



# SNOWY HORIZON TREKS & EXPEDITION PVT. LTD.

Bohoratar, Jamacho Marg, Balaju-16, Kathmandu, Nepal



## Mt. Cho-Oyu Expedition (8516m)-Tibet

### Overview:

*"Snowy Horizon Expeditions invite you to join and experience one of the easiest 8000m peak climbing within the limited holidays from Tibet face with the devoted expert expedition team."*

Cho-Oyu is the sixth highest mountain in the world with the elevation of 8201m. **Mt. Cho Oyu Expedition** is a classic Himalayan climb and considered the easiest 8000m-peak climb via its Northwest Ridge, with no technical climbing, big snowfields, and little objective danger. Mt. Cho Oyu is easily accessed by 4-wheel-drive vehicle from Tingri, often guided, and is the first 8,000-meter peak for most of the climbers. The Mt. Cho Oyu is located 30km west of Mt Everest and straddles the border between Nepal and Tibet. The peak can be climbed from both Nepalese sides up on south face and northeast ridge routes and Tibetan side along the Northwest ridge route with North approach being an easier and a standard route, which was also the route of the first summit. The mountain Cho Oyu is climbable during both spring and autumn seasons.

For climbers that want additional support for **Cho Oyu Expedition**, Snowy Horizon Expeditions offering a personal Sherpa option to you. Since 2019 the Chinese authority applied the term that each climbers need to hire a personal Sherpa. Hence we will assign exclusively to you one of our very best Sherpa, who has reached to the summit of Mt. Cho Oyu and Mt. Everest many times. Who has been trained through the Khumbu Sherpa climbing school, and who speaks English well. In **Cho Oyu Expedition** as a small, two-person team (you and your Sherpa), you will be able to take advantage of the "best of both worlds" with all the "horsepower" of the main Snowy Horizon team at your disposal in case of emergency. However, Snowy Horizon will also have the additional flexibility afforded by a climbing partner who is committed to climb exclusively on your own schedule, when you want to. Your personal Sherpa will also be available to help carry your personal gear to the higher camps, and if desired, additional oxygen for **Cho Oyu Expedition**.

To complete **expedition of Mt. Cho Oyu**, we set up the Advanced Base Camp and then three high camps in the mountain. Thereafter starts our main attempt to scale the summit (8201m). The expedition will be supported by very experienced staffs and climbing guides. We supply excellent mountaineering tents also for the high camps to our climbers of Mt. Cho Oyu. Our camp will be with full of camping amenities in the 21<sup>st</sup> Era for your safety and comfort during climbing.

### Approaches to Cho Oyu from North (Tibet):

- From the north, the peak approached from the Tingri Plain, to the Palung Glacier that lies below the peak's north face, and the Gyabrag Glacier that surrounds the Northwest face.
- Typically, it takes 3 days to drive to Tingri (4300m) from Kathmandu with acclimatization stops in Kerung (2850m). From Tingri expedition takes a day rest at Chinese Base Camp (5100m), Middle Camp (5400m) before arriving at Cho Oyu North Advanced Base Camp (5700m). It takes 9 days to reach ABC from Kathmandu.

### Climbing Routes:

- Cho Oyu has three main ridges: the Northwest, the Northeast, and the Southwest and impressive Southwest face rising 3000m from the ABC.





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### South Side:

- South side of Cho Oyu is a great climbing playground for high altitude climbers because of the cool face relatively easily accessible for skilled climbers.
- In 1994, Yasushi Yamanoi has completed First solo ascent via the South West face. On October 2, 2006, Slovenian Pavel Kozjek speed-climbed a new route on the Southwest Face in a single solo ascent from advanced base camp.
- The crux was a vertical icefall, which was bypassed with 5.6 rock climbing. He reached the summit in 14 hours.

