Khopra Danda Trek

Description

Khopra Danda trek in the Annapurna region of Nepal is a well-known and popular choice among backpackers and mountaineers exploring the northern Himalayas. Getting up close with the Himalayan giants while traveling in a Himalayan lake is the ultimate experience the Khopra Dada Trek offers. Khopra Danda trek is a freshly opened route and serves as an excellent alternative to the more renowned and populated treks like Annapurna Base Camp Trek and Annapurna Circuit Trek in the Annapurna region.

The trekkers initiate their journey after reaching Nayapul. The 12-day long trek is considered a moderate-level trek when it comes to its difficulty. Although the trek isn't much demanding it is still crucial for trekkers to be in the condition to take on this trek. The ideal season to get the best from this trip is between the months of September to November and from March to May. Clear skies and favorable weather make it perfect for travel.

The trail enchants travelers with its beauty. The panoramic view of the surroundings transposes from time to time, with the trek beginning from the mystical forests, and magnanimous mountains and then finally into a landscape covered with a sheet of ice. The trek takes you to Khopra Ridge, a viewpoint that offers panoramic views of the Annapurna South, Hinchuli, and Dhaulagiri peaks. The Kahir lake is another beautiful lake sitting peacefully amidst the gigantic mountains.

The Khopra Danda Trek is a lesser-known trekking route in Nepal that offers stunning mountain views and a chance to experience the local culture and way of life of the Gurung people. Along the way, you will pass through small villages, forests, and alpine meadows, and have the opportunity to visit traditional Gurung homes and learn about their customs and traditions. Overall this trek is a complete package for those who are looking for a minimalistic moderate hike accompanied by an exquisite view of the Himalayas.

Highlights

- Enjoy the panoramic views of the Dhaulagiri, Annapurna, and Nilgiri mountains.
- Explore the beautiful Khayer/Khopra Lake
- Enjoy the lifestyle and culture of the natives, especially of Gurung ethnic groups.
- Observe Himalayan wildlife and high-altitude vegetation

Itinerary

Days	Description	Altitude	Hours
01	Arrival in Kathmandu	1,380 meters	
02	Flight/Drive to Pokhara From Kathmandu	980 meters	35 minutes flight / 7-8 hours Drive

Days	Description	Altitude	Hours
03	Drive from Pokhara to Nayapul and start trek to Ghandruk	1,940 meters	5-6 hours
04	Trek from Ghandruk to Tandapani	2,560 meters	6-7 hours
05	Trek from Tandapani to Dovato	3,420 meters	5-6 hours
06	Trek from Bayeli to Chistibung	2,920 meters	7-8 hours
07	Trek from Chistibung to Khopra Danda	3,640 meters	6-7 hours
08	Rest day/explore Khopra Danda and Khayer Lake		
09	Trek from Khopra Danda to Swanta	2,300 meters	6-7 hours
10	Trek to Nayapul and drive back to Pokhara	980 meters	4-5 hours
11	Flight/Drive from Pokhara to Kathmandu		35 minutes flight / 7-8 hours Drive
12	Departure to Airport		

Detailed Itinerary

Day 01: Arrival in Kathmandu(1,380 m)

On your arrival at the TIA, you will be greeted and guided to the designated hotel by one of our Precious Adventures representatives. He/ She will give short information about the Time zone, room, money exchange, and welcome dinner. Later you will be visiting one of the finest restaurants for a complimentary welcome dinner. You will be informed in short about the summary of your tour.

Day 12: Departure to Airport

With hopes that you enjoyed the experience with us, we bid you goodbye. We will be looking forward to more precious adventures together. Have a safe journey.

Day 11: Flight/Drive from Pokhara to Kathmandu, 35 minutes flight / 7-8 hours

Today we take a scenic ride following the Trishuli river. We travel on the Prithvi Highway and along the way, enjoy the beauty of the Nepali countryside. For the last time catch the captivating views of mountains, including Ganesh and Manaslu peaks along the way. After arriving in Kathmandu, you'll be transferred to your hotel room. Overnight at Kathmandu.

