

Monte Rosa Rando, Italy

A rewarding trek through beautiful scenery beneath the spectacular Monte Rosa Massif.



Group departures

See overleaf for departure dates

Holiday overview

Style	Trek
Accommodation	Hotels
Grade	Moderate
Duration	8 days from London to London
Trekking / Walking days	On trek: 6 days
Min/Max group size	4 / 12. Guaranteed to run for 4
Trip Leader	Local Leader Monte Rosa
Land only	Joining in Turin, Italy
Max altitude	2,069m/6,788ft, day 7

Private Departures & Tailor Made itineraries available



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Managing Director: Steven Berry. Registered in England No. 2118433. VAT No. 496 6511 08

Departures

Group departures

2021 Dates:

Sun 20 Jun - Sun 27 Jun

Sun 18 Jul - Sun 25 Jul

Sun 05 Sep - Sun 12 Sep

Group prices and optional supplements

Please contact us on +44 (0)1453 844400 or visit our website for our land only and flight inclusive prices and single supplement options.

No Surcharge Guarantee

The flight inclusive or land only price will be confirmed to you at the time you make your booking. There will be no surcharges after your booking has been confirmed.

Will the trip run?

This trip is guaranteed to run for 4 people and for a maximum of 12. In the rare event that we cancel a holiday, we will refund you in full and give you at least 6 weeks warning. Many trips do fill up quickly - we advise you to book early if you want to secure a place(s) on the dates of your choice.

Insurance

We offer a travel insurance scheme - please contact us for details.

Private Departures

We can also offer this trip as a private holiday. A Private Departure follows exactly the same itinerary as the group departure but at dates to suit you (subject to availability) - please contact us with your preferred dates.

Tailor Made service

We pride ourselves on the level of quality and choice we provide for our clients who want a fully tailor made holiday. A holiday will be created especially for you by one of our well-travelled experts. They will be able to advise on the accommodation best suited to your needs, the sights you should visit (and those to avoid!) and the best walks and activities matched to your ability. In short, we will work together with you to create your perfect holiday. If you would like to explore the idea of a Tailor Made holiday with Mountain Kingdoms then please call us on +44 (0)1453 844400 or see the Tailor Made pages of our website for further inspiration.

Your guide



Your guide will be a local English speaking guide. These guides are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the mountains and culture of this beautiful region.

One such guide is Anna Ravizza, a charming guide who has farmed in the Val d'Ayas for many years and has walked all the trails of the valley. She is passionate about the mountains and culture of the region and loves to share it with visitors.

Your trip highlights

- Trek in a beautiful valley with fabulous views of the Monte Rosa Massif and its glaciers.
- Explore an historic area with traditional villages, castles, churches and ancient gold mines.
- Walk on well-maintained trails through flower-filled, alpine meadows and beautiful forests.
- Stay in small friendly hotels of a good, comfortable standard.
- Enjoy excellent food featuring locally sourced specialities including delicious cheeses from the cows and goats which graze along your route.
- All your baggage will be transferred for you between hotels you can walk with just a daypack

At a glance itinerary

Day 1	Fly to Turin. Group transfer to Champoluc in the Ayas Valley. Group briefing by local guide.
Day 2	Trek to Arcesaz with visit to village of Salomon, the gold mine of Chamousira and the village and castle of Graines.
Day 3	Trek to Verrès through forest and vineyards.
Day 4	Climb from Verrès to Col d'Arlaz and then follow the ancient Ru d'Arlaz irrigation channel.
Day 5	Continue along Ru d'Arlaz, descending to Evançon River at Brusson. Explore Brusson old village.
Day 6	Trek to Antagnod via Napoleon's Fountain and the Col de Joux and then along Ru Courtod. Visit traditional sabot workshop.
Day 7	Trek to Champoluc, following Ru Courtod and then up to moraine of Verraz Glacier before descending to St Jacques village and finally along river to Champoluc.
Day 8	Transfer to Turin for flight home.

Trip summary

The Monte Rosa massif is best known for the classic, high altitude Monte Rosa Circuit. However, a new and equally picturesque route has recently opened on the Italian side, trekking through a beautiful region of forests, meadows and pretty villages set beneath spectacular peaks in an unspoilt corner of the Alps.

