

KHOBRA RIDGE TREK ANNAPURNA



This popular trek in the Annapurna region offers unparalleled views of the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri ranges along with the diversity of Nepal. Within a few days we gain a sense of serenity as we gradually ascend through hamlets and pristine forests to the alpine heights of Kobra Ridge. The views are incredible with the sheer walls of the magnificent Dhaulagiri plunging to the misty depths of the Kali Gandakhi – the deepest gorge in the world.

We are further graced with the high pastures above Khobra Ridge beneath the amazing Annapurna South and Bharha Shikha – more commonly known as Annapurna Fang, and where ancient pilgrim trails lead to the sacred waters of Khaire Lake. Our route also offers staggering views of Annapurna South and other surrounding peaks. Cocooned by stunning mountains and peaks and hiking past lakes formed by the glaciers and ice falls of Annapurna South, perception and time subtly shift and one feels like a pioneer on a completely different planet.

Day 1 Arrive Kathmandu in the evening transfer to your hotel in Thamel. (B)

Day 2 Kathmandu Morning in Kathmandu to relax after your long journey yesterday. Late afternoons visit to Boudhanath Stupa. Stupas represent the Buddha or enlightened mind... this stupa is circumambulated endlessly by pilgrims and visitors – a full round is 150 metres. This UNESCO world heritage listed site is absolutely breathtaking. This is an opportunity to soak in the powerful vibrations of this place where countless mantras of “Om Mani Padme Hum” have been chanted. Here we will watch the sunset as the stupa lights up and we will enjoy dinner with a Stupa view at one of the restaurants that surround it. Return to our Hotel. (B)



Day 3 Kathmandu – Pokhara. After breakfast we will depart to the airport for our 20-minute flight to Pokhara. Afternoon sightseeing **(B)**

Day 4 Pokhara – Australian Camp (2232 mtrs) This morning you will have free to explore Pokhara. After lunch you will depart the hotel by vehicle to the start of your trek at Phedi. The first 2 hours is a steep climb on a designated trail to our accommodation at Australia Camp affording spectacular views of the Annapurna Ranges. **Overnight Lodge (BLD)**

Day 5 Australia Camp to Deurali and Forest Camp After breakfast you will then follow a flat trail along the ridge which affords magnificent views of the great giants and on the other side you will see Phewa lake Pokhara. The people of this area have traditionally protected this forest, and government programs are only now realizing that this traditional, social forestry should be encouraged. After lunch we will leave the main Annapurna trail and depart Deurali to begin our ascent through a magnificent forest on an old trail to our Lodge at Forest Camp **(5-6 hour walk) (B)**

Day 6 Forest Camp - Landruk – Jinwa Hot Springs (2950 mtrs) Today you will return on the same trail for approx.. 45 minutes until we reach a fork in the trail that will take us to the village of Landruk for lunch. After lunch it is then a descend and traverse before crossing the Modi River to climb up to Jinwa (Hot Springs). From the Jinwa there are fine views of the Himalayas. You can see Annapurna South, Hiunchuli and Hiunchuli. You can also see the impressive Mount Machhapuchhre, known as Fishtail, at an altitude of 6,993m. **(5-6 hours) Overnight**



Day 7 Jinwa to Bayeli Kharka. This morning it is a steep climb up to the ridge above Jinwa, then a traverse and ascent to the river before climbing up to our lodge for the night. (2871mtrs) **Overnight Lodge (BLD)**

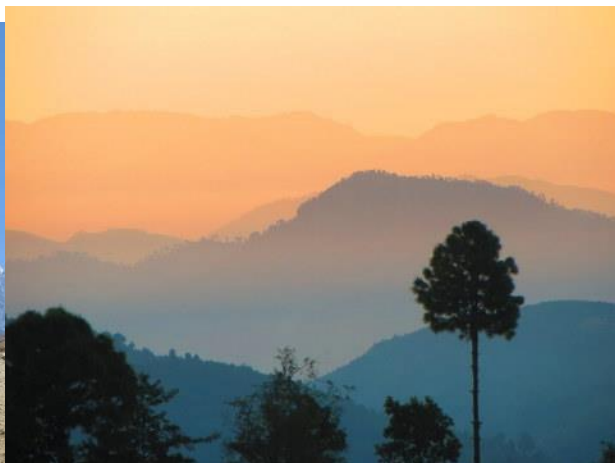
Day 8 Bayeli Kharka Again we ascent and traverse for 2 hours to Tadapani (known as horse water) where we will have lunch. **Shortly after leaving**

Tadapani we leave the main Annapurna base camp trail to walk on a less busy trail to Kopra. Local villagers follow this path to take their sheep and goats to the higher pastures in the summer months. The trail starts through rhododendron and oak forest. We often see langur monkeys swinging in the trees on this section. After a while we ascend above the tree line and follow a ridge to Deurali (small pass). We continue up to Bayeli Kharka where we stay at the first community lodge. From the lodge the main view to West is Mount Dhaulagiri. **(6-7 Hours) (3400 M) (BLD)**

Day 10 Bayeli Kharka to Upper Chistibung From the lodge we walk on a grassy slope and traverses through pasture. There are herder's huts and dzo grazing (crossbred cow and yak). We often see the colourful Danphe pheasant and this is the national bird of Nepal. There are often Himalayan tahr on the grassy ridge high above the trail.

