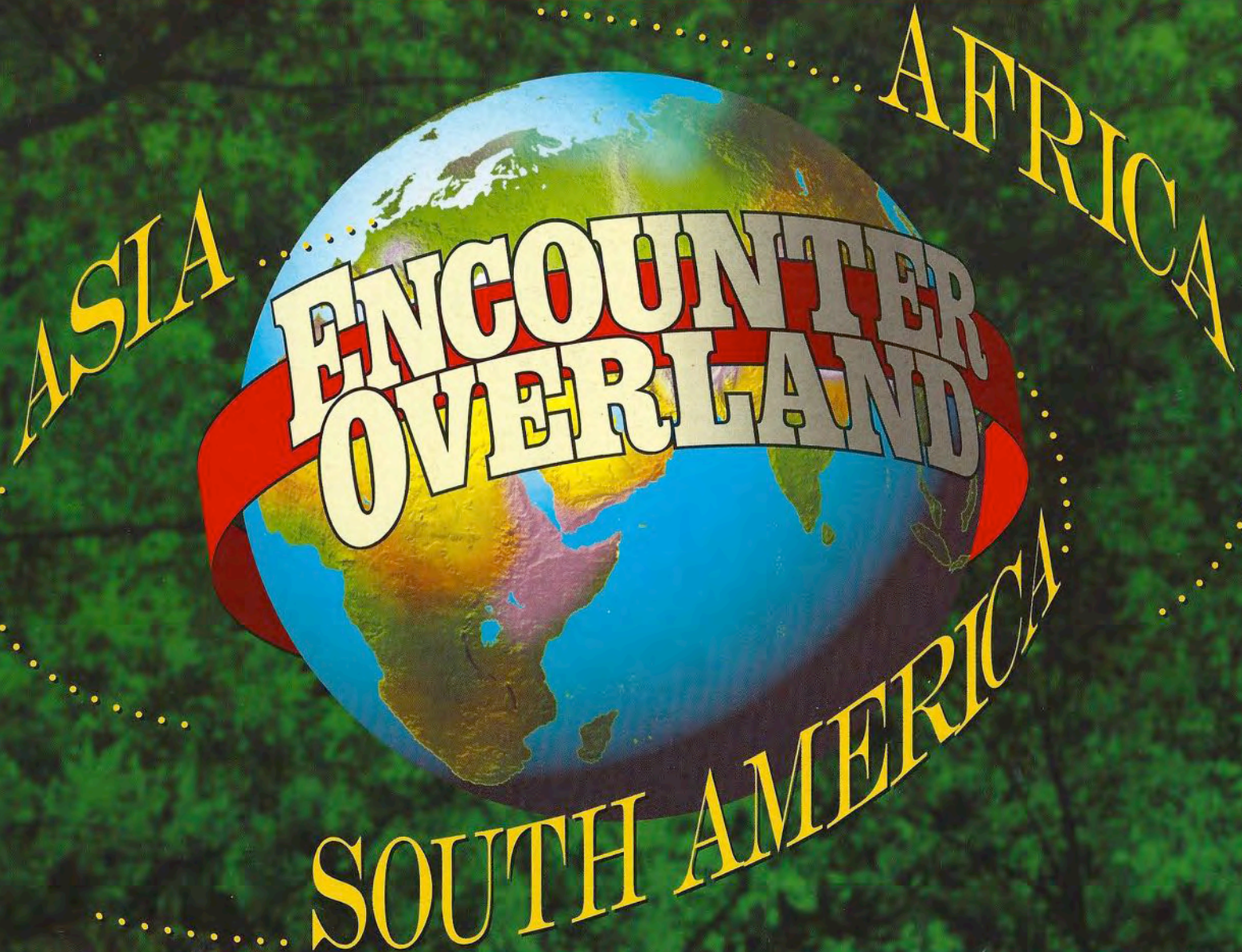


EXPEDITIONS, ADVENTURES, TREKKING & RAFTING



A WORLD OF ADVENTURE!

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

267 Old Brompton Road
London, SW5 9JA
ENGLAND

Tel: (071) 370 6951
Fax: (071) 244 9737
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Opening Hours
Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30
Sat 9.30-1.00

Dear Adventure Traveller

Welcome to the world of Encounter Overland.

If you are someone who wants to experience first hand some of the incredible diversity to be found on this planet, to explore the rich tapestry of places, peoples and endless natural wonders, then read on to find the trip of a lifetime.

Encounter Overland knows more than most about expeditioning. We virtually invented the concept of group adventure travel and for thirty marvellous years our groups have been travelling the world. Our orange and blue trucks are recognised and welcomed throughout Africa, Asia and South America and if you travel with us you will enjoy a fabulous nomadic way of life which is unrivalled as a way of truly becoming involved in the daily rituals of other lands and cultures.

Most people who join us have never been involved in this kind of travel before—therefore everyone is in the same boat and one quickly learns the ropes, like how to put up a tent, or simply a camp-bed and mosquito net to sleep out under the stars. All are involved in shopping, cooking and various other essential tasks. Initially these can seem quite daunting, but soon become the best of fun. When shopping in a small local market for a group of 21 you are the most popular person around, being offered all sorts of delicacies from peanuts to guinea pigs!

There are elements of risk and chance which are part of the excitement of adventure travel. Encounter Overland has the best back-up available with the quality of our planning and preparation, vehicles and equipment, leaders and back-up from London. Between us and you, we've got what it takes!

The world of adventure awaits you. Please study our brochure and decide which part of the world you are interested in, then send for as many project dossiers as you like for an in-depth view of each expedition. We will do everything we can to help you plan the most exciting travel experience of your life and, we hope, the most fun you ever had!

Melissa Colston

Melissa Colston
on behalf of Encounter Overland

"I'd really like to do something different"

...Are you one of those people for whom a few weeks spent on a beach along with hundreds of others is just not enough? Are you someone who wants adventure and a real experience? Then you can truly say:

"I want that bit more"...

GO FOR THE EXPERIENCE

It is so easy nowadays to simply hop on a plane and arrive a day later on the other side of the world. But what then? A bus tour protecting you from all that should be interesting and exciting, with everything laid on and pre-arranged? Or perhaps one ends up staying in a resort with all the western comforts and, apart from the splendour of the tropical weather, really seeing very little local colour.

Or consider the opposite. The grim-jawed, pith-helmeted explorer, striding out for fever ridden interiors because someone said it was there. Seeking every possible discomfort and the most difficult route.

THERE IS ANOTHER WAY...

...Not a middle one nor a compromise, but a different road and the beat of a different drum. A journey that is intriguing and enjoyable; that informs as well as delights. It lays no

claim to go where no man has gone before, but seeks beyond where they always are. In so doing it does not demand the impossible, but it does expect involvement and understanding from those who would undertake it.

This is...

Encounter Overland.

... COME ON OVER TO ENCOUNTER!



You do have what it takes!



Why do it...?

Because it's fun! Because you may never get the opportunity again. Because it is seeing life from a different and new perspective.

The fear of throwing in your job and usual way of life can be incredibly daunting, yet it is certainly worth it—if only for the evening in the desert, three days' drive from the nearest settlement, after which you lay on a sand dune and gazed at the largest sky you had ever seen. Stars, sand, stillness—nothing compares with this.

If you can only spare a little time then we have plenty of shorter trips, but watch out, this way of travelling is addictive!

**Encounter Overland is
the First, The Best,
... The Expert!**

ENCOUNTER CARES!



Encounter leaves only a small footprint. This starts with a respect for the balance of nature and the values of others.

It includes care in what we do not leave behind, and for what we do. A significant proportion of expedition income goes directly to 'village level' in exchange for goods and services. We also actively support the World Wide Fund For Nature, Save The Gorillas, Project Tiger and rainforest preservation movements in South America.



The Management Team

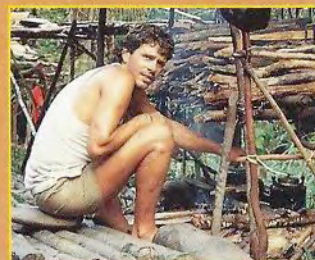


London Office Staff



Our Team of Engineers

MEET THE PROFESSIONALS



Encounter Overland
Project Leaders

The Adventure Begins Here

... with

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND



For us the adventure began in 1964 . . .

CONSIDER THE ORIGINAL . . .

Thirty years ago the founder of Encounter Overland followed in the footsteps of Marco Polo in exploring the land routes across Asia. He came home fired with an enthusiasm to return, with a few companions, and seek out the hidden wonders and fascination of Asia's historical backroads. This was the birth of Encounter Overland, with little more than a Landrover and the firm conviction that what you do and how you do it should always be more important, and more fun, than the actual arrival. Our Landrover has long gone the way of all

machinery, but the original philosophy is still alive and well—because it works.

WORLDS TO EXPLORE

Just because you are the first it is nonsense to hide behind the belief that you are therefore always going to be the best. Encounter Overland is not static. It adapts and it changes. It embraces the evolving outlooks and expectations of those who travel with us.



THIRTY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Thirty years on and 'adventure travel' is frequently used to describe holidays in exotic countries with little if any true adventure. Encounter Overland's philosophy stands today as much as it did thirty years ago. That is to seek out different and new frontiers. With true adventure there is always an element of chance and of risk. This fact is not regrettable. It is often the fact upon which the best travel experiences are based.

First in Asia.

Our trans Asian expeditions began in 1964, going from London to Kathmandu and beyond. We journeyed through the Persian desert and the solitude of Afghanistan's Hindu Kush before encountering the vibrant towns and villages of post-colonial India. Then began shorter projects in the Indian subcontinent—to Kashmir's Karakoram mountains and the road to Ladakh, the first raft descent of the Sun Kosi river in Nepal, and overland trips from Kathmandu to Lhasa.

First in Africa.

In 1969 we stopped playing on the edges of the Sahara and crossed it—to the riches of West Africa, central African jungles, and huge herds on the eastern plains and a south with a beauty all of its own. And since then there has not been a day when an Encounter Overland expedition has not been en route somewhere in Africa—testimony to the extraordinary beauty of this great continent.

First in South America.

We shipped our first two trucks to Buenos Aires in 1972. It was a reconnaissance expedition for want of a better description, and there were ten different nationalities on board with twice that many skills. We thought it would need around 16 weeks to reach Los Angeles. We took thirty. Every detour in South America turned up something else that just could not be ignored. Even today our different projects here are still discovering the new and unexpected. We have, though, learned to arrive on time—usually!

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND & Future Projects



The world is changing daily and Encounter Overland keeps abreast of these changes. New regimes, wars ending, or simply improved relations between countries mean that borders may now open which have been closed for years. This leads to exciting opportunities for new expeditions.

Encounter Overland not only looks at evolving countries but also, due to popular demand, we design many challenging trips to remoter parts of the world. We recently introduced a jungle expedition through the heart of the rainforest of Kalimantan in Borneo. In this region where there

is no road, the way across is by boat and foot. Certainly not an expedition for the faint-hearted, but one for those who love and respect nature and enjoy living with the elements.

With thirty years of experience Encounter Overland have the knowledge and expertise to equip and plan for new and adventurous expeditions. These are carefully researched and costed and there follows a reconnaissance trip on which we welcome those with a 'pioneering spirit' to join us at a nominal price.

