

Annapurna Lodge Trek Private Journey

SOARING HIMALAYAN VIEWS, EXQUISITE HILL VILLAGE TREK



WHEN TO GO

Late September to mid-May

For our Private Journey trips, you choose your own group and your preferred dates—there are no set departure dates. Private Journeys are available to groups as few as two people or as large as you like. While many guests choose to book this tour exactly as is, our Area Specialists can work with you to customize it to your wishes. Contact us for availability, questions, or to book your adventure!



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In the Annapurnas of Nepal, snowy peaks shimmer in the cobalt sky above spectacularly terraced fields, forests of giant rhododendrons, and slate-roofed villages that are centuries old. On this Private Journey, experience this extraordinary Himalayan beauty on a delightful lodge-based trek under the gaze of mighty Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, and Machapuchare. And it's all at a comfortable elevation—no higher than 7,300 feet! As you hike from one village to another in the company of your own private guide, you enjoy exploring one of the most culturally rich and scenic regions of the Himalayas. Along the way, our selection of charming lodges offers you the comfort of private rooms, en suite baths, and hot showers—and the mountain views are amazing! After our trek, you'll head to a delightful resort near a lake in Pokhara Valley.

ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel's escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—and enjoy the WT touch on all aspects of the journey.



1102 Ninth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

800-368-2794 • 510-558-2488

www.wildernesstravel.com • info@wildernesstravel.com

Itinerary

DAY 1

KATHMANDU, NEPAL (4,600')

Arrive in Kathmandu where you are met at the airport and transferred to Gokarna Forest Resort, a peaceful haven set in the former hunting grounds of Nepal royalty. The remainder of the day is free to rest and relax, or explore the lovely environs of the resort, with its forest walks, holy shrines, and bird-watching opportunities. In the evening, meet with your Wilderness Travel representative at the hotel for a trip orientation and Welcome Dinner...D

DAY 2

KATHMANDU

Once a traditional medieval city of breathtaking Newari architecture, Kathmandu has now grown into a busy urban capital. But in its hidden corners, the ancient past lingers in a maze of narrow streets crowded with turmeric sellers, small golden temples, wandering cows, and traditional workshops. In the morning, you'll explore the Durbar Square area, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with its elaborate architecture, tiny alleyways, and timeless ambiance, and take a rickshaw ride to Thamel, with its crowded streets filled with shops and vendors.

In the afternoon, you discover Kathmandu's extraordinary Buddhist and Hindu temples of Bodhnath and Pashupatinath. Bodhnath is a 1,400-year-old stupa that attracts pilgrims from across Buddhist Asia. Here, pilgrims circle the stupa to make a kora (sacred circuit), turning the stupa's giant prayer wheels as they go. With new monasteries sprouting up all around it, Bodhnath is rapidly becoming a world center of Tibetan Buddhist study. Pashupatinath, with its triple-roofed temple, cremation ghats, and wandering sadhus (holy men), is set along the banks of the sacred Bagmati River, whose waters flow south to join the mighty Ganges, the holy river of India. Pashupatinath is one of four major sites of Shiva worship on the subcontinent. The entrance to the inner temple is for Hindus only, but from the outside, the huge structure of Nandi, the Bull, and a smaller statue of Hanuman, the Monkey God, are in view. Lunch and dinner are on your own, so you can choose from among Kathmandu's wide selection of restaurants and delicious food. Overnight at the Gokarna Forest Resort...B

DAY 3

POKHARA (3,000') / LAMAKHET (3,750')

Fly to Pokhara (3,000'), a town at the base of the Annapurnas. Meet your experienced private trekking guide for a briefing then head to your trailhead, where your porters await. Your trek begins with a hike across a ridgeline in the lower foothills of the Annapurnas. Enjoying spectacular views of the Pokhara Valley, descend a trail to the Modi River Valley and to your first lodge, located near the village of Lamakhhet. The lodge has magnificent views of the spire of 22,943-foot Machapuchare, a sacred mountain locally known as "the fishtail peak" because of its twin summits. In the afternoon, you can enjoy an optional



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

Length:	11 days
Arrive:	Kathmandu, Nepal
Depart:	Kathmandu, Nepal
Lodging:	5 nights in first class hotels, 5 nights in lodges
Meals:	All meals included except 3 lunches and 4 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
Activity:	Cultural Adventures, Hiking / Trekking
Trip Level:	1 2 3 ④ 5 6 Moderate to strenuous hikes, 3-5 hours a day, altitudes between 3,000-7,300 feet

