



Khopra Ridge Trek

Details Itinerary

A trek to Khopra Ridge (or Khopra Danda) is one of the best trekking programs in the Annapurna Region of Nepal. This splendid two-week program from Discovery Mountain is an excellent opportunity to see the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri Massifs from entirely new vantage points, especially the southern faces. Get an experience of the unique wildlife, quaint villages, panoramic mountain views, immersive geographical diversity, fantastic gorges, and a high-altitude lake - all in a matter of less than two weeks.

You will trek through pine and oak forests, rhododendron bushes, and alpine forests. The trails are mostly through dense forests, but with ample amount of trekking via open grasslands, streams, and villages. The accommodation is mostly in tea-houses and lodges, and also camping if you prefer at the time of booking.

The program begins with a drive to Nayapul from Pokhara followed by a trek to the popular village of Ghandruk. This beautiful village is mostly occupied by the Gurung community, and is also the home of the Gurkha. As it is less-frequented compared to other trekking regions of Annapurna, you will encounter just a handful of trekkers along the way to Khopra Ridge and up to Lake Kaire. On your way back, you will come across a section of the popular Poon Hill and Annapurna Base Camp trekking routes; and later come to Pokhara.

Spending time in the quiet and isolated location of Lake Kaire will give you a meditative experience of the environment. The remarkable views of several peaks from different locations of the trek will enrich your experience even more. In addition, you will see at least one magnificent sunrise over the mighty Himalayan peaks.

You are expected to have a good fitness level and a regular walking habit to reach Khopra Ridge and Lake Kaire. We have allocated enough time for rests and stops along the way, so that you can focus on the pleasure and gain a richer experience of the program. This trek from Discovery Mountain can be done in the spring and summer, and also in the fall seasons - giving you flexible alternatives to book this trip.

Fitness Level:	:	
Group Size:	:	2 to 15 people
Max-Altitude:	:	4505
Duration:	:	14 Days
Walking Days:	:	10 Days
Activity:	:	Trek
Best Period:	:	MAR APR MAY SEP OCT NOV

DAY 1 : ARRIVAL IN KATHMANDU (1365M)

A quick welcome at the airport and transfer to your hotel. You will be given a brief of the program and introduced to your trekking guide. Later, take an evening stroll around and stay overnight at the hotel.

DAY 2 : KATHMANDU TO NAYAPUL AND SYAULI BAZAAR (1225M)

To Pokhara, you will be taking a scenic route along Trishuli River. The drive will take around seven hours through winding hilly roads. Once you arrive there take a brief stop, drive to Nayapul and begin the trek to Syauli Bazaar. First you will pass through the bank of river, cross dense forests and take a scenic route to Syauli Bazaar where you will stay overnight at a guesthouse.

DAY 3 : TREK FROM SYAULI BAZAAR TO GHANDRUK (1940M) 3/4H TREK

Leaving Syauli Bazaar behind, we ascend through forests and hills to reach Ghandruk. It is a village of the Gurung, a people with their own dialect, culture and fame. From here, you can

have more scenic views of the mountains. Rest for the night in one of the home-stays or if you prefer, in a guest house. The trekking duration today is around three to four hours with plenty of stopovers for rest, drinks, and photography before arriving at the popular village of Ghandruk at 1,930 meters.

DAY 4 : TREK FROM GHANDRUK TO TADAPANI (2590M) 4/5H TREK

After an enjoyable breakfast at Ghandruk with views of snow-capped peaks, we trek along the ascending trail through Deurali to arrive at a dense forest of rhododendron. Take a break along the route and enjoy the purity of the environment, then head along a hilly pass to reach Tadapani. It's a village nestled at the side of a hill overlooking several peaks of the Annapurna Range. The prominent peaks are Annapurna, Fishtail, and Hiunchuli. Stay overnight in a guesthouse or a home-stay.

DAY 5 : TREK FROM TADAPANI TO DOBATO (13350M) 4/5H TREK

Starting off from Tadapani after a hearty breakfast, we will enter the inner areas of the Annapurna Region. Today we are headed to Dobato a village at an altitude of 3,420 meters. Walking in an average pace amid scenic landscapes, we will continue through forests of oaks and pines. Emerge at Meshar Danda and walk to a grassland from where we will have excellent views of Dhaulagiri and Annapurna peaks. From here, trek on via an easy route to arrive at Dobato, where we will stay for night in a lodge.

