#### **Trip Overview**

#### Namaste! Welcome to a Journey That Means More

At Community Homestay Network (CHN), we invite you to experience travel that goes beyond sightseeing. We are a social enterprise redefining tourism in Nepal by connecting travelers with local communities through immersive, responsible, and meaningful experiences.

Working with over 50 villages across the country, our Community Circuits offer curated, multi-day journeys that celebrate culture, food, and craft—guided by the very people who call these places home. Hosted in warm, welcoming homestays and guided by locals—many of them women—these circuits are more than just holidays. They are transformative exchanges that generate real impact. We had the immense honor to be recognized as one of Time Magazine's 'The World's Greatest Places of 2025'! This honor has strengthened our commitment to provide authentic cultural experiences and responsible tourism in Nepal.

#### Why Our Circuits Matter: Travel with Purpose

Our circuit is thoughtfully designed to offer local experiences with local people at the centre while also keeping your needs and comfort in mind. This mix lets you enjoy the familiar amenities of hotels with their own unique character while also experiencing the warmth and hospitality of Nepali homes across diverse cultures. Every circuit you join contributes directly to:

- Preserving Indigenous Cultures: From Magar to Gurung to Newar communities, your journey helps safeguard traditional customs, languages, festivals, and ways of life.
- Empowering Women: Many of our hosts, guides, and even drivers are women—challenging norms and leading their communities through tourism.
- Strengthening Local Economies: We ensure fair wages and community ownership, meaning your money stays where it's most needed—in the communities.
- Promoting Sustainable Practices: We say no to single-use plastics, use electric or hybrid vehicles where possible, and champion low-impact travel that respects the land.
- Fostering Intergenerational Learning: Join locals in cooking traditional meals, learning age-old crafts, and hearing stories passed down through generations.

These aren't just trips—they're investments in people, culture, and the planet.

#### Real People. Real Impact.

In 2024 alone, we welcomed over **7,900 travelers from 45 countries**, impacting **1,996 individuals**, including **916 women** across **28 communities**. These travelers didn't just visit—they **shared meals**, **built relationships**, **and contributed to long-term change**.

Through tourism, we also provide training in leadership, hospitality, and entrepreneurship. To date, we've formed **46 partnerships** with businesses, local governments, and impact-driven organizatons to further inclusive, community-led development.

# By choosing this **Community Circuit**, you're supporting livelihoods, celebrating culture, and becoming part of a movement.

Welcome to travel that transforms—for you and for the communities you visit.

#### More on the Trip:

This 12-day journey takes you through some of Nepal's most beautiful and culturally rich regions—**Kathmandu Valley, Chitwan, Pokhara**, and the surrounding villages. Starting in the ancient city of Patan, you'll explore narrow alleys, centuries-old temples, and take part in a traditional **Paubha painting workshop**, guided by seasoned local artists. From there, you'll travel to **Barauli Community Stay**, a peaceful Tharu village near Chitwan National Park. Here, you'll stay in charming community-run huts, cycle through fields, explore the community forest, and learn to cook traditional Tharu dishes. The experience offers a real taste of everyday life in the Terai, where tourism has directly supports women and the community.

Next, the trip takes you toward the scenic hills of Lumle and Landruk, where rice terraces, forest trails, and mountain views greet you. You'll hike to Hemjakot Community Homestay, a small Gurung village near Pokhara, where you'll

stay with local families, join in on farming or cooking, and simply slow down and enjoy the peaceful rhythm of village life. Finally, you'll reach **Pokhara**, a relaxed lakeside city known for its mountain views and natural beauty, before heading back to Kathmandu. This trip is perfect for travelers who want to connect with people, nature, and culture in a meaningful way—while knowing their visit is making a positive difference.

#### What Sets This Circuit Apart

- Plastic-free travel: zero single-use plastics used during the trip
- Electric and hybrid vehicles wherever possible for lower emissions
- Women in leadership
- Community Homestays owned and operated by local communities
- Farm-to-table meals, organic gardens, and local wine
- Slow-paced travel that fosters deep connection and reflection

#### Trip Impacts:

- Support Community Tourism: Staying in community homestays run by the local community directly contributes to the income of families in Patan, Barauli, and Hemjakot.
- Empower Women in Rural Nepal: This trip supports women-led hospitality and culinary programs in Barauli and Hemjakot, helping strengthen their economic independence and leadership roles.
- Preserve Traditional Art Forms: Take part in a Paubha painting workshop, often mistaken as Thangka and contribute to keeping this endangered Newar art form alive by learning its essence directly from local artists.
- Soak in Diverse Cultures: Learn from the Newar, Gurung and Tharu communities through shared meals, storytelling, lifestyle, and craft workshops.
- Foster Cultural Exchange: Spend time with local people at the community homestays, hear their stories, and experience Nepal through their eyes—building meaningful connections.

