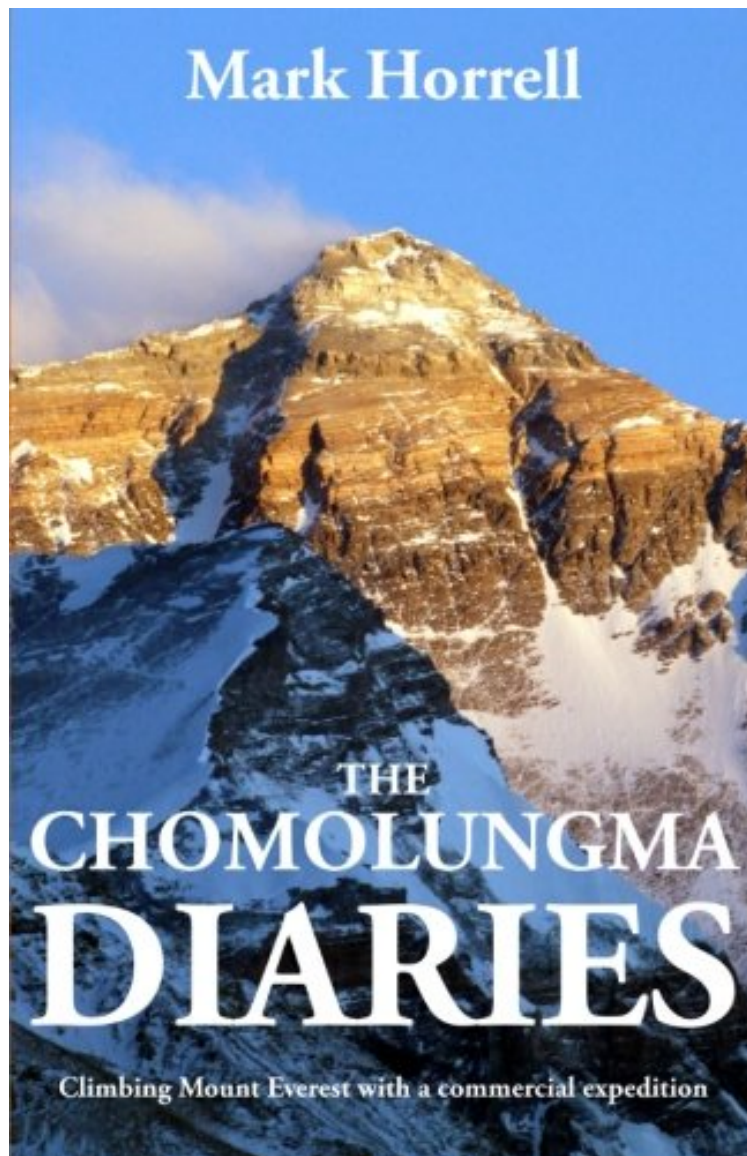


[Free pdf] The Chomolungma Diaries: Climbing Mount Everest with a commercial expedition (Footsteps on the Mountain Travel Diaries)

The Chomolungma Diaries: Climbing Mount Everest with a commercial expedition (Footsteps on the Mountain Travel Diaries)

