

Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek - 13 Days

URL: <https://nepalalternativetreks.com/trip/kanchenjunga-north-base-camp-trek/>

Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek Quick Information

Weather 7°C to -18°C	Duration 13 Days	Difficulty Strenuous
Accommodation Hotel/Lodges	Meals Included Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner	Daily Activity 5-7 hours Trekking
Region of Nepal Kanchenjunga Region, Eastern Nepal	Max Altitude 5,143 m/ 16,873 ft (Pangpema)	Per Person Cost USD 1100

Group Discounts Available

No. of Persons	Price per Person
Group Of 1 - 4	USD \$1,100.00
Group Of 5 - 8	USD \$1,050.00
Group Of 9 - 12	USD \$1,000.00
Group Of 13 - 18	USD \$950.00

Note: Our fixed group departure dates, services and price is guaranteed even if the group numbers are 1 person to maximum 18 persons. We will provide a guide cum porter if there is only 1 person to operate the trek and one more assistant guide if group size is above 10 persons. And of course, guide cum porter will carry 10 kg luggage.

Overview for Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek

The **Kanchenjunga North Base Camp trek** is an off-the-beaten-path journey in eastern Nepal, taking you to the base of the North Face of the **third-highest mountain in the world, Mt. Kanchenjunga (8,586 m)**. It is a challenging yet rewarding trek that takes you from majestic Himalaya mountains to sub-tropical landscapes, rhododendron and pine forests, and glacier landscapes. Surrounded by towering

cliffs and pristine natural beauty, the trek is ideal for those seeking to escape the crowds and immerse themselves in pure and untouched nature.

The North Kanchenjunga Trek takes **13 days** to complete and begins with a flight from **Kathmandu to Bhadrapur**. It is a strenuous trek that requires a high level of fitness, mental preparedness, and an effective acclimatization plan. Similarly, the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek distance is **220 km (depending on trek route)**, with an average daily distance of **10 km**. Moreover, the trek takes place within the **Kanchenjunga Conservation Area**, a protected area that is home to rare flora and fauna, adding to the trek's beauty.

Mountain Views Along the Pangpema Base Camp Trek

What motivates you to complete such challenging treks, even when you're tired and feel like giving up? It's none other than stunning mountain views that accompany you throughout the trek. Different mountain views are visible from various points, adding to the thrill of the journey and encouraging you to reach your destination for a more exceptional and up-close view. One of the significant highlights and views of the journey is **Mount Kanchenjunga (8,586 m)**, and without a doubt, Pangpema (North Base Camp) is the best viewpoint for its sight.

Mount Jannu (Kumbhakarna), at 7,710 m, is another beautiful mountain visible during the trek, and Ghunsa and Lhonak villages offer their most stunning sights. **Yalung Kang, also known as Kanchenjunga West (8,505 m)**, is seen from Ramche during the South Base Camp segment. Additionally, *Kabru North (7,338 m)*, *Kabru South (7,318m)*, *Rathong (6,678 m)*, *Nepal Peak (7,177 m)*, and *Twins Peak (7,350 m)* are mesmerizing during the trek to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp.

Key Experiences That Make Kanchenjunga Trek Memorable

- Get an eye-appalling close-up view of Kanchenjunga's north face with ice cliffs.
- You'll walk for days in less crowded sections, providing a sense of isolation, peace, and raw exploration.
- Stay in stone-roofed villages like Ghunsa and learn about the local culture of ancient Tibetan Buddhism.
- Stay overnight in authentic lodges, where you'll experience the raw trekking culture and exceptional hospitality.
- Walk through a varied landscape of Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, from forest to glacial valleys, providing you with an experience through different climatic zones.
- You'll witness stunning glaciers, including Kanchenjunga Glacier, Yalung Glacier, and Tseram.
- Get away from the chaos of city life, listening only to the sound of river winds, yak bells, birds chirping, and your boots.
- Sport lesser-known peaks like Jannu, Kirat Chuli, and Wedge Peak.
- Pass through the numerous chortens, mani walls, and ancient gompas, adding the cultural charm and spiritual experience of the trek.
- You'll be awed by the mesmerizing view of the sunrise, where the first ray of the rising sun scatters

into the world’s third-highest mountain peaks along with other surrounding peaks.

