

Annapurna Panorama

13 days | Starts/Ends: Kathmandu



Experience a wonderfully varied and easy-paced trek through the stunning Annapurna region, while lodging in quaint mountain villages. Track tigers at Nepal's finest national park, relax by picturesque Lake Phewa in Pokhara and sightsee in fascinating Kathmandu.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Annapurna Region - Enjoy a six day trek through the beautiful Annapurna range to Ghorepani and Poon Hill
- Poon Hill - Watch the sunrise and marvel at the spectacular panoramic view of the High Himalayas
- Kathmandu - Rickshaw ride through the city, visit Kathmandu Durbar Square, Swayambhunath Stupa & Bodhnath Stupa
- Bhaktapur - Roam around Bhaktapur's beautiful Durbar Square and test your pottery making skills
- Patan - Explore historic Patan Durbar Square and watch a Singing Bowls performance
- Chitwan National Park - Go on a jeep safari in Chitwan, home to the one horned rhino and the elusive Bengal tiger

- Pokhara - Relax in this laidback town on the shores of picturesque Lake Phewa

What's Included

- 12 breakfast, 8 lunches, 8 dinners including dinner at a Nepali cultural evening
- 7 nights - 4 star hotels, 5 nights - simple tea houses (shared bathroom facilities)
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on day 1 and day 13
- Economy class flight from Pokhara to Kathmandu
- Touring of Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur
- Chitwan National Park jeep safari in the buffer zone, jungle activities and park fees
- 6 day Ghorepani and Poon Hill trek in the Annapurna Region with porters and a mountain guide
- Services of local English speaking guides for all scheduled sightseeing
- Rickshaw ride in Kathmandu and pottery making in Bhaktapur
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air conditioned vehicles
- Trekkers' Information Management Systems (TIMS) Card
- Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) fee

What's Not Included

- Entrance Fees: USD\$45-55pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Tipping - refer the 'Tipping' paragraph in the trip notes for a recommended guideline.

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Kathmandu

Friday. Welcome to Nepal. Upon arrival at Kathmandu Airport you'll be met and transferred to your hotel where you will receive a welcome drink and a briefing about your trip. **Overnight - Kathmandu**

Day 2 : The Kathmandu Valley



Today we explore the Kathmandu Valley, starting with the Buddhist Stupa of Bodhnath which is a fabulous example of Buddhist temple architecture and a great place to observe Buddhist life and culture. Our next stop is the ancient city of Bhaktapur,

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Nepal's cultural gem which has maintained its traditional way of life and is famous for its pottery. We visit Bhaktapur's incredible Durbar Square and try our hand at pottery making in Pottery Square. Our final stop of the day is Patan Durbar Square, home to more than 50 temples and shrines. This evening we enjoy dinner and a cultural Nepali dance performance. **Overnight - Kathmandu (B, D)**

Days 3-4 : Chitwan National Park



Kathmandu – Chitwan. On day 3 we travel by road to Chitwan National Park, arriving in time for lunch. Chitwan is hailed as one of Asia's finest game parks, home to more than 500 species including the endangered one horned rhino and the elusive Bengal tiger.

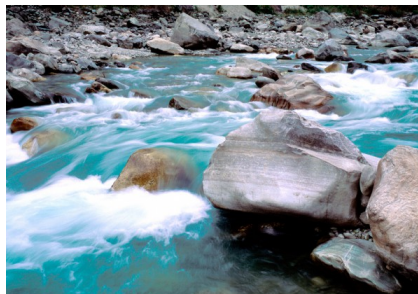
Over the next two days we enjoy a selection of activities offered by the lodge including a jeep safari, hoping to encounter the one horned rhino, various types of deer, boar, monkey, leopard and if we're very fortunate the Bengal tiger. Other activities at the lodge include a local village walk and nature walks in the jungle, a scenic dugout canoe ride down the Rapti River, bird watching and a visit to the Crocodile Breeding Centre. We'll also watch a traditional Tharu dance performance one evening with dinner. **Overnight - Chitwan National Park (B:2, L:2, D:2)**

Day 5 : Pokhara

Chitwan National Park – Pokhara. Today we travel on to scenic Pokhara. Pokhara is the gateway to the magnificent Annapurna Range, which boasts five mountains over 7200m and has one of the Himalayas most distinctive mountains - Machapuchare with its unique 'fishtail' peak. The local people believe Machapuchare is sacred to the god Shiva and therefore is off limits to climbing.

Arriving in the afternoon, there's time to relax and perhaps take a stroll around the lakeside market. **Overnight - Pokhara (B)**

Day 6 : Annapurna Region



Pokhara – Nayapul - Ulleri. We meet our trekking guide and porters at the hotel this morning and drive to Nayapul (1070m). From here we travel by jeep to Hile where we begin our Annapurna trek. The picturesque trail climbs steadily and as we climb, the tops of Annapurna South and Hiunchuli begin to merge from behind the hills. We continue trekking to Ulleri, where we spend the first night of our trek in a lodge.

Overnight - Ulleri (lodge) (B, L, D)

Day 7 : Ghorepani



Ulleri – Ghorepani. From Ulleri, the trail climbs gently through pastures and cultivated fields. The fields soon give way to deep forest as the trail climbs to Banthanti where we stop for our lunch. Beyond the village of Banthanti, there are magnificent oak and rhododendron forest. From here, Ghorepani is reached in about 3 hours, after passing some sparkling clear streams and tea shops.

