



EXPEDITION TO  
CHANDRABHAGA 13



## EXPEDITION TO CHANDRABHAGA 13

This 18 day expedition will take you far from civilisation to one of the most beautiful and remote regions in the world. Camp under the stars in the mountainous Indian Himalaya without a single person in sight. Then climb the incredible mountain Chandrabagha 13 and be blown away by mesmerising views at the summit! Read on to discover your adventure of a lifetime...



## INTRODUCTION

This adventure will begin with us landing in Delhi, India's Capital. We'll meet up with our ground staff at the airport, who will help us to our hotel in the city. Tonight we'll have time to check out this huge metropolis, remembering that in the morning we'll be going to somewhere absolutely different!

Our adventure begins early on scenic drive by private bus to Manali. From here we'll continue our bus journey to Batal, our last bit of civilisation for the next 10 days in the mountains!

Our goal is to climb and summit Chandrabhaga 13 where we will be greeted by 360 degree views of the mountains in Spiti and Lahaul valleys, as well as Ladakh and Tibet. Soaking in these incredible views will make the journey worth it

At the end of the journey we will take a private bus back to Manali and then Delhi where you can do some last minute exploring and shopping, and then on to home.

Read on for the full details....



# THE ITINERARY



### **Day 1 – Fly to Delhi**

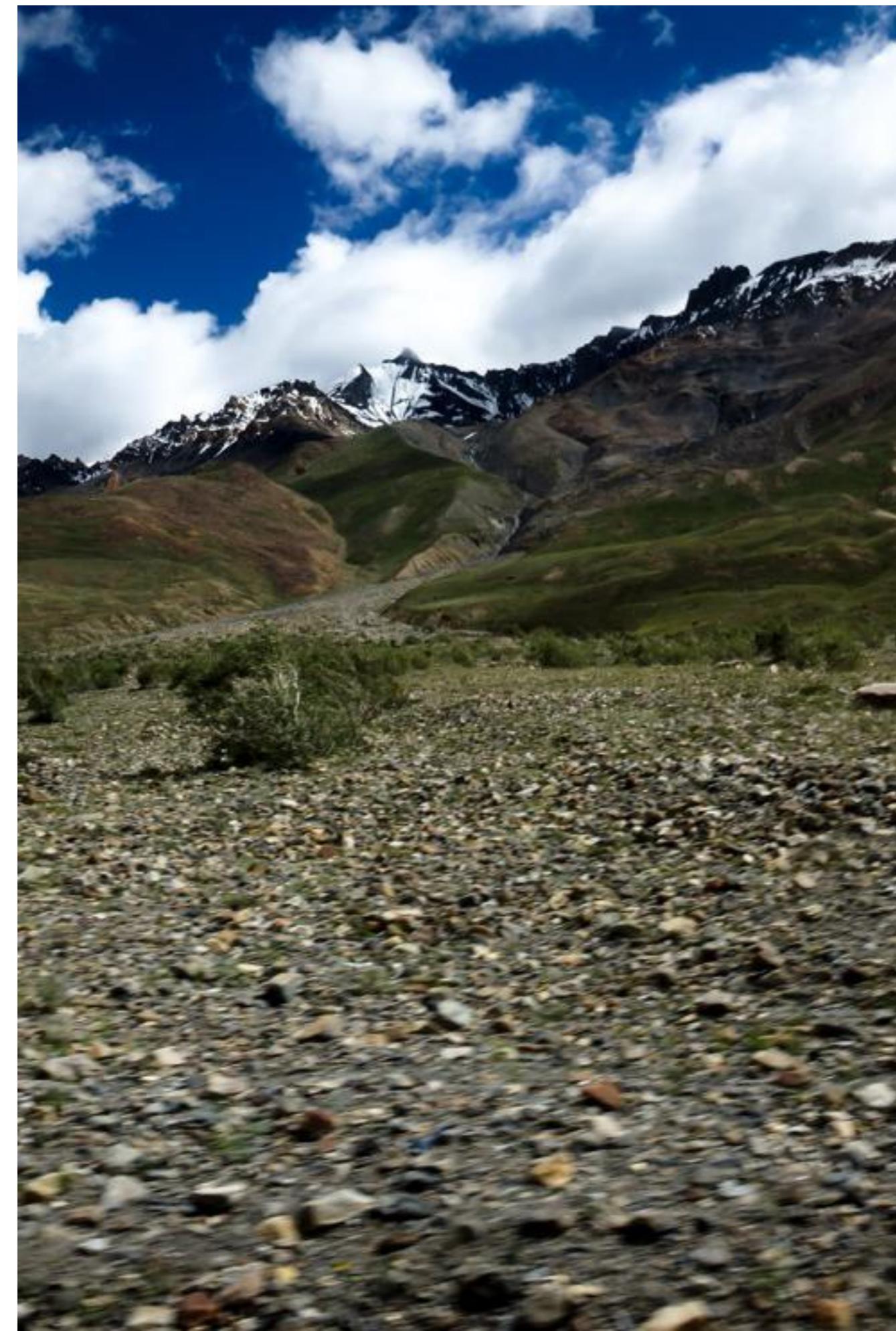
Today you will arrive in Delhi and be met at the airport by a Mountain Quests representative. We will assist with your transfer to your hotel and offer potential sightseeing advice should you arrive in the city early enough. In the evening the whole trekking team will meet to get to know each other and be given a trip briefing.

