

4 UNESCO Heritage Site Day Tour in Kathmandu

URL: <https://himalayan360.com/trip/4-unesco-heritage-site-day-tour-in-kathmandu/>

Destination

Nepal Treks & Tours

Activity

Day Tours

Start / End Point

Thamel/Thamel

Duration

1

Destination

Kathmandu

Per Person From

USD 32

Group Size

2 - 20

Best Season

All Season

Transportation

Private Vehicle

Meals

N/A

Difficulty

Easy The trip is easy and suitable for everyone, including children and older people. It does not require any skills in mountain climbing or traversing difficult terrain.

Major Highlights of Heritage Site Tour in Kathmandu

- Climb 365 stone steps at Swayambhunath.
- See the all-seeing eyes of Buddha on the Swayambhunath Stupa.
- Explore Harati Temple for child goddess worship at Swayambhunath.
- Visit the sacred shrines inside the Pashupatinath Temple.
- Walk around the white dome of Boudhanath.
- Explore the Hanuman Dhoka museum inside Kathmandu Durbar Square.
- See the living goddess Kumari at her residence occasionally, between 9-11 AM and 4-6 PM normally.
- Explore the ancient courtyards of Kathmandu Durbar Square.
- Visit the Arya Ghat cremation ground at Pashupatinath.
- See the main two-tiered pagoda-style temple with its gold pinnacle and silver-gilded doors at

Pashupati.

Brief Itinerary for 4 UNESCO Heritage Site Day Tour

Day 01: Visit Swayambhunath Stupa, Kathmandu Durbar Square, Pashupatinath Temple, and Boudhanath Stupa

Your 4 UNESCO World Heritage Sites tour begins at 9:00 AM and concludes at 5:00 PM. This tour duration is enough to explore without rushing. First, you'll take a 20-minute drive from a hotel and visit Swayambhunath Stupa (Monkey Temple). Here you can spend about 1.5 hours exploring the ancient shrines and beautiful views of Kathmandu Valley. Next, a 30-minute drive takes you to Kathmandu Durbar Square, where you can witness historic palaces, temples, and Newari architecture.

In the afternoon, a 30-minute drive brings you to Pashupatinath Temple as your third stop. You'll have about an hour to explore this sacred Hindu site, witnessing daytime rituals such as pujas, cremations, devotees bathing in the Bagmati River, and offerings to Lord Shiva. After spending time here, a 40-minute drive takes you to Boudhanath Stupa, one of the largest Buddhist stupas in the world. Spend around an hour exploring the stupa, observing monks performing daily rituals, and spinning prayer wheels before concluding your tour with a hotel drop-off at 5:00 PM.

This itinerary makes sure you experience the best UNESCO heritage site of Kathmandu in just one day. We also provide [7 UNESCO Heritage Site Tour](#), which starts at 09:00 AM & ends at 6:00 PM that consists of all places we will visit here and in addition Patan Durbar Square, Bhaktapur Durbar Square, and Changunarayan Temple.

Meals:

N/A

Accommodations:

N/A

Why a Package Tour is Better Than Visiting Separately?

A package tour to the four UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Kathmandu is time and cost-efficient. You'll save hours that might be spent planning routes, arranging transport, and buying tickets separately. With hassle-free transport, there is no need to bargain or worry about getting lost. Combined tickets or permits make your visit to Pashupatinath, Swayambhunath, Boudhanath, and Kathmandu Durbar Square smooth and stress-free.

Experienced guides will share cultural stories, myths, and history you would easily miss on your own. Package tours also focus on safety and comfort. You can do video or audio calls with a guide or your group member if you get lost or mislead the track. Whether exploring temples, stupas, or squares, [cultural and historical tours](#) become safer with company and guidance. Plan a heritage day tour of

Kathmandu with us and travel smart, and make new friends while exploring heritage sites in Nepal.

Trip Include and Exclude

Included Services

- Confirmable private vehicle for the tour as per the group size and itinerary only.
- English-speaking guide.
- All internal taxes.
- Candle to pray to God in Kathmandu Durbar Square.
- 1Bottle/days of water during tour.

Excluded Services

- International Airfare.
- All entrance fees as per the itinerary mentioned places.
- All personal expenses.
- All the services out of the list in **“included services”**.
- Tips for the crew member (it is expected).
- Drinks and food during the tour.

Group Discounts Available

No. of Persons	Price per Person
1 - 1	USD 75
2 - 2	USD 50
3 - 5	USD 38
6 - 20	USD 32

FAQs on the 4 UNESCO Heritage Site Day Tour in

Kathmandu

Are there entry fees for Kathmandu Durbar Square?

Yes, a standard entry ticket costs around NPR 1,000 (USD 7.14) for foreigners. Nepali citizens pay a lower fee. Some temples and courtyards inside may require additional tickets. Guided tours are recommended to explore all areas efficiently.

Are there local festivals to experience at these sites?

