



YALE ALUMNI SERVICE CORPS

*EXPERIENCE THE LIVING CULTURES OF
INDIA*



**NEPAL EXTENSION
5 NIGHTS / 6 DAYS
JULY 24-30, 2015**



ORGANIZED BY FAR HORIZON

24th July 2015, Friday

Depart from US to Nepal

Day 1: 25th July 2015, Saturday

Arrive Kathmandu

Upon arrival we meet our Nepalese tour director, who will accompany us throughout our journey.

Tonight we attend a traditional dance performance and dinner at a former palatial complex reconstructed in the 1990s as a tribute to Nepal's past Rana rulers, its unique architecture a blend of Nepali, Indian and European influences.

Overnight at the hotel (Dinner)

Day 2: 26th July 2015, Sunday

Kathmandu

After breakfast, depart to explore the Kathmandu city. The seat of royalty till the last century, Kathmandu Durbar Square is a wondrous cluster of ancient temples, palaces, courtyards and streets. Kumari, the living Goddess, the stone carved statue of ferocious Kal Bhairav, erotic carvings glorifying the art works in the temples, the giant temple of the Goddess Taleju and image of Shiva and Parvati peering outside through the window are just a few of the most noteworthy attractions in the area. One can't help but admire the exceptionally attractive woodcarvings, statues and buildings that are cluster in the area. From here we continue to visit **Swayambhunath Temple**, an ancient (ca. 250 BCE) and sacred Buddhist complex second in importance only to Nepal's Boudhanath. The architectural treasure of Swayambhunath features a white dome that symbolizes Nirvana, a 13-tiered golden spire, and the all-seeing "eyes" of the Buddha on each of four sides.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

After lunch, we continue on to renowned 16th-century **Boudhanath**, the country's oldest and largest Buddhist *stupa* (a monument containing Buddhist relics) that serves as the religious center for the many Tibetan immigrants who now live in Nepal. Dedicated to the teachings of the Buddha, this huge white dome-shaped monument boasts hundreds of colorful prayer flags fluttering in the wind and draws millions of religious devotees, seekers, and tourists annually. We wrap up the day by visiting the Nepal's oldest and holiest Hindu shrine: the ornate **Pashupatinath Temple**. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the temple honors the manifestation

of Lord Shiva, one of Hinduism's three most important deities. *Please note that as non-Hindus, we cannot enter the temple itself*, but we can see the building and its compound from the riverbank on which it stands.

Return to the hotel and dinner tonight on own.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 3: 27th July 2015, Monday

Kathmandu – Pokhara

After breakfast, we drive to Kathmandu airport to take our flight to Pokhara. Upon arrival at Pokhara, transfer to the hotel.

Pokhara, Sub-Metropolitan City is the second largest city of Nepal and is situated about 200 km west of the capital Kathmandu. It serves as the headquarters of Kaski District, Gandaki Zone and the Western Development Region. Pokhara is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Nepal. Three out of the ten highest mountains in the world — Dhaulagiri, Annapurna I and Manaslu — are situated within 30 miles (linear distance) of the city, so that the northern skyline of the city offers a very close view of the Himalayas. Due to its proximity to the Annapurna mountain range, the city is also a base for trekkers undertaking the Annapurna Circuit through the ACAP region of the Annapurna ranges in the Himalayas.

Those who are interested can go for a World Peace stupa hike (approx. 3 hour), it is Located on a hill just above the famous lake Fewa facing Mount Fishtail. It is one of the tourist attractions in Pokhara. The Stupa offers a great place to see the sun set over Pokhara and panoramic himalaya of Annapurna and Fishtail. It can be accessed by riding a boat and rowing across the lake and climbing for about 20 minutes, or by trekking from the road that passes Devi Falls.

Lunch on own

Later in the afternoon, we will enjoy the boat ride on the Fewa Lake.

Thereafter, we will explore **Pokhara's traditional bazaar**, colorful and so are its ethnically diverse traders. In its temples and monuments can be seen ties to the old Newar Architecture of the Kathmandu valley, Located about 4 km from Lakeside, the market original charm is still evident. This area is strewn with shops selling commodities ranging from edibles to and cloth to cosmetics and gold, is a pleasant and shady spot to stroll around.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 4: 28th July 2015, Tuesday

Pokhara

Wake up early in the morning and proceed to Sarangkot for the beautiful view of Sunrise and Himalayas.

Sarangkot hill is located on a mountainside ridge at an altitude of 1600m with panoramic Himalayan views. From Sarangkot, on the northern direction we can see Dhawalagiri in the far west. Annapurna range is visible when the weather is clear on the same side. On the southern direction the village overlooks the city of Pokhara and its lake on the north-western outskirts of the city.

Return to the hotel for the breakfast.

After lunch on own, we will visit the **Devi's Fall**: Locally known as Patale Chango (Hell's Falls) also known as Devins and Davids is a lovely Waterfall is about 2 km south West of Pokhara airport on the Siddhartha Highway. Legend has it that a trekker by the name of Davy, was washed away by the Padi Khola and mysteriously disappeared down into an underground passage beneath the fall.

Mahendra Cave: Another of nature's wonders in Pokhara is the Mahendra gufa. This large limestone cave is locally known as the House of Bats an apt name for it. A two- hours walk to the north of Pokhara, it is best to bring our own torch to see the stalactites and stalagmites, as well as the local winged residents.

Seti Gandaki Gorge: Seti Gandaki River, flowing right through the city, the boisterous river runs underground at places. Amazingly, at certain places the river appears hardly two meters wide. However, its depth is quite beyond imagination, over 20m. Mahendra pul, a small bridge near the old mission hospital, provides a perfect view of the river's dreadful rush and the deep gorge made by its powerful flow.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 5: 29th July 2015, Wednesday

Pokhara – Kathmandu

After breakfast, transfer to Pokhara airport to flight back to Kathmandu.

On arrival, we drive straight to Bhaktapur, the least developed of the valley's three cities and a UNESCO World Heritage site commonly called the "City of Devotees." Virtually a living open-air museum with its unspoiled ancient square and warrens of medieval streets, Bhaktapur is known for its fine artisans, abundant temples, colorful festivals, and traditional lifestyle, which we have the opportunity to see up close.

After lunch together at a boutique hotel in Bhaktapur, we drive to Kathmandu city to check-in to the hotel.

Evening is free and dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 6: 30th July 2015, Thursday

Kathmandu – Delhi & Join Main tour

After breakfast, transfer to Kathmandu airport to connect with flight to Delhi to join the main tour.

(Breakfast)