#### Trip Highlights:

- Wander through ancient alleys, courtyards, and temples in this historic Newar city of Patan and try your hand at the sacred Paubha art with a local artisan.
- Cycle through the village with a local guide and observe the daily lifestyle of the locals at the village of Barauli, ending with a sunset view at the banks of the Narayani River.
- Take a thrilling jeep safari in the community forest of Chitwan National Park for an opportunity to spot rhinos, deer, and exotic birdlife, along with experienced nature guides.
- Try your hand at Tharu cooking, wall painting, and henna design, and enjoy meaningful cultural exchanges with women-led initiatives.
- Hike gentle trails between Lumle, Landruk, and Hemjakot, enjoying panoramic Himalayan views, stone-paved paths, and warm hospitality in Gurung villages.
- Stay in community-run homestays and mountain lodges that allow you to experience each region's unique architecture, food, and culture.
- Unwind in the lakeside city of Pokhara—perfect for reflection, rest, or a final adventure before heading back to Kathmandu.

#### +TRIP NAME: GOLDEN TRIANGLE, KATHMANDU-CHITWAN-POKHARA

#### **DURATION:**

#### ROUTE: PATAN-CHITWAN-LUMLE-LANDRUK-HEMJAKOT-POKHARA-KATHMANDU

#### **ITINERARY:**

DAY 01:	ARRIVAL PATAN
Activities of the day:	International airport arrival transfer and transfer to Patan
Accommodation:	Hotel Traditional Stay or Similar
Meals Included:	None

Namaste & Welcome to Kathmandu, Nepal!!!

Your first impression of arriving at Tribhuvan International Airport is an experience in itself. Your time to get clear of the immigration formalities depend if you are looking to get On Arrival Visa or not.

As you exit baggage claim/customs on arrival at Kathmandu Airport, there will be a security check who will be collecting your baggage tag. Please note that there are trolleys available at the airport which are free to use.

As you walk down the tunnel to the arrival lounge, you will find many people showing various placards and waiting anxiously. Please do not get confused and look out for our airport representative who will be amongst the crowd waiting to welcome you with your name written on the placard. Our airport representative will assist you with your vehicle.

Patan, This ancient city, once a kingdom in itself, is situated across the Bagmati River to the south of Kathmandu. Approximately 80% of the inhabitants are Newars who fiercely retain their identity, proud to be separate from Kathmandu. Though now virtually a suburb of Kathmandu, this was once a very independent city state and is still often referred to as Lalitpur (City of Beauty).

Depending upon the traffic on the road, your drive to your booked hotel can take up to 30 minutes or more.

**Traditional Stay** is set in the historic heart of Patan, offering a perfect blend of modern comfort and ancient ambiance. Located in a living museum, it immerses guests in local cultural heritage while prioritizing environmental responsibility. The hotel supports local arts and uses regional resources and skills, aiming to reduce its carbon footprint. Single-use plastics are banned, with refillable glass water bottles provided in all rooms for eco-friendly convenience.

DAY 02:	PATAN
Activities of the day:	Sightseeing tour of the Patan City
Experiential Activities:	Food tour and Paubha painting in the evening
Accommodation:	Hotel Traditional Stay or Similar
Meals Included:	Breakfast

Your day starts with a tour of Patan City, One of the Kathmandu Valley World Heritage Sites, Patan is well worth a visit. Its origins are clouded in mystery, but it has a long Buddhist history and association with the great Indian emperor, Ashoka, who is credited with the building of the four grass-covered stupas surrounding the city around 250BC.

**Durbar Square** Patan's Durbar Square forms the center of Patan and offers the finest display of Newari urban architecture in Nepal.

**The Royal Palace** This forms the eastern side of Durbar Square and was originally built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, expanding in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries to its current size. The courtyards of the Royal Palace with their ornamented windows, columned arcades, shrines and sunken royal bath are amongst the loveliest in Kathmandu.

**Old Patan** boasts many beautiful courtyards and squares, with beautiful architecture. It comprises a small area of individual neighborhoods dedicated to metalworking, stone carving, and woodwork.

In April-May, the Rato Machhendranath festival is celebrated here, where a chariot containing a statue is moved across Patan to Jawalakhel, a mile or so away.

The Paubha is a rich painting tradition that visualizes the interpretation of Buddhist and Hindu philosophies. Often confused with the more popular Thangka which traces back to Tibetan cultures, the Paubha has its roots in the Newar communities of Kathmandu Valley with a subtle difference in the painting styles from that of Thangka. Paubha is a form of the divine art of painting gods. The Paubha is often created to worship gods or for meditative purposes. Painting a Paubha takes a lot of time, and a well-decorated Paubha takes months to complete. The four-hour workshop, however, is designed with the objective to generate awareness of this endangered form of art and culture with hands-on experiences of the process involved in decorating a Paubha. During the session, you will learn about the Paubha painting while trying to paint your own Paubha which you can take as a souvenir from a seasoned local artisan.

