

FRANCE & SPAIN

Trans Pyrenean Trek

Duration: 5 days / 4 nights

Trip Grade: Moderate

Dates:

12 – 16 Jun 2010 11 – 15 Jun 2011
4 – 8 Sep 2010 3 – 7 Sep 2011

Payment Options:	2010	2011
Self Payment Registration Fee	£149	£149
Trip Cost	£620	£660
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Fundraising Registration Fee	£149	£149
Min. Fundraising Target	£1550	£1650

Stretching around 400km from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea, the Pyrenees form a natural boundary between France and the Iberian Peninsula of Spain. It is a stunning wilderness that is home to brown bears and wolves, although we are more likely to see marmots, vultures and birds of prey.



Our trek takes us from the French side of the mountain range, up and over into Spain along rocky trails that zig-zag over the hills. Our goal is the ascent of *Pico Mulleres* which, at just over 3000m, affords us amazing views over the high peaks and glaciers in the vicinity. Returning over a second pass, we arrive in Luchon for a well earned celebration meal and a hotel bed.

ITINERARY

Day 1: London to Luchon

Depart UK for Toulouse; flight time approximately 2hrs. On arrival we transfer to our hotel in Luchon. Luchon is a bustling spa town, and centre for the French skiing and adventure activity industry. We stay in a pretty little hotel close to the centre, from where we have easy access to the bars and restaurants. We have an informative trip briefing and then time to prepare our bags for the 3-day trek ahead of us before dinner. *(Lunch not included if early flight arrival)*

Day 2: Luchon – Pas de Venasque – Refugio Renclusa

A 30-minute drive takes us Hospice de France, our start point (1380m), ready for our first day in the hills. A final check and we're off onto an upward trail that climbs steadily at a gradient of around 15-30 degrees. There are huge dry waterfalls to our right, a mecca for ice climbers in



the winter, and our eyes are drawn towards the spectacular high peaks in the distance. After a steady climb of around 2 hours we reach our first refuge, *Refuge de Venasque*, a mountain hut dedicated to caring for the weary traveller. Here we can take a quick break for a snack and a hot drink before we make the last push up to 2400m and the *Port de Venasque*. This is the French border: our next steps will be taken in Spain. The granite rocks change to limestone – a clue to the turbulent past of this mountain range. Far across on the other side of the valley we can see *Refugio Renclusa*, our home for the evening. An hour's descent sees our path level off at the bottom of the valley where, if we're lucky, we can quench our thirst at a roadside hut.

Our final section is all uphill, but in less than an hour we should be at the refuge (2140m) where we can check in and rest our weary legs. **Trek approx 4-6 hours**



Day 3: Refugio Renclusa – Pico de Mulleres – Refugio Renclusa

Today sees the main challenge of our trip! We will drop down a short way from the refuge to link up with the GR11, the famous trail that passes through the mountains from coast to coast; 400km of gruelling trekking that takes well over a month. Our route today is beautiful and if we are lucky we will see marmots and izard, the gazelle unique to this region of the world. Our trail passes through a large area of flat grassland, at the start of which is a large sink-hole where the river disappears underground: a result of the limestone geology of the area. Huge caverns and cave systems abound in this region. The demise of the river is preceded by a beautiful waterfall and towering cliff faces. Amongst the limestone and granite boulders we will find marmots watching us as keenly as we watch them. The trail continues climbing and the high peaks slowly come into view; we are

ascending at around a 45-degree gradient now, over slabs of pink and grey granite. After around 4 hours of tough trekking, we arrive at the summit cairn on top of *Pico Mulleres* (3010m).

Weather permitting, we will see the glaciers that crawl from their source high on Mt Aneto down into the valley far below

us, a truly spectacular view. After a celebratory photograph and time to soak up the atmosphere, we return to the refuge, possibly traversing a couple of snow drifts along the first part of the way. **Trek approx 8-10 hours**



Day 4: Refugio Renclusa – Pas de l'Escalette – Luchon

Our legs will be stiff first thing this morning from yesterday's exertions, so we make time for a relaxed breakfast before packing up all of our kit and heading out for French soil again. Dropping back to the valley floor we head for *Pas de l'Escalette* (2396m), the pass through the mountains back into France. A two-hour climb leads onto a section of ridge which we traverse. On our right-hand side is Spain, left-hand side France! We drop down into the French side along a trail which leads eventually into the beech wood at Hospice de France, passing through scenery more often associated with Swiss chocolate! We are picked up by our waiting transport and driven back to our hotel for a hot shower and a change of clothes. There may be time for a trip to the spa if you wish. Tonight we can explore the bars of Luchon and celebrate our achievement and conquest of 3010m *Pico Mulleres*. (*Dinner not included*). **Trek approx 4-5 hours**

Day 5: Luchon – Toulouse – UK Transfer to Toulouse and flight home. Depending on flight times there may be time in Luchon for sightseeing, shopping etc. (*Lunch not included if late flight departure*)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

The tour cost includes return flights, all accommodation, transport and food other than up to three meals as detailed in itinerary (flight schedule-dependent). It also includes Discover Adventure leader trip support (see Trip Support below).

As a general guide, items not included in the tour cost are your personal travel insurance, airport departure tax (where applicable), any extra meals, sleeping-bag liner and entry to any optional tourist sites you may wish to visit.

Approx. £100 - £150 is recommended for personal expenses. Most people will not spend this much. We strongly recommend you carry a credit card in case of personal emergency.



FLIGHTS

Group flights leave from London Heathrow or Gatwick and are booked through Discover Adventure Ltd under ATOL licence 5636. By travelling with Discover Adventure you are protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Our itineraries are always based on current flight schedules and are therefore subject to change by the airline.

Connecting Flights

If you book flights to Heathrow or Gatwick, it is your responsibility to allow plenty of time to connect to the group flight and to cope with any flight schedule changes. Please be aware that the best deals allow little flexibility if you need to change them. We regret that we are unable to book connecting flights for you.