Mark Horrell

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Mark Horrell : The Chomolungma Diaries: Climbing Mount Everest with a commercial expedition (Footsteps on the Mountain Travel Diaries) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Chomolungma Diaries: Climbing Mount Everest with a commercial expedition (Footsteps on the Mountain Travel Diaries):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Everest expedition narrativeBy Dion HinchcliffeWhile you won't find excessive drama or death on the mountains up close in Mark's book, it's certainly the best blow-by-blow of a modern climb of Everest by a real climber you'll find for the price. Personally, I found the details of both the climb logistics itself as well as the interpersonal stories of the team members to be a greatly entertaining and informative. Plenty of dry humor, human interest, and climbing lore for those that relish the details of what it's really like. In short, those looking for a sensational Everest climbing account won't find it here. Instead, those looking for an interesting page turner that's actually worth some study for what it tells you about the real experience and mechanics high altitude climbing will be rewarded.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good Writing, Easy ReadingBy Chan Joon YeeMark Horrell writes a very readable account of his successful climb of Mt Everest in 2012. Their teams starts off in Kathmandu and makes the overland journey to Tibet to climb the mountain from the north. From the start, the reader may be misled into thinking that this is some parody of sorts. Horrell is funny and is able to derive humour out of every unpleasant situation in the mountains. However, he soon gets serious with his day to day, blow by blow account of the events. Still, I can't help wondering how much beer their team actually brought to Base Camp. Horrell goes in great detail describing their long and tedious acclimatisation climbs. To his credit, he does so without boring the reader. When the narrow window is found and the team gets ready for the summit push, Horrell seems to forget how to be funny and details his difficult and dangerous struggle up the North Col, First Step, Second Step, Summit Ridge etc. The action doesn't end there. Unlike most books in this genre that merely skims over the descent, Horrell recounts the many dangerous moments he had while trying to get off the mountain alive, under the watchful eye of his personal Sherpa Changba who has climbed the mountain 12 times. There are quite a number of dead bodies the author encountered on his climb. The one that bugs him most is an irrational climber he ran into on his descent. Horrell dedicates this him. Ridden with guilt, he wonders if that climber could have survived if he had advised him to turn around. Overall, it is a highly readable book. However, I skipped chunks at the end as the author described how totally drained and humourless he was when he reached Base Camp.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Anyone can climb Mt. Everest (if you can pay enough money, and if you're willing to possibly compromise your morals in a pinch)By David HenleyIf you've ever wondered what it would be like to climb the highest mountain in the world, this book is for you. Mark Horrell relates his experience as a participant in a commercial expedition to climb Everest from the Tibetan side in a refreshing daily diary format. Not only does he describe the surroundings at each stage of his journey, including the squalor of base camp and the sometimes unhealthy competition for space and resources at higher camps, but also the relationships between team members and with members and leaders of other teams. As he describes his increasing incapacity at higher elevations, he wonders aloud how he or any member of his party could ever provide effective assistance in case of medical emergency...and about the morality of those who choose to walk past victims in dire straits in pursuit of their own Everest summit experience. Indeed, he muses about what drives some people to seek the summit of Everest to the exclusion of all else, including personal safety and that of expedition leaders and Sherpas. The world of Everest portrayed by Mark Horrell, with its lineups of people waiting to pass difficult parts of the route, and unappealing tent cities at various stage camps, is a far cry from that portrayed in John Hunt's description of its first ascent 'The Ascent of Everest' in 1953, where safety was paramount and the summit of Everest was a team goal, not an individual one.

In April 2012 Mark Horrell travelled to Tibet hoping to become, if not the first person to climb Mount Everest, at least the first Karl Pilkington lookalike to do so. He joined a mountaineering expedition which included an Australian sexagenarian, two Brits whose idea of hydration meant a box of red wine, and a New Zealander who enjoyed reminding his teammates of the perils of altitude sickness and the number of ways they might die on summit day. The media often write about Mount Everest deaths and how easy the world's highest mountain has become to climb, but how accurately does this reflect reality? The Chomolungma Diaries is a true story of ordinary people climbing Mount Everest with a commercial expedition, and preparing for the biggest day of their lives. Imagine your life clipped into a narrow line of cord five miles above the earth, on the world's most terrifying ridge walk. This book will bring you just a little bit closer to that experience.

About the AuthorFor five years Mark Horrell has written what has been described as one of the most credible Everest opinion blogs out there. He writes about trekking and mountaineering from the often silent perspective of the commercial client. For over a decade he has been exploring the world's greater mountain ranges and keeping a diary of his travels. As a writer he strives to do for mountain history what Bill Bryson did for long-distance hiking. Several of his expedition diaries are available as quick reads from the major online bookstores. His first full-length book, Seven Steps from Snowdon to Everest, about his ten-year journey from hill walker to Everest climber, was published in November 2015. His favourite mountaineering book is The Ascent of Rum Doodle by W.E. Bowman.