HIGHLIGHTS

- Spectacular trek below the soaring peaks of the Annapurna Himalaya
- Beautifully located lodges with breathtaking vistas, picturesque villages
- Exotic Kathmandu, with its maze of ancient temples and lively marketplaces



Itinerary (cont'd)



hike to the village of Birethanti. Overnight at Sanctuary Lodge...BLD
Hiking Time: Approximately 3-4 hours

Mountain Lodges: The upscale lodges we've chosen for this trek are the very finest in the Annapurna region, offering stupendous mountain views as well as easy access to villages. The lodges feature private rooms, solar-heated showers, and flush toilets. Plentiful meals are served, including alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, and electricity is provided by generator. To protect the local environment, all food is prepared using gas for cooking (not wood), and hot water for showers is provided by solar power.

DAY 4

GHANDRUK (6,600')

After breakfast, hike through a lovely landscape of farms outlying the village and continue along trails that follow the course of the Modi River Valley, then climb out of the valley on a beautiful trail through mountain hamlets, terraced rice fields, and rhododendron forests, with the big peaks of the Annapurnas always in view. A hot lunch is served on your arrival at the lodge in the early afternoon. The lodge is located in Ghandruk (6,600'), a beautiful village of slate-roofed houses with a maze of cobbled lanes and neatly terraced fields.

Overnight at Himalaya Lodge...BLD

Hiking Time: Approximately 5-6 hours

DAY 5

EXPLORATION DAY IN GHANDRUK

Your lodge is an idyllic setting from which to enjoy sunrise over Annapurna South, Annapurna I, Hiunchuli, Gangapurna, and Machapuchare—an unforgettable sight. After tea and coffee served in the garden, you have a full day to explore the surroundings, including the picturesque village of Ghandruk itself, the Gurung “capital.” Ghandruk is home to generations of Gurung men who have served in Britain's legendary Gurkha regiments. Today you can roam the lanes of this lovely village for a chance to learn about their local handicrafts and fascinating culture. The women of Ghandruk maintain a local industry of weaving Nepalese rugs. The unique Gurung faith encompasses both Hindu and Buddhist beliefs. The highest elevation reached will be approximately 7,300', depending on your hike. Overnight at Himalaya Lodge...BLD



Gurungs and Gurkhas: There are roughly 450,000 Gurungs in Nepal today, mostly engaged in rice and wheat farming and raising sheep. They speak a Tibeto-Burmese language and many practice a Tibetan Buddhism faith that also has influences of the Hindu religion. They are ethnically related to the Magars, Thakalis, and Kiratis of eastern Nepal. The Gurungs were one of the major groups from Nepal recruited into the British Gurkha Regiments. During the Gurkha War (1814–1816) against the British East India Company, the British were impressed by the bravery and skills of the Gurkha soldiers. After reaching a stalemate with the Gurkhas, the British were granted the right to hire them as mercenaries and formed Gurkha regiments for the East India Company army. A total of 26 Victoria Crosses, the most honored award for

heroism in the line of duty awarded by the British Government, have been won by Gurkhas. Though equipped as any British soldier is, the Gurkhas still carry into battle their traditional weapon, a 16-inch-long curved knife known as a khukuri. Gurkhas serve in the British army today and played a key role in Britain's 1982 Falkland Islands crisis.

DAY 6

LANDRUK (5,415')

After enjoying breakfast and glorious early morning views from our lodge, you set out for Landruk. Following a trail descending steeply to the banks of the Modi River, you will find yourself at the base of the cliffs where the famed honey hunters of Nepal climb on ropes to collect honey from beehives clustered on the cliff faces. Crossing a suspension bridge, trek up switchbacks and steps to reach Landruk in time for lunch. Afterwards, explore the village, a typical Gurung community, and revel in more wonderful views of the Annapurna range. Overnight at La Bee Lodge...BLD

Hiking Time: Approximately 4 hours

DAY 7

MAJGAUN (4,620')