Day 10: Trek to Nayapul and drive back to Pokhara, (980 m), 4-5 hours

After finishing our breakfast we move forward to Nayapul. Slowly descending through Ghorepani, ulleri and Tirkhedhunga before finally make it to Nayapul. We will take a local jeepdrive from Nayapultill and we drive to Pokhara.

Day 09: Trek from Khopra Danda to Swanta,(2,300 m), 6-7 hours

This day we head towards Swanta after crossing the Dhasta Khorekhola. We pass through several traditional villages, and lush forests of rhododendron, pine, oak and other alpine trees before descending down to Swanta. Overnight at Swanta.

Day 08: Rest day/explore Khopra Danda and Khayer Lake

Prepare for an exciting and adventurous day. Our today's program includes exploring the Khopra Danda and the pristine Khayer lake. After breakfast we continence on our journey and explore the beauty of the surrounding peaks and the magical Khayer lake. Khayer Lake holds great religious significance for Hindus and is considered to be a sacred body of water. It is also believed that, taking a dip in the lake can lead to attaining Nirvana. Various Hindu and Buddhist shrines are seen around the lake.

Day 07: Trek from Chistibung to Khopra Danda, (3,640 m), 6-7 hours

We begin our journey after breakfast. Today is an adventurous days to explore Annapurna and Dhaulagiri massif. The trail takes us throught a walk along the mountain slope on the foothills of Bara Sikhar. The Khopra Danda is a majestic open ridge delivering stunning 360-degree view of the great Himalayas. Overnight at Khopra Danda.

Day 06: Trek from Dovato to Chistibung, (2,920 m), 7-8 hours

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Day 05: Trek from Tandapani to Dovato, (2,290 m), 5-6 hours

On the 5th day of the trek, we walk from the Deurali pass. After crossing the descending trail we pass through the Deurali passand reach Ghorepani. Ghorepani deurali pass we can observe the splendid views of Dhaulagiri, Annapurna South, and Machhapuchhre. Overnight at Dovato.

Day 04: Trek from Ghandruk to Tadapani, (2,560 m), 6-7 hours

On this day we begin after a delicious breakfast. After bidding farewell to the picturesque Ghandruk village we head towards Tadapani. Passing through Bhaisi Kharka we make it to Tadapani. It is a small village in the Annapurna region. At Tadapani we have lunch and witness some best views of Dhaulagiri, Machhapuchhre, Manaslu, Hiunchuli, Annapurna I and other snow-capped mountains. We can also observe the surrounding view of the mountains from the watch tower. We spend a night here in Tadapani.

Day 03: Drive from Pokhara to Nayapul and start trek to Ghandruk, (1,940 m), 5-6 hours

Today we drive towards Nayapul from where we start our trek to Ghandruk. We drive through rural landscapes and twisty country roads. Nayapul is a small village near the Modi Khola, located about an hour's drive from Pokhara where the Annapurna Conservation area permit will be checked. From Nayapul we start walking through the splendid countryside and reach Ghandruk after a steep ascend. The trail passes through small traditional settlements and a forest of magnolia, oak, rhododendron, and pine. We walk along the banks of Modi Khola and then continue uphill to the beautiful village of Ghandruk. It is a traditional Gurung village that is famous for its beautiful stone houses and cultural heritage. We can visit the museum and the local handicraft centre to know more about the rich

Gurung culture. Overnight at Ghandruk.

