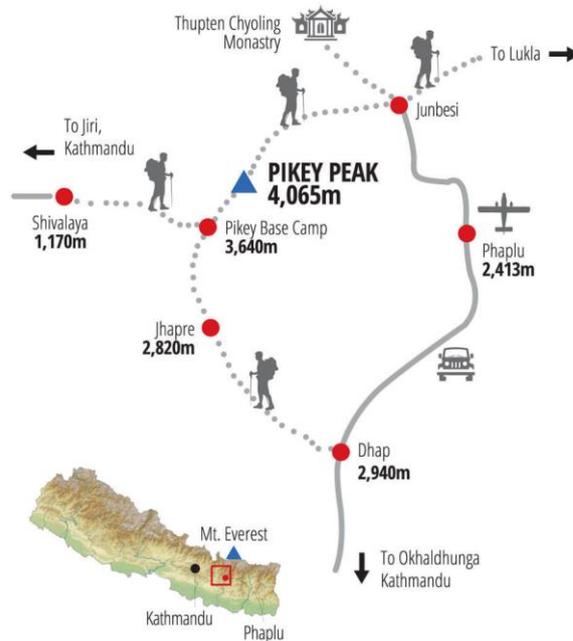


## Booking proposal EC02220110

### Nepal “Everest Sherpa Trails” programme 10 days – Pikey Peak



#### 1. Itinerary Outline:

The view of Mount Everest from Pikey Peak is one of the best in Nepal. Sir Edmund Hillary himself claimed it to be his favourite, and we're inclined to agree. One of the best kept secrets of trekking in Nepal is Pikey Peak in Solu, which offers a view of eight of Nepal's "eight-thousanders" from one place, including Mt Everest. The 4,065m peak used to be a favourite of Sir Edmund Hillary after he climbed it to take a look around during the walk-in on his 1953 expedition. For several decades after that Pikey was isolated because it was so difficult to get to, and most people doing the Everest Base Camp trek overflowed Pikey en-route to Lukla. But with new roads from Kathmandu to Jiri and the Solu Highway reaching Phaplu via Okhaldhunga, Pikey is suddenly accessible. After major snowfall last month, Pikey saw dozens of Nepali youngsters roughing it out on a camping trip. Winter is not the best time for a Pikey hike, but the views can be stunning especially after snowfall blankets the mountains in white. The best time is actually early spring when rhododendron forests are in bloom in pink, red and white and the mountains are dazzling against deep blue skies.

- Experience views of Mt. Everest and other major mountains
- Less beaten, less crowded trekking trail
- An absolute wilderness and serenity
- Picturesque traditional settlements and authentic culture of Sherpa People
- Explore sacred and historical monasteries
- No threats of altitude sickness
- A short but rewarding way of experiencing Nepal's majestic Himalayan region

## 2. Itinerary in detail:

The programme in detail for further discussion is as follows:

### **Day 01: Drive to Dhap (2900m) (8-hrs). Overnight.**

After breakfast in the hotel, your trekking crew will meet you at your hotel and we drive to Dhap from Kathmandu. It will be around around 7-8 hour. The road takes us into the Gangatic Plains of the Terai, the route diverts from the main highway, ascending the mountainous, winding road to the trailhead. Overnight in Dhap at Guest house.

### **Day 02: Trek to Japre (2920). It is 5-6 hrs trek. We will have Painting time after 4 hrs trek.**

The trail quickly leaves the road, as an undulating path takes you through forest of brightly coloured rhododendrons, white sub-alpine flowers and endless views of the foothills of the greatest mountain range on earth. The valleys are steep sided, with terraced fields of rice and vegetables carved into the hillsides and it is here that you'll start to fully appreciate walking through the Sherpa homeland. The day is a relaxed 5-6 hours of walking on quiet trails. Soon we reach to Japre (2920 m/9580 ft), perched above a deep valley with nice views of Everest and Numbur Himal. There's a pretty little gumpa and stupa here. Overnight in Japre at Guest house.

### **Day 03: Trek from Japre to Pikey Base camp. (3640m) 6-7 hrs.**

After Japre, the path climbs up to a grassy ridge at Bhulbhule. There is one lodge with no name and nice views of the mountain peak vary from here. Before long when Bhulbhule, the path splits and you'll flip right to Pikey Peak. You will pass some previous yak huts and an extended Mani Wall. Then path contours the side below Taklung Danda and goes through a fine-looking wooded trail. There are several rhododendrons here on tier path, which you'll see they are blooming during spring. As you allow the forest, it a short walk to Pikey Peak base camp, regarding a pair of hours away. From here, it's a brief climb to the summit at 4065 m / 13336 foot. Unless you've got an extraordinarily clear evening, it is wise idea to climb to the summit in morning for sunrise. Overnight in Pikey base camp at Guest house.



