



WORLD DISCOVERY
— HISTORY CULTURE WILDLIFE —

Kathmandu Holiday



Aerial view of Patan Durbar Square

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.

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.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 4 – Patan. Tibetan Handicraft Centre.

This morning you will be taken to **Patan**, the second city in the Kathmandu Valley, just across the Bagmati River from the capital. Highlights of this attractive ancient city include the **Golden Temple**, a Buddhist monastery whose entrance is guarded by two brightly-painted lions; the 5-storey **Kumbeshwar Temple**, the oldest in the city; and the marvellous **Durbar Square**, flanked by the Royal Palace and many other fine examples of traditional Newari architecture. Before returning to your hotel, pay a visit to the **Tibetan Handicraft Centre**, founded in 1960 by Tibetan refugees, renowned in particular for its carpets. The afternoon is at leisure.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 5 - Pasupatinath and Bodhnath.

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. The afternoon is at leisure.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 6 - Bhaktapur.

For those with an interest in history and architecture, a must-see in Nepal is the glorious medieval town of **Bhaktapur**, virtually untouched by modernity and designated by UNESCO as a World heritage Site. A visit is included this morning. You will see the extraordinary **Nyatapola Temple**, the highest temple in Nepal, with its famous entrance stairway flanked by carved stone figures of wrestlers, elephants, lions, griffons and goddesses. Walk through **Potters' Square**, lined with clay stores and potters' wheels, and admire Durbar Square with its impressive **Vatsala Durga Temple**. Return to Kathmandu for an afternoon at leisure.

Meals included: Full breakfast.

DAY 7 – Kathmandu. Special 6-course Nepali dinner.

A day at leisure. The World Discovery representatives are on hand to organise any further sightseeing you may wish to do. One optional excursion that many people take is the scenic flight to view Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain. Other popular trips are the short excursions to various vantage points on the edge of the valley to view sunrise or sunset over the Himalayan range. In the evening you will enjoy a special farewell banquet in **Dwarika's Krishnarpan Restaurant** (transfers will be provided for guests who are staying at the Radisson Hotel).

Meals included: Full breakfast and dinner.

DAY 8 – Depart for home.

Private transfer to the airport for your international flight home.

Meals included: Full breakfast.