

Safe Journeys Adventure Treks

Lord Baden Powell Peak Nepal



Lord Baden Powell Peak, is a mushroom shaped mountain situated in the Langtang region of Nepal, and was named in Honour of Lord Baden Powell.

Locally known as Urkema Peak, it was renamed Lord Baden Powell Peak (5,718m) in 2007. The peak was named after the father of the Scouts movement by the Nepal Government to mark the centenary celebration of the International Scouts Movement. The trail to Lord Baden Powell peak is located off-the-beaten-track, away from the usual trekking crowds. The villages, dotting the trail, are pristine and untouched by modernity. But the villagers are quite poor. Most of them live below the poverty line and it is hoped that the economic condition of the villagers would improve once this trail gains popularity among trekkers.

Elevation (feet): 18760 Elevation (meters): 5718

Good fitness levels are required for this expedition, along with basic mountaineering skills

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrive in Kathmandu

It is a big thrill flying into Kathmandu on a clear day. The views of snow-capped mountain peaks sprawling down below us are almost great, beginning a whole chain of memorable experiences that will stay with you for a long time. A representative and driver from our office will meet us at the airport and escort us to our hotel.

Day 2 Free day in Kathmandu

We utilize this day to check our equipment and gear and if needed, do some last minute shopping. We also have a tour of Swayunbunath Stupa, which is the oldest place of worship in Kathmandu, and is located on a the top of a hill.

Day 3 Drive to Syabru Besi [1400m] / 8 hrs. drive

From Kathmandu, after having breakfast, we take a 4 hour bus ride to Trishuli. There is a small bazaar(market) on the banks of the river, known as Trishuli Bazaar (540m). From Trishuli we drive uphill to reach Dhunche (2120 m) and get to view the mesmerizing panorama of the Himalayas, including the Annapurnas, Manaslu, Ganesh Himal and the peaks of the Langtang region. After Dunche it is down a winding road and to Syabru Besi(1460m), where we stay overnight at a local lodge.

Day 4 Trek to Lama Hotel [2748m] / (6hrs.)

We traverse the ridge on Syabru Besi's main path and soon reach Ghopcha Khola. Terraced fields and dense forest passin through woodlands of oaks, maple, alder and bamboo. If we are lucky its possible to see yellow-throated martin, wild boar, Langur monkey, red panda and Himalayan black bear in this area. Further on, the trail crosses a stream by bridge, and passes several small bhattis (tea shops). As we continue ascending steeply along the trail, we come across a steel suspension bridge at 2000 meters. We cross this bridge to the north bank of the Langtang Khola(river) with good views of cascading waterfalls and opens into scrub oak forest. On reaching 2748 meters, we arrive at Lama Hotel where we conclude the trek for the day.

Day 5 Trek to Langtang village [3500m] / (5hrs.)

From Lama hotel, we continue the ascent above the Langtang Khola. As the trail progresses, it becomes steeper, with the Himalayan mountains becoming closer.. The trail leads to a log bridge and on climbing further we come across lush meadows at Ghora Tabela at 3000m. We will see several lodges and a police check post here. Further on, the route opens up into a wide valley of yak pastures and scattered Tamang villages with water-driven mills and prayer wheels. We arrive at Langtang village after crossing a stream and reach a height of 3500 meters. Langtang village is the headquarters for Langtang National Park and has flat-roofed Tibetan style houses, Lodges and cultivated lands yielding buckwheat, potatoes, wheat and barley.

Day 6 Trek to Kyangjin [3800m] / (4 hrs.)

The trail skirts gradually through rich yak pastures and interesting traditional villages of Muna and Singdun. We cross a wooden cantilever bridge and reach a wide valley after climbing a moraine. Finally, on ascending several mountain passes, we arrive at Kyangjin Gompa. There is a small monastery and a government-operated cheese factory near the village.

Day 7 Acclimatization climb - ascend a small peak [4500m] / (6 hrs.)

Today we ascend a small peak which lies a few kilometres away from Kyangjin. This is an easy peak and it is quite easy to climb. It will take only about 3 hours to ascend. After ascending we rest for a while and enjoy the views, take some pictures and head back again to Kyanjin.

Day 8 Acclimatization climb - ascend Tserko Ri [4980m]

Tserko ri is situated like an island just north of Kyangjin. This is a good peak to acclimatize for the climb and makes for a rewarding day trip. We follow the upper trail out of he village across the river and climb up the ridge to our left. From the top, which is awash with the colour of the prayer flags, we can see Kyagjin peak and Kyimoshung, with Langtang Lirung towering above them. To the north-east we see the Yala glacier and Yala peak. Across the main valley, Naya Kanga dominates the scenery, with Baden Powell peak peeping up behind

Day 9 Trek to Base Camp [4987m] / (6hrs.) (see below for detailed information)

The route to base camp is an uphill climb. This little trek goes up through a rhododendron forest and we cross a river. We head in a westerly direction up to the mountain and move towards the south. The base camp at 4,987 m, takes around five to six hours to reach from Kyangjin. The place where we set up our base camp is on good open ground. It is a large rocky area but with fresh water flowing through it. The view from the camp is fantastic. To the north, you have a magnificent view of Langtang Lirung, Langshisa Ri and Shisapangma in Tibet. To the south, the impressive south face of Naya Kanga (5844m) towers above. Since the camp area is totally flat, we can put up our tents easily. We pass the night at the base camp.