Called the Monte Rosa Rando, this wonderful circular trek has been created by linking old footpaths and mule tracks to take in the whole of the Ayas Valley. The circuit starts in the bustling village of Champoluc, walking to historic Verrès in the Aosta Valley, and then past lakes and irrigation channels back along the other side of the valley and up to the spectacular glaciers of Monte Rosa, before finally returning to Champoluc. The whole circuit can be completed in six walking days, at a comfortable walking pace and takes you through varied and ever changing scenery of high mountains, woods, meadows and pretty villages. It is well maintained and graded throughout.

Leading down from the glaciers of Monte Rosa the Ayas Valley has long provided a way through from the countries of the Alps to the plains of Italy. It was for centuries a route for traders and migrants, especially in early medieval times when the glaciers were evidently smaller than they are today. The languages and traditions of the valley reflect this cultural interchange and the many impressive medieval castles which you see along the route were built to control this movement of people.

You start walking most days from the door of your hotel, most of which are small and family owned and offer very friendly, comfortable and attractive accommodation. In addition, restaurants along the trail offer a high standard of cuisine featuring local produce, including locally made cheeses and cured meats. Good wines are produced by the local vineyards and delicious ice cream is also made using dairy products of the valley.

This is a rewarding moderate trek with 4-7 hours of walking each day through typical traditional alpine scenery with some wonderful, panoramic mountain views.

Alternative option

If you do not have 8 days to spare it is possible to do a section of the upper valley as a private itinerary in 5 days, to include 3 full days walking and taking in many of the highlights of the total route. Please call us if you would like to know more about this option.

Your trip itinerary

Day 1: Fly London to Turin.

On arrival at Turin airport you will be met and there will be one timed group transfer to Champoluc. If you are planning to book your own flights please ask about timing for this transfer as public transport to Champoluc can be a rather time consuming and is a complicated business.

The journey to Champoluc takes you along the autostrada towards Aosta and then at Verrès you take the road which zig zags up into the valley of the Evançon River and on to Champoluc in the Val d'Ayas. Champoluc is the main village of the valley and is a bustling place with lots of hotels and restaurants. During the summer it is a centre for walking and in the winter for skiing. In Champoluc you will also find the Monterosa Terme, a spa with four warm pools, steam rooms and saunas.

Once at the hotel you will meet your guide who will let you know details for the rest of your trip and then you will have dinner, either at your hotel or in a local restaurant.

Overnight: Hotel Castor or Similar, Champoluc (Meals: D)

Day 2: Trek to Arcesaz - 940m ascent / 1,067m descent, 7½ hours.

Today your trek initially takes you along the banks of the Evançon River before climbing to the pretty village of Salomon from where you will have great views of the valley. You then continue through beautiful forest and climb to the disused gold mine of Chamousira. Mining in this area is reputed to date back to Roman times but this particular mine dates back to the beginning of the 20th century when it flourished for just a dozen or so years before the gold ran out. Walking through the woods you see the veins of quartz which contained the gold, and may also see evidence of shafts and galleries dating back to this period. You descend to the village of Graines. A tarmac road only reached Graines in 1974 and before that time, like so many of the little villages of this area, it was pretty self sufficient with its own school and village bakehouse. Nowadays only a handful of families still live there. From Graines village you descend a short way and then make the short climb to visit the castle of Graines. This is a very picturesque ruin perched on a rocky outcrop, enjoying fine views up and down the valley. In early medieval times when the glaciers were evidently smaller than they are today there was a lot of trade across the Alps with people coming down this valley and into Italy. The Graines Castle was built to control this traffic. Up the valley you can see the village of Brusson with its blue lake where you will stay on Day 5.



From Graines you descend in less than half an hour to Arcesaz (pronounced Archay-za) and your overnight accommodation.

Overnight: Hotel Croce Bianca or Similar, Arcesaz (Meals: BLD)

Day 3: Trek to Verrès, 391m/1,282ft - 315m ascent / 1,253m descent, 5 hours.

Another beautiful day's trekking. You begin by strolling alongside the Evançon River, passing a couple of Roman bridges. You then walk through lovely woods and past the vineyards of Challand-St-Victoire and climb to the village of Omens. From here a good mule track leads all the way down to the town of Verrès, passing on the way the historic 14th century castle of Verrès, which you may be able to visit. The Challant family controlled this area in medieval times and this is one of several castles which they built - soldiers were garrisoned in this rather austere castle, whereas the Challant family themselves lived in some comfort in the more elegant castle across the valley in Issogne.

