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Annapurna Khopra Ridge Trek

Duration: 13 Days Days
Max Altitude: 3,600 m
Destination: Nepal
Trip Grade: Moderate

Best Season: Autumn, Spring

Highlights

- Walk through Khayar Lake.
- Sacrosanct pioneer spot for Hindu individuals.
- Catch the dazzling perspectives on Dhaulagiri, Nilgiri, Machhapuchhre, and Annapurna I.
- In Springtime, you will stroll through the rhododendron blooms Forest.
- I am coming to Khopra Ridge (3660 meters) through high meadows and green fields.

Overview

The Annapurna Khopra Ridge Trek is one of the most alluring treks in the Annapurna region and one of the best choices for someone wishing to try a short trekking route. The trail is attractively located off the beaten track, so whilst the Annapurna region is inundated with trekkers year-round, a few venture to the Kopra Ridge. So it is the perfect choice for anyone wanting a private journey through the still-untouched Himalayas.

Whilst it may be a less well-known trek, it still offers all the delights one could wish for from an <u>Everest trekking</u> experience, including local wildlife, panoramic mountain scenery, a beautifully dense forest, insight into Nepali culture and spirituality, and much more

Annapurna Khopra Ridge Trek

You will follow the popular Annapurna trail for the first two days of your trek. However, from the third day, you will be taken off the central route and diverted through dense forests and remote villages until you find yourself in the hidden spots towards Kopra Ridge (3,660m).



This Khopra trekking trail is famous as the Khayar Tal trek route. Khayar Tal, a small glacier lake in the South of the stunning <u>Annapurna region</u>, is this trek's major highlight. This pristine lake lies just before the Himalayas and remains frozen for over half the year. It is about 5kms away from the Kopra Danda, usually visited on the rest day. There aren't any hotels or restaurants around the Khayar Tal trek. The moutains visible from the Kopre Danda are:

- 1. Mount Dhaulagiri (8,167m),
- 2. Nilgiri (7061m),
- 3. Bharha Shikhar (7647m),
- 4. Annapurna I (8,091m),
- 5. Annapurna South (7219m),
- 6. Hiunchuli (6434m),
- 7. Fishtail (6997m),
- 8. Annapurna II (7937m),
- 9. Annapurna IV (7525m),
- 10. Lamjung Himal (6983m).

Day 01

Arrival in Kathmandu

On arrival, you will land at Kathmandu airport, where our friendly team will greet you and take you to your hotel. Depending on what time you arrive, you are free to rest, or if you are itching to start exploring, you can spend the rest of the day soaking up the atmosphere of the Capital. You will then have dinner and an overnight stay in a highly recommended hotel in the city centre. Dinner and overnight stay at a 3-star hotel in Kathmandu

Day 02

Kathmandu drive tourist bus/flight to Pokhara

Today you can choose between a quick 30-minute flight to Pokhara and a 6-7 hour tourist bus. The bus

may seem like a long alternative, but driving through the hills and local villages is an inspiring way to begin your adventure in Nepal and see what the country offers. Whichever route you choose, you will arrive in Pokhara, famous for its beautiful lake and the excellent bars and restaurants surrounding it. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, and overnight stay at a 3-star hotel in Pokhara

Day 03

Pokhara drive to Nayapul, then trek to Ghandruk

Today we say goodbye to beautiful Pokhara, drive towards Nayapul, and get a real insight into Nepali rural life. Then, after an energy-boosting lunch, we are finally ready to begin trekking! A short hike for our first day to Ghandruk, one of Nepal's most famous Gurung Villages. A great spot to spend the night and observe such mountains as the <u>Annapurna</u> South (7,219 meters), Hiunchuli (6,441 meters), and Machhapuchhre (6,993 meters).

Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse

Day 04

Ghandruk trek to Tadapani

We can start the day by exploring the traditions of the Gurung community before heading toward Tadapani. This three-hour trek will take you through oak and rhododendron forests, passing waterfalls and a buffalo pasture en route. On arrival, you will have the opportunity for a panoramic sunset view of Annapurna II, III, and IV, amongst others.

Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse

Day 05

Tadapani trek to Bayeli Kharka

Today, you will leave the main trekking trail and begin to explore off the beaten track. More rhododendron forests pepper our journey, along with oak forests. Before reaching our final destination, the trail ascends through the tree line, continuing along a ridge to Deurali, leading us to Bayeli Kharka. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse

Day 06

Bayeli Kharka trek to Upper Chistibung

Today is an early start as we continue to Upper chastising along the grassy slope ground. We will then pass through pasture lands and grassy ridges hosting Danphe Pheasant. Our trail takes us through numerous villages and into the heart of rustic Nepal as we arrive in Upper Chistiung to rest for the night. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse



Day 07

Upper Chistibung trek to Kopra Ridge

Day 7 is an uphill trek exploring the area's fauna – passing through the habitats of wild goats (Himalayan Tahr) and the National Bird of Nepal (Dafne) on the way to the Kopra community. However, today's highlight is the visit to the emerald Khayer Lake – a tranquil beauty surrounded by mountain peaks. It's as beautiful as Shey-Phoksundo in <u>Upper Dolpo</u>. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse

Day 08

Kopra Ridge trek to Swanta Village

Today we start with a downward trail as we return to Upper Chistibung, trailing through terraced farmland and small traditional villages on our way to Swanta Village – complete with traditional houses and the warm hospitality of the Magar people, it's the perfect resting spot. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse

Day 09

Swanta Village trek to Ghorepani

Be prepared for a climb today as we begin the popular trekking route, 'Three Thousand Steps.' This is a challenge, but once we have battled the stairs, the walk levels out, and we can venture through more villages and Rhododendrons before reaching Ghorepani. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse

Day 10

Visit Poon Hill (3210m), then trek Tikhedhunga (1577m)



Today may be an early start – but it's completely worth it as we catch the sunrise over the Annapurna from Poon Hill. This beautiful start to the day is followed by breakfast before our trek begins. Today's trek is gentle and downhill – a treat after the climb the day before – to reach Tikhedhunga. Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner with an overnight stay in a teahouse Day 11

Tikhedhunga trek to Nayapul drive to Pokahara (850m)

Today is the final day of the trek portion of our journey. It is a mostly level trail – with some ups and downs. Enjoy this time to take in the last of the mountains that have kept you company throughout your trip. On arrival at Nayapul, we will drive to Pokhara, where you can spend the evening enjoying your accomplishments and relaxing in beautiful surroundings. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, and overnight stay at a 3-star hotel

Day 12

Pokhara drives a tourist bus/flight to Kathmandu

It's time to wave goodbye to the beautiful city of Pokhara and either fly or go back to Kathmandu. Whether you choose the speedy or scenic route, you are free to spend the rest of your day enjoying the excitement of the Capital – either taking a rest or exploring the city's nightlife. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, and overnight stay at a 3-star hotel

Final Departure

It's time to fly home! Say goodbye to Nepal and your fellow trekkers! A member of our friendly team will take you to the airport. Breakfast.

What To Expect?

What's included

- Airport/hotel pick up and drop off by private car.
- At least two nights 3-star hotel in Kathmandu bed and Breakfast plan
- Meals on the entire board (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) during the whole trekking
- Transport From Kathmandu Pokhara Kathmandu By Tourist Coach.
- Trekking map
- An experienced Government license holder guide
- Insurance, salary, equipment, transportation, local tax for guide.
- Group medical supplies (first aid kit will be available)
- All necessary paper works and national park entry permits
- Travel and rescue arrangement
- TIMS (Trekkers' Information Management System)
- All government taxes and tourist service charges

What's not included

- Meals in Kathmandu before and after trekking,
- Your travel insurance (Rescue)
- Tips for trekking staff and driver
- Drinks (hot, cold, and alcoholic)
- Trekking porter/Sherpa who will carry your bags during the trekking.
- Personal shopping and laundry etc
- Personal trekking equipment

FAQs

General

Where is Khopra Danda?

Khopra Danda Khayer Lake Trek is located to the northeast of Pokhara. It is about 39.9 km away from Pokhara. The village borders Myagdi District and Kaski District. The Khopra Ridge is relatively close to the village of Ghorepani in Dhaulagiri. The Kopra Ridge is only accessible via trek from Tadapani.

