

Kathmandu Valley sightseeing



Nepal - Extension Options

The Kathmandu Valley has a long and rich history and a vibrant culture, and there is much that is worthwhile to see here - crowded bazaars, ancient temples, Buddhist stupas, crumbling shrines and picturesque palaces. The Malla kings who ruled in the valley created three major cities in the valley, Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Patan and each of these has buildings that are showpieces for the art and architecture of local Newari craftsmen.

We offer a selection of half day trips and full day trips in the valley.



Bhaktapur and Thimi - Half day sightseeing tour

Bhaktapur city, located just 9kms from Kathmandu, is a real cultural gem. Built in the 15th century by the Malla kings there it has many outstanding examples of the exceptional architecture and craftsmanship of the local Newari ethnic group. You will see fine palaces and temples with gilded roofs, open courtyards and elaborate windows carved in wood. The main focus for the town is the central Durbar Square where many of the finest buildings are found, including the famous palace of 55 windows which shows some of the best examples of elaborately carved windows and doors. The city is a centre for craftsmanship and is famous for its thangka painting; Buddhist subjects hand-painted on fabrics such as silk or cotton. Bhaktapur is quieter than Kathmandu city and the local people are still predominantly farmers. The town is famous for its home-made yoghurt and for pottery made from the local red clay - you can see this production going on in the so-called 'pottery square' and other side streets.

Included in your visit to Bhaktapur is a visit to the nearby smaller town of Thimi which is also famous for its traditional pottery production and for the making of colourful hand made papier-mâché masks.

Price: £90 per person based on a minimum of two persons travelling. £99 for one person travelling alone.

The price includes: an English-speaking local guide, private vehicle with driver, all sightseeing and entry fees.

The price does not include: lunch



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Kathmandu and Swayambhunath - Half day sightseeing tour

You will visit Kathmandu's historic Durbar Square with its many superb ancient temples and palaces and see Hanuman Dhoka (the old Royal Palace) and the palace of the Kumari, the living goddess - you may catch sight of the goddess looking down at you from one of the carved windows of the palace. You will also see many other wonderful masterpieces of Newari architecture and wood carving. You then stroll through the ancient bazaar and the labyrinthine back streets of the old city. Later you travel the short distance to Swayambhunath, the so called "Monkey Temple," an ancient shrine situated on top of a hill and commanding a superb view of the valley. The four sides of this ancient structure are painted with the eyes of Buddha with between the eyes a mystical third eye symbolizing true wisdom. The nose, appearing as an incomplete question mark, is the Nepalese number of one, a symbol of unity.

Price: £75 per person based on a minimum of two persons travelling. £90 for one person travelling alone.

The price includes: an English-speaking local guide, private vehicle with driver, all sightseeing and entry fees.

The price does not include: lunch.

Bhaktapur, Thimi and Kathmandu city - Full day sightseeing tour

In the morning you will visit Kathmandu Durbar Square and Swayambhunath Stupa (see description above). Later you drive out to Bhaktapur city, located just 9kms from Kathmandu and a real cultural gem. It was one of three royal cities built by the former Malla kings who ruled the Kathmandu valley in the 15th century. Here there are many outstanding examples of the exceptional architecture and craftsmanship of the local Newari people. You will see fine palaces, temples with gilded roofs, open courtyards and elaborate windows carved in wood. The main focus for the town is the central Durbar Square where many of the finest buildings are found, including the famous palace of 55 windows which shows some of the best examples of carved windows and doors. The city is a centre for craftsmanship and is famous for its thangka painting, Buddhist subjects hand-painted on fabrics such as silk or cotton. Bhaktapur is quieter than Kathmandu city. It has an almost a rural feel, with quiet brick-paved backstreets and squares. Local people are still predominantly farmers and the town is famous for its local yoghurt and for pottery, made from the local red clay - you can see this production going on in 'pottery square' and other side streets.

Included in your visit to Bhaktapur is a visit to the nearby smaller town of Thimi which is also famous for its traditional pottery production and for the making of colourful hand made papier-mâché masks.

Price: £135 per person based on a minimum of two persons travelling. £165 for one person travelling alone.

The price includes: an English speaking local guide, private vehicle with driver, all sightseeing and entry fees and lunch in a local restaurant.

Bhaktapur, Thimi and Patan - Full day sightseeing tour

In the morning you will visit Bhaktapur city and Thimi (see the description above). After lunch you travel to visit another showpiece of Newari architecture, the city of Patan. Patan has its own spectacular Durbar square and many temples as well as a very fine museum housed in an old palace where there are excellent displays of cast bronzes and gilt copper repousse work, traditional crafts for which the craftsmen of Patan are famous.

Price: £130 per person based on a minimum of two persons travelling. £165 for one person travelling alone.

The price includes: an English-speaking local guide, private vehicle with driver, all sightseeing and entry fees and lunch in a local restaurant.

All prices valid until 31st December 2019

If you would prefer another combination of sights in a tour please contact us for details and a quote.

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