

# 8848 Nepal

## Kathmandu-Lalitpur-Bhaktapur Tour

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### Trip Facts

**Trip Duration:** 4 Days

**Difficulty Level:** Easy

**Trip Area:** Bagmati Province

**Maximum Altitude:** 1400m/4,593.18ft

**Best Season:** September-November and March-May.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the hotel

**Accommodation:** Hotels, Resorts & Lodges

**Transportation:** Car Jeep or Bus

**Trip Start:** Kathmandu

**Trip End:** Kathmandu

### Itinerary Highlights

- Kathmandu Durbar Square
- Swayambhunath Stupa (Monkey Temple)
- Pashupatinath Temple
- Boudhanath Stupa
- Patan Durbar Square
- Golden Temple (Hiranya Varna Mahavihar)
- Kumbeshwar Temple
- Local Artisans and Workshops
- Bhaktapur Durbar Square
- Taumadhi Square
- Dattatreya Square
- Pottery Square
- Local Cuisine and Newari Culture

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### Trip Overview

The Kathmandu, Lalitpur, and Bhaktapur tour offers a rich exploration of Nepal's cultural and historical heritage, showcasing the architectural marvels and vibrant traditions of the Kathmandu Valley. This journey takes you through three of Nepal's most significant cities, each with its unique charm and history.

Kathmandu, the bustling capital, serves as the starting point of the tour. Known for its historical landmarks and vibrant streets, Kathmandu is a city where ancient and modern worlds blend seamlessly. The tour typically begins with a visit to Kathmandu Durbar Square, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, home to the ancient royal palace and numerous temples and courtyards. The square's intricate architecture, with its wooden carvings and pagoda-style structures, provides a glimpse into the artistic brilliance of the Newar craftsmen. Another highlight in Kathmandu is the Swayambhunath Stupa, also known as the Monkey Temple, which offers panoramic views of the city and a deep sense of spiritual serenity. Visits to Pashupatinath Temple, one of the holiest Hindu temples, and the colossal Boudhanath Stupa, a center of Tibetan Buddhism, further enrich the experience with insights into Nepal's religious diversity.

Lalitpur, also known as Patan, is the next destination on the tour. Just across the Bagmati River from Kathmandu, Lalitpur is renowned for its rich cultural heritage and is often considered the artistic heart of Nepal. Patan Durbar Square, another UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the focal point of Lalitpur. This square is adorned with stunning temples, courtyards, and the Patan Museum, which houses a vast collection of artifacts that chronicle the history and culture of the region. The square is a testament to the city's golden age of architecture and craftsmanship, with the Krishna Mandir, a temple built entirely of stone, standing as a prime example. Walking through the narrow lanes of Patan, visitors encounter traditional Newari houses, vibrant markets, and numerous workshops where artisans continue the age-old traditions of metalworking, woodcarving, and weaving.

The tour culminates in Bhaktapur, a city that feels like a living museum. Bhaktapur is the best-preserved of the three cities and offers a profound sense of stepping back in time. Bhaktapur Durbar Square, the city's heart, is a treasure trove of medieval art and architecture, featuring the 55-Window Palace, Vatsala Temple, and the iconic Nyatapola Temple, which stands as the tallest pagoda in Nepal. The city's charm lies in its ancient squares, narrow alleys, and the pervasive presence of traditional crafts. Pottery Square is a particularly fascinating spot, where visitors can watch potters at work and even try their hand at making a clay pot. The famous Peacock Window, a masterpiece of woodcarving, is another highlight that exemplifies Bhaktapur's rich artistic heritage.

Throughout the tour, visitors are immersed in the daily life and culture of the Kathmandu Valley. From the bustling markets of Kathmandu to the serene courtyards of Patan and the timeless streets of Bhaktapur, this journey offers a comprehensive and deeply enriching experience. The tour not only highlights the architectural and artistic achievements of Nepal but also provides a window into the spiritual and cultural fabric that continues to shape the lives of its people. Whether exploring grand palaces or hidden temples, each moment of the tour

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reveals a new layer of Nepal's rich and diverse heritage.

### Detail Itinerary

#### Day 1: Arrival in Kathmandu

##### Morning:

- Upon arrival at Tribhuvan International Airport, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel in Kathmandu.
- Check-in and Rest: Take some time to rest and freshen up after your journey.