Khopra Danda lies 3640m above sea level, while Khayer Lake, a popular destination nearby, lies 4660m at sea level.

How long is Khopra Danda Trek Nepal?

MyEverestTrip Khopra Danda Trek Itinerary is 16 days and 14 nights long. The trip has become longer, including Ghandruk and Poonhill Trek, for 4 to 5 days. If you want to skip these popular destinations and directly reach Khopra Danda from Pokhara, you can get there in 3 days from Pokhara, and it takes two days to return. Thus, Kopra Ridge Trek from Pokhara is one day walk. However, we suggest you take this relaxing and rejuvenating amble, covering all essential trekking destinations. After all, this is a once-in-alifetime journey, and there's no need to rush.

Is a solo Khopra Ridge Trek possible?

Yes, Solo Trek to Khopra is possible both legally and practically. There are few restricted regions in Annapurna, like <u>Upper Mustang</u>, where trekkers can travel Solo. However, Khopra Danda is not one of those restricted regions and, thus, can issue the permit alone.

Practically, it's pretty risky to travel alone in the unknown path of the forest. But if you book MyEverestTrip, you will be accompanied by a guide to Khopra Ridge. A guide will keep you safe and comfortable without disturbing the true essence of Solo trekking. Thus, you can fully enjoy the perks of a Solo trek without being disturbed.

Why is Khopra Danda Famous?

Khopra Danda is recently getting the attention of trekkers around the world. With the increasing crowd in other popular treks of the Annapurna region, the true essence of solitude cannot be felt. However, this Khopra Ridge Trek is entirely untouched by modernization and the crowd.

However, the major highlight of Khopra Ridge Trek is the emerald Khayer Lake – a tranquil beauty surrounded by mountain peaks. It looks stunning in winter, surrounded by snow. This peaceful glacier lake looks like <u>Shey Phoksundo</u> and Rara but can be reached much shorter; the proximity to popular destinations such as Poonhill and Ghandruk makes it a great goal.

Furthermore, the typical Gurung and Tamang villages along the route also attract a lot of trekkers. These villages are the reflection of authentic Nepalese culture and tradition.

Additional Information

Khopra Trek Difficulty

This 15 days trek is a quiet, relaxing walk in the mountains. Despite being extended, it is quite an easy trek in <u>Annapurna</u>. Mostly, we walk for 4 to 7 hours each day, having a lot of time for rest and acclimatization.

Khopra Trek distance

The round Khopra Trek distance is about 120 km. Although Khopra Ridge is only 39.8 km from Pokhara, our trip covers many other highlights, making it longer. If you only travel to Khopra Ridge and avoid other destination as <u>Poonhill</u>, the trek starting from Ghandruk is about 60 km. We walk 10 to 15 km each day which takes about 6 hours. Somedays might be longer, but this is an average time.

Khopra Trek altitude

Khopra danda is 3640m above sea level, and we take many days to get there. So, it's almost impossible to get altitude sickness before Khopra Danda (unless you are highly dehydrated). However, our primary destination, i.e. layer lake, lies at 4,660m, the trek's highest point. So, the only chance you can be caught with altitude sickness is between Khopra Danda and Kayer Lake.

Best time to Trek Khopra Danda



Khopra Ridge

Kopra Danda Trek is among the significant high-altitude Treks in the Annapurna region. This means the weather at Khopra Danda significantly impacts the comfort one experiences during the trek. The government issues the Khopra Danda Trek permit throughout the year, and there is no restriction for travelling in any season. However, for trekkers wishing for a comfortable Trek in the Khopra region, it's suggested that you hike in peak season only.

Peak season: Autumn (September, October, and November) And Spring (March, April, and May) is the best time for Khopra Danda Trek. Autumn, with stable weather, makes the best views, while spring is known for the colourful blooms of wildflowers. Spring might have some rainy days in Pokhara and the lower region, but the overall weather is good for the trek. Spring also makes the surroundings magical with the blooms of wildflowers all around. And since other hikes like Annapurna Base Camp Trek and Annapurna Circuit Trek are exceptionally crowded, Kopra Ridge is a perfect escape. Poonhill Ghandruk is very magical during spring.

