

## Overview

Lumbini Buddhist tour to Nepal is wholly mesmerizing and unforgettable experience. The Lumbini tour is a spiritual journey where each destination has its own significance for being associated with the life of Buddha. Be it the Buddhanath Stupa or Swoyambhunath Stupa in Kathmandu or Maya Devi Temple, the Ashokan pillar, the beautiful Gompas of Lumbini, every site offers a glimpse of rich legacy of Buddhism in Nepal.

Buddhism is a major religion and philosophy which originated from the teachings of Buddha during his life time. Lumbini is birthplace of the Lord Buddha - the apostle of peace and the light of Asia. He was born in 623 BC - the sacred area of Lumbini is one of the holiest places of one of the world's great religions, and its remains contain important evidence about the nature of Buddhist pilgrimage centers from a very early period. Lumbini, in the South-Western Terai of Nepal, evokes a kind of holy sentiment to the millions of Buddhists all over the world, like Jerusalem to Christians and Mecca to Muslims.

In Lumbini the Maya Devi temple and the Stupas and the Pillar built by Ashoka are really worth a visit. Recently, several beautiful shrines have been constructed by devotees from all over the world. A visit to Lumbini is not only for spiritual enlightenment but also for solace and satisfaction that one gets in such a calm and peaceful place.

Our Buddhist circuit tour covers major Buddhist religious sites of Nepal including Pharping & Namobuddha Tour. Pharping, a town south of Kathmandu in Nepal, are identified with the sacred site of Yangleshö. Where Guru Padmasambhava attained the level of a Mahamudra vidyadhara. There are two major practice caves in Pharping blessed by Guru Rinpoche: the Asura cave and the Yangleshö cave. Another Buddhist pilgrimage site Namobuddha is beautiful tiny hill top about 45 Km. east of Kathmandu after Dhulikhel. The Tibetan name Takmo Lujin derives from the events that took place on the site (stag mo means 'tigress', lus 'body', and sbyin 'to give'). Local people call it Namobuddha (Lit. 'Homage to the Buddha!'). There is an interesting story associated with child prince behind this place. It is also a great symbol of human sacrifice at its highest level.

## Itinerary Details

### Day 01 : Arrive Kathmandu – Transfer To Hotel

A representative and driver from our office will meet and greet you at the airport and escort you to your hotel and help you check into your designated hotel. We will arrange a meeting with you at hotel to brief you about your daily activities etc.

### Day 02 : Tour In Kathmandu- Fly To Lumbini- Transfer To Hotel

After morning breakfast at Hotel. We start our Buddhist Pilgrimage tour. Our first destination is Swoyambhunath. This place offers a majestic view of the entire Kathmandu valley. Stupa of Swoyambhunath epitomizes Buddhism. Your guide will enlighten you with detailed historical and cultural information about the place. After this you will visit Boudhanath Stupa, one of the largest stupas in the world and an important Buddhist

### Lumbini Buddhist Circuit Tour

pilgrimage. The unique octagonal Mandala design with hundreds of prayer wheels and the 108 images of the Buddha set into the niches around the huge structure. The area of Boudhnath is also famous for over 50 Tibetan Gompas or monasteries, the also being known as the 'Little Tibet'. After tour of Boudhanath Stupa. You will drive to Airport and fly to Lumbini Airport which is called Bhairahawa Airport. You will Transfer to Hotel by Private vehicle.