Weather

Weather Chart for Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek

January -18°C to -5°C	February -17°C to -4°C	March -14°C to -1°C
April -10°C to 2°C	May -6°C to 4°C	June -3°C to 6°C
July -2°C to 7°C	August -2°C to 7°C	September -4°C to 5°C
October -8°C to 2°C	November -12°C to -1°C	December -16°C to -4°C

Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Bhadrapur and drive to Taplejung (1,820 m/ 5,971 ft)

The journey to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp begins with a flight to Bhadrapur, a southeastern lowland town that serves as the air gateway for treks into eastern Nepal. The flight to Bhadrapur takes **45 minutes** from Kathmandu and offers aerial views of lush hills, rivers, and the Himalayan range. Upon landing at Bhadrapur Airport, you’ll take a short break and then continue your drive to Taplejung, an official entry point of the Kanchenjunga Base Camp Trek. The drive from Bhadrapur to Taplejung takes approximately **8 to 10 hours**, depending on the road conditions and weather.

Additionally, the road passes through the picturesque towns of *Birtamod*, *Illam*, and *Phidim* before reaching Taplejung. The road is winding and rough, but it’s worth it for the breathtaking views of Nepal’s natural scenery and rural life. Upon arriving in Taplejung, you’ll meet your guide and porter. Your overnight stay and dinner are at the lodge in Taplejung.

Accommodation	Altitude:	Meals
Mountain Hotel or similar category	1820m. 5971ft.	Dinner

Day 2: Drive to Sekathum (1,650 m/ 5,413 ft)

Have your first-morning meal at Taplejung and get ready for the drive to Sekathum. The journey begins on a black-topped road from Taplejung to Suketar or Ranipul/Tapethok. Near Ranipul/Tapethok, there is a **Kanchenjunga Conservation Area permit** entry point where you must check in your permit. From

there, the road turned into a bumpy and dusty route. The road winds along ridges, offering stunning views of the *Tamor* and *Ghunsa River Valleys*. Within **6 hours** of driving from Taplejung, you'll get to Sekathum, covering a distance of **39 km**.

Destination:

120km (06 hours drive)

Accommodation

Lodge in Sekathum

Altitude:

1650m. | 5413ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Trek to Amjilosa (2,498 m/ 8,195 ft.)

The official trek to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp begins from Sekathum. After finishing your breakfast at the lodge where you stayed overnight last night, you'll start your trek. As the trek begins, you'll cross the Ghunsa Khola via a suspension bridge and enter the lush rhododendron, oak, and bamboo forests. The route is steep and winding, with glimpses of waterfalls, Grey langurs, and occasionally musk deer. After an uphill trek, you'll reach Amjilosa, which takes **5-6 hours** from Sekathum, covering a distance of **9 km**. You'll stay and have dinner at the lodge of Amjilosa on this day.

Destination:

14km (06 hours walk)

Accommodation

Chiring Kpa Hotel or similar
category

Altitude:

2498m. | 8195ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Trek to Gyabla (2,725 m/ 8,940 ft)

Day four begins with a warm breakfast at Amjilosa and packing your backpack for another adventure. Leaving Amjilosa behind, the pathway follows the Ghunsa Khola, winding through dense forests. Along the way, you'll cross several suspension bridges and pass waterfalls. The route gently gains altitude as it gets closer to Gyabla. A **4-5 hour** trek from Amjilosa takes you to Gyabla, covering a distance of **7 km**. Your overnight stay and dinner are at the Hotel Shingi Namzong or a similar category lodge.

Destination:

10km (04 hours walk)

Accommodation

Hotel Shingi Namzong or
similar category

Altitude:

2725m. | 8940ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Trek to Ghunsa (3,415 m/ 11,204 ft)

Today's trek begins after breakfast in Gyabla with a gentle ascent through oak, rhododendron, juniper, and dwarf conifer forests. Similarly, you'll cross the Ghunsa Khola via wooden suspension bridges. In the middle of the trek, you'll pass through *Phale*, a Tibetan refugee village with mani walls and prayer flags. There, you'll rest and have lunch. After lunch, you'll resume your walk, following a steeper yet steady

climb alongside the river. After about **5 hours** of trek from Gyabla village, you'll get to Ghunsa, your overnight and dinner point.

Destination:

10km (05 hours walk)

Accommodation

Zhonga Family Guest house or
similar category

Altitude:

3415m. | 11204ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Trek to Khambachhen (4,145 m/13,599 ft)

Some trekkers choose Ghunsa for their acclimatization and stay one more night in the village. However, we'll head towards Khambachen after breakfast at **Ghunsa**. The journey begins on the south bank of **Ghunsa Khola**, passing through pine and rhododendron forests and featuring mani walls. After one to one and a half hours of trek, you'll cross Rampuk Kharka via a suspension bridge. The view of **Mount Jannu**, Temachungi, Pholesobi Thongje, and others will accompany you on your way. It takes **5-6 hours** to get to Khambachhen from Ghunsa, covering a distance of **10 km**. Overnight and dinner at Khambachhen's **Kanchanjunga White House** or **Hotel Shingi Namjong**.