Encounter Overland is involved in expeditioning. Nothing else.

*This is YOUR experience
of a lifetime, so...*

THE CHOICE IS YOURS...



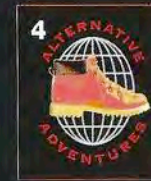
Truck Expeditions & Safaris.

From 2 weeks to 31 weeks in Asia, Africa and South America. Built around the go-anywhere independence of EO truck travel, these can be 'something different' for a few days of hard-earned time off, or the journey of a lifetime on a Trans Continental Expedition.

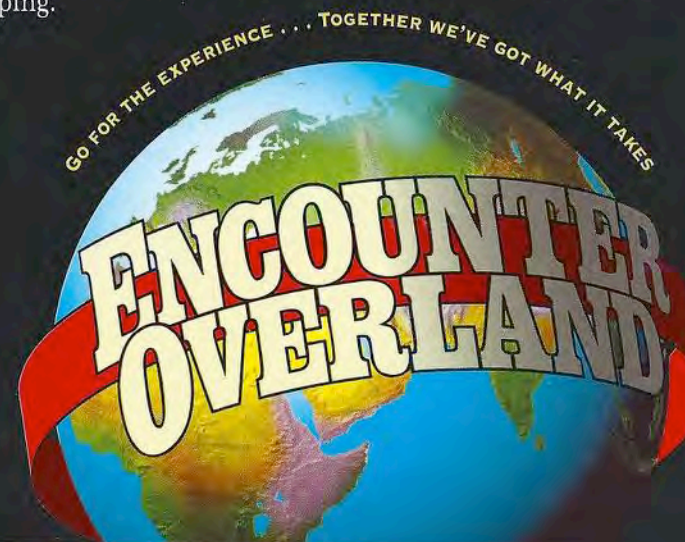
Alternative Adventures.

The symbols below denote the following modes of transport:

1, locally chartered jeeps; **2**, other local transport (minibuses, buses, trains, etc); **3**, rafting & river transport; **4**, trekking.



From 2 to 7 weeks in Asia and South America. Explore the difference by jeep, riverboat, train and chartered local transport. Including trekking trips from day hikes to 4 weeks, and white water rafting. Slightly smaller groups and often more emphasis on small hotels or guest houses than on camping.





Truck Expeditions & Safaris

The choice is yours as to whether you wish to travel on one of our truck expeditions or perhaps an alternative adventure. However, whichever style of expedition you choose there is a great deal of planning and work prior to your departure. Here is how we get the show on the road.

There is no great market for overland trucks, so no one makes them. Military vehicles are either too cumbersome and overspecialised or just too lean and basic for our expeditions so we make them ourselves. A plain chassis with cab, engine and drive

train is purchased from either of two major UK truck manufacturers. At Encounter Overland's workshops we then pull them apart—strengthening the chassis and axles, fitting more suitable gear-boxes and adapting the suspension. Then the body building and coachwork begins. Long range fuel tanks, water carrying containers, storage racks and compartments. Finally the seating and safeguards are fitted.

It costs to do all this—almost as much in time and labour as in equipment. But we know that when one of Encounter Overland's trucks leaves the workshop for points south, east or west it is the best that money and experience can buy.



TRUCK EXPEDITIONS AND SAFARIS

Geared to a closeness with nature...



Our trucks are not so much vehicles as part of a way of life – Africa, Asia, South America are not so much continents to be seen as worlds to be explored...

Expedition trucks.

In Africa all Encounter Overland trucks are four-wheel-drive. They are not high-speed road machines, but designed with strength and power in reserve to safely meet the demands of desert and jungle travel. This might not be vital all the time, but when it's needed it can make a critical difference. In Africa we specify a maximum group size of 21, including the leader/driver.

In Asia conditions are changing. Increasingly we find that the impressive performance of a standard, though no less rugged vehicle is becoming more valuable. Depending on when and where we are operating, both two and four-wheel-drive trucks are at work. Maximum group size is 24, including Encounter staff.

In Africa and Asia all our trucks are soft topped, the sides roll up, the roof back. The trucks can be open to the elements or snugly battened down. With the sides up, the all-round views are superb and there is a great sense of being in close touch with the world around. At the same time everyone can remain well within the framework of the vehicle body.

In South America rapid changes of conditions need to be comfortably accommodated. For example, a hundred miles can take us from the heat and mud of the Amazonian jungles into the cold, energy-sapping altitudes of the high Andes. Such changes require a specialist vehicle that can adapt successfully. Turbocharged and altitude compensated engines, wide-range gearboxes, differential locks, exhaustor brakes and air suspension afford us greater mobility, endurance and safety than could be supplied by conventional four-wheel-drive vehicles.

High altitude brings low temperatures, so here we use coach built bodywork and a solid superstructure with sliding glass windows. But for warm weather, and to keep those all-round views, the roof itself remains soft-topped. Maximum group size is 24 including Encounter staff.

(The maximum group size for each trip is detailed in its individual project dossier).

When the going gets tough...



...Involve yourself!

"So, what makes Encounter Overland's way the best?"

SEATING & THE VIEW

Every Encounter Overland truck is fitted with comfortable, individual, fully-sprung coach seats with headrests. They provide good back support and absorb the stiff response of truck suspension. There is excellent forward, side and rear vision from inside the truck; a further dimension is added with the roof open.

In our soft sided trucks (Africa and Asia) the seats are inward facing which is a more sociable way to travel and gives good all round vision.

In our solid sided, coach bodied trucks (South America) we take a different view. The most popular arrangement has been forward and rear facing seats grouped around tables. Due to lower temperatures in the Andes at night, we often sit in the truck in the evening to eat and, perhaps, play cards. This arrangement is now standard throughout our South American fleet.

The Adventure Machine

EQUIPMENT

Standard truck equipment includes:

2 person tents—quick to erect with room to spare.

Camp beds—comfort above ground level.

Individual mosquito nets—permethrin coated.

Large cooking/dining tent—"The Pub".

Stools, tables and electric light.

Gas stoves, good kitchen equipment, cool boxes for fresh food.

Comprehensive First Aid and tropical medicine kit.

Essential vehicle spares and tools, sand mats (for traction in mud and sand), shovels, axes and saws.

DRIVING DISTANCES

Each trip's project dossier shows you the approximate distance covered. On shorter trips they give the approximate hours of driving for each day (including stops and breaks), often a lot more relevant than the actual number of miles.

On transcontinental expeditions an average would be around 750 miles (1,200 kms) per week, of which some days would involve little or no driving. This figure is lower in Africa where distances take longer—about 550 miles (900 kms) per week.

Days start around sunrise, there are stops for food shopping, for lunch, a drink—and any other interesting diversions or opportunity along the way. Days end no later than early evening and we never drive after dark unless absolutely necessary.



"Why does Encounter Overland use trailers?"

We tried it without them—twenty years ago—and just weren't sufficiently impressed with the results. Here are some of the reasons why...



Weight Distribution—American truck designers in the 1920s discovered that you could safely pull far more than you could carry. We've no reason to doubt them. Even though we never load our equipment to its limits, we like to spread it around a bit. Weight spread over three axles and six wheels gives the best braking and road-holding.

Getting out of Trouble—A trailer usually reduces the risk of getting stuck in sand or mud and enables much easier extraction if you are stuck. By simply unhitching the trailer the load is reduced by 30%.

Capacity with Comfort—With storage in both truck and trailer there is more room for equipment and your personal gear. It is also why Encounter Overland can carry camp beds, more supplies etc.

Another reason why Encounter Overland is the First, the Best, ... the Expert!

There is overlanding, and then there's **ENCOUNTER OVERLAND**

There are various important questions to be answered before you embark on your journey; these include: *Who goes? Who takes us? What is the lifestyle? What kind of vehicles and equipment do we use?*

Read the following pages and your questions should be answered. If you have any further questions, please contact us. Should you wish to know more about a specific area or trip then detailed Project Dossiers are available.

PEOPLE

On any Encounter Overland trip you will usually find five or more nationalities. Most commonly these are people from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, America and a variety of European countries. English is the working language.

Backgrounds are just as varied. The gender ratio is usually even and most people are in their 20's or 30's. The majority of people come on their own, some come with a friend. Everyone leaves with new friends.

Suitability is not just about fitness, it's about being willing and able to join in. It's about being able to take the rough with the smooth. We try to form the kind of group we believe you would want to form yourself.



EO LEADERS

They are the most important people we have, and the single most important element of an expedition's success. They are ordinary men and women—often previous trip members—who have elected to put promising careers on hold and devote half a dozen years or more to what they like doing best.

Encounter Overland leaders have suffered about a year of rigorous training which includes mechanical instruction at our workshops, learning tolerances and safety; what our equipment can, or cannot take and how to repair it when there isn't a workshop around. They are also seconded to our London operations office, where they visit Embassies, and learn about visas and transit regulations, cultural sensitivity and diplomacy, communications and problem management. They must pass what is probably the world's most demanding driving test, and finally spend several months in the field as second leaders.

However, do not expect fortune tellers or guest lecturers because they are none of these—just people you can count on. The very best.

LIFE ON THE ROAD

Your home for the most part on Encounter Overland trips is going to be a tent. If it's any different we'll say when and why in the Project Dossier.

This is a fabulous lifestyle which allows us to explore the full beauty of local scenery and gives us the freedom to wander at will because we are totally self supplied. We stay in campgrounds when they exist or when it is to our advantage.

Our trucks carry easy-to-erect two-person tents, comfortable camp beds, mosquito nets, large 'dining tent', electric light, tables, stools and the necessary equipment.

We make the most of daylight hours. We get up at dawn, using all of the day and the opportunities it presents. We aim to make camp in good time to enjoy the sunset where we are. We will not drive after dark unless it is essential.

The evenings are a time to rest, to walk or be on your own; or to join pleasant company into the late hours. It's not a hard way of life, but it is different.

There are exceptions to the lifestyle described above. Sometimes we use a hotel and on a few projects we use hotels all the time. Encounter Overland's Project Dossiers will tell you exactly what to expect.

BACK-UP

This starts as soon as you book on a trip. It includes arranging visas, vaccinations, flights and insurance, and giving advice on what to take. We aim to work with you to ensure a smooth countdown towards your departure.

Once on the road Encounter Overland Operations keep a careful eye on all projects. There is close communication with the three continents and as a result most difficulties are avoided long before they have a chance to develop.

PRICE GUARANTEE

Once you have booked on a trip there will be no surcharge or increase in its land price.

No surcharge on
land prices

... guaranteed!

The ENCOUNTER OVERLAND DIFFERENCE...

NO KITTIES

On all our expeditions Encounter Overland's cost is fully inclusive of food and most entrance fees to wildlife reserves, sites, etc. Therefore, there are very few extra costs whilst on the road. Personal money is needed for drinks, snacks and en-route visas.

CAMP-BEDS

On all our truck expeditions we provide these to give added comfort. Frequently people do not bother to put up a tent, but simply set up their camp-bed and mosquito net to sleep out under the stars.

MOSQUITO NETS

Mosquito nets are provided on all our truck expeditions.

MALARIA TABLETS

On all expeditions in Africa and expeditions over eight weeks in South America and Asia we provide Malaria tablets. This saves you money and reassures us that you are well protected.