### **Day 03 : Full Day Tour Of Religious And Archaeological Sites Of Kapilavastu- Hotel**

Drive and visit religious and archaeological sites of Tilaurakot, Gotihawa, Kudan, Siddharthanagar, Niglihara, Sagarhawa and Aurorakot. Tilaurakot is the ancient Kapilavastu - the capital of Shakyas, where Buddha spent his first 29 years. Kudan was where Buddha was received by his father after his access to enlightenment. King Suddhodana specially built the Kudan (Nigrodharma Park) for the accommodation of the Buddha and his followers. Gotihawa is the birth place of Krakuchanda Buddha. Niglihawa is where Kanakmuni Buddha was born. Sagarhawa is the archaeological findings as "place of the massacre of the Shakyas". Overnight in Lumbini

### **Day 04 : Full Day Tour Of Devdaha - Ramgram – Bhairahawa- Hotel**

Drive and visit religious and archaeological sites at Devdaha and Ramagram. Devdaha is the ancient capital of the Koliya kingdom. It is the maternal hometown of Queen Mayadevi (mother), Prajapati Gautami (stepmother), Princess Yasodhara (consort) and where Prince Siddhartha had spent his childhood. Ramgrama is the brick mound on the bank of the Jharahi River. It is seven meter high brick stupa consisting of relic (one of the eight astha dhatu) of Lord Buddha. The Stupa was built by the king of Ramgrama, who was the eighth king to obtain the Buddha's relics. Overnight stay at Hotel Bhairhawa.

### **Day 05 : Fly To Kathmandu Drive To Pharping, Sightseeing Of Monasteries- Hotel/ Guest House**

You will short drive to Airport and Fly back to Kathmandu. After Arrival to Kathmandu, our Vehicle will drive you to Pharping the Pharping, a town south of Kathmandu in Nepal, are identified with the sacred site of Yangleshö. Where Guru Padmasambhava attained the level of a Mahamudra vidyadhara. There are two major practice caves in Pharping blessed by Guru Rinpoche: the Asura cave and the Yangleshö cave. At the bottom of the flight of stairs climbing up to the Asura cave is an old and important Vajrayogini temple, the Pharping Vajravarahi temple. Other stairs also lead up to the cave. They start towards the end of the village, at Ralo Rinpoche's monastery and start by a shrine containing a self-arisen Tara on the side of an image of Ganesha.. Pharping also has several monasteries, temples and retreat centres, including Chatral Rinpoche's monastery, and the Palyul Retreat Centre, which is the residence of Khenpo Namdrol Rinpoche and home to the Rigpa Shedra. Overnight stay at Guest house.

### **Day 06 : Drive To Namu Buddha Back To Kathmandu**

Today we visit small village Namobuddha which houses very old Thangu Tashi Yangtse Monastery which is one of the most important Buddhist pilgrimage sites in Nepal and one of the holiest in the world. It is known as the place where the Buddha, in a previous life as a prince, gave his body to a starving tigress and her cubs. According to the Jatakas and several sutras, Mahasattva was one of Buddha Shakyamuni's former incarnations. He was the youngest of the three sons of king Maharatha. One day as the three brothers were walking through the forest, they saw a tigress with the five cubs she had given birth to. She was so hungry she could hardly move. The three princes went away, but Mahasattva decided to go back and started to cut his flesh to give it to the tigress to eat. When his brothers went to look for him they found only his bones and hair. The stupa was built on top of the hill from the stupa, one can reach a place where the scene of the Buddha giving his body to the tigress is engraved in stone. According to the oral tradition, this is the actual place where the Buddha gave his body. Following the ridge to a second summit on the same hill, there is also a small stupa which is said to mark the den of the tigress. There, pilgrims lie down on the ground as if giving their bodies, and hair and pieces of cloth are hung to the branches of the tree for protection. Statue of the Buddha and tigress near the den of the tigress The Tibetan name Takmo Lujin derives from the events that took place on the site (stag mo means 'tigress', lus 'body', and sbyin 'to give'). Local people call it Namobuddha (Lit. 'Homage to the Buddha!'). Because the region was infested with tigers, the local people wouldn't call it by its actual name, which contains the word 'tiger', and so, as a way to protect themselves, they got into the habit of calling it "Namobuddha."

### **Day 07 : Departure**

Our drive and airport representative drive you to the airport in time for your flight back home. We ensure that that you leave Kathmandu with cherishing memory and an experience of a lifetime.