We descend through the trees to Upper Chistibung lodge. This is at a lower altitude than Bayeli Kharka where we slept last night. For acclimatisation we do not walk to Kopra Ridge lodge today as this would be too high in altitude. Upper Chistibung is a lovely lodge and is popular with groups as less busy than Kopra Ridge lodge
4 hours (2971M) (BLD)

Day 11 Chistibung to Kopra Ridge In the morning we have steady ascent through alpine meadows and pastures. As one approaches Kopra Ridge one sees the tip of Annapurna South. It is only on arrival at the lodge that we can see the full mountain panorama. The view is very impressive and is one of the best in Nepal. You can see Mount Dhaulagiri, Nilgiri, Fang and Annapurna South. After lunch you can explore around the lodge. If you a walk short distance down, you can see the Kali Gandaki River far below in this deep valley. If you walk up the slopes behind the lodge the mountain views are even more impressive. **(3660M) Overnight Lodge (BLD) (2 hours)**



Day 12 Kopra Ridge Descent to Upper Chistibung Today we organise a day walk from Kopra Ridge towards Kaire Lake at an altitude of 4,665m. We will depart early as it is a long hike up to Kaire Lake only possible if you have an early start. The views of the Fang and surrounding mountains are superb. For those who do not want to walk to the lake can either rest at the lodge or we can organize a half day walk from Kopra. After the walk you descend down to our lodge at Kopra for lunch. After

lunch it is a descent to the lodge at Upper Chistibung taking about an hour.

Overnight Lodge (BLD) 6 hours

Day 13 Upper Chistibung to Swanta Village The steep trail down to Swanta passes through lovely forest and pastures. Along the way we get views of Mount Dhaulagiri. This provides an impressive backdrop to the fields and traditional houses in Swanta. It is worth visiting Swanta Primary school. There are two teachers funded by the profits from the community lodges. **(2500M) 4 hours (BLD)**

Day 14 Swanta Village to Ulleri (2050M) 5-6 hours) Overnight Lodge (BLD)

Day 15: Ulleri Nyapul – This morning it is a descent on stone steps to the river then a flat walk to Nyapool where we will take our private transfer to Pokhara (5 hours walking. Drive to Pokhara (1 hour). Free afternoon in Pokhara **Overnight Hotel Breakfast and Lunch**

Day 16 Free morning in Pokhara before taking an afternoon flight to Kathmandu. Evening Farewell dinner. **(BD)**

Day 17: Free Day in Kathmandu before transferring to airport for you evening flight.

Cost: Aust \$4950

Inclusions

- 1) English Speaking Nepalese Guide tour guide.
- 2) Service charge for preparation, arrangement, co-ordination before and during the trip.
- 3) 3 nights Pokhara accommodation (B).
- 4) Transfer to and from start of Trek
- 8) Fully guided and portered trek including all meals and lodge accommodation all transfers in Nepal All meals and twin share accommodation whilst on trek
- 5): Pokhara/Kathmandu/Pokhara flight
- 6) Guides flight, food wages, accommodation, insurance
- 7) Porter Assisted, food wages accommodation and insurance.
- 8) 3 nights in one of Kathmandu's 3-star hotels incl b'fast twin share
- 9) 4 Airport transfers – Pokhara and Kathmandu
- 10) Comprehensive Trip Notes
- 11) Trekking permit and National Park Fees
- 14) 1/2 Day sightseeing Bhaktapur Pasapatnath and Boudanath with city guide

Not Included

*International Airfares

*Mandatory Travel Insurance

*Gratuities

*Soft and hard drinks

*lunch/ dinner Kathmandu

Entry into Bhaktapur, Pasapatinath and Boudanath approximately US\$35

City Guide Gratuities.

*Soft and hard drinks

*lunch dinner Kathmandu

Entry into Bhaktapur, Pasapatinath and Boudanath approximately US\$35

City Guide 8) 2- nights Kathmandu including breakfast

Price excludes:

02) Private expense like laundry, IDD calls, drinks in the room, etc

03) Extra expenses and/of additional days caused due to unexpected events (delays, portorage because of land slides and other natural events.)

04) Driver's and host guest gratuities Allow \$100

06) Nepal visa



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