

GENERAL TRIP INFORMATION

DATES: OCTOBER 26-NOVEMBER 11 2012

*subject to change based on flight cost.

COST:* \$3,500

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: \$50 Application Fee

Due: March 26, 2012

\$1750 1st Payment

Due: May 1, 2012

\$1750 Remaining Balance

Due: September 2, 2012

Payments are to be sent to Behrman Ministries. Behrman Ministries will issue a tax-deductible receipt to those who donate toward your trip and provide you with weekly updates of donations received.

What is Nepal like spiritually and culturally?

Of the 20 million people in Nepal, 89% are Hindu, 7% are Buddhist, 3.5% are Muslim, most of whom are concentrated along the southern border. It is presently in a state of transition from a Hindu monarchy to a republic.

What is the currency?

The currency is Nepali Rupees. The rates may have changed but last year it was between 65 rupees to the dollar. Some shops take Visa or Mastercard but it is better to take cash and have it exchanged.

How should I dress?

We will be in two different areas.

In Kathmandu: The weather will be pleasant. Perhaps cool in the evening. Wear comfortable casual clothes. Take some light protection in the event of rain. Both men and women should dress modestly. Men, keep your shirt on. Ladies may wear slacks or mid-calf skirts. No halters or shorts. You may want to wear a hat. You will be in the sun some of the time. Neat casual clothes are OK for church services. Ladies should wear skirts for the services. Single earrings are OK for the ladies if they choose to wear them - No earrings for the men. No camouflage or military themed clothing.

We will be ministering in the mountains. There may be the possibility of rain, perhaps snow for those going to the higher elevations. It can be windy and cold. A warm windbreaker with a parka hood could be a welcome piece of clothing. It is very important that you are comfortable while traveling. You do not want to wear any tight or binding clothes. It is wise to layer your clothing, for example wear a t-shirt, button up shirt and sweat shirt. You may wear jeans, or hiking pants. There are also some hiking pants which have legs that zip off into a pair of shorts. These are a good choice. However in church services men should wear pants and women should wear skirts of midcalf length and at least a half sleeved blouse.

For both men and women, good shoes are of great importance. Hiking boots that are broken in are the best for trekking. (You don't want to wait to break them in on the trail, it can be very painful.) You may also take good pair of running or walking shoes for use in the villages and during the clinic and to take a break from the boots at the end of the day and for international travel. Bring woolen and cotton socks and flip flops for the shower.

The most important thing to remember as you pack is that you have to carry everything that you pack. Prior to leaving for the airport, weigh your pack or bag. You probably will want to keep between 35 and 40 pounds. If you have a carry-on or day pack you may put items there that would cause you to exceed the 40 pound limit.

There will be a place to clean our clothes at the half way point and there is always a sink☺.

How much spending money should I bring?

As much as you would like to spend on souvenirs, snacks etc. Depending on our return from the mountains, we may have 1 free day to shop and do some sight seeing. Be prepared to pack accordingly so you will have room to bring back what you have purchased.

Gifts

You may want to give away gifts as the Lord leads. It is better to be selective in giving out gifts rather than becoming the center of attention on a street or in a village. It is better to be seen as a caring Christian rather than another rich American with hand-outs. Christian books for adults; Inexpensive trinkets for the children. You will see people with great needs and you will be touched and no doubt want to do something for them. It will be best to confer with those in leadership before giving any money to anyone or to any project.

In Kathmandu there will be many people who will beg or ask for money. Most of these people are professionals. Some are children. Westerners can be spotted at a distance and most of those who approach you will want you to give them anything from a little money to being sponsored to come to America. We must be compassionate without being gullible.

Cameras and Videos

You will no doubt want to bring a camera with you. Remember, if you are taking pictures of individuals, ask permission. Be sensitive as to what you are photographing. DO NOT TAKE PICTURES OF MILITARY OR POLICE. If you have questions, ask your leader or your native guide. Remember that if you bring a camera or video you are responsible for it.

Ministry

The main thrust of our ministry in Nepal will be to share Christ through the ministry of the medical clinic in the mountains. During the day the medical team will be conducting a clinic for people of all the neighboring villages. Doctors and nurses will be administering medical treatment to the people. Support personnel will help in collecting information, and general support of the medical team. In addition to this, team members will personally share the gospel with all people who come through the clinic.

In the course of the trip, there may be evangelistic services with invitations for people to receive Christ and receive prayer and ministry. Though this is a medical trip, the purpose is to bring the gospel to the people.

Fund raising

You are responsible for raising your own finances. It is scriptural to ask others for financial help. We have prepared a sample support letter that may be used if you like or you may use your own letter with our approval.

****PLEASE NOTE: Any finances sent in to Behrman Ministries to be credited to your registration which is over and above the amount required for your registration will not be refunded to you but will be used for this missions trip and others.

Leadership

Please sign discipline agreement and honor code. They must be signed and turned in with your application. There will always be someone in leadership. They will be responsible for decisions made on the trip. Remember to remain flexible. Pray for leaders of the trip and accept decisions made by them. Please bring your comments to your group leader privately.

Resident missionaries and native guides.

We are guests of the native missionary organization that has invited us to Nepal. Listen intently to the missionaries and native leaders. Their valuable experience can save you much time and frustration. Honor them and *remember we are working with them in their work*. Don't be embarrassed to ask questions about things that you do not understand. Under no circumstances is anyone to confront or argue with a missionary or any of the Christian leaders. If you have a problem, see your leader. Pray ahead of time for the missionaries we will be working with.

During the trip

Be an encouragement to each other. Write down specific occasions that you will want to remember and share later. Bring your camera and take pictures if you would like. Be flexible concerning time schedules. Other cultures do not run strictly by the clock like ours does. Constantly prefer one another. For everyone's sake, stay "prayed up" on the trip.

Additional notes

Do not volunteer information to customs officials or others who speak English. Even to those who may be seated next you on the airplane. Your leader will speak for the group.

When asked the purpose of the trip. Your reply will be: "We are going to trek in the mountains". Of course we will be doing that. It is illegal to try to make converts in Nepal and we don't want to create any problems with the authorities or for the national workers.

We are Americans going into a foreign land. Be polite and respectful to the people of Nepal. We are guests in their country. Avoid discussions or any hilarity that could be interpreted wrongly.

Avoid discussions with nationals that may cause a cultural gap (i.e. your housing costs, salary, cars etc.)

Be observant of the local customs and respect them. Prepare now to eat the food that will be prepared for you. It is different. You may or may not like it. Never make unfavorable comments or faces about the food or the living conditions.

After returning

Act on what God has ministered to you during this trip. We are believing that many of you will get direction in your life concerning missions and the world.

We would welcome any testimonies you have or any comments you would like to share with us regarding the trip to Nepal. Write them out and send them to our office.