A hike through rhododendron and magnolia groves brings you to your lodge at the picturesque village of Majgaun. After lunch, enjoy an optional hike to the pretty village of Tanchok, with sweeping Annapurna views along the way. One of the houses in this village has been made into a folk museum illustrating local traditions, and you can also visit the local school (if it is in session). Overnight at Mala Lodge or Gurung Lodge...BLD

Hiking Time: 4 hours to Majgaun; 1-2 hours to Tanchok (roundtrip)

DAY 8

POTHANA / DHAMPUS (5,741') / TEMPLE TREE RESORT AND SPA

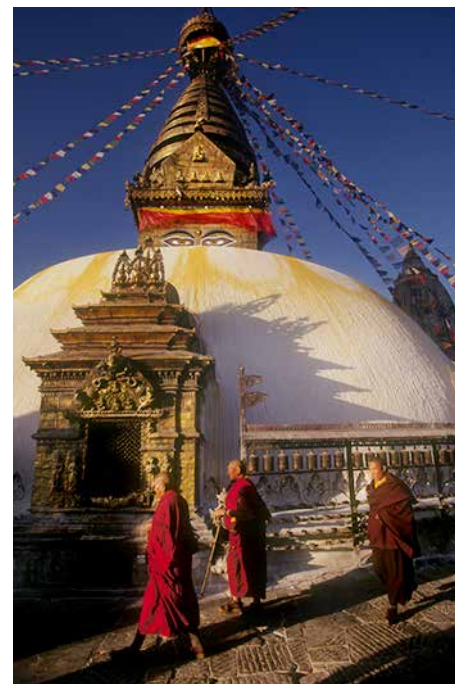
Hiking through subtropical forests and cultivated fields, pass through the village of Pothana, where many Tibetan traders live. Continue to Dhampus for lunch at a lodge with great Annapurna panoramas, then hike a bit farther to the valley floor. Here, you are picked up for a ride to Temple Tree Resort and Spa, a wonderful boutique hotel in a tranquil setting near Phewa Lake in Pokhara. The remainder of the afternoon is free to relax, take a dip in the hotel's infinity pool, and enjoy magnificent views of the Annapurna skyline in the distance. Dinner tonight is on your own, where you can eat at the hotel or choose from one of the wonderful restaurants nearby. Overnight at Temple Tree Resort and Spa...BL

Hiking Time: Approximately 4-5 hours

DAY 9

POKHARA / KATHMANDU

Fly back to Kathmandu (arrival time is dependent on flight and weather conditions), and transfer to the hotel, with the remainder of the day free for relaxing. Lunch and dinner are on your own. Overnight at the Gokarna Forest Resort...B



DAY 10 KATHMANDU

Today is for independent exploration of Kathmandu, from the bustling lanes of Thamel to the carved wooden temples of this traditional capital. Our local representatives can help organize extra excursions for you during this free exploration day (at extra cost, which you can pay directly in Kathmandu). During your free day, we recommend a visit to Bhaktapur, a fantastic medieval city located outside of Kathmandu. Bhaktapur is a showcase for the genius of the 17th century Newari artists. Its gem, Durbar Square, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that is strewn with intricate palaces and monasteries. A visit to Swayambu is also recommended. Swayambu was established as a shrine around 500 BC. By the 13th century AD, it had become an important center of Buddhist learning. Its eyes, painted on four cardinal points, keep watch over the Kathmandu Valley. A steep climb of 300 steps leads you to this remarkable place of worship. Lunch and dinner are on your own. Overnight at Gokarna Forest Resort...B

DAY 11 DEPART

Transfer to the airport for departure on homeward-bound flights (or join one of our post-trip extensions in Asia)...B



Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$3695 (6-10 members)

\$3895 (2-5 members)

Single supplement: \$795

Internal airfare: \$295 (subject to change)

Make it *Your* Trip!

The prices above are for the ready-to-book adventure outlined in this Detailed Itinerary, a popular option that has been handcrafted by our Area Specialists to include the best of every destination. While many travelers choose to book this tour as is, our Area Specialists are also happy to work with you to customize this Private Journey to suit your specific interests and style of travel. We can arrange for longer or shorter stays, or add an extension to additional places of interest. We can even add special activities or customize excursions depending on your interests. We invite you to contact us to discuss your options!

