



## Winter Birding Terai Tour

<b>Trip code</b>	0
<b>Package name</b>	Winter Birding Terai Tour
<b>Duration</b>	15
<b>Max. elevation</b>	1380 m
<b>Level</b>	MODERATE
<b>Transportation</b>	Domestic flight and grounded vehicals depending on group size.
<b>Accomodation</b>	3***Hotel twin sharing Bed basis during the tour.
<b>Starts at</b>	Kathmandu
<b>Ends at</b>	Kathmandu
<b>Trip route</b>	Kathmandu - Nepalgunj - Karnali - Bardiya - Chitwan - Kositappu - Biratnagar - Kathmandu.
<b>Cost</b>	USD 1,850 per person

## Highlights

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## Overview

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**Take your natural experience in Nepal to a whole new level by going bird watching tour in Nepal during winter season.**

The country and specially the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in the eastern Terai is a bird watcher's paradise and surprisingly a large number of these birds can be spotted in and around the Kathmandu Valley alone. The hills around the valley especially Nagarjun, Godavari and Phulchowki are popular bird watching areas and the Taudaha Lake on the way to Dakshinkali is fabulous for watching migratory water fowl during the winter months.

Your winter birding tour with Nature Trail starts from Godavari forest in Kathmandu with more than 100 species of birds and greenery of the Godavari forest. On further experience, we will head towards Bardia National Park which is home to Bengal florican, lesser florican, silver-eared mesia, saurus crane and other common birds of nature. With further bird watching in western Nepal like in Karnali zone and other community forest, we will head towards the central Nepal. In the central Nepal we will continue our tour in Chitwan National Park which is home to some 450 species of birds. Moving towards the eastern Nepal, our stop will be Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve which has better sightings of an incredible variety of both resident and migratory birds that come from as far away as Siberia. Koshi Tappu will be our last station for winter bird watching tour.

## **Trip Itinerary**

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### **Day 1 : Arrival in Kathmandu. Upon arrival, pickup and transfer to your respective 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 : Godavari Forest Birding**

After breakfast, drive to Godavari, at the foot of Phulchoki hill where the Royal Botanical Garden is situated. Take a full day bird watching tour in the garden whole day. Here over 100 species of birds are recorded including: lesser Racket-tailed drongo, Tibetan siskin and the spotted fork tail other exotic birds. We take short lunch break in the area nearby.

### **Day 3 : Fly Kathmandu to Nepalgunj (1 hour flight) and drive to Bardia NP**

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the domestic airport for your flight to Nepalgunj. Upon arrival at Nepalgunj, you will be picked up by one of our representative and will be driven to the hotel inside Bardia National park. Enjoy the welcome drinks and check into the hotel. Rest and relax in the garden and around the resort. Afternoon enjoy the nature walk. At evening, have dinner and stay at the same hotel.

### **Day 4 : Half-Day Jeep Safari and Half Day Birding Walk.**

After breakfast proceed for half day jeep safari tour in the National park to see the wonderful migratory and residential birds. After enjoying the lunch in open area, start half day walking tour in the jungle and get back to the resort in evening.

### **Day 5 : Boat ride and birding tour on Karnali.**

After Breakfast, start Boat ride on Karnali River to explore the birds that come in the river shores to fulfill the thrust to feed themselves the fishes. Followed by the pack lunch, evening walk back to the resort enjoying the local life also may benefits the shot of different species of birds.

### **Day 6 : Birding in Community Forest**

After breakfast, Jeep drive to explore the community forest. After lunch, walk around the harvested land area, river habitats, river banks and open water areas to see the wide variety of birds.

### **Day 7 : Drive to Chitwan, Overnight Chitwan**

Afternoon arrive in the hotel, enjoy the welcome drink and after refreshment, have lunch. Late afternoon, explore the garden in the hotel and sometime beautiful colorful bird can surprise us with its mesmerizing sound and its beauty.

### **Day 8 : Whole Day wildlife and birding activities**

After breakfast, half day Jeep safari in National park, after lunch walk around the local village harvested land area, river habitats, river banks and open water areas to see the wide variety of birds.

### **Day 9 : Birding tour with Canoeing, Ox-cart or foot.**

After Breakfast, Boat ride on Rapti River to explore the birds that come in the river shores to fulfill the thrust and feed themselves with fishes. Back to the hotel Followed by lunch, Evening enjoying the local life of the village and different group of birds travelling for their shelter in the sky.

### **Day 10 : Early morning birding tour and Drive to Koshi Tappu (5-6 hours)**

Early morning, birding tour in National Park and after the breakfast drive to Koshi Tappu. Upon arrival, refreshment and roam around the camp, rest and dinner overnight.

### **Day 11 : Rafting in Koshi river, sighting migratory birds**

This day starts with a wakeup call, as the best time to see the birds is in the early morning, which may benefit the early wakers with the crows and Bitterns.

Breakfast will be followed by a full-day birdwatching walk inside the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve with a packed lunch. The area between the Camp and Kusaha (Park Headquarters) is the best area for birds and wildlife. The thin Indian Rosewood forest provides excellent habitat for Warblers, Flycatchers, orioles, Bush Warblers, raptors, and a large variety of Waders. Returning to the camp by late afternoon for a cup of tea, coffee, or a bottle of chilled beer! Dinner is followed by a briefing for the next day's program.

### **Day 12 : Birding drive to Koshi barrage see birds.**

Today we make an early morning start after breakfast. We spent a good few hours floating down the Koshi River on a rubber boat. We shall spend the day looking for waders, raptors, and some Wild Water Buffaloes on the sand banks. We will find a good spot to enjoy the packed lunches. We will come to the end of our trip by early afternoon, with a good few hours to explore the ponds and lagoons on our way back to camp. Driving back to camp will give us a

A good chance to see the rare and endangered Swamp Francolin, a specialty for Koshi,

### **Day 13 : Morning Birding tour, drive airport and fly to KTM (45 minutes flights).**

Today's morning will be spent well birdwatching around the camp premises before breakfast. Afterwards, we take time off for packing. Depending upon the flight time, you will be driven towards Biratnagar airport 2 hours prior the flight schedule.

### **Day 14 : Leisure day in Kathmandu (Optional sightseeing tour upon your request)**

After the long rewarding birding tour, free day for the clients either to shop or rest day before departure. We can even include sightseeing tour among the most famous places of Kathmandu on this day. Please advise for the same.

### **Day 15 : Drive to Airport, final departure.**

Transfer to airport for final Departure depending upon the flight time.

## **Inclusions**

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### **What is included?**

- Airport pick up – drop by private tourist vehicle.
- Domestic flight (Kathmandu - Nepalgunj & Biratnagar - Kathmandu ).
- All round grounded vehicles depending on group size.
- Hotel accommodation in Kathmandu with bed & breakfast basis.
- All Meals ( Lunch, Dinner and Breakfast) with cup of Tea/Coffee during the Tour.
- Professional Birding guide for entire trip.

National park 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.

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**