The town of Verrès is situated at the bottom of the Ayas valley, and is your lowest altitude on this trip. It has a pretty, historic centre and several bars where you might enjoy a cold beer as well as places serving delicious ice-cream.

Overnight: Evancon Park Hotel or Similar, Verrès (Meals: BLD)

Day 4: Trek to Challand-St-Anselme, 1,036m/3,399ft - 790m ascent / 160m descent, 5-6 hours.

Today begins with quite a steep climb out of Verrès to reach Saint-Gilles Cross, but it is a well graded path and you will gain height rapidly and soon be rewarded with panoramic views. From the cross you can view the distinctive pointed peak of Mount Avic. You continue climbing to Ville castle and then on up through lovely woods of chestnut to reach Ville Lake Nature Reserve. It is a short diversion of just a few minutes from the main trail to visit the pretty, reed-fringed, glacial Ville Lake. From here you climb through the reserve past some fascinating 'land art', works of art alongside the trail created by a local artist from natural materials such as wood, leaves, twigs, tree branches and rocks. You continue ascending through lovely woods and flowery meadows to reach the Col d'Arlaz, 1,031m/3,382ft, your high point for the day and a fine spot with good views. At Col d'Arlaz you meet the end of the Ru d'Arlaz, an ancient medieval irrigation channel, and your trail now continues alongside this channel, so the walking is pretty easy for the next hour or so to reach the church of Sant'Anna and more good views. You then continue to Challand-St-Anselme and your overnight stop.



Overnight: Hotel La Toretta or Similar, Challand-St-Anselme (Meals: BLD)

Day 5: Trek to Brusson, 1,326m/4,350ft - 755m ascent / 510m descent, 3½ hours. Afternoon at leisure in Brusson.

After yesterday's ascent, today is an easier day, walking past Bechaz mine, another of the sites in the Monte Rosa area where gold prospecting took place. You again follow alongside the waters of the Ru d'Arlaz irrigation channel passing through farmland and forest before arriving back at the River Evançon River at the village of Brusson. Brusson is an attractive village set on a small lake and is a centre for walking in the summer and cross country skiing in the winter. You may take a stroll round the old village or visit the fromagerie on the edge of town, a co-operative which sells a fantastic array of local farm produce including cheese from cows and goats, all made with milk from farms of the valley, as well as other local food specialities.

Overnight: Hotel Laghetto or Similar, Brusson (Meals: BLD)

Day 6: Trek to Antagnod, 1,681m/5,515ft - 630m ascent, 250m descent, 5½-6 hours.

Today you join the Ru Courtod, an impressive medieval irrigation channel, and at 30 km long the longest in the Aosta region. The Ru Courtod took over 40 years to build in the years up to 1433 and was designed to bring water down from the glaciers of Monte Rosa to irrigate the lower valley round Challand-St-Vincent. You pass by Napoleon's Fountain where, in the year 1800, Napoleon is said to have chatted, unrecognised, with an Austrian soldier and arrive at the Col de Joux at 1,640m/5,380ft. You then walk along the Ru through forest of larch and red pine and finally descend to the village of Antagnod. Antagnod village is very pretty with narrow streets and ancient houses and is easily identified from afar because of its distinctive tall white church tower. By the time you reach Antagnod you are starting to get excellent views of Monte Rosa.



On arrival in Antagnod you should have time to visit the workshop of a local sabot maker. These traditional sabots were once universally worn throughout the region and many local people still swear by them for comfort, durability and warmth. They have a distinctive shape which is very different to that of Dutch clogs.

Overnight: Hotel Santa San or Similar, Antagnod (Meals: BLD)

Day 7: Trek along Ru Courtod to base of glacier, 2,069m/6,788ft, descend to St Jacques and continue to Champoluc - 730m ascent / 920m descent, 7hrs.