##### Afternoon:

- Enjoy a welcome lunch at a traditional Nepali restaurant.
- Begin your tour with a visit to Kathmandu Durbar Square, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the ancient palace complex, Kumari Ghar (home of the living goddess), and various temples and courtyards.
- Stroll around the vibrant streets of Thamel, known for its shops, restaurants, and lively atmosphere.

**Evening:** Return to your hotel or dine at a local restaurant in Thamel.

#### Day 2: Kathmandu and Lalitpur (Patan)

##### Morning:

- Start your day with a visit to Swayambhunath, an iconic stupa located on a hilltop with panoramic views of Kathmandu Valley.
- Explore the stupa and surrounding shrines, and enjoy the sight of monkeys playing around.
- Proceed to Pashupatinath, a sacred Hindu temple complex on the banks of the Bagmati River. Witness the rituals and cremation ceremonies from a respectful distance.

##### Afternoon:

- Visit Boudhanath, one of the largest stupas in Nepal and an important center of Tibetan Buddhism. Walk around the stupa, spin the prayer wheels, and visit nearby monasteries.
- Enjoy lunch at a rooftop restaurant with a view of the stupa.

##### Evening:

- Head to Patan (Lalitpur) to explore Patan Durbar Square, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. Discover the intricately carved temples, courtyards, and the Patan Museum.
- Have dinner at a local restaurant in Patan, known for its Newari cuisine.

#### Day 3: Bhaktapur

##### Morning:

- After breakfast, drive to Bhaktapur, a beautifully preserved medieval city. Explore Bhaktapur Durbar Square, including the 55-Window Palace, Vatsala Temple, Nyatapola Temple, and Dattatreya Square.
- Visit Pottery Square, where you can see traditional pottery-making techniques and even try your hand at making a clay pot.

##### Afternoon:

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- Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, savoring traditional Newari dishes.
- Continue exploring the ancient city, visiting Taumadhi Square with the towering Nyatapola Temple and Dattatreya Square with its historic temples and woodwork.
- Don't miss the famous Peacock Window, a masterpiece of woodcarving.

### Evening:

- Return to Kathmandu in the late afternoon.
- Spend the evening at your leisure, shopping for souvenirs or relaxing at your hotel.
- Enjoy dinner at a restaurant of your choice.

### Day 4: Departure

- After breakfast you will be transferred to Tribhuvan International Airport for your departure flight.

### Cost Includes

- Accommodation
- Transportation
- Guided Tours
- Entrance Fees
- Meals
- Cultural Experiences
- Permits and Taxes
- Support

### Cost Includes

- International Flights
- Travel Insurance
- Lunch and Dinner
- Personal Expenses
- Optional Activities
- Visa Fees
- Miscellaneous

### Guidelines / Information

#### Preparation and Packing:

- Ensure you have a valid passport with at least six months' validity.
- Carry a printed copy of your travel insurance policy.
- Keep copies of important documents like your visa, flight tickets, and hotel reservations.

#### Clothing:

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- Pack comfortable and modest clothing suitable for both warm days and cooler evenings.
- Bring a lightweight jacket or sweater for the mornings and evenings.
- Include comfortable walking shoes as there will be a lot of walking and exploration. – Pack a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen to protect yourself from the sun.

### **Health and Safety:**

- Carry a basic first-aid kit including any personal medications.
- Stay hydrated; bottled water is recommended.
- Use hand sanitizer and maintain hygiene, especially after visiting crowded places.

### **Interaction:**

- Learn a few basic Nepali phrases; it can go a long way in showing respect and friendliness.
- Be polite and respectful when interacting with locals and bargaining in markets.

### **Guided Tours:**

- Listen to your guide for historical and cultural insights.
- Follow the guide's instructions, especially when visiting restricted or sensitive areas.

### **Photography:**

- Be mindful of photography restrictions in certain areas, especially inside temples and museums.
- Respect the privacy of individuals and communities while taking photographs.

### **Environmental Responsibility**

- Dispose of waste properly and use designated trash bins.
- Avoid using single-use plastics; carry a reusable water bottle.

### **Respect for Heritage Sites:**

- Do not touch or climb on monuments and structures.
- Follow marked paths and guidelines to help preserve the sites.

### **Conservation Efforts:**

- Support local conservation initiatives and be aware of the impact of your visit.

### **Currency:**

- Carry some Nepali Rupees (NPR) for small purchases and tips.
- ATMs are available, but it's wise to have cash on hand for rural areas.

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### Communication:

- Local SIM cards are available if you need to stay connected.
- Inform your family or friends about your daily itinerary for safety.