

# Tigers, Temples, and Trekking

## A Wild and Sacred Nepal Journey

March 2 to 19, 2027



Bengal Tiger

### SAFARI OVERVIEW

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Discover the breathtaking beauty of Nepal on an **immersive journey led by Sherpa Tashi Tenzing**, who honors the legacy of his iconic grandfather, Tenzing Norgay. From the soaring peaks of the Himalayas to vibrant local villages and ancient cities, Nepal offers a rich tapestry of culture, nature, and adventure. Explore **traditional Nepalese customs** as you travel through bustling Kathmandu, remote mountain towns, and serene rural landscapes. Embark on **wildlife safaris** in Bardia National Park, where you can spot **Bengal tigers, elephants, and rhinos** in their natural forest and river habitats. Trek for four unforgettable days in the Annapurna region, **hiking through lush river valleys** from 3,000 to 7,000 feet. Wind down each night in charming mountain lodges and savor the sunset over sacred Machapuchare, also known as Fishtail Mountain. With Tashi as your guide and

storyteller, this very unique Nepal adventure blends **cultural depth, natural wonders, and meaningful connection** to the Himalayan spirit.

#### WHY CHOOSE THIS TRIP?

- **Legendary Sherpa Leadership.** Travel with Tashi Tenzing, grandson of Tenzing Norgay, for an intimate journey through his ancestral homeland.
- **Cultural Immersion at Every Turn.** Explore bustling cities, remote villages, and sacred sites that reveal Nepal's vibrant heritage.
- **Wildlife Encounters in Bardia.** Track tigers, rhinos, and elephants on guided game drives through Nepal's most remote national park.
- **Helicopter Ride to Annapurna.** Experience a breathtaking flight to and from Annapurna Base Camp, soaring above pristine Himalayan peaks.
- **Trekking with Comfort and Purpose.** Hike through lush river valleys with porter support and rest in cozy lodges with mountain views.

**LEADER:** Tashi Tenzing, assisted by resident porters, naturalists, and cultural guides.

**DAYS:** 18, including estimated travel time.

**GROUP SIZE:** 8.

**COST:** \$9,895 per person, double occupancy, not including airfare (except for three internal flights), singles extra. See the *Costs* section on page 6.

Date	Description	Accommodation	Meals
Mar 2–3	<b>Travel to Nepal.</b> Begin your travel to Kathmandu, Nepal.		
Mar 4	<b>Kathmandu arrival.</b> Arrive in Kathmandu from home or from our <a href="#">India</a> trip.	Marriott, Kathmandu	D
Mar 5	<b>Himalayas and culture.</b> Take a scenic morning flight to see Mt. Everest. Explore iconic sights in the Kathmandu Valley including Monkey Temple, Boudhanath Stupa, Pashupatinath Temple, and Patan City in the afternoon.		B, L, D
Mar 6–9	<b>Bardia National Park.</b> Spend three full days on game drives in the heart of Bardia National Park. Spot monkeys, birds and hopefully tigers, as you explore the park's diverse ecosystems.	Karnali Lodge, Bardia National Park	B, L, D
Mar 10–11	<b>Mountain trekking.</b> Fly to Pokhara, then begin your trek with a gentle hike to Majgaon (approx. 4,600ft). Walk scenic trails with panoramic mountain views and visit traditional villages like Tanchowk, Majhgaun, and Patlekhet.	Gurung Lodge, Majgaon	B, L, D
Mar 12	<b>Gurung villages.</b> Trek through Gurung villages and terraced hillsides, past waving school children, to reach Landruk at about 5,200ft.	La Bee Lodge, Landruk	B, L, D
Mar 13–14	<b>Himalayan trekking.</b> Hike down into the valley and ascend to the charming village of Ghandruk	Himalaya Lodge, Ghandruk	B, L, D



	(approx. 6,700ft). Spend time exploring local life and vibrant mountain culture.		
Mar 15	<b>Return to Pokhara.</b> Trek from Ghandruk to the main road, then return to Pokhara by vehicle. Enjoy lunch and some relaxed sightseeing.	Tiger Mountain Lodge	B, L, D
Mar 16	<b>Annapurna by helicopter.</b> Take a breathtaking helicopter flight to Annapurna Base Camp in the morning. After lunch, enjoy a guided village walk and birdwatching around the lodge.		B, L, D
Mar 17	<b>Return to Kathmandu.</b> Fly back to Kathmandu and gather for a special farewell dinner at Tashi and Nima's home.	Marriott, Kathmandu	B, L, D
Mar 18	<b>Flights home.</b> Transfer to the airport for flights home.		B
Mar 19	<b>Arrive home.</b> Arrive home, reflecting on your wonderful Himalayan adventure.		

