

Himalayan Field Study – Forestry & Natural Resources (Oct. 15 – Nov. 7, 2015)

Detailed Program:

DAY 1 – 2 (Oct. 15 - 16)

- Depart Canada for Kathmandu, Nepal.

DAY 3 (Oct. 17)

- Arrival Kathmandu: Check-in Park Village Hotel and Resort.
- Overnight stop in Kathmandu (1400 M).

Park Village Hotel and Resort: <http://ktmgh.com/park-village-hotels-resorts.html>

Educational Program, Kathmandu (Days 4 – 6)

DAY 4 (Oct. 18)

FIRST HALF

9:00am – Introduction of the overall program, do's and don'ts, question-answer session for site seeing, white water rafting, wildlife safari and trekking.

9:45am – Introductory session on Nepal's history, geography, politics, religion, and culture by Mr. Damodar Prasad Gautam, former Chief Secretary of Nepal and Nepalese Ambassador to USA/Canada.

10:30am – Energy, environment and hydro power potential in Nepal by Gyanendra Lal Pradhan, Chairman, Hydro Solutions.

11:15am – Conservation and tourism by Karna Sakya.

SECOND HALF

- Visit Swayambhu Nath (Buddhist stupa) – World heritage site.
- Patan Durbar square – World heritage site.
- Tibetan refugee camp.
- Overnight stop in Kathmandu (1400 M).

Park Village Hotel and Resort (PVH&R): <http://ktmgh.com/park-village-hotels-resorts.html>

DAY 5 (Oct. 19)

FIRST HALF

- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).
- Himalayan Environment and the impacts of development on mountain communities by Dr. Rucha Ghatge, Senior Governance and NRM Specialist.
- Environmental change and human health in the Himalayas by ICIMOD staff.

SECOND HALF

- Visit ICIMOD demonstration site at Godavari (agroforestry, horticulture, soil conservation, efficient improved stoves, sericulture, community forestry etc.), Mr. Samden Sherpa, ICIMOD.
- Overnight stop at PVH&R, Kathmandu (1400 M).

DAY 6 (Oct. 20)

FIRST HALF

- Interaction session with Nepalese foresters at Nepal Foresters' Association.

SECOND HALF

- Visit Boudha Nath (Buddhist stupa) and Pasupati Temple (Hindu temple) - world heritage sites.
- Overnight stop at PVH&R, Kathmandu (1400 M).

Outside Kathmandu Tour (Days 7 - 20)

DAY 7 (Oct. 21)

- Transfer to the point of rafting. Full day of rafting. Full board. Camp overnight by the bank of Trisuli River (550 M).

DAY 8 (Oct. 22)

- Arrival at Chitwan National Park. Wildlife safari - wildlife viewing (rhinoceros, tiger etc).
- Overnight stop in Chitwan (200 M).

Machan Country Villa Resort (MCVR): <http://machanwildliferesort.com/country-villa/>

DAY 9 (Oct. 23)

- Full day jungle activities: elephant ride to view the wildlife (rhino, tiger), natural walk, canoeing, bird watching, elephant bathing, and dinner with ethnic Tharu dance.
- Overnight stop at MCVR, Chitwan (200 M).

DAY 10 (Oct. 24)

- Departure for Pokhara.
- On the way: Visit Forests Without Borders School Nursery, Plantation & Improved Stove Distribution Program supported by Forests Without Borders (CIF-Rocky Mountain Section, Alberta, Canada).
- Visit Shantu Devi Primary School – Drinking water, toilet upgrade and playground projects.
- In Pokhara: Visit lake-side market and dinner with Nepalese folk dance show.
- Overnight stop at Temple Tree Resort, Pokhara (1015 M).

Temple Tree Resort and Spa (TTR&S): <http://www.templetreeneepal.com/introduction.php>

DAY 11 (Oct. 25)

FIRST HALF

- Visit community forestry program – field visit organized by Nepal Foresters' Association.
- Interaction with community forestry "Forest User Group Committee Members."
- Visit Institute of Forestry, Pokhara Campus.

SECOND HALF

- Free.
- Preparation for trekking.
- Overnight stop at TTR&S, Pokhara (1015 M).

Trekking to Annapurna Base Camp (Days 12 – 19)

*Full board – Overnight in tea houses

DAY 12 (Oct. 26)

- Drive for about two hours to Kande and begin trek and overnight stop in Landruk (1400 M).

DAY 13 (Oct. 27)

- Trek to Chomrong and nightstop in Chomrong (2050 M).

DAY 14 (Oct. 28)

- Trek to Dovan. Overnight stop in Dovan (2500 M).

DAY 15 (Oct. 29)

- Trek to Deurali. Overnight stop in Deurali (3200 M).

DAY 16 (Oct. 30)

- Trek to Annapurna Base Camp. Overnight stop in Annapurna Base Camp (4130 M).

DAY 17 (Oct. 31)

- Trek to Bamboo. Overnight stop in Bamboo (3100 M).

DAY 18 (Nov. 1)

- Trek to Jhinu Danda. Overnight stop in Jhinu Danda (1710 M).

DAY 19 (Nov. 2)

- Trek to New bridge – Nayapul. Drive back to Pokhara.
- Overnight stop at TTR&S, Pokhara (1015 M).

DAY 20 (Nov. 3)

- Free day in Pokhara.
- Activities include: Paragliding, mountain biking, micro plane flight and more (cost not included).
- Overnight stop at TTR&S, Pokhara.

DAY 21 (Nov. 4)

- Drive back to Kathmandu. Lunch at Riverview Resort, Kuringtar.
- Overnight stop at Hotel Yak & Yeti, Kathmandu (1400 M).

Hotel Yak and Yeti: <http://www.yakandyeti.com/home/page/hotel-overview>

DAY 22 (Nov. 5)

FIRST HALF

- Bhaktapur Durbar Square.

SECOND HALF

- FREE DAY
- Overnight stop at Hotel Yak & Yeti, Kathmandu (1400 M).

DAY 23 (Nov. 6)

FIRST HALF

- Free (Option for mountain flight to Mt. Everest – cost not included).

SECOND HALF

- Visit Kathmandu Durbar square and about an hour walk in the olden part of Kathmandu city.
- Short presentation by all participants on their experience in Nepal.
- Final question/answer session and certificate distribution.
- Evening: Farewell dinner with award and certificates to participants.
- Overnight stop at Hotel Yak & Yeti, Kathmandu.

DAY 24 (Nov. 7)

- Participants leave Kathmandu to return to home destinations.

DAY 26 (Nov. 8)

- Participants arrive home.

*Note: The program is subject to change