### **Day 04: Sunrise at Pikey Peak and Trek to Loding (2515m) 8-9 hrs.**

Begin your day early to catch a nice sunrise at Pikey Peak then hike to Loding, you'll follow a gradual path to the summit, coated with prayer flags. The views are breath-taking! If the weather is clear, you'll be rewarded with wide views. From the highest of Pikey Peak, you'll follow a ridgeline that starts flat so steepens as you enter the forest to Jase Bhanjyang, where breakfast is waiting. After breakfast, you'll continue your walk all the way down to Loding, that passes through some steep sections within the forest. Overnight in Loding at Guest house.

### **Day 05: Trek from Lodging to Junbesi and visit Thubtenchoeling Monastery – 4-5hrs.**

Begin the day by walking down the ridgeline. Leaving there, there are a few options for the descent to Junbesi. The most likely is a striking shortcut trail that leaves the ridge shortly after Jase and descends steeply through spectacular old growth forest to Taktor. This path meets the Everest Base Camp trail coming from Jiri. The tea houses from here are a bit more improved, and you're likely to meet a few other trekkers for the first time.

Some 2 hours walk on pleasant trail takes you to Junbesi. Junbesi is a traditional Sherpa village sitting at an altitude of 2675 m/ 8776 ft and is the cradle of Sherpa culture and architecture. The Sherpas consider the Solukhumbu a sacred valley. In this remote part of Nepal that borders to Tibet, Buddhism flourishes and there are numerous Buddhist monasteries along the way. We will visit Thubtenchoeling Monastery.  
Overnight in Junbesi.



**Day 06: Painting in Junbesi and around.**

We will have another day in Junbesi and around.

**Day 07: Trek from Junbesi to Taksindu (2960m) 5-6 hrs.**

This morning, hit the trail bound for Taksindu. Cross the river at the bottom of town and climb through the forest up to Salung, from where there are views of Mount Everest (8848 m/ 29,028 ft), Chamlang (7319 m/ 24,012 ft) and Makalu (8481 m/ 27,824 ft), weather permitting. There are also gorgeous views out across the valley to Chiwong Monastery and down towards Phaplu. Continue on the trail, contouring and then dropping down to a stream before a short climb up into Ringmo, famous for its apple orchards and interesting apple products such as apple *rakshi* (alcohol), cider and apple pie. From here, there's a final short climb to Taksindu La, from where there are again great mountain views, and then a short descent to the Taksindu Monastery and our lodge. The Taksindu Monastery was built in 1946 and is usually open early morning or late afternoon. Please make sure to leave a donation if you visit.

Overnight in Taksindu.



**Day 08: Trek to Phaplu (2413m/7918ft), Visit Chiwong Monastery, 5 – 6 hrs:**

Today, leave the main trekking route again and take a beautiful path down to Phaplu through the forest. There's also the option of hiking up to Chiwong Gumpa, perched high on a cliff overlooking the valley. This monastery was founded in 1923 and has magnificent celebrations for the Mani Rimdu festival in autumn. Continue on down into Phaplu and celebrate the completion of a great trek at our cozy tea house.

Overnight in Phaplu.

**Day 09: An Extra day in Phaplu.**

We will have another day in Phaplu and around.

Overnight in Guest house.

**Day 10: Phaplu to Kathmandu by flight or Drive**

Flight from Phaplu to Kathmandu. The flight from Phaplu is not always certain, so if the flight is not going to happen then we will take drive back to Kathmandu which is 8-9 hrs drive.

There are three flights in a week from Phaplu to Kathmandu as of now. (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday)

**3. Price:**

These prices are indicative for the ground arrangements and are based upon 2 people travelling and in double or twin rooms. Single person supplements may apply and we can quote for larger or family groups.

**Price based on 2 pax – UK£1240 per person.**

Price is subject to confirmation at the time of booking.

**Ground price includes:**

- Basic Tea house (Lodges) Accommodation
- All meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner) during the trek.
- A professional trekking guide and two trekking porters. (2 trekking porters and 1 guide)
- Kathmandu to Dhap by private Jeep
- Flight fares for Phaplu to Kathmandu.
- Village's development Committee fees.
- National Park entry fees.
- Down Jacket and a sleeping bag (To be returned after the trek)

**Excludes:**

- Personal expenses,
- Trip insurance.
- International flight fares.
- (Alcoholic drinks, Mineral water, and cold drinks)