#### DAY 03: PATAN-CHITWAN

Activities of the day: Transfer from Patan to Chitwan. Welcome by local host from Barauli Community stay, Cycling to Narayani River followed by Cultural Dance Program with locals

Drive Duration:	06-07hrs approx.
Driving Distance:	177km approx.
Accommodation:	Barauli Community Stay
Meals Included:	Breakfast, Dinner

You drive along impressive views of the Trishuli River, villages, terraced farms, suspension bridges and the mountains beyond. At Mugling turn south, slowly descend from the central hills to the fertile lowlands of the Western Terai and Chitwan National Park.

Barauli is a small Tharu village close to Chitwan National Park, famous for its wildlife, the area is less known for its rich cultural value. At Barauli, you will get to experience staying close to the Tharu community, an immersive cultural experience far from the usual tourist trails. In this peaceful setting, visitors can connect deeply with the Tharu community by joining traditional dance performances, cycling through scenic rice paddies, learning to cook local dishes, and taking part in everyday village activities. The warm hospitality of the locals and the slow, natural rhythm of life make Barauli an ideal destination for travelers seeking authentic cultural exchange while directly supporting the community's tourism efforts.

Chitwan has ideal bicycle-riding terrain, and you can cycle around the peaceful village to witness local lives of people, lush farmland and traditional Tharu huts and cottages. Setting off from your accommodation on your bikes, meander beside lush green rice fields, along quiet village roads, pass humble homes, and share a smile with the children who will inevitably come out for a wave and a chat. You don't need to be an experienced cyclist, as it would be an easy ride. By heading out early in the evening, you will avoid the heat of the day and can admire the softer light as the sun begins to set. Your hour-long ride ends on the bank of Narayani River with a spectacular sunset view. Here, you can sip on a cup of tea as you watch the sun slowly sinking behind the jungle of Chitwan National Park on the other side of the river. You shall be accompanied by a local guide who will keep you on the right path, and tell you more about the lifestyle of the inhabitants.

Enjoy watching and participating in traditional Tharu stick dances at the cultural centre. These are cultural and traditional dances with long and short sticks performed by local Tharu people. The infamous Tharu dance represents the community's strength, unity and their connection with nature.

**Barauli Community Stay** is run by the local women of the Tharu Community. You will find small mud huts made by the community specially to receive guests with beautifully tended gardens outside. You can find not only local dishes

but also few options of continental/asian cuisine as well. When not engaged in a range of activities, you can relax in the community hall or pull up a chair in the shade outside and watch the community get busy.

DAY 04:	CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK
Activities of the day:	Half day jeep Safari at the community forest of Chitwan National Park
<b>Optional Activities:</b>	Henna Art, Wall Painting & Dress like locals
Accommodation:	Barauli Community Stay
Meals Included:	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Set off from Barauli Community Stay for an unforgettable half day jeep safari through the community forest of Chitwan National Park. This adventure offers a rare opportunity to witness Nepal's rich biodiversity, including the iconic one-horned rhinoceros, elusive Bengal tigers, spotted deer, wild boars, and a stunning array of birdlife. Guided by a trained nature expert, you'll journey across grasslands, riverbanks, and dense sal forests, learning about the delicate ecosystem between the forests, the animals residing here and the community residing nearby.

#### **Optional Activities:**

In your free hours, you can also get involved in local Experiences with the community at Barauli Community Stay such as:

- Tharu Wall Painting: Experience the traditional way of decorating Tharu houses with paint made from scratch.
- Tharu Henna Art: Learn how the women of Tharu community make Henna from the plants in their surrounding and design it on your hands with traditional designs
- Tharu Dressing like Locals: Dress in the cultural outfit of Tharu community, along with their traditional ornaments.

300 NPR is payable per person per activity for the above optional experience directly to the hosts. Recommended to book a day before or early in the morning.

# DAY 05:CHITWANActivities of the day:Bird Watching with nature guide, Walk Around Local Villages With Local Host, CookingCourse & Meal With Local Tharu PeopleAccommodation:Barauli Community StayMeals Included:Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Nepal is considered a bird watching sanctuary, with an astounding 848 species identified across the country. If you are a keen bird-watcher or one who does not know anything about the avian world, will have an opportunity to keep your eyes and ears open for the birds. Chitwan is home to more than 650 species of birds, including some seasonal migratory birds from Siberia and India. On a guided walk in the forest, you can have a good chance of seeing and hearing Egrets, Black ibis, Francolins, Lesser whistling ducks, Hornbills, Cormorants, Dater, Cinnamon Bittern, Black-Crowned Night, Purple Herons, Kingfishers, Warblers along the marshes . As you shall be on foot, you have a greater chance of getting close to these birds.

Tharu is an ethnic community residing in the Terai plains with their unique culture and traditions. You can learn more about their culture through their unique cultural delights. Your host will guide you through cooking delicious Tharu feast, from selecting the ingredients and preparing them, to cooking and seasoning them properly, you'll make your own meals from scratch for the night. You may get the chance to try Tharu specialities, like ghonghi (edible snails), or dhikri (rice-flour). Whether you're an experienced cook or not, you'll certainly learn something new, and get to practice new skills. Cooking with the simple but effective equipment available in the traditional Tharu kitchen in firewood and the usual stove gas, is likely to be different from any other cooking experience you've had before. Afterwards, you can enjoy eating what you have cooked. It would definitely taste good dining with the hosts.

