

Tenzing Norgay was born in 1914 in Tibet's Kharta Valley, a remote area close to Everest.

It is believed Tenzing was born by a sacred lake called Tshechu. According to the local Tibetan holy men, the place and time of his birth made him a lucky baby. These holy men, known as lamas, told Tenzing's parents that if they looked after their baby well he would grow up to be a great man. The fact that he survived his childhood was lucky in itself. Living conditions were harsh and eight of his parents' fourteen children died before they reached adulthood, and sadly their names were not recorded.