

Preface

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When first asked to lead an Overland Tour from the United Kingdom to Nepal in 1975 I was somewhat alarmed at the prospect of leaving the well-trodden routes of Europe that I knew so well to travel by coach through this unfamiliar and difficult part of the world.

Stories I had heard from colleagues in London had led me to wonder why anyone would want to venture all this way through these strange and mystical countries of Asia en route from London to Katmandu.

How wrong I was! As I sit here having read the words to follow, I wonder how many intended travelers have had the same doubts as I had initially, and have let this opportunity of adventure slip by.

This is a story of a group of young people who took this journey (Katmandu to London). Over the many weeks we were to be together it was my privilege to watch these people from all walks of life develop friendships and share experiences previously unimagined.

Unhappily, a lot of places mentioned here can no longer be visited because of political strife. However, to those who are contemplating the Overland route of today I'm sure these words will give you an idea of this uniquely rewarding experience.