Off-season: Summer (June, July, and August) with regular rainfall is not good. Since Pokhara receives the highest amount of rain in the entire Nation, this is not the ideal season for Kopra Ridge Trek. Similarly, the winter trek with regular snowfall is hard to walk. All area above Upper Chistibung is covered in snow. However, the lake looks magical when surrounded by snow, and the views are fantastic. We suggest a winter trek in Khopra Ridge when all other Annapurna high passes are closed for the trekkers. However, having proper guidance from MyEverestTrip is essential.

Kopra Ridge Trek cost

The newly made Kopra Ridge Trek trail is still in the promotion phase, with minimum competition. Thus, the cost is low, i.e. Khopra Ridge Trek costs \$850 for a 15-day and 14 nights trek. In addition, you will spend about \$300 on gear, snacks, tips, and donations. All other costs, including two-way transportation to and from Pokhara, are included. There's no additional hidden cost that you need to issue.

The price mentioned above is the cost of the Khopra Trek package by MyEverestTrip. You might find other cheaper Packages, but they don't include all expenses cover on a trip. Independent and Solo travelling is also allowed in Kopra Ridge. Independent Travellers pay about \$25 for daily food, \$5 for accommodation, \$40 per guide, and Porter per day. The one-time cost includes transportation of about \$100 and permits of about \$50. In the end, Solo travellers end up paying more than \$850.

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Poonhill and Khopra Danda trek itinerary

Our khopra Danda trek Itinerary moves from Ghandruk to Tadapani and diverts to Bayeli kharka. Ghandruk is a popular homestay destination in Nepal with Gurung settlement. This is the first highlight of our trip.

From Bayeli Kharka, we move towards Khopra Danda and then reach Ghorepani via Swanta Village. From Ghorepani, we walk to <u>Poonhill</u>, a famous viewpoint for the astounding panorama of the mountain peaks. We visit Poonhill on the 11th day of our trek.

Why US

<u>MyEverestTrip</u> is a **Nepalese Travel and Trekking Agency** based in Kathmandu. We have been operating in different trekking regions for over a decade, traveling with hundreds of travelers worldwide.

With the pure intention to bring trekkers to Nepal's safety and comfort, we have an entire team of travel planners, guides, and porters. We also have connections to hotels and restaurant lines all over Nepal to ensure that our trekkers get the best possible facilities.

So, here is the reason why you should travel with MyEverestTrip.



Customize Your Itinerary:

We have designed a well-planned Itinerary for all travel destinations around Nepal. However, this Itinerary is customizable as per the needs and requests of our trekkers. Just let us know when and how long you are staying so we can arrange the rest.



Our Expert Guide:

Although all travel agencies claim to have a good guide, many are not informed about the place you are traveling to. However, MyEverestTrip has its licensed guide in Nepal. They have been working in this field for over three decades, collecting all the information about the place/ culture and learning to keep the travelers safe. Also, our guide is good at the English language. We can even hire a guide who can speak Chinese and other European languages for trekking in Nepal upon special request.



Fair and reasonable Cost:

MyEverestTrip has been known for its very economic trek packages in Nepal. You can compare the price we offer with any other travel agency in Nepal and only book with us if you are satisfied with our cost. We try to include all needed expenses during the tour so that you will not be overwhelmed with hidden expenses after the packages are booked.



Your safety is our priority:

Obviously, the safety of our trekkers and team is the utmost priority of MyEverestTrip. Our guide and porters who shall accompany you for the trip will have their insurance. We also encourage Travel insurance for our trekkers. Our treks and trips have been so designed that you only walk an appropriate distance. In any case of emergency, you will always have our back.



Responsible and Eco-Friendly

MyEverestTrip operates with the belief in responsible tourism. This includes

- We are transparent about the services covered on the trip. There shall be no hidden cost (informed in advance if there's any)
- We cover all the places promised before the trek (the trend of skipping places once you book the package has to be discouraged).
- All our guides and porters are above 18yrs. We highly discourage child labor in the tourism industry
- We do not leave any wastage behind on the trekking routes. We either dispose of the waste appropriately or carry it back with us and send it to the municipality
- We do not engage in any activities that affect the people in the trek places of Nepal where we stay.

Map



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