



## **ANNAPURNA TREKKING ADVENTURE OF NEPAL EX KATHMANDU OCTOBER – APRIL DEPARTURES**

No other area in Nepal has such a splendid variety of natural beauties as the Annapurna region. It is a rare combination of long arrays of snow-capped peaks, crystal lakes, and turbulent rivers with deep gorges, Tibetan monasteries, and picturesque villages, inhabited by simple and friendly ethnic people.

On this trip we will pass through many villages where we will have ample time to take photographs and chat with the local people. Language is not a big problem as many of the local people speak English. If not, our Guide will be happy to translate for us. There are many different ethnic groups along the trail, but the predominant people in this area are the Gurung. Together with the Magar and Chettrie people, the Gurung are famous as soldiers in the British Army, better known as Gurkhas. You will experience diverse terrain from glacial valleys to sub-tropical valleys with banana trees and rice paddies to high ridges clad in thick rhododendron forest.

### **DAY TO DAY ITINERARY**

**Day 1** Depart Australia to Kathmandu with either Malaysia Airlines or China Southern.

**Day 2 Arrive Kathmandu** Met by our ground staff and transferred to your hotel situated in the tourist district of Thamel **(B)**

**Day 3 Kathmandu.** After breakfast you will have a guided ½ day sightseeing tour of Bhaktapur. Free afternoon. **(B)**

**Day 4 Kathmandu – Pokhara** Depart by tourist bus with your guide to Pokhara approximately a 6 hour drive Transfer to your hotel.**(B)**

**Day 5 Pokhara -Naya Pul –Tikedunga - (5 hours) (2050)** Today we have a very earlier departure by car to the town of Naya Pul and the start of our trek. From Naya Pul the trail is quite flat as we follow the south bank of the river. After several hours we will pass through sub tropical valley forests, the trail in some places is carved along the side of the cliff. After lunch we cross the Modi Khola river via a suspension bridge to the village of Tikendhunga (4hr walk) where we will have lunch. After lunch the trail is frequently used by pony caravans the trail is very difficult because it is quite steep at times -with many steps almost stairs of rock, but as you get used to the trail and learn to climb slowly

and regulate your breathing, the hike becomes easier. Every 20 minutes or so, there is a stone ledge built for porters to rest their loads, and you will be grateful to take advantage and rest often. We should reach the lodge Uleri by late afternoon **(BLD) (Lodge)**

**Day 6 Tikedunga to Ulleri** – After breakfast we will depart our lodge on a trail that is frequently used by pony caravans the trail is very difficult because it is quite steep at times -with many steps almost stairs of rock, but as you get used to the trail and learn to climb slowly and regulate your breathing, the hike becomes easier. Every 20 minutes or so, there is a stone ledge built for porters to rest their loads, and you will be grateful to take advantage and rest often. We should reach the lodge Ulleri for lunch the afternoon is free to relax. **(BLD) 9 December**

**Day 7 Ulleri to Ghorepani (2850 mtrs) (3 hours)**

Still we ascent but only for the next 3 – 4 hrs before reaching the village of Gorepani means "Horse Water". This village is an important campsite for traders before becoming a trekker's stop. There are two parts to this town - one in a saddle and the other a few hundred feet lower. This is a fascinating place with small shops and stalls selling local craft. Now that we are higher it will begin to get much cooler especially in the evenings.

**Day: 8 Ghorepani - Poon Hill - Tadapani (3200mtrs) (7- 8 Hrs)**

Up before the sun to climb the steep trail to Poon Hill (3200mtrs). Here you will be rewarded for your efforts with spectacular views of Machhapuchre, Dhaulagiri, Nilgiri, and the Annapurnas. After taking many photos and having that much needed steaming hot cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate, we return to Gorepani for breakfast. After breakfast we head east from Ghorepani and climb a nearby ridge with views to match Poon Hill's. Descend through beautiful rhododendron forest, passing spectacular waterfalls along the way. As we descend to Tadapani meaning "away water" the trail at times can be quite slippery so watch your step. Keep an our for monkeys or lamur on the trail Tadapani has lovely views of Machhapuchhre and Annanpurna South **(BLD) O/N**

**Day 09 Tadapani – Jinwa Hot Springs Approx 5 hours** In the afternoon take a short hike to bath in the hot springs. Overnight Lodge (BLD)

**Day 10 – This can be used as a rest day or you may like to take a hike to Chomprong village and return to Jinwa (BLD)**

**Day 11 Jinwa – Landruk- Tolka** Today you will descent about 2-/1-2 hours to the Modi Khola where you will cross another suspension bridge, and join the trail that leads to Annapurna Base Camp. It is a steep 2-hour climb to the village of Landruk, another large Gurkha settlement. Lunch at Landruk before hiking along the ridge to Tolka. **Overnight Lodge. (BLD)**

**Day 12 Tolka - Deurali- Australian Camp (1980 mtrs) (5 hours)** Leave Tolka and contour south through several tributary valleys before climbing to Deurali, it is then an easy walk to the village of Potana where you will have lunch before a short climb to Australian Camp where you will be rewarded with fabulous views of Machhapuchhre. **(BLD) (Lodge)**

**Day 13 Australian camp Potana – Dhampus - Pokhara 2-1/2 hours**

This morning we follow the ridge on a relatively flat trail, there are more magnificent view of the great giants. As you get closer to Dhampus and see Pokhara in the for ground you will be impressed with the uncut forests so close to Pokhara. The people of Dhampus have traditionally protected this forest, and government programs are only now realizing that this traditional, social forestry should be encouraged. Leaving Dhampus you descend steeply through the forest for approximately 1-1/2 hours.to Phedi and sadly the end of your trek. From Phedi it is approximately 1 hour by bus to Pokhara and your hotel for the night **(B)**

**Day 14 Free Day Pokhara (B)**

**Day 15 Bus Pokhara – Kathmandu transfer to your hotel on arrival (B)**

**Day 16 Transfer to the airport for your flight home (B)**

**Day 17 Arrive in Australia**

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**\$2990 per person twin share**

**Trip Inclusions**

- International flights with either Malayasia Airlines or China Southern \*Tourist bus Kathmandu Pokhara/Kathmandu \*9 day fully escorted lodge trek incl. all meals \*3 nights Pokhara \*3 nights Kathmandu s including b'fast \*Experienced English Speaking Nepalese Guide and porter \*Arrival and departure transfers \*Trekking permit and National Park Fees \* meals stated

**Not Included**

Meals not stated \*Gratitudes Nepalese guide and porter who will be with you for the full trip \*Visa



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