Destination:

10km (06 hours walk)

Accommodation

Kanchanjunga White House or
Hotel Shingi Namjong

Altitude:

4145m. | 13599ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Acclimatization

After a week of trekking at high altitude, you need rest, and your body must adapt to the changed temperature. Thus, day seven is your acclimatization day at Khambachhen. On this day, you will not stay idle; instead, you'll go for a day hike and follow the rule of "trek high, sleep low". Most trekkers prefer to visit the **Jannu viewpoint** on this day, located at **4,449m**, which takes **approximately 4 hours** for a round trip. The viewpoint is famous for offering a stunning north face view of Jannu and the glacier Moraine.

Furthermore, the **Nupchu viewpoint** at **4,952m** is another option for a day hike that takes 5 hours round-trip and lies west of the Khambachhen village. Whichever viewpoint you choose, you'll return to Khambachhen for your overnight stay and dinner.

Destination:

Depends

Accommodation

Kanchanjunga White House or
Hotel Shingi Namjong

Altitude:

4145m. | 13599ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Trek to Lhonak (4,792 m/ 15,721 ft)

Day eight takes you close to your final destination. After breakfast at Kambachhen, the trek begins gently, crossing alpine meadows and past *shepherd's* huts at *Ramtang*. As we get to the village, the view of **Mount Kanchenjunga**, Ramtang, Gimmigela, and others will encourage you to trek further. However, as we move forward, the pathways become rocky, so proper caution is recommended. The route involves ascending along the lateral moraines of Kanchenjunga Glacier. A **4-5 hour** trek from Kambachhen takes you to Lhonak, covering a distance of **10 km**. Your overnight stay and dinner are at the **Lhonak Guest House** or a Similar category.

Destination:

10km (05 hours walk)

Accommodation

Lhonak Guest House or similar
category

Altitude:

4792m. | 15721ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9: Day hike to Kanchanjung North Base Camp (5,143 m / 16,873 ft) - Retrace to Lhonak

Day nine is your most-awaited day for which you have trekked this long. The day begins early to avoid afternoon weather and experience a mesmerizing sunrise. The route gently ascends along the glacial terrain as you start your walk. It involves passing through rocky moraine fields, offering a clear view of the Kanchenjunga Glacier and the north face of the mountain. A **2-3 hours trek from Lhonak** takes you to the **Pangpema (5,140 m)** north base camp of the world's third-highest mountain peak, Mount Kanchenjunga.

As you get to the base camp, you'll feel a sense of accomplishment. Marked by a prayer flag and a jaw-dropping setting that overlooks a 360-degree view of Wedge Peak, the North Face of Kanchenjunga, Nepal Peak, Cross Peak, and the twin summits of Gimmigela Chuli, the location is indeed worthy of an **8-day trek**. Enjoy the sunrise and the surrounding area, take the time to soak in the beauty, and take pride in yourself. After a while, you should return to Lhonak for your overnight stay. It takes **6-7 hours**, round trip, from Lhonak to Kanchenjunga Base Camp and then back to Lhonak.

Destination:

9km (06 hours walk)

Accommodation

Lhonak Guest House or similar
category

Altitude:

4792m. | 15721ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10: Retrace to Ghunsa

Good morning, Champion. You've successfully completed your journey, having reached your ultimate destination. Now what? It's time to return. After your final breakfast in Lhonak, you'll start retracing your steps. The route descends slowly through rocky moraines and open alpine meadows. The best part of this journey's descent is the view of **Mount Jannu, Kanchenjunga Glacier**, and the high Himalayan ridges that will accompany you. You'll have a break and lunch in Khambachen. Continuing the descent after

lunch, you'll reach today's overnight point, Ghunsa. Additionally, it takes 7-8 hours to descend from Lhonak to Ghunsa.

Destination:

21km (08 hours walk)

Accommodation

Zhonga Family Guest House or
similar category

Altitude:

3415m. | 11204ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11: Trek to Amjilosa

Leaving Ghunsa after breakfast, the pathway begins by crossing the Ghunsa Khola and descending into pine and rhododendron forests. The route involves crossing several small wooden suspension bridges. Similarly, the walkway offers stunning scenery from waterfalls, streams, and towering cliffs. It takes about 6 hours to descend from Ghunsa to Amjilosa. Your overnight and dinner for the day are at the Amjilosa's lodge.