Flying Separately

If you prefer to book your own flights please ask us for a land-only cost. You will be responsible for making your own arrangements for meeting the rest of the group, though we can advise you. We need to know if you do not require our group flight as early as possible; please complete the form in the information pack you'll be sent with your booking confirmation.

*** Our itineraries are always based on current flight schedules and are therefore subject to change by the airline.**



ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation comprises of 2 nights in a small, family-run hotel in Luchon; rooms will be twin-share with toilet and shower. 2 nights when trekking are spent in a mountain refuge. *Refugio Renclusa* is very clean with en-suite as

well as communal facilities. Rooms vary from 4-bed (bunks) to dormitories for up to 20 people. We will endeavour to use smaller rooms and keep them single-sex, but please be aware that this may not always be possible.

FOOD

All food is included except 1 dinner where specified in the itinerary. Generous packed lunches are provided when trekking and given to you each morning. The three-course dinners in the refuge are wonderful!

Dietary Requirements

Being vegetarian or having other dietary requirements is not usually a problem provided you let us know well in advance. Bear in mind that being vegetarian is not generally well-understood in France, so meals may not be as varied as you are used to. If you know there are plenty of foods you cannot eat you may wish to bring extra snacks from home so you can top up your energy supply. Please feel free to ask us for advice.

Other Meals

Any meals not included are listed in the itinerary and are generally when we are in towns or cities and you are free to explore and try other culinary experiences! There is always something to suit different budgets.

ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE!

For most people, the main attraction of travelling to a different country is to see new sights and enjoy new experiences. Sometimes those new experiences can make life harder or more inconvenient than you may like, such as toilet hygiene or different food, or simply a different attitude to solving problems. This is all part of the challenge you are signing up for!

We can guarantee that coming face-to-face with experiences outside your normal 'comfort zone' will help you bond with your fellow trekkers and provide you with plenty of things to laugh about! A sense of humour and sense of adventure are two of the most important things to bring with you!

PASSPORT & VISA

A valid ten-year passport is essential for travel in France and Spain and must be valid for at least 6 months after entry. Your passport must be carried with you at all times in the mountains. There is no visa requirement for UK citizens or other EU members. Other nationalities should check entry requirements.

VACCINATIONS

We recommend the following vaccinations:

- Tetanus (essential)
- Polio

You should always check with a GP or travel clinic for up-to-date travel health advice as it does change.

TREKKING INFORMATION

FITNESS WARNING: DESIGNED TO BE CHALLENGING!

This trek is designed to be challenging for those of good health and fitness, and is achievable for most people provided they train well in advance. We will supply you with a thorough training guide when you have registered. Training for the challenge is all part of the preparation and requires commitment! Without it, you will find the trek less enjoyable – and we want you to have the time of your life!

We are always happy to talk through the trip in more detail with you if you are worried about your fitness at any stage.

Clothing & Equipment

We are travelling through remote mountains where we could be exposed to bad weather at any time. The table below gives you an idea of the climate, but be prepared for all weathers and temperatures. Weather conditions can change quickly in the mountains. We provide you with a detailed packing kit-list on registration, as well as details on useful discounts you are entitled to as a Discover Adventure customer. We are always available if you need advice.

Weather

Temperatures can vary widely though generally it should be warm and sunny; rain is always a possibility and it may be blustery. Cold winds are common when high up on the peaks.

Min/max temps & average rainfall for Luchon:

June / July	12 - 26°C	50mm
Aug / Sept	11 - 25°C	55mm



Terrain

Walking terrain is varied with valley paths and high ridge-climbs. The trek is very hilly, with some steep rocky areas and rivers to cross. The highest altitude reached is 3010m.

The summit day is tough and you will need to have trained hard or be a regular, fit walker of long distances and tough terrain to complete this challenge.

Due to the unpredictable weather conditions and thus the nature of the paths in the mountains, we maintain the right to alter the route if necessary. This may have an impact on the accommodation.

Vehicles will transfer us at the start and end of our trek. However it is not possible for support vehicles to follow us. We will be carrying what we need for our trek (large daypack recommended – see Luggage below).

Trekking Distances

You will trek approximately 50km on this trip overall. Because of the twisting, undulating terrain, it's impossible to give accurate daily distances. It's also much more useful when training to think about the hours you need to walk for, and the type of terrain you will be trekking over!

TRAINING WEEKENDS: £99 SPECIAL OFFER!

Only when you book at the same time as registering for your main challenge

Discover Adventure Training Weekends in Snowdonia National Park are designed help you prepare for your challenge. Whether you use the weekend to gauge your fitness, get your training back on track, boost your confidence, get advice or meet other trekkers, you're bound to find it incredibly useful!

TRIP SUPPORT



Discover Adventure Crew

Your trip will be led by experienced Discover Adventure leaders. Our leaders are selected for their

experience in harsh wilderness environments, knowledge of travel in remote areas, friendliness and approachability, sense of humour and ability to safely and effectively deal with any situation that arises. They are also trained in expedition first-aid. You are in very safe hands with a Discover Adventure leader.

All our leaders are from the UK or other English-speaking countries. Most work for us on an ad-hoc basis and have 'real' jobs in-between trips! We never send our leaders to the same destination for months on end – we want them to be as enthusiastic about your trip as you are.



The number of crew looking after you will depend on the final size of your group, but an average-sized group in the Pyrenees would be led by one or two leaders as well as local support. Our high crew: trekker ratio leads to greater trip enjoyment as well as excellent trip safety.

Luggage

Vehicles take the group to the start of the trek and meet us at the end.

We will be carrying our own basic luggage to the refuge and back on Days 2 & 4; we will be able to leave luggage at the refuge and carry only what we need for the big day up to *Pico Mulleres*.

Bags can be left with spare clothes etc at the hotel in Luchon. Your tour leader will advise you exactly what to take on the trek and what can be left behind: you obviously want to lighten your load as much as possible.