SO WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- **TRANSPORT**—all land transport throughout your trip by expedition truck or as clearly detailed in the Project Dossier. All tolls, ferries, licences, vehicular entry fees.
- **CAMPING**—and other accommodation from Day 1 onwards as detailed in the Project Dossier. Includes hire and use of all Encounter Overland camping equipment, campsite fees, hotel and other accommodation as detailed, accommodation taxes.
- **FOOD**—three meals a day throughout unless clearly stated otherwise in Project

Dossier. Food is important and we maintain an intelligent diet. Local fresh produce wherever possible backed by truck supplies of non-perishable items. Some meals in local restaurants.

● **ADMISSION** or entry fees to sites, museums, wildlife reserves and sanctuaries, events and activities etc., services of local guides, porters and other staff as noted in Project Dossiers.

AND WHAT'S NOT?

● **FLIGHTS** including airport taxes and transfers from/to home and the start/end of your

project, and usually any flights during the trip itself, as noted in the Project Dossier.

● **FOOD & ACCOMMODATION** before day 1, accommodation from Day 1 and after the end of the trip.

● **OCCASIONAL** other and individual activities or entry fees where noted in Project Dossier as not included.

● **VISAS**, vaccinations and personal insurance.

● **SNACKS**, occasional lunches when city sightseeing, drinks, laundry, tips (eg: porters) and other personal items and expenses.



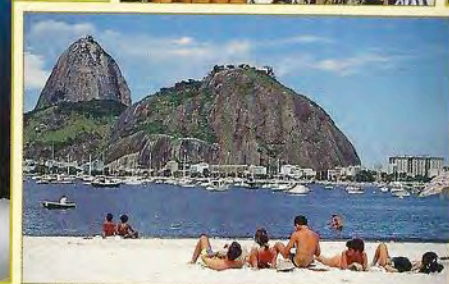
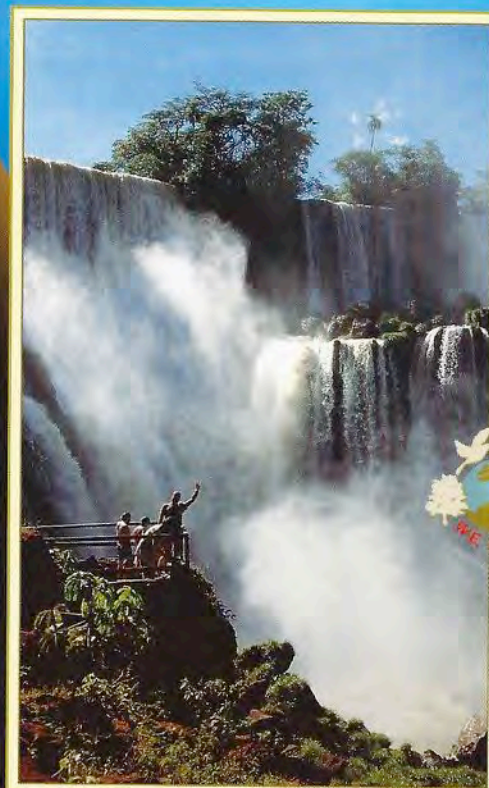
ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

in South America

Nowhere can you find more startling contrasts than in South America. The world's driest desert, her greatest jungles and longest mountain range. There are stone age tribes, legacies of ancient civilisations, and all the extremes of 20th century wealth. South America is everything you ever imagined it to be, with a few surprises.

Volcanoes and Andes snow meet desert sands in the west, jungle cloaked unknown regions in the east. The cry of the condor can still be heard. Lost Inca citadels hide in the clouds. The sun-warmed plazas doze in long siesta.

Stand in the fragile balance of the Amazon, in a land that is fiercely unforgiving yet too easily destroyed. Meet the force of history along ancient ways in the high Andes. Watch the crash of icebergs and glaciers one day, bask on tropical sands a few days later. Experience the lifestyle of people as different as their landscapes—the facts of South America and your imagination are the most tempting invitation.



TRANS ANDEAN EXPLORER

SANTIAGO to QUITO (or vice versa)

9
WEEKS



4,500 miles/
7,500 kms

CHILE, BOLIVIA, PERU, ECUADOR



Rugged Pacific shorelines and the Atacama Desert; Andean heights and the Altiplano; wild Bolivia; the volcanoes of the Cordilleras; cities and civilisations of the Inca and Chimu; Amazonia and the great equatorial forests.

High in the Andes of northern Chile is the most amazing valley, known as Moon Valley. It is in the northern part of the Atacama Desert where the fantastic landscape is caused by the erosion of salt mountains, and looks like nothing on earth. Lying on the top of the dunes at night, you feel so remote that you could really be on the moon gazing back at the earth!

For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

CONQUISTADOR

15
WEEKS



RIO to QUITO
(or vice versa)

9,500 miles/15,500 kms

BRAZIL, PARAGUAY, ARGENTINA, CHILE,
BOLIVIA, PERU, ECUADOR

Pampas; Patagonian Alps; coastal Chile; Atacama Desert; high Andes and the land of the Incas; upper Amazon and equatorial forests.

From the racy city of Rio it is time to change down a gear as we travel through some of the world's most beautiful scenery. The Iguassu waterfalls—the largest expanse of waterfall in the world—trekking through the Andes to lost cities, watching condors glide over deep canyons, then to Ecuador and the secrets held within its jungles. And what's more, if you enjoy parties and nightlife, South America is the place to go. The Kamikaze Club in Cuzco is not to be missed, although do watch out for a red wine named Thermidor—it should be renamed Terminator.



AMAZON & ANDES

9
WEEKS



QUITO to RIO
(or vice versa)

5,500 miles/9,000 kms

**ECUADOR, COLOMBIA,
VENEZUELA, BRAZIL**



Northern Andes to the Caribbean coast, the Orinoco and tablelands of the Gran Sabana; rainforest and rivers and the wide Amazon at Manaus; wildlife of the Pantanal Marshes; the wide expanses of rural Brazil and Rio de Janeiro.

This journey encompasses so much of relatively unknown South America. It includes the beautiful archeological sites of San Augustin in Colombia, where one can hire horses and spend a day riding around the valley, and the amazing scenery of Venezuela, where peaceful Caribbean beaches meet tropical forest and waterfalls drop so far that they seem to flow from heaven. Time is spent relaxing on the ferry from Manaus to Porto Velho, where hammocks are strung on deck for lazy days, whilst at night the ferry stops, enabling us to enjoy the river ports and villages along the way.

SOUTH AMERICAN CIRCLE

From QUITO

25
WEEKS



15,000 miles/24,500 kms

**ECUADOR, COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA,
BRAZIL, PARAGUAY, ARGENTINA,
CHILE, BOLIVIA, PERU**

Pampas; coastal Chile; Atacama Desert; Andes from Patagonia to the Caribbean coast; jungles and rainforest of the Orinoco and Amazon.

The South American Circle is a combination of the 'Conquistador' and the 'Amazon & Andes' trips and encompasses the whole of South America. This is an amazing journey, a true insight into South American life.

"From the impression the guide books gave us, we did not expect New Year's Eve at Lago Agrio to be exactly like Hogmanay in Scotland. 'Dirty, seedy, noisy oil frontier town' they said. If only they had seen it. There was the burning of effigies symbolising the old year. The whole town was in party mood, fireworks, dancing in the streets, bands playing in every nook and cranny. A fantastic start to our jungle trip where the isolation and relaxed life of the Indians rubbed off on us very quickly. If only the authors of the guide books had been there".



BOLIVIA & THE AMAZONAS

From LA PAZ

21

DAYS



1,500 land
miles/
2,500 kms

BOLIVIA



Remote lakes and stark mountains along Bolivia's Altiplano; Spanish towns; Indian markets and colonial treasures; the jungles of the upper Amazon; by boat into the rivers of the Llanos de Mojos.

Visit some of the remote extremes of this amazing country. Experience the cold heights of the Andes and base yourself in the wild town of Uyuni to explore the great salt flats and ask why would anyone build a town here?

For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

PERU & THE INCAS

28

DAYS



LIMA to LA PAZ (or v.v.)

1,800 miles/3,000 kms
(including 22 miles/
35 kms trekking)



PERU & BOLIVIA

Wild Pacific shores; desert canyons; the magnificent Andes; mountain strongholds of the Incas and the jewel of Lake Titicaca.

This is a tremendous trip for those who do not have the time to explore South America in greater depth. Here there is much to see, from the deep canyon at Colca to the best of the Inca Empire. One of the highlights of this trip is walking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

"On the last morning of the walk to Machu Picchu, we got up before dawn to walk to the Sun Gate, set above the ancient city, to watch the sun rise over the mountains to reveal their hidden treasures. We spent the entire day exploring Machu Picchu and its environs, then finally we descended to the Urubamba valley and Agua Calientes, a small town, like something from the wild west. There is no road here, only a railway line straight through the centre of town. Here we bathed our bodies in the natural hot springs, weary after the four day walk, and were served cool beer from the nearby bar".

PERU & BOLIVIA

48

DAYS



LIMA to LA PAZ (or vice versa)

3,300 land miles/5,500 kms
(including 22 miles/35 kms trekking)



PERU & BOLIVIA

Desert coastline and canyons; the Andes and mountain strongholds of the Incas; the great lakes and salt pans of the Altiplano; Indian markets and colonial towns; rivers of the upper Amazon and jungles of the Llanos de Mojos.

This is a combination of the 'Peru & The Incas' and the 'Bolivia & The Amazonas' trips—a wonderful cross section of South America.

A highlight of this journey is visiting Lake Titicaca. This tranquil lake is set at 15,000ft/4,000m above sea level and covers more than 3,000 square miles between Peru and Bolivia. Here Uros Indians live on floating reed islands. Everything the Uros Indian have is made of these reeds—their houses, boats, even the sails for their boats. There are other natural islands, where there are no motorised vehicles and the result is an exceptionally peaceful and pleasant stay.

EXPEDICION ECUADORIANA

From QUITO

19

DAYS



850 miles/1,350 kms by land
and river (including 35 miles/
60kms trekking)



ECUADOR

Quito and Indian Markets; snow capped peaks of the equator; the warm springs at Papallacta; four day trek into the lakes and high ridges to Cotopaxi; Avenue of Volcanoes to Ambato; the river Aguarico to wildlife of the Amazon.

Quito was the northern city of the Inca Empire until it was invaded by the Conquistadors, who then built their own beautiful colonial style city. This is a great trip for those who enjoy a great deal of variety, we walk through some of the most beautiful Andean scenery before dropping down to the Amazonian jungle in search of jaguar, peccary and other exotic creatures. Also, for those who enjoy shopping, Ecuador has excellent markets.

DARING THE DARIEN

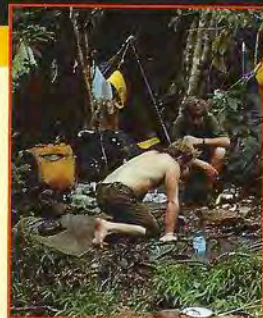
PANAMA to CARTAGENA (or vice versa)

16

DAYS



500 miles/800 kms
(including 100 miles/160 kms
by foot & dugout canoe)



PANAMA & COLOMBIA

Panama City; Yaviza; Darien Gap by foot and canoe; walking excursions in Parque Nacional los Katios; Turbo to Cartagena.