Today the views of Monte Rosa are amazing and although you have quite a long walk much of it is pretty level. You walk along the Ru Courtod, through beautiful forests and lush alpine meadows where herds of contented cows graze, to arrive at a balcony with a fine panorama of the mountains. You then continue to the source of the Ru in the Cime Bianche valley which connects the Ayas valley with Valtournenche (Cervinia). Your trail then takes you round to the Pian di Verraz at the very foot of the Verraz Glacier and the highest point of your trip at around 2,069m/6,788ft. You descend through beautiful meadows and forests and on down all the way to the village of St Jacques. From St Jacques it is an easy walk to Champoluc alongside the river.

Once in Champoluc you might have time to visit the Monterosa Terme, or to enjoy a beer to celebrate completion of the circuit, before your last dinner in Italy.

Overnight: Hotel Castor or Similar, Champoluc (Meals: BLD)

Day 8: Transfer to Turin/Torino airport. Fly to London.

There will be a single timed group transfer today back to Torino airport for your flight home. Depending on your flight time there may be an opportunity to call in at the fromagerie in Brusson for some last minute cheese purchases.

Our grading system

Monte Rosa Rando is graded as a moderate walking holiday.

Moderate

Holidays in this grade typically involve 5 to 10 days of walking or trekking. They will often venture into more remote country and can cross mountain passes. Altitudes though are still relatively low, going no higher than around 4,300m/14,000ft. Accommodation can include simple hotels, tea houses, lodges and camping.

What the price includes

Mountain Kingdoms aims to offer the best value for money. We do not charge extra for meal packages or apply local charges and try to ensure that all the key elements of your holiday are included.

What's included:

- ✓ An experienced English-speaking Italian leader
- ✓ Accommodation in good quality 2*/3*/4* hotels on a twin share basis
- ✓ All breakfasts, evening meals and picnic lunches on walking days
- ✓ Luggage transfer between hotels
- ✓ Economy class return air fares from the UK (if booking our flight inclusive option).
- ✓ Single timed group transfers to/from Torino
- airport at the start and end of the holiday
- ✓ Carbon offsetting with the Ecoan Tree Planting Project (flight inclusive option only)
- ✓ The option to attend one of our pre-trip meets in the Cotswolds
- ✓ A free Mountain Kingdoms Water-to-Go bottle

Airport transfers

The cost of a transfer to/from the airport is included in the price of your holiday. This is a single group transfer which is arranged to coincide with the timings of the group flights. If you book your own flights which arrive/depart at different times to this, or we book flights at your request that have different timings, we will be happy to provide a quote for a separate transfer. Please contact us should you require any further information.

What's not included:

- ✗ Travel insurance
- ✗ Bar bills
- ✗ Tips

Water-to-Go Reusable Bottle Campaign

We have joined the campaign to help cut down on the use of plastics and, in particular, single-use water bottles. To do this we have teamed up with the revolutionary company, Water-to-Go who have developed a multi-use drinking bottle with a reusable filter that eliminates over 99.9% of all microbiological contaminants. This makes water from virtually any source safe to drink and significantly reduces the need for travellers to buy bottles of water wherever they are in the world.

Our clients who are not given a free Mountain Kingdoms kit bag for their holiday (these are required for certain treks), will instead receive a free Mountain Kingdoms Water-to-Go bottle. These unique Water-to-Go bottles can also be purchased from us at a discounted rate.

For further information about our campaign visit <https://www.mountainkingdoms.com/water-to-go-reusable-bottle-campaign>.

Your accommodation

There are many pleasant hotels offering friendly, comfortable accommodation in this valley. Most of them are cosy, family run establishments and are quite small and while we will endeavour to secure the hotels named in the itinerary if our first choice of hotel is not available we will book a suitable alternative of a similar standard.



Hotel Castor or Similar, Champoluc

The Hotel Castor is a three star hotel well located right in the centre of the village. It is a lovely family run hotel, in the same family since the early 20th century. It is decorated in traditional alpine style and most rooms have balconies and good views over the Ayas Valley. All rooms have TV, telephone, safe box and private bathroom with hairdryer.

If the Hotel Castor is not available there are other good hotels in Champoluc such as the Hotel Petit Tournalin or the Charmante Petit Hotel.