Destination:

22km (07 hours walk)

Accommodation

Chiring Kpa Hotel or similar
category

Altitude:

2498m. | 8195ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 12: Trek to Sekathum - Drive to Taplejung

Day 12 marks the final trekking day of the return journey of Kanchenjunga. After breakfast at Amjilosa, the trek begins with a descent through bamboo forests, rhododendrons, and mossy trees. Similarly, the route passes multiple suspension bridges over the Ghunsa and Tamor rivers, along with a view of river gorges and cascading waterfalls. After **4-5 hours** of trek from Amjilosa, you'll get to Sekathum, where you'll have lunch, and from where you'll take a ride to Taplejung. It is approximately a 6-hour drive from Sekathum to Taplejung, covering a distance of **39 km**.

Destination:

14km (04 hours walk) | 120km
drive to Taplejung (05 hours
drive)

Accommodation

Mountain Hotel or similar
category

Altitude:

1820m. | 5971ft.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 13: Drive to Bhadrapur - flight to Kathmandu

After completing the adventurous Kanchenjunga trek and reaching Taplejung, the final section of the trip involves a drive to Bhadrapur and a flight back to Kathmandu. Having breakfast at Taplejung, you'll drive towards Bhadrapur, which takes **8-9 hours**. As you get to Bhadrapur, you'll take a flight to Kathmandu,

which is around **45 minutes**. The day concludes with escorting you to your hotel from Kathmandu's domestic airport. If you are tired, you can experience the nightlife of Thamel. Your overnight stay is at the hotel in Kathmandu.

Destination:

8-9 hours drive to Bhadrapur and 45 minutes flight to Kathmandu

Accommodation

Hotel in Kathmandu

Altitude:

