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HOLI TOUR IN NEPAL: A FESTIVAL OF COLORS AND JOY - MARCH 2023

Holi is a festival of color celebrated all over Nepal and is a symbol of unity and integrity among different groups of people irrespective of caste, creed, gender, and religion. It is celebrated with different colors splashing each other. In the context of Nepal, the Holi festival is celebrated for two days, in the hilly areas (including <u>Kathmandu</u>) Holi festival will be celebrated on the 6th of March 2023 and is known as Fagu Purnima; and on the 7th of March 2023, it is celebrated as Terai Holi mainly in the southern part of Nepal.

Includes

- All (airport to airport) transfer by private vehicles as per group size.
- 03 nights' accommodation Luxury Resort/Hotels as mentioned below.
- Meals: 03 breakfasts, and 01 dinner
- Local village and schools visit on the way wherever is possible.
- Visit Tibetan carpet factory and Thanka painting while guided sightseeing tour in Kathmandu and Pokhara
- Seasonal and regional festivals and unique experiences as per region.
- Visit of spiritual Places in the city areas and outside the city while by surface travel.
- Participate in harvesting and cultivation activities depending on the season.
- Monumental areas entrance fees as per the itinerary levied by the government

and local authorities.

- Professional licensed local English/other language speaking guide service in Kathmandu.
- Other festivals, and spiritual activities will be observed or participated while on tour,
- Accompanying official escort throughout the trip.
- Special souvenir on farewell / departure

Excludes

- · International flights tickets
- Nepal entry visa fee
- Travel Medical Insurance
- Emergency Evacuation Service
- Items of a personal nature such as alcoholic/nonalcoholic drinks, laundry
- Any other expenses which are not mentioned at the included section
- Tips/gratuities/Donations for driver, guides and escorts
- Force Majeure

Itinerary

Day 01 (5 March 2023): Arrival in Kathmandu

Arrive at Tribhuwan International Airport in <u>Kathmandu</u>. Welcome, meet, and assist our Going Nepal representative & transfer to the hotel. Welcome drink followed by tour briefing and Sightseeing in <u>Patan Durbar Square</u> and <u>Pashupatinath</u> (depending upon flight arrival).

Meals: Welcome Dinner

Day 02 (6 March 2023): Celebrate Holi Festival

Early Morning breakfast at the hotel, and start your Holi program from the hotel by putting on a tika and moving to the alleys of <u>Kathmandu</u>. Move to the <u>Kathmandu</u> <u>Durbar Square</u> area to witness the Holi program where lots of Nepalese people along with foreigners are gathered to celebrate the colorful festival along with live music, water splashing around, and colors all over the place. You can witness the festival or just celebrate with people around you. After the celebration, stop for a lunch around the area and move to the hotel. Rest of the day you can relax inside the hotel. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

• Mrals: Breakfast

Day 03 (7 March 2023): Full-Day Kathmandu Sightseeing

After breakfast meets the guide and drives towards <u>Swayambhunath</u> which is on top of the Semgu Hill located in the outskirts to the west of the <u>Kathmandu Valley</u>, <u>Swayambhu</u> stupa is one of the most important religious shrines in the city of Kathmandu. With a white dome stupa and an array of shrines, this place draws people to it daily Circumnavigating the temple in a clockwise direction is a common practice among the pilgrims since it is believed to wash away all the sins. The sanctum is one of the holiest sites among Buddhists and Tibetans and is second only to the Lord Boudha for them. After visiting <u>Swayambhunath</u> make your way to <u>Bhaktapur Durbar Square</u> which is located 12 KM away from the capital of the country.

Bhaktapur Durbar Square located in the center of Bhaktapur city is a conglomeration of pagoda and shikhara-style temples grouped around a fifty-five-window palace of brick and wood. The square is one of the most charming architectural showpieces of the Valley as it highlights the ancient arts of Nepal. The golden effigies of kings perched on the top of stone monoliths, the guardian deities looking out from their sanctuaries, and the wood carvings in every place-struts, lintels, uprights, tympanums, gateways, and windows all seem to form a well-orchestrated symphony. The main items of interest in Durbar Square are: The Lion Gate Dating as far back as A.D. 1696, this gate is guarded on either side by two huge statues of lions. Alongside, there are two stone images of Bhairav (the dreadful aspect of Shiva) and Ugrachandi (the consort of Shiva in her fearful manifestation). Also, you can taste a delicious curd called 'JU JU DHAU' which is very famous all over Kathmandu. After visiting Bhaktapur Durbar Square, stop for a lunch somewhere in a nice restaurant and drive back to the Kathmandu hotel. You can utilize the rest of the time for relaxing and preparing for your trip to Pokhara. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 04 (8 March 2023): Departure

Breakfast and timely transfer to Tribhuvan International Airport.

Meals: Breakfast

Highlights

- Experience the typical Holi festival of Nepal
- Guided Holi festival tour Visit from nook to the corner of Kathmandu Street with a local guide and be part of the celebration.
- Colors, white shirt with Holi printed t-shirt will be provided.

Travel Information

- Confirmation will be received at time of booking
- Not wheelchair accessible
- Infants must sit on laps
- Not recommended for travelers with back problems
- Not recommended for pregnant travelers
- No heart problems or other serious medical conditions
- Travelers should have a moderate physical fitness level
- This is a private tour/activity. Only your group will participate

Things to know

- Getting a Nepal Visa upon Arrival
- We will be there at the Airport to receive you an hour before your flight lands,
- You will be greeted by enthusiastic Namaskar
- You will always welcome with a warm charming smile

- If you are planning for a SIM card, you can get it in the Airport or offce representative can assist you.
- Entrance fees for mentioned destinations in the itinerary for the world heritage site will be paid.
- Most often you will be welcome with Tikka and khata.