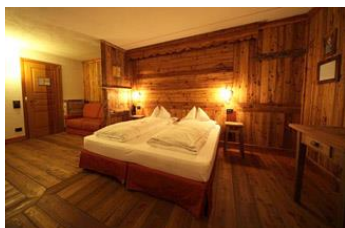
Hotel Croce Bianca or Similar, Arcesaz

This is a long established hotel, conveniently situated on the route of the Monte Rosa Rando. It offers comfortable rooms in traditional wooden style with all facilities and good home-cooked food.



Evancon Park Hotel or Similar, Verrès

This three star hotel is located just a few minutes' walk from the historic centre of Verrès. Although it does not have quite the charm of the smaller hotels in the Ayas valley it nevertheless offers good accommodation and a comfortable night's stop with tasty food.



Hotel La Toretta or Similar, Challand-St-Anselme

The Hotel Toretta is a charming and comfortable four star hotel, featuring lots of mellow wood and cosy rooms with balconies. The hotel particularly prides itself on its excellent restaurant and friendly, family service.



Hotel Laghetto or Similar, Brusson

The Hotel Laghetto is a good, family run, three star hotel, situated close to the pretty lake of Brusson. It has been beautifully renovated to offer stylish and cosy accommodation with all facilities. In addition the hotel has a great restaurant overlooking the lake, which offers typical local dishes based on locally sourced ingredients.



Hotel Santa San or Similar, Antagnod

The Santa San is a small family-run hotel, located close to the centre of the village and well placed for walking the Monte Rosa Rando. Rooms are large and comfortable with private facilities and WiFi.

If the Hotel Santa San is not available the nearby Hotel Petit Prince is also suitable.

Meal arrangements

All breakfasts, picnic lunches on walking days and evening meals are included: 7 breakfasts, 6 picnic lunches and 7 dinners.

Flight arrangements

Flight inclusive from price

Our 'Flight inclusive from' price is based on the best fare available at the time of printing. As airfares change on a constant basis, this should be used only as a guide price. Rest assured that, at the time of booking, we will endeavour to get the best possible price for the flights you need. Remember, the earlier you book the greater your chances of securing the best fare.

Flight inclusive packages booked through Mountain Kingdoms are protected through our ATOL bonding scheme.

Flight upgrades and regional Airports

Please call us on +44 (0)1453 844400 for flight options from regional UK airports, Business Class upgrades, alternative airlines and stopovers. Please also check our website for the most up to date flight inclusive 'from' prices.

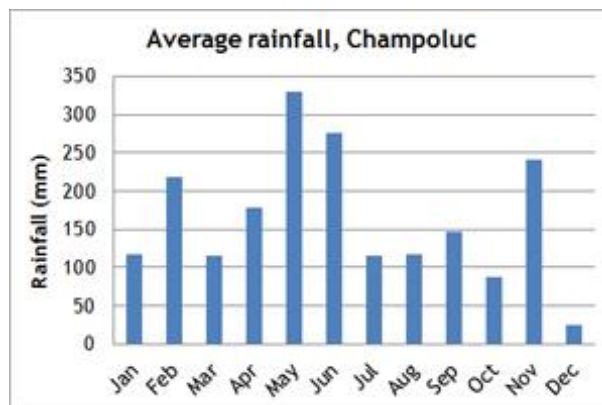
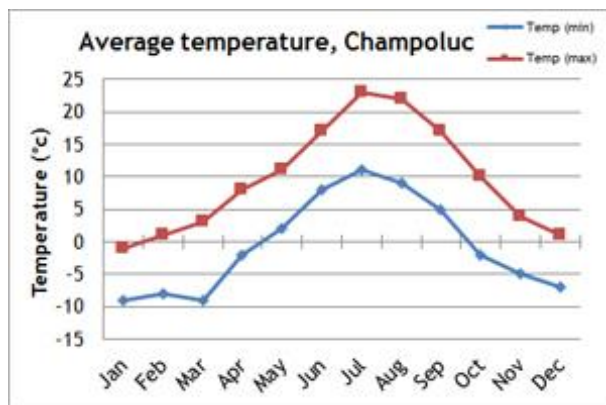
Further information

When we receive your booking, we send you a full Trip Dossier which contains details of any visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and lots of useful information. If you do have queries at this initial stage do call us on 01453 844400 and we will be pleased to offer advice.

