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Kathmandu City Day Tour

URL: <https://nepalbasecamptreks.com/trip/kathmandu-city-day-tour/>

Trip Code

NBT 029

Destination

Nepal

Activity

Nepal Tours & Trekking Tour Packages for Kathmandu
Every Traveler

Start / End Point

Duration

1

Per Person From

USD 150

Region

Kathmandu Region

Max. Altitude

1400m.

Nature Of Trek

Hotel

Best Season

All Year

Activity Per Day

2-4hrs

Transportation

Private Or Van

Highlights Of Kathmandu City Day Tour

- Visit many ancient palaces, temples, and courtyards in Kathmandu.
- Climb the stairs to Swayambhunath stupa for a great view of Kathmandu Valley.
- Watch Hindu rituals along the sacred Bagmati River at Pashupati Temple at night.
- Enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of Boudha, one of Nepal's biggest stupas.
- Explore Thamel, busy with shops, cafes, and a mix of cultures.
- Go to nearby Patan (Lalitpur) for its detailed architecture, ancient palaces, temples, and artistic history.

Trip Overview

The Kathmandu City Day tour allows you to explore the Capital City of Nepal. You can immerse yourself in a unique and rich cultural heritage by exploring this valley. Kathmandu is a famous, vibrant, bustling metropolis. You can see many important places in just one day here. Kathmandu has traditional and beautiful architecture and busy markets. The streets are often filled with the sound of temple bells. If you visit Kathmandu, try the local food; you shouldn't miss it.

Although the city is the capital of Nepal, you can quickly complete the whole place within a day. However, as a bustling city, you must face a significant problem: traffic jams. This jam can sometimes affect the itinerary, and you cannot complete the whole section of the day trek. Some of the major attractions of the day tour include prominent historical places. They are Swayambhunath Stupa, Kathmandu Durbar Square, Pashupatinath Temple, and many more. A day in Kathmandu is a journey through time, where the past and present coexist harmoniously.

Kathmandu City Day Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Drive to Swayambhunath Stupa at 8 am from your hotel

We will begin our Kathmandu day tour by departing from our hotel at 8 am and driving to Swayambhunath Stupa. This iconic site offers stunning views of the Kathmandu Valley as it is atop a hill. The place is also famous for its peaceful ambiance and intricate Buddhist architecture.

Drive to Basantpur Durbar Square at 10 am

After exploring Swayambhunath and its surrounding area, we will move to Basantapur Durbar Square at 10 am. Here, we will dive into the historical charm of Kathmandu. We will explore old palaces, temples, and courtyards that show Nepalese craftsmanship and royal history that goes back centuries.

Drive to Boudhanath Stupa at noon.

By noon, we will drive to Boudhanath Stupa, arriving at noon. This stupa is one of the largest in South Asia. It serves as a focal point of Tibetan Buddhism in Nepal. We will circumambulate the stupa, observe devotees lighting butter lamps, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of prayer flags fluttering in the breeze.

After lunch, drive to Pashupati Temple at 2 pm.

After a relaxed lunch, at about 2 pm, we will drive to Pashupatinath Temple, Nepal's most sacred Hindu shrine devoted to Lord Shiva. The temple sits beside the Bagmati River. It's busy with devotees doing rituals and cremations. We will visit the temples, ashrams, and ghats to learn about Hindu religious practices and cultural traditions.

Drive back to the hotel at 4 pm.

Finally, at 4 pm, we will finish our day tour and drive back to your hotel. This schedule gives you a deep and complete experience of the city's cultural and religious places. We will feel a mix of spirituality,

history, and impressive buildings. We will conclude our day with the best memories in the valley.

Group Discounts Available

No. of Persons	Price per Person
1+	USD 150

Trip Information

Major Attractions of Kathmandu City

Swayambhunath Stupa (Monkey Temple)

Swayambhunath Stupa, commonly known as the Monkey Temple, is an ancient religious site perched atop a hill in Kathmandu. Visitors come here to find peace, light butter lamps at the main gate, and climb the mountain to worship at the Ajima Temple. Swayambhunath is one of the *holiest **Buddhist Chaityas (Stupas)** in Nepal*.

