

Annapurna Royal Trek: A Peaceful Journey Through the Annapurna Foothills

Overview:

The Annapurna Royal Trek is one of Nepal's shortest and most scenic trekking routes, offering a peaceful journey through the beautiful foothills of the Annapurna mountain range, north of Pokhara. The trek gained its name after Prince Charles and his entourage explored this route in the early 1980s. Starting near Pokhara, the trail passes through lush green hills, terraced farmlands, and traditional Gurung villages, providing an authentic experience of Nepal's natural beauty and mountain culture.

Throughout the journey, trekkers enjoy breathtaking views of the Annapurna and Lamjung Himalayan ranges, along with beautiful landscapes of rolling hills, fertile valleys, and traditional settlements. A major highlight of the trek is the spectacular view of Machhapuchhre (Fishtail Mountain), one of Nepal's most iconic peaks. The gentle walking pace, moderate elevation, and comfortable trekking days make the Annapurna Royal Trek an excellent choice for beginners, families, and travelers looking for a relaxing Himalayan adventure.

The trek concludes near the peaceful Begnas Lake, a beautiful destination located close to Pokhara. Away from the busier trekking trails of Nepal, the Royal Trek offers a quieter and more intimate experience, allowing visitors to connect with local communities, explore ancient traditions, and enjoy the untouched beauty of the Annapurna region. Perfect for those with limited time, this trek provides a memorable introduction to Nepal's Himalayan landscapes and cultural heritage.

Quick facts:

Cost: USD per Person

Destinations: Pokhara / Bijaya Khola / Kalikasthan / Syaklung / Chisapani / Begnas Lake

Duration: 9 Days

Trek starting point: Bijayapur Khola

Trek ending point: Begnas Lake

Grade: Easy

Transportation: tourist coach / local jeep

Accommodation: tea house, tourist standard hotel in Kathmandu

Max altitude: 1,730 m

Activities: Hiking & trekking, cultural tour, sightseeing

Best seasons: March, April, May, October, September and November

Please do not forget to carry the following items with you:

- Passport size Photos
- Torchlight / Headlight
- Warm cap
- Sunglass and sun-cream
- Sleeping bag (light weight)
- Trekking sticks
- Dry fruits and chocolates
- Down jacket
- Backpack (No luggage or hand carry)
- Trekking trousers
- Trekking shoes (No any converse and Vans shoes)

PROGRAM ITINERARY

▯ **Day 1: Arrive at Kathmandu / Meet and Greet**

Arrival at Tribhuvan International Airport. Our Staff member meets you and transfers you to the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

▯ **Day 2: Kathmandu Sightseeing and preparation for trekking**

Morning wake-up and breakfast in the hotel

Our guide will meet you at your hotel and brief you about the upcoming trek. He will guide you through all the formalities and necessary paperwork required for the trek.

After that, we then do a sightseeing tour in Kathmandu Valley of famous UNESCO world heritage sites like Boudhanath, one of the largest Stupas in the world and Swayambhunath, a famous monkey temple. Apart from Sightseeing, we also get a TIMS card and permits for our trekking on this day. In the evening, we do initial preparation for the trek.

Overnight at the hotel

▯ **Day 3: Drive from Kathmandu to Pokhara (825 m) | 7 – 8 hours drive**

We will begin our Annapurna Royal Trek journey with a scenic drive from Kathmandu to Pokhara, following the picturesque Prithvi Highway through the beautiful landscapes of central Nepal. The route takes us alongside the Trishuli and Marsyangdi Rivers, passing through terraced hillsides, rural villages, green valleys, and traditional settlements along the way.

The drive offers a wonderful introduction to Nepal's countryside, with changing views of rivers, hills, and local lifestyles as we gradually approach the Annapurna region. Upon arrival in Pokhara (820 m), we will transfer to the hotel and have time to relax while making final preparations for our upcoming trek. Overnight at a hotel.

▯ **Day 4: Trek from Bijayapur Khola to Kalikasthan (1,370 m) | 4 – 5 hours**

After breakfast in Pokhara, we will take a short drive to Bijayapur Khola, the starting point of our Annapurna Royal Trek. From here, we will begin walking through peaceful countryside landscapes, following a gentle trail across flat paddy fields and traditional farmlands. After crossing the river, the trail gradually begins to ascend towards Kalikasthan, offering beautiful views of the surrounding hills, valleys, and rural settlements.

As we climb higher, we will pass through local villages and terraced fields, experiencing the authentic lifestyle of the communities living in this region. We will take a break along the way for lunch before continuing the uphill walk to Kalikasthan (1,370 m). Upon arrival, we will rest and explore the surrounding area while enjoying the peaceful mountain atmosphere. Overnight at a teahouse.

▯ **Day 5: Trek from Kalikasthan to Syaklung (1,730 m) | 5 – 6 hours**

Today, we will follow the scenic trail from Kalikasthan towards Syaklung, passing through the peaceful landscapes of the Annapurna foothills. The route takes us through beautiful forests, terraced farmlands, and traditional villages, offering a wonderful glimpse into the rural lifestyle of the local communities. Along the way, we will enjoy the fresh mountain air and stunning views of the surrounding hills and Himalayan ranges.

The trail continues with gentle ups and downs through charming settlements and cultivated landscapes, providing opportunities to observe local farming practices and experience the warm hospitality of the villagers. As we approach Syaklung, the views become increasingly rewarding, with panoramic sights of the Annapurna and Lamjung Himal ranges.

After approximately 5–6 hours of trekking, we will arrive at Syaklung (1,730 m), a beautiful Gurung village known for its traditional culture, peaceful atmosphere, and spectacular mountain scenery. Overnight at a teahouse lodge.