DAY 6 : TREK FROM DOBATO TO CHISTIBUNG (2975M) 5/6H

Get up before dawn and trek up to the vantage point of Muldai. Here you will have unobstructed panoramic views peaks on the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri Ranges. After some time here, descend for an hour or so to Lower Chistibung, and then continue upwards on the trail crossing a wooden bridge to Upper Chistibung. Along the way, you might even spot the national bird of Nepal - the colourful "Danphe". Stay overnight here in a lodge.

DAY 7 : TREK FROM CHISTIBUNG TO KHOPRA DANDA (3365M) 4/5H TREK

With around four hours of trek today, it's a short day of trek to Khopra Ridge. Leaving Chistibung after breakfast, we will do a steady ascent at first to come out of the forest line. Like yesterday, we might encounter some wildlife such as the Himalayan Thar and some avians like "Danphe" and "Munal". Take a short break along the route and ascend further to arrive at Khopra Ridge or "Khopra Danda" - a spectacular vantage point above Kali-Gandaki. Take out your camera and gear, and click away at the stunning views of the peaks ahead. Amid superb views of Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, Nilgiri, Fishtail and several other peaks in the range, set up camp for the night.

DAY 8 : HIKE TO KAIRE LAKE AND BACK TO KHOPRA DANDA (4505M) 9H TREK

Pack your bags and leave early as it's a long day of trek today. In total you will walk around nine hours including stopovers for photography, rest, and lunch. We will ascend further today to arrive at a pristine and beautiful lake called Kaire at an altitude of 4,505 meters. It is a holy lake where Buddhist and Hindu pilgrims flock annually for baths and blessings. Return to Khopra Ridge for the night.

DAY 9 : TREK FROM KHOPRA DANDA TO SWANTA VILLAGE (2210M) 5/6H TREK

Start at leisure today as the route is an easy downhill. Trekking under five hours today, we will descend to the village of Santa for the night. With beautiful views of the majestic mountains, we will return to Chistibung, cross a dense forest, and hike up a bit to arrive at Swanta. Inhabited mostly by the Magar community, the beautiful village of Swanta is where we lodge tonight.

DAY 10 : TREK FROM SWANTA VILLAGE TO ULLERI (2050M) 6H TREK

In the morning we start early, descend through terraced farmlands, forests, and rivers. We will then cross some villages to arrive at the popular destination of Ghorepani at 2,860 meters. We will take a stop here for glorious views of some peaks on the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri Range. From here we will descend further through rhododendron forests along the stone stairs of Ulleri. Stop at Ulleri for the rest tonight.

DAY 11 : TREK FROM ULEERI TO NAYAPUL AND DRIVE TO POKHARA 5/6H TREK 1H

The total trekking duration today is a little above five hours. After breakfast in Ulleri, we continue our journey with an easy walk all way down to Tikhedhunga and Birethanti until we arrive at Nayapul. Nayapul marks the end of our trek, from where we will drive for about an hour to reach the lake town of Pokhara.

DAY 12 : DRIVE FROM POKHARA TO KATHMANDU (6/7H DRIVE

Today you will drive to Kathmandu from Pokhara. Once you are in the capital, have a free day enjoying shopping, hot-water bathing, relaxing in a sauna, or simply seeing around town. Stay overnight at the hotel.

DAY 13 : KATHMANDU : SIGHTSEEING

After breakfast, we will take you on a sightseeing tour of some iconic places in the Kathmandu Valley, that will essentially include UNESCO World Heritage sites. In the evening, you are invited to join us for a farewell dinner.

DAY 14 : DEPARTURE

According to your schedule, we will take you to the airport for your flight ahead.

INCLUDED IN THE COST

- Staff costs including their salary, insurance, equipment, domestic airfare, food and accommodation
- 3 -star hotel accommodation in Kathmandu and Pokhara with bed and breakfast
- Guesthouse accommodation during the trek with: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
- All ground transportation on a comfortable private vehicle as per the itinerary
- An experienced, English-speaking and government-licensed trek Guide
- Down jacket and sleeping bag: to be returned after trip completion
- Discovery Mountain's duffel bag, t-shirt and trekking map are yours to take
- All necessary paperwork and trekking permits: ACAP and TIMS
- Assistant guide on your trek: 4 participants: 1 assistant
- Medical kit: carried by your trekking assistant guide
- Energy supplies: Dry fruits, Snicker, Mars and Bounty
- Airport pickups and drops in a private vehicle
- Welcome and farewell dinners in Kathmandu
- Porter service: 2 participants: 1 porter
- Personal insurance for Nepalese trekking staff
- Gamow bag for your safety and security
- All Government and local taxes