It is believed to have emerged when the valley was created from a primordial lake over 2000 years ago. According to legend, the lake was drained by Manjushree, who cut through the Chobhar Hill with his magic sword. The name Swayambhu means “self-existent one,” referring to the legend of a lotus flower that bloomed in the middle of the lake, which people began to worship.

Kathmandu Durbar Square

Kathmandu Durbar Square is in front of the old Royal Palace of the Kathmandu Valley Kingdom. Three ancient royal palace squares from the Malla Dynasty are here, later ruled by the Shah Dynasty from the 16th century. The square shows a unique architecture that displays the skills of craftsmen over many years. Unlike Patan and Bhaktapur Durbar Squares, Kathmandu Durbar Square is a **UNESCO World Heritage site**. Quadrangles, courtyards, and temples surround the square, and a statue of Hanuman at the palace gate, known as Hanuman Dhoka Durbar Square.

Boudhanath Stupa

Boudhanath Stupa stands 36 meters tall, making it one of the largest stupas in South Asia and an essential place for **Tibetan Buddhism** in Nepal. Walking around the stupa in the early morning or evening is peaceful. People light butter lamps, put up colorful prayer flags, and enjoy the local cafes and shops for souvenirs.

The stupa is shaped like a mandala, designed to resemble the Gyangtse of Tibet, and was restored by the **Lichchhabi rulers in the 7th century**. Each side of the stupa has Buddha’s eyes, representing awareness. The stupa’s top has 13 levels, and its surrounding brick wall holds 147 niches and 108 images of meditation Buddhas, with prayer wheels placed nearby.

Pashupatinath Temple

Pashupatinath Temple is a famous and sacred Hindu place on the banks of the Bagmati River. It's about 1 km from Tribhuvan International Airport and 5 km from Thamel. *The temple is dedicated to **Lord Shiva** and is Nepal's leading Hindu site.* Many Hindus come here to pray and take part in rituals. The complex has temples, ashrams, and areas for cremation ceremonies. Visiting here can be very calming. Over 1000 people visit the temple every month.

Best Season For the Kathmandu Tour

The **best time** to visit Kathmandu is during the spring (March to May) and autumn (September to November) seasons. During these months, the weather is mild and pleasant. It further offers you clear skies and comfortable temperatures.

Spring welcomes blooming flowers and lush greenery. It enhances the scenic beauty of the Kathmandu Valley. Conversely, autumn offers crisp air and stunning views of the surrounding mountains, especially from places like Swayambhunath and Boudhanath Stupa. These seasons coincide with essential festivals in Nepal, such as [Dashain](#) and Tihar.

However, avoiding the monsoon season (June to August) is advisable due to heavy rainfall. It can disrupt travel plans and make outdoor activities challenging. But if you can manage the cold, you can travel during the winter season from December to February. Make sure you plan your trip based on your location preferences.

Kathmandu Valley Cultural Insights

During a day tour of Kathmandu, you can explore the city's rich cultural heritage. You will see Hindu people and also learn about Buddhism. You can dive into vibrant festivals, colorful markets, and traditional music to learn more about the culture. When you visit temples or monasteries, you will see people lighting butter lamps, a critical cultural practice.

The festivals celebrated in Kathmandu are a big highlight. Events like Dashain, Tihar, Holi, and Indra Jatra are enthusiastically celebrated. You can watch traditional dances, parades, and religious ceremonies during these times. Don't miss trying local dishes like momo and dal bhat, which are popular in the region. You can explore Ktm and take an exploration day, even if you are trekking to Nepal. Never miss the cultural beauty of KTM.

Local Cusion You Can Try On In Kathmandu Tour

Local cuisine in Kathmandu offers a delightful array of flavors and dishes. It reflects the region's rich cultural diversity. One of the most popular dishes is **momo**, dumplings filled with meat or vegetables, and spicy dipping sauce. Dal bhat is another staple, consisting of lentil soup (dal) and rice (bhat), often accompanied by vegetables, pickles, and sometimes meat or fish.

Newari cuisine in the Kathmandu Valley features specialties like bara (a lentil pancake), yomari (a sweet dumpling filled with molasses or sesame seeds), and choila (spiced grilled meat). Street food enthusiasts can enjoy snacks like sel roti (a crispy, ring-shaped rice bread) and samosas (deep-fried pastry filled with savory ingredients). Tea houses and cafes are also popular spots to savor traditional beverages such as masala chai (spiced tea) or enjoy a relaxing break with a cup of locally brewed coffee.

