Kathmandu Valley SightSeeing

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Trip Summary

Package: Kathmandu Valley SightSeeing

Total Days: 1 day

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DAY 1

Heritage Sightseeing in Kathmandu

1. Kathmandu Durbar Square

Start your day at the historic Kathmandu Durbar Square, also known as Basantapur Durbar Square. Once the royal palace of the Malla and Shah kings, this UNESCO World Heritage site showcases exquisite Newari architecture and craftsmanship. Highlights include:

- Kumari Ghar – home to the living goddess, Kumari.
- Hanuman Dhoka Palace and Museum – a deep dive into Nepal's royal past, named after the monkey god Hanuman from the epic Ramayana.
- Ancient temples and courtyards surrounding the square.

2. Swayambhunath Stupa (Monkey Temple)

Perched atop a hill, Swayambhunath is one of Nepal’s oldest and most revered religious sites. A sacred place for both Hindus and Buddhists, it’s believed to have risen when the Kathmandu Valley was drained from a primordial lake by the bodhisattva Manjushree. Key features:

- A panoramic view of Kathmandu City.
- Shrines for Hindu goddess Saraswati and Buddhist deities.
- Holy monkeys that inhabit the northwestern area of the complex. This stupa is often referred to as the "Self-Created Stupa" due to its ancient origins.

3. Pashupatinath Temple Located on the banks of the Bagmati River, Pashupatinath is one of the most sacred Hindu temples dedicated to Lord Shiva, known here as Pashupati – the Lord of Animals. Non-Hindus are not permitted inside the temple, but can view it from across the river. Key highlights include:

- Pagoda-style temple with golden roof and silver-carved doors.
- Numerous smaller shrines and ashrams in the area.
- Cremation ghats on the Bagmati River, offering a poignant glimpse into Hindu rites. The temple draws thousands of pilgrims, especially during the Maha Shivaratri festival.

4. Boudhanath Stupa One of the largest Buddhist stupas in the world, Boudhanath is a spiritual and cultural landmark located 8 km east of Kathmandu. With its giant mandala and iconic all-seeing eyes, it symbolizes wisdom and compassion. Legend says it was built during the reign of King Man Dev at the request of Goddess Mani Jogini. Today, it is surrounded by:

- Over 50 Tibetan monasteries.
- Tibetan Buddhist communities and shops.
- Peaceful ambiance ideal for spiritual reflection. This one day culture tour in Kathmandu provides a close glance of Nepal. It is not only showcase the rich culture of the Nepalese people but also takes you back in time through its architectural phenomenon.