

## A very special programme for Nepal

### DAY 01 ARRIVE KATHMANDU

Provide assistance on arrival at the airport followed by transfer to the hotel.

Kathmandu is the capital of Nepal and the Kathmandu Valley is the political and cultural heart of the Kingdom. Founded in the 8th century AD by King Gunakamadeva at the join of the Bagmati and Bishnumati rivers the founding point is the Kashta (wood) Mandap (temple), built where two old trade routes crossed, and now the oldest building in the city.

The Europhile first minister of Kathmandu in the 19th century, Jung Bahadur Rana, built many classical looking buildings and palaces in the city, in contrast to those of Newari style that existed before. The urban sprawl that makes up modern Kathmandu is in fact two cities, Patan and Kathmandu.

Overnight at hotel.

### DAY 02 KATHMANDU

#### **OPTIONAL:**

1. Have an early morning Mountain Flight. In case of a large group, the clients shall be taking this flight in batches within a gap of 05-10 minutes.

After breakfast, you will enjoy

- A guided tour covering **Kathmandu's Durbar Square**, which is one of three durbar (royal palace) squares in the Kathmandu Valley.

It is the site of the Hanuman Dhoka Palace Complex, which was the royal Nepalese residence until the 19th century and where important ceremonies, such as the coronation of the Nepalese monarch, still take place today.

- You will then visit one of the most curious attractions in Nepal, the **Kumari Chowk**. This gilded cage contains the Raj Kumari, a young girl chosen through an ancient and mystical selection process to become the human incarnation of the Hindu mother goddess, Durga. She is worshipped during religious festivals and makes public appearances at other times for a fee paid to her guards.
- You will next continue to visit **Swayambhunath** the golden spire of the 5th-century Swayambhu stupa is adorned with a colorful fluttering of prayer flags; it crowns a hill overlooking the Kathmandu Valley and offers fantastic views over the city of Kathmandu. Swayambhunath is one of the most recognizable symbols in Nepal and the painted eyes of Buddha watch all who ascend the worn stone steps.



- *This afternoon your guided tour will take you for a visit of the Hindu culture in Nepal, **Pashupatinath**.*

This is the place where holy siddhus pray and cremations on the Bagmati River are carried out. While you are not allowed into the temple if you are not a Hindu, the grounds surrounding the temple usually have a fascinating crowd of the faithful.

- *We then continue to the holiest shrine for the Buddhist culture in Nepal, **Bouddhanath**, with its large stupa, this is the place where all devout Buddhists come for a pilgrimage.*

It is not unusual to see very old devotees circumnavigate the shrine hundreds of times falling to their knees and rising again for a few steps only to go back down again to their knees. Overnight at hotel.



### **DAY 03 KATHMANDU / CHITWAN**

After breakfast, drive to Chitwan.

Chitwan is 180 Km from Kathmandu & is a 05 hours drive from Kathmandu. An elephant-back safari in the jungles of the Royal Chitwan National Park is a must for every visitor to Nepal. Less than 60 miles south of the Great Himalayan Range in Nepal's sub-tropical Terai lowlands (600 ft), Chitwan is one of Asia's premier wildlife reserves. Its 360 square miles of tall grasslands and forests are home to a wide variety of mammals and birds, including several endangered species. The park is most famous for Bengal Tiger, rare Gharial and Marsh Mugger crocodile and a large population of Asian rhinoceros.

Overnight at hotel.

### **DAY 04 CHITWAN**

Have Full day jungle observation at Chitwan National park; the highlight being the *Elephant Safari in the jungles*. Other activities are *Canoeing, Dugout canoe, Nature Walk* and *Bird Watching*. You will also be guided by Naturalist who will help you to identify the nature of wildlife and various plants and animals.

Then you can enjoy the *Native Tharu Folk dance* and *stick dance* in the evening. Overnight at hotel.

### **DAY 05 CHITWAN / POKHARA**

After breakfast, drive to Pokhara.

Pokhara is 180 Km & is a 04 hours drive from Chitwan. From Pokhara town (2,352 feet) the 25,000+ peaks of the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri ranges rise a scant 20 miles away with no intervening ridges to spoil the view. Pokhara offers the best mountain scenery in Nepal without undertaking a trek. In good weather there are splendid views right from the hotel.

Overnight at hotel.

### DAY 06 POKHARA

After breakfast,

- *You will go for an excursion trip to **Sarangkot**.*

The village of Sarangkot (1590 m) is situated on the top of a hillock just north of Phewa Lake.

One gets to see beautiful views of sunrise and sunset from Sarangkot as the sun splashes hues of red on the Himalayan range. On a clear day, the panoramic ranges of Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, Machhapuchhre and Ganesh Himal can be observed from here.



- *Later transfer to Fewa Lake. Cross the lake by boat and have Short hiking trip to **World Peace Pagoda**.*

This pagoda is situated on the top of a hill on the southern shore of Phewa Lake. It has four images of Buddha facing in four directions. The pagoda is an impressive sight and its hilltop location commands great view. It is a great vantage point which offers spectacular views of the Annapurna range and Pokhara city.

Return back to Pokhara for overnight.

### DAY 07 POKHARA / KATHMANDU

Drive back to Kathmandu takes 6 hours driving & transfer to hotel.

- *Rest of the day is at leisure.*

Overnight at hotel.

### DAY 08 KATHMANDU

After breakfast, morning will be comparatively free and closer to the time of your flight; you will be transferred to the airport in time to board your flight for onward journey.

**END OF SERVICES**