. The route involves navigating through steep ice and snow slopes, negotiating crevasses, and potentially facing challenging weather conditions. The use of mountaineering equipment such as crampons, ice axes, ropes, and supplemental oxygen may be necessary to ensure safety and progress.

Lhotse Expedition demands mental and physical endurance as climbers push their limits to conquer the summit. The final push to the top involves negotiating the treacherous Lhotse Face, a steep icy slope that demands careful footing and ice climbing techniques. Upon reaching the summit, climbers are rewarded with breathtaking panoramic views of the Himalayas, including Mount Everest, Nuptse, Makalu, and the surrounding peaks.

Descending from the summit and returning to base camp marks the completion of the Lhotse Expedition. The return journey follows a similar route, allowing climbers to reflect on their achievements and immerse themselves in the beauty of the Khumbu region. Celebrations and camaraderie with fellow climbers and Sherpa support staff make for memorable moments as the expedition concludes.

Lhotse Expedition is a challenging and highly rewarding adventure that requires thorough planning, experienced guides, and a high level of physical fitness. Climbers are advised to choose reputable expedition operators with extensive knowledge of the region and a strong safety record. Proper acclimatization, physical fitness training, and comprehensive equipment preparation are crucial for a successful and safe expedition.

Trip Itinerary

Day 1 : Arrival in Kathmandu, transfer to hotel, and trip briefing.

Arrive in Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal. Meet your trekking guide at the airport and transfer to your hotel. Spend the day exploring the vibrant streets of Kathmandu and preparing for the trek. Overnight stay in Kathmandu.

Day 2 : Obtain necessary permits and arrange logistics for the expedition.

We will organize a team meeting where you will meet fellow climbers and team leaders. Expert veteran climbers will brief you about the nature of the expedition, equipment, and team composition. You can purchase any personal items that you might need in your stay at the Himalayas. Experts will check the stuff you have brought along to see if they are feasible and in good working condition or not. If the equipment doesn't match the standard, you might have to replace them with new ones.

Day 3 : Fly from Kathmandu to Lukla (2,860 meters/9,383 feet) and trek to Phakding (2,610 meters/8,561 feet).

We will fly to Lukla from Kathmandu on an adventurous flight. The Tenzing Hillary Airport is one of the smallest airports in the world with just 527m of a runway. The thrilling start is the perfect start to the trip. From Lukla, we will start our trek to Phakding. The well-marked trail moves above the Dudh Kosi valley until you reach the village of Phakding.

Day 4 : Trek from Phakding to Namche Bazaar (3,440 meters/11,286 feet). - 6 hrs walk

On this day, we will have our breakfast at Phakding and then gear up for the trek to Namche Bazaar. Namche Bazaar was once a small village but since grown in size to accommodate the influx of trekkers, and now is the unofficial capital of the Sherpas. It was once an important trading centre on the route from Tibet to Nepal but has now been largely given over to catering for the needs of trekkers.

Our trail takes us first over the Dudh Koshi River via a long suspension bridge, and then through a beautiful pine forest to Monjo, about two hours away. Soon thereafter, we will approach the entrance to Sagarmatha National Park for a brief permit check and then descend to Dudh Koshi River (spotting Mani stones along the way!) en route to Jorsale. Lunch will be served here, and then it's uphill to Namche. Our path along the riverbank is flanked by two crossings, one of which is the Hillary Suspension Bridge. It's a tough climb up the hill to our resting place, but you'll be rewarded in

Namche Bazaar with your first glimpse of Everest in its majesty. For acclimatization, we suggest you to spend 2 nights in or around Namche.

Day 5 : Acclimatization day in Namche Bazaar, explore the town and hike to Everest View Hotel for acclimatization and panoramic views.

On the following day, we will take a well-deserved rest to acclimatize, which gives the opportunity to explore some of the less developed and more traditional villages in the area. There's an optional 2 hour hike to Everest View Point, an uphill walk that will help speed acclimatization. You can also check out the Sherpa museum for an overview of the Sherpa culture and history of mountaineering. On Saturdays, the Local Market is open for trading and an intimate look at the locals' marketplace. It is part of the larger Namche Bazaar, a shopping hub filled with all manner of trekking and mountaineering clothing and equipment. Easier options for passing the acclimatization day can be found by visiting the twin Sherpa villages of Khumjung and Khunde, which are about a 2 hour walk above Namche. While in Khunde, visit the hospital, which was established and funded by Sir Edmund Hillary's Himalayan Trust. Khumjung monastery is interesting as being the store place of one of the alleged Yeti scalps that are to be found in the region. Having Tea/Coffee in Everest view hotel and enjoy with gorgeous view of Mt. Everest and Amadablam is other attractions having one day free in Namche Bazaar.

