

# **Himalayan Bird Watching Tour**

Trip code	0
Package name	Himalayan Bird Watching Tour
Duration	21
Max. elevation	3210 m
Level	EASY
Transportation	All grounded vehicals depending on group size.
Accomodation	3***hotel, Lodge twin sharing bed basis during the Tour and Trek
Starts at	Kathmandu
Ends at	Kathmandu
Trip route	kathmandu - Phulchouki - Godawari - Pokhara - Pothana - Tolkha - Ghandruk - Tadapani - Deurali - Ghorepani - Mohare danda - Ulleri - Pokhara - Chitwan - kathmandu.
Cost	USD 2,250 per person

# **Highlights**

A 21-day Himalayan birdwatching tour offers an incredible opportunity to explore the diverse avian species found in the Annapurna Himalayan region. This itinerary covers some of the best birdwatching spots in the Himalayas. Keep in mind that birdwatching conditions and species availability can vary by season, so it's essential to plan your trip accordingly.

# **Overview**

Bird watching Tour in Chitwan National park;

Chitwan bird watching takes you to mid-south of Nepal within driving distance of more than 4-5 hours. The Chitwan National park is one of the most popular and famous parks of Nepal listed in World Heritage Sites since 1984. It is also regarded as Asia's best park for Wild-Life and Jungle Safari.

Moreover, Chitwan Jungle Safari and Bird Watching offers more than you expect. You will remain within nice and comfortable hotels-lodge, resorts at night. Furthermore, you will be guided by expert naturalist and jungle guides and can enjoy the bird watching paradise at its fullest. That's why national park of Chitwan is famous for bird watching tour. You can explore the deep green subtropical jungles on the lookout for common to rare endangered birds with other wild-life. At the same time you can observe hundreds different species of bird life. The bird watching in Chitwan with other jungle activities starts from early morning to late afternoon with time to relax.

This national Park covers an area of 952 sq. km's pristine area with important value to the world ecosystems. The Jungle provides shelter for more than 43 species of mammals. Similarly, it is famous for the endangered and elusive "Royal Bengal Tiger", one horned Indian Rhinoceros, fresh water Gharial and Marsh Mugger crocodiles. Also it inhabites other common species such as gaur (Asian bison), wild elephants, four horned antelopes, striped hyenas, pangolins, Gangetic dolphins, monitor lizards and pythons. Here, you can witness over 500 species of bird-life with the likes of endangered birds Bengal florican, Giant Hornbill, Lesser Florican, the Black Stork and White Stork.

Moreover, Chitwan National Park is best-known site in Nepal for jungle safari, jeep drive and nature walk. Do not worry you will be accompanied by guide, naturalist or ornithologist. More birds are seen are Blue Indian Roller, Stork-billed Kingfishers, Bengal Florican, Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Beeeaters, and Cormorants. Common birds seen in the park includes Peafowl-Peacocks, Red Jungle fowl, and different species of Egrets, Herons, Kingfishers, Flycatchers and Woodpeckers. The best time for seeing these birds is around March and December.

Chitwan National Park can be reached by ultimate way with surge of adrenaline and scenic floats on Trisuli River. Nevertheless, if you've a very short period for Nepal tour, then Phulchwoki Bird Watching best suits you.

#### Bird watching Tour in Annapurna Region;

Annapurna Bird Tour provides a golden opportunity to explore the cross-section from Subtropical forest to the Alpine pastures. The Annapurna bird watching trail follows the lush green Modi River valley. The sunrise and sunset over Annapurna Himalayan Range is just a spectacular view from the Annapurna Base camp.

The Annapurna bird watching tour is within the Annapurna conservation area special birds there are includes Golden Eagle, Himalayan Monal, Kalij Pheasant, Spiny Babbler, Red-billed Blue Magpie; Small Racquet-tailed Drongo, Green-shrike Babbler, Green-tailed Sunbird, Booted and Bonelli's Eagle, Ibisbill, Slaty-backed Forktails, Himalayan Griffon, Lammergeyer, and Crested Serpent Eagle etc.

# **Trip Itinerary**

## Day 1: Arrival in Kathmandu transfer to Hotel

Upon arrival, you will be welcomed by one of the representative of Nature Trail Travel & Tours. He will then further escort you to your respective hotel for overnight stay.

