

Chitlang Markhu Trek

Difficulty	Duration	Region	Max. Altitude	Type	Group Size	Accommodation
Very Easy	7 Days	Everest	1833 m	Trekking	2-14 pax	Guest House and Hotel

Overview

One of the closest destinations around Kathmandu, that has a lakeside just like in Pokhara, Markhu is a man-made lake and is the only reservoir based hydropower in Nepal. The lake was created from the Kulekhani dam built in 1977. Prior to that, it was a river and after the dam was completed, Markhu emerged as a beautiful picturesque lake suitable for tourism near Kathmandu. Locally popular as Indrasarowar, Markhu hosts typical Nepali villages and a suspension bridge over the lake has elevated the beauty of the place.

While Markhu is easily accessible by road, albeit the off-road conditions, hiking up to the village has a unique charm to it. The hike to Markhu has established itself as a proper spot to getaway from the hustles and bustles of Kathmandu. It is popular among the locals and is gradually picking up with the foreigners as well. To get to Markhu, the hike starts from Thankot in Kathmandu. The drive to Thankot takes about half an hour from central Kathmandu. After getting off the vehicle at Thankot, head up to a place called Godam which leads up to Chitlang. A small typical Nepali village with a beautiful setup of houses and hills all around, Chitlang is the perfect place to enjoy snacks and some drink. The hike from Chitlang to Markhu takes about 2 hours. You can see the Indrasarowar lake of Markhu with a pristine view of the villages with clear blue skies. The trail passes through small villages on a tiny road that is barely used. Overall, the hike is a very easy one and equally enjoyable.

The highlight of the hike up to Markhu is the relaxing time at the lake and enjoying the fresh air and scenery around. There are lots of other day hikes nearby which offer similar beautiful views of the lake. Another thing to do is rent a boat and row to the end of the lake which is the Kulekhani dam. It's easy not to be bored if you decide to hike to Markhu with all the different places you can go and things you can do. As Markhu is at a comparatively low altitude, this hike can be done all year round. But it is recommended to go in the summer season when the water is warm enough to have a swim.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Kathmandu

On your arrival in Kathmandu, Tribhuvan International Airport, our representative will welcome you & drive you to the hotel. It's a free day/evening. You can walk around Thamel for shopping.

Days 2: Sightseeing around Kathmandu

Kathmandu is the historical and cultural heart of Nepal and has been a popular destination for tourists ever since Nepal opened its doors to visitors. The city presents a wonderful mix of Hinduism, Tibetan Buddhism and Western influence. There will be a guided tour to the largest Buddhist stupa in Nepal Boudhanath and after that to the most popular Hindu shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva- Pashupatinath. We take a tour to Patan or Lalitpur (the City of Artisans), which is 5km away from Kathmandu. We walk through Patan Durbar Square, and delight in the architectural wonders of the Malla era. Mahaboudha Temple, Kumbeshwor Temple, Krishna Temple and Golden Temple are the major attractions at the square.

Day 3: Hike to Markhu via Chitlang

After having breakfast in Kathmandu, we drive to Thankot, which is the starting point of today's hike to Markhu. We first pass Chitlang and then reach Markhu. The trail to Chitlang is filled with greenery all around and mountain views. We will stop for lunch at Chitlang and explore around the place for a bit. Chitlang is a beautiful village for sightseeing as well as famous for having sheep farm, organic pear farm and an amazing cool environment. After leaving Chitlang, we continue our walk towards Markhu. Overnight in Markhu.

Day 4: Explore Markhu

After having breakfast in Markhu, we spend our day exploring around Markhu and the beautiful Indra Sarobar Lake. Experience the wooden boat ride at this man made lake. You could taste some varieties of the local fish. The areas around Markhu are equally beautiful, so we can also walk and explore some more greenery and landscape views. Overnight in Markhu.

Day 5: Drive back to Kathmandu

Today, we drive back to Kathmandu from Markhu via Pharping. The road to Pharping is pretty straightforward. After reaching Kathmandu, you can explore around Thamel and buy some souvenirs for your loved ones back home. Overnight

in Kathmandu.

Day 6: Free Day

Just relax at your hotel room and travel around the beautiful cultural city of Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur. You have the day to your own, so enjoy your last day in Nepal.

Day 7: Final Departure

It's time to leave Nepal, of course with smiles and many memories to cherish. Depending on your flight time we will drop you at Tribhuvan International airport for your final departure to your destination.

Inclusion / Exclusion

Cost Includes

Arrival in International Airport and Departure.
Hotel in Kathmandu with Bed & Breakfast.
Sightseeing in Kathmandu Valley with Guide.
Entrance fees.
Conservation Fee.
Peak Permit and Climbing Guide.
Round Domestic Flight Ticket.
Local Transfer.
Domestic airport departure taxes.
Tea House Accommodation, breakfast and dinner.
All camping Equipment, two men tents, Dining tent,
Kitchen Tent, Toilet Tent, Table & chairs.
Breakfast, lunch, dinner in trekking and climbing period.
Guide, Cook, sherpa, Kitchen staffs and porters.
Insurance for trekking staff and Equipments.

Cost Excludes

Personal equipment for
Trekking & Peak climbing.
Personal travel Insurance.
Lunch & dinner in Kathmandu.
Emergency Rescue evacuation.
Personal expenses/Bar bills.
Tipping for trekking staff.