# Kathmandu Valley

### **Description**

The Kathmandu Valley is the heart of Nepal, home to the country's capital city, Kathmandu, and two other ancient cities, Patan and Bhaktapur. The valley is rich in history and culture, with many temples and unique architecture, palaces, and UNESCO World Heritage Sites nowhere to be found elsewhere in the world.

Kathmandu is the largest city in the valley and the center of Nepal's political, economic and cultural life. It is home to many important temples and landmarks, including the historic Kathmandu Durbar Square, which is home to the Royal Palace and the Kumari Temple, home to the living goddess Kumari. The city is also known for its bustling lively markets and vibrant nightlife.

Patan, also known as Lalitpur, is the second largest city in the valley and is known for its beautiful temples and palaces. The Patan Durbar Square is home to the Royal Palace, the Krishna Temple and the Golden Temple, which is known for its stunning gold-plated roofs. Patan is also known for its fine art and metalwork and is home to many artisan workshops.

Bhaktapur, also known as the City of Devotees, is the smallest city in the valley but is rich in culture and history. The Bhaktapur Durbar Square is home to the Royal Palace, the Nyatapola Temple and the Dattatreya Temple, which is known for its intricate carvings. Bhaktapur is also known for its traditional arts and crafts, and is home to many artisan workshops.

The Kathmandu Valley is a fascinating destination for travelers interested in culture, history and art. Its three cities offer a unique blend of ancient traditions and modern amenities, and there is always something new to discover.

## **Highlights**

- Visiting the Kathmandu Durbar Square, Patan Durbar Square, and Bhaktapur Durbar Square, which are home to stunning temples, palaces and cultural treasures and three of the most visited places by tourists.
- Seeing the only living goddess in the world, Kumari in the Kumari Temple.
- Exploring the city's bustling lively markets and experiencing the vibrant local culture and amazing night life.
- Visiting important temples and landmarks, including the Swayambhunath Temple (also known as the Monkey Temple), the Pashupatinath Temple, and the Boudhanath Stupa.
- Taking a tour of the Royal Palace Museum and learning about Nepal's royal history.
- Going on a guided walk through the narrow streets of the old town and experiencing the local way of life.
- Enjoying the beautiful views of the surrounding mountains, including the Himalayas.
- Learning about Nepal's rich cultural heritage and traditions through visits to artisan workshops and cultural sites.

### **Detailed Itinerary**

## Map

