

Trip Name : Machhapuchhre Model Trek

Starting Point	Drive in Pokhara-Milanchok
Ending Point	Drive out Milanchok-Pokhara
Type	HomeStay Trek
Grade	Medium
Duration	9 Days
Daily Walk	5-6 hours
People in Group	Minimum 1 and Maximum 12
Best Time	March to mid-May and September to November
Max. Elevation	2645 mt.

Trip Highlights:

- The spectacular views of Fishtail and Annapurna Himal
- Home Stays trekking facility
- Rhododendron forest
- Various species of flora and fauna
- Amazing view of waterfalls and ancient caves
- Mixed indigenous lifestyles
- The great countryside, terrace farming and mountain landscapes

Trip Details:

Machhapuchhre Model Trek route is an innovation of TAAN in order to fulfill the necessity of alternative trekking route to the popular Annapurna Circuit trail that has experienced some risks due to the motor-able road being constructed from Besi-Sahar to Chame. This less explored trek is named as Machhapuchhre Model Trek as the main feature of the trek is the exotic view of the Mt. Machhapuchhre or Fish Tail (6,997m/22,957ft). This route is yet unspoilt and the trek can be done for 3 to maximum 8 days. Trekkers may extend the trek up to Mardi Himal Base Camp enjoying the great views of snow-capped Himalayan range including the popular Mt. Annapurna and Mt. Machhapuchhre (Fish Tail), mountain landscapes, natural hot water springs, mixed indigenous lifestyles, rhododendron forest, ancient caves, waterfalls, various species of flora and fauna and obviously the amazing view points. This trek route provides a socio-cultural experience promoting the village tourism with home stay provisions in 7 different villages en-route namely Lachok, Ghachok, Machhapuchhre, Ribhan, Lwang Ghalel, Sardikhola and Dhital thus benefiting almost 16,000 local villagers. This trek is more environmentally-friendly and economically beneficial to the local communities.

Weather in the Annapurna region:

Trekking in Annapurna region is the best in spring (March to mid May) and autumn (Sept to Nov). The days are sunny and warm but the nights are cold and can fall to freezing in higher elevations. However, trekking in winter (Dec, Jan, Feb) is also possible in some parts of the Annapurna region. The only issue is cold and might be a problem due to ice/snow blockade on the high passes. The Annapurna region gets busier in spring and autumn but monsoon and winter are quieter.

Experience Required:

We have categorized Machhapuchhre Model trekking as medium grade trek and are suitable for passionate trekkers who are ready to walk at least 5-6 hours each day. Regular exercising and jogging for some weeks prior to the trip is a good idea to enhance your strength and stability. If you have any previous hiking

experience, that would be an asset. It is important that you consult with your doctor before making decision for this trek if you have any medical problems in the history. Participants with pre-existing medical conditions such as heart, lungs or any other serious disease should inform Trekking Encounters before booking the trek.

How We Make This Trip Responsible?

Trekking Encounters promotes Responsible Tourism and strictly follows the responsible travel guide lines.

Cost Includes:

- Annapurna Conservation Area (ACAP) permit and TIMS (Trekking Information Management System)
- A City Hotel in Pokhara for two nights
- Three meals (B/L/D) a day on trekking available at Village Kitchens/Camps
- Accommodations at Village Homes (Home Stay)/Camps in the mountains
- An English speaking Trekking Guide along the camp crew
- Necessary porters
- Staff insurance, salary, food, accommodation and their transportation
- Land transportation before and after the trek in Pokhara by private vehicle
- Kathmandu-Pokhara-Kathmandu overland transfers by Tourist bus [*Private vehicle or flights available on request and extra*]
- First aid kit box
- Emergency co-operation service

Complimentary:

- A Trekking Encounters T-shirt
- A farewell Nepali dinner with live culture program

Cost Excludes:

- Hotel and meals in Kathmandu, meals in Pokhara
- Bar and beverages bills, bottled water
- Nature of personal expenses
- Personal cloths and equipment such as sleeping bag, jacket, boots etc.
- Insurance for accidental, medical and evacuation
- Tips to the staff
- International Airfare and Taxes

Add-Ons:

Kathmandu City Tour

Activity: Cultural tour to the World Heritage Sites.

Major sites: Swoyambhunath, Boudhanath, Pashupatinath, Kathmandu/Patan/Bhaktapur Durbar Square and Changuarayan Temple.

Duration: Full/Half day.

Frequency: Tour can be organized in any day and at your suitable time.

Cost: US\$ 50 per person. Group discounts available.

Ground transfer: Included by a private vehicle as per group size (Car/Van/Bus).

Guide: English Speaking City Tour Guide included. Additional language Guides are also available on

demand.

Meals: Not included.

Entrance fee: Applicable and not included.

Mt. Everest Flight

Activity: Mount Everest sightseeing flight.

Duration: One hour.

Frequency: Everyday in the morning between 6am to 9am.

Cost: US\$ 224 per person. Group discounts available.

Ground transfer: Included by a private vehicle. Two persons minimum needed.

Airport tax: Included.

Airline: Buddha Air, Simrik Airlines and Yeti Airlines.