The Darien Gap is the natural boundary between Central and South America. There is no road or railway here so the only way to get across is by foot, although there is a car sitting in the middle of this jungle. How it got there no one is quite sure—it's just one of life's mysteries! This is definitely a great expedition for those who want to go somewhere very remote and would enjoy the challenge of tough jungle trekking.

INCA MOUNTAIN, AMAZON JUNGLE

From LIMA

20

DAYS



900 miles/1,500 kms
by land & river (including
22 miles/35 kms trekking)



PERU

The Inca Trail to Machu Picchu; the jungles of the Madre de Dios; by foot and canoe among the backwaters and the wildlife of Manu National Park; Cuzco and the great Inca sites of the Urubamba valley.

After trekking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu descend the eastern Andes to Manu National Park, the largest area of unspoilt jungle in South America. The jungle contains all sorts of secrets. Before your eyes become accustomed to the foliage you can hear the shriek of howler monkeys, a chorus of bird song and the snorts of giant otters fishing on the Oxbow lakes. These beautiful creatures are over 6ft in length. However, the wildest creature in this jungle is man himself. There are still tribes of Machagenga Indian here who have never come into contact with the outside world.

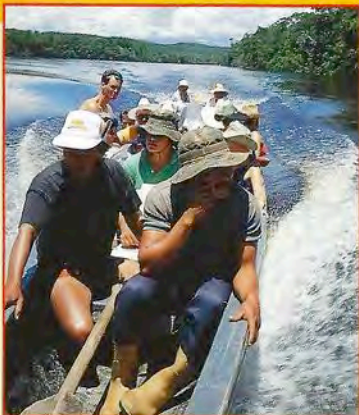
TRANS AMAZON TO THE LOST WORLD

LIMA to CARACAS



1,800 miles/3,000 kms by land & river
(including 50 miles/80 kms on foot)

PERU, BRAZIL & VENEZUELA



Lima; Amazon jungle trip; Iquitos to Tabatinga on an Amazon riverboat; Manaus; six day trek on Mount Roraima; by boat to Angel Falls; Caribbean coast to Caracas.

This is an incredible journey from Amazon headwaters to the Caribbean coastline. The landscape of the Gran Sabana in Venezuela is unlike that found anywhere else in the world. It is very photogenic, so take plenty of film. The trek up Mount Roraima is fairly tough, but well worth the effort. On the top of this plateau are found plants which have not evolved since pre-historic times. In fact this is the plateau on which Conan Doyle based his book "The Lost World".

MAYA & AZTEC

21
DAYS



MEXICO CITY to CANCUN
(or vice versa)

1,800 miles/3,000 kms

MEXICO



Mountains and villages of Central Mexico; Aztec pyramids; Spanish silver; warm fishing towns and beach resorts along the Pacific; the Yucatan and Caribbean; ancient Mayan cities; green jungles and dreams of tropical paradise.

Here there is an incredible variety of scenery, people and history. After visiting San Cristobal and its beautiful architecture, wander through the countryside to bathe in waterfalls—peaceful and refreshing after a hot day.

THE YUCATAN, BELIZE & GUATEMALA

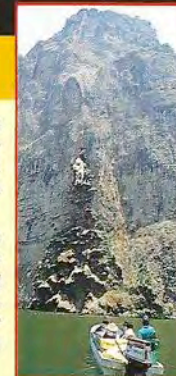
21
DAYS



CANCUN to GUATEMALA CITY
(or vice versa)

1,200 miles/2,000 kms

MEXICO, BELIZE, HONDURAS,
GUATEMALA



The Caribbean coast and the Yucatan; by river to the jungles of Belize; to Mayan sites and wildlife sanctuaries; Guatemala and the deserted Mayan city of Tikal; the lakes and marshes of the Peten to Copan (Honduras); Lake Atitlan in the cool of the Sierra Madre.

The people of Guatemala are serene and very beautiful. As Scottish clans have tartan, so the different communities here have different patterned cloth, making everything seem so colourful. Visit the amazing temples at Tikal. Sitting on the top of one of these structures look out over thick green jungle and hear the sounds of the birds and wildlife hidden within it.

THE CENTRAL AMERICANA

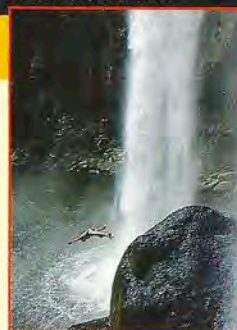
42
DAYS



MEXICO CITY to
GUATEMALA CITY (or v.v.)

3,000 miles/5,000 kms

MEXICO, BELIZE,
HONDURAS, GUATEMALA



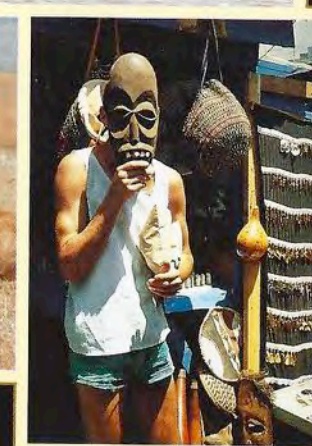
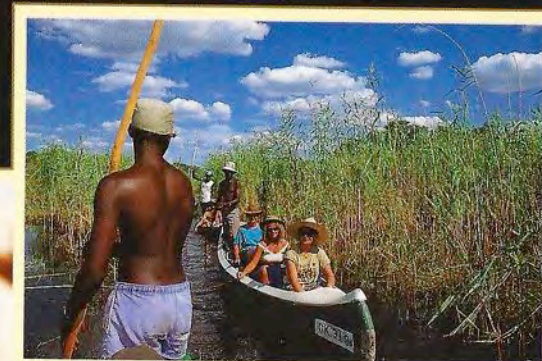
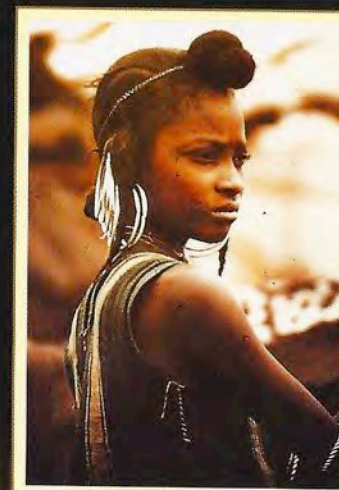
Mountains of Central Mexico; Aztec pyramids; the Pacific; the Yucatan and Caribbean; ancient Mayan cities and wildlife sanctuaries; Guatemala; Lake Atitlan of the Sierra Madre.

Central America has many hidden treasures, from the ancient cities to beautiful tropical beaches on the Pacific and the Caribbean. One could never forget the sight of the amazing ancient temples towering out from their jungle home.

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND Central America

For more details and a full itinerary
phone now for your Project Dossier
(see page 31).

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND *in* Africa



This vast land that time has barely changed, where mankind was born and where mankind still conforms to nature's scheme. Primeval forests grow unchecked and animals roam the fenceless plains. Great rivers play their vital roles and deserts protect those who adopt their ways. In this great continent history is now shaping a future that will affect us all and for which we are all, in a way, answerable.

The pull of Africa is strong, a call of the wild that is buried not so deep in each and every one of us.

THE GREAT SAFARI

16

WEEKS



LONDON to NAIROBI (or vice versa)

11,000 miles/18,000 kms

EUROPE, MOROCCO, WESTERN SAHARA, MAURITANIA, MALI, BURKINA FASO, NIGER, NIGERIA, CAMEROUN, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, ZAIRE, UGANDA, TANZANIA, KENYA

North Africa and the western Sahara to the tribal kingdoms of the sahel; the rivers and great forests of Zaire; Lake Victoria and the wide grasslands; Mount Kilimanjaro and East Africa's amazing wildlife.

It was our first journey to Africa and still is the great Safari.

This is an incredible journey across some of the world's most beautiful yet unforgiving landscape. This is true expeditioning, and it becomes obvious why we build our trucks so carefully to ensure there is enough storage space, for food, water and fuel. Because of the nature of the trucks we can get well off the beaten track. It is possible to choose a more remote route and find on the way that bridges have been washed away in the rains. It is times like this when everyone mucks in and helps rebuild the bridge, road, or perhaps help getting a local truck out of a mud hole. This is life at its best.



AFRICA A TO Z

26

WEEKS



LONDON to CAPETOWN (or vice versa)

17,000 miles/27,500 kms

EUROPE, MOROCCO, WESTERN SAHARA, MAURITANIA, MALI, BURKINA FASO, NIGER, NIGERIA, CAMEROUN, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, ZAIRE, UGANDA, KENYA, TANZANIA, MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE, BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA



Fez and Marrakech; the western Sahara to Mali; the people of the Dogon; volcanoes and lakes in the Cameroun highlands; lowland jungles and great rivers of Zaire; pygmies of the Ituri forest; 'Mountains of the Moon'—the last enclave of the Mountain Gorilla; Lake Victoria and the famous wildlife reserves of Uganda and Tanzania; the shores of Lake Malawi; the thorn scrub of Zambia's Luangwa Valley; Lake

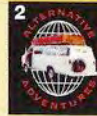
Kariba; the wide Zambezi and Victoria Falls; spectacular encounters in Chobe National Park and the Okavango Delta; sands of the Kalahari; Namibia's Skeleton Coast; the Orange River to the beauty of Africa's southern Cape.

This is the ultimate African Journey.

AFRICA ENCOMPASSED

22

WEEKS



CAIRO to NAIROBI to LONDON (or vice versa)

13,500 land miles/22,000 kms

EGYPT, SUDAN, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA, UGANDA, ZAIRE, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CAMEROUN, NIGERIA, NIGER, BURKINA FASO, MALI, MAURITANIA, WESTERN SAHARA, MOROCCO, EUROPE

The magnificent sites of Egypt; pyramids and sphynx; the Red Sea; Luxor and the Valley of the Kings; slow Nile steamer down Lake Nasser and desert train to Khartoum; Ethiopian highlands; Bahar Dar and Lake Tana; the Blue Nile and lakes of the Rift Valley to northern Kenya and Nairobi; East African wildlife; jungles of Zaire; West Africa and Saharan sands.



This journey is the African part of the Great Overland Encounter, an epic journey.

You have to develop an African sense of bureaucracy very quickly if you are to avoid time consuming encounters with officialdom along the road. Many police barriers are devised purely for monetary gain, wages for police are inevitably late or low, and often both.

"On one occasion we pulled up at a police post and the guard's eyes lit up with the thought of a nice 'cadeau'—polite talk for a bribe. First he wanted passports—no problem. Carnets (the truck's passport)?—no problem. Insurance?—of course. Registration?—Yes. He was running out of things to check: headlights, indicators, brake lights on the front and back of both truck and trailer. The horn worked, two hazard warning triangles and two fire extinguishers. He suddenly realised that we were 100% legal and he was not about to make any money out of us. The leader had started the engine when the guard noticed some wood tied onto the front bumper. "What is that for?" he enquired. "Firewood to keep warm," we replied. He thought for a moment then grinned widely, "Have you got a permit to carry firewood?"