### North Side:

- The Northwest Ridge is also known as Tichy Route. Tichy Route is a normal route for commercial operators and for first time climbers of 8000m peaks. It doesn't require technical climbing skills, as it is a less than 50deg snowfield with one very short section of yellow band rock with fixed lines. The route begins from the Gyabrag Glacier at the base of Peak 6395m and the location of the advanced base camp (ABC) at 5700m (18,700').
- The route skirts first and then ascends the scree and fern on the west side of the slope leading to Camp 1 at 6400m (21,000') at the bottom of the Northwest ridge proper of Cho Oyu. Camp 1 location is very nice as it is well sheltered from the weather by the ridge itself and the rocks below the base of the Northwest ridge.
- From Camp 1 the route follows the Northwest ridge, and then opens out onto the Northwest face of the upper mountain. About halfway between Camp 1 and Camp 2 there is a steeper 30-50m section consisting of moderate ice cliff. Most of the route between Camp 1 and 2 is fixed with rope because there are hundreds of unskilled mountaineers with huge entourage of climbing Sherpa provided by commercial operators.
- Camp 2 is located at about 7200m (23,500'). Some expeditions fix an intermediate temporary camp between C1 and C2, just below the ice cliff on the Northwest ridge at about 6600 m (21,600'), especially during the first or second acclimatization trip.
- Most of operators fix a high camp at about 7450 m (24,500') just below yellow bands to maximize the chance of success on summit day but occasional parties do the summit from C2. Usually the yellow bands are fixed with rope, which requires some strenuous climbing. Above this, more rocky bands there are a steep summit ridge snowfield. Expeditions usually continue up this steep snowfield to the crest of the Northwest Ridge and the false summit. From here climbers cross a broad plateau, with a very small rise to the true summit of 8201m (26,901 feet). From the true summit there is an incredible view of Mt. Everest and Mt. Makalu.



### Other Possibilities:

- Most of the climbing is on ice and snow slopes up to 50 degrees with a few very short sections of steeper rock and ice. The highest technical section is 6m high and safely climbed with fixed ropes. This makes it a perfect for ski and snowboard descent. The first American ski descent of an 8,000-meter peak was on October 1, 2002, when Montana ski mountaineer Kristopher Erickson reached the summit of Cho Oyu and then skied down.
- Speed climbing is another option on Cho Oyu. On October 2, 2006, Slovenian Pavel Kozjek speed-climbed a new route on the Southwest Face in a single solo ascent from advanced base camp. The crux was a vertical icefall, which was bypassed with 5.6 rock climbing. He reached the summit in 14 hours.
- Is Spring Climbing Better Than Autumn? On Cho Oyu, it does not matter. Each season has is slightly different and has different attractions but for Cho Oyu being lower than Everest the reliability odds of good weather are roughly even.





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- Spring starts cold and then warms up so acclimatization is tough but the climb can be pleasant with slightly longer days and warmer temperatures. In spring you wait for transition between winter winds and monsoon snowfall. You don't want to get big a snow dump on Cho Oyu because of high objective avalanche danger on its 50deg slopes past C3. The visibility in spring is usually not as clear as in autumn. Optimum spring summit usually is in around mid-May.
- Autumn climbing is nice and comfortable. It is easy to acclimatize and you basically wait for the weather transition from monsoon to winter, when winds stop before they change direction. There is lots of snow and high objective avalanche danger, so you basically wait for snowfall to stop and snow to consolidate, and hope for no snow dump just before you ready for your climb. The visibility is superb, crisp and crystal clear. Optimum autumn summit is around end of September and early October before winter cold winds set in.