It is essential that the kit you take trekking is packed in a large day-pack of good quality which will be comfortable for you to trek with. Your luggage to be left in Luchon can be left in a simple kitbag; ask us about our specially-designed low-cost expedition kitbags if you don't have one already.

TRIP SAFETY

Your safety, and that of the rest of the group, is our highest priority. Our trips are designed and planned with safety in mind. Your crew will be equipped with radios and emergency satellite phones, medical kit and other safety apparatus where necessary. They always have access to our 24-hour emergency back-up in the UK. Our leaders are responsible for safety on the trip, and will make any changes to the itinerary they deem necessary should local conditions dictate.



Pre-trip administration – such as compulsory medical questionnaires and travel insurance – is all done with your safety in mind.

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

Long before 'Responsible Tourism' became a recognised phrase, we designed and ran our trips to ensure they made minimum impact on the environment and a positive impact on the local communities we pass through. AITO, our Trade Association has recognised the work we do in this

area and has awarded us 4 stars as a Responsible Tour Operator.

CARBON OFFSETTING

We actively encourage all our customers to offset any emissions connected with their trip. You can offset at any time in the lead-up to departure by visiting Climate Care via our website and making a donation to a worthwhile project supported by them. Alternatively, if you wish to take more practical action you can volunteer for a day with BTCV and work on an environmental project near to where you live. Work may include construction footpaths, dry stone walling, creating wildlife habitats or planting trees in your community. Make your volunteer pledge by going to www.btcv.org/dapledge



Please contact the Discover Adventure office with any queries using the contact details below.

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Challenge Registration Form

If you find it easier you can book online at www.discoveradventure.com
Please photocopy for other friends or family wishing to book their place(s)



Challenge Name _____

Challenge Start Date/Year _____

Charity you are supporting (if applicable) _____

Please choose which payment option you wish to sign up for by ticking the box next to the option

	<input type="checkbox"/> FUNDRAISING OPTION	<input type="checkbox"/> SELF-PAYMENT OPTION
Registration Fee (see over for amount)	To be paid to Discover Adventure upon registration; is non-refundable and in addition to the Minimum Fundraising Target and Trip Cost below.	To be paid to Discover Adventure upon registration; is non-refundable and in addition to the Minimum Fundraising Target and Trip Cost below.
Minimum Fundraising Target	Your charity must receive the minimum target 8 weeks before departure at the latest.	If you do choose to fundraise, 100% of your donation remains with your charity. You can make your donation at any time.
Balance Trip Cost	Our invoice is sent to your charity to be paid 8 weeks before departure providing they have received your Minimum Fundraising Target.	Invoice sent to <u>you</u> to be paid 8 weeks before departure at the latest.

PERSONAL DETAILS - please fill in your name as it appears on your passport:

Please provide an email address in order for us to email your trip information and regular trip update newsletters.

Title	First Name	Surname
Gender	Date of Birth	
Full Postal Address		Postcode
Home No.	Work No.	Mobile No.
Email*		
* I agree to my email address being given to my fellow challenge participants <input type="checkbox"/> (Please tick)		

REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENT – see overleaf for amount

Payment can be made by cheque payable to 'Discover Adventure Ltd' or simply fill in your card details below:

Card No.	Card Type		
CVV No. (last 3 security digits)	Valid from	Expiry Date	Issue No.
1st line of address (where card is registered)	Postcode (where card is registered)		

NB: Your registration fee is non-refundable and is used as deposit payments for flights/ground costs on your behalf. The registration fee is not included in the amount given for fundraising target or trip cost. All fundraising monies must be paid to the charity you are supporting. Point 2.3 of Our Agreement informs you of our policy concerning fees charged on credit card payments – no fee will be charged on your Registration Fee.

DECLARATION AND REGISTRATION

I confirm that all of the information provided by me on this form is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct. I understand that if any of the information provided by me on this form is found to be false, I risk losing my place on the Discover Adventure Challenge. By signing this form I agree with the Open Challenge Agreement.

Signed:

Date:

Please detach the Open Challenge Agreement and retain for your records.

Return this form to Discover Adventure at the address below and ensure that you have enclosed your Registration Fee.

Thank you for booking with Discover Adventure



Registration Fees for 2010 and 2011



	Trip Name	2010 Registration Fee Adult	2011 Registration Fee Adult	2010 Registration Fee Child	2011 Registration Fee Child
UK	Snowdon Training Weekend	£129.00	£149.00		
	Jurassic Coast Weekend	£49.00	£59.00	£19.00	£29.00
	Hadrian's Wall Weekend	£49.00	£59.00	£19.00	£29.00
	Sail the Channel Islands	£99.00	£99.00		
	Lands End to John O'Groats Cycle	£249.00	£299.00		
Rest of Europe	London to Paris Cycle	£149.00	£149.00	£149	£149
	Paris to Geneva Cycle	£199.00	£199.00		
	Classic Cols of the Tour de France	£199.00	£199.00		
	Trans Pyrenean Trek	£149.00	£149.00		
	Tour de Mont Blanc Trek	£249.00	£299.00		
	Volcano and Ice Cap Trek	£299.00	£349.00		
	Arctic Survival Challenge	£299.00	£299.00		
Africa	Sahara Desert Trek	£299.00	£299.00		
	Trans High Atlas Cycle	£299.00	£299.00		
	Mount Kenya Trek	£349.00	£399.00		
	Mount Kilimanjaro Trek	£499.00	£549.00		
	Rift Valley Masai Trek	£349.00	£399.00	£349.00	£399.00
	South Cape Cycle	£449.00	£449.00		
	Cedarberg and Table Mountain Trek	£399.00	£449.00		
Asia	Great Wall of China Trek	£299.00	£299.00	£299.00	£299.00
	In the Footsteps of Genghis Khan	£449.00	£449.00		
	Everest Base Camp Trek	£399.00	£449.00		
	Trek the Himalayas	£399.00	£399.00	£399.00	£399.00
	Ho Chi Minh to Angkor Wat Cycle	£399.00	£449.00		
	Hilltribe Jungle Trek	£399.00	£449.00		
South America	Coast to Coast Rainforest Trek	£399.00	£449.00		
	Andean Trails to Machu Picchu	£399.00	£449.00	£399.00	£449.00
	Patagonia Trek	£399.00	£449.00		
Australasia	South Island Cycle	£549.00	£549.00		
	Abel Tasman Trek	£499.00	£499.00		