Operating Barauli Community Stay has not only boosted the confidence of local women but also empowered them financially. It has become a crucial source of income for the community and a means of support for their livelihoods

while preserving and sharing their cultural heritage. Through hosting, guiding, and cooking, the women of Barauli have a strong sense of purpose and pride in welcoming travellers into their village.

DAY 06:	CHITWAN-POKHARA-LUMLE
Activities Of The Day:	After breakfast, transfer from Chitwan to Lumle
Driving Duration:	7-8hrs approx.
Driving Distance:	191 km approx.
Meals Included:	Breakfast & Dinner
Maximum Altitude:	1432m
Accommodation:	Tomijong Lodge/ Mountain Lodge Of Nepal
Meals Included:	Breakfast, Dinner

From the dense forest and fertile lowlands of Barauli, you head onto Pokhara driving via Prithvi Highway. You can experience the change in the atmosphere with magnificent mountain views in the distance. Pokhara mesmerizes with its beauty and nature.

As we exit Pokhara from Zero Kilometer via Pokhara-Baglung Highway. The first part of the highway is comparatively broad and busy driving forward we'll enter Sarangkot road. The winding roads give us the perfect glimpse of the heavenly tall mountains. We will stop along the way to photograph the breathtaking panoramas of the Annapurna's. Continuing our drive towards Kalikot Village we'll see the calm Thuli Pokhari, after a few minutes drive before entering Lumle-Landruk road the roads become quiet and narrow taking us towards our destination Lumle Village. This Village has many historical temples, Kali Mandir at Pokhari swara is very famous among lumleli.

Nestled in the Annapurna lowlands among rice terraces and a beekeeping village, **Tomijong Lodge** offers a comfortable retreat with stunning views of Machhapuchhre Mountain. The lodge features eighteen modern twin beds, slate floors, rafted ceilings, and spacious bathrooms with hot showers. With well-appointed rooms, delicious meals, friendly staff, and easy access to local hikes and adventures, it's an ideal Annapurna getaway for a night or an extended stay.

DAY 07:	LUMLE
Activities Of The Day:	Hike to Kanchi Barahi Temple/ Hike to Chandrakot and Tanchok, Bee village
Hiking Duration:	1 hour approx
Maximum Altitude:	
Accommodation:	Tomijong Lodge/Mountain Lodge Of Nepal
Meals Included:	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

You can get an opportunity to day hike towards Kanchi Barahi Temple which will take around 01 hour uphill from Tomijong Lodge.

Kanchi Barahi Temple, located in the picturesque village of Lumle, Nepal, is a revered site that beautifully reflects the spiritual essence of the region. This temple is dedicated to the goddess Barahi, who is believed to be a powerful protector and provider of blessings. The vibrant architecture, adorned with intricate carvings and vivid colors, draws visitors into a realm of tranquility and devotion. As you approach the temple, the serene ambiance and the stunning backdrop of the Himalayas create an unforgettable experience that is both calming and uplifting.

While visiting Kanchi Barahi Temple, it is essential to respect the local customs and traditions. Dress modestly and be mindful of the sacredness of the site. As you explore the temple grounds, take time to connect with the local community. It is also possible to hike around villages called Chandrakot, Tanchok where Gurung museum is located and takes around 15-25 minutes. The hike to bee village takes around 30 minutes downhill.

DAY 08:	LANDRUK
Activities Of The Day:	Hike from Tomijong to Landruk
Hiking Duration:	5-6 hours
Maximum Altitude:	1565m
Accommodation:	La Bee Lodge
Meals Included:	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

The hiking route from Tomijong Lodge to Landruk is approximately 9km. The trail first leads to Gentle ups and downs across terraced slopes eventually reaching Landruk with steep descent to the Modi Khola then ascent into Landruk. This place offers Panoramic views of the Annapurna South, Hiunchuli and Macchapucchre (Fishtail) peaks. Additionally, it is surrounded by Terraced fields, traditional stone houses, and forested hills giving it a peaceful and perfect setting.

La Bee Lodge in Landruk is part of the Mountain Lodges of Nepal collection, offering cozy, traditionally styled bungalows with private terraces that frame stunning views of the Annapurna range and Machhapuchhre. Each of its 12 spacious rooms features parquet floors, vaulted ceilings, and en-suite bathrooms for added comfort. With warm Gurung hospitality and thoughtfully curated amenities, La Bee Lodge is a perfect blend of comfort and authentic Annapurna culture.Additionally, Landruk is a typical village of the Gurung People, the proud Gurkhas and it is the renowned spot for its honey hunters who climb up flimsy bamboo ladders to collect honeycomb from sheer cliff faces.