### **Day 2 – Drive to Manali**

Today is a long day. We will leave Delhi after breakfast. The journey to Manali will take between 8-12 hours (traffic depending). We will have many stops along the way, for stretching, snacks and meals. When we arrive in the evening we'll check into our hotel and if there is time, wander through the small streets of old Manali and grab some food and drinks for dinner.

### **Day 3 – Rest day in Manali**

Today we will take a breather from all the travel, as tomorrow will be another long, albeit stunning, journey. We can relax in the town, do some last minute gear checks and take in the vibe of this awesome hill station town.



#### **Day 4 – Drive to Batal**

We will leave Manali early, before breakfast, to start our journey to the trailhead for our expedition. We will drive over the famous Ro-thang Pass, before dropping into the Lahaul Valley. We will stop for lunch before reaching Batal in the late afternoon. We will set up camp here.

#### **Day 5 – Trek to Base Camp**

Today is when we finally leave all civilization behind. For the next 10 days we won't see roads, vehicles and maybe not even any other people (aside from our team). We will start by trekking along the Chenab River, before moving up to our base camp. This is a 6 hour trek that we need to take slowly, as we have already reached 4,500m by road. Our bodies won't be acclimatized yet and some of us might find today difficult. Our campsite will sit next to a glacial meltwater stream, although if it is warm, it will be more like a river. Tonight we'll relax and continue our acclimatization.

#### **Day 6 – Rest day at Base Camp**

Today will be quite a relaxed day at base camp. After a late breakfast we'll think about a gentle walk up the Chandrabhaga glacier to continue acclimating to our environment. We won't go too far though, spending time resting and getting used to the altitude. We'll be back in base camp for a late lunch and the rest of the day will be spent playing cards, reading or preparing for the days ahead.



### **Day 7 – Trek to advanced base camp (above scree slope), and back**

Today is a lot more of a challenge. It is also very exciting! After breakfast we'll start trekking back up the Chandrabhaga glacier, but this time we'll go a lot further, before taking a left turn up a steep scree slope to reach advanced base camp. The scree is difficult and really saps our energy, so we'll take things easy. When we eventually reach ABC we'll relax, get some lunch and take some time to rehydrate and regain our energy.

At ABC CB13 will be right in front of us and, weather permitting, we'll be able to see the entire climbing route to the summit. It will be hard to not study every part of the mountain while we rest.

After lunch we'll head back to base camp the way we came.

### **Day 8 – Trek to advanced base camp**

Today we'll trek all the way back to advanced base camp, but this time we'll sleep here. The trek will be just as difficult but we can take our time as we won't be heading back. At ABC conversation will all be about the climb and we'll spend hours looking at our challenge in front of us.

When we reach ABC we'll settle into our tents, grab lunch and relax. We'll also have dinner here, giving our bodies time to continue acclimatizing.



### **Day 9 – Rest day at Advanced Base Camp**

Today is a chilled out day to allow our bodies time to get used to the altitude. We'll be at over 5,000m and will need the rest. If we feel strong we can walk further up the CB13 glacier to aid our acclimatization, but it's not mandatory.

### **Day 10 – Trek to glacier camp**

Today is harder than it looks. We'll be leaving ABC, taking all our things with us, to reach glacier camp. The route starts a little steep before flattening out along a scree-covered glacier. There may be snow if there was recent snowfall.

The journey will take us all the way to the base of CB13, but will take 5 – 7 hours. The route looks flat and easy but it is deceptive. At this altitude it will take time. As we near glacier camp we might come across the wreckage of a 1970s Indian air force plane crash. It's a sobering sight and will take our minds off the tiring journey for a small period of time.

Once we reach glacier camp we'll be right up against the base of the mountain and will be able to study our climbing route further.

The camp is on ice and it will be cold. We'll definitely be in our cold-weather clothes tonight.



### **Day 11 – Rest day at glacier camp**

We're almost ready to climb, and if we all feel strong and acclimatized then we will start today. More likely though, we'll spend a day at glacier camp, getting our climbing gear ready and gaining strength for the climb ahead.

### **Day 12 – Climb to camp one (ridgeline)**

Today is the start of the business end of the trip. We'll start our climb, heading to camp 1, which is located on the ridgeline of the mountain we have been looking at all these days. It's not necessarily a long day, but it is tiring and committing. The route will steadily steepen out of glacier camp, until we start some basic ice climbing on ropes, being belayed from above by our guides. We'll need to cross a large crevasse at about half way before finishing our climb to the ridge.

Once at the ridge we will make camp for the night. If the weather is good we will be able to look up the ridge all the way to the summit.