## Day 2: Full day Phulchauki hill birding

Today, after breakfast, you will drive to Phulchoki Jungle, where you can start bird watching. A full-day Phulchauki Hill birding tour is a perfect opportunity for bird enthusiasts to explore the diverse avian species that inhabit the lush forests of Phulchauki Hill. With an experienced guide, participants will have the chance to spot rare and endemic birds such as the Himalayan Monal, Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, and Nepal Wren-Babbler. The tour also includes a delicious picnic lunch amidst the breathtaking scenery, providing a truly unforgettable birding experience. After birding today, you will stay at hotel in Kathmandu.

## Day 3: Morning drive to Pokhara - 7 hrs

Early morning after breakfast board a bus and drive to Pokhara. It's a drive of about six hours through lush green forest, meandering road through the hills and graciously flowing rivers. You will cross lively markets and clusters of villages on the road side. Lunch will be taken in one of the road side restaurants on the way to Pokhara. Upon reaching in Pokhara, you will be received and driven to the hotel. Check into the hotel in Pokhara.

# Day 4 : Full day bird watching in Pokhara wetland

Full-day bird watching in the Pokhara wetland is a popular activity for nature enthusiasts. The wetland is home to a diverse range of bird species, making it an ideal spot for birdwatching. With the help of experienced guides, visitors can spot rare and migratory birds in their natural habitat.

# Day 5: Drive to Kande and Birding to Pothana 1950m - 4 hrs walk

Our journey begins with a 45-minute drive from Pokhara to Kande, which is the starting point. The trail is good, first slowly up, then a bit steeper to Australian Camp (2060 m, about an hour), then after that slightly downhill to Pothana (1950m). You have to climb up the stone stairs, passing through terraced cultivated fields, settlements, and forests, taking you to Pothana, where you will have great mountain views of the Annapurna Range.

# Day 6: Trekking and birding to Tolkha 1700m - 4 hrs walk

After breakfast, our journey start to going down to get Tolkha through the forest. Onwe of the best ways to explore the natural beauty and cultural diversity of this Himalayas area. The Pothana to tolkha trek is one such trek that offers stunning views of the Annapurna range, wild life and Birds allows trekkers to witness the traditional lifestyle of the Gurung community.

## Day 7: Trekking and birding to Ghandruk 1940m - 5 hrs walk

After having spent a wonderful night at tolkha, we start our trek after breakfast. We descend straight down through the stone paved route with the beautiful scenery of Landruk and cross the Modi Khola and then climb up to Ghandruk. Ghandruk is big Gurung and Magar village where many nice lodges are built for accommodation.

#### Day 8: Trekking and birding to Tadapani 2550m - 5 hrs walk.

Trekking and birding from Ghandruk to Tadapani, 2550 m, is a 5-hour walk. The trail offers breathtaking views of the Annapurna and Machhapuchhre mountains. Along the way, trekkers can also spot various species of birds, adding to the overall natural beauty of the journey.

## Day 9: Trekking and birding to Below Deurali 3000m - 4 hrs walk

Trekking and birding from Tadapani to below Deurali (3000m) offers a captivating experience amidst the breathtaking landscapes of the Annapurna region. The four-hour walk takes you through lush forests, where you can spot a variety of bird species while enjoying the serene beauty of the surroundings. As you ascend towards Deurali, the trail unveils stunning views of snow-capped peaks, making it a truly memorable journey for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers alike.

# Day 10: Trekking and birding to Ghorepani 2850m 3-4 hrs walk

The trek from Deurali to Ghorepani offers a unique opportunity to combine trekking with birding. As you make your way through the picturesque trail, you'll have the chance to spot a variety of bird species in their natural habitat, especially the Great Parrotbill, which is one of the main highlights. The three-hour walk is not only a great way to enjoy the stunning landscapes but also to indulge in birdwatching, making it a truly enriching experience for nature enthusiasts.

## Day 11: Trekking and birding to Mohare Danda 3120m - 4 hrs walk.

The enthralling journey of trekking and birdwatching to Mohare Danda (3120m) requires around 4 hours of walking. The trip to this picturesque location gives spectacular views of the landscapes around it as well as a chance to see a variety of bird species in their natural habitat. This trek offers amazing panoramic views of Machhapuchhare (Mount Fishtail), Annapurna, and Mount Dhaulagiri. You will enjoy watching Himalayan birds in this location. Actually, Koklas pheasants, a rare species in Nepal, may also be seen if you're lucky.