1400 m.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch

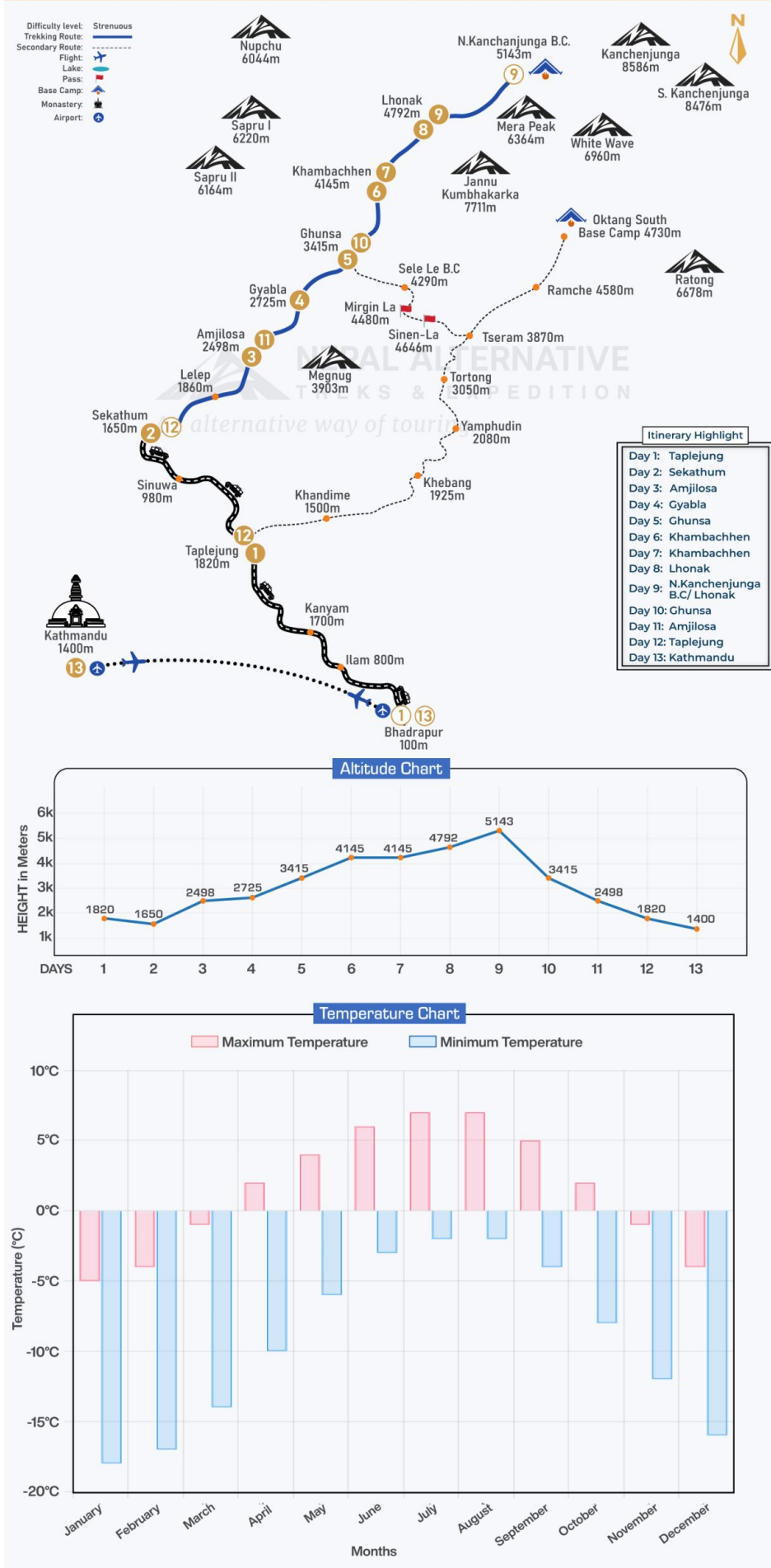
What's Included

- Tribhuvan International Airport Pick Up and Transfer to Hotel in Kathmandu .
- All meals during the trekking (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner).
- Lodge accommodation (Twin share basis) during the trekking.
- One highly experienced, first aid trained, fluent English speaking, friendly and government authorized trekking guide
- 1 Porter per 2 Trekkers and keep luggage weight under 10kg per person.
- Guide/ Porter's food, accommodation, salary, insurance, transportation and equipments.
- Kanchenjunga special permit and Kanchenjunga Conservation.
- Oxygen saturation check up everyday, water purification, A trekking map, first aid medical, company t-shirt, trekking completion certificate etc.
- Overland transportation as per mentioned in itinerary.
- Kathmandu- Bhadrapur - Kathmandu by flight.
- Assistance for emergency rescue evacuation.
- Government tax and service charge.
- Public Liability Insurance.

What's Not Included

- Hotel accommodation and meals in Kathmandu
- Hard and soft table drinks such as tea/coffee, coke, fanta, mineral water, alcoholic drinks, laundry, phone bill, boiled water, battery charge, desert, hot shower etc.
- Personal Travel insurance.
- International Flight Ticket.
- Nepal Tourist Visa
- Tips for guide and porters.(Highly suggested).

Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek Route Map



Traveler Reviews

Well planned, experienced guide & porter. Well managed trek

A 13 day trek to the north basecamp of Kangchenjunga. A remote corner of Nepal, but surprisingly smoothly organized with an experienced guide & porters. Excellent lodges, stay & food. Wonderful trail. Right at the feet of the third highest mountain of the world.

Rating: 5/5

Indranil Chatterjee

India

Additional Trip Information

Places you will pass through on the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek

Taplejung

At an elevation of **1,820 m/ 5,971 ft**, Taplejung a district hub or staging point before you begin trekking to the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp. The town lies close to the border with Sikkim, India, and serves as the gateway to the trek. The village is beautiful and has several attractions, including the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, Phurumbu Danda, and the Phurumbu Monastery. Similarly, the town offers a view of stunning terraced fields and distant hills. Additionally, the village serves as an overnight stop and is accessible via an **8-to 10-hour** drive from Bhadrapur.

Sekathum

Located at an elevation of **1,650 m (5,413 ft)**, Sekathum is a small riverside settlement along the *Ghunsa Khola*, near the villages of Lelep and Lungthung. The official trek to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp begins from the town, involving several suspension bridges and entering the deeper parts of the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area. Moreover, the village has few teahouses and offers basic food and shelter.

Amjilosa

Amjilosa is a peaceful settlement situated at an elevation of **2,498 m (8,195 ft)**. It is the first destination you'll reach after walking for several hours, offering a taste of Himalayan adventure. The village is small, with limited accommodation options, operated by Tibetan-descended locals. A thick rhododendron and bamboo forest surrounds the village, creating a mystical atmosphere. It is also an ideal place to observe the transition from subtropical forests to higher alpine vegetation.

Gyabla

Gyabla, at **2,725 m (8,940 ft)**, is a scenic village surrounded by dense forest. Tibetan culture has a significant influence on the village, and locals in the area wear traditional dresses. The village's life is simple, making it one of the unique settlements with culture and tradition. Gyabla is also a location

where trekkers can feel the effects of increasing altitude. It's a peaceful environment, combined with cultural beauty, that makes it a memorable village along the trek to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp.

Ghunsa

At an altitude of 3,415 m (11,204 ft), Ghunsa is a small settlement in the Kanchenjunga region. It is a charming Sherpa settlement with wooden houses, chortens, and monasteries. Pine forests and snow-capped peaks surround the village, making it a popular place for an overnight stay along the trek to Pangpema Base Camp. The Ghunsa River runs beside the village, and yak grazing can be seen nearby. Some trekkers also choose the destination for an acclimatization point and spend an extra night here.