### **Day 13 – Summit and back to advanced base camp**

Today we will get up well before sunrise to start our assault on the summit. We'll leave camp in the dark and start climbing along the ridge. We'll spend most of our time just below the ridge, to stay on the snowline, occasionally needing to negotiate rock bands along the way. Progress will be slow and steady all the way to the summit. From the summit we'll get 360 degree views of the mountains in Spiti and Lahaul valleys, as well as Ladakh and Tibet.



As long as the weather is good we can spend time savouring our accomplishment before making our way back down the mountain. The route is steep so we'll need to take care. Below camp one we'll rappel a few pitches before getting back to Glacier camp. We'll rest here, take some food and some drinks, before moving back to advanced base camp. Here we'll finish for the day. We'll be very tired but we'll finally have some time to really think about what we achieved today. We'll sleep very well tonight.

### **Day 14 – back to Base camp**

Today we'll start by heading back the scree slope and onto the Chandrabhaga glacier heading back to base camp. It's a welcome short day today of only about 4 hours. When we arrive back at base camp we'll relax and enjoy our last night's camping on the trip, with the river as our soundtrack.

### **Day 15 – Back to Batal and on to Manali**

Today we'll start our trek back to Batal early. After breakfast we'll start the 4-5 hour trek to the road, where our transport will be waiting for us. We'll then drive the 5 hour journey back to Manali, where a good hotel with shower awaits us. Tonight we can finally celebrate our trip properly in one of the many restaurants and bars in town.



### **Day 16 – Weather contingency day**

A spare day in case of bad weather on the mountain.

### **Day 17 – Drive to Delhi**

Today we'll be back in our private jeeps to start our 8-12 hour journey back to Delhi where we'll spend the night.

### **Day 18 – Fly home**

Depending on what time your flight leaves today you might have some time to explore the incredible Capital city of Delhi. Whatever happens we'll help you get to the airport for your flight home. We've loved having you with us and hope that the memories of this journey will live with you forever.



**WHAT TO EXPECT**



**Food** - In the city and when we stay in hotels, food will be varied and choices will be available. On the trek, as we are camping, food will be mostly vegetarian, due to the difficulty in transporting meat, but we will serve meat when possible. The menu will change daily, serving Indian, Continental and Chinese food. It is clean and full of energy, which is essential to a successful trek.

**Accommodation** - In Delhi we'll be in a well-run, clean hotel, with en-suite bathrooms, in-room TVs, 24 hour hot water and power and laundry facilities. Rooms will be on a twin-share basis. In the mountains we will be staying in tents, also on a twin-share basis. A dining tent will be set up in every camp, which is where we will tend to congregate each night. In Loharkhet and Kathgodam we'll be in local guest houses, which are basic but clean.

**Gear** - We will provide all participants with a full kit list that is provided at the end of this document. This is a highly recommended list of important items that will make your journey with us comfortable, as well as safe. Please refer to the list for full details.

**Trekking Assistance** - we will be accompanied by a full compliment of porters who will be helping us with our excess luggage. Trekking days will see us carrying our day packs, with water, food and water-proofs in them. We will also be guided by a head local guide and accompanied by a cook, who will be in charge of keeping us well-fueled.



## INCLUSIONS

- All the necessary trekking permits
- All Accommodation
- All domestic transportation
- All meals during the trek
- Full-qualified guide
- Porters to carry group personal equipment during the trek
- Cook to handle meals on the trek

## EXCLUSIONS

- International flights to and from New Delhi
- Meals in Delhi, Kathgodam and Loharkhet (allow USD 10-15 per meal)
- Carbonated and alcoholic drinks
- Tips
- Travel and medical Insurance (covering rescues)

# PRICE AND OPTIONAL EXTRAS





Price - The price for the whole adventure discussed so far comes to:

**From 10,995 AED / \$2,993 per person. Please ask for single supplement charges.**

Please contact us at [info@mountainquests.com](mailto:info@mountainquests.com) or at

+971 4 368 2687 / +971 50 644 9130 for more information, or to book.

[www.mountainquests.com](http://www.mountainquests.com)



# MOUNTAIN QUESTS

## ABOUT MOUNTAIN QUESTS

Based on the philosophy of 'Live, Don't Exist', Mountain Quests was set up in April, 2011 by Matt Farr whose passion for mountain climbing led him to Nepal on a regular basis to conquer the majestic peaks of the Himalayas. After years of successfully putting his climbing skills to the test all over the world, including a two week adventure in the Alps climbing seven mountains in 12 days, Mountain Quests was born.

With offices in both Dubai in the United Arab Emirates and Kathmandu in Nepal, Mountain Quests is in full control of its operations, logistics, safety and security to offer clients options of both tailor-made trips and pre-arranged itineraries.

The essence of every trip is a culturally rich and diverse travel experience that will appeal to people seeking a unique adventure or looking to push physical and emotional boundaries.

The types of trip vary to accommodate different abilities and include hiking, trekking, expeditions, mountain biking as well as extreme pursuits including survival trips and adventure sports such as bungee jumping and paragliding. The core destination of Nepal make up the portfolio with the addition of Northern India planned towards the end of 2014.