DAY 09:	НЕМЈАКОТ
Activities Of The Day:	Transfer from Landruk to Hemja Phedi; Hike to Hemjakot Village
Driving Distance:	
Hiking Distance:	1-1.5 hrs approx.
Maximum Altitude:	1500m
Accommodation:	Hemjakot Community Homestay
Meals Included:	Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Start your drive from Landurk to Tolkha ascending gradually through forests of oak, rhododendron and bamboo. Cross Deurali and the route takes the less trodden trail westward. Then gentle descent leading to Hemjakot village, a peaceful Gurung settlement.

The hike to the village will take around 1-1.5 hours approximately, depending on one's pace. You will be walking uphill through the forest and an unbusy off-road trail. Hemjakot is inhabited mostly by the Gurung community; however, you will also find a few locals from other ethnicities as well. Just an hour's drive away from Pokhara, you will get to experience the village lifestyle of the community along with their warm hospitality. Isolated from the city area, you will be able to join in on seasonal agricultural activities, enjoy food made from the local produce near the farm fields of the homestay, share stories and culture through bonding over simple yet fulfilling meals. It is a perfect place to unwind and stay away from the hustle and bustle of the city area while also getting to know the people and their culture.

At Hemjakot Community Homestay, you'll stay in simple clean and modest rooms, often with basic furnishings and shared bathrooms nearby or outside of the house. Meals are home-cooked and hearty, made from fresh local ingredients grown in the hosts' farm fields. Expect traditional Nepali dishes like dal bhat (rice with lentil soup and seasonal vegetables), homemade pickles, and sometimes freshly harvested produce and unique dish like Dhedo while you are here.

DAY 10:	POKHARA
Activities Of The Day:	Transfer from Hemjakot village to Pokhara
Driving Distance:	45 minutes approx.
Accommodation:	Temple Tree Resort or Similar
Meals Included:	Breakfast

Wake up to a warm breakfast prepared by the homestay hosts and enjoy the peaceful morning by walking through the village. Shortly afterwards, you will be transferred to Pokhara.

**Temple Tree Resort & Spa**, This boutique hotel is close to Fewa Lake in Pokhara, framed by the foothills and majestic peaks of the Annapurna range. All rooms are in two-storied cottages finished in hand-cut stone and featuring beautifully-decorated timber struts and pillars. Each room has a private balcony with a pergola looking onto a lush garden that centers on an ancient tree formed from three interlocking trunks. It is located a short stroll from Lake Side's many specialty restaurants, fine handicraft and trekking equipment shops, mountain bike and boat rentals, and convenience stores.

DAY 11:	KATHMANDU
Activities of The Day:	Transfer from Pokhara to Kathmandu
Driving Distance:	201 km approx.
Driving Duration:	6-7hrs approx.
Accommodation:	Traditional Comfort Hotel
Meals Included:	Breakfast

After breakfast, we drive from Pokhara via Prithvi Highway; along the winding roads with a beautiful view of the outskirts and village settlements before you reach the country's capital city. The drive from Pokhara to Kathmandu is one of Nepal's most scenic routes, as you can see glimpses of the majestic Annapurna range, with Machhapuchhre's iconic fishtail peak towering above terraced hills. Along the way, you'll pass small villages with vibrant roadside markets, suspension bridges swaying over rivers, and hillsides dotted with rice paddies and forests.

**Traditional Comfort** Boutique Hotel blends Nepalese traditional hospitality and architecture with modern amenities for a truly enriching experience. Committed to sustainability, it supports the local economy while reducing environmental impact through measures like eliminating single-use plastics and using solar energy. The hotel's name reflects its dedication to preserving cultural values while offering contemporary comfort. Guests enjoy genuine Nepali hospitality while contributing to responsible tourism.

DAY 12:	DEPARTURE KATHMANDU
Activities of The Day:	International airport departure transfer in Kathmandu
Accommodation:	None
Meals Included:	Breakfast

As per airlines regulation, travelers need to check in at their respective airlines counter at around 3 hours before the scheduled flight time.

Your booked airport transfer will be at your hotel, ready to take you to the airport. Depending upon the traffic on the road, the drive from your hotel to the airport may take around 30 minutes or more.

At the airport, security will check for your flight ticket - either hard copy or on your mobile along with your passport before you are allowed to enter the departure hall.