For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

FOOTSTEPS OF THE EXPLORERS

28

DAYS



NAIROBI to KIGALI
(or vice versa)

1,900 miles/3,100 kms

KENYA, TANZANIA, UGANDA, RWANDA



Tanzania's game reserves and wildlife; Lake Victoria to the hills and forests of northern Uganda; Murchison Falls and Game Park; the meeting of the Niles; Kibale Forest trails; waterways of Kazinga Channel; Rwanda and the haunts of the Mountain Gorilla.

This is the region where Burton and Speke came in search of the source of the Nile. For them it was exceedingly tough travelling. Inhospitable tribes, wild animals, disease and other obstacles got in their way. However, nothing altered their opinion that this was one of the most beautiful areas in the world.

With the roof of the truck rolled off one has a great view across the savannah and from that high vantage point one can get some excellent photographs of the wildlife.

COAST TO COAST

15
WEEKS



DAKAR to DAR ES SALAAM
(or vice versa)

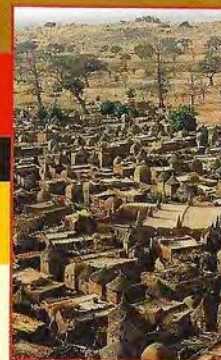
7,000 miles/11,000 kms

SENEGAL, MALI, IVORY COAST, GHANA, TOGO, BENIN, NIGERIA, CAMEROUN, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, ZAIRE, RWANDA, TANZANIA

Dakar and the Atlantic shores; along the Senegal river to Mali; West Africa's surprising wildlife reserves; fertile riches along the coasts of the Gulf of Guinea; jungles and rivers of Zaire; the volcanoes and gorillas of the Mountains of the Moon; East Africa and its teeming wildlife.

Travel the width of beautiful equatorial Africa, between the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

The people of West Africa are very colourful and friendly, and frequently camp is set up close to a village. On one occasion a group foolishly told the local school teacher that they were very interested in tribal music. The next day—disaster—as the entire school band arrived with brass instruments to give a musical reveille at 6 o'clock in the morning!



THE GAME TRAILS TO THE NILE

14

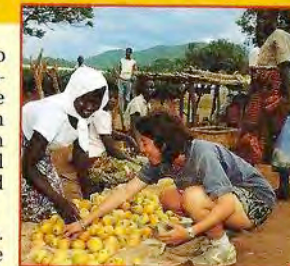
DAYS



NAIROBI to KAMPALA
(or vice versa)

1,200 miles/2,000 kms

KENYA, TANZANIA, UGANDA



Lake Manyara; Ngorongoro Crater; Serengeti; Lake Victoria's eastern shores; across the equator into the rich green hills and forests of northern Uganda; Murchison National Park where the Victoria and Albert Niles meet.

This trip is a wildlife bonanza. Huge herds of animals are found on the Tanzanian plains—wildebeeste, topi, zebra, antelope—and all the animals who prey on them—leopard, cheetah and, of course, the king of them all, the lion.

When camping on the East African plains, one can suddenly sense a presence and look up to find a Masai tribesman, nonchalantly leaning on his spear and looking with interest at what you are cooking. Their diet consists mainly of milk and blood, sucked direct from the live cow. They are a nomadic tribe wandering the plains of Tanzania and Kenya, surviving hand in hand with the wildlife—a different but fascinating life.

GORILLAS & THE RUWENZORIS

14

DAYS



KAMPALA to KIGALI (or vice versa)

700 miles/1,100 kms (including approx 30 miles/50 kms trekking)

UGANDA, RWANDA



Fort Portal; Kibale Forest; Queen Elizabeth II National Park; Gisenyi on Lake Kivu; Gorillas of Rwanda.

The Ruwenzori Mountains divide the lakes, hills and open plains of East Africa from the dense rainforests of the Zaire river system. The highest peaks reach 18,000 ft/5,500 m—snow and glaciers on the equator! The lesser heights near Lake Kivu are the last known home of the Mountain Gorilla.

"We had been walking through tropical jungle for two hours now and our guide could sense we were near the gorilla group. We were all rather nervous—he had told us that the silver back male—the dominant male of the group—was prone to charge if he felt threatened. Suddenly we were among them. We didn't even notice entering the group, but there they were, 20 gorillas surrounding us, babies running up to us beating their chests. The silver back male didn't take the slightest bit of interest in us, he sat for an entire hour picking his nose!"

20

For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

AFRICAN GENESIS

28

DAYS



NAIROBI to HARARE
(or vice versa)

2,500 miles/4,000 kms

KENYA, TANZANIA, MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE

Kilimanjaro; Masai Steppe to the shores of the Indian Ocean; the long shoreline of Lake Malawi; the Zambezi and Lake Kariba.

Visit Lake Manyara National Park with its tree climbing lions. Hike the trails across moorlands of the Nyika highlands high above Lake Malawi past grazing zebra and antelope. Then roam the length of Lake Malawi past fishing villages. In Zambia we encounter the wildlife of Luangwa National Park and finally the Zambezi and Lake Kariba.

Malawi, until very recently, had the most stringent border regulations of any African country. It would not allow men in with long hair, and the border guard would, if necessary, turn barber and chop off the offending hair. They also would not allow anyone in to their country wearing flared trousers!



THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF AFRICA

35

DAYS



HARARE to CAPETOWN
(or vice versa)

3,500 miles/5,500 kms

ZIMBABWE, BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA

Zambezi; Zimbabwe Ruins; Chobe National Park; Okavango Delta; Kalahari; Etosha Pans; the Skeleton Coast; Fish River Canyon; Table Mountain and the Cape of Good Hope.

The best of southern Africa; the rhinos of Matopos National Park; the Victoria Falls; Chobe National Park in Botswana and the stark beauty of Namibia.

"It was early morning and daylight was about to break. The tents were arranged in a semi-circle around the truck to prevent animals entering the camp. It had prevented the elephant, which was now standing just beyond the line of tents touching somebody's laundry with its trunk, from coming too close, but it hadn't prevented a lone hyena who sat by the embers of our fire warming itself".



SAFARI SOUTH

9

WEEKS



NAIROBI to CAPETOWN
(or vice versa)

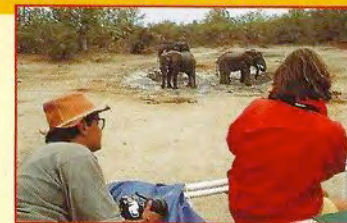
6,000 miles/9,500 kms

KENYA, TANZANIA, MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE, BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA

From Indian Ocean to South Atlantic; Kilimanjaro; the Great Rift Valley; Tanzanian game reserves; Lake Malawi; Luangwa Valley; Victoria Falls; raw adventure in the Okavango; the bushman and desert of the Kalahari; Etosha Pans; Namibia's Skeleton Coast; Fish River Canyon; the Cape.

This expedition can be a combination of the 'African Genesis' and the 'Southern Cross of Africa' trips.

A journey of contrasts from Tanzania's plains to the beauty of the Victoria Falls and the southern African deserts. The tranquility of Botswana's Okavango Delta leaves a lasting impression.



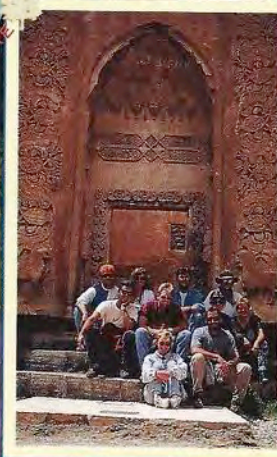
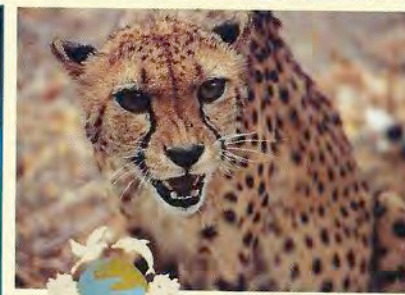
For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

Asia with Africa



Two different continents separated only by a mapmaker's divisions. History, cultures and ideas have never been dictated by such rules. Should you?



THE GREAT OVERLAND ENCOUNTER

31
WEEKS



LONDON to NAIROBI to
CAIRO to KATHMANDU
(or vice versa)

20,000 land miles/32,000 kms

EUROPE, MOROCCO, WESTERN SAHARA,
MAURITANIA, MALI, BURKINA FASO, NIGER,
NIGERIA, CAMEROUN, CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC, ZAIRE, UGANDA, TANZANIA, KENYA,
ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, EGYPT, JORDAN, SYRIA,
TURKEY, IRAN, PAKISTAN, INDIA, NEPAL

Blending Asia with Africa; the timeless sands of the Sahara; ancient trade routes of West African kingdoms; the delicate balance of the rainforest; East African plains; highlands of Ethiopia; the Nile and ancient Egypt; the beauty of Islamic art in the Near and Middle East; bazaars of the Indus valley; palaces and temples of India; the Himalaya—the roof of the world.



Overland expeditions are full of the unexpected. They provide an economical way to explore areas that are beyond the reach of most travellers and tour buses.

This eight month 20,000 mile trip takes one across 25 countries. Besides unexpected sights and monuments one also got a good feel for the daily smells, noises and rhythms of life across two great continents.

"Our group of 19 was a diverse lot, ranging from Hilmar—the Icelandic cod fisherman, to Charles—a young Brit working on his advanced mathematics degree at Oxford. We were equally split among men and women, our ages ranging from 18 to 36. But we all demonstrated that the two key attributes necessary for any overland traveller—patience and a positive attitude. When travelling off the beaten track in the Third World, dealing with the unexpected becomes a critical skill. Border guards with the personalities of pit bull terriers, washed-out bridges, hordes of locusts—all can combine to make a less than ideal day.

So with all the hardships, what could possibly tempt someone to travel in this way? Simply put, you're on an adventure. Travelling overland by truck brings you face-to-face with your own beliefs, and with the joys and hardships of every region. You find yourself asking permission to use the village well, bartering over mangoes in the local market, sharing many a smile around a campfire. During my trip I found what once seemed important at home no longer seemed important at all".

**For more details and a full itinerary phone
now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).**

EGYPT

21

DAYS



From CAIRO

1,400 miles/2,200 kms

EGYPT



Cairo; the treasures of Tutankhamun; pyramids and Sphinx; Alexandria and El Alamein; western desert to Siwa; Farafra and Dakla oases; Luxor; Valley of the Kings; Aswan; the island temples of Philae; Abu Simbel; feluccas on the Nile; Kom Ombo; the coral reefs of the Red Sea.

After 4,000 years it is hard to understand how the ancient monuments of Egypt are still standing and so beautifully preserved. Relief carvings and paintings adorn the walls of the temples and tombs of the great. Visitors have been coming here for centuries—there is even graffiti in hieroglyphics!



CRADLES OF OUR CIVILISATION

7

WKS, 2 DAYS



2



LONDON to CAIRO
(or vice versa)

6,000 miles/10,000 kms

EUROPE, TURKEY, SYRIA,
JORDAN, EGYPT



Mediterranean shores; Istanbul; Galipoli; Ephesus; the dusty road to Damascus; crusader castles; oases of Saladdin; ancient Petra; wadis of Lawrence's Arabia; Sinai and the ancient wonders of Egypt.