## ENHANCE YOUR TRIP

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- Begin your journey early on our [India](#) trip from February 14 to March 4, 2027. Explore the heart of India, journeying to famous national parks with magnificent tigers and other mammals, as well as cultural highlights, including the wondrous Taj Mahal.

## LEADER

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Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris carefully selects leaders who are experts in their field to ensure that your experience is the best it can be. One leader with assistant guides will provide a range of expertise for your trip.



### Tashi Tenzing

Tashi is a Nepalese Sherpa mountaineer and naturalist with an in-depth knowledge of Nepal's wildlife, including where to find birds and tigers in Nepal. He is the grandson of the famous Tenzing Norgay, who made the first complete ascent of Mount Everest in 1953. Tashi grew up in Darjeeling and earned a degree from the University of New Delhi. He has successfully summited Mount Everest (3 times) as well as numerous other challenging peaks and has guided trips, including in the Antarctic, for decades. Based in Kathmandu, his family also runs mountain lodges, builds schools, administers a medical facility, and awards scholarships for young people.

## DETAILED ITINERARY

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**Mar 2–3 ~ Travel to Kathmandu, Nepal from our [India](#) trip or from home**

**Mar 4 ~ Arrive in Kathmandu**

Upon arrival at the airport, **Sherpa Tashi** will greet you and accompany you to the Marriott Hotel. If you'd like to arrive earlier, we're happy to arrange customized airport transfers and additional hotel nights.

**Mar 5 ~ Everest Flight and Cultural highlights of Kathmandu Valley**

This morning, take a scenic flight for unforgettable aerial views of **Mt. Everest and the surrounding Himalayas**. Then, explore the sacred and historic sites of the **Kathmandu Valley**: visit the **Boudhanath Stupa**, **Pashupatinath Temple**, **Swayambhunath (Monkey Temple)**, and the artisan city of **Patan**. In the evening, enjoy a traditional welcome dinner with Nepalese cuisine and cultural dance.



Mount Everest From Helicopter  
Tashi Tenzig

**Mar 6–9 ~ Bardia National Park**

Fly south to **Nepalgunj**, entering the lush lowlands of Nepal—a dramatic contrast to the Himalayan terrain you've just left behind. This region, known as the **Terai**, borders India and is home to expansive river plains, subtropical forests, and rich biodiversity. After landing, enjoy welcome refreshments before embarking on a scenic two-hour drive to your eco-lodge. Along the way, you'll pass through rural villages that offer a glimpse into everyday life in southern Nepal. Keep your eyes open as you cross the **Babai River**—you might spot a **marsh mugger crocodile** basking on the banks. Upon arrival, settle into your peaceful lodge surrounded by forest and unwind over a fresh Nepali lunch served in the tranquil garden setting.

Later that afternoon, set out on your first **jeep safari in Bardia National Park**. As the heat of the day fades, **wildlife becomes more active**, offering a prime chance to spot **Bengal tigers**, **leopards**, and other elusive predators emerging from the cover of dense jungle. After your drive, gather by the outdoor fireplace for conversation and stargazing before enjoying dinner in the Golghar, a traditional Nepali-style dining room.



One-horned Rhinoceros

Established to protect endangered **tigers** and their prey, Bardia is **Nepal's largest national park in the Terai**. Once a royal hunting reserve, it was expanded in 1988 and again in 1997 to include buffer zones jointly managed by local communities and conservation authorities, helping to maintain its rich biodiversity.

Over the next three days, you'll enjoy immersive safari experiences across Bardia's **grassy meadows, sal forests, and riverbanks**. Begin each day with an early breakfast before heading into the wild with your expert naturalist guides. **Track tiger paw prints** in the dirt roads, scan the grasslands for **chital deer**, and listen for warning calls from **rhesus macaques** and **black-faced langurs**. Pause for **picnic lunches along the river**, where **smooth-coated otters** occasionally surface and **elephant grass** towers up to 8 meters high—perfect cover for a tiger on the move.



Leopard

This is your chance to experience one of **Asia's best-kept wildlife secrets**, far from the crowds and deep in the realm of the tiger.

#### **Mar 10–11 ~ Fly to Pokhara and trek to Majgaon at 4,600ft**

Fly to **Pokhara**, the second largest city in Nepal, and framed by Himalayan giants. Pokhara has a great range of altitudes in the town, from 2,700ft in the south to 5,700ft in the north, and offers spectacular views of several majestic mountain chains including **Lantang, Manaslu, and Annapurna**.

