Namaste & Welcome to Nepal!!

Nepal is a small landlocked country with a diversity of natural and cultural wealth you will find in few places on earth. The land rises abruptly from the sweltering Terai plains in the south at 60 meters above sea level to the freezing heights of the Himalayan in the north well above 8000 meters culminating in the highest point on earth, Mt. Everest at 8848 meters - with lush sub-tropical forests, green hills and valleys in between - within a distance of a mere 200 km.

Culture is embedded in the high peaks of Nepal, tradition flows with its rivers, art traverses through its valleys and religion lies in the heart of its people. Nepal, in short, is a country where art, culture and religion are a part of life of the inhabitants.

Kathmandu is in fact one of the largest congregations of magnificent historical monuments and shrines ever built. Thus, Nepal has a unique and unrivalled glory because of the wide spectrum of values and experiences ranging from religious, ethnic, linguistic, cultural diversity to soft and hard adventures. All flavors and have an experience of a life time in the Himalayan land.

Annapurna Panorama trek will give you best opportunity to glimpse all these highlights in a very short time. These mesmerizing viewpoints will indeed take a breath away of every nature enthusiastic. This trek starts from Nayapul from where you will pass through off beaten trail with the views of bamboos and rhododendron forest and several flora and fauna that dwells this region. During this trek you can encounter with culturally rich mountain villages and you will definitely be captivated by their warm greetings and smiley faces.
Day 01: Arrival in Kathmandu (-/-/-)

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Arrive in Kathmandu. The small, mountain-sheltered Kathmandu valley is the historical center of Nepal. This capital city of the country awakens with prayer, the tinkling of the bells and chanting. This city has long been a cultural and racial melting pot, with people coming from all part of the country. Famous for its sacred temples, biggest Stupas and stunning Newari architecture it is the place never to be missed by cultural enthusiasts.

Meeting and assistance at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Our representative will collect copy of your passport to apply for necessary trek permit and provide trek briefing. Rest of the day is free.

Overnight at the hotel in Kathmandu.

Day 02: Full day tour in Kathmandu (Breakfast/-/-)

After breakfast, sightseeing tour of Kathmandu Durbar Square, Swoyambhunath Stupa.

Kathmandu Durbar Square in front of the old royal palace of the former Kathmandu Kingdom is one of three Durbar (royal palace) Squares in the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal, all of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Several buildings in the Square collapsed due to a major earthquake on 25 April 2015, Durbar Square was surrounded with spectacular architecture and vividly showcases the skills of the Newar artists and craftsmen over several centuries. Still the visitors will get a chance to glimpse the local market around the square and many street hawkers around the Durbar Square area. Although many of the temples in the square have been destroyed there remains attractions such as Basantapur tower which is (partially destroyed, it is repairable), Shiva Parvati temple (mild damage), Gaddi Baithak erected in 1908 (partially damaged and repairable), Earthquake surviving temples in Kathmandu Durbar Square (Kumari House, Bimaheshwor Temple, Kabindradpur Sattal, House of the Priest, Kal Bhairab, Kabindra, Mahhendreshwar Temple, Taleju Temple, Vishnu & Indraha Temples and Jagannath Temple)

At the southern end of Durbar Square is one of the most curious attractions in Nepal which has not been affected by the earthquake, the Kumari Chok. This gilded cage contains the Raj Kumari, a girl chosen through an ancient and mystical selection process to become the human incarnation of the Hindu mother goddess, Durga.

She is worshiped during religious festivals and makes public appearances at other times for a fee paid to her guards.
Later tour of **Swoyambhunath Stupa**

Perched atop a hill on the western edge of the Kathmandu Valley, the ancient Swayambunath Stupa (known to tourists as the Monkey Temple) is Kathmandu's most important Buddhist shrine.

The sleepy, all-seeing Buddha eyes that stare out from the top have become the quintessential symbol of Nepal.

The earthquake has untouched the main dome of Swoyambhunath Stupa, however the temples around have been destroyed and the restoration has already begun.

Afternoon, sightseeing tour of **Patan Durbar Square**

Patan Durbar Square is situated at the centre of Lalitpur city. It is one of the three Durbar Squares in the Kathmandu Valley, all of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. One of its attractions is the Ancient Royal Palace where the Malla Kings of Lalitpur resided.