Yes, major festivals include Maha Shivaratri at Pashupatinath, Buddha Jayanti at Boudhanath and Swayambhunath, and Indra Jatra near Durbar Square. Since the date falls in a different month of the year, you can't experience all of them in a single day.

Can I perform puja at Pashupatinath?

Yes, you can request a priest to perform a puja outside the main temple. The priest explains the rituals and offerings, like flowers and incense sticks. Follow the etiquette, like respectful behavior and modest dress, while participating in the puja.

Can I eat food inside the heritage sites?

No, food is not allowed inside the main heritage compounds. Eating should be done in a designated area or outside the main complex. This helps to maintain cleanliness and respect religious practices. Your guide will take you to the respective place for lunch or dinner, so you don't need to worry about food and meals.

Can I visit these cultural sites in the monsoon season?

Yes, but heavy rain may make paths slippery around Swayambhunath and Durbar Square. Boudhanath and Pashupatinath are easier to access even though it is raining. Carry rain gear and wear proper footwear. Monsoon crowds are fewer, which offers a quieter environment.

What is the height of Boudhanath Stupa?

Boudhanath Stupa is 36M/118FT high. The dome is massive and regarded as one of the largest in Nepal. Its spire is decorated with Buddha eyes painted on all four sides, symbolizing awareness and wisdom. This stupa was built in the 14th century and is a major Tibetan Buddhist pilgrimage site.

How many UNESCO sites are in Kathmandu Valley?

There are seven World Heritage Sites in Kathmandu Valley. Four major ones in the city are Swayambhunath, Pashupatinath, Boudhanath, and Kathmandu Durbar Square. The other include **Patan Durbar Square**, **Bhaktapur Durbar Square**, and **Changunarayan temple**.

How long does it take to walk around Swayambhunath?

Walking a full clockwise kora around Swayambhunath Stupa takes 20-30 minutes at a slow pace. This time allows you to spin prayer wheels, observe shrines, and enjoy views of Kathmandu Valley. Visiting temples may take a total of 1-2 hours.

How many stupas are in Kathmandu Valley?

There are 4 major historical stupas in Kathmandu Valley. Boudhanath, Swayambhunath, Namo Buddha, and the Ashokan Stupas of Patan are the largest and most famous. There are others, too, but they are smaller and scattered across towns and villages.

Is Kathmandu Durbar Square earthquake-resistant after 2015?

Yes, Kathmandu Durbar Square has been made more earthquake-resistant after the 2015 earthquake. Many restoration projects have repaired damaged temples and palaces. Traditional Newar architecture techniques are used for repairing the damaged parts.

4 UNESCO Heritage Sites You'll Visit

The Monkey Temple: Swayambhunath Stupa

Known as the Monkey Temple, Swayambhunath is one of the oldest religious sites in Nepal (around 1,500 years old). It holds great significance in both Buddhism and Hinduism. The stupa has a white dome, a golden spire, and the all-seeing eyes of Buddha, which reflect wisdom and harmony. You'll walk around the stupa, spin prayer wheels, and chant mantras – *"Om Mani Padme Hum"*.

Main attractions:

- **Opening Hours:** 24/7
- Visit the **Vajra** (thunderbolt) situated in front of the stupa.
- Get panoramic views of Kathmandu city from the hilltop.
- View the ancient stone inscription at Swayambhunath in both **Ranjana** (Nepal origin) and **Tibetan Uchen** scripts.
- See the Dipankara Buddha statues at the stupa base.

Kathmandu Durbar Square & the Living Goddess Palace

Kathmandu Durbar Square, declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1979, was once the royal palace of the Malla and Shah kings who ruled over Kathmandu Valley. This historic palace has over 50 temples, courtyards, and monuments built between the 12th and 18th centuries, reflecting Newar artistry. You can also discover the stone inscriptions written in 15 languages.

Main attractions:

- **Opening Hours:** 24 hours. Museums and historical palace courtyards are open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Open daily.
- Visit the **Kumari Ghar** and, if lucky, see the Living Goddess.
- Explore the **Hanuman Dhoka**, the historic royal palace complex.
- See the **Kal Bhairav** statue, symbolizing divine justice.
- Roam around **Kasthamandap**, the wooden pavilion built from a single tree.

Pashupatinath Temple: A Hindu's Must Go

Pashupatinath Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the oldest and most sacred Hindu temples dedicated to Lord Shiva. Built in the 5th century and later expanded by the Malla Kings, it stands on the bank of the Bagmati River. The temple is a central site for Hindu pilgrims, especially during Maha Shivaratri, when thousands of pilgrims gather from Nepal and India.

Main attractions:

- **Opening Hours:** 4:00 AM to 9:00 PM
- Observe the open-air cremation rituals along the Bagmati River.
- Explore centuries-old sculptures, shrines, and inscriptions crafted during the **Lichhavi period** (4th-9th century).
- Interact with **Sadhus** (holy men) known for their unique lifestyle and traditions.
- Explore the 500+ Shiva Lingams spread across the complex.