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Accommodations as noted
- All meals included except 3 lunches and 4 dinners as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Local guide and porter on trek
- Trekking permits and national park fees
- Guided sightseeing and airport transfers as noted

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, internal flights, airport departure taxes, additional costs over and above the cost of the scheduled Pokhara/Kathmandu flight if alternative transportation is necessitated by flight delays, hotels en route to or from Kathmandu, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessary due to airline schedule changes or other factors, pre-trip expenses of medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.). Tipping the trek crew is customary but entirely at your discretion.

SIGNING UP FOR A TRIP

Early reservations are recommended since accommodations often sell out far in advance. Please call 1-800-368-2794 and ask for our Asia Manager or email us at asia@wildernesstravel.com with any questions that you may have about this trip. To reserve your Private Journey, we will need to know your preferred dates of travel. We will then check availability and send you a proposed itinerary with exact pricing for your adventure. We can typically hold a provisional booking for one week. At that time, we must collect your initial deposit or accommodations will be released. We accept Visa, Mastercard, or American Express card. Upon receipt of your deposit, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a letter of confirmation, Detailed Itinerary, Trip Application, Medical Form, and Pre-Departure Information Booklet with information to help you prepare for your adventure. Please see our Cancellations and Transfer Fee Schedule for specific payment information.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$1000

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: \$500 per person

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance

Extend Your Adventure!

To help you make the most of your adventure, we've created several exciting trip extensions. For detailed information, including full itineraries and complete pricing, please visit our webpage and click on "Extend Your Trip": www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/nepal/annapurna-foothills-private-journey/extensions



SCENIC EVEREST FLIGHT

From Kathmandu, take a spectacular one-hour mountain flight for views of a Himalayan panorama ranging from Kanchenjunga (28,208') in the east to Annapurna I and Dhaulagiri in the west. The highlight is a marvelous view of the pyramid-shaped summit of Mt. Everest, the world's highest peak at 29,028 feet. The one-hour flights are typically aboard an 18- to 20-passenger pressurized aircraft. All seats provide equally good viewing opportunities, with the mountains in view on the left side of the plane for the eastward leg of the journey, and then in view on the right side for the return westward leg. Flights depart in the mornings only, and we recommend booking it during your second full morning in Kathmandu. *1 days. From \$275.*



THARU LODGE EXTENSION

Adjacent to Chitwan National Park in Nepal's southern Terai zone, Tharu Lodge offers the perfect blend of a quiet wilderness retreat fused with local cultural encounters. Built in the longhouse style of Tharu architecture, the lodge is nestled into lush forest overlooking idyllic Terai landscapes. Dine al fresco under the shade of a mango tree, take a refreshing dip in Tharu's pool, play a spot of tennis, watch elephants, or stretch your legs on a jungle walk. We offer a 2-night, 3-day extension or a 3-night, 4-day extension (call for details). *3 days. From \$935.*



TAJ MAHAL AND JAIPUR EXTENSION

Legendary Rajasthan is full of spectacular color and wondrous reminders of its glorious past. On guided excursions, explore Jaipur, a walled city of pink stone and a treasure-trove of exuberant 18th and 19th century palaces; visit the haunting red sandstone ruins of the remote Mughal capital at Fatehpur Sikri; and watch a golden sunset and sunrise illuminate the legendary Taj Mahal, an exquisite white marble palace set on the banks of the Yamuna River in Agra. *4 days. From \$2195.*



TEMPLES OF ANGKOR EXTENSION

With the haunting remains of temples and shrines scattered across a tropical landscape, Angkor is a lasting monument to the glory of a bygone Khmer civilization and one of the wonders of the modern world. With a private guide, discover majestic temples adorned with intricate bas-reliefs or entwined by encroaching vegetation, climb up towers for sunset views of the countryside, contemplate the past as you pause beside huge moats and man-made lakes, and pass through imposing gateways decorated with colossal sculptured Buddha images. *4 days. From \$1095.*

Arrival & Departure

A list of required documents (passport, visas, etc.) will be sent you in the Welcome Packet that is sent to you directly upon confirming your reservation for the trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before booking air arrangements.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Kathmandu, Nepal

Suggested Airport: Tribhuvan Int'l Airport (KTM)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, by 3:00 pm

Meeting Place: A Wilderness Travel representative will meet you outside the customs area and will be holding a Wilderness Travel sign or a sign with your name on it.

