



WORLD DISCOVERY
— HISTORY CULTURE WILDLIFE —

Classic Nepal



View from Pokhara of Machhapuchhare (Fishtail Mountain) at dawn.

DAY 1 – Depart UK.

DAY 2 – Arrival in Kathmandu.

On arrival in Kathmandu you will be met by a representative of World Discovery outside immigration and customs. You will then be taken by private car direct to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

DAY 3 – Kathmandu Sightseeing.

After a leisurely breakfast, you will meet your World Discovery guide and spend the morning visiting the highlights of Nepal's fascinating capital, located at 1,337m (4,390ft) in a valley beneath the towering peaks of the Himalaya. Walk through the atmospheric medieval centre of this ancient city, visiting **Durbar Square** with its many temples and monuments, including the old Royal Palace, home to the famous 'Living Goddess'. Continue to the dramatic Buddhist stupa of **Swayambhunath**, located on a hilltop overlooking the city. The afternoon is at leisure, with the opportunity of taking an optional excursion to Patan, the second city of the Kathmandu Valley, with its superb collection of ancient temples.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 4 – Kathmandu.

A day to relax at your hotel, do some shopping, or explore some of the other attractions within easy reach of the capital.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 5 – Further Kathmandu sightseeing. Drive to Dhulikhel.

The Bagmati River is a tributary of the Ganges, and on its banks, a short drive away from Kathmandu, lies the Hindu holy site of **Pasupatinath**, where crowds of pilgrims gather to bathe and worship in the many shrines. After a short visit continue to the Buddhist stupa of **Bodhnath**, the religious centre for Nepal's large population of Tibetan exiles. There are many Tibetan-run handicraft shops close to the stupa. In the afternoon visit the glorious medieval town of **Bhaktapur**, virtually untouched by modernity and designated by UNESCO as a World heritage Site, before driving to the Dhulikhel Mountain Resort.

Meals included: Full breakfast, dinner.

DAY 6 - Dhulikhel

A day to relax in the peaceful atmosphere of Dhulikhel, with its beautiful gardens and its views of the distant Himalaya. There is a selection of enjoyable guided walks available to some of the nearby villages.

Meals included: Full breakfast, dinner.

DAY 7 – Fly to the Royal Chitwan National Park.

In the morning drive to Kathmandu Airport and fly to Bharatpur, gateway to the Royal Chitwan National Park. Transfer by road to your lodge. The first jungle activity will be organised for the late afternoon.

Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch, dinner.

DAY 8 - Royal Chitwan National Park.

The Royal Chitwan National Park is a World Heritage Site and Nepal's best known wildlife reserve. It lies in the lowland jungles of Nepal - the "terai" - and comprises 976 square kilometres of sal and riverine forest and grassland. It is a magnificent and unspoilt "jungle" environment with a greater variety of wildlife than any other area in the country. Over 480 species of birds have been recorded in the park and you can expect to see nearly half of these, as well as many mammals and reptiles which may include One-horned Rhinoceros, Wild Boar, Sambar, Muntjac, Chital and Hog Deer, Rhesus and Hanuman Monkeys, and the Marsh Muggler and fish-eating Gharial Crocodiles. Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear and Gaur also occur, but are seldom seen. A full programme of activities is included; you may choose to make excursions on foot, elephant back and by dugout canoe and jeep in search of this wildlife.

Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch, dinner.

DAY 9 - By road to Pokhara.

Depart this morning by road to Pokhara. On arrival transfer by road to your hotel. In the afternoon enjoy a short boat trip on the scenic **Phewa Lake**.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 10 - Pokhara.

The Pokhara Valley is one of Nepal's most scenic destinations, and is famed as the gateway to the magnificent Annapurna range of mountains. Dominating the valley is the almost perfectly

triangular Machhapuchhare, or Fishtail Mountain. This morning take a tour of Pokhara town, including the old quarter with its distinctive Newari houses, and the busy market. The rest of your time is free to relax at your hotel, or perhaps take a short walk in the nearby foothills.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 11 - Fly to Kathmandu. Special 6-course Nepali Dinner.

After breakfast transfer to the airport for the return flight to Kathmandu. The rest of the day is at leisure. In the evening you will be taken (unless you are already staying there) to the unique **Dwarika's Kathmandu Hotel** for a special farewell Nepali dinner.

Meals included: Full breakfast, dinner.

DAY 12 – Depart for home.

Private transfer to the airport for your international flight home.

Meals included: Full breakfast.