Boudhanath Stupa: The Largest Stupa in Nepal

Boudhanath Stupa is one of the largest spherical stupas in Nepal and a central hub of Tibetan Buddhism outside Tibet. Believed to have been built in the 14th century, it holds religious significance as a site for meditation, prayer, and pilgrimage. The white dome of the stupa, topped with a golden tower and the all-seeing eye of Buddha, symbolizes enlightenment over the Kathmandu Valley.

Main attractions:

- **Opening hours:** 24/7
- See the golden spire with the 13 stages of enlightenment.
- Visit Tibetan monasteries around the stupa and observe rituals.
- Shop for traditional Tibetan Handicrafts like beads, rings, and prayer flags.
- Spin the prayer wheels that have surrounded the Boudhanath Stupa (walk clockwise).

UNESCO World Heritage Sites Tour Cost

The cost for visiting the 4 World Heritage Sites in Kathmandu ranges from **USD 75 to USD 32 per person**, depending on the size of the group. For a solo traveler, the price is USD 75. For two people, it drops to USD 50 each. Groups of 3-4 pay around USD 38 per person, and groups of six or more pay just USD 32 per person. This price includes professional tour guide fee and transport fees. You can plan according to your budget and group size to enjoy a smooth and affordable visit.

Cultural Etiquettes You Need to Know

Respecting local culture is essential when visiting the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Kathmandu. These sites are not just tourist attractions but a spiritual place for worship and offering. Following **cultural etiquette** shows respect for the local community, helps to preserve traditions, and provides a perfect travel experience. Here's a **list of general etiquette** you need to follow:

Swayambhunath Stupa

- Always **walk clockwise** around the stupa and spin prayer wheels in the same direction.
- Avoid feeding monkeys near the shrine, as it disturbs the site.
- Respect Buddhist monks and nuns; give way to them on stairways.
- Keep hands away from **prayer flags**; they are not for touching or stepping over.

Kathmandu Durbar Square

- Many temples here remain active, like the **Taleju Temple**; *remove shoes* before entering shrines.
- *Do not climb on Hanuman Dhoka, statues, or monuments for photos.*
- Respect **Kumari Ghar** (Living Goddess's residence); *photography of the Kumari inside is strictly*

prohibited.

- Touching or moving offerings, oil lamps, or statues without permission is considered disrespectful.

Pashupatinath Temple

- Only Hindus are allowed to enter the inner sanctum (main pagoda-style temple), but you can still explore most of the complex.
- Dress modestly; sleeveless tops and short skirts are discouraged.
- Do not cross over offerings, puja items, or sit on temple steps reserved for rituals.
- Cremation ghats along the Bagmati River are sacred. Photography here is considered disrespectful.

Boudhanath Stupa

- Circle the stupas clockwise, joining locals in their daily kora.
- Do not climb the stupa or step onto platforms unless permitted.
- Photography is allowed, but avoid blocking paths for pilgrims.
- Avoid loud talking or music around the main white dome of the Stupa.

Street Foods Near the Heritage Site

Exploring the heritage sites of Kathmandu Valley during a tour of Kathmandu is not just about culture; it’s also about tasting the local street foods that surround them. From spicy snacks to traditional Newari and Tibetan flavors, each site offers something unique and affordable.

UNESCO Site	Popular Street Foods	Price Range (per plate/cup)
Swayambhunath	Momos, Laphing, Chatpate, Sel Roti, Aloo Chop	NPR 50-150
Kathmandu Durbar Square	Chatmari, Yomari, Bara, Samay Baji sets, Juju Dhau (curd)	NPR 80-200
Pashupatinath	Tea, Samasa, Pakauda, Jalebi (Jeri), Puri-Tarkari	NPR 20-100
Boudhanath	Tibetan Noodles (Thukpa), Butter tea, Sha Phaley, Tingmo bread, Momos	NPR 80-200

Note: Street food is delicious, but check for clean stalls and freshly cooked items for better hygiene.

Top Souvenirs to Buy Duuring Tour

Buying souvenirs during a Kathmandu sightseeing tour not only improves your travel experience but also supports local artisans and preserves traditional crafts. From religious items to handmade art, each souvenir tells a story of Nepali culture.

UNESCO Site	Popular Souvenir	Price Range
Swayambhunath	Tibetan Prayer Flags, Singing bowls, Mala beads, Incense sticks	NPR 300-2,000
Kathmandu Durbar Square	Traditional Newari maska, Wood carvings, paintings, Miniature temples, Jewelry	NPR 500-3,000

UNESCO Site	Popular Souvenir	Price Range
Pashupatinath	Rudraksha beads, Prayer beads, Small Shiva idols, Lingams	NPR 200-1,500
Boudhanath	Thangka paintings, Buddhist statues, Prayer wheels, Tibetan jewelry	NPR 500-4,000

Tips: Bargain politely, smile, and ask for a fair price. Check authenticity by inspecting materials, craftsmanship, or consulting with a guide.

Address

Address:
Galkopakha Marg - Kathmandu - Nepal