#### **Trip Cost Includes:**

- Airport pick-up and drop-off in Kathmandu
- Accommodation for 11 nights (hotels, community homestays, and mountain lodges as listed)
- Meals as per itinerary
- All surface transfers in private vehicles as per the itinerary
- Guided sightseeing tours in Patan
- Paubha painting workshop with local artist at Patan
- Cultural programs and activities in Barauli (cycling, Tharu cultural program, Tharu cooking class)
- Half-day jeep safari in community forest of Chitwan National Park with a nature guide
- Birdwatching and village walk with a local Tharu host
- Hiking from Lumle to Landruk and Hemjakot with guide
- Accompanying English-speaking guide throughout the trip

#### Trip Cost Does not Include:

- International airfare to/from Nepal
- Nepal visa fees
- Personal travel insurance
- Entrance fees, and community fees as applicable
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Optional activities in Barauli (Henna, Wall Painting, Dress-Up) payable directly to host
- Tips and gratuities for guides, drivers, and homestay hosts
- Personal expenses such as drinks, snacks, laundry, and souvenirs
- Emergency evacuation or medical costs (if required)
- Any services not mentioned under "What's Included"

### **Additional Information:**

#### Accommodation

#### **Hotel Accommodation**

Generally, we at Community Homestay Network provide clean and comfortable hotels on a twin share basis with private facilities.

**Traditional Stay** is located in an older part of Patan, and provides the perfect blend of modern living with ancient ambiance. Situated at the heart of a living museum, the hotel gives you an opportunity of total immersion in the local cultural heritage. It is an environmentally conscious hotel supporting local heritage and arts, not just as a cause but also in their everyday practices. Traditional Stay uses local resources, skills, and art, and seeks to reduce their carbon footprint and be eco-friendly. The hotel prohibits single-Use use plastic and all rooms have refillable water bottles which can be borrowed for your day out.

**Tomijong/Mala Lodge** is situated at the quiet and serene place in the Annapurna lowlands amongst paved terraces and tranquil gardens, near to a quaint bee keeping village. The lodge boasts comfortable twin beds, slate floors, rafted ceiling, and spacious bathroom with hot showers and good amenities. The lodge is a perfect Annapurna getaway for a single night or a week.

**La Bee Lodge** in Landruk offers spacious, well-appointed rooms with en-suite bathrooms, parquet floors, and vaulted ceilings for a touch of rustic elegance. Each room includes a private terrace with panoramic views of the Annapurna range. Guests can enjoy a cozy lounge with a fireplace, a bar serving local and international drinks, and beautifully landscaped gardens perfect for morning yoga or relaxation. The lodge also features a dining area serving fresh, locally inspired meals and attentive staff ready to ensure a comfortable, memorable stay in the heart of the Himalayas.

**Temple Tree Resort & Spa**, This boutique hotel is close to Fewa Lake in Pokhara, framed by the foothills and majestic peaks of the Annapurna range. All rooms are in two-storied cottages finished in hand-cut stone and featuring beautifully-decorated timber struts and pillars. Each room has a private balcony with a pergola looking onto a lush garden that centers on an ancient tree formed from three interlocking trunks. It is located a short stroll from Lake Side's many specialty restaurants, fine handicraft and trekking equipment shops, mountain bike and boat rentals, and convenience stores.

**Traditional Comfort** Boutique Hotel offers thoughtfully designed rooms featuring handcrafted Nepali décor, modern bathrooms, and cozy furnishings that blend tradition with comfort. Guests can relax in the serene courtyard, enjoy locally sourced meals at the in-house restaurant, or unwind in the welcoming lounge. Unique for its authentic Newari architecture and artistic details, the hotel creates an immersive cultural experience within a modern setting. With attentive service and sustainable practices throughout, it provides a warm, elegant stay that celebrates Nepal's heritage.

#### Homestay Accommodation

In Barauli Community Stay, you will be staying in private huts owned and managed by the community members, each named after the hosts of the community stay. These traditional mud huts offer simple yet comfortable rooms, complete with attached private western-style bathrooms and hot showers. Meals are served in a shared community hall, where you can access wi-fi services. The hosts' own homes are located nearby, creating a warm, close-knit atmosphere that makes you feel part of the village.

In Hemjakot, you'll experience a homestay run by local families from mixed ethnic backgrounds. The accommodations are simple yet clean, offering comfortable rooms with basic furnishings. While the bathrooms are often outside the rooms with a mix of squat or western washroom areas. This homestay offers a great backdrop of the mountain ranges. The wifi services may not be available at all homes however you will find good network connectivity

#### Meals

While staying at hotels in Nepal, guests can expect a wide variety of meals ranging from traditional Nepali dishes to popular international cuisines such as Indian, Chinese, and Continental. Most hotels offer buffet breakfasts and à la carte options for lunch and dinner, prepared by professional chefs with a focus on comfort and flavour. Depending upon the lunch place of the day, especially while you are on an excursion, the guide may suggest you some delicacies. The quality of meals prepared may not be of the quality like you may find in big cities of Nepal but they will be delicious and hygienically prepared.

At community homestays, meals are a warm and authentic part of the cultural experience. Guests are served freshly prepared home-cooked meals made with locally sourced ingredients. Typical dishes include dal bhat (lentils and rice), seasonal vegetables, pickles, and sometimes local specialities of the destination. Meals are often shared with the host family, offering a deeper connection to local customs and everyday life

#### Transportation

In order to meet the safety standards, we have been working to make sure that the vehicles used during the tours are of high quality. We have a fleet of our own vehicles and we continuously make sure that the vehicles are in good condition. All safety requirements such as first aid box, fire extinguishers, and seat belts are available in every vehicle of ours. We annually give First Aid Training to our drivers too. First Aid Training is provided by Red Cross Society of Bhaktapur, which is a branch of Nepal Red Cross Society. Our drivers are well trained to make sure that your journey is safe and smooth.

