

**Mount Everest 2016 -** Blog No 1: Arrival in Katmandu

Dear all,

I wanted to give you a quick update on how Jaco is doing. He arrived safely in Kathmandu last Monday and had a few days there to relax, wind down and meet up with a friend from his Antarctica expedition. Of course he also met his fellow expedition team members. It seems to be a strong and experienced team with members from USA, Kenya, Japan, Germany and New Zealand. They have an expedition doctor actually climbing with them, which is reassuring! There is also a big camera crew from Discovery Channel who will be joining them for part of the expedition. They will video rescue operations … Russell told Jaco he won't make it on TV as he is not interesting enough for them (young, strong, healthy, fit, social, balanced guy – not sensational enough for television. I guess we take that as a compliment!).

This morning they departed very early from Kathmandu to Llukla by helicopter and started their tracking. They will take ten days to get to Everest Base Camp (2 days walking, 1 day rest, etc.). Tonight, they are staying overnight in a place called Monjo. He says he feels very strong and seems to be in good spirit.

That's it for now. I will keep you all posted.

Regards, Daan