The nature of adventure travel

Every effort will be made to keep to this itinerary but we cannot guarantee that things may not change, either before you travel or while you are away. By its very nature, adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected, particularly in more remote areas. A variety of factors such as adverse weather conditions, changes to local schedules and difficulties with transportation can all contribute to the need to make changes to the itinerary, often at the very last minute. Our Operations Manager and your Trip Leader will make every effort to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary and minimise the impact of any changes, but an easy-going and flexible nature is a real asset! Please note that all timings and distances given are approximate.

Climate information



Extensions

Extending your holiday

If you would like additional inspiration on how or where to extend your holiday please call us on 01453 844400. Alternatively, you can download a range of extension information sheets on our website, at www.mountainkingdoms.com.



Additional hotel nights

If you wish to extend your time in the valley we can offer additional nights in Champoluc or elsewhere and we can also organise additional transfers.

Why book this holiday with Mountain Kingdoms?

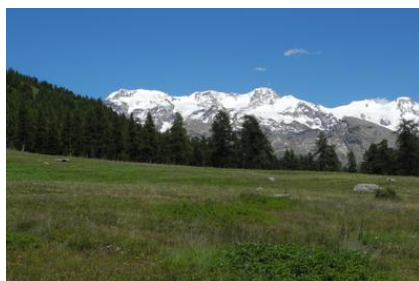
- We are the first UK company to offer this superb, newly created circular route beneath the Monte Rosa Massif.
- We include a fixed group transfer to/from airport the airport at the start and end of the trip. Those organising their own flights or arriving at a different time are welcome to take the fixed group transfers but please contact the office first to check timings.
- You will be led by an enthusiastic and charming local guide who will speak excellent English and have a real passion for the mountains.
- You will stay in twin rooms in comfortable hotels with all facilities including attached bathrooms.
- All meals are included from dinner on the day you arrive to breakfast on the day you leave. Whilst out on the trail you will enjoy delicious picnic lunches.
- Ann Sainsbury, who has worked for Mountain Kingdoms for many years, researched this walking holiday in 2017 and would be delighted to help with any queries.
- Our maximum group size is 12 for this trip. This provides for a genuine small group travel experience and helps reduce the negative aspects often associated with larger trekking groups.
- As part of our commitment to 'Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency', we will be carbon-offsetting all international flights booked through us by donating funds to the Ecoan Tree Planting Project in Peru.
- We are an IATA accredited agent and work directly with some of the world's major airlines. If you wish to fly with a specific airline, from a regional UK airport or on alternative dates to the main group we would be happy to arrange this for you. Please contact our Flights Manager, April, for flight options, quotes and further inform

If we've tempted you to take your next holiday with us, we advise you to check availability and you can do this via our website: www.mountainkingdoms.com or by calling the team on +44 (0)1453 844400. Bookings can be made online, by phone or by completing a booking form and returning it to us. We can also provisionally hold places if you need time to consider your options.

What our clients say



This holiday was a fantastically enjoyable trip. From the initial contact with "Mountain Kingdom" through to the return, everything was faultless. At every stage, we enjoyed a positive experience. The guides, food, and accommodation met and for the most part, far exceeded our expectations. I would recommend the tour to anyone who wants to get into the mountains without undertaking a mountain climbing adventure.
- Pemberg: Stratford-upon-Avon, UK



This is a lovely trip, offering a good walk but with enough easier stretches to allow time to look around and admire the great views and lovely landscapes. A comfortable bed each night and really excellent food make this a perfect week's walking holiday.
- Ann Sainsbury, Mountain Kingdoms

Mountain Kingdoms - distinctly different

Truly independent

In an age where many so-called 'independent' travel companies have in fact been bought out by multi-national giants, we remain fiercely independent with all the benefits this offers our clients.

Value for money prices with an emphasis on quality

We are not in the business of cutting our itineraries and services to the bone to offer eye-catching cheap prices. We use some of the best airlines, and typically 3 or 4 star hotels in cities. We include the majority of meals and private transport for road travel. We use excellent equipment and appoint well-trained staff and leaders. Last year, over 98% of our clients rated their Mountain Kingdoms holiday as 'excellent' or 'good'. We are members of AITO and bound by their quality charter.

Complete financial security

You can book with us confident that your holiday has full financial protection. Flight inclusive holidays are financially protected by the Civil Aviation Authority under ATOL licence number 2973 and 'Land Only' holidays are covered by a bond secured with ABTOT.