Day 6 : Trek from Namche Bazaar to Tengboche (3,860 meters/12,664 feet), visit Tengboche Monastery. - 6 hrs walk

Moving on from Namche Bazaar the trail follows the valley of the Imja Khola with some spectacular views of the mountains including Thamserku, Kangtega, Nuptse, Lhotse, Kwangde and Ama Dablam and dominating the skyline ahead, Everest and Lhotse. The most common night stop after Namche is at the top of a steep climb from the Imja Khola, at Tengboche. Continuing our walk, a short drop takes us to the riverside, then it's across the river upwards through the forest pass. Brace your legs for a continual uphill trek at this point, alternating between a gradual grade and some seriously steep ground. Tengboche is known as one of the most beautiful places in the Everest region. Its views, which include Ama Dablam, are legendary. We'll stop in on the Tengboche monastery, which is one of the largest in Khumbu. Nourish your spirit with a guided tour of the monastery grounds, followed by chanting and prayer with the resident Buddhist monks. This is the site of one of the most significant Buddhist Monastery in Solukhumbu Region and a visit is well recommended.

Day 7 : Trek from Tengboche to Dingboche (4,410 meters/14,468 feet). - 6 hrs walk

After breakfast, we start our trek down to Dingboche village through the rhododendron forest and crossing the bridge over the raging Imja Khola. We'll pass the valley wall and then traverse the plains to Pangboche village, the biggest settlement of Sherpas in the region. Enjoy a great opportunity to observe a typical Sherpa village and have lunch with the locals. The intrepid can brave a brief hike to the Pangboche monastery, one of the oldest in the area. Our afternoon trek will be a difficult one, as the landscape gives way to dry, deserted mountains and we hike towards Dingboche. Dingboche is also the gateway to Chukung Village and Island peak.

Day 8 : Acclimatization day in Dingboche, hike to Nagarjun Hill for acclimatization and panoramic views.

Today is another rest day for the acclimatization. Savor a full day of exploring Dingboche and the surrounding valleys of Chukung and Imja, the latter of which links with Island Peak, the high passes of Amphu Lapsa, and Makalu Barun National Park. The view is awesome as the mountain like Thamserku, Khangtega, Taboche, Cholache as well as Mt. Amadablam are shining in front of our eyes. Taking an optional trek to the valleys will pay off in rewarding views, but taking it easy is the most important thing today. You'll need your rest for the penultimate day of ascent tomorrow

Day 9 : Trek from Dingboche to Lobuche (4,940 meters/16,207 feet). - 6 hrs walk

After the breakfast, we start our walk. Trek will gradually becomes challenging from here due to higher altitude. We'll pass Dugla, but not before a tough, steep walk to the top of a high hill. Here are the memorial stupas dedicated to the climbers and trekkers who lost their lives to Everest over the years. The next part of our adventure brings over craggy mountain terrain to Lobuche, a small settlement with amazing views of Mt. Lobuche, Mt. Pumari and the Nuptse. Prepare to snuggle up for a cold night, as we are now almost three miles above sea level and the evenings can be downright chilly.

Day 10 : Trek from Lobuche to Everest Base Camp (5,364 meters/17,598 feet). - 6 hrs walk

We start our trek early from Lobuche to Everest Base Camp via Gorak Shep and Kalapathar. After breakfast, we will trek up the rocky moraine path above the valley. We can view the frozen pond and icebergs of the Khumbu Glacier. A short downhill trek will lead you to Gorak Shep. Gorak Shep is the original location where Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay set up their Camps. A gradual walk in a rocky path and an uphill climb for half an hour will bring you to Kalapathar. A panoramic view of the Himalayan range awaits you in Kalapathar. We will take a break and snap as many pictures as we can. The view Mt Everest in a stunning closeup along with Mt Nuptse and Mt Lho-la will captivate you. The breathtaking view of the snow capped mountains is a memory that you will cherish for a lifetime.

We will resume our trek after a break to Everest Base Camp. The trail passes through ice pinnacles and crevasses of the Khumbu Glacier. The Everest Base Camp will be bustling with fellow climbers from various other expedition teams. The colorful tents on a backdrop of white snow mountains are a thing of beauty. We will set up our tents and accommodate ourselves. This place is going to be our home for the next couple of months.

Day 11 : Day 11-44: Climbing period - establish and acclimatize at Lhotse Base Camp (5,380 meters/17,651 feet)

The second phase of the acclimatization phase begins with the rotation of higher camps. After completing the acclimatization, retrace back to base camp and wait for the perfect weather window.

For the acclimatization, please note that the acclimatization program may differ during the expedition period as each climber adapts differently to an altitude. Your expedition leader will suggest you the best as per your conditions.

In general, our acclimatization program includes overnight at Camp 2 and tag the Lhotse Face/Camp 3. When this is done, we rest and recover at the base camp while waiting for the weather window for the summit attempt.