A complimentary transfer is provided from Tribhuvan Int'l Airport to Gokarna Forest Lodge.

An orientation meeting and Welcome Dinner will take place in the evening of Day 1. Please note that check-in at the hotel begins at 2:00 pm.

DEPARTURE

Kathmandu, Nepal

Suggested Airport: Tribhuvan Int'l Airport (KTM)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 11, anytime

A complimentary transfer will be provided from Gokarna Forest Lodge to Tribhuvan Int'l Airport. Please note that check-out from the hotel is 12:00 noon.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Kathmandu. Most trip members fly to Kathmandu via Bangkok, Hong Kong, Singapore, or the Middle East. A forced overnight is normally required en route.

Warning: We highly recommend you **not** book any flight schedules with Nepal Airlines. Although they are operational, they have a history of last minute schedule changes and flight cancellations.

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or

1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it may be necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary, with a forced overnight required en route or upon return (all extra hotel nights en route or return are at your own expense). The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule so we can reserve your airport transfers. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for the trip.

INTERNAL FLIGHTS

The tickets for your internal flights (Kathmandu/Pokhara/Kathmandu) are issued by our local agents in Nepal and are given to you in Kathmandu with exact flight times and information. Weather, overbooking, and other factors beyond our control often result in a trekking group not being able to depart from or return to Kathmandu on the planned day. We cannot guarantee available seats on the scheduled day, even with confirmed reservations. Wilderness Travel has, however, excellent contacts in both Kathmandu and Pokhara to assist our groups should delays occur.

In the event of a delay on the return from Pokhara to Kathmandu, we will continue to provide food and lodging in Pokhara until the group's departure. However, the trip does officially end on the stated ending date. Regardless of flight delays, trip members remaining in Nepal beyond this date must do so at their own expense.

In the event of non-availability or cancellation of the scheduled flight, the group may vote to charter a helicopter to fly to Pokhara or return to Kathmandu. Any additional expense over and above the cost of the scheduled flight—including the cost of a possible vehicle transfer, helicopter charter, and/or equipment transfers—must be paid by members directly to our agent in Kathmandu.

Accommodations



GOKARNA FOREST RESORT

Kathmandu, Nepal

Days 1 to 2 (2 nights), Days 9 to 10 (2 nights)

Perched on a hillside about four miles outside of Kathmandu, this resort is a tranquil oasis away from the hustle and bustle of the city, with manicured gardens and a surrounding forest reserve. Guest rooms are spacious, the hospitality is excellent, and there are two restaurants to choose from. Spa treatments are available, and you can enjoy a nature walk in the forest, a dip in the well-maintained swimming pool, or a game of golf on the greens.



SANCTUARY LODGE

Birethanti, Nepal

Day 3 (1 night)

The Sanctuary Lodge sits at 3,600 feet with stunning views of Machapuchare, the sacred “Fishtail” Mountain, in the distance. Guest rooms are brightened with colorful blankets and rugs made by local artisans, and the spacious communal dining room is the perfect place to recharge after a day on the trail.



HIMALAYA LODGE

Ghandruk, Nepal

Days 4 to 5 (2 nights)

About a five-hour walk from the Sanctuary Lodge, the Himalaya Lodge overlooks the village of Ghandruk, once a popular recruitment spot for Gurkha soldiers. At 6,500 feet, the lodge is surrounded by gorgeous mountain views and terraced fields, and has an indoor fireplace in the cozy communal lounge area.



LA BEE LODGE

Landruk, Nepal

Day 6 (1 night)

In the Gurung village of Landruk at 5,379 feet, La Bee Lodge is perched on a mountainside with glorious views of the Annapurnas. Simple rooms have comfortable beds, and you can relax in the gardens outside or inside by the fire.



LODGES IN MAJGAUN

Majgaun, Nepal

Day 7 (1 night)

In Majgaun, we stay at one of the following lodges:

MALA LODGE

The traditional stone buildings of Mala Lodge are nestled in the Annapurna lowlands in a bee keeping village flanked by terraced rice fields. On a clear day, you can see the magical fishtail mountain and other surrounding peaks.



GURUNG LODGE

Majgaun, Nepal

Typical Gurung-style houses, each with an attached bathroom, make up this peaceful lodge on the edge of Majgaun village. Located at 4,620 feet, the views are fantastic and the manicured gardens are a pleasant place to relax. Stone pathways lead to the communal areas where you can enjoy a hot meal and a warm fire with fellow trekkers.