Overnight - Ghorepani (lodge) (B, L, D)

Day 8 : Tadapani

Ghorepani – Tadapani. An early morning trek up Poon Hill provides spectacular unobstructed views of the High Himalayas. After enjoying the mountain scenery we

return to Ghorepani for breakfast before continuing our trek. Our trail climbs a stone staircase until we reach the ridge where we'll then trek downhill to the village of Banthanti for a lunch break. From Banthanti the trail starts climbing, leaving the high mountain forests behind and entering a field of cane. The trail then climbs steeply again before reaching our base for the night.

Overnight - Tadapani (lodge) (B, L, D)

Day 9 : Chomorong

Tadapani – Chomorong. Our trek today starts with a steep downhill walk through the forest before the trail eases as we reach Gurjung, the village of the Gurung people. From here its an easy walk to Chomorong.

Overnight - Chomorong (lodge) (B, L, D)

Day 10 : Ghandruk



Chomorong – Ghandruk. Today our trail heads gradually downhill to Kimyo Khola. Crossing the river we start our ascent to Ghandruk, a beautiful village which is also inhabited by the Gurung tribal people.

Overnight - Ghandruk (lodge) (B, L, D)

Day 11 : Pokhara

Ghandruk – Nayapul – Pokhara. After breakfast we begin the final leg of our trek. We descend steeply on flag stone steps, then continue through forests and a landslide area. The trail is downhill for about two hours until we reach Shyauli Bazaar. From here we continue our gentle descent; walking along the river bank and passing terraced fields and stopping for lunch in Birethati village, en route to Nayapul. Here we meet our waiting vehicle and drive back to Pokhara. After hotel check in, relax and spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight - Pokhara (B, L)

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Day 12 : Swayambhunath & Durbar Square



Pokhara – Kathmandu. Fly back to Kathmandu this morning and in the afternoon we explore more of the city. After visiting the beautiful Swayambhunath stupa, we walk to Kathmandu Durbar Square, which is home to more than 50 stunning temples and shrines. We'll also enjoy a rickshaw ride through the bustling back streets of the city which is a great way to observe the everyday life of the locals.

Overnight - Kathmandu (B)

Day 13 : Kathmandu

Wednesday. Our tour comes to an end today with a transfer to the airport.

An optional Everest scenic flight is offered on the morning of day 2 or day 13 (subject to availability) so if you'd like to book this please ensure that your onward flight on day 13 does not depart before midday. **Overnight - Kathmandu (B)**

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Mulberry Hotel

The Mulberry Hotel is an inviting oasis in the heart of Kathmandu. The elegant rooms are bright and airy with complimentary WiFi. Guests have a choice of two dining venues at the hotel with a rooftop infinity pool, spa and wellness centre to take advantage of

also. The hotel is conveniently located in the popular entertainment district of Thamel and a 30 minute drive from the airport.



Jungle Villa Resort

Situated at the northern borders of Chitwan National Park, the Jungle Villa's cottages contain well-furnished rooms with fully equipped ensuite bathrooms. Wake up to the sights of the World Natural Heritage Site from your private balcony overlooking the Rapti River. The resort's restaurant and outdoor bar serve a variety of cuisines and cocktails crafted from local produce. During the day, the National Park is right on your doorstep, should you wish to view the endangered flora & fauna on a safari tour, or join a village tour to learn about life in local communities.



Kasara Resort

Situated on the border of Chitwan National Park, Kasara Resort blends simple luxury with a lush jungle setting. Each guestroom boasts a private, water-garden courtyard, an indoor-outdoor bathroom space and a sun deck set up for personal dining. Alongside a restaurant and spa facilities, guests can take part in an exciting range of outdoor activities. Perhaps enjoy a scenic cruise along the Rapti River in a dugout canoe, take a guided jungle walk in search of native wildlife or cycle around the nearby villages.



Atithi Resort and Spa

Atithi (Sanskrit for 'guest') offers genuine Nepalese hospitality in central Pokhara. At the heart of the resort are its spa, which incorporates yogic methods into a range of modern treatments, and an intimate outdoor pool looking out upon the majestic Annapurna range. The all-day restaurant and lounge-bar offer comfortable spaces for guests to relax. All rooms are ensuite, with rosewood furniture, LCD television, and a mountain view.



PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the 'Per Person' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged provided there is another single traveller booked on the tour date of your choosing. If a roommate cannot be found the single room supplement will apply. Departure dates noted with a 'S' allow Solo travellers the comfort of a single room on this tour at no

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additional cost. The number of single rooms available is limited.

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
18 Sep	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
02 Oct	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
16 Oct	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
30 Oct	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
13 Nov	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
27 Nov	USD 2,495	USD 4,890
11 Dec	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
25 Dec	USD 2,395	USD 2,915

PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
01 Jan	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
15 Jan	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
05 Feb	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
19 Feb	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
12 Mar	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
26 Mar	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
02 Apr	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
23 Apr	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
07 May	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
28 May	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
10 Sep	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
24 Sep	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
08 Oct	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
22 Oct	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
05 Nov	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
19 Nov	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
03 Dec	USD 2,395	USD 2,915
24 Dec	USD 2,395	USD 2,915

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