

A fantastic prize for wake up at dawn

Our trail from the North Base Camp to the South Base Camp of the third mountain in the world leads through three high passes. I manage, as usual, to wake up at dawn. Even before the sun comes out from behind the peaks, we set off sharply uphill. After two hours, we have a spectacular view not only on Kangchenjunga (8.586 m), but also on Makalu (8,481 m) and the Khumbu region.





On that day, an expedition from New Zealand and another from the Netherlands set off to the three high passes. They, however, preferred to spend the early morning in warm sleeping bags. Waking up before sunrise is the most nasty moment: you want to sleep, you are warm in a sleeping bag, and outside is the coldest.

They got beautiful passes an hour after me. Except the snow and clouds, they saw nothing. - When we make the effort to travel to Nepal, when for two weeks we are running uphill to see the beautiful mountains, at the most important moment we can not stay in a warm sleeping bag! - We have to run to the pass or to the summit to enjoy beautiful views for a few moments. The Himalayas guard their treasures. Only for a dozen or so minutes they let admire them.



Makalu (8,481 m), seen from Selele La Pass (4,480 m)



Everest (8,848 m) and Lhotse 8,516 m) seen from Gokyo Ri (5,357 m); in a few minutes clouds will cover them for several dozen hours



Kanchenjunga (8,586 m) seen from the South Camp/Oktang (4,730 m)