



JOURNEY
to the
TWIN PEAKS

Mt. Everest & Mt. Lhotse

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PUNASCHA

Mt. Everest Expedition

Mount Everest or erstwhile Peak-XV of the vast Himalayan range is the highest mountain in the world. In Nepal it is called Sagarmatha, meaning "Forehead in the Sky" and in Tibet it is known as Chomolungma, meaning – "the mother Goddess of the Earth". Height 8,848m/29,028ft (8,850m/29,035ft., as per the latest measurement). Location 27°59'17"N; 86°55'31"E.

Two popular routes to climb

Mt. Everest:

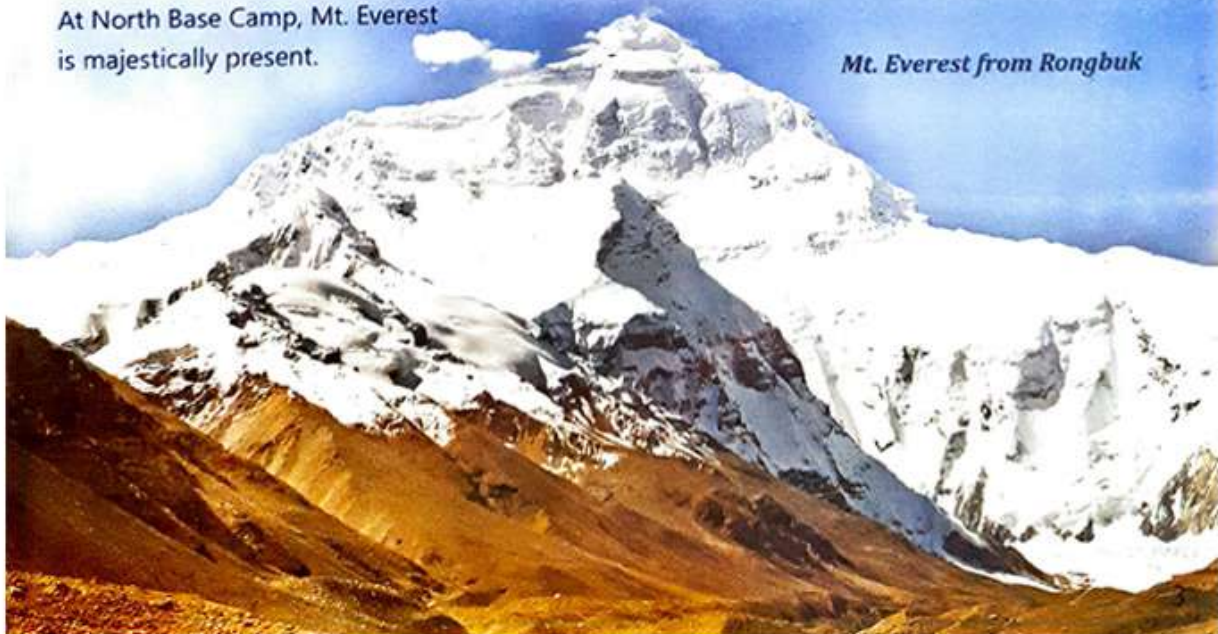
North-East ridge North Col route (from Tibet, China side) and South-East ridge South Col route (from Nepal side).

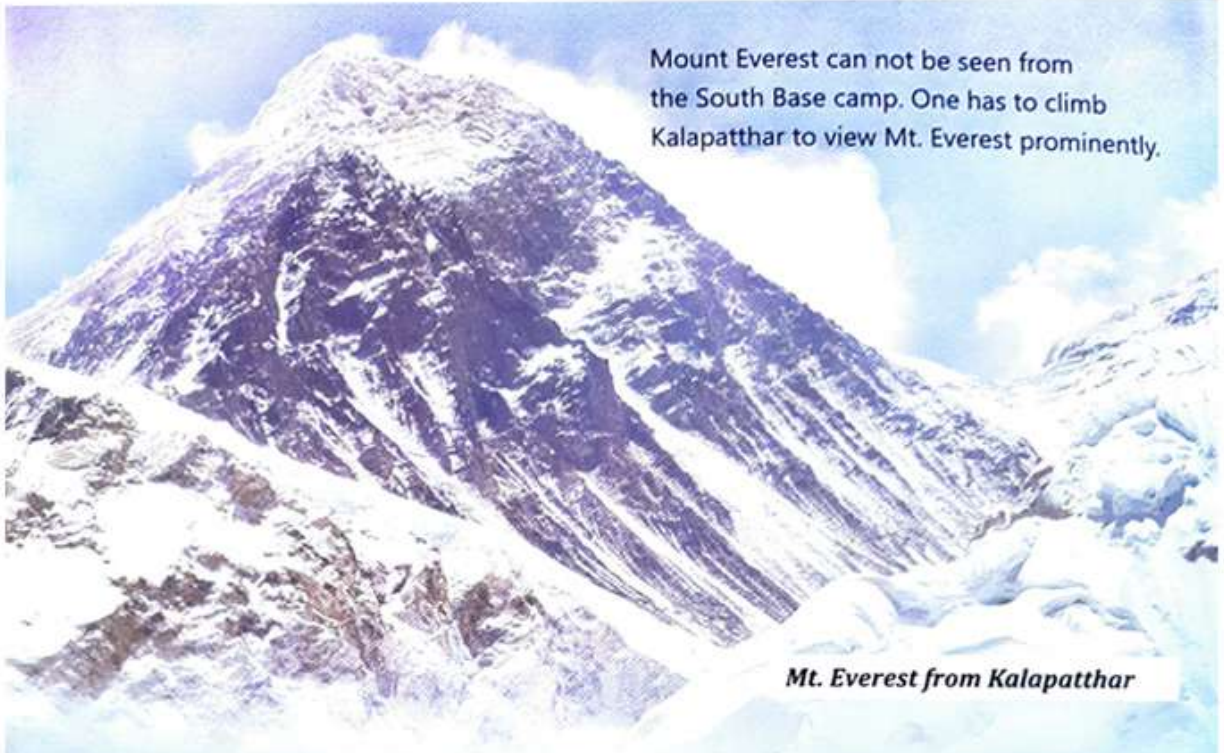
There are 14 routes through which climbing on Everest have successfully been completed. The main two among these are - one from North Side (Tibet) and other from South Side (Nepal). One can reach up