Challenge Registration Agreement



Open Challenge Agreement

The terms and conditions set out below form the basis of your relationship with Discover Adventure Limited ("DAL") of Throope Down House, Blandford Road, Coombe Bissett, Salisbury Wiltshire, SP5 4LN and the Charity for whom you have chosen to raise funds ("the Charity"). Please read them carefully as they set out each party's respective rights and obligations. All bookings are subject to the following terms and conditions.

Background

DAL facilitates the raising of funds for charities by providing adventure trips. Persons wishing to raise monies for the charities concerned must raise at least the minimum sponsorship monies applicable for their chosen trip. The cost of the trip is paid to DAL out of the sponsorship monies raised and the remaining sponsorship monies are kept by the charity concerned.

All parties agree to the following:

Definitions.

- i. In this Agreement, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context otherwise requires:-
- (i) "this Agreement" means this Agreement including all schedules, appendices, amendments and additions.
- (ii) "the Trip" means the inclusive arrangements, flights, accommodation, car hire and all other products and services provided by DAL pursuant to this Agreement.
- (iii) "the Organiser" means the organiser as defined by the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 (Statutory Instrument 1992 No. 3288) and any amendment or re enactment of the same and all other legislation implementing the EC Directive on Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours (Council Directive 90/314/EEC).
- (iv) "the Registration Fee" means the registration fee payable to DAL for the Trip. This is payable in addition to the Fund Raising Target.
- (v) "the Fund Raising Target" means the minimum amount of money that you must raise in order to take part in the Trip.
- (vi) "the Trip Cost" means the cost of the Trip due to the Organiser which forms part of the Fund Raising Target, being the basic trip cost plus the Registration Fee advised at the time of booking and all airline fuel supplements and taxes as referred to in clause 11, together with any other amounts you agree to pay the Organiser for the Trip.
- (vii) "you" and "your" means the participant named on DAL's registration form.

Section A

Who organises the Trip?

1. DAL is the Organiser of the Trip. Your contract for the Trip is with DAL. Please note DAL's responsibilities are limited to the provision of the Trip in accordance with this Agreement. Except in relation to monies paid to the Charity and held by them on DAL's behalf in accordance with clause 2.5, DAL has no responsibility for any payments made to the Charity or for any act(s) or omission(s) of the Charity.

What is the Payment Timetable?

- 2.1 (i) You must pay the Registration Fee direct to DAL at the time of booking.
 - (ii) You must pay the Fund Raising Target direct to the Charity no less than 8 weeks prior to the commencement of the Trip.
 - (iii) The Charity shall pay the Trip Cost to DAL no less than 8 weeks prior to the commencement of the Trip provided the Charity has received sufficient amounts to cover the Trip Cost from you.
 - (iv) If you wish to pay the Trip Cost yourself (as opposed to this being paid for by the Charity out of the Fund Raising Target) you can do so. In this case the Trip Cost must be paid directly to DAL no less than 8 weeks prior to the commencement of the Trip.
- 2.2 If you wish to purchase the insurance offered by DAL all applicable premiums must be paid as soon as possible as cover is not effective until these have been paid. Please see clause 8.
- 2.3 Credit Card payments: No credit card fee will be charged when paying the Registration Fee. A fee of 2% will be charged on all other credit card payments made to DAL (for example the Trip Cost.) Credit card charges on payments made to the Charity are at the discretion of the Charity.
- 2.4 For flight and non flight inclusive bookings, all monies paid to the Charity (if any) up to the full amount of the Trip Cost will be held on DAL's behalf until they are paid to DAL or refunded to you. Please note: this clause only applies to monies paid to the Charity up to the full amount of the Trip Cost. Monies paid to the Charity over and above the Trip Cost belong to the Charity.

What happens if I fail to pay all monies on time?

3.1 If DAL or the Charity (as applicable) do not receive all payments due from you (including any surcharge where applicable) in full and on time, your place on the trip will no longer be guaranteed; further surcharges may be applicable. This includes the full Fund Raising Target which must be paid to the Charity in full no less than 8 weeks before the commencement of the Trip. DAL will be entitled to keep the Registration Fee paid or due at that date. If you intend to cancel but have not notified DAL in writing of your intent to cancel by this date, you must pay the cancellation charges shown in clause 14 depending on the date DAL reasonably treats your booking as cancelled.

What are your responsibilities?

4.1 You must not do anything or fail to do anything which is reasonably likely to bring the Charity and/or DAL into disrepute whether before during or after the Trip.

4.2 You must ensure that all information you give DAL and/or the Charity including all information provided on DAL's registration and insurance forms and medical questionnaire is complete, true and accurate. If you fail to do so, DAL and/or the Charity shall be entitled to cancel your booking and DAL shall be entitled to keep the Registration Fee you have paid. Depending on the date when DAL and/or the Charity discover that you have failed to comply with the provisions of this clause DAL will also be entitled to charge the cancellation fees set out in clause 14. See also section headed "DAL's Liability."

What happens to the information I provide?

5. Where necessary DAL provides the personal information given by you to the various suppliers who provide each element of the Trip (for example airlines). DAL also provides this information to other bodies such as credit card and insurance companies who need to know them in order that payments can be processed and cover provided (where applicable). Personal information shall also be provided to the Charity for whom you are raising funds. DAL will also use your personal details in order to send you further information regarding DAL (for example DAL's brochure.) If you do not wish DAL to use your details in this way, please let them know.