## Mt. Cho-Oyu Expedition (8516m)-Spring-Tibet

**(40 Nights 41 Days)**

### Day-to Day Itinerary:

- Day 01:** Arrival in Kathmandu Airport & transfer to hotel (1350m).  
**Day 02-03:** Rest, preparation, visa collection, assignment & briefing.  
**Day 04:** Drive (8 Hrs.) to Kerung Town via Timure-immigration formality; hotel.  
**Day 05:** Rest and Acclimatize day in Kerung Town (2850m); hotel.  
**Day 06:** Drive via Kerung pass (5200m) to Old Tingri (4300m-7 Hrs.); hotel.  
**Day 07:** Rest, acclimatization and last shopping day at Old Tingri.  
**Day 08:** Drive from Old Tingri to Chinese Base Camp (5100m-4 Hrs.); camping.  
**Day 09-10:** **Acclimatization days; arrange Yaks for Advance Base Camp (ABC).**  
**Day 11:** Trek to Middle Camp (MC-5400m-4 Hrs.); Camping.  
**Day 12:** Trek to Advance Base Camp (ABC-5700m-4 Hrs.); full camping.  
**Day 13-36:** **Climbing Period (ABC-Summit Cho-Oyu, 8201m-ABC).**  
**Day 37:** Dismantling ABC, prepare for departure, trek & drive to Old Tingri; hotel.  
**Day 38:** Drive from Old Tingri to Kerung Town (7 Hrs.); hotel.  
**Day 39:** Drive via Timure (Immigration formality) to Kathmandu (8 Hrs.); hotel.  
**Day 40:** Rest, leisure day and shopping in Kathmandu; farewell dinner.  
**Day 41:** Final departure to your port of destination.

### Full Board Service Package Includes:

- All arrival and departure transfer services in Kathmandu.
- Hotel accommodations in Kathmandu (5 Nights) & Tibet (6 Nights) BB Plan.
- Kathmandu-Rashuwa Gadhi (Kerung border)-Kathmandu 4/WD transfers.
- Tibet travel visa and permit (**Royalty: US\$ 9,300 /4,000 for member/Staffs**).
- Official Liaison Officer for Mt. Cho-Oyu Expedition from Tibet.
- Kerung-Tingri -Chinese BC and VV transportation on SUV minibus on sharing.
- Full camping logistics set up in Chinese BC, Intermediate Camp and Advance BC.
- Complete 3 meals a day (BLD) cooked by our expedition cook in CBC, MC and ABC.
- 1:1 experienced climbing Sherpa guide and required BC staffs in sharing plan.
- Cargo and duties clearing assistance service in Kerung border on both way.





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- Gamow bag at base camp for emergency rescue purpose.
- Solar panels for light and battery charging to the required devices at ABC.
- Necessary member tents for ABC (1:1) and high camps (C1, C2, & C3; 2:1).
- All required icefall, environmental and rope fixing charges where applicable.
- 2 Oxygen (4 Ltrs.) bottles for climbing member and 1 for Sherpa.
- Mask & regulator set for each climbing member and supporting Sherpa.
- High altitude food served by climbing Sherpa at C1, C2 and C3.
- Baggage allowance carrying by Yak up and down to ABC from CBC-50 Kg each.
- First Aid medical kits for the Group and the staffs at ABC.
- Walkie-talkies & satellite phone for communication (uses charge \$ 5 per unit for Sat).
- Office service charge and government taxes levied in Nepal.
- Combined pre-departure information for the members and staffs.
- Farewell dinner & Snowy Horizon special gifts.



## Full Board Service Package Excludes:

- Lunch and dinner during your stay in Kathmandu and Tibet
- (Except farewell dinner in Kathmandu and campsite meals in Tibet expedition).
- Items of personal nature like laundry, phone calls and Internet uses.
- Clothing, packing items, personal medical kit, personal trekking/climbing gears.
- Any extra services or products or offers or activities not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Any extra expenses arising out of various/unforeseen situations like natural calamities, landslides, political disturbances, strikes, change in Government regulations etc.
- Any additional staff (s) specially required by the climbing member.
- Rescue, repatriation, medicines, medical tests and hospitalization expenses.
- Medical-travel insurance and emergency rescue evacuation if required.
- Airfare of international and domestic flights other than specified.
- Nepal entry or re-entry visa fee (Visa issuance is easy at the arrival borders).
- Nepal custom duty fees for import of expedition goods if required.
- Emergency/rescue/early Jeep cost (**US\$ 1000** approximately per Jeep).
- Summit bonus to the personal climbing Sherpa
- **(Beginning from minimum US\$ 1000 per summit per Sherpa).**
- Tips to base camp staffs
- **(Per climbing member beginning from minimum US\$ 200.00 in total for all)**
- Any other item not mentioned in "The Service Package Excludes" Section.



## Package Cost:

Please contact us by email or call us for negotiation of the Package Cost.

Sincerely,

Bodha Raj Bhandari  
Chairman