

Brooke Challenge Events - Questions & Answers

1) Who can take part?

You must be 18 or over to take part in a challenge event. For our riding events you must have moderate riding experience.

2) How many take part?

Each event takes between 25 and 35 participants on average.

3) How fit do I have to be?

These events are designed to be a challenge and you should therefore expect to undertake some training before you embark on your trip to ensure you get the most out of it. Challenges can be physically demanding and a full training guide will be sent to you once you have registered. Your training should aim to increase your stamina as you may be walking, riding, or cycling for between 6-8hrs a day for consecutive days.

4) What will be provided?

When we have received both your non-refundable registration fee and the minimum sponsorship/ balance, the following is included:

- International flights and all accommodation
- English- speaking and local guides
- Full board (except where stated in the itinerary)
- Full technical, medical and transport back-up service
- Transfer of luggage throughout
- Transfers to accommodation etc overseas

Please note: your travel insurance and airport tax are not included unless stated otherwise. It will also be the responsibility of the participant to obtain any visa's required.

5) What does my registration fee go towards?

Your registration fee covers all organisational and administrative costs. It is not included in your sponsorship total and on all events there is a strict no-refund or transfer policy.

6) What extras will I be expected to pay for myself?

Participants will be asked to pay for their own personal travel insurance (this can be booked independently or through the Tour Operator), any vaccinations required for the destination, airport taxes where specified, fuel surcharges if necessary, the country's entry visa if necessary, gratuities at your discretion for guides, and personal spending money.

7) Who is responsible for the trip?

The Brooke employs specialist tour operators for each event. We act as agents for Discover Adventure. The Tour Operator is responsible for the logistical organisation, safety and smooth running of the event.

8) What support will I receive?

Once you have registered you will receive a series of letters/ updates covering all questions you may have. They will include a full packing checklist, details on



insurance, vaccinations, weather and sponsorship targets as well as a full training plan. You will also have a dedicated team of fundraisers available to deal with any queries you may have and to offer fundraising advice and encouragement.

9) What is the accommodation like?

En route, accommodation is either camping, hut-based or in small guesthouses or hotels. It is primarily organised in single sex, twin rooms/ tents although we do try to accommodate all room-share requests, on occasion you may sleep in large Bedouin style tents. You will stay in basic hotels on arrival and departure from your destination.

10) How and when do I pay in my sponsorship money?

You can send in your sponsorship money as you receive it. Once you have registered for an event you will be sent some paying in slips, these can be photocopied if you need extra copies. Every time you send in your sponsorship money you must attach a paying in slip, stating the amount you are sending in. Each paying in slip has your personal reference number on it and the code of the event you are taking part in. This will ensure that your money is correctly allocated to your account.

80% of your sponsorship target is required ten weeks before you depart. This is the stage at which we pay the Tour Operator for your place on the trip. As a charity we cannot legally be seen to be paying for your place without having already received the equivalent amount plus some sponsorship in our bank accounts. We cannot confirm your place on the trip until we have received this amount, if you cannot meet this target by the deadline specified you will jeopardise your place on the event (see question 11).

You will have a further month once you return from your event in which to raise the remainder of your sponsorship total.

11) What happens if I can't raise the money in time?

We require at least 80% of the sponsorship money to be banked at least ten weeks before departure. If you cannot raise this amount, you can choose to make up the balance yourself as a personal donation, transfer to another event or forfeit your place.

12) What happens if I have an injury or have to pull out through personal circumstances after I've paid 80% of my sponsorship target?

It is essential that you take out personal travel insurance before the 80% deadline to cover such eventualities. The 80% deadline is when we confirm your place on the trip and pay the Tour Operator costs for your place. If you haven't taken out travel insurance, we will lose your sponsorship direct to the tour operator. The only way you can get back your sponsorship costs is to claim on your personal travel insurance, therefore if you wish to claim back the sponsorship you have raised your reasons for pulling out need to be valid under your policy.

13) What equipment will I need?

You will not need any specialist equipment, although you will require basics such as a riding hat and boots or cycling shorts and cycling helmets depending on your chosen activity. A sleeping bag and waterproofs may also be needed dependent on the itinerary. A detailed packing checklist will be provided when you sign up to an event. For cycling activities bikes will be provided by the Tour Operator.



14) Will I be able to extend my stay overseas?

Dependent upon the group size, approximately 10% of the group will be able to extend their stay according to the restrictions imposed by the airline. If you would like to extend your stay you must request an extension form, complete this with your intended return dates and return to the Tour Operator. There is a fixed deadline for making extension bookings, details of which will be sent to you and bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis. There is a small fee for changing from the group booking.

15) What next?

Simply fill in a registration form, sign the pledge and payment and enclose 2 passport size photographs. Send them to us with your registration fee as soon as possible. We will then confirm your booking and send you a full fundraising pack.