Section B

How do I Book?

1.1 You must complete and sign DAL's registration form, the medical questionnaire and appropriate insurance form and return with the appropriate payments as set out in Section A at the time of booking. You must be at least 18 when the booking is made for all trips except Family Challenges (see 1.3).

1.2 If you have made a booking by telephone using your credit card, you must send DAL a signed registration form and medical questionnaire within 10 days of the booking having been made. Your booking will not be treated as such until this information is received. If DAL does not receive your signed registration form within this time period, DAL will not issue you with a confirmation invoice and your booking will be considered cancelled. DAL and the Charity will have no further liability towards you.

1.3 Booking on Family Challenges

Departures designated by DAL as Family Challenges are open to children of 14 years and over provided they are accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. One parent can be responsible for up to two children on a Family Challenge; all members of a Family Challenge must book at the same time. By signing the Booking Form as a parent or guardian on behalf of an under-18, you agree to accept these conditions on behalf of the child, and are responsible for ensuring all information supplied is correct. Parents are responsible for the behaviour of under-18s at all times on the Trip. Should a child be unable to complete the Trip, the parent must abide by the instructions of the DAL Leader and accompany the child if deemed necessary by DAL.

When will the Trip be confirmed?

2. Once DAL has received your registration and medical questionnaire and all appropriate payments, DAL will, subject to availability, confirm the Trip by issuing a confirmation invoice. Please check this invoice carefully as soon as you receive it. You must contact DAL immediately if any information which appears on the confirmation or any other document appears to be incorrect or incomplete as it may not be possible to make changes later.

When does my contract for the Trip come into existence?

3. A binding contract between you and DAL comes into existence when DAL despatches its confirmation invoice to you. You agree that English Law (and no other) will apply to your contract and to any dispute, claim or other matter of any description which arises between you and DAL (except as set out below). You also agree that any dispute, claim or other matter of any

description (and whether or not involving any personal injury) which arises between you and DAL must be dealt with by the Courts of England and Wales only unless, in the case of Court proceedings, you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland. In this case, proceedings must either be brought in the Courts of your home country or those of England and Wales. If proceedings are brought in Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may choose to have your contract and any dispute, claim or other matter of any description which arises between you and DAL governed by the law of Scotland/Northern Ireland as applicable (but if you do not so choose, English law will apply).

What about Minimum Numbers?

4. Please note that each Trip has a minimum number of participants required for its operation. As a result DAL reserves the right to cancel a specific departure due to insufficient numbers up to 56 days prior to departure. In the circumstances you will be offered an alternative trip (which may involve an additional payment) or a complete refund (see options 5b and 5c under "Itinerary" below).

Itinerary

5. DAL starts planning the trips it offers many months in advance. Occasionally, DAL has to make changes to planned trips both before and after bookings have been confirmed. Whilst DAL always endeavours to avoid changes and cancellations, DAL must reserve the right to do so.

Most changes are minor. Occasionally, DAL has to make a "significant change". A significant change is a change made before departure which, taking account of the information you give DAL at the time of booking and which DAL can reasonably be expected to know as the Organiser, DAL can reasonably expect to have a major effect on the Trip. Significant changes are likely to include the following changes when made before departure; a change of accommodation area for the whole or a major part of the time you are away, a change of outward departure time or overall length of time you are away of twelve or more hours, a change of UK departure point to one which is more inconvenient for you and, in the case of tours, a significant change of itinerary missing out one or more major destination substantially or altogether.

If DAL has to make a significant change or cancel, DAL will tell you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before departure, DAL will offer you the choice of the following options:-

- (a) (for significant changes) accepting the changed arrangements
 - (b) purchasing an alternative trip from DAL, of a similar standard to that originally booked if available. DAL will offer you at least one alternative trip of equivalent or higher standard which will not cost any more than the Trip Cost. If this trip is in fact cheaper than the original one, DAL will refund the price difference to you (if you have paid the Trip Cost to DAL directly yourself) or the Charity (if DAL have received the Trip Cost from the Charity). If you do not wish to accept the trip DAL specifically offers you, you may choose any of DAL's other then available trips. The price of these may be higher or lower than the Trip and will be payable.
 - (c) cancelling or accepting the cancellation in which case you will receive a full and quick refund of all monies (including the Registration Fee) you have paid directly to DAL. Please note: where the Charity has paid the Trip Cost to DAL, DAL will refund that Trip Cost to the Charity (See "Refunds and Compensation" below)
- Please note, the above options are not available where any change made is a minor one.

If DAL has to make a significant change or cancel, DAL will as a minimum where compensation is due pay you reasonable compensation payments depending on the circumstances and when the significant change or cancellation is notified to you subject to the following exceptions. Compensation will not be payable and no liability beyond offering the above mentioned choices can be accepted where DAL are forced to make a change or cancel as a result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond DAL control, the consequences of which DAL could not have avoided even with all due care or where DAL is forced to cancel due to the minimum number of participants required for the Trip not being reached. No compensation will be payable and the above options will not be available if DAL cancels as a result of your failure to comply with any requirement of these booking conditions entitling DAL or the Charity to cancel (such as paying on time) or if the change made is a minor one. A minor change is any change which, taking account of the information you have given DAL at the time of booking or which DAL can reasonably be expected to know as the Organiser, DAL could not reasonably expect to have a significant effect on the Trip.

Very rarely, DAL may be forced by "force majeure" (see "DAL's Liability" below) to change or terminate the Trip after departure but before the scheduled end of your time away. This is extremely unlikely but if this situation does occur, DAL regret it will be unable to make any refunds (unless it obtains any refunds from its suppliers), pay you any compensation or meet any costs or expenses you incur as a result.