#### **Guide and Support Staff**

Our tour guides are all well trained and well-educated. They all have gained their professional license from the Government of Nepal to tour in Nepal. In addition to their professional license, we train them to provide magical, unique and unforgettable experiences to clients whether it is during their sightseeing tours in historical sites or hikes through the beautiful landscapes.

#### Money Exchange

As currency exchange rates in Asia fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com. There are many ATM machines that accept both Visa and MasterCard but these are limited to major cities. Major credit cards are accepted in most shops but they may charge a 2-4% transaction fee.

#### Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected, though not compulsory, and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels.

Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$4-\$7 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your Community Homestay guide did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference; however, as a guideline \$7-10 USD per day, can be used.

#### Health

There are no specific health requirements for entry into Nepal. However, you should consult your doctor for up-to-date information regarding vaccinations and medications for any reasonably foreseeable illnesses whilst traveling in Nepal.

Be aware that some drugs, including anti-malarial, have side effects at altitude. Please discuss this carefully with your doctor.

#### Visas

Please note it is your responsibility to arrange visas before you travel. Below are the visa requirements at the time of printing. NEPAL: All foreign nationals (except Indians) require a visa to enter Nepal. Visas are obtainable from embassies abroad or on arrival at Kathmandu's Tribhuvan airport. If getting the visa at the airport be prepared for long queues. You will also need to provide one passport photo and the following fees in US dollars' cash only: multiple entry visa valid for 15 days - US \$30: multiple Entry Visa for 30 days - US \$50 and multiple entry visa valid for 90 days - US \$125.

#### Weather Information

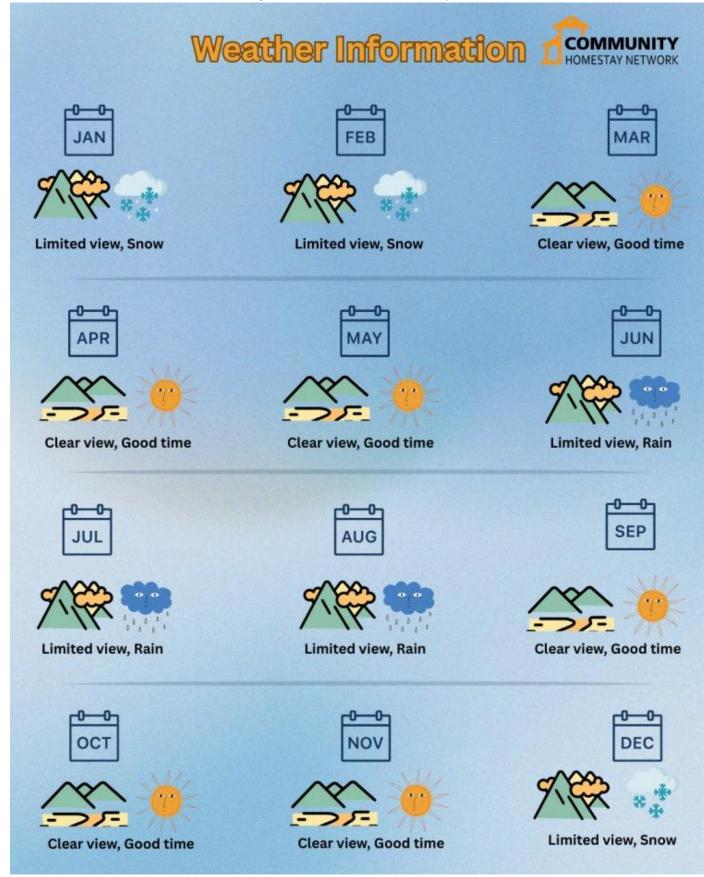
Nepal has a generally temperate climate, but varying altitudes lead to distinct variations. The monsoon sweeps up from India each summer, making mid-June to mid-September humid and wet.

Winter (December-February) winter is cold and you will need to be prepared, but the air is very clear providing the best mountain views.

Spring (March-May) Days are increasingly warm; mist and clouds are not uncommon.

Summer (June-August) The monsoon season. It will rain every day, although not all day.

Autumn (September - November) the most pleasant season, in which days are warm but not hot and skies are clear.



## **Booking Terms and Conditions**

In order to book any trip(s) with Community Homestay Network, please provide the following details in your email.

- Name or code of the trip(s) you wish to book
  The date you would like to commence your trip (s)
- Any additional night's hotel accommodation that you would like to book before or after your trip

#### For each traveler please provide

- Full name exactly and completely as it appears in their passport
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Nationality as per their passport
- Passport number and expiry date

Please read our booking conditions carefully. By booking with us you accept and are bound by these conditions. To confirm a booking, you need to pay a non-refundable deposit. Until your deposit is received your booking cannot be confirmed.

