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Pokhara Muktinath Biking Tour

URL: https://himalaya-discovery.com/trip/pokhara-muktinath-biking-tour/

Destination
Nepal

Activity
Biking

Start / End Point
Pokhara / Pokhara

Duration
11

Max. Altitude
3800m

Best Season
February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November, December.

Group Size
2 – 10

Moderate

Trip Overview

Pokhara Muktinath Biking Tour explores the beautiful Pokhara and Annapurna region of Nepal. Muktinath is a pilgrimage centre for Buddhists and Hindus; you will see Tibetan traders as well as Sadhus from the far south of India. The shrines, in a grove of trees, include a Buddhist monastery and the Vishnu temple of Jiwala Mayi.

An old temple nearby shelters a spring and natural gas jets, which provides Muktinath's famous eternal flame. The earth-water-fire combination accounts for Muktinath's great religious significance. Spectacular views of the Dhaulagiri, Nilgiri, Tukuche peak and several other 8,000m peaks are visible Jomsom is a modern town is the 'Thakali' homeland. Thakali people are of Tibetan origin but have their own language and customs.

We fly to Jomsom from Kathmandu and initially we ride through a popular trekking trail, which leads us to many different wonderful villages rich in cultural and architectural point of view. Riding on the rocky wide and small track from Jomsom, we descend slowly to meet the paved road which takes to the beautiful Pokhara city lying on the foothill of Annapurna Mountain Range.

Unlike the rest of the Nepalese Himalayas, the Annapurna mountain range does not form the border between Nepal and Tibet. In Pokhara, the delightful scenic lakeside town with the spectacular backdrop of Machhapuchhre (the "Fishtail" mountain) rising behind it all creates an ambiance of peace and relaxation.

Pokhara is nestled in a tranquil valley and sports a tropical feel, a fact well appreciated by the beautiful

diversity of flowers that bloom throughout. There are innumerable must-see places to discover, from the holy Gupteshower cave to the historical museums (dedicated to the famous Gurkha Warriors), Sarangkot hill and the World Peace Pagoda.

Itinerary

Day 01: Arrive in Kathmandu.

Upon your arrival in the Kathmandu airport after completing your custom formalities Visa, etc. pick up your luggage and look for our airport representative from Himalaya Discovery Adventures, who will display your name on the board at the arrival gate.

You will be greeted by our representative and transferred to the hotel by private tourist vehicle. Overnight in Kathmandu.

Highest Altitude:
1400m

Day 02: Free in Kathmandu for sightseeing and pre briefing and gear check.

Today is free for sightseeing in Kathmandu. You may wish to visit Durbar Square in the heart of the old city where the old Royal Palace, with its intricate woodcarving is located. The whole area is a maze of temples and images. Leading away from the square in all directions are narrow alleys, full of the most amazing variety of shops and stalls.

Some of these landmarks are considered World Heritage Sites including the historic Bhaktapur Durbar Square, the famous ‘Monkey Temple’ Swayambhunath and Buddhists shrine Buddhanath which is one of the largest Stupas in the world.

There will also be a full trip briefing today with gear check. In case you need to hire or buy equipment locally there will be time to do this today. Overnight in Kathmandu.

Day 03: Drive to Pokhara by tourist bus.

Pokhara is a beautiful valley town, with panoramic views of Annapurna, Machapuchare, and Dhaulagiri in the west, Lamjung Himal and Manaslu in the east. The town of Pokhara is considerably less hectic than Kathmandu and is the starting point of your trip.

Discover beautiful Fewa Lake, known for its tranquility and picture perfect postcards; or visit Devi Falls, a minor waterfall named after a tourist that fell inside. Overnight at hotel in Pokhara.

Highest Altitude:
900m

Day 04: Fllight to Jomsom, assemble the bikes and ride to Kagbeni.

There are numerous flights that service the Jomsom airstrip early each day before the Kali Gandaki wind picks up by mid-morning.

To get used with the altitude and the weather condition, we assemble the bikes as soon as we land in Jomsom and ride the relatively flat river trail to Kagbeni, the border-town of the recently forbidden Mustang Kingdom. Overnight at guesthouse.
Rideable: 100%

Highest Altitude:
2900m

Day 05: Kagbeni to Muktinath.

After breakfast early in the morning, we ride up hill, gaining almost 1,000m in elevation, as we head towards Muktinath. This is the highest point of this trip. The landscape is extremely dry and desert-like.

