

NEPAL TOURISM WORKSHOP WITH MOVING MOUNTAINS TRUST



NEPAL TOURISM & SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP

Dates: 7th - 20th May 2017 (to be confirmed)



This two-week walking workshop is in association with the charity Moving Mountains and the award-winning responsible travel company Adventure Alternative. The trip involves trekking to the rural villages of Bupsa and Bumburi in the lower Solukhumbu region of the Himalayas where participants will work on relevant projects which are developed and supported by Moving Mountains Nepal and improve the lives of the communities without affecting the traditions and way of life of the local Sherpa people.

The trip will provide you with a great insight and first-hand experience on the connections between tourism and social entrepreneurship and you will witness how tourism, international development and social enterprise has completely transformed these villages in this stunningly beautiful part of the world surrounded by the Himalayan mountains.

Adventure Alternative will manage all the in-country logistics and the expedition will be fully supported with a very special team of experienced staff in an area well off the beaten track. Moving Mountains Trust is accepted as a charity in the UK with HMRC under reference XR62512 (and with the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland - NIC100742) and has international NGO's in Nepal and Kenya and works directly with the indigenous Penan tribe in Borneo. Adventure Alternative has been established since 1996 and has offices located in Nepal, Kenya, Tanzania, Borneo and Russia.



BASIC TRIP ITINERARY

Day 1 (7th May): Arrive in Kathmandu, where you will be met by a team from Adventure Alternative Nepal and Moving Mountains Nepal. Overnight in Kathmandu on the grounds of the Adventure Alternative Nepal Guest House where tents will be pitched in the gardens.

Day 2 (8th May): Day in Kathmandu to acclimatise and recover from jet lag before visiting a University in Kathmandu, second night in Kathmandu.

Day 3 (9th May): Morning transfer by road from Kathmandu to the mountain village of Saleri; where we will start trekking from on day 4. Overnight in Saleri lodge.

Day 4 (10th May): Trek from Saleri where we follow well trodden paths to reach the village of Taksindu (about 6 - 7 hours trekking), the paths are the highways and byways of the Sherpa people, so you find yourself passing through many villages and getting up close with the culture in this incredible area which is immersed in the peaceful world of Tibetan Buddhism, and framed by the majestic Himalayas. Overnight in a local mountain lodge/tea house.

Day 5 (11th May): Continue trek to the village of Bupsa, where Moving Mountains has developed and supports the Primary School, Buddhist Monastery, Monk School and are currently in the process of a water distribution project to all the homes dotted around the hillside of Bupsa which will eventually lead to the installing of eco-stoves and back boilers in each of these homes.

Day 6 (12th May): Full day in Bupsa for project work and workshops.

Day 7 (13th May): Morning of workshops before trekking from Bupsa across the valley via the village of Khari Khola to reach the village of Bumburi where Moving Mountains have developed and support Bumburi Primary and Secondary School, Bumburi Medical Centre and the Hydro-Electric project which provides electricity for all the homes in the village and has been the catalyst to the social enterprises that have started as a result. The homes in Bumburi have also received water distribution, eco-stoves and back boilers which has had a remarkable effect on the health of the villagers, thanks to smokeless rooms and clean / hot water on tap for drinking, washing, etc.

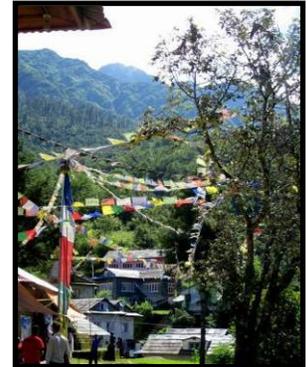
Days 8 & 9 (14th/15th May): Two days in Bumburi/Khari Khola for projects and workshops.

Days 10 & 11 (16th/17th May): Two-day trek back to the mountain airport of Phaplu.

Day 12 (18th May): A morning flight from Phaplu to Kathmandu gives us the afternoon for meetings and reflection.

Day 13 (19th May): Full day sight-seeing in the bustling city of Kathmandu in search of some of the mystical culture and history that the city is steeped in. Vists to Durbar Square and Swayambunath – the 'Monkey Temple' will be high on the agenda.