NOT INCLUDED IN THE COST

- Nepalese visa fee
- International flights
- Travel and rescue insurance
- Tips for guide, porter and driver
- Lunch and evening meals in Kathmandu and Pokhara
- Personal expenses laundry, bar bills, battery recharge, extra porters, bottle or boiled water, shower

ACCOMMODATIONS

We will be staying at Hotel Manaslu, Moon Light hotel or similar hotel 3 star in Kathmandu: and guesthouses during the trek. All accommodations are on twin-shared basis. Single supplement will be served on request and will cost an additional. Also note that single rooms are readily available in Kathmandu and the trekking regions at lower elevation but it might be difficult to find them at higher elevations.

MEALS

All meals will be provided during trekking while only breakfast will be available in Kathmandu. There will also be welcome and farewell dinners for guests. While on trek, we have breakfast and dinner in the tea-houses/lodges we spend the night and lunch on our way to the next destination. Nepalese, Tibetan, the more common continental and Indian cuisines are common choices in the menu.

PHYSICAL CONDITION REQUIREMENT

Discovery Mountain Trek can offer advice and recommendations about health requirements but it is the individual responsibility of each trekker to acquire any necessary documents and medical care. The information on the technical sheet provided is indicative, it is your responsibility to check with the authorities concerned for the exact requirements for your chosen destination at the time of travel. If you do not obtain any necessary medical consultations or travel documents and are not allowed to enter a country, or suffer personal injury or death as a result, we have no liability to you for any cost, loss or damage which you suffer nor will we refund you the cost of any unused portion of your travel arrangements. It is your responsibility to comply with the regulations and procedures of police, customs and health at all times throughout your trip.

BEST TIME TO TRAVEL

The best time to trek to the Everest Base Camp Trek is in spring (February to May) and autumn (September to November). The temperature is moderate in these seasons and guarantees amazing views through the trip. Although this trek can be undertaken during winter, the cold temperature might not be suitable for everyone.

GUIDE & STAFF ARRANGEMENT

The most significant thing that makes this trek enjoyable and memorable is the skilled, experienced and helpful Guide and crew member who have the ability of guiding our trek on the mountain smoothly. Our trip will be led by the best and most professional Guide. All of Discovery Mountain Trekking Guide's are carefully selected on the basis of their appropriate experience, skills and personal aptitude. With an objective of sustaining local communities, Discovery Mountain only employs local Staff, who have knowledge about culture, ecosystem, flora, fauna, geography, and history of their local region.

PORTER CARE

We are firmly committed to porter rights. We make sure that all our porters are well treated, well paid and we provide the level of shelter, clothing and footwear that these harsh environments demand. Porters who become sick are treated with the same care and attention as other team members and we have previously used helicopters - at our expense - to rescue porters from dangerous situations. We support the work of the International Porter Protection Group (IPPG), making our resources available to them to help improve the working conditions of the porters. International Porters Progress Group.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

The Everest Region is stunningly beautiful, but equally fragile. Future generations have just as much of a right to appreciate it as much as we do. Therefore, we believe that the tourism industry has an obligation to protect and preserve it. Discovery Mountain employs a 'zero impact' policy on the natural environment and the traditional communities that live there. Discovery Mountain, therefore, enforces a number of do's and don'ts. Please talk to your trek leader to avoid environmental impacts.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition upon joining any of Discovery Mountain's trips that all clients be insured for comprehensive expenses that might incur due to medical issues or accidents (this includes air ambulance, helicopter rescue, and treatment costs). Please note that we don't arrange or sell insurance.

ACCLIMATIZATION

This trek's itinerary is planned with a high degree of awareness of AMS (Acute Mountain Sickness). Going up at higher altitudes too fast causes a medical condition serious enough to result in death. The higher the altitude, the less oxygen will be in the air. For example, at an altitude above of 5000m, there is 50% less oxygen than at sea level. Therefore, our body needs many days to adapt to an environment with less oxygen. During this trip, we take rest in Namche Bazaar and Dingboche which will help us acclimatize to the high altitude.

EQUIPMENTS LIST

This list is a guideline to help you pack for your adventure. Also understand that the items listed below will vary a little according to the season and the trek duration. Those items marked by an asterisk (*) are provided by Discovery Mountain Trek inclusive in the service. The weight limit for your luggage is 15 kg.