You may come across a handful of trekkers and pilgrims, mainly from India, on their way to the holy temple with the eternal flame in Muktinath that burns from a natural gas source.

Reaching the culturally and religiously site with stunning mountain views is quite an achievement. Overnight at guesthouse.
Rideable 100%

Highest Altitude:
3800m

Day 06: Muktinath to Marpha.

With thrilling views of the Dhaulagiri and several other 8,000m peaks on our sight we begin our descent. On the way we pass yak herds and experience the centuries-old lifestyle of the local people. We ride through Lupra where black magic and human sacrifices (on dead bodies) are a part of the community rituals.

We call it a day in Marpha – a picturesque community known for its apple orchards. The flagstone-lined village of Marpha is popular for apple farming. Don’t forget to try some local apply wine and brandy. Overnight at guesthouse.
Rideable: 70%

Highest Altitude:
2670m

Day 07: Marpha to Tatopani.

With a fantastic downhill ahead of us, we begin our descent towards Tato Pani (hot water), which in the local language means hot water.

At the end of the ride, you can pamper yourself in the natural hot spring, which is located besides the Kali Gandaki River, hence giving you the time and space to loosen up your muscles and chill to the natural sound of the wilderness. Overnight at guesthouse.
Rideable: 100%

Highest Altitude:
1190m

Day 08: Tatopani to Sarangkot.

We carry on descending further down towards Beni following the Kali Gandaki River, before finally reaching the Baglung highway.

We follow the highway up to Nau Danda and then take the dirt road to Sarangkot, which also happens to be the number one viewpoint in Pokhara to enjoy the views of the Himalayas along with the sunrise and sunset. Overnight at guesthouse.
Rideable: 100%

Highest Altitude:
1592m

Day 09: Sarangkot to Pokhara.

Today we ride through a steep and narrow trail to Pokhara. Make sure you check your brakes before you start a 90% downhill.

Pokhara is the starting or finishing point for some of Nepal’s most popular treks. The lakes with the magnificent Fishtail dominate the mountain ranges. Overnight at guesthouse.
Trail: 100% rideable

Highest Altitude:
830m

Day 10: Drive back to Kathmandu.

We depart at approximately 7.30 am for Kathmandu by tourist bus. We arrive back in Kathmandu at around 2-3.00 pm. Overnight in Kathmandu.

Highest Altitude:

1400m

Day 11: Free day / Fly to home.

Today is rest and relax throughout the day. If you get interested to take some gifts from Nepal for friends and relatives, visit to some nearby shops or go out in Thamel for typical Nepalese goods.

In the evening we will have a farewell dinner in a traditional Nepalese restaurant with cultural performances. Overnight in Kathmandu.

Day 12: Fly to home.

The trip concludes, we will drop you to the airport for your flight departure from Nepal.

Price Includes

- Airport pickup and drop by private car / van / bus.
- 2-nights hotel accommodation in Pokhara with breakfast.
- Transportation from and to Kathmandu bus / 4WD.
- Three meals a day (breakfast, lunch and dinner) during the trip.
- Hot drinks. (tea, coffee, hot milk, hot chocolate) three times a day.
- All accommodation during the trip.
- All necessary paperwork for the Annapurna conservation permit .
- Trekking information management system (Tims) permit.
- From Kathmandu – Pokhara – Kathmandu by deluxe tourist bus.
- English speaking, trained government license holder biking guide.
- Porters to carry your luggage during the trip. (1 porter for 2 people)
- 1 guide for up to 4 pax
- 1 guide and 1 assistant guide for 7 to 12 pax
- 2 guides for 10 to 20 pax
- 2 guides and 1 assistant guide for 15 and above
- Mountain bike for the number of days riding. The brands include Cube, Trek and Giant hardtail or full-suspension bikes, depending on your choice.
- Accommodation / salary / food / drinks / insurance / equipment / for staff.
- Sleeping bag (if it is required)
- All government taxes.

- Farewell dinner with culture show.

Price Excludes

- International airfare and Nepal entry visa.
- Travel insurance which covers emergency Rescue and Evacuation.
- Biking attire and other personal gears.
- Tips for biking staff and driver (tipping is expected).
- Others expenses not mentioned on the ‘Price Include’ section.

Address

Nagarjun 5, Swayambhu
Kathmandu, Nepal