



Annapurna & Dhaulagiri trek (khopra trek)

Trip Facts

Difficulty Challenging	Max Altitude 4,660m/15,289ft	Accommodation Standard Hotels (Pokhara / Kathmandu) & Teahouses (Trek)	Meals
Activity Off the Beaten trail	Best Season Autumn (Sept–Nov) & Spring (Mar–May)	Start / End Point	Duration 12-13 Days

Trip Overview

The Khopra Ridge Trek (also known as Khopra Danda) is one of the Annapurna Region's finest community-based eco-trekking trails, celebrated for delivering a pristine, off-the-beaten-path wilderness experience. Easily accessed via a short drive from Pokhara, this moderate-to-strenuous loop is the perfect choice for adventurers seeking authentic culture, hidden trails, and world-class views over a flexible 6-to-9-day itinerary completely free from mass commercial crowds.

Covering a total round-trip distance of 60 to 70 km (37–43 miles), the trail climbs gracefully through traditional Magar and Gurung villages, moss-covered valleys, and dense forests of blooming rhododendrons. Perched on a dramatic high ridge, the viewpoint at Khopra Danda (3,660m / 12,007ft) offers a close-up mountain panorama that many travelers consider superior to Poon Hill, showcasing an unobstructed sunrise wall of Dhaulagiri (8,167m) and Annapurna South.

The ultimate highlight of the journey is a challenging side-trip up to the sacred alpine waters of Khayer Lake sitting at 4,660 meters (15,288 feet), directly at the foot of a massive glacial face. Supported by cozy community-run teahouses where profits directly fund local mountain schools, this rapid loop packs maximum Himalayan scale and positive social impact into a single unforgettable package.

Trip Itinerary

Day 1 - Arrival in Kathmandu & Welcome Briefing

Difficulty	Max altitude 1,400m/4,593ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 2 - Journey to Scenic Pokhara & Free Exploration Day



Difficulty	Max altitude 822m/2,697ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 3 - Private Drive to Ghandruk & Trek to Tadapani

Difficulty	Max altitude 2,630m/8,629ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 4 - Tadapani to Remote Dobato & Muldai Sunset

Difficulty	Max altitude 3,420m/11,220ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 5 - Dobato to Chhistibang (Tactical Acclimatization)

Difficulty	Max altitude 3,420m/11,220ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 6 - Chhistibang to Khopra Danda (The Ridge Ascent)

Difficulty	Max altitude 3,660m/12,008ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 7 - Alpine Expedition: Khopra Ridge to Sacred Khayer Lake

Difficulty	Max altitude 4,660m/15,289ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 8 - Khopra Danda to Swanta Village

Difficulty	Max altitude 3,660m/12,008ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 9 - Swanta to Ghorepani Hub

Difficulty	Max altitude 2,860m/9,383ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 10 - Poon Hill Sunrise & Private Drive Back to Pokhara

Difficulty	Max altitude 3,210m/10,531ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 11 - Travel Back from Pokhara to Kathmandu

Difficulty	Max altitude 1,400m/4,593ft	Accommodation	Meals
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Day 12 - Final Departure from Nepal



Cost Includes & Excludes

Includes:

- 2 nights accommodations during Kathmandu stay in twin sharing basis.
- 2 nights accommodations during Pokhara stay in twin sharing basis.
- Ground transfer to/from Kathmandu & Pokhara by tourist bus.
- Required Permits & Fees: 1. Annapurna conservation Park Entry Permit. 2. TIMS (Trekking Information Management Systems) card if applicable.
- Accommodation Along the Trail: 1. Standard twin-sharing rooms in local tea houses or mountain lodges for 7 nights.
- Trekking Support Staff: 1. Salary, insurance, food, accommodation, and equipment for a licensed English-speaking guide. 2. Salary, insurance, food, and accommodation for porters (typically 1 porter shared between 2 trekkers, carrying up to 20–25kg total).
- Meals on the Trek: 1. Full board meals: 3 meals a day (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner) chosen from the tea house menu. 2. Post-dinner hot beverages (tea or coffee) or a cup of hot water.
- Safety Gear: 1. First-aid kit carried by the guide, including an oximeter to monitor oxygen levels daily.

