

Panchase Danda (hill) Birding Trek

Trip code	
Package name	Panchase Danda (hill) Birding Trek
Duration	10
Max. elevation	2500 m
Level	EASY
Transportation	Domestic flight and grounded vehical
Accomodation	3***hotel + lodge twin sharing bed basis during the Trek and Tour
Starts at	Kathmandu/Pokhara
Ends at	Kathmandu/Pokhara
Trip route	kathmandu - Pokhara - Bhumti - Panchase Bhanjyang - Panchase - Bhadhaure - sarangkot - Pokhara - Kathmandu.
Cost	USD 1,050 per person

Highlights

Explore the views of Ganesh Himal, Himalchuli, Manaslu, Annapurna range and Fishtail Mountain.

2,500 meters above sea level is the highest point.

Phewa Lake is a great place to go boating.

Tour of the World Peace Pagoda & Pumdikot (Shiva Status)

Hiking through gorgeous villages and woodlands, Jungle with nice residents.

Stunning Views of Machhapuchhre, Lamjung, Annapurna, Manaslu, and Dhaulagiri with Phewa lake.

Overview

Panchase Hill Trek is an amazing and delightful trek which takes you through rhododendron forest, amazing villages, terraces, plains and rivers.

Panchase trekking is a short and low altitude off-the-beaten track in the Annapurna region starting south-west side of Pokhara. Located in the west of Pokhara, Panchase hill is situated at an altitude of 2500 meter above sea level. This trek offers you various species of bird along with gigantic views of Mountains which includes: Mount Fishtail, Mount Dhaulagiri and Annapurna Ranges. Embarking our tour, we complete our day birding tour in the nearby area of Kathmandu, Godavari. Godavari is the most famous place nearby Kathmandu which is popular for the Botanical Garden and is an ideal place for the bird lovers. Ornithologist who does not have enough time to observe the species of birds found in Nepal can engage themselves in this day birding tour. Afterwards, we will travel to Pokhara and have a relaxing evening taking an hour boat ride to Phewa Lake. The next day our trek begins from Khare Khola all the way ascending up towards Bhumdi. From Bhumdi, we trek towards Panchase Bhanjyang, the main point of our trek. While engaging in Panchase Hill Trek, we can experience different topographical structures which vary from subtropical valleys of rice paddies to ridges and green thickets where rhododendron and other wildlife are found in abundance. While on Panchase trekking you will encounter many ethnic groups of people such as Brahmin, Magar, and Gurung living in various settlements and be able to observe their unique culture and traditional lifestyle. Panchase Hill has religious significance as well. It holds a temple where thousands of pilgrims visit daily to worship and cleanse off their sin. Continuing our trek, we pass through forest, valleys, green hills, rivers and cross along Bhadaure, Sarangkot and finally ending our trip to Pokhara.

Panchase trek is suitable for all levels of trekkers from young to old, family with children and newly married couples. For Panchase trekking it is not necessary that trekkers should be experienced in hiking and trekking in the mountain. Anyone can accomplish the trekking to Panchase easily without ascending higher altitude. For Panchase trekking the months from February to May and from August to December would be the best time.

Trip Itinerary

Day 1 : Arrival at Kathmandu International Airport. and transfer to your hotel.

Arrival at Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu and after clearance of customs and luggage's, exit from the Airport Departure lounge and as soon as you exit you can see number of peoples outside holding a placard. Among them one of the representative of Nature Trail Travels & Tours, Trekking & Expedition will be holding a placard with your name in it. So, closely look at them. He will then transfer you to your respective hotels. Or else, you can visit our office and after full description about your trip, you will be driven to your hotel. Overnight at hotel.

Day 2 : Birding Godawari (12 km, 45 minutes' drive) and Phulchowki hill.

You will be picked up from your respective hotel by our company's guide. Drive for about 45 minutes in order to reach Godawari. You will pass by several towns and cover a distance of about 12 kilometers before reaching Godawari. Upon arrival, you will have breakfast and then walk around the lower part of Phulchowki, where you can spot a few species of birds that are common in the valley. Don't forget to bring binoculars and a camera to capture these species.

Then you continue your bird-watching tour by hiking towards the hilltop of Phulchowki. This is certainly a great place, famous for bird watching tours and some wild life, with an amazing panorama of mountain views from the top. Ranges of Annapurna, Manaslu and Ganesh Himal towards North West and with central Himalaya range of mountains of Langtang-Jugal Himal which continues towards North East Mt. Everest extending to other high Himalayan peaks are some of the mountain views that you can get from the top. Around this lovely forested area, about 90 species of birds have been recorded including the endemic spring babbler, as well as the Curia, Mountain Hawk Eagle, Rufous Bellied Pied Woodpeckers and the Black-throated Parrot bill, to name a few. Have your lunch, and after an enjoyable and peaceful stop for a few hours admiring the mountains and surrounding landscape views and its serene environment, the drive leads to a descent at Godawari Botanical Garden. Here you can visit the Botanical Garden with exotic Himalayan plants, herbs, and flowers. Afterwards, drive back to Kathmandu, passing through a traditional village.