Try as many dishes as you can. Every dish you try will certainly impress you with its taste.

Transportation Available For the Kathmandu City Day Tour

Kathmandu has different transportation options to fit your preferences and budget. They offer both convenience and local flavor. You can choose various ways to get around the city and nearby areas.

Taxis and Tempos: Taxis are easy to find in Kathmandu. You can hail them on the street or book through hotels. They are a comfortable and fast way to travel within the city. Tempos, or rickshaws, are another choice for short distances, offering a slower but more relaxed ride.

Public Buses: Kathmandu has public buses covering major city and nearby town routes. They are affordable and let you experience local daily life, although they can get crowded during busy times.

Private Vehicles: Renting a car or hiring a private vehicle with a driver is convenient for exploring Kathmandu and nearby areas. It gives you flexibility and comfort; many hotels and travel agencies provide this service.

Motorbikes and Bicycles: You can rent motorbikes and bicycles in Kathmandu for a more adventurous way to explore the city at your own pace. Pathau and Indriver are two primary biking services you can book online. They're affordable and ensure you reach your destination on time.

Tourist Buses and Shuttles: Tourist buses and shuttles are available for organized tours and day trips to famous tourist spots like Bhaktapur and Patan. They offer guided tours and comfortable transportation.

Is Kathmandu City Day Tour suitable for you?

Yes, the Kathmandu City Day tour is a perfect place for you if you want a destination that offers cultural and historical richness. If you enjoy art and history, then Kathmandu is ideal for you. The city has many ***ancient temples, shrines, and heritage areas***. These places provide picturesque spots and give you insights into its diverse culture.

Furthermore, all the must-visit places are nearby, making travel affordable too. However, if history and cultural exploration are not your main interests, other activities in Kathmandu might be more appealing. It's essential to think about your preferences and how mobile you are before deciding on this tour. Whether you're fascinated by Kathmandu's architecture or prefer different aspects of travel, planning based on your interests will ensure you get the most out of your time in this lively city. Make a perfect itinerary place, or you can even book a tour with us.

Accommodations During Kathmandu City Day Tour

Accommodations are usually not included for day tours within Kathmandu because the tour stays within the city limits and finishes on the same day. If the tour spans multiple days or includes overnight stays,

you may stay at different places in Kathmandu.

You might stay in *hotels that range from budget-friendly to luxurious*, giving you comfortable rooms and amenities. Guesthouses are smaller and cozier than hotels, making you feel at home. Lodges are simple places to stay, often found in beautiful or cultural areas with basic amenities. Teahouses, which you often see on trekking routes, are sometimes used for staying in Kathmandu, offering basic amenities.

FAQs

What are the main attractions visited on a Kathmandu City Day Tour?

Kathmandu City Day Tours usually take you to famous cultural and historical places. This includes Swayambhunath Stupa (Monkey Temple), Pashupatinath Temple, Boudhanath Stupa, Durbar Square, and Kathmandu Durbar Square. In just a day, you can complete the entire tour of Kathmandu Valley.

Are meals included in Kathmandu City Day Tours?

Yes, most Kathmandu City Day Tours include lunch at local restaurants where you can enjoy authentic Nepali cuisine. Breakfast and dinner are usually not included unless specified in the tour package for multi-day tours.

What should I wear and bring on a Kathmandu City Day Tour?

It's a good idea to wear comfy clothes for walking. If you visit temples, we recommend you wear a dress covering your shoulders and knees to show respect. Bring sunscreen, a hat, comfy shoes for walking, and a small backpack for your stuff and water.

How long does a Kathmandu City Day Tour typically last?

Kathmandu City Day Tours generally last 6 to 8 hours, depending on the itinerary and places visited. This duration includes transportation between sites and time for exploring each attraction.

What languages are spoken by guides on Kathmandu City Day Tours?

Guides on Kathmandu Tours usually speak English fluently. Some tour operators might provide guides who speak other languages, like French, German, Chinese, or Japanese, based on their clients and tour plans. When you book your tour, asking the tour operator about the language options is a good idea.

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