# Day 12: Trekking and birding to Ulleri 2100m - 5 hrs walk

Trekking and birding from Mohare Danda to Ulleri (2100m) offers a captivating journey through lush forests and picturesque landscapes. Along the way, hikers can immerse themselves in the rich biodiversity of the region, spotting various species of birds and enjoying the tranquility of nature. The

approximately 5-hour walk provides an opportunity to appreciate the stunning views while experiencing the thrill of adventure on this breathtaking trekking route.

# Day 13: Trekking and birding to Nayapul and Pokhara 850m - 4 hrs walk and 1 hour drive

During early morning birding in Ulleri, you can witness a wide variety of bird species in their natural habitat. As you slowly walk down to Nayapull after breakfast, you can also enjoy the scenic beauty of the surrounding landscapes and immerse yourself in the tranquility of nature. This day, you'll pass through beautiful rice fields after arriving in Nayapull, a one-hour drive from Pokhara.

## Day 14: Explore beauty of touristic city Pokhara

Explore the beauty of touristy Pokhara, nestled in the heart of Nepal. With its stunning lakes, breathtaking mountain views, and vibrant culture, Pokhara offers a unique and unforgettable experience for travelers. Whether you're paragliding over the majestic Annapurna range, boating on Phewa Lake, or immersing yourself in the local arts and crafts scene, Pokhara is a must-visit destination for nature lovers and adventure enthusiasts alike.

## Day 15: Birding around Begnas Lake area

Birding around the Begnas Lake area is a popular activity for nature enthusiasts. The lake is surrounded by lush forests and farmland, and it is home to a variety of bird species. Visitors can spot colorful birds such as kingfishers, herons, and even rare migratory species during certain seasons. The serene atmosphere and breathtaking views make it an ideal spot for birdwatching and photography.

# Day 16: Driver to Chitwan Sauraha 450m - 6 hrs drive

The drive from Pokhara to Chitwan Sauraha usually takes around 6 hours, depending on traffic and road conditions. The route offers scenic views of the Nepalese countryside, with opportunities to stop at charming towns along the way.

# Day 17: Birding in Chitwan National Park

Birding in Chitwan National Park is a popular activity for nature enthusiasts. Located in Nepal, the park is home to over 500 species of birds, making it a haven for birdwatchers. With its diverse habitats, including grasslands, wetlands, and forests, Chitwan National Park offers a unique opportunity to spot both resident and migratory birds in their natural habitats. Whether you're an experienced birder or just starting out, exploring the park's trails and riverbanks will surely provide you with unforgettable birding experiences.

# Day 18 : Jungle Safari and Birding tour in Chitwan

Embark on an unforgettable adventure with our Jungle Safari and Birding Tour in Chitwan. Immerse yourself in the breathtaking beauty of Chitwan National Park as you explore its dense jungles and spot a wide variety of exotic wildlife. From majestic elephants to elusive tigers, this tour offers an

incredible opportunity to witness nature at its finest. The wide variety of avian species present here will also delight bird enthusiasts.

## Day 19: Drive back to Kathmandu 1380m - 7 hr drive

The journey from Saurah Chitwan to Kathmandu takes approximately 7 hours, offering scenic views of the lush countryside and majestic mountains along the way. As you drive back, you can also make a stop at some charming towns or enjoy a delicious meal at one of the local restaurants to enhance your travel experience.

## Day 20: Kathmandu Valley sightseeing tour

Kathmandu Valley sightseeing tours offer a captivating journey through the cultural and historical landmarks of Nepal's capital city. Visitors can explore iconic sites such as the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Pashupatinath Temple, Boudhanath Stupa, and Swayambhunath Temple. Additionally, the tour allows for an immersive experience in the vibrant local markets, where one can witness traditional craftsmanship and taste authentic Nepali cuisine.

#### Day 21: Trip concludes, onward journey to home

As you depart from Kathmandu and head back to your homeland, take a moment to reflect on the incredible experiences and memories you have made during your time in Nepal.

# **Inclusions**

#### What is included?

Airport pick up – drop by private tourist vehicle.

Hotel accommodation in Kathmandu with bed & breakfast basis.

Hotel accommodation in Chitwan and Bardiya with breakfast, lunch & dinner basis.

Hotel accommodation in Pokhara and Lumbini with breakfast, lunch & dinner basis.

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.

#### 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.

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