The Durbar Square is a marvel of Newa architecture. The Square floor is tiled with red bricks. There are many temples and idols in the area. The main temples are aligned opposite of the western face of the palace. The entrance of the temples faces east, towards the palace. There is also a bell situated in the alignment beside the main temples. The Square also holds old Newari residential houses. There are various other temples and structures in and around Patan Durbar Square build by the Newar People.

Although the Square was badly damaged by April 25, 2015 earthquake there are many temple who are still standing tall (Krishna Mandir, Uku Bahal Courtyard, Keshab Narayan Chowk, Patan Museum)

**Overnight at the hotel in Kathmandu.**

**Day 03: Drive from Kathmandu to Pokhara (Breakfast/-/-)**

After breakfast, drive to Pokhara town **(205 kms/6 hrs drive)** through a scenic mountainous highway.

Pokhara sits at 884 meters above the sea level and below the foothills of massive Himalayas. Most popular for its lakes and mountain views, it is also a gateway to most popular trekking route of the world. Its relaxed atmosphere is removed from the hustle and bustle and is a perfect solace to nature enthusiasts. The Lakeside which is considered as the center of Pokhara is a traveler's oasis where good food, leisurely walk can fill several days if you wish to.

Upon arrival in Pokhara, transfer to the hotel. The rest of the day is free. Evening, walk around the lakeside where you will witness the numbers of stone platform designed as villagers meeting points (Chautaras in Nepali).

**Overnight at the hotel in Pokhara.**
Day 04: Drive to Nayapul (1 hrs), commence your trek to Ghandrung (1,940m/5 hrs walk) (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

After breakfast drive to Nayapul (1 hrs drive from Pokhara). From Nayapul the trail pushes up the steep, terraced west bank of Modi Khola. Then you continue to climb major settlement of Ghandrung.

Ghandrung is a huge Gurung village and is second largest Gurung settlement in Nepal and is a confusing cluster of closely spaced, slate roofed houses. There are neatly terraced fields both above and below the town.

Overnight at local lodges/tea house in Ghandrung

Day 05: Trek from Ghandrung to Tadapani (2,630m/4 hrs walk) (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

From Ghandrung the trail detours west to the crest of the fine Komrong Danda (2654m), walking through beautiful Rhododendron forest, with great views of Mount Dhaulagiri and Mount Machapuchare (Fishtail).

We will come across the place named Bherikharka with some tea shops and lodges for a rest. The trek then continues with the forest of Rhododendron trees to Tadapani. Tadapani means “far water”. The village water supply is a long distance below the village. Before the water pipe was constructed it took porters half an hour to fetch a load of water.

Overnight at local lodges/tea house in Tadapani

Day 06: Trek from Tadapani to Ghorepani (2,860m/6 hrs walk) (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

From Tadapani the trail climbs on muddy path through deep forest, with good mountain views including a view of mount Fishtail and a panorama all the way south to the plains of India.

Walk through the rhododendron forest with magnificent views till you reach Ghorepani village

Overnight at a local lodge/tea house in Ghorepani.
Day 07: Early morning, hike to Poonhill (3,210m/1 hrs). Later trek down to Tirkedhunga (1,577m/6 hrs walk) (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

Early morning, hike to Poonhill, one hour climb above, is reputed to have some of the finest mountain views of Nepal. This hike is steep uphill through the stair.

Grab a hot chocolate and soak it all in. Don’t forget a torch and your down jacket. Once you get up there and witness the sun slowly sneaking up behind the mountains. You will be surrounded by some of the highest peaks and at a very close proximity. Its fanatic!!!. Later, trek down to Tirkhedhunga.

Overnight at the local lodge/tea house in Tirkhedhunga

Day 08: Trek from Tirkhedhunga to Nayapul and drive back to Pokhara (Breakfast/Lunch/-)

Today, descend gently down to the banks of the Bhurgundi River and followed the trail along the river to Birethanti and then Nayapul. After having a quick lunch, drive back to Pokhara. Upon arrival in Pokhara, transfer to the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel in Pokhara

Day 09: After breakfast, fly back to Kathmandu (25 min) (Breakfast)

After breakfast, transfer to the airport in Pokhara and fly back to Kathmandu. Upon arrival in Kathmandu, transfer to the hotel. Rest of the day is free.

Overnight at the hotel in Kathmandu.

Day 10: Departure transfer (Breakfast/-/-)

Free till departure. Transfer to the airport at time to connect your onward flight and return with wonderful memories.

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