Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek

URL: https://nepalalternativetreks.com/trip/luxury-annapurna-gurung-trek/

Weather
5°C to 25°C

Duration
7 Days

Difficulty
Easy to Moderate

Accommodation
Boutique Lodge

Meals Included
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Transportation
Flight and Private Vehicle

Daily Activity
Approx. 3 - 5 hours

Religion
Buddhism and Hinduism

Ethnic People
Gurung, Tibetan

Region of Nepal
Annapurna Region, Kaski

Max Altitude
2,012 m / 6,601 ft

Per Person Cost
USD 2190

Best Season
Sept, Oct, Nov, Mar, Apr, May

Geographic Terrain
Mountain, Forest, Village, Terrace

Group Discounts Available

No. of Persons	Price per Person
Group Of 2 - 4	USD $1,450.00
Group Of 5 - 8	USD $1,400.00
Group Of 9 - 12	USD $1,350.00

Note: Our fixed group departure dates, services and price is guaranteed even if the group numbers are 1 person to maximum 18 persons. We will provide a guide cum porter if there is only 1 person to operate the trek and one more assistant guide if group size is above 10 persons. And of course, guide cum porter will carry 10 kg luggage.

Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek Overview

The Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek is a 7-day walk inside the Annapurna Conservation Area in Gandaki Province of Nepal. It follows a route through Dhampus, Landruk, Majgaon and Ghandruk, a chain of Gurung villages on the southern hills of the Annapurna range. Most walking days are 3-5 hours on stone steps and village paths, and the route stays mostly below 2,500 m. Travelers who want a real Himalayan trek without the altitude of higher routes will find it manageable.

The Himalayan views are the main reason to choose this route. On clear mornings, you can see Annapurna I (8,091 m), Annapurna South (7,219 m), Hiunchuli (6,441 m), and the twin summit of Machhapuchhre, also called Fishtail (6,993 m). Ghandruk (2,012 m) is one of the best places on the trek to watch the sunrise light these peaks. The trail crosses rhododendron and oak forest and small streams, with wildlife such as Himalayan monal pheasants and langur monkeys sometimes seen on the way.

Gurung culture is central to the experience. The Gurung people have lived in these hills for centuries, farming terraced fields, keeping sheep and buffalo, and sending many sons to serve in the Gurkha regiments. In Ghandruk, travelers can visit the Gurung Museum to learn about traditional clothing, tools, and household life. You can see village monasteries, prayer wheels and mani walls, share a meal of local dishes such as dhido and millet-based foods, and watch traditional Gurung music and dance in the evening.

This trek differs from the Annapurna Base Camp trek in several ways. The base camp route reaches 4,130 m, takes 9 to 12 days, and needs careful acclimatization. The Gurung village trek is shorter, lower, and slower, with more time spent in villages and less time in high mountain terrain. It suits first-time Himalayan trekkers, families, and travelers with limited time, as well as those who want to focus on culture and mountain views.

Nepal Alternative Trek organizes the Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek with experienced local guides, carefully chosen lodges, and a flexible itinerary based on your speed and interests.

Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek Highlights

- Trek inside the Annapurna Conservation Area for 7 days below 2,500 m, so altitude sickness is unlikely for most travelers.
- Walk through Dhampus, Landruk, Majgaon, and Ghandruk, four Gurung villages connected by stone steps.
- Watch sunrise over Annapurna I (8,091 m), Annapurna South (7,219 m), Hiunchuli (6,441 m), and Machhapuchhre (6,993 m).
- Visit the Gurung Museum in Ghandruk to see traditional clothing, farming tools, and household items.
- Taste local dishes such as dhido, millet foods, vegetables, and Gurung-style tea.
- Hike through oak and rhododendron forest, where you may spot Himalayan monal pheasants and langur monkeys.
- Explore village monasteries, prayer wheels, and mani walls.

Difficulty

Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek Difficulty

The Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek is an easy-to-moderate walk in Nepal’s Annapurna foothills. The route is gentle, so people with only a little preparation can finish it comfortably. The highest point is Ghandruk at 2,012 meters, and the risk of altitude sickness is low. This makes the trek a good fit for most ages and fitness levels. You carry only a light daypack, and porters take your main bag.

However, a few things are worth knowing before you go. For less active people, the trek can still feel tiring, since most days involve three to five hours of walking uphill and downhill. The hardest part is the long stone staircase between Ghandruk and the Modi Khola river on Day 3. It drops about 700 meters and is followed by a two-hour climb to Landruk. You will also cross several long suspension bridges, which can feel scary if you are afraid of heights. Walking in the off-season, when trails are wet and slippery, can add some extra effort. With a few weeks of regular walks and stair climbing, most trekkers complete the journey smoothly.

Itinerary for Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek - 7 Days

Day 1: Fly from Kathmandu to Pokhara, Drive to Dhawa and Trek to Birethanti (1,025 m)

Your day starts early with a private vehicle ride from your hotel in Kathmandu to the domestic terminal at Tribhuvan International Airport. The flight to Pokhara takes about 25 minutes. Sit on the right side of the plane if you can because from there you can look out at the snow peaks of Langtang, Manaslu and the Annapurna range. A guide from the airport meets you in Pokhara and walks you to your private air-conditioned vehicle. The drive to Dhawa takes about one and a half hours and covers 48 km on the Baglung Highway.