Day 14 (20th May): Depart Nepal



NEPAL TOURISM WORKSHOP

This experiential, field-based course aims to deepen students' awareness and understanding of the connection between tourism and social entrepreneurship, culminating in a two-week visit to Nepal. During this visit, students will augment what they've learned in the classroom with first-hand investigation of the tourism-social entrepreneurship connection within Nepalese mountain villages: its impact, both micro and macro; challenges associated with establishing and strengthening this connection; and strategies to address these challenges.

The teaching / learning approach will rely heavily on student engagement and initiative: discussion; interviews; individual reflection; and collaboration with students from participating institutions located in the United Kingdom, United States, Denmark, and Nepal. Participants will prepare for their visit to Nepal through in-class instruction in their home institution. Although our focus and travel will be in the mountain villages of Nepal, the lessons learned will have broader applicability.

The two weeks in Nepal will involve 4 or 5 days trekking, which can be physically challenging and therefore require an appropriate level of fitness.

Learning Outcomes

Our learning outcomes can be divided into the following categories;

Social Entrepreneurship and Tourism Development: Problem-Solving Skills

- To understand the role of social entrepreneurship in the context of tourism development
- To gain theoretical knowledge of, and practical experience with, social entrepreneurship (i.e. to see "how things start and work" with social enterprise endeavors)
- To identify, and to widen the understanding of the factors involved in social entrepreneurship (e.g. environmental issues, sustainability in tourism, political structures, governance issues)

Communication skills

Participants will strengthen their communication skills in the following areas

- Report writing
- Interviewing
- Intercultural competencies
- Team work and collaboration

Cultural Awareness and Appreciation

Participants will gain

- A greater understanding and appreciation of their own and other cultures
- An awareness that they are part of an intercultural professional network that has the potential to effect positive change
- A unique perspective that encompasses both global and local concerns

Personal Growth and Empowerment

The course aims to inspire and empower its participants' through

- Increased self confidence
- An awareness that one's actions can have a positive, meaningful impact on others

TRIP COST

TBC: Dependent on Purdue Study Abroad Inclusions

Price Includes:

- Accommodation throughout trip provided in lodges, tea houses and home-stays in the mountains and accommodation at Guest House in Kathmandu
- Airport transfers in Nepal and city tours
- Internal jeep transport from Kathmandu to Saleri
- Internal flight from Phaplu to Kathmandu
- All meals and hot drinks in the mountains (bottled water not included) and all meals, hot drinks and bottled water in Kathmandu (provided at our Guest House)
- All staff costs - including Guides and Porters (who will carry main luggage on trek to villages)

Price Excludes:

- International return airfare to Nepal
- Personal project fundraising target; £400 per person, paid directly to our charity Moving Mountains Trust
- Vaccinations & medication required
- Personal travel insurance and Nepalese visa
- Personal spending for tips, souvenirs, bottled water in the mountains, tourist activities, etc

Equipment Needed

A 65 litre rucksack (or similar sized holdall/duffle bag) is needed and a small rucksack (25 - 35 litres) which you can use as hand luggage on the flight and to carry when trekking. Clothing should be comfortable, quick drying and loose fitting and it is best to bring clothing that you are not too worried about getting dirty; T-shirts, shorts, trousers, trainers, trekking boots, sandals, sun hat and a warm jacket or fleece for the evenings.

You'll also need to bring a 2 or 3 season sleeping bag (sleeping bag liners are useful too) and carry mat or therm-a-rest, torch (head torch is ideal) and camera (with spare batteries), 2 x one litre water bottles (aluminium bottles help to keep water cool), personal first aid kit and toiletries/travel towel (don't forget the sun screen and sun glasses!)

Visa

A visa is required for entry to Nepal and can be purchased beforehand through your local Nepalese consulate; however, you can also buy it on arrival in Kathmandu.

Insurance

Make sure you get comprehensive travel and medical insurance before setting off (carry a copy of your policy and the 24 hour emergency number with you) and keep a copy of your insurance policy details saved in your secure email account as back-up.

Full details of Adventure Alternative and our policies are on www.adventurealternative.com

Full details of the work of Moving Mountains in Nepal are at www.movingmountainstrust.org