Day 02: Flight/Drive to Pokhara From Kathmandu, (980 m), 35 minutes flight / 7-8 hours Drive

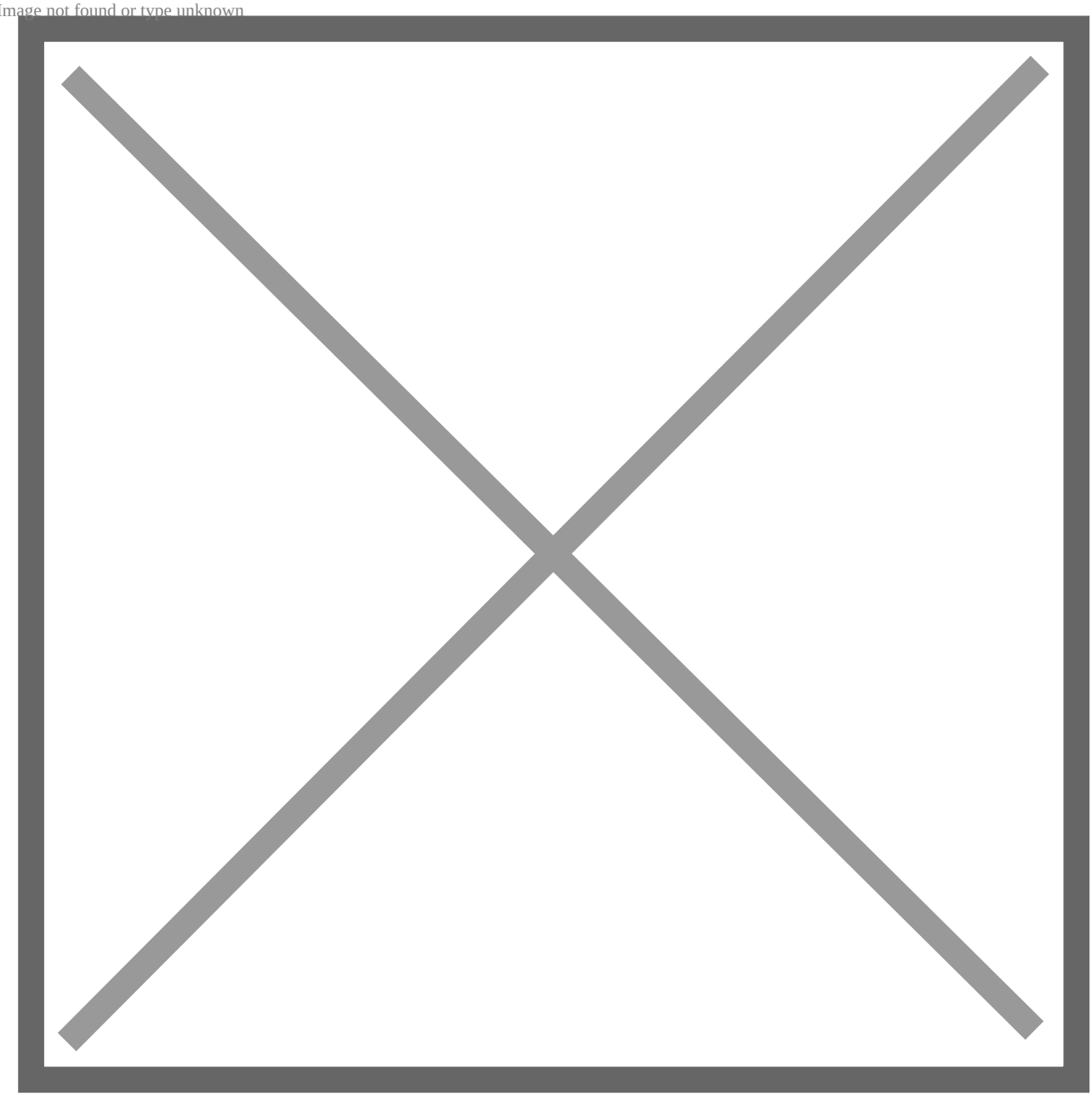
The distance from Kathmandu to Pokhara is approximately 200 kilometres, and the drive typically takes about 6-7 hours by car.
To get to Pokhara from Kathmandu, you would need to take the Prithvi Highway, which is the main road that connects the two cities. The highway passes through several towns and villages, and there are several points of interest along the way, including the Nagarkot Hill Station and the Chitwan National Park.