One of the joys of travelling overland in the Middle East is that at night one is frequently camped close to some of the greatest archeological sites in the world.

The ancient city of Palmyra is in the heart of the Syrian desert, on a little oasis in the middle of nowhere. It was an important trading post on the silk route during Roman times.

At night camp on the escarpment close to a 17th century Arab castle and at dawn, whilst still wrapped in our sleeping bags, watch the hazy outline of the city clearing as the sun rises, thinking of life as it was all those centuries ago.

EAST OF SUEZ

10

WKS, 2 DAYS



2



CAIRO to KATHMANDU
(or vice versa)

7,500 miles/12,000 kms

EGYPT, JORDAN, SYRIA, TURKEY, IRAN,
PAKISTAN, INDIA, NEPAL

Pyramids and Sphinx; Egypt's ancient splendour; Petra; the crusader castles of Syria's Mediterranean; Turkey's underground city of Goreme; Mount Ararat; Esfahan and the pillars of Persepolis; the Persian desert to Pakistan; Lahore; Delhi and Rajasthan; the Taj Mahal and India's backroads to the Himalaya.

"I have a personal top ten favourite places in the world. As I ambled along the narrow canyon which is the entrance to the lost city of Petra my body was tense with anticipation.

The old treasury building hewn from a solid rock face came into view—what a sight! There was a new entry in my top ten, straight in at number three!"



For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

Asia

London

Budapest

Bucharest

Gallipoli
Ephesus

Istanbul
Goreme

Aleppo

Mt Ararat

Amman

Cairo

Esfehan

Luxor

Aqaba

Persepolis

Kashgar

Islamabad

Lhasa

Delhi

Agra

Kathmandu

Varanasi

Quetta

Bombay

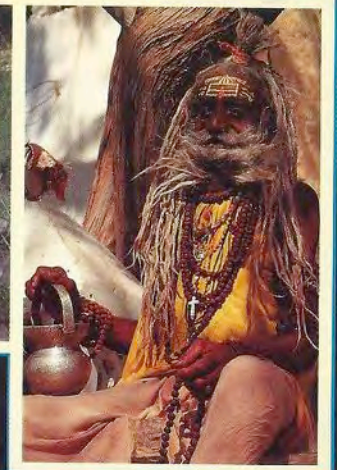
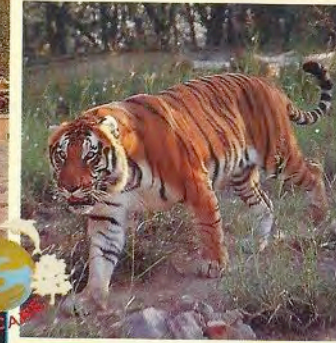
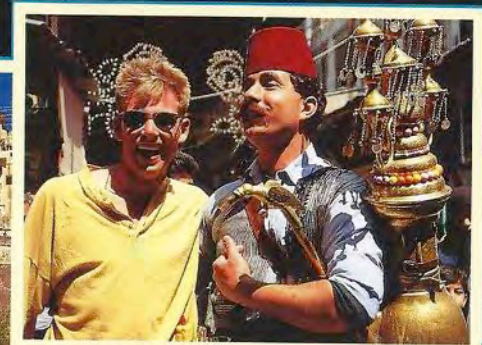
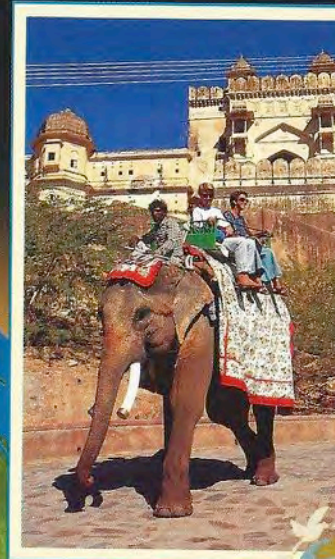
Goa

Mysore

Madras

Samarinda

Pontianak



Nothing in Asia is exactly as it first seems. Look closer and there is always another dimension. At its extreme is a mysticism that defies comprehension. This continent has been shaped by the imprint of centuries of change, and constant movement along the trading corridors of history.

Asia is rich in diverse peoples and customs, in religions and outlook, philosophy and humour. In the villages and countryside there is a closeness to the rhythm of time, in the cities a buzz and intrigue as old as desire. In her scenery are the tallest of mountains and the oldest of rivers, wind etched deserts and warm enfolding valleys. There are palaces and castles, nomads and camels. And if one of them ever does pass through the eye of a needle—it will be here. Asia is surprise and delight at every turn.

THE CLASSIC OVERLAND

11
WEEKS



LONDON to KATHMANDU
(or vice versa)

8,500 miles/13,500 kms

**EUROPE, TURKEY, IRAN, PAKISTAN,
INDIA, NEPAL**

Istanbul—once Byzantium and Constantinople; central Turkey; Cappadocia; the underground city of Goreme; Iran; Esfahan and the pillars of Persepolis; the Persian desert to Pakistan; the palaces and temples of India; to Kathmandu and the Himalayan giants.



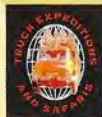
Iran is a highlight on any trip. Whilst visiting Iran all must be appropriately dressed. Everyone in long trousers and long sleeved shirts—women must wear a veil covering their hair.

Explore the bazaar in Esfahan. The streets here are a labyrinth and as one wanders around this huge market one stumbles across all sorts of wonderful herbs, spices, vegetables, pictures, lengths of cloth. It is everything an eastern market should be and bodes well for some very good meals.

ALL INDIA

52

DAYS



KATHMANDU to BOMBAY to MADRAS
(or vice versa)

3,900 miles/6,300 kms

NEPAL, INDIA

From the Himalayas to the warm seas of Cape Comorin; wildlife reserves and tiger sanctuaries; fabulous palaces and temples; tropical beaches; festivals, colour and spice.

This trip is a combination of the 'Nepal, the Ganges and Rajasthan' and the 'Goa & South India' trips.

"There is so much to see and do in northern India, fabulous palaces, wildlife reserves. The south was also a wonderful surprise. We had a relaxing time spent on tropical beaches and in our favourite city, Mysore. Everywhere you find the lingering aromas of sandalwood, jasmine, rose, frangipani and other fragrances. The Maharaja's palace has to be seen to be believed—completely over the top. A kaleidoscope of stained glass, mirrors, gilt and gaudy colours".



BACKROADS OF ASIA

16

WEEKS



LONDON to CAIRO to KATHMANDU
(or vice versa)

12,500 miles/20,000 kms

**EUROPE, TURKEY, SYRIA, JORDAN, EGYPT,
IRAN, PAKISTAN, INDIA, NEPAL**

The Aegean and Mediterranean coasts of ancient Turkey; Palmyra and Syria; Petra and Jordan; the great sites of Egypt; Anatolia and wild highlands of eastern Turkey; Mt Ararat and Iran; the Persian desert to Baluchistan; tribal frontier lands of Pakistan; Delhi; Rajasthan; the Taj Mahal; the byways of rural India to the Himalayas and Kathmandu.

This is a combination of the 'Cradles of our Civilisation' and the 'East of Suez' trips.

"It was a free day in Lahore and after visiting the great mosque we managed to get lost in some of the side streets. We were stopped by a young man named Waqar who was extremely helpful. He showed us around Lahore by horse and cart and then invited us to lunch with his family. The house was small and in the room where we were sitting were what seemed like a pair of cupboard doors and a hubub going on behind them. Waqar asked if we would like to meet his family. The cupboard doors were opened and out came a large number of relatives. Aunts, sisters, brothers, nephews, nieces, etc all laughing and touching our hair as if we were aliens from outer space. The girls pulled us through the cupboard doors and into the next room where we were given food and drink whilst we tried to converse by sign language. They found our clothes hilarious. One of the older ladies pulled out a beautiful Punjabi suit and insisted that I tried it on. When it was time to leave I tried to give the suit back but they insisted that I keep it. I had expected to see wonderful things in Asia but was surprised at how kind and hospitable the people are".



**For more details and a full itinerary phone
now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).**

NEPAL, THE GANGES & RAJASTHAN

28

DAYS



KATHMANDU to BOMBAY
(or vice versa)

2,300 miles/3,700 kms

NEPAL, INDIA

Chitwan National Park; the Ganges and holy city of Varanasi; tiger reserves; temples; the Taj Mahal; Rajasthan's palaces, castles and finery; by camel into the Thar Desert; Buddhist cave paintings and shrines; the Arabian Sea at Bombay.

There is so much in northern India that is a feast for the eyes, from the marvellous wildlife reserves to the temples and palaces. The temples of Khajuraho have some exceedingly fine artistic stonework. The sculptures depict aspects of Indian life 1,000 years ago and show various gods and goddesses, but the main themes are erotic poses, some requiring the suppleness of an olympic gymnast!



TAJ & TIGER

KATHMANDU to DELHI (or vice versa)

1,300 miles/2,100 kms

NEPAL, INDIA

15

DAYS



Nepal's Chitwan National Park; India's Panna Hill wildlife reserve; Khajuraho; Agra; Bharatpur bird sanctuary; by jeep in Ranthambore tiger reserve; Jaipur and Rajput palaces.

India is full of the unexplained and the unexpected. Near Panna wildlife sanctuary we stay at a tree house run by an elderly Swiss couple. There is no particularly good reason for it being there, but we are glad it is. The park itself holds all sorts of surprises too.

"We were on an early morning game drive enjoying the first of the sun's rays and as we turned a corner, there was a leopard sitting on a rock sunning himself not more than five feet from our vehicle. He sat up, stared us straight in the eye and wandered off into the bamboo, totally unconcerned".



GOA & SOUTH INDIA

BOMBAY to MADRAS (or vice versa)

1,600 miles/2,600 kms

INDIA

23

DAYS



Coastal forests; the warm shores of the Arabian Sea; Goa's beaches; Mysore's Palace of the Maharajahs; Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary; the far south to Cochin, Trivandrum and India's southern tip—Cape Comorin; through rural Tamil Nadu to the great temples of Mahabalipuram and Madras.

"Over the Christmas break I had decided to take a trip to India. Quite by chance we found ourselves in an area with a large number of christians. Mysore was covered in coloured lights and we found a cathedral for midnight mass. We ended up carol singing along with about half a million locals".



THE GATES OF TARTARY

23

DAYS



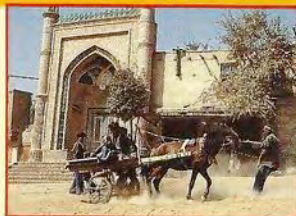
From ISLAMABAD

1,400 miles/2,300 kms

PAKISTAN, CHINA

Where China, the Russian CIS, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India meet. The peaceful valleys of the Kalash; jagged teeth of the Karakoram Mountains; the silk route to Kashgar and the market still in existence 2,000 years on.

"Here is some of the world's most stunning scenery, huge peaks soaring high above us. Here small jeeps carry us along the winding mountain roads. On one occasion we forgot the name of the local helper who had come with us, so we asked the driver pointing at the seat where his helper had been sitting. We were rather embarrassed at the end of the trip to find out that we had been calling the helper 'seat' in Urdu for the entire trip!"