▯ **Day 6: Trek from Syaklung to Chisapani (1,550 m) | 5 – 6 hours**

Leaving the beautiful Gurung village of Syaklung behind, we will make our way towards Chisapani through the peaceful landscapes of the Annapurna foothills. The trail winds through green forests, terraced fields, and small mountain settlements, providing an authentic experience of rural Nepalese life. Throughout the walk, we will enjoy beautiful views of the surrounding hills and distant Himalayan peaks.

As we continue along the route, the trail follows a combination of gentle climbs and descents through quiet countryside areas. We will pass traditional villages and scenic viewpoints where we can appreciate the local farming traditions and the simple lifestyle of the mountain communities.

After approximately 5–6 hours of trekking, we will arrive at Chisapani (1,550 m), a peaceful hilltop village offering beautiful views of the Annapurna and Lamjung Himalayan ranges. The relaxing atmosphere and natural surroundings make it a perfect place to enjoy the evening before continuing our trek. Overnight at a teahouse lodge.

▯ **Day 7: Trek from Chisapani to Begnas Lake and Drive to Pokhara**

After breakfast in Chisapani, we will begin our final trekking section by descending through peaceful hill trails towards the beautiful Begnas Lake area. The route takes us through lush landscapes, local settlements, and terraced farmlands as we gradually make our way down from the hills. Along the way, we will enjoy the tranquil surroundings and the last views of the Annapurna foothills.

We will continue towards Sundare Danda, from where we will descend to Begnas Lake. Here, we will have time to relax and enjoy a peaceful boat ride across the calm waters while taking in the views of the surrounding hills and mountains. After this refreshing experience, we will drive to Pokhara (820 m), transfer to the hotel, and spend the rest of the day relaxing or exploring the beautiful lakeside area. Overnight at a hotel.

▮ **Day 8: Drive from Pokhara to Kathmandu (1,400 m): 7 – 8 hours drive**

After breakfast, we begin our scenic drive from Pokhara to Kathmandu along the picturesque Prithvi Highway. The journey takes approximately 7–8 hours, depending on road and traffic conditions. As we follow the winding road beside the Trishuli River, we pass through charming villages, terraced hillsides, and lush green landscapes, offering beautiful views throughout the drive. Upon arrival in Kathmandu, we transfer to our hotel and relax after the long but rewarding journey. In the evening, you may explore the vibrant streets of Thamel or enjoy a traditional Nepali dinner.

Overnight stay at a hotel.

▮ **Day 9: Farewell and Final Departure**

On the final day, guests are transferred to Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu (1,400 m), for their onward flight. Depending on departure time, there may be an opportunity to explore local markets, historic sites, or cultural landmarks in Kathmandu before leaving. This marks the conclusion of the Royal trek and the journey through Nepal's spectacular landscapes and vibrant cultures. Guests are bid a warm farewell, taking with them lasting memories of the mountains, villages, and people encountered along the trek.

Alternative: YOU CAN ALSO TAKE A DOMESTIC FLIGHT FROM POKHARA TO KATHMANDU. THE DURATION OF THE FLIGHT IS ABOUT 30 MINUTES. ONE-WAY FLIGHT COSTS AROUND 125 USD PER PERSON. WE CAN MAKE A FLIGHT RESERVATION FOR YOU. PLEASE LET US KNOW.

What's Included:

- ☒ Airport Pick-up and drop Service
- ☒ Hotel Accommodation in Kathmandu (twin sharing basis) with breakfast
- ☒ Guided Tour of Kathmandu valley with an experienced tour guide
- ☒ Hotel accommodation in Pokhara (twin sharing basis) with breakfast
- ☒ Sightseeing charges and Entry fees
- ☒ Accommodation during the trek (teahouse / guesthouse / homestay)
- ☒ All meals during trek (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)
- ☒ Transportation (tourist coach / local bus / private vehicle)
- ☒ Experienced licensed English-speaking trekking guide
- ☒ Local government Entry Permit of Rs. 2000 (started in 2018)
- ☒ Insurance of the Guide and Porter
- ☒ Annapurna Conservation Area Permit
- ☒ TIMS (Trekking Information Management System) Trekking Permit Card
- ☒ Medical kits carried by the guide
- ☒ All necessary paper works, office service charge and all Government Taxes

Optional Add-Ons:

- ☒ Porter (cost: 20 USD per day, carries 15 – 20 kg load. Porter's accommodation, transport and meal is paid by the company)
- ☒ Down jacket, all-season sleeping bag, duffel bag and trekking map (in case you don't have your own. Down jacket, sleeping bag and duffel bag must be returned after completion of the trip).

What's Excluded:

- ☒ Travel insurance (Mandatory: Should include emergency evacuation coverage while trekking up to 5500+ m)
- ☒ International airfare and Visa costs (you can get Visa upon arrival at the airport)
- ☒ Domestic flight from PKR to KTM
- ☒ Personal interest items or gears
- ☒ Tips to guide / driver / porter
- ☒ Lunch and dinner in Kathmandu and Pokhara
- ☒ Extra night accommodation in Kathmandu and Pokhara in case of early arrival, late departure, and early return from the mountain (due to any reason) than the scheduled itinerary
- ☒ Beverage and Drink Items / Other Extra facilities like hot shower during trek
- ☒ Any other expenses which are not mentioned in "What's Included" section

Important note:

This note represents the most current information for this itinerary and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control. We do our best to provide you the best available services but at the same time ask for your understanding to be flexible, in case of unpredictable conditions.

Thank you for choosing Trekadvise, Nepal as your travel partner. We wish you a very pleasant stay in Nepal.