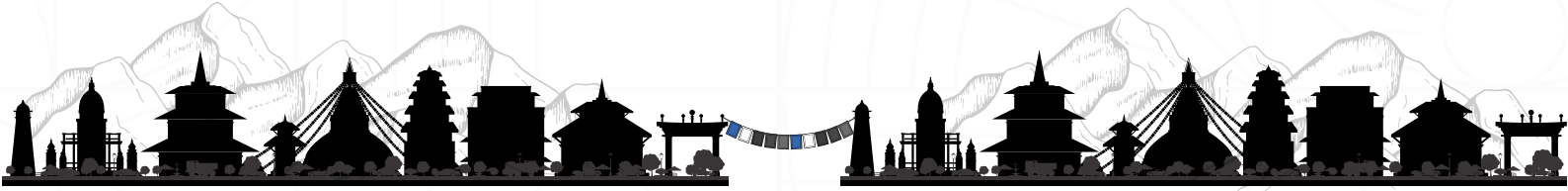


Khopra Danda Trek Itinerary



The Khopra Danda Trek is a serene off-the-beaten-path journey in the Annapurna region, perfect for trekkers seeking stunning mountain vistas without the crowds. The trail winds through charming Gurung and Magar villages, lush rhododendron forests, and peaceful alpine pastures. From the ridge-top viewpoint of Khopra Danda (3,660 m), enjoy sweeping panoramas of Dhaulagiri, Annapurna South, and Nilgiri.



Day 1



Day 1: Pokhara to Ghandruk (drive) → Tadapani

- Elevation: 1,940m → 2,630m
- Distance: ~8 km | 4–5 hrs
- Overnight: Tadapani
- Leaving the beautiful Gurung village of Ghandruk, the trail ascends steadily through rhododendron and oak forests. You'll pass waterfalls and enjoy glimpses of Machhapuchhre (Fishtail) peeking through the trees. The final stretch climbs through moss-covered trails before reaching Tadapani—a small ridge-top settlement with spectacular sunset views over Annapurna South and Hiunchuli.





Day 2



Day 2: Tadapani → Dobato

- Elevation: 2,630m → 3,420m
- Distance: ~10 km | 5–6 hrs
- Overnight: Dobato
- Today's route leaves the main Ghorepani trail and enters quieter forests filled with rhododendrons, magnolias, and bamboo. The ascent is gradual but steady, leading to the serene village of Dobato. On clear evenings, hike a few minutes up to Muldai Viewpoint for one of the most breathtaking panoramas of the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri ranges.



Day 3

Day 3: Dobato → Khopra Danda

- Elevation: 2,670m → 3,300m
- DElevation: 3,420m → 3,660m
- Distance: ~9 km | 5–6 hrs
- Overnight: Khopra Danda
- The trail undulates through alpine meadows and yak pastures before a final climb to Khopra Ridge. As you gain height, vast views of Dhaulagiri (8,167m) dominate the skyline. Khopra Danda offers an incredible ridge-top setting—sunrise and sunset views here are unforgettable, stretching across Annapurna I, Nilgiri, and the Kali Gandaki Valley.



Day 4



Day 4: Khopra Danda → Khayer Lake Hike / Rest / Descent Option

- Elevation: 3,660m → 4,600m (Khayer Lake, optional)
- Distance: ~12 km round trip | 6–8 hrs (optional hike)
- Overnight: Khopra Danda or Lower Khopra
- For those keen on adventure, hike to the sacred Khayer Lake, a long, scenic route through yak pastures and rugged alpine terrain. The turquoise lake lies beneath the towering Annapurna South. If you prefer a relaxed day, enjoy the mountain views from Khopra Ridge or descend slightly to a lower teahouse for a short walk and acclimatization.





Day 5



Day 5: Khopra Danda → Swanta

- Elevation: 3,660m → 2,270m
- Distance: ~10 km | 5 hrs
- Overnight: Swanta
- Descend steeply through grassy slopes and thick forests, following a quieter trail toward Swanta. The village is charming, with terraced fields and friendly Magar families. Enjoy a relaxed afternoon exploring local life or visiting the nearby school supported by the community lodge program.

Day 6: Swanta → Ghorepani

- Elevation: 2,270m → 2,860m
- Distance: ~7 km | 3–4 hrs
- Overnight: Ghorepani
- A gradual climb takes you through rhododendron forests to join the classic Annapurna Circuit route. Ghorepani is a bustling trekking hub known for its blue-roofed lodges and panoramic mountain backdrop. If you have energy left, hike up to Poon Hill (3,210m) in the evening for a stunning sunset over Dhaulagiri and Annapurna.



Day 6



Day 7



Day 7: Ghorepani → Nayapul → Drive to Pokhara

- Elevation: 2,860m → 1,070m
- Distance: ~17 km | 5–6 hrs trek + 1.5 hrs drive
- Overnight: Pokhara
- Descend through lush forests to Ulleri, where the famous stone steps wind steeply down to Tikhedhunga. From there, a gentle riverside walk brings you to Nayapul. Meet your vehicle and drive back to Pokhara, where a hot shower, lakeside dinner, and the comforts of the city await after a rewarding week in the Himalaya.



Khopra Danda Trek: Fun & Fascinating Facts

QQ: What makes the Khopra Ridge trek special?

It's a hidden gem of the Annapurna region—less crowded than the classic trails, yet offering equally jaw-dropping views of Dhaulagiri, Annapurna South, and Nilgiri. From Khopra Ridge, the mountains feel almost within arm's reach!

Q: What is the highest point of the trek?

The optional day hike to Khayer Lake (4,600m) is the high point—both literally and spiritually. This sacred lake sits beneath Annapurna South and is revered by locals who believe bathing here brings blessings.

Q: Why is it called a “community trek”?

Many of the lodges on this route are community-managed, meaning your stay directly supports local schools, health posts, and environmental projects. It's a trek that gives back.

Q: Any cool wildlife to spot?

Keep your eyes open for Himalayan tahr, pheasants, and sometimes even musk deer. The forests around Dobato and Swanta are particularly rich in birdlife.

Q: What's a unique feature of Khopra Ridge?

You get to stand on a ridge line that offers a 360° panorama, from the Dhaulagiri range to the Annapurnas. Sunrise and sunset views here are among the best in Nepal, without the crowds of Poon Hill.

Q: How does the trek support local communities?

Every night spent in a teahouse or meal enjoyed on the trail directly supports the livelihoods of mountain communities. 8Mountains also donates and contributes for community plastic cleanups. The Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) also ensures that trekking fees contribute to environmental protection and local development.