Challenge Participation and responsibility

6. The Trip may involve hazards which are inherent to the activities involved in it. These inherent hazards increase the risk to participants of personal injury, death, illness, and/or loss or damage to property. By making your booking with DAL you acknowledge and accept the inherent hazards involved in the Trip. Except as set out in this Agreement, DAL cannot accept any liability for any personal injury, death, illness, loss or damage to property or any other loss or damage you incur as a result of your participation in the Trip. Helmets when cycling or safety equipment supplied for all other activities must be worn correctly at all times.

What about Flight delays?

7. DAL regrets it is not in a position to offer you any assistance in the event of delay at your outward or homeward point of departure. Any airline concerned may however provide refreshments etc. DAL cannot accept liability for any delay which is due to any of the reasons set out in "DAL's liability" (which includes the behaviour of any passenger(s) on the flight who, for example, fails to check in or board on time).

Do I need Travel Insurance?

8. Travel insurance, including cover for baggage, is mandatory for all clients whilst on a tour organised by the DAL. Other than liability arising from negligence in respect of death or personal injury caused by DAL or its staff, you travel, together with your personal property including baggage, solely at your own risk at all times. You are wholly responsible for arranging your own insurance and if you join the tour without adequate insurance you may not be permitted to continue, with no right of refund.

If you choose not to take out DAL's specially arranged Travel/Cancellation insurance you are responsible for ensuring that you have adequate private travel insurance, with protection for the full duration of the tour in respect of at least medical expenses, injury, death, repatriation, cancellation and curtailment. If you make your own arrangements you should ensure that there are no exclusion clauses limiting protection for the type of activities included in the tour. You are responsible for providing proof of this cover to DAL; failure to do so by its deadline may result in DAL charging you for its insurance.

You must satisfy yourself that any travel insurance arranged through DAL meets your requirements and you should arrange supplementary insurance if need be. You are responsible for notifying DAL if you have not received insurance documentation after DAL has taken payment. Any claims concerning matters for which you are required to be or are insured must be directed to your insurers. You will be deemed to have read the insurance cover. All participants are personally responsible for informing insurance companies of any pre-existing conditions.

Do you require Medical Details?

9. DAL requires a completed medical questionnaire from each participant. If you are aged over 65 years of age or if you have any medical condition that could be adversely affected by exercise, particularly a heart condition or asthma, you must provide DAL with a signed medical questionnaire and further information as necessary from your doctor. See also Section A clause 4.2 above.

What if I have a Complaint?

10. Should you have a complaint about any part of the Trip, you must tell both the relevant supplier and the tour leader at the time. It is only if DAL and the relevant supplier know about problems that there will be the opportunity to put things right. Any complaints must be communicated to the tour leader in writing immediately while on tour and to the office no later than 28 days after the return of the tour.

Will the Price of the Trip increase?

11. DAL reserves the right to make changes to and correct errors in advertised prices at any time before your trip is confirmed. DAL will advise you of any error of which DAL are aware and of the then applicable price at the time of booking.

Please note, the Trip Cost you agree to pay consists of the basic trip cost advised at the time of booking and the full amount of any fuel supplement or taxes imposed by any airline providing flights which form part of your Trip together with any other amounts you agree to pay the Organiser for the Trip. Due to their fluctuating nature, airline fuel supplements and taxes are not included in the basic trip cost advised at the time of booking, but are payable in full in the amount confirmed by the airline approximately 6 - 8 weeks prior to commencement of the Trip. This amount is not a surcharge as it is part of the total Trip Cost you agree to pay at the time of booking, and the surcharge provisions set out below will not apply to it.



Challenge Registration Agreement



Once the Trip Cost has been confirmed at the time of booking, DAL will only increase it in the following circumstances. Price increases after booking will be passed on by way of a surcharge. A surcharge will be payable, subject to the conditions set out in this clause, if DAL's costs increase as a result of transportation costs (e.g. fuel, scheduled airfares and any other airline surcharges) which are part of the contract between airlines (and their agents) and the Organiser or dues, taxes or other payable for services such as landing taxes or embarkation or disembarkation fees at or airports increasing or DAL's costs increase as a result of any changes in the exchange rates which have been used to calculate the cost of the Trip.

Even in the above cases, only if the amount of the increase in DAL's costs exceeds 2% of the Trip Cost (excluding insurance premiums and any amendment charges), will DAL levy a surcharge. If any surcharge is greater than 10% of the Trip Cost (excluding insurance premiums and any amendment charges), you will be entitled to cancel your booking and receive a full refund of the Registration Fee and the Trip Cost if you have paid these directly to DAL. DAL does not refund amendment charges. If DAL has received the Trip Cost from the Charity, this will be refunded to the Charity. Alternatively you purchase another trip from DAL as referred to in "Itinerary" above. Please note that travel arrangements are not always purchased in local currency and some apparent changes have no impact on the price of your travel due to contractual and other protection in place.

You have 14 days from the issue date printed on the surcharge invoice to tell us if you want to cancel or purchase another trip. If you do not tell DAL that you wish to do so within this period of time, DAL are entitled to assume that you will pay the surcharge. Any surcharge must be paid with the balance of the cost of the Trip or within 14 days of the issue date printed on the surcharge invoice, whichever is the later.

DAL promises not to levy a surcharge within 30 days of the start of the Trip.

Please note, changes and errors occasionally occur. You must check the price of your chosen Trip at the time of booking.

The Trip Cost is based on the exchange rate £1 = €1.2287 and £1 = \$1.7583 as of the 5 September 2008.

Equipment

12. Clients taking their own equipment and bike on tour are responsible for any charges for transportation levied by the airline including excess baggage.

Participants

13. DAL and/or the Charity reserve the right on reasonable grounds to refuse participation to anyone at any time without having to disclose the reason. Your entitlement to participate depends on our being satisfied that there are no circumstances under which DAL ought properly to decline your participation. DAL's decision on your participation shall be final and binding. DAL however will not exercise this right without having clear grounds to do so. In any circumstances where DAL decides that you may not participate your Registration Fee and insurance premium will be refunded to you in full.