Khambachhen

Khambachhen is situated at an elevation of **4,145 m (13,599 ft)**, offering majestic views of towering peaks. The village's landscape is truly stunning, featuring alpine meadows, rocky slopes, and glacial streams. This is another common place for an acclimatization point before heading to a higher elevation of the journey. Those who skip acclimatization at Ghunsa stay at Khambachhen for acclimatization. Near the village, there are several viewpoints, making it ideal for a day hike on acclimatization day.

Lhonak

Lhonak, at **4,792 m (15,721 ft)**, is a remote and high-altitude seasonal outpost near the Kanchenjunga Glacier. It is the last location trekkers spend before reaching the ultimate destination, Kanchenjunga North Base Camp. Barren hills, glacial moraines, and mountain peaks surround the village, making it feel like heaven. However, the thin air makes the location quite challenging for trekkers.

What makes the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek difficult?

The Kanchenjunga North Base Camp trek is one of the most challenging journeys in Nepal's Himalayas. What makes the trek difficult is its combination of factors that demand trekkers' endurance, adaptability, physical conditioning, and high altitude. Here is a brief of what makes the trek difficult:

Remoteness

One of the challenges of the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek is its remoteness. Unlike popular routes like [Annapurna Base Camp](#) or EBC, this trek's route passes through less populated villages with minimal access to roads, communication, and amenities. Due to its remoteness, trekkers must be self-reliant, mentally prepared, and conduct careful planning. Similarly, there are no medical shops, so even when trekkers get injured, they will not receive immediate treatment, which adds to the trek's difficulty.

Long Distance

The Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek is one of the longest distance treks, covering an approximate distance of **220 km**. Thus, the long distance, combined with longer trekking days and hours, makes the trek physically exhausting, adding to the challenges of the trek. Additionally, trekkers must walk for **6-7 hours** and cover a distance of at least **10 km** each day, traversing uneven and rough terrain. Moreover, the long duration of the journey tests your consistency, patience, and ability to deal with day after day, for which you must be prepared.

High Altitude

Another factor that adds to the difficulty of the trek is High Altitude. The trek reaches a high elevation up to **5,143 m at Pangpema** (North Base Camp). High altitude means thinner air, which reduces the oxygen level and increases the risk of Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS). However, the risk of altitude sickness is a concern as you begin trekking above 2,500 m. Thus, we recommend that trekkers acclimatize properly, stay hydrated, eat light food, ascend slowly, avoid alcohol and caffeine, and be aware of altitude sickness.

Harsh Weather

The weather in the Himalayas, including the North Kanchenjunga Base Camp trek, can change rapidly, especially above 3,500 m. Even in ideal trekking conditions, such as spring and Autumn, nights can fall below **-10°C**. The unpredictable thick fog, icy winds, and rain can affect the overall trek. Similarly, the harsh weather conditions increase the risk of delays, fatigue, and hypothermia. As the Kanchenjunga region has fewer shelters and emergency points, trekkers must be equipped with proper gear to prepare for unpredictable weather conditions.

Physical and Mental Challenges

The trek to Kanchenjunga demands a high level of physical fitness and mental strength. Long hours of daily trekking on tough sections at high altitudes, where breathing becomes difficult and exhaustion, even for an experienced trekker, is not easy. Thus, trekkers must be in excellent physical condition for this trek. Still, physical strength alone isn't enough, and mental tolerance is equally essential. Trekkers may feel homesick, anxious, or even frustrated. So, staying motivated, disciplined, and mentally strong is key to completing this challenging adventure successfully.

What to Expect on This Offbeat Route to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp?

Quiet and Peaceful Routes

Unlike other popular trek routes in Nepal's Himalayas, the Kanchenjunga route is quiet and peaceful. Thus, you can expect to walk in a quiet section where you'll walk for hours but see not many trekkers. This makes the journey feel very special and personal. Instead of hearing the sound of people, you'll listen to birds, rivers, and the wind, making it perfect for people who enjoy nature. Additionally, the peacefulness of the route allows you time to relax, reconnect with yourself, and appreciate the beauty of the surroundings without disturbance.

Village Life

On the North Kanchenjunga Trek, you can expect to pass through small and remote villages like Sekathum, Amjilosa, and Ghunsa. The people here are kind and live simple lives. The communities belong to Sherpa, Limbu, or Tibetan Communities, providing you with a chance to experience diverse cultures and traditions. Similarly, you can expect to see traditional wooden houses and people farming (in the lower region) and enjoying their lives. Thus, it will be your great chance to experience the real Nepal, far from cities and modern life.