Tashi's assistant, your main trek guide, will meet you at the airport to drive one hour to your starting point in Lumle at about 6,500ft. During the drive, you'll stop to photograph the breathtaking panoramas of the Annapurnas. Local porters will transport your luggage as you trek from **Lumle**, walking about one hour to the village of Chandrakot, situated at about 5,200ft. From this village, take in spectacular views of Annapurna South, the sacred and unclimbed **Fishtail Mountain (locally known as Machapuchare)**. From Chandrakot, you will walk through a forested area along a well-worn trail for about one hour to your lodge in **Majgaon**, situated at about 4,600ft.



Himalayan Bulbul

On your second day in Majgaon, you can relax and absorb the views. If you'd like to explore more, you may walk to the local villages of **Tanchowk, Majhgaun, and Patlekheth**. Your local guides will offer you other spectacular day hikes as well.

During your four days of trekking, look **for resident and migrant birds** including shrikes, magpies, treepies, orioles, drongos, flycatchers, bulbuls, warblers, and sunbirds. Spot Himalayan Vulture and other raptors, including eagles and hawks, in flight. Perhaps the unafraid Himalayan Whistling Thrush (also known as Blue



Whistling Thrush) will sing from the lodge's roof during dawn and dusk. The most common birds in the area are the Himalayan Bulbul and the Crimson sunbird.

### **Mar 12 ~ Trek to Landruk at 5,200ft**

After breakfast, bid farewell to Majgaon and depart for **Landruk**. The trail passes through **blooming rhododendrons** and forests punctuated with Gurung villages. After about four hours, you will arrive in the beautiful village of Landruk where you'll enjoy lunch and then visit a **Gurung** village and watch the **birds** found there.



Landruk

### **Mar 13–14 ~ Trek to Ghandruk at 6,700ft**

In the morning, soak in the view of the majestic mountains, and after breakfast, begin your last day of trekking. You'll descend the steep trail towards **Modi Khola** through scattered villages with beautiful views of the Himalayas, and then a steep ascent to reach **Ghandruk**. The lodge respects the Gurung architecture with a large common dining room with a friendly fireplace and spectacular views of the mountains, including **Gangapurna, Machapuchare (Fishtail), Mount Annapurna**, and other snow-capped peaks. On your second day, explore the fascinating village and visit the local museum.

### **Mar 15 ~ Drive to Pokhara for lunch, lake walk, and Peace Pagoda**

After a scenic morning walk to the main road, meet your vehicle for the one-hour drive to **Pokhara**, Nepal's picturesque lakeside city nestled beneath the Annapurna range. Following lunch, enjoy a peaceful stroll along **Phewa Lake**, where you can spot a variety of **waterbirds**, including herons, kingfishers, and possibly even an **osprey diving for fish** near the shoreline gardens. In the afternoon, ascend to the iconic **World Peace Pagoda**, perched high above the lake. From this panoramic vantage point, take in sweeping views of **Pokhara Valley, snow-capped Himalayan peaks**, and the serene waters below. Look skyward for **soaring raptors**, including **eagles, vultures**, and other birds of prey, riding the warm mountain thermals.

### **Mar 16 ~ Annapurna helicopter flight and leisurely afternoon village walk**

This morning's adventure is a helicopter flight that flies you through the snowcapped Himalayan range to **Annapurna Base Camp**. This flight is both thrilling and peaceful as you soar above the snowy peaks and the vast drop offs. Take in an ariel view of the **mountains, valleys, lake, and town**. This experience puts an exclamation point on your journey though Nepal. Later take a pleasant village walk, go **birding**, and then relax in the luxury of your lodge.



Helicopter Ride  
Patti Collins

### **Mar 17 ~ Return to Kathmandu and Farewell Dinner**

It's time to fly back to Kathmandu and enjoy some afternoon free time to reflect on this amazing experience and prepare for your journey onward. The evening is a **special dinner** with the Tenzing family at their lovely home and a few more of Tashi's amazing stories.

#### **Mar 28 ~ Depart Nepal**

Transfer to the airport for your flights home.

#### **Mar 30 ~ Arrive home.**

### **COSTS (ALL COSTS ARE IN US DOLLARS)**

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#### **Cost**

Type	Cost per Person
Trip Cost, double occupancy	\$9,895
Single Supplement	\$2,300

Costs are per person, double occupancy, not including airfare (except for three internal flights), singles extra. See *Included* and *Not Included* sections for more details.

If you are a single traveler, we will try to find a roommate for you, but if we cannot pair you with a roommate, we may charge you a single supplement. Single rooms cost extra and are subject to availability.

#### **Payment Schedule**

Payment	Due Date	Amount per Person
Deposit	Due now to reserve your space	\$500
Final	September 23, 2026	Remaining Balance

Payments are due based on the schedule above. All reservations require a deposit to confirm reservation of your space.

#### **Cancellations**

Until the Final Payment due date, deposits are refundable except for a cancellation fee of \$150 per person, which can be applied toward another trip if reserved within six months of the canceled trip's departure date. Cancellations are non-transferable. No refunds are given after the Final Payment due date.