When you book with DAL, you accept responsibility for any damage or loss caused by you. Full payment for any such damage or loss must be paid direct at the time to the accommodation owner or manager or other supplier. If you fail to do so, you will be responsible for meeting any claims subsequently made against DAL (together with DAL's own and the other party's full legal costs) as a result of your actions.

What if I want to cancel?

14.1 If you wish to cancel, DAL must receive notice in writing from you. Effective date of cancellation will be taken from the date such notice is received. Cancellation fees after registration has been made are as follows. Please note Registration Fees, amendment fees and insurance premiums are not refundable in the event that you cancel.

Period before departure written notice of cancellation is received by us	Cancellation Charge
More than 56 days prior to departure	loss of Registration Fee only
56-29 days prior to departure	50% of the Trip Cost
28-15 days prior to departure	75% of the Trip Cost
14-0 days prior to departure	100% of the Trip Cost

If you have paid the Trip Cost directly to DAL

If you cancel your booking, the cancellation charges referred to above will apply. You will receive a refund of any monies paid by you directly to DAL relating to the Trip Cost after deduction of the cancellation charges set out above. Please also see Section A clause 3.1.

If the Charity has paid the Trip Cost to DAL.

If you cancel your booking, the cancellation charges referred to above will apply. DAL shall refund to the Charity any monies relating to the Trip Cost paid by it to DAL after deduction of the cancellation charges set out above. You agree that the Charity shall be entitled to keep any such refunded monies and shall not be obliged to pay them to you.

If cancellation occurs in circumstances where recovery of cancellation charges is indemnified under your travel insurance, you hereby agree that you will co-operate in the recovery of these charges from the insurers and any sums recovered under the policy will again be paid to the Charity.

With regards to any monies paid to the Charity over and above the Trip Cost, no refund of these will be payable to you in the event of your cancellation of your booking as these monies were raised for charitable purposes.

14.2 Transferring your place to another Trip may be possible. You must make this request to DAL (and your Charity where applicable) in writing. More than 56 days before departure, DAL will endeavour to transfer your Registration Fee less £40 administration fee. Further charges may be deducted where costs exceeding this have been spent on your behalf and are irrecoverable by DAL. The Trip you transfer to must depart within 12 months of the Trip you transfer from. You must immediately pay the difference to DAL if your new Trip has a higher Registration Fee; where this is lower, DAL will deduct any difference from the Tour Cost invoice to be paid by you or your Charity. You must accept and adhere to any differences in Tour Costs and Fundraising Targets, and sign a new Registration Form when requested. If your request to transfer is made 56 days or less prior to departure, DAL will be unable to transfer your Registration Fee and cancellation charges as above will be applicable.

What if I want to make amendments?

14.3 Should you wish to make any changes to your confirmed booking, you must notify DAL and the Charity in writing as soon as possible. Whilst DAL will endeavour to assist, DAL cannot guarantee it will be able to meet any such requests. Where DAL can, an amendment fee of £55 per person/per booking will be payable together with any costs incurred by DAL and any costs or charges incurred or imposed by any of DAL's suppliers.

Passport, vaccinations and visas

15. You are responsible for arranging, and must be in possession of, a valid passport and any visas and vaccination certificates required for the whole of your journey. Information given by DAL about these matters or related items (climate, clothing, baggage, personal gear etc) is given in good faith but requirements may change and you must check the up to date position in good time before departure. It is your responsibility to obtain any necessary vaccinations for your tour and to do so well before the departure date.

Registration form

16. Signing your registration form or submitting your online booking form signifies your agreement to abide by the authority of the leader, who represents Discover Adventure Ltd. The decision of the leader as to the conduct, itinerary and objectives of the tour is final. If in the opinion of the leader, your behaviour or physical condition is detrimental to the safety, welfare and well-being of the group as a whole or that your general well-being will be put at risk by continuing with the Open Challenge, you may be asked to leave the tour without the right to any refund for unused services.

Consumer protection

17. Open challenge events are protected by ATOL and AITO Trust, since DAL is a member of AITO and holds an Air Travel Organisers Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. DAL's ATOL number is 5636. In the unlikely event of DAL's insolvency the CAA will ensure that you are not left stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid to DAL for an advanced booking. For further information visit the ATOL website at www.atol.co.uk

DAL's Liability

18. (1) DAL promises to make sure that the Trip arrangements DAL has agreed to make, perform or provide as applicable as part of its contract with you are made, performed or provided with reasonable skill and care. This means that, subject to these booking conditions, DAL will accept responsibility if, for example, you suffer death or personal injury or your contracted holiday arrangements are not provided as promised or prove deficient as a result of the failure of DAL, DAL's employees, agents or suppliers to use reasonable skill and care in making, performing or providing, as applicable, your contracted holiday arrangements. Please note it is your responsibility to show that reasonable skill and care has not been used if you

wish to make a claim against DAL. In addition, DAL will only be responsible for what its employees, agents and suppliers do or do not do if they were at the time acting within the course of their employment (for employees) or carrying out work DAL had asked them to do (for agents and suppliers).

(2) DAL will not be responsible for any injury, illness, death, loss (for example loss of enjoyment), damage, expense, cost or other sum or claim of any description whatsoever which results from any of the following:-
the act(s) and/or omission(s) of the person(s) affected or any member(s) of their party or
the act(s) and/or omission(s) of a third party not connected with the provision of your holiday and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable or
'force majeure' as defined below

(3) Please note, DAL cannot accept responsibility for any services which do not form part of its contract with you. This includes, for example, any additional services or facilities which your hotel or any other supplier agrees to provide for you where the services or facilities are not advertised in DAL's brochure and DAL have not agreed to arrange them. In addition, regardless of any wording used by DAL on its website, in any of its brochures or elsewhere, DAL only promise to use reasonable skill and care as set out above and DAL does not have any greater or different liability to you.