TEMPLE TREE RESORT AND SPA

Pokhara, Nepal

Day 8 (1 night)

This boutique hotel is a haven of comfort and an ideal place to relax after our Annapurna trek. Two-story cottages feature private balconies overlooking a landscaped garden centered around an ancient tree that's believed to be inhabited by local deities. Guest rooms are clean and comfortable and feature Western Nepali architecture. On a clear day, you can see Machapuchare from the hotel, and there is a pool, bar, spa, and restaurant.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Annapurna Lodge Trek Private Journey* webpage and click on the “Accommodations” tab.

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is a Level 4, Moderate to Strenuous. We have five hiking days, hiking approximately 3-6 hours a day on moderate to steep trails. Most of the hiking is below altitudes of 6,500 feet, but there is a good bit of up-and-down, including sections of steep, stone staircases on moderate to steep trails, and an optional day of hiking to 7,300 feet. The Annapurna foothills are criss-crossed by an ancient network of hand-built steps that lead up and down between villages. You might want to bring a hiking pole, if you like to use one. There is ample opportunity for exploring the villages and beautiful surroundings and, of course, for photography.

The Annapurna area provides a truly ideal Himalayan trekking experience, relatively short yet intensely scenic. Incredible mountain panoramas and easy access make it among Nepal's most popular trekking areas, so please note that during the spring and autumn (the ideal hiking seasons), the trails can be busy and bustling with hikers and local people alike.

You carry only a daypack on the hikes. For your own enjoyment, we recommend that you make a special effort to be in good physical condition. Daily brisk walking and/or regular hiking (or using a stair-climbing machine at your gym) are excellent preparatory exercises. You should wear sturdy, well-broken-in hiking boots for maximum comfort on the trail.

WEATHER

In the Annapurna foothills, temperatures tend to be quite cool in the mornings and evenings, but heat up at mid-day due to the strong direct sunlight at altitudes over 5,000 feet. The Terai Plain, where Chitwan National Park is located, is about 3,000 feet lower in altitude than Kathmandu, and is consistently warmer than the rest of Nepal. Climatically, the country ranges from subtropical to temperate and alpine.

October and April: Clear mornings with clouds developing in the afternoons; hot during the day, mild evenings. Highs in the low 90s, lows in the mid 60s. In the Terai, highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s.

December/January/February: Clear mornings with clouds developing in the afternoons, warm days but cold at night.

Highs in the low 70s, lows in the low 40s. In the Terai, the mornings are misty, with the sun only breaking through the dew for a couple of hours per day. Mid-day high is in the upper 60s, evenings and morning are in the mid 40s.

November and March: Clear mornings with clouds developing in the afternoons, warm during the day and cool evenings. Highs in the low 80s, lows in the low 60s. In the Terai, highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 70s.

May through September: This is Nepal's rainy season, fascinating for those interested in the flora and fauna of the country. Highs are in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s.

PRIVATE JOURNEY GUIDED SERVICES

In Kathmandu, local representatives will provide your transfers and join you for a Welcome Dinner as noted in the itinerary. You will have a local private guide and driver for the sightseeing tours in Kathmandu, and a separate experienced trekking guide with you throughout your trek, Days 3-8.

A HELPING HAND

Wilderness Travel strongly supports the concept of responsible tourism, and encourages all our groups to be sensitive to their role in the changing, fragile environment of the Himalaya. We also believe it is our responsibility to give something back to the people who so hospitably welcome us into their villages and monasteries. As part of this effort, we are pleased to support a number of projects sponsored by the American Himalayan Foundation, including the Namche Dental Clinic in the Everest region, the Charang Monastic School in Mustang, and the STOP Girl Trafficking program, which combats trafficking by educating girls in rural Nepal.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Asia Manager or email us at asia@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel's escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—and enjoy the WT touch on all aspects of the journey.

TOUCAN CLUB

Please note that Toucan Club discounts do not apply for our Private Journeys. However, your participation on these trips will count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular expeditions. For more information regarding our Toucan Club bonus program, please visit our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Travel Notes



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2021, 10-time winner

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2021 & 2020

Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*, 2020

Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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