

15-Day EBC Tour plus Kailash Pilgrimage Trek (June 3 - June 17, 2014)



Price Includes

- 【Transportation】 Comfortable tourist vehicle or A/C tourist bus with excellent driver
- 【Accommodation】 3-star hotel in big cities and basic facility guest house in remote area.
- 【Admission Fee】 Admission fee of all tourists sites in itinerary
- 【Activity】 Welcome Dinner in authentic Tibetan restaurant in Lhasa
- 【Tour Guide】 Excellent English Speaking Tibetan tour guide
- 【Insurance】 Travel accident insurance
- 【Permits】 All necessary permits to Tibet, including Entry Permit, Alien's travel permit, Military permit.
- 【Meals】 Meals listed as B.L.D in itinerary, breakfast only in most part of the trip, full-board during the trekking
- 【Trek Support】 Porters and trekking animals included during the 3 days trekking tour at Kailash.

Price Excludes

- 【Transportation】 International air fare and transportation in and out of Tibet.
- 【Meals】 Lunches and dinners are not excluded at most of time, travellers are required to pay it by themselves.
- 【Shopping】 personal expense like shopping, Laundry.

Optional Service

Train tickets Beijing/Chengdu/Shanghai/Xining to Lhasa, from 100USD



May and June is the best time to visit the world highest peak, the Mount Everest. In 2014, it is also the holiest time to visit the most sacred Mount Kailash in western Tibet. It is absolutely a lifetime journey one shouldn't miss. Book the tour on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1378384695729141/>) or tell your trip advisor that you see this campaign on our Facebook, you will enjoy **FREE Tibet Permits and a FREE SLEEPER train ticket to Lhasa** from Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Xining or Guangzhou. Don't let this great chance go and share it with your friends. You can also follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/tibettravel.org>) to view pictures about the trip shared by other travelers and get updated information about Tibet.

Brief Itinerary

(**Note:** The starting date of the tour is tentatively set for June 3 as the official Tibetan calendar 2014 has not been issued yet. We may adjust the dates according to the Tibetan calendar to make sure that you can enjoy the Saga Dawa Festival at most. Please kindly understand it.)

Contact Us

Email: inquiry@tibettravel.org Website: <http://www.tibettravel.org/> Tel: + 86-28-85552138

June 3 (Day 01): Arrive in Lhasa by Train
June 4-5 (Days 02-03): Lhasa Sightseeing
June 6 (Day 04): Lhasa - Yamdrok Lake - Shigatse
June 7 (Day 05): Shigatse – Sakya - Tingri
June 8 (Day 06): Tingri to Rongbuk Monastery
June 9 (Day 07): Rongbuk – Everest Base Camp – Saga
June 10 (Day 08): Saga – Darchen
June 11-13 (Days 09-11): Pilgrimage Trek around the holy Mt. Kailash
June 14-16 (Days 12-14): Drive back to Lhasa
June 17 (Day 15): Depart from Lhasa

For details about this tour, please visit <http://www.tibettravel.org/kailash-tour/index.html>.

Background information

The upcoming 2014 is the year of the horse in the Tibetan calendar, occurring every twelve years. According to Tibetan tradition, Buddhists make pilgrimages to the holy mountains in the year of the horse and to sacred lakes in the year of the sheep. As the holiest mountain in Tibet, Mount Kailash (or Gang Rinpoche) in western Tibet receives much more visitors than usual in such a year, especially during Saga Dawa Festival which is held at the Kailash region in each April in the Tibetan calendar (around May or June in western calendar). The festival is also considered the most interesting and authentic tour event in Tibet each year. In the holy year of 2014, the event will be more attractive for visitors. The Kailash is expected to witness over 60,000 pilgrims and visitors, not just Tibetans, but also Hindus, Buddhists and Western travelers.

To visit the Mount Kailash, three Tibet permits are required for foreign travelers, including Tibet entry permit, Alien's travel permit and Military permit. These permits must be applied through an authorized travel agency. If you book the tour directly on the Facebook, you will get FREE Tibet Permits and a FREE sleeper train ticket to Tibet from mainland China, like Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Xining or Guangzhou.

Tibetan people believe that circling around holy mountains erases their sins. Among numerous sacred mountains in Tibet, Mt. Kailash is recognized as the holiest mountain in four religions: Buddhism, Bon, Hinduism and Jainism. It is said that a Kora (Kailash Trek) around the mountain erases one's sins of a lifetime, and 108 Koras break the cycle of rebirth and assures one of nirvana at death. Moreover, it is believed that the Buddha of Sakyamuni was born in the year of the horse. If one goes to make the Kora in such a year, the merits will be doubled. One circuit will be equal to thirteen circuits made in other years.

People will even gain more merits from the Kora during the Saga Dawa Festival. According to

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Tibetan Buddhism, Sakyamuni was born, became Buddha and died in April. Thus, April is regarded as the holiest month in Tibet. The highlight of this festival falls on the 15th day. A few days before that day, thousands of pilgrims flock into Darchen (a small village at the foot of the mountain) and turn this village into a sea of tents.

Most of the travelers also do the Kora during their Kailash tour. It is about 56 km with average altitude above 5,000m. Generally, it takes 2-3 days on foot and 3-4 weeks by prostrating forwards. The trek starts at the small village of Darchen, opens up unending stretches of barren land, lush green valleys, snow-capped peaks and pristine blue lakes. Though the trek is a challenging task, the services offered by local porters make the trip possible for common visitors.