THE LHASA HIGHROAD

16

DAYS



From KATHMANDU

600 land miles/1,000 kms

NEPAL, TIBET

The road from Kathmandu; the Pang La Pass and views of Everest, Makalu, Lhotse and Nuptse; the Tibetan Plateau; Shigatse—the seat of the Panchen Lama; Lhasa and the fabulous Potala Palace.

We usually walk 30 kms or so between Xang Mu (6,000ft/2,000m) on the Nepalese border and Nyalam (11,000ft/3350m) on the edge of the Tibetan Plateau. The contrast is marked, from the greenery of Nepal's foothills with butterflies and birdsong to the stark barrenness of the Tibetan Plateau. Here the atmosphere is rarefied and the scenery is staggering and incredibly photogenic. Proportionally more film is used on this trip than any other!



BORNEO

25

DAYS



PONTIANAK to SAMARINDA

Approx 800 miles/1,300 kms

KALIMANTAN

By road from Pontianak to Sintang; passenger boat up the Kapuas; on foot across the Borneo highlands; rapids of the Mahakam River to riverside villages and jungle longhouses; Samarinda on the Straits of Makassar.

Borneo is the world's third largest island and contains a major part of the remaining rainforests. This has to be the ultimate experience in jungle trekking and perhaps the toughest trip we run. Kalimantan offers little in the way of western civilisation, but has however, the best unspoiled primary jungle. Camp under 'pondoks' (bivouac-type shelters of bamboo, rattan and waterproof awning) surrounded by jungle sounds and clear streams full of freshwater fish. There is an abundance of wildlife hidden under the jungle canopy. Being so remote, the jungle Dayak tribes, such as the Iban and Kayan, still hold to their traditions and religions although, luckily, head-hunting has died out!



NEPAL & TIBET

28

DAYS



From KATHMANDU

900 miles/1,500 kms
by land & river

NEPAL, TIBET

The valley of Kathmandu; white water rafting on the Trisuli River; trekking into the Annapurnas; Chitwan National Park; then the road to Lhasa past Everest and to the hilltop monasteries.

This is a superb trip combining the activities of Nepal, white water rafting, trekking and game viewing in Chitwan with the culture and stunning scenery of Tibet.

It can be very exciting if we come across a Rhino in Chitwan National Park—the guide is usually left on his own while we all climb the nearest tree!



For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND Nepal

Fifty million years ago, violent geological collisions formed the world's most spectacular mountains. To venture into distant valleys and live face to face with the Himalayan peaks is to understand their enormity and significance, and to feel their moods. It is to join a more serene way of life among peoples who live in harmony with their mountain gods. Such a journey involves adopting a different routine and simpler priorities. It is challenging, inspiring and fun. The comforts and delights of Kathmandu will still be waiting when you get back.



Trekking & Rafting

MOUNTAIN & RIVER

21
DAYS

3
ALTERNATIVE
ADVENTURES

4
ALTERNATIVE
ADVENTURES

From KATHMANDU

370 miles/600 kms including
60 miles/ 100 kms trekking

NEPAL

Raft the Trisuli River; Pokhara; trek along the Seti Khola Valley; cross the tree line to 15,000ft/4,500m; Chitwan National Park; the hill village of Nagarkot and sunrise views across the Himalayas to Everest.

If you want to experience the best of Nepal, then this is the trip for you. Raft the Trisuli River and then set off by foot through the Annapurnas. Sleep at night in tents on high ridges and wake up to some of the most spectacular of sunrises as these huge mountains slowly awake in dawn's early light. Explore the misty jungle of Chitwan National Park, home of the Bengal Tiger.



NEPAL 'DEKHO'

14
DAYS

3
ALTERNATIVE
ADVENTURES

4
ALTERNATIVE
ADVENTURES

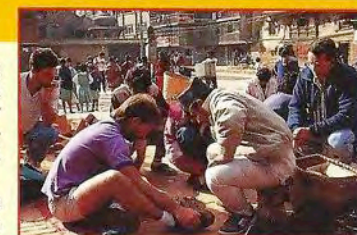
From KATHMANDU

300 miles/500 kms including
40 miles/60 kms trekking

NEPAL

Kathmandu—city and valley; river-rafting the Trisuli River; trekking in the lower Annapurnas; Chitwan National Park and Nepal's Terai Lowlands.

For those with less time, this trip has a shorter but by no means less interesting trek in the Annapurnas. The route follows a remoter trail and visits small mountain villages. Rafting the Trisuli is unforgettable fun. The rapids, although not as large as those on the Sun-Kosi, still get your adrenalin going. At night we camp on the beaches beside the river. The Nepali rafters sometimes make a delicious fruit punch with secret ingredients.



For more details and a full itinerary phone now for your Project Dossier (see page 31).

ANNAPURNA 10

10

DAYS

4



From KATHMANDU

200 miles/330 kms, including 60 miles/100 kms trekking

NEPAL

From Kathmandu to Pokhara; eight days trekking in the middle and upper altitudes of the Annapurna range.

High in the Himalayas there are no roads or mechanical noises to irritate our senses. The only danger is being run over by local donkeys carrying supplies from one village to the next. In March the Rhododendrons bloom and the hillsides are covered in blossom. Some days the clouds close in but above them an amazing panorama is revealed—the roof of the world.



SUN-KOSI RIVER

10

DAYS

3



From KATHMANDU

500 miles/800 kms, including 110 miles/180 kms on river

NEPAL

We put our rafts in at the river's highest navigable point, near its junction with the Indrawatti; eight days rafting down one of the world's greatest white water rivers; return to Kathmandu.

The Sun-Kosi River rises in Tibet, rushing through falls and gorges into Nepal. There are no roads and no towns, just untouched countryside and a few small villages. One of the most adrenaline pumping rapids is Hukapore. Here we carefully walk around it to see if we dare brave its waters. Some can't quite stomach it and so walk along the shore, others roar through it for one of the most awesome moments of their lives.



UPSTREAM TO EVEREST

28

DAYS

4



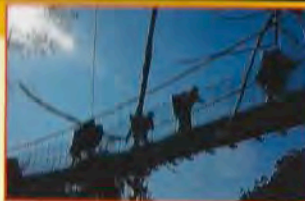
From KATHMANDU

300 miles/500 kms by road, 125 miles/200 kms trekking

NEPAL

Kathmandu; trek up the Arun Gorge by busy foot and mule trail; across the river at Tumbingtar to the Salpa and Satu La Passes; highland forests and isolated villages; Namche Bazaar; mountain monasteries and Sherpa lands; to Khumbu Glacier and the peak of Kala Pattar (18,000ft/5,540m); descend to Lukla.

The peaceful life of the high Himalayas makes you long to stay there forever. Pass through small villages and stop to chat or play games with the local inhabitants. Porters carry our belongings and guides show the way. These men are generally local to the area and can spin a fascinating yarn whilst sitting around the camp fire.



HIMALAYAN CHALLENGE

34

DAYS

3



4



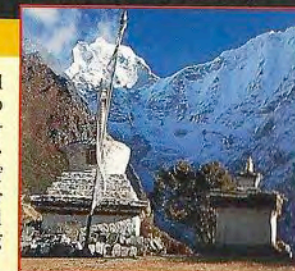
From KATHMANDU

110 miles/180 kms on river,
125 miles/200 kms trekking

NEPAL

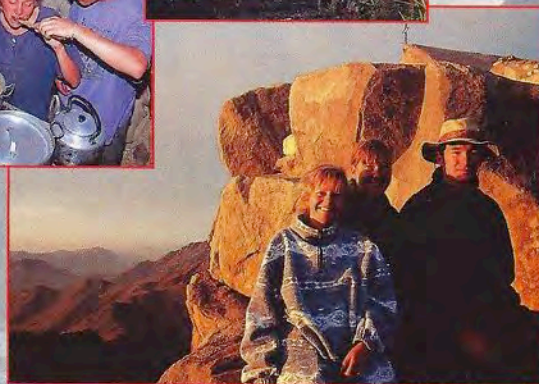
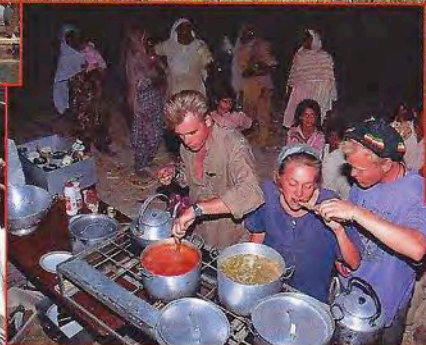
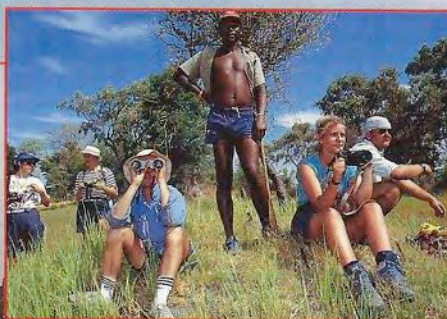
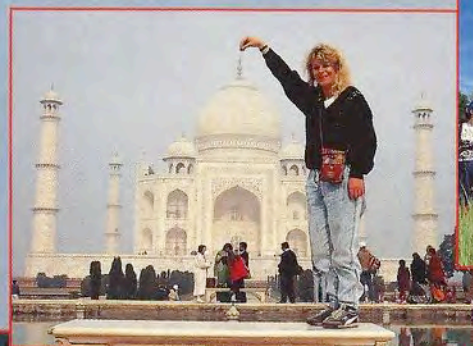
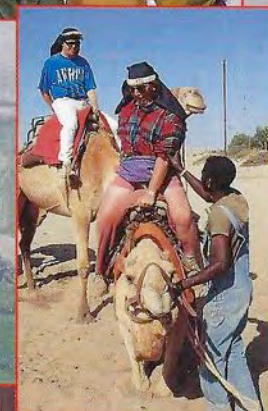
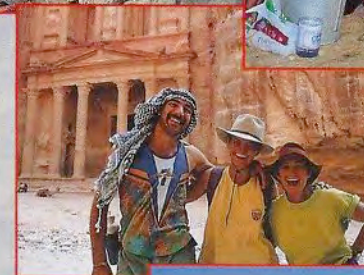
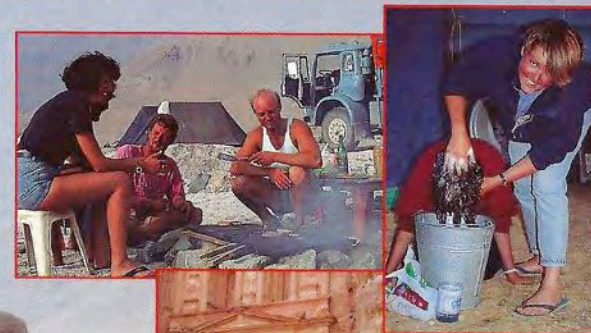
This is a combination of the 'Sun-Kosi River' and 'Upstream To Everest' trips. From Kathmandu to the Sun-Kosi River; through rapids and white water; from Chatra through the back trails to Everest.

Five weeks of fabulous adventure—the greatest of rivers and highest of mountains. Slowly discover every aspect of Nepal's rich life in the valleys and passes of the Himalayas. The ultimate in rafting and trekking experiences.



For more details
and a full itinerary
phone now for your
Project Dossier
(see page 31).