Includes

? Airport picks up and drops off by private vehicle.
? Accommodation with breakfast at a 3-star category hotel in Kathmandu & Pokhara.
? Ground transfer to and from Pokhara by tourist bus then by private car to and from Nayapul.
? Full board meals with tea/coffee (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) during the trek.
? Twin-sharing accommodation during the trek.
? An experienced English-speaking (trekking guide), porter to carry luggage (2 trekkers: 1 porter) including their salary, insurance, equipment, and meals.
? A comprehensive medical kit.
? All necessary paperwork and permits (ACAP and TIMS, please bring 3 passport-size photographs)
? All government and local taxes.

Map

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Practical Information

Q. Food and Accomodation
A. The Khopra Dada Trek is a teahouse trek much like many treks of Nepal. That means you will be lodging at the native's home. Your current altitude will determine how well these accommodations are. The higher you go, the simpler they will be. Twin beds in a shared room are the most popular arrangement. Toilet paper may not be available with the toilets being squat type. Hence, take a toilet paper roll with you on this hike if you need it. For meals, you will mostly be served with Dal Bhat, which is rice, and lentils served with a variety of vegetables, meat, and salad. There are some western food options, but they are limited compared to other trekking routes in Nepal.

Q. Best season for trek
A. Khopra Dada trek can be done anytime and may be experienced at any time of the year. Autumn from September to November and spring from March to May are the best times to undertake the treks. The weather is often consistent during these months, and the temperature is ideal for long walks. There are no clouds that block the view of the mountains, so you can fully enjoy the trip. The

autumnal Dashain and Tihar celebrations breathe new life into the area. However, during the Janai Purnima, which falls in August, there is a special celebration at Khayer lake when many Hindu pilgrims trek.

Q. Trip category
A. Khopra Dada trek falls into the easy to moderate grade category. The rapid access to the Khopra ridge is the most challenging part of the trek and takes about 2-3 hours. Likewise, the weather could make the trek difficult, especially in the monsoon and winter, as it can be rather cold during that period.

Q. Health and Safety along the trail
A. The hike is over 3500 m, and you risk altitude sickness if you are not careful. Hence it is essential to take plenty of water and avoid drinking heavily on the trek. Water is plentiful along the trek for personal hygiene. It is better to carry purification tablets or LifeStraw for drinking water. It is recommended to carry a first aid kit. These could consist of electrolytes, band-aids, antibacterial creams, and more. The toilet may be simple but clean. Hot showers are also available for a small fee.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How long is the trek?
A. The trek typically takes about 6-8 days to complete, depending on the route and pace of the trekker.

Q. How difficult is the trek?
A. The Khopra Danda Trek is considered a moderate to challenging trek, with some steeper sections of the trail. It is important for trekkers to be in good physical shape and to acclimatize properly to the high altitude in order to fully enjoy the trek.

Q. What is the best time to do the trek?
A. The best time to do the Khopra Danda Trek is during the dry seasons of September to November and March to May. These months offer the best weather conditions for trekking, with clear skies and warmer temperatures.

Q. Is it necessary to hire a guide or porter?
A. It is not strictly necessary to hire a guide or porter for the trek, but it is highly recommended. A guide will have local knowledge of the route and the best places to stop along the way, and can also provide information about the culture and history of the region. A porter can help to carry your gear, which can be helpful if you are not accustomed to carrying a heavy load over long distances.

Q. Is it safe to do the Khopra Danda Trek?
A. The Khopra Danda Trek is generally considered safe, as long as proper precautions are taken. It is important to be in good physical shape and to acclimatize properly to the high altitude. It is also important to follow the guidance of your guide and to be prepared for the challenges of trekking in a remote mountain region. It is advisable to purchase travel insurance and to inform a trusted person of your itinerary before embarking on the trek.