

Buddha's trail – 12 nights



Tour Highlights

Nepal –

Lumbini*
Mayadevi Temple*
Tilourakot
Boudhanath*
Swyambhunath*
Pasupati nath*
Ashoka Pillar

India–

Mahabodhi Temple
Mahairvana Temple
Girdhkut Parvat (hill)
Dhamaek stupa
Ashoka Pillar

*UNESCO world heritage sites

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Day 1: Kathmandu – Nepali cultural show with dinner

Arrive Kathmandu. Welcome by tour escorts at the airport and transfer to hotel. Check in at hotel. Pick up in the evening for Nepali cultural show with dinner. Here you will enjoy typical Nepali meal with variety of traditional Nepali dances and song. After dinner you will be dropped to the hotel.

Day 2: Kathmandu

After breakfast, you will be driven to **Boudhanath stupa** to start cultural tour of Kathmandu. Boudhanath is listed in UNESCO world heritage site, which is magnificent ancient Buddhist stupa. You can take short stroll around the stupa and see Tibetan lifestyle. Take a short ride towards **Kapan monastery**, listen prayer from the monks and tour the monastery.

After Boudha you will be driven towards **Pasupatinath** temple. Pasupatinath is considered one of the greatest temples for Hindu and especially for Shiva followers. Here you can also see Hindu way of worship and also the last rituals being done. After Pasupatinath darsan, you will be driven 15kms east, towards historical Bhaktapur. Here you can see evidence of bygone period lifestyle unfold in your own eyes along with unmatched not only pagoda temples, houses but whole city itself. After spending some quality time, you will be driven back to Kathmandu hotel.

Day 3: Kathmandu – Varanasi

After breakfast, transfer to Kathmandu International Airport and fly to Varanasi. You will be received in Varanasi airport and transfer to hotel.

Day 4: Varanasi – Sarnath

After breakfast, we then take our pilgrimage tour of Sarnath, where you can visit museum, ruins of Dhamaek Stupa, Ashoka Pillar, Moolghadikuti. Drive back to hotel by late afternoon.

Day 5: Varanasi – Bodhgaya (300kms/ 7 hrs drive)

After breakfast, take a long drive towards Bodhgaya, check in at hotel and re-fresh. In the evening take a tour towards Mahabodhi temple.

Day 6: Bodhgaya

After breakfast, visit to the monasteries and Sujata Tree where Gautama Buddha achieved enlightenment.

Day 7: Bodhgaya- Rajgir (90 kms / 2 hrs)

After breakfast, drive to Rajgir. Upon arrival visit Vulture peak known as Girdhkut Parvat. Check in at hotel.

Day 8: Rajgir- Kushinagar (400kms/9hrs)

After breakfast drive towards Kushinagar. Upon arrival visit the Mahairvana Temple, the huge statue of the reclining Buddha.

Day 9: Kushinagar - Sravasti (225kms/5hrs)

After breakfast, drive to Sravasti on arrival check in and freshen up. Later visit to Jetvana Garden.

Day 10: Sravasti – Lumbini (225 kms / 5 hrs)

After breakfast, drive towards Lumbini and check in at hotel and fresh up. Visit birth place of Lord Buddha, Maya Devi Temple, Sacred Pond and Ashoka Pillar.

Day 11: Lumbini

After breakfast, we take an excursion to Tilaurakot (27 km or 17 miles) to the west, the ancient capital of Kapilavastu, the kingdom of the Sakya dynasty in which family Lord Buddha was born. The ruin of a palace is found here which clearly shows the gate through which Lord Buddha walked out of his palace renouncing all worldly **possessions** in the quest for Nirvana. We return to Lumbini/Bhairahawa after the full-day excursion and spend the night hotel in Lumbini.

Day 12: Lumbini- Kathmandu

After breakfast, take rest till departure. Transfer to airport and fly towards Kathmandu.

Day 13: Kathmandu - departure

After breakfast, transfer to airport for final departure.