The Time Of Your Life *with* ENCOUNTER OVERLAND



*"If you want that bit
more from a trip...
...You've got it!"*

EXPERIENCE TELLS...



Dear EO

We have just returned from our first trip with EO to India and Nepal and are writing to let you know what a superb three week adventure it was.

We are in no doubt that the Nepal Ganges and Rajasthan itinerary provided us with the best opportunity to experience both the highlights and the more remote areas of Northern India and also an excellent introduction to Nepal. We were certainly provided with the best resources too, namely the state-of-the-art EO truck and superb quality equipment.

Our thanks go to everyone in London and the Workshop, who work immensely hard to make trips such as ours so memorable. We should particularly like to mention our leader/driver, whose leadership qualities, enthusiasm, and resourcefulness were the key to the success of this trip, and in our opinion a credit to Encounter Overland.

We are now busily saving up for a place on your 'Peru and Incas' trip for summer 1995. I understand the new brochure is out in April so we'll be in touch again soon!

Alan and Caroline Pattison

Dear EO

I recently took a trip on one of your South American routes and I wanted to write and say how much I enjoyed the experience. I have travelled abroad independently, but this was the first time I had ever done anything like this. Being on the truck meant that we could reach places that would be impossible to reach on public transport and the camps we made were in beautiful locations. It was even better than I had anticipated—the Inca Trail, Iguassu Falls, Rio Carnival, crossing the mud flats and especially the salt lakes. What an incredible and unusual experience that was—something to really look back on.

We were all very impressed with the drivers on our truck. They really put every possible effort into making it a memorable trip.

Please could you send me a copy of the latest brochure as I may be interested in doing another trip with your company in the future.

Thank you,

Christine Varley

Dear EO

I meant to write to you at least a month ago but unfortunately have only just managed to find the time.

I recently returned from 'the Great Safari' running from May to September of this year and am writing to congratulate you and thank you for a superb trip. For me this really was the trip of a lifetime, and not only was it a great experience but it was also very well run. There was not one time when I didn't think the leader/driver had everything under control, despite the usual African surprises. I'm writing to thank him and everyone behind the scenes for all the hard work in organising this trip.

I am already saving for my next trip and can well and truly say I've caught that travel bug! Thanks for everything,

L. Farnell

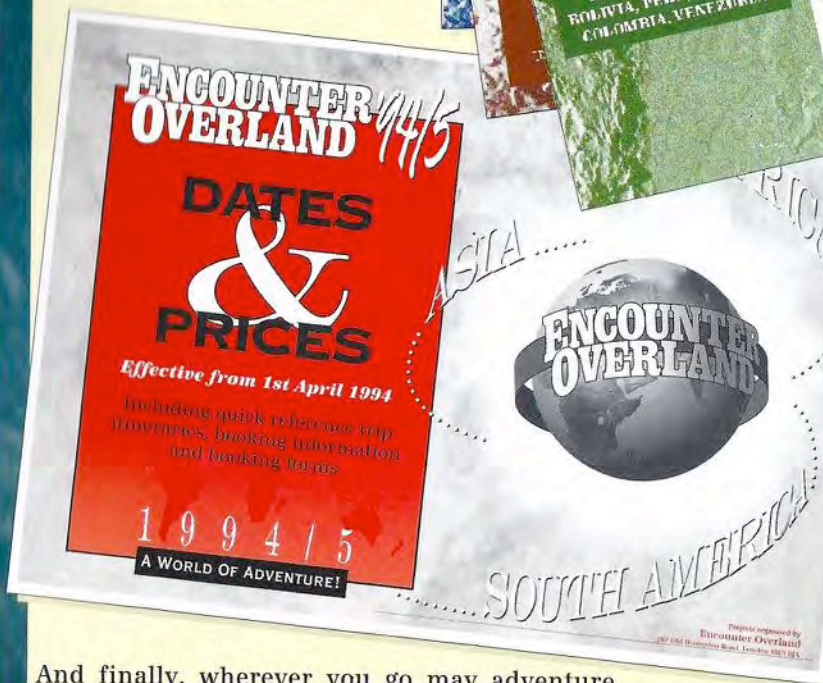
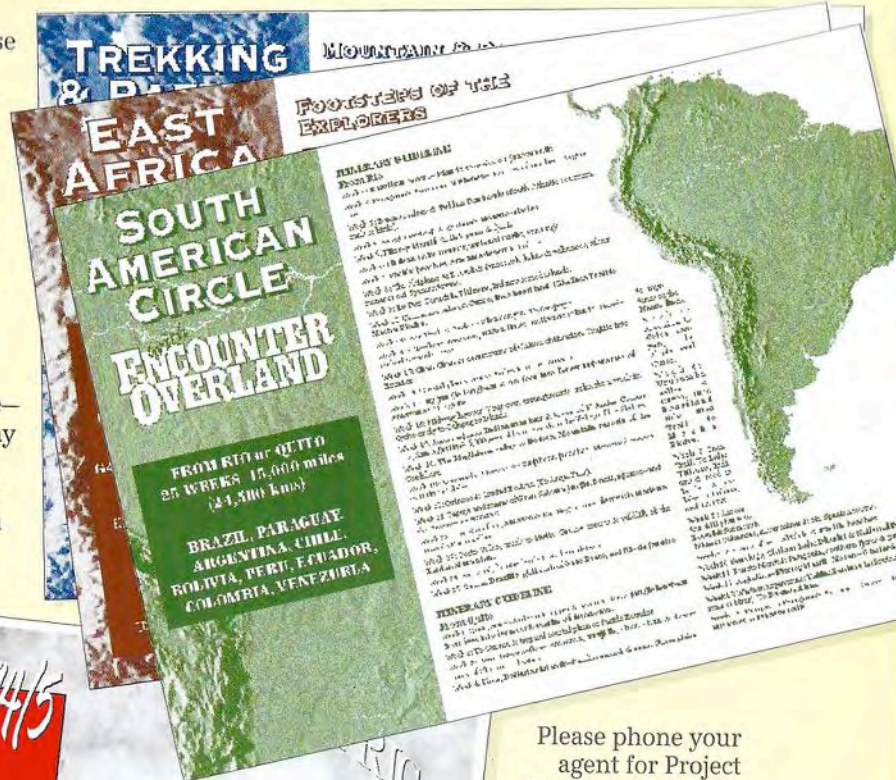
"WHAT NEXT?..."

Well, your next step is your first step in a World of Adventure

Included with your brochure is our Date and Price insert with application/booking form and booking conditions. If this is not included please phone your agent.

For each trip we produce a detailed Project Dossier. These cover detailed itineraries, route maps, climate charts, type of transport and accommodation, included highlights and optional additions. Other essential information is covered, for example visas, vaccinations, and personal spending money.

These Project Dossiers must be considered only as a guide—in practice specific details may vary. Overland travel by definition is subject to delays and itinerary alterations for a variety of different reasons.



Please phone your agent for Project Dossiers or, simply mark the Project Dossiers you would like to receive on the postcard in your Date and Price insert and send it to your agent.

Finally, once you have booked we will send you pre-departure information with joining instructions, specific visa and vaccination information, recommended reading and what to take with you.

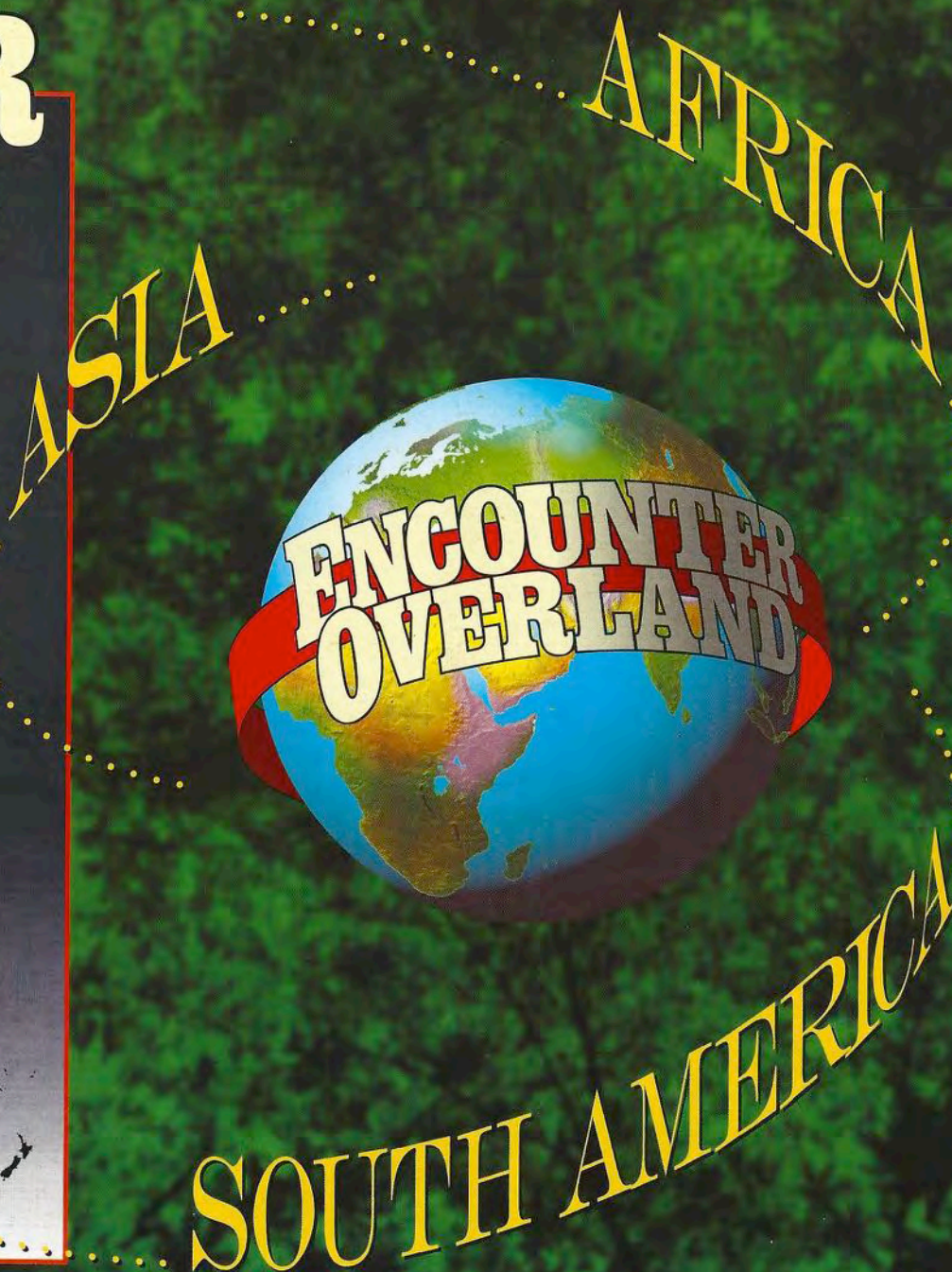
And finally, wherever you go may adventure, fun and a happy homecoming go with you.

ENCOUNTER OVERLAND

See below for your agent's contact number and address

SUNDOWNERS TRAVEL CENTRE P/L
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SOUTH MELBOURNE 3205
TELEPHONE 690 2499
FAX 696 1261

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