Untouched Nature

On the trek to Kanchenjunga North, you can expect to trek through untouched nature. You'll walk through the forest, river, and mountains, which are all untouched and raw. Similarly, there is also a chance to see wild animals like yaks and blue sheep. The air on the route is pure, and the views are clean. Thus, expect to feel like walking in a natural paradise where very few people have been.

Mountain Views and Sunrise

One of the obvious things you can expect while you're on a trek to North Kanchenjunga is the view of snow-capped peaks. The sight of mountains is impressive as you climb higher. You'll get a close-up view of the Kanchenjunga massif on this journey. Similarly, you can expect to see other peaks like Jannu, Nepal Peak, and Yalung Kang along your route. Another attractive sight you can expect to get on this trek is witnessing sunrise every day over mountain peaks, where the snow on the peaks turns gold and pink.

Diverse Terrain

The trek passes through various types of terrain, so you can expect to walk through different landscapes throughout the journey. At the beginning, the route passes through lush green hills and forests featuring bamboo and rhododendrons. As you continue trekking further, the trees become fewer, and the landscape turns rocky. Similarly, expect to walk along rivers, cross wooden suspension bridges, and pass through narrow paths. However, the diverse terrain keeps you excited and motivates you to trek higher.

What Makes the Kanchenjunga North Trek Different from the Kanchenjunga Circuit and South?

Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Vs. Kanchenjunga South Base Camp Trek

Feature	North Base Camp Trek	South Base Camp Trek
Final Destination	Pangpema (5,140 m)	Oktang (4,730 m)
Mountain Views	Close-up view of Mount Kanchenjunga's North Face	Wide view of the Kanchenjunga massif and nearby peaks
Landscape	Rocky, alpine, glaciers, high altitude	Green hills, forests, rivers, and glacier zones
Local Culture	Sherpa and Tibetan Buddhist	Limbu and Rai
Duration	13-15 days	12-14 days
Trek Difficulty	Challenging	Moderate to Challenging
Popularity	Less crowded	Very quite
Connectivity	Relatively better with satellite phones in Ghunsa	Limited connectivity due to a more remote location
Acclimatization Stops	Ghunsa/ Kambachhen	Cheram

Kanchenjunga North Trek Vs. Kanchenjunga Circuit Trek

Feature	North Base Camp Trek	Circuit Trek
Route	Taplejung to Pangpema and return the same way	Loop covering both the North and South Base Camp
Pass along the Trek	None	Sele La Pass (4,290m)
Duration	13-15 days	21-25 days
Route Variety	Alpine terrain and glaciers	Forests, passes, glaciers, and hill villages
Difficulty Level	Challenging	Strenuous
Remoteness	Remote but more established route	Extremely remote, especially the section between Sele La and Cheram

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp harder than the Annapurna Circuit or Everest Base Camp treks?

Yes, the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp trek is generally more challenging than both the Annapurna Circuit and the Everest Base Camp treks. The combination of high altitude, remote location, more rugged terrain, and longer duration makes it harder than the Annapurna Circuit and Everest Base Camp treks.

How do I deal with permits and checkpoints in such a restricted area of Kanchenjunga?

To deal with permits and checkpoints in the Kanchenjunga restricted area, you must arrange a trek through a licensed trekking agency. Your trekking agency will handle the permit application process on your behalf. The required permits for the Kanchenjunga North Trek are the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area Permit (KCAP) and a Restricted Area Permit (RAP).

Can I charge my phone or camera anywhere on this trek?

Yes, you can charge your phone or camera on the Kanchenjunga North Base Camp Trek, but not everywhere. Many teahouses have electricity facilities powered by hydropower or solar energy, but charge extra for charging your phone. Charging is usually available in Ghunsa, Khambachen, and occasionally in Amjilosa, but not guaranteed in Lhonak and Pangpema.

How long is the walk to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp, and how many hours will I be trekking daily?

The trek to Kanchenjunga North Base Camp typically takes 13 days to complete (including only trekking days), involving daily walks of 5-7 hours. However, the itinerary is customizable and can be tailored to meet the preferences of trekkers and their individual needs for acclimatization.

Can I do this trek in Winter and summer, or is spring and autumn the only good seasons for it?

While trekking to Kanchenjunga is possible during both Winter and summer, it comes with significant risks. Trekking to such adventurous treks and in the off-season might be the biggest mistake. Thus, we recommend trekking during the spring and autumn seasons, which are the ideal times for trekking in the Himalayas.

Cancellation Policy

We understand that plans can change willy-nilly. However it is our responsibility to ensure fairness and transparency among our customers regarding our cancellation policy. So we kindly request all travelers to carefully review the cancellation and refund policy before confirming their trip.