Jungle Safari in Chitwan National Park

Activities: Jungle safari on elephant-back, jungle walk, canoe ride, jeep drive, experience of Tharu culture.

Accommodation: Resorts, Hotels and Lodges.

Transportation: Private Car included (Kathmandu/Pokhara-Kathmandu).

Meals: Included.

Duration: 3 days and 2 nights.

Cost: Starts from US\$ 225 per person.

Jungle Safari in Bardia National Park

Activities: Jungle safari on elephant-back, jungle walk, boat ride, jeep drive.

Accommodation: Jungle lodges.

Transportation: Not included.

Meals: Included.

Duration: 4 days and 3 nights.

Cost: Starts from US\$ 475 per person.

Bird Watching in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve

Activities: Bird watching, boat ride and wildlife viewing on jeep drive.

Accommodation: Resorts, Tented camps.

Transportation: Not included.

Meals: Included.

Duration: 3 days and 2 nights.

Cost: Starts from US\$ 480 per person.

Rafting in Nepal

Trishuli River: 2/3 Class – 1 Day – 17 Kilometers – Cost starts from US\$ 30 per person.

Seti River: 3 Class – 2 Days – 32 Kilometers – Cost starts from US\$ 80 per person.

Kali Gandaki River: 4 Class – 3 Days – 56 Kilometers – Cost starts from US\$ 140 per person.

Bhote Koshi River: 4/5 Class – 2 Days – 18 Kilometers – Cost starts from US\$ 85 per person.

- **Cost includes:** Top quality Rafting equipment, Highly trained Crew, Well organized camping, Hygienic food.

- **Transportation:** Bus transportation included and depends.

Bungy Jumping / Canyoning / Paragliding / Ultralight Flight

We can check and deliver information and cost as per your interest received for Bungy Jumping, Canyoning, Paragliding and Ultralight Flight. Bungy and Canyoning can also be customized together.

Shopping Tours

Package available on demand.

Shopping items: Pashmina items, Paubha/Thangka, Woolen Carpets, Root Art, Ceramics, Shaligram (Holy Rocks), Masks of deities, Khukuri, Tea, Spices, Garments and Knitwear, Musical Instruments and Music, Glass Ornaments, Jewelry and Gems, Metal Wares, Sculptures, Wood Carvings, Rudraksha (Rosary), Incense, Natural Buttons, Fiber Products, Wood Game Boards, Fancy Hats, Bamboo Crafts, Bags and Accessories, Leather Articles, Lokta Paper and items made by Lokta, Nepali Dolls, Home Decors, Books and Maps and innumerable other unique items which are found nowhere else.

Trip Itinerary:

Day 01 : Drive/fly from Kathmandu to Pokhara (884m/2,900ft).

Today we have a 200km (124 miles) drive (6-7 hours by bus or car) from Kathmandu to Pokhara. This is a scenic drive along the bank of the Trishuli River with great country side. Alternatively one can also fly between Kathmandu and Pokhara.

Day 02 : Drive from Pokhara to Milanchook and trek to Ghachok (1,254m/4,114ft).

We take a short drive from Pokhara to Hemja Milanchook and start our trek to Ghachok. We cross Mardi Khola and ascend to the stone-walled village of Ghachok. Ghachok is a traditional Gurung settlement. Home Stay facility is available at Ghachok. Trekking time 4-5 hours.

Day 03 : Trek Ghachok to Dhiprang (1,440m/4,724ft).

Today we continue our trek to Dhiprang. Home Stay facility is available at Dhiprang. Trekking time 4-5 hours.

Day 04 : Trek Dhiprang to Chichemle Kharka (2,645m/8,678ft).

We trek further to Chichemle Kharka through the rhododendron forest. We stay overnight at camp. Trekking time 4-5 hours.

Day 05 : Trek Chichemle Kharka to Lalka (2,250m/7,382ft).

Our trek continues southward through the rhododendron forest to reach Lalka. We stay overnight at camp. Trekking time 5-6 hours.

Day 06 : Trek Lalka to Ribhan (1,430m/4,691ft).

We trek to Ribhan today. Ribhan has Home Stay facility. Trekking time 4-5 hours.

Day 07 : Trek Ribhan to Lachok (1,160m/3,805ft).

Today's trek continues to Lachok. Lachok offers Home Stay facility. Trekking time 4-5 hours.

Day 08 : Trek Lachok to Milanchook and drive to Pokhara.

We have a short trek to Milanchook where we take a transport and drive to Pokhara, Nepal's biggest tourist town. It has all the facilities and places of interest that one could possibly want and it is situated on the eastern shore of the gorgeous Phewa Tal (Fewa Lake) and the skyline is dominated by the perfect pyramid of Mount Machhapuchhare (6,997m/22,957ft). Trekking time 2-3 hours.

Day 09 : Drive/fly from Pokhara to Kathmandu.

We are more relaxed in Pokhara with the beautiful morning and later we drive or fly back to Kathmandu. Regular tourist buses leave at 7am.

Option available for extending your trip with Jungle Safari adventure, white water rafting or a trip of your choice.