#### **Included**

- Carbon offsets for the duration of this trip.
- All leaders, transport, park entry fees, government VAT taxes, and permits for all activities, unless described as optional.

- All porters and guides for four days of trekking in the Annapurna region.
- Annapurna helicopter experience.
- Mt. Everest scenic flight.
- Three internal flights.
- Accommodations for the nights of March 4 through March 17.
- Meals from dinner on March 4 through breakfast on March 18.
- Happy hour March 10 to 14 at the mountain lodges.
- Trekking bag and walking sticks
- Transfers on March 4 and March 18 between the Kathmandu Marriott and the Kathmandu airport.
- Trip Planning Materials – information about entry requirements, flights, packing, gratuities, etc.

#### **Not Included**

- Carbon offsets for your flights to/from this trip.
- All airfare (except flights listed as included), airport and departure taxes, and excess baggage fees.
- Passport and visa fees.
- If you join from our [India](#) trip, we will book your extra hotel night on March 3. Additional cost will be included in your final payment.
- Divergent airport transfers (arranged by us) and extra hotel nights.
- Gratuities – tipping is always discretionary. However, we will add a gratuity of \$300 per participant, for March 15 to 29 with your local guides, to your final payment.
- Mandatory [emergency evacuation insurance](#).
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, medical costs or hospitalization, room service, alcoholic and other beverages, items not on the regular menu, etc. If you have special dietary needs, please indicate them on your Traveler Form.

## **SIGN UP**

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Please contact us first to check availability, reserve your space, and obtain a Traveler Form. To confirm your reservation, we require a deposit and signed form from each participant.

[Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris](#)

Email: [info@cheesemans.com](mailto:info@cheesemans.com)

WhatsApp: (408) 741-5330

Phone: (800) 527-5330 or (408) 741-5330

## **OTHER DETAILS**

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### **Climate**

When in the highlands, daytime temperatures generally range from around 55°F (13°C) to 80°F (26°C). When in the lowlands, daytime temperatures are generally in the 70s°F (low- to mid-20s°C). In both regions, overnights and mornings are much cooler. Although it is the dry season, rain is possible. We cannot predict cold snaps or heatwaves, so dress in layers and pack clothes for changing conditions.

### **Fitness Level**



Good fitness level is required. The game drives require high energy levels as some days are long. Trekking is from around 5 to 6.5mi per day, taking around 4 to 6hrs to arrive to your lodges. Elevation range while trekking is from 3,000 to 7,000ft. You will be walking up and down hills, sometimes on unsteady tread, in addition to up and down many stone steps. Please contact us if you have any health concerns that may make this trip challenging.

### **Accommodations**

You will stay in luxury hotels and charming lodges.

### **Transportation**

You will travel by private bus with air conditioning between locations and by open four-wheel drive jeeps in Bardia. You will have ample space for your gear. Be prepared to experience bumpy, unpaved roads, and although the vehicles are comfortable, you will be jostled around. You'll take a scenic helicopter flight to Annapurna Basecamp.

### **Flights**

Detailed logistical information is included in the Trip Planning Materials we will send you.

**Please wait to book your flights** until you receive confirmation from your Coordinator that the minimum number of participants has been met to operate the trip. If you choose to book flights before receiving this confirmation, we strongly recommend purchasing flight cancellation insurance to protect your investment.

#### Flights you book

- Arrive in Kathmandu, Nepal (KTM) by 11:59pm on March 4. **If you are arriving from our [India trip](#)**, see the *Flights* section in its itinerary for arrival information.
- Depart from Kathmandu, Nepal (KTM) after 12:00am on March 18.

#### Flights we book for you

- Three internal flights are included in the trip cost.

### **Terms and Conditions**

Read our current [Terms and Conditions](#).

### **Conservation**

Our company ethos has always regarded conservation as inseparable from responsible tourism. We struggle with the dilemma that traveling worldwide expends climate-changing carbon. However, we wholeheartedly believe that traveling with us will cultivate your passion for conserving our beautiful world while stimulating each destination's local economy. We encourage you to explore the various ways in which Cheesemans' operates within this context:

- **Ecotourism and Conservation for [Nepal](#).**
- **Cheesemans' Trips are [Carbon Neutral](#).**
- **Offsetting your Travel to/from our Trip:** We invite you to consider offsetting the carbon emissions from your travel to and from our trips. You can purchase offsets with most airlines (Delta includes them automatically), use our handy [carbon calculator](#) and donate to Sustainable Travel International, or contribute to your favorite offsetting organization.

Together, we can continue exploring and cherishing this planet while working toward its long-term protection. Thank you for being part of this important journey with us.