

## Annapurna Birding Treks

<b>Trip code</b>	0
<b>Package name</b>	Annapurna Birding Treks
<b>Duration</b>	11
<b>Max. elevation</b>	3210 m
<b>Level</b>	BEGINNER
<b>Transportation</b>	Tourist bus and private car
<b>Accommodation</b>	Hotel and Lodge twin sharing bed basis during the Tour and trek.
<b>Starts at</b>	Kathmandu
<b>Ends at</b>	Kathmandu
<b>Trip route</b>	kathmandu - Pokhara - ghandruk - Tadapani - Ghorepani - Pokhara - kathmandu
<b>Cost</b>	USD 1,150 per person

## Highlights

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## Overview

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### Annapurna Birding Treks

Expected over 175 species of birds in good season. (October to May)

The Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA) contains some of the world's highest peaks and the world's deepest valley-the Kali Gandaki River Valley. It is the Nepal's largest protected area of 7629 sq. km. It was established in 1992. The proposed conservation area encompasses the Annapurna range in Western Nepal, about 240 km west from Kathmandu. It is bounded to the north by the dry

alpine deserts of Mustang and Tibet (China), to the west by the Kali Gandaki River, to the east by Marsyandi Valley and to the south by valleys and foothills north of Pokhara. The nearest town is Pokhara, some 30 km to the south. Access is by road from Pokhara Naudanda, Nayapul, and from then onwards by foot. The ACA has an entire habitats gradient from sub tropical Sal forest to perennial snow harboring different forest types with 1226 plant species including 55 endemics, 30 mammals and over 470 birds.

Some of the good birds possible to be seen: Kalij heasant, Bearded Vulture, Tesias, Babblers, Scimitar-babblers, Laughingthrushes, Rosefinches, Finches, Accentors, Raptors, Sunbirds, Bush Robins, many Warblers, Tits, Yuhinas, Minlas, Thrushes, Parrotbills and many more.

## **Trip Itinerary**

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### **Day 1 : Arrive Kathmandu transfer to Hotel**

Arrival in Kathmandu, hotel transfer, and evening tour briefing Once you have been transferred to your hotel, you will have the rest of the evening to unwind and acclimate. Later, you will receive a comprehensive briefing about the upcoming tour, where you will be provided with all the necessary information and details regarding the itinerary, activities, and any other important aspects of your journey.

### **Day 2 : Fly to Pokhara, drive to Nayapul, Birethanti**

Fly to Pokhara, drive to Nayapul, and stay in Birethanti for an adventurous birding trip in Annapurna, savoring stunning mountain scenery and local culture.

### **Day 3 : Trek to Ghandruk (1950m).**

You can enjoy the scenic beauty of the Annapurna region from Birethanti, slowly birding, to Ghandruk village. The trail offers breathtaking views of snow-capped mountains, lush green forests, and terraced fields. Along the way, you can observe many varieties of bird species, interact with friendly locals, and experience the unique culture and traditions of the Gurung community in Ghandruk village.

### **Day 4 : Trek Ghandruk to Banthanti (2250m). overnight.**

The journey will start from the beautiful village of Ghandruk and make its way to Banthanti, which is situated at an altitude of 2250m. Along the way, you can observe many different Himalayan bird species. The journey offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains and lush green landscapes. After a day of trekking, you will have the opportunity to spend a peaceful night in Banthanti, immersing yourself in the tranquility of the Himalayas.

### **Day 5 : Banthanti to Ghorepani (2750m).**

The Banthanti-Ghorepani birding tour is a popular choice among bird enthusiasts due to the diverse range of avian species that can be spotted along the route. From colorful Himalayan monals to elusive Koklas pheasants, this trek offers a unique opportunity to observe and photograph a wide variety of birds in their natural habitat. Additionally, the breathtaking mountain scenery and tranquil surroundings make this tour a truly unforgettable experience for nature lovers.

### **Day 6 : Trek down to Hile, overnight.**

Explore the various bird species that live in the lush forests and meandering rivers of this picturesque area by taking a birding tour down to Hile. Immerse yourself in the tranquil surroundings as you spot vibrant birds like the Himalayan Monal, Rufous Sibia, and the elusive Satyr Tragopan, making it an unforgettable experience for bird enthusiasts of all levels.

### **Day 7 : Hile to Pokhara (830meters)**

Birding from Hile to Nayapul and driving back to Pokhara is a popular day trip for nature enthusiasts in Nepal. The route offers breathtaking views of the Annapurna Mountain range and passes through diverse habitats, making it an ideal opportunity to spot a wide variety of bird species. This journey promises an unforgettable birding experience amidst the stunning landscapes of Nepal.

### **Day 8 : Birding in Pokhara, overnight hotel**

Full-day birdwatching in the Pokhara Phewa wetland is a must-do activity for nature enthusiasts visiting Nepal. This wetland is home to a diverse range of bird species, making it a paradise for birdwatchers. With the guidance of experienced local guides, visitors can spot and identify numerous resident and migratory birds while enjoying the serene beauty of the wetland.

### **Day 9 : Drive back to Kathmandu, overnight at Hotel**

The drive back to Kathmandu from Pokhara offers breathtaking views of the majestic Himalayas and lush green valleys. As you descend from the hills, you'll pass through charming villages and get a glimpse of rural life in Nepal. The journey takes approximately 6-7 hours, depending on traffic conditions, but the scenic beauty along the way makes it a memorable experience.

### **Day 10 : Birding around Kathmandu valley**

Birding around Kathmandu Valley offers a diverse range of avian species to observe and appreciate. With its varied landscapes, including wetlands, forests, and agricultural fields, the valley provides a rich habitat for both resident and migratory birds. Bird enthusiasts can enjoy a rewarding experience exploring the valley's abundant birdlife in winter with colorful, yellow-breasted bunting.

### **Day 11 : Transfer to Airport for final departure.**

Complete departure Make sure to check in for your trip and drop off any checked luggage once you get to the airport. Before boarding, give yourself ample time to find your gate and get through security.

## Inclusions

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### What is included?

Airport pick up – drop by private tourist vehicle.  
Hotel accommodation in Kathmandu with bed & breakfast basis.  
Hotel accommodation in pokhara with bed & breakfast basis  
All Meals (Lunch , dinner and Breakfast) with cup of tea/coffee during the tour.  
Professional Birding guide and Porter for entire trip.  
ACAP fee and local fee.  
Farewell dinner in Nepali restaurant with cultural dance program in Kathmandu.  
All necessary office service charge and government taxes.  
All necessary pick up drop by private vehicle as per itinerary.

### What isn't included?

International airfare & necessary airport taxes.  
Nepal entry visa fees at present USD 25 for 15 days, USD 40 for 30 days and USD 100 for three month.  
Lunch & dinner in Kathmandu and Pokhara  
Temple & monasteries entry fees in Kathmandu.  
All personal & bar expenses during the trip.  
Tips for guide (tipping is expected).  
Personal expenses (phone calls, laundry, bottle or boiled water etc) and any other expenses which are not mentioned above

### Complimentary