After your trip starts, we cannot provide a refund for any voluntary withdrawal, cancellation, or early departure by the traveler. This means ***the full amount paid to us will not be refunded after the trip has begun.*** Likewise, if during the trip, any services such as accommodation, sightseeing, meals, transportation, etc. included in the itinerary/trip are not used by the customer, no refunds or reuse will be provided to whatever portion remains unused on the trip.

Also, please note that ***last-minute cancellations are non-refundable.*** You have to understand that many trip arrangements such as accommodation, transportation, permits, guides, and operational logistics are confirmed and pre-booked. Thus, cancellations made at the last minute create non-recoverable costs for the company and so do for our clients. In addition, cancellations made shortly before the departure date or after the trip has started will be considered as last-minute cancellations and will not be eligible for any refund.

Still, the company will use their discretion in setting the conditions for the refunds, therefore, few of the conditions mentioned are subject to change. The company holds every right to cancel the trips booked by the customers before it is guaranteed to run or an official agreement is signed. A trip is guaranteed to run once it has two fully paid travelers unless minimum numbers state otherwise.

Unfortunate circumstances such as unforeseen natural disaster, canceled flights, strike, industrial action, wars, riots, quarantine, government intervention, weather, the deteriorating health condition of a group member, etc. could lead to cancellation of trips. In such cases, the customer can either ask to get back the 90% of the total trip cost paid to the company (13% Government Tax will be deducted) or reuse the cost in an alternative trip with the same price, immediately, in the following season of the same year.

The company will require a written notice in case of any cancellation. Please ensure the date of the trip cancellation is the date on which the written cancellation is received by the company. If you cancel the trip anytime prior to the departure date of the actual trip, 90% of the total cost is reusable for a year or refund.

Trip Amendment

First and foremost, please note that all the amendment conditions are applied to the trips listed on this site only. Below are a few notes to take about the amendment fees in case of any changes during, while,

or after the booking:

If the company receives a request on the booking amendments at least 60 days prior to the trip, a total of USD 50/person is charged to the customer. However, if the customer's request for a booking amendment in less than 60 days before the trip departure, then the charges will be as per the cancellation policy mentioned above. In case of any changes in the price of the trip during the procedure of booking and the amendments, the new cost will be applied to the trips. Please note that these changes might not be applied by the company, but can be levied upon the company by the third parties i.e. the hotels or the service providers working with the company.

Any changes, amendments, or additions in aggregation to the trips you have booked, for example, hotels, transfers, additional days, etc. will account for no additional fee.

Health Conditions

Nepal Alternative Treks places the highest priority on the safety and well-being of all travelers. We need to ensure the traveler's well-being and health condition at the time of booking. While travelers can participate without medical documentation, those with chronic illnesses or long-term medical conditions must obtain a doctor's consent before joining the trip. This is to ensure their health is not badly affected during the adventure and that they can safely enjoy the journey.

The company will not be responsible for any type of mishaps and will not bear the medical and evacuation expenses on behalf of the participant. Therefore, we request our clients to consult their doctors for a thorough checkup and vaccination before booking a trip with us. In addition, clients with specific health needs or concerns should inform the Company in advance. This allows us to provide guidance and, if required, arrange additional services to make the trip safer and more comfortable. If needed, clients may also request additional services related to the length of the trip or stay in the country of travel.

Weather and other unfavorable conditions

Clients should be well aware of the unpredictability of the weather conditions in the mountainous regions. The unfortunate weather conditions, especially in the Everest, Jomsom, and Kanchenjunga regions, can sometimes lead to unfavorable circumstances that include delay or cancellation of flights. The Company will cover the expenses of accommodations and food in the departing location until the arrangement of flights is done. However, the Company holds every right to reroute the original trip or transports which will be in favor of the situation without any addition in the cost. Please note that the company will not be responsible for any missed international flights, losses caused by Altitude Sickness, or any other unpredictable circumstances, and the participants will have to pay all the charges incurred. Nonetheless, the Company will connect and assist you to make the necessary alternative arrangements, but, the additional charge will be covered by the customers themselves.

Regardless of stating every condition and information about the trips on the website and brochures of the Company, we will not be responsible for the unforeseeable situations that may arise before or during the trips. The Company will, however, try its level best to give prior notice about it and take alternate strategies to deal with it. These booking conditions may only be waived in special circumstances, and in writing, by a letter from the Chief of the Company. Note that all the legal agreements set up and signed between the client and the Company shall be subjected to and governed by the Nepalese law.

Note: All the Terms and Conditions mentioned are prepared as per the laws of the Government of Nepal and is governed by them. Therefore, only the head of the Company gets to intervene and holds the authority to make any amendments.

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