Day 3 : Drive or Fly to Pokhara (120 km) – approx. 25 minutes fly and 6 hours drive.

On the following day, you have two options; either to drive or take a flight. It takes 25 minutes of flight through glorious peaks of Manaslu to take us to Pokhara, city of Lakes. Alternatively we can take a bus or private vehicle and follow Prithivi Highway for 6/7 hours to reach Pokhara. We leave the noisy streets of Kathmandu and follow a winding roadway along the scintillating Trishuli River. Your eyes will be occupied by the views of green lush hills, small towns, people, markets and rivers. If you feel like exploring, we can take a boat ride on Phewa Lake. We will spend our night in a hotel at Pokhara.

Day 4 : Drive to Khare Khola and trek to Bhumdi (1520 m) – approx. 3/4 hours walk

After breakfast, take a scenic drive towards Khare Khola. The drive takes only about 30 minutes along the Tansen/Bhairahawa Highway in order to reach Khare Khola. Upon arrival at the spot, ascend uphill for about an hour to reach the first rural community of Kalabang. From here, we will begin descending down towards Bhumdi. Upon reaching Bhumdi village (1,520m), you will be able to witness the grandeur of Mt. Annapurna, Mt. Machapuchare (Mt. Fishtail), Mt. Himchuli.

Day 5 : Trek Bhumdi to Panchase Bhanjyang (2030 m) –approx. 5/6 hours walk

We start today's hike early in the morning. During clear weather, we get the chance to view great Himalayan panorama on our trails. We will climb uphill and pass through thickets. Continuing our ascending walk through forest and then on to Bhanjyang, a small settlement at the foot of

Panchase, we conclude this day's hike. Panchase Bhanjyang which is a wonderful settlement located at the foot of Panchase Hill is famous for bird watching and its views of Pokhara Valley and Phewa Lake.

Day 6 : Trek from Panchase Hill (2550m) to Bhadaure

On this day, we will ascend through stone steps all the way to Panchase Hill. Panchase Hill is located at an altitude of 2500 meter and provides stunning views of Mountains and surrounding valleys. Panchase Hill is the highest spot of Panchase Hill Trek which is an ideal place to view sunrise. Along the way, you can observe various species of birds. Afterwards, we descend down towards Alldanda before reaching Bhadaure.

Day 7 : Trek from Bhadaure to Sarangkot – approx. 5 hrs. walk

Continuing our trek, we will have an appetizing breakfast and start our trek towards Sarangkot. Sarangkot is located at an altitude of 1550 meter and is an ideal destination for sunrise/sunset view. Recently it has also been renowned as a put-in-point for adventurous activities like: paragliding, bungee jumping and ultra-light flights. It takes five hours of walk through forest and terraces to reach Sarangkot from Bhadaure. We can even have a wonderful view of Pokhara Valley from here.

Day 8 : Drive from Sarangkot to Pokhara

Wake up early this morning in order to view the sun rise and panoramic views of Mountain ranges. Have your breakfast at one of the hotel and then drive towards Pokhara. Remaining day is kept leisure for you to explore the Pokhara city on your own. Or else, we can arrange a sightseeing tour for you in the most famous places of Pokhara which includes: Devi's fall, Gupteswor Cave, Mahendra Cave, Bindyabasini Temple, Seti George and Bat Cave.

Day 9 : Fly or drive back to Kathmandu

Taking all the beautiful memories and capturing various species of birds in your camera, we will return back to Kathmandu. Upon arrival, take rest and self-explore the town buying souvenirs for your near and dear ones.

Day 10 : Departure to homeland

As the Panchase birding tour comes to an end, it's time for the final departure. This unforgettable journey has allowed you to witness the incredible diversity of bird species in the Panchase area. As you bid farewell to this beautiful destination, you carry with you cherished memories and a deeper appreciation for the wonders of nature.

Inclusions

What is included?

Airport pick up – drop by private tourist vehicle.
Domestic flight (kathmandu - Pokhara - kathmandu)
Hotel accommodation in Kathmandu with bed & breakfast basis.
Hotel accommodation in pokhara with bed & breakfast basis
All Meals (Lunch , dinner and Breakfast) with cup of tea/coffee during the tour.
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 and Pokhara
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