No Surcharge Guarantee

Your peace of mind is important to us so we have a No Surcharge Guarantee on all Land Only and Flight Inclusive bookings. This means that there will be no change to the price of your holiday once we have confirmed your booking, regardless of fluctuations in exchange rates or fuel prices.

Award winning Responsible Tourism

We feel strongly that all our holidays should benefit local communities, protect the environment and respect local traditions, religion and heritage. You can read more about the charities we support and our Responsible Tourism commitments and initiatives on the following page or at www.mountainkingdoms.com.

Genuine small group travel

Almost all of our holidays have a maximum group size of just 12, plus leader. This provides more contact with your leader, readier access to off-the-beaten-path areas, greater interaction with local communities and a reduced environmental impact.

Loyalty Discount

If you have previously travelled with us we recognise your loyalty with a discount on future trips.

Booking your holiday - it couldn't be easier

Once you've chosen your Mountain Kingdoms holiday you can book online, call the office or complete and post a booking form which can be found in our brochure or downloaded from our website. If you would like to hold a place on one of our trips, whilst you make up your mind, please give us a call to make a provisional booking. This is a no-obligation, no-cost booking and we will hold your place until space comes under pressure or we need your decision.

Comprehensive information

When we receive your booking we send you a full trip dossier which contains details of visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and lots of useful information. In fact, everything you need to know to give you peace of mind and allow you to prepare for your trip of a lifetime.



RESPONSIBLE TOURISM STATEMENT CLIMATE EMERGENCY PLAN



For over 33 years, Mountain Kingdoms has been offering people the chance to visit amazing places on this extraordinary planet. We now offer trips to all corners of the world, but we are conscious that inevitably our holidays have a detrimental impact on the world around us, and we want to do all we can to reduce our carbon emissions. We are a signatory to Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency, along with a growing number of like-minded, reputable tour operators. For more information, please visit www.tourismdeclares.com

From 2020 onwards, we will be focusing on how we can reduce the carbon emissions that our holidays produce, and how to counterbalance this carbon by supporting carbon offset measures. Here are some of our current and future plans to minimise the impact of our business as a whole:

Carbon Offsetting

Already doing:

- ✓ We have been offsetting carbon since 2007, but will be increasing our donations to the [Ecoan tree planting project](#) in Peru this year. This is with a trusted partner where the funds go directly to a project where the community plants trees on its own land.

Will do:

- ✓ We are working on making our carbon offsetting more accurate and targeted.
- ✓ In future, we will add to that a further estimate for carbon produced by hotels, local road travel, trains and internal flights to arrive at a carbon offset sum for each trip we operate.
- ✓ Carbon offsetting will be included in our holiday prices. For our Flight Inclusive holidays it will include the international flight and any emissions produced by inland travel and accommodation. Our Land Only prices will include the cost of offsetting emissions caused by inland travel and accommodation.

Reducing Carbon Emissions

Already doing:

- ✓ We already offer the majority of our customers a free filtered water bottle which means they can instantly cut down on their single-use plastic consumption. This will be an ongoing project.
- ✓ We already predominantly use locally owned hotels, but will continue to ensure that, where possible, we use these rather than multinational chains.
- ✓ We have joined the Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency initiative to stand alongside like-minded travel companies, to work together to initiate best practices to make tourism as sustainable as possible.

Will do:

- ✓ We will re-evaluate our flights to make sure we are using the most fuel efficient airlines with the youngest fleets and, where possible, direct flights for each trip.
- ✓ We will stop offering unnecessary optional flights – for example our Everest sightseeing trip.
- ✓ We will eliminate unnecessary staff flights wherever possible.
- ✓ We will look at minimising internal flights.
- ✓ We will be asking all our worldwide agents and suppliers to look at their own carbon footprint and encourage them to reduce it.
- ✓ We will promote our more low impact trips to give customers an informed choice.

As part of our wider commitment to Responsible Tourism, we will continue to support a number of charities with whom we have had a long standing relationship over many years. These include: Shiva Charity in Nepal (Ginette Harrison School), Simien Mountains Mobile Medical Service and Porter Welfare, as well as setting aside a sum for emergency disaster relief should the need arise.

