

## Kathmandu & Pokhara

Discover the unmissable sites, sounds and colours of the beautiful country of Nepal steeped in ancient cultures and traditions, a land lit with a marvel of colours and adventures around every corner, Nepal is a truly enlightening and unforgettable experience.

### Day - 2 Kathmandu

**Kathmandu: Sightseeing To City Durbar Square & Swayambhunath (B)**

**Kathmandu Durbar Square:**

Kathmandu's number one tourist attraction swarms with life. Though a few of the square's 50-plus monuments date from the 12th century, most are from the time of the Malla Kings. Probably the most famous building here is the Kumari Bahal, a building richly decorated with beautiful woodcarvings, which is home to the Royal Kumari, the Living Goddess, a manifestation of the great goddess Durga. Nearby the former Royal Palace is a Malla Dynasty dwelling, once considerably more extensive than today. Within, the courtyard Naxal Chowk, originally hosted dramatic dance performances, now it is the coronation site of the Shah kings and contains some of the finest wood carvings you will see anywhere in the kingdom. The 14th century Jagannath Mandir is the oldest temple in the area, its steps carved with inscriptions in many languages, nearby Taleju Mandir is one of the largest and finest temples in the Valley. It is dedicated to the patron deity of the royal family, Taleju Bhawani, a wrathful form of Durga who once demanded human sacrifices.

**Swayambhunath:**

The most ancient and enigmatic of the Valley's holy shrines the golden-spined stupa of Swayambhunath tops a wooded hillock. Records of its history date as far as the 5th century, but its origins are believed to be older. It is the Kathmandu Valley's most sacred Buddhist shrine and whilst its worshippers include the Vajrayana Buddhists of northern Nepal and Tibet, Newari Buddhists are the most fervent devotees

**Patan:**

Patan, the ancient city, once a kingdom in itself, is situated across the Bagmati River to the south of Kathmandu. Patan Durbar Square offers the finest display of Newari urban architecture in Nepal. There are temples devoted to Shiva, Krishna, Ganesh and Vishnu all

actively visited by residents and visitors. At the northern end of the square the ancient sunken water tap has been restored and is still in use with young girls filling huge jugs from the carved stone waterspouts. The courtyards of the Royal Palace with their ornamented windows, columned arcades, shrines and sunken royal bath are amongst the loveliest in all Kathmandu.

**Overnight:** Kathmandu

### Inclusions

- 5 nights in your chosen accommodation
- Meal as specified in itinerary  
(B = Breakfast, BR = Brunch, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and excursions according to itinerary

#### FOR EXAMPLE:

- Visit Jagannath Mandir the oldest temple in Kathmandu
  - See the golden-spired stupa of Swayambhunath
  - See the courtyards of the Royal Palace in Patan
  - See the stunning lakes with the Himalaya rising behind
  - See the sunrise in Sarangkot
  - See the Waterfall: Devi's Fall
  - Visit the Gupteswar Cave
  - Visit Old Bazaar + Bindyabasini Temple
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- Tours and excursions in mini buses/buses  
or with public transportation according to itinerary
  - English speaking tour guide
  - Admission fees according to itinerary

### Exclusions

- International flights
- Meals other than mentioned in itinerary
- Tours and Excursions other than mentioned in itinerary
- Early check-in and late check-out at hotels
- Personal travel insurance
- Personal expenses and tips for driver/guides
- Visa fees