Payment may be made by bank transfer or credit card. Please note 4% additional bank charge will be applicable if you pay by credit card.

#### Responsibility

When booking with Community Homestay Network (CHN) you understand that CHN runs adventure/cultural trips and that the standards of accommodation, transport, safety, hygiene, telecommunication facilities, level of infrastructure development and medical facilities are not the same as those that you are used to at home or would find on a conventional holiday. This type of travel inherently involves a high level of personal risk, which you fully agree to assume.

You understand that during the course of the trip certain events may occur, including, but not limited to, accident or illness in remote locations without medical facilities, political instability and the forces of nature. You agree to assume all risks associated with the journey to the maximum extent permitted by law.

You acknowledge that travel on a CHN trip requires a degree of flexibility, and understand that the trip's route, accommodation, modes of transport and included activities are subject to change without prior notice due to local circumstances. Should CHN deem it advisable to amend an itinerary for any reason, it may do so by shortening, varying or re-routing any trip. These changes are binding and additional expenses will be charged to you if the reason for any alteration is outside CHN direct control.

While traveling with CHN you agree to accept the authority of the leader or guide at all times. You are aware that travel within a group may involve compromise to accommodate the diverse desires and physical abilities of group members. You understand that CHN reserved the right to decline, accept or retain any person as a member of the group at any time.

You acknowledge that CHN contracts with a network of companies, government agencies and individuals to assist in the running of its tours. To the best of CHN knowledge, these third parties are qualified to perform the duties they are contracted to perform. However, CHN will not be held liable for any injury, damage, loss, delay or irregularity that may occur due to the behavior of these third parties.

CHN will not accept responsibility or liability for any traveler who contravenes any law or regulation of any country visited.

#### Passports, Permits and Visas

You must carry a valid passport that contains at least 3 blank pages and remains valid for 6 months beyond the duration of the trip.

You must not change or renew your passport once you have supplied CHN with your passport details as these details will be used by CHN to apply for permits on your behalf. It is your responsibility to obtain the appropriate visas for your trip and CHN cannot accept responsibility if you are refused entry to a country because you lack the correct documentation or have failed to provide CHN with the correct details of your documentation.

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

#### **Cancellation by Community Homestay Network**

We understand that plans can change, and we aim to offer a fair and transparent cancellation policy. Please review the following guidelines for cancellations:

#### **General Cancellation Policy**

Cancellation by Guests: More than 30 Days Before Arrival: Full refund minus any transaction fees.

15-30 Days Before Arrival: 50% refund of the total booking amount.

Less than 15 Days Before Arrival: No refund.

**Cancellation by Homestay Hosts:** If a homestay host needs to cancel your booking, we will make every effort to find a suitable alternative. If no alternative is available or acceptable, you will receive a full refund.

#### **Special Circumstances**

Certain bookings may have different cancellation policies due to exceptional ci rcumstances or promotions. Please refer to the specific terms provided at the time of booking. Refunds will be at the discretion of CHN if you are involuntarily forced to leave a trip for any reason. No refunds will be made for any accommodation, transport, sightseeing, meals or other services not utilized.

#### How to Cancel

Email: Send a cancellation request to reservation@communityhomestay.com with your booking details.

Phone: Call us at +977-01-4519039 to speak with our customer service team.

Online Account: Log into your account on our website, go to your bookings, and follow the cancellation instructions provided.

#### Refund Process

Refunds will be processed within 14 business days of receiving your cancellation request. The refund will be credited back to the original payment method used for the booking.

#### Non-Refundable Situations

Refunds will only be provided for no-shows or cancellations made at least 15 days before the scheduled arrival date. No refunds will be made if you voluntarily leave a trip for any reason after the trip has begun.

#### **Changes to Booking**

If you need to change your booking, please get in touch with us immediately. We will do our best to accommodate your request, but changes are subject to availability and may incur additional charges.

#### **Contact Us**

Email: info@communityhomestay.com

By booking with Community Homestay Network, you acknowledge that you have read and understood this Inquiry and Cancellation policy and agree to the terms and conditions outlined herein.

#### **Booking Amendments**

Once your booking has been confirmed any changes to the itinerary and/or departure date may result in additional costs which will be passed on to the traveler.

#### Last Minute changes

Due to the procedures for applying for and obtaining permits and visa authorization, it may not be possible to make any amendments to your booking within 21 days of departure.

#### Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory for all CHN travelers. Your travel insurance must provide cover against personal accident, medical expenses, emergency evacuation, repatriation and personal liability. We also recommend that it cover cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. You will not be permitted to join any Community Homestay Network trip unless you can show proof of insurance. Loss of deposit applies to all cancelled reservations. Cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.

#### Thank You

Thank you for choosing a journey that uplifts people, preserves culture, and respects Mother Nature. When you travel with us, you support a movement, not just a destination.