Excludes:

- International Travel Costs: 1. International airfare to and from Kathmandu. 2. Nepal Tourist Visa fee (payable in cash USD upon arrival at Tribhuvan International Airport).
- Single supplementary fee.
- Internal flight transfer. 1. Round-trip domestic flights between Kathmandu and Pokhara. 2. Airport transfers via private vehicle in Kathmandu and Pokhara.
- Travel and Emergency Insurance: 1. Mandatory: Travel insurance that explicitly covers emergency helicopter evacuation up to 6,000 meters (most basic plans cap out at 3,000m).
- Meals before & after trek in Kathmandu & Pokhara and extra stay in Kathmandu/Pokhara hotels other than mentioned above: 1. Hotel up-gradation might cost extra depending on your request.
- Trail Luxuries & Services (Teahouse Add-on): 1. Hot Showers: Gas or solar-heated showers cost between \$3 to \$7 USD per shower (prices increase with altitude). 2. Device Charging: Power banks, phones, and camera battery charging cost \$2 to \$5 USD per full charge. 3. Wi-Fi / Connectivity: AirLED or Everest Link Wi-Fi prepaid cards cost roughly \$5 to \$10 USD for a set amount of data. 4. Drinking Water: Bottled water costs \$1 to \$4 USD per bottle (it is highly recommended to bring water purification tablets/filters instead).
- Personal Trekking Gear: 1. Down jackets, sleeping bags, hiking boots, trekking poles, and backpacks (though sleeping bags and jackets can be rented cheaply in Kathmandu for around \$1 to \$2 a day).
- Beverages & Snacks: 1. Alcoholic drinks (beer, spirits), specialty coffees, soft drinks, and bakery items at trail cafes.
- Tips & Gratitude: 1. Tipping guides and porters is custom and highly expected. The industry standard is roughly 10% to 15% of your total trek cost, pooled together by the group and handed out on the final evening.

Availability

Date	Duration	Price	Seats
2 Oct 2026 - 14 Oct 2026	12 Days	\$ 999	1 Space available
15 Oct 2026 - 27 Oct 2026	12 Days	\$ 999	1 Space available
29 Oct 2026 - 10 Nov 2026	12 Days	\$ 999	1 Space available



Date	Duration	Price	Seats
5 Nov 2026 - 17 Nov 2026	12 Days	\$ 999	1 Space available
12 Nov 2026 - 24 Nov 2026	12 Days	\$ 999	1 Space available

FAQs

Best Time to Visit

October to November offers the clearest skies and best mountain views, while March to April brings beautiful blooming rhododendrons.

Trek Duration

Routes range from short 3-day hikes (like Poon Hill) to epic 12-to-22-day journeys (like the full Annapurna Circuit).

Required Permits

Trekkers need the ACAP Permit and a TIMS Card, both of which Himal Trek Nepal handles completely for our clients.

Solo Trekking Rules

Nepal restricts solo trekking in most mountain regions; our agency provides licensed, experienced guides to ensure full legal compliance and safety.

Teahouse Lodging

Expect basic, cozy tea houses with twin sharing beds, communal dining spaces, and shared bathrooms carefully vetted by our team.

Internet and Wi-Fi

Available in most lower-elevation villages for a small fee, but connection becomes unreliable and slow at higher altitudes.

Charging Devices

Electricity is accessible at most teahouses, though hosts usually charge a fee per device higher up the trail.

Water Availability

Safe drinking water is available via boiled water from teahouses, water purification tablets, or UV filters; buying plastic bottles is discouraged.

Physical Fitness

You need a moderate to high level of cardiovascular fitness; training with stairs and cardio 2–3 months prior is highly recommended.

Altitude Sickness

Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) is a risk above 3,000 meters; our guides are trained in altitude safety to monitor your pacing and hydration.

Travel Insurance

Your policy must cover high-altitude emergency helicopter evacuation up to 6,000 meters before starting your trip with us.

Packing Essentials

Prioritize sturdy hiking boots, thermal layers, a down jacket, a 4-season sleeping bag, and reliable rain gear.