to the North base camp (5180 m/16990 ft) near 'Rongbuk Glacier' in Tibetan Plateau by car, crossing over to Tibet at Kodari or Timure. Thereafter climbing starts.

For the south route, mountaineers usually fly from Kathmandu to Lukla (2842 m) or go by car to 'Ziri'; after that 3 to 4 days walk to Lukla; from Lukla, Everest base camp is 6 to 8 day's trek. The places to cross — Tengboche, Pangboche, Pheriche or Dingboche, Lobuche, Thukla, Gorakshep etc. At North base camp, Mount Everest is majestically present.

At North Base Camp, Mt. Everest is majestically present.





Mount Everest can not be seen from the South Base camp. One has to climb Kalapatthar to view Mt. Everest prominently.

Mt. Everest from Kalapatthar

The naming of **Mt. Everest**



Radhanath Sikdar

1852: Dehradun was the headquarters of the Great Trigonometrical Survey (GTS) of India. Radhanath Sikdar, Computer of GTS and a great mathematician at that time was the first to calculate the height of Everest and identify it as the world's highest peak.



Andrew Waugh

1856: Andrew Waugh, the then Surveyor General of India announced the altitude of Everest as 29,202ft and suggested the name of the peak after his predecessor and the first Surveyor General Sir Gorge Everest. In 1865 the Royal Geographical Society officially adopted Mount Everest as the name for the highest mountain of the world.

Sir Gorge Everest





Andrew Irvine

Some notable **Climbing** attempts

1921: A British Expedition team consisting of George Mallory and Guy Bullock attempted through the North Col route, Tibet and reached upto 7,007m/22,789ft. It was the first reconnaissance to find out a feasible route to reach the top of Mt. Everest.

1922: Mallory and his team again attempted through the same route and could reach upto 8,321m/27,300ft.

1924: George Mallory and Andrew Irvine made an attempt to the summit via the North Col-North Ridge-Northeast Ridge route from which they never returned.

Before Second World War few other Expeditions were organized, all from the North side as Nepal was closed to the foreigners. These Expeditions included many World famous Mountaineers like Eric Shipton, Bill Tilman, Frank Smythe etc. In 1949 the doors of Nepal opened to the foreigners.

1950: Bill Tilman and a small party which included Charles Houston, Oscar Houston and Betsy Cowles undertook an exploratory expedition to Everest through Nepal.

1952: Swiss expedition under the leadership of Edouard Wyss-Dunant was permitted to climb from Nepal, Raymond Lambert and Tenzing Norgay could reach upto 8,595m/28,199ft.



George Mallory



"It was cold. Space, the air we breathed, the yellow rocks, were deadly cold. There was something ultimate, passionless, and eternal in this cold. It came to us as a single constant note from the depths of space. We stood on the very boundary of life and death."

— *Frank Smythe*

"Return to civilisation was hard, but, in the sanctuary of the Blessed Goddess we had found the lasting peace which is the reward of those who seek to know high mountain places."

— *Eric Shipton*



Some notable successful Climbs

1953: Edmund Hillary from New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay, reached at the summit of Everest for the first time on 29th May, 1953 via South Col, Nepal.



Tenzing at top of Mt. Everest
**Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary
& the News of the first climb,
published in London Herald.**



Junko Tabei

1975: First female ascent, by Junko Tabei from Japan. Junko Tabei is also the first woman to ascend all Seven Summits by climbing the highest peaks on each of seven continents.



Reinhold Messner & Peter Habeler

1978: First ascent without supplemental oxygen by Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler. Messner is the first mountaineer to solo climb the peak after three years from the North side. Reinhold Messner is the first man to climb all 14 eight-thousanders (peaks over 8,000 metres) and without supplemental oxygen.

1965: First Indian Summit. On 20 May, Avtar Singh Cheema and Nawang Gombu had reached the summit. On 22 May, Sonam Wangyal and Sonam Gyatso; on 24 May, Chandra Prakash Vohra and Ang Kami, on 29 May, H.P.S. Ahluwalia, Phu Dorji and Harish Rawat stood on top of Everest under the leadership of Mohan Singh Kohli.

Bachendri Pal



1984: Bachendri Pal became the first Indian woman to reach the summit.



**INDIAN
TEAM**