(4) The promises DAL make to you about the services it has agreed to provide or arrange as part of its contract with you - and the laws and regulations of the country in which your claim or complaint occurred - will be used as the basis for deciding whether the services in question had been properly provided. If the particular services which gave rise to the claim or complaint complied with local laws and regulations applicable to those services at the time, the services will be treated as having been properly provided. This will be the case even if the services did not comply with the laws and regulations of the UK which would have applied had those services been provided in the UK. The exception to this is where the claim or complaint concerns the absence of a safety feature which might lead a reasonable participant to refuse to take the trip in question.

(5) As set out in these booking conditions DAL limits the maximum amount it may have to pay you for any claims you may make against it.

Where DAL is found liable for loss of and/or damage to any luggage or personal possessions (including money), the maximum amount DAL will have to pay you is £1,500 (fifteen hundred) per participant affected unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under this clause or sub-clause (d) below. For all other claims which do not involve death or personal injury, if DAL are found liable to you on any basis the maximum amount it will have to pay you is twice the price (excluding insurance premiums and amendment charges) paid by or on behalf of the participant(s) affected in total unless a lower limitation applies to your claim under clause sub-clause (d) below. This maximum amount will only be payable where everything has gone wrong and you have not received any benefit at all from the Trip.

(6) Where any claim or part of a claim (including those involving death or personal injury) concerns or is based on any travel arrangements (including the process of getting on and/or off the transport concerned) provided by any air, sea, rail or road carrier or any stay in a hotel, the maximum amount of compensation DAL will have to pay you will be limited. The most DAL will have to pay you for that claim or that part of a claim if DAL are found liable to you on any basis is the most the carrier or hotel keeper concerned would have to pay under the international convention or regulation which applies to the travel arrangements or hotel stay in question (for example, the Warsaw Convention as amended or unamended and the Montreal Convention for international travel by air and/or for airlines with an operating licence granted by an EU country, the EC Regulation on Air Carrier Liability No 889/2002 for national and international travel by air, the Athens convention for international travel by sea). Please note: Where a carrier or hotel would not be obliged to make any payment to you under the applicable International Convention or Regulation in respect of a claim or part of a claim, DAL similarly are not obliged to make a payment to you for that claim or part of the claim. When making any payment, DAL are entitled to deduct any money which you have received or are entitled to receive from the transport provider or hotelier for the complaint or claim in question. Copies of the applicable

International Conventions and Regulations are available from us on request.

(7) Please note, DAL cannot accept any liability for any damage, loss, expense or other sum(s) of any description (1) which on the basis of the information given to DAL by you concerning your booking prior to DAL accepting it, DAL could not have foreseen you would suffer or incur if DAL breached our contract with you or (2) which did not result from any breach of contract or other fault by DAL or its employees or, where DAL are responsible for them, its suppliers. Additionally DAL cannot accept liability for any business losses.

(8) You must provide DAL and its insurers with all assistance it may reasonably require. You must also tell DAL and the supplier concerned about your claim or complaint as set out under "What if I have a complaint?" If asked to do so, you must transfer to DAL or our insurers any rights you have against the supplier or whoever else is responsible for your claim or complaint (if the person concerned is under 18, their parent or guardian must do so). You must also agree to cooperate fully with DAL and its insurers if DAL or its insurers want to enforce any rights which are transferred.

(9) Force Majeure: Except where otherwise expressly stated in these booking conditions, DAL regrets it cannot accept liability or pay any compensation where the performance or prompt performance of our obligations under our contract with you is prevented or affected by or you otherwise suffer any damage or loss (as more fully described in clause 18(1) above) as a result of "force majeure." In these Booking Conditions, "force majeure" means any event which DAL or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events may include war or threat of war, riot, civil strife, actual or threatened terrorist activity, industrial dispute, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather conditions, fire and all similar events outside our control.

Flights

19. The flight timings given on booking and detailed in trip documentation are for general guidance only and are subject to change. The latest timings will be shown on your Joining Instructions letter, which will be despatched to you approximately two weeks before departure. In most cases your tickets will be given to you at the airport. You must check flight details very carefully immediately on receipt to ensure you have the correct flight times. It is possible that flight times may be changed even within two weeks of departure - DAL will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs. DAL is not always in a position to confirm the airline, aircraft type and airport of destination which will be used in connection with any flight included in your trip. When this information is provided at the time of booking or subsequently, it is subject to change. Any such change will not entitle you to cancel or change to other arrangements without paying DAL's normal charges.

Conditions of suppliers

20. Many of the services which make up the Trip are provided by independent suppliers. Those suppliers provide these services in accordance with their own terms and conditions. Some of these terms and conditions may limit or exclude the supplier's liability to you, usually in accordance with applicable International Conventions (see "Liability" above). Copies of the relevant parts of these terms and conditions are available on request from DAL or the supplier concerned.

Special Requests

21. If you have any special request, you must advise DAL in writing at the time of booking. Although DAL will endeavour to pass any reasonable requests on to the relevant supplier, DAL regrets it cannot guarantee any request will be met unless DAL have specifically confirmed this. For your own protection, you should obtain confirmation in writing from DAL that your request will be complied with (where it is possible for DAL to give this) if your request is important to you. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed, all special requests are subject to availability.

DAL regrets it cannot accept any conditional bookings, i.e. any booking which is specified to be conditional on the fulfilment of a particular request. All such bookings will be treated as "standard" bookings subject to the above provisions on special requests

Prices and Brochure Accuracy

22. Please note, the information and prices shown in DAL's brochure and other promotional material may have changed by the time you come to book the Trip. Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, regrettably errors do occasionally occur. You must therefore ensure your information is up-to-date and accurate by checking all details of the Trip (including the price) with DAL at the time of booking. This brochure is DAL's sole responsibility. It is not issued on behalf of and does not commit any independent organisation/carriers whose services are featured in it.

Promotional Material

23. DAL reserves the right to use any photographs and images taken on a trip or trip-related occasion by its employees, or forwarded by any person on the trip or connected to the trip, in its brochures, on its website and for use in any other relevant promotional material.