Day 45 : Trek to Periche 4050m - 6 hrs walk

We will descend to the village of Pheriche. The trek will be naturally faster as we will be trekking downhill. We will have an elevation change of almost 1000m. Such a considerable elevation change would not have been possible if we were ascending. We will rest and spend the night at Periche.

Day 46 : Trek to Namche Bazar 3440m - 6 hrs walk

We will be descending an incredible 20 km on the trek from Periche to Namche Bazaar. The most extended trek of our journey is effortless because we will be descending mostly. As we go downhill, the oxygen levels increase, and we will be able to breathe more naturally, and altitude sickness will gradually disappear. We will pass through many landmarks like the Tengboche monastery and others to reach Namche Bazaar. A hot shower and wifi await you at Namche. You will stay at Namche Bazaar for the night.

Day 47 : Trek to Phakding 2610m - 5 hrs walk

We descend from Namche Bazaar and will have lunch in Monjo, where we finally leave Sagarmatha National Park again. If the weather is clear, take plenty of photos of your final views of the great peaks we've enjoyed so much along the way, including Everest, Lhotse and Ama Dablam. After trekking down from Monjo, we reach to Phakding.

Day 48 : Trek to Lukla 2800m - 6 hrs walk

Today you will take an easy and beautiful walk through the blue pine and Rhododendron forests with the views of Kusum Kanguru and Mt. Kwangde. After taking lunch in Lukla, it is advisable to take a look at the small village of Lukla. You can explore the city visiting the local “School of Thangka Painting” and see the beautiful religious paintings as well. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 49 : Fly from Lukla to Kathmandu, transfer to hotel.

In the morning, you'll hop a brief flight from Lukla to Kathmandu, where your journey both began and ends. The flight to Kathmandu from Lukla usually takes 30minutes. You'll transfer to your hotel upon landing for some much-needed solo rest and reflection after your trek conquering the Himalayas. In Kathmandu the day is yours. Enjoy strolling or ambling round the tourist hub. Or you can go for Sightseeing with your guide. Overnight stay in the hotel.

Day 50 : Free day in Kathmandu for rest, relaxation, and celebration.

You will have a free day in Kathmandu. You can go last minute shopping or relax in Thamel, which is a tourist hub in Kathmandu. A celebratory dinner in the evening will mark the successful end of the expedition.

Day 51 : Departure from Kathmandu.

We will drop you at the international airport well on time (3 hours before departure) to catch your flight. If you wish to explore more of the Himalayas expedition do get in touch with us. We will be more than happy to organize a trip for you.

Inclusions

What is included?

Airport pick up drop by private vehicles and Transfer to Hotel.

Kathmandu / Lukla / Kathmandu airfare both for expedition members and staff all.

4 nights hotel (3-stars) in Kathmandu, B/B plan

25 kg weight per Sherpa climber is allowed for expedition

Necessary Sherpa porters or mules for carrying equipment & loads

Twin sharing accommodation in available lodge/teahouse while trekking

3 times meals per day, (Breakfast, Lunch, and dinner) teas & coffees in trekking & during the camping period.

Common climbing gears like necessary rope, ice bars, ice screws, etc

Twin sharing tent of North face brand or similar for Base Camp

Experienced and government licensed trekking and climbing Sherpa guide during the trekking and climbing period.

All food and fuel for base camp and higher camps during the climbing period.

Paper works, Peak permit fees, Route fees, Sagarmatha National Park fees, and Expedition Royalty fees

Kitchen, Dining, Store tent, mattress and all camping facilities needed in Base Camp.

The experienced and professional Sherpa staff at Base Camp: Base camp manager, cook, kitchen Boy.

Government liaisons officer and his salary & accomodation

Equipment medical & life, allowance, wages, life, medical & rescue insurance for all Nepali members.

Emergency oxygen bottle, mask & regulator at ABC (Use and pay)

Provision of 4L-Poix with 2 Oxygen bottles for each member and 1 Oxygen bottle for Sherpa + Masks and Regulators

Provision of 1 High Altitude Sherpa for assistance

Garbage disposal and managemant fee.

Immediate Rescue co-ordination (covered by your personal travel insurance)

Generator or solar panel for charging & lighting in Everest Base camp

Satellite phone on pay call basis (1 min: \$4).

Walkie - talkie per member and climbing Guide as required for communication.

Welcome Dinner at typical Nepali Restaurant in Kathmandu.

What isn't included?

International flight fare, taxes, and visas (visa charge USD 40 and 4 passport photographs for the visa).

Lunch and dinner in Kathmandu.

Your Personal trekking & climbing equipment

Excess baggage transport

All expenses of personal nature like Wifi, Hot Shower, bar bills, laundry, telephone, etc.

Travel insurance for accident, medical, emergency evacuation & lost baggage.

Tips for Base Camp Staff and Climbing guide.

Summit Bonus for sherpa

Applicable permit fee & custom fee for satellite phone, filming camera, communications - equipment (if brought)

Expenses that are not mentioned in the included section.

Complimentary