Day 10 Summit Baden Powell Peak [5718m] / 14 hrs. (see below for detailed information)

Today we rise early in the morning and start our ascent to BP Peak summit. From base camp, we cross the rocky field and climb up about 50 metres until we get to a rocky slab on the right. From there we ascend the snowy 30 degree slope that leads to a glacier, which soon becomes a large glacial bowl. We zigzag our way up, keeping to the right, aiming towards the rock face to the west. From here, the slope gets a little bit steeper about 35-40 degrees. At least 100metres of ropes are fixed. We stay on the ice and climb around the rocks until we get to the top of the ridge at about 5,500m. Then there is another steep portion .We fix another 10 metres of rope. A couple of crevasses are on the way up before we climb 100 m straight to the top. We need another fix rope to reach the summit. The ridge at the top is very narrow and has very little space. From the top we have fantastic views of Shishapangma, Naya Kanga , Ganesh Himal and even Kathmandu valley on a clear day.

We return back to base camp.

Day 11 Back to Langtang

Today we trek back to Langtang village.

Day 12 Langtang village to Lama Hotel [2784M]

From Langtang village we trek to Ghora Tabela. We stop briefly for lunch and thereafter continue the steep descent to Lama Hotel.

Day 13 Lama Hotel to Syabru Besi [1400m]

From Lama Hotel, we head back to Syabru Besi. We can wander along the undulating path leading to the village. This gives us an opportunity to get an insight of the culture and custom of the Tamang community. We can also simply relax in the sun savouring the beauty of the majestic Himalayan Mountains.

Day 14 Syabru Besi to Kathmandu / 8 hrs.

From Syabru Besi we drive to Kathmandu.

Day 15 Free in Kathmandu and get together dinner and culture show.

Depart 16 Kathmandu

Price for groups is £1490 p.p.

Group size maximum 15 people

Detailed Route description of the climb to Urkema Peak High Camp about 7 hours from Kyanjing
ascent 1,270 metres

Leave Kyangjin towards Langtang village. After about 200 metres the path splits. We take the left path that leads past a big boulder. Follow the stream meandering through the meadows to our left until you get to a metal bridge. Cross the bridge and turn right following another little stream. We will see a few abandoned stone houses to our right. Cross the stream and head towards an ancient forest and make our way through beautiful rhododendrons and fir trees, following a small yak trail



Follow the trail on mixed ground until we get to a small wooden bridge. After the bridge, the path contours around the hillside. Ascend through a thick rhododendron forest up to a ridge, where we will find six nomad houses. On the Schneider map these houses are marked as Pangame. Just above the houses, the yak trail continues to the east leading through the rhododendrons. We cross another little stream and head towards the ridge to the left of the slope. There are several yak trails, but we might end up cutting through the shrubs. Continue up the ridge through dense shrubbery until we get to two big cairns at 4,135 metres



From the cairns we continue straight up heading towards the big, black triangular peak until we get to the top of the ridge at 4,430 metres. Keep to the left of the rocky peak, the path follows a dried river bed, leading over rocky terrain up to another ridge. From here, we will get the first good glimpse of the beautiful mushroom-shaped snowy peak peeping up behind a rocky ridge. Ascend the steep, snowy ridge on our right side, which will require cutting steps. Once on top, we will get to an open space, which is a perfect spot to set up high camp at about 4,900 metres



To the north, you have a magnificent view of Langtang Lirung, Langshisa Ri and Xixapangma (8013m) in Tibet. To the south, the impressive south face of Naya Kanga (5,844 metres) is towering above us. **The Climb** (High Camp to summit takes about 7 hours).
Ascent about 1,000 meters



From high camp, we cross the rocky field and climb up about 50 meters until we get to a rocky slab on the right. From there, we ascend the snowy 30 degree slope (crampons required) that leads to a glacier, which soon becomes a large glacial bowl. Zigzag our way up, always keeping to the right. Aim towards the rock face to the west. From here, the slope gets a little bit steeper, about 40 degrees. A fixed rope will be placed here. Stay on the ice and climb around the rocks until we get to the top of the ridge at about 5,500 meters. From here, traverse east until we reach the southeast ridge of the mountain. Ascend the ridge at about 50 degrees until we get to the top. Descend by the same route.



Climbing Equipment for Trekking Peaks (.Can be hired in Nepal)

- Climbing boots/ Crampons
- Harness
- Ice axe
- 2 large Karabiners/2 small Karabiners
- Slings 2x 1 metre long /one short 8inch
- Ascender (Jumar)

- Descender (Belay descender devise)
- Gaiters
- Warm climbing trousers
- Down sleeping bag/Down jacket
- Goggles or Climbing sunglasses.
- Petzel Shunt (not possible to hire in Nepal)