SLEEPING

- 1 sleeping bag: -10° or -15° (*)
- Fleece sleeping bag liner (optional)

FROM HEAD TO TOE

- A cap or sunhat
- 2-pair of thermals
- long-sleeved thermal tops and full-length long johns
- Long-sleeved and short sleeved t-shirts, preferably in quick-drying technical material.
- A light fleece or equivalent (plus extra warm layers if necessary)
- A breathable windproof, water proof jacket (Gore-Tex...)
- Discovery Mountain Trek's down Jacket (*)
- Discovery Mountain Trek's half T-shirt (*)
- Lightweight waterproof over trousers
- Suitable shorts
- Walking trousers

- A pair of high rise walking boots
- A pair of sandals or equivalent casual shoes for cities, villages and evenings
- Thick walking socks
- Warm gloves
- Hat and scarf

DAY BAGS/ SHOULDER BAG

- 1 medium shoulder bag: 50-70 liter cubic inches, can be used for an airplane carryon
- A small daypack/backpack for carrying your valuables,

PRACTICAL ITEMS

- 1 small roll of repair tape, 1 sewing-repair kit
- 1 compass or GPS (optional)
- 1 digital camera with extra cards and batteries
- 1 medium-sized quick drying towel
- Female hygiene products
- Wet wipes (baby wipes)
- Tissue /toilet roll
- Anti-bacterial hand wash

MEDICAL

- Small personal first-aid kit simple and light
- Aspirin, first-aid tape, and plasters (Band-Aids)
- 1 skin-blister repair kit
- Anti-diarrhea pills
- Anti-headache pills
- Cough and/or cold medicine
- Anti-altitude sickness pills: Diamox or Acetylzolamide
- Stomach antibiotic: Ciprofloxacin, etc. Do not bring sleeping pills as they are a respiratory depressant.
- Water purification tablets or water filter

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Discovery Mountain Trek & Expeditions Company is a trustworthy and registered Company under the laws of Nepal Tourism Industry and accepts your bookings under the following terms and conditions.

Booking Terms

Booking your trip with Discovery Mountain Trek accept with terms and conditions of sale. Every trekker is required to complete the form of registrations. At the time of registration, Trekker's are expected to pay a deposit 25% of total cost to complete your booking. Please note the trip cost is required to make in advance as per the company policy, this deposit help us to make confirm reservation of Hotels in City, domestic flights and all other trip arrangements for final trip booking. Along with deposit we need detailed name lists of participants, same as passport, Gender, Nationality, Date of birth, passport number, passport issue/ Expiry dates & profession. You need to send us passport copy, photo identity and e-ticket by e-mail for all trips in Nepal.

Cancellation Policy

If any reason you have to cancel your trip, we Discovery Mountain Trek require written confirmation of your decision. The amount you have paid to us will be refunded according to the following terms:

- Cancellation more than 35 days before your departure date: \$60 will charged
- Cancellation more than 35 to 19 days before your departure date: your deposit, 25% will charged
- Cancellation more than 18 to 10 days before your departure date: 50% will charged
- Cancellation more than 9 to 05 days before your departure date: 75% will charged
- Cancellation less than 4 days before your departure date: 100% of the total will charged

I reserve the right to revise pricing rates declared under any circumstances, or on the pressure of various external factors that are further than our control, for instance changes in exchange rate, government action etc. But, I declared forth effort to keep on the present rate. In case of minor increase in flights fares, hotels or other related factors, we don't revise the cost of the trip which was already confirmed & booked by deposit.

RISK & RESPONSIBILITY

Your safety and enjoyment is my prime concern. I therefore carry out my responsibility honestly & sincerely to ensure your holiday trouble – free as well as you have desired. Nevertheless, unless stated otherwise, trip may be change under uncertain and inherent circumstances such as land-slides, road blockage, flood, snow political unrest, cancellation of flight, delay arrival, sickness or accidents etc. Any extra cost incurring there is your personal responsibility and should be borne on the spot.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Your safety is of paramount concern while traveling with Discovery Mountain Trek. Please note that your guide has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. The guide will try to ensure that the trip runs according to plan, but please be prepared to be flexible if required. Bad weather in mountain regions can cause domestic flight delays, particularly in the Everest, Lukla, Jomsom, phaplu, Kanchenjunga and any other remote mountain regions in Nepal.