At Dhawa you meet your porters, who take your main bag so you can set off with only a light daypack. The walk to Birethanti takes about three hours over 5 km. The path enters a green forest, then crosses old suspension bridges decorated with colorful prayer flags before it drops into the Modi Khola valley. Machhapuchhre, also called Fishtail, shows its sharp tip ahead of you for much of the walk. Locals consider it sacred, and no one is allowed to climb it. By early afternoon, you cross one last bridge and arrive at Mountain Lodges of Nepal, Birethanti.

Destination:
25 minutes, Kathmandu to Pokhara
48 km (about 1.5 hours)
5 km gentle walk (about 3 hours)

Accommodation
Mountain Lodges of Nepal

Altitude:
1,025 m / 3,363 ft

Meals
Lunch, Dinner

Day 2: Trek from Birethanti to Ghandruk (2,012 m)

After breakfast at your lodge, you'll cross the suspension bridges of Birethanti and start your walk towards Chimrong. From there you'll pass green rice fields, mountain streams, and forest on old stone trails. Near Tikhyan village, your guides set up a picnic lunch beside a stream, so you can rest your legs before the biggest climb of the day. The afternoon brings the famous stone steps of the Annapurna foothills.

When you reach the upper gate of Ghandruk, a village with no vehicles, the view opens wide. You can see Annapurna South (7,219 m), Hiunchuli, Gangapurna, and the peak of Machhapuchhre, also known as Fishtail. Your home for the night is Snowland Lodge, which has welcomed guests for more than 45 years. It is known for welcoming guests from around the world, including members of the British Royal Family. It is situated near the top of the village, and its lawns and stone gardens give some of the clearest views of the Annapurna range in Nepal. Your room is clean and modern, with a private bathroom, soft bedding, local woven cloth, and big windows that face the peaks.

Destination:	**Accommodation**	**Altitude:**
9 km hike (5 to 6 hours)	Snowland Lodge	2,012 m / 6,601 ft

Meals
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Trek from Ghandruk to Landruk (1,565 m)

On this day, you'll walk on the lower part of Ghandruk, where stone houses with slate roofs welcome you, before heading downhill. For the first two hours, you'll walk down a long stone staircase that drops about 700 m to the Modi Khola River. At the bottom, you'll cross a strong steel bridge while looking up at the tall cliffs on both sides of the valley, where Gurung honey hunters climb bamboo and fiber rope ladders to collect wild honey from large bee nests.

After crossing the bridge, the trail climbs for about two hours through a thick forest before reaching the village of Landruk. Your home tonight is La Bee Lodge, a small group of green and white cottages arranged in a curve on the hill. The design is traditional Nepali with modern touches. Inside, you will find polished wood floors and high ceilings with open wooden beams. Ghandruk shows up on the far hillside, and you can pick out the very stairs you walked down earlier in the day.

Destination:	**Accommodation**	**Altitude:**
Trek About 8 km (5 to 6 hours)	La Bee Lodge (Mountain Lodges of Nepal)	1,565 m / 5,135 ft

Meals
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Trek from Landruk to Majgaon/Tomijong (1,400 m)

Today is an easy day after the steep stairs of the last two. You'll leave Landruk and walk the eastern ridges above the Modi Khola River, so there are no big climbs and no steep drops. The trail takes four to five hours and gives you plenty of time to look around. As you head south, the view of the mountains keeps changing; Annapurna South (7,219 m) and Hiunchuli slowly fade when you turn to look back, while Machhapuchhre stays on the skyline ahead of you.

About halfway, you reach Tanchok village with very few visitors. Here a Gurung family has turned its old home into a small cultural museum. The path then enters a forest of oak and rhododendron. Because this trail is peaceful, the woods are full of life. You can spot the colorful Danphe, which is Nepal's national bird, along with laughingthrushes, sunbirds, and langur monkeys. In the afternoon, the trail slowly goes uphill to Majgaon, also called Tomijong, a small village known for its long tradition of keeping bees.

Destination:	**Accommodation**	**Altitude:**
Trek 8 km (4 to 5 hours)	Mountain Lodges of Nepal	1,400 m / 4,593 ft

Meals
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Trek from Majgaon/Tomijong to Dhampus (1,740 m)

Today, you'll leave Majgaon with an easy walk and soon reach the traditional village of Patlekhet, surrounded by green forests that look like a garden. Depending on the season, you may also see rhododendron blooms and white magnolia flowers. The path then joins the old ridge route at Pothana. Traders from Tibet once passed through this settlement, and Tibetan families still live here today. It is a good place to stop for a mid-morning drink, chat with the locals, and look at handmade souvenirs.

Your stop for the night is Dhampus Lodge, which many travelers knew in the past as Basanta Lodge. It is situated on a high edge above the Mardi and Phedi valleys. It is the smallest lodge on the trek, with only eight rooms in a neat row, but it has one of the best views. On a clear day, you can stand in the courtyard and see the whole Annapurna range at eye level. Annapurna I, II, III, and IV are all in view.

Destination:	**Accommodation**	**Altitude:**
Trek 8 km (4 to 5 hours)	Mountain Lodges of Nepal	1,740 m / 5,709 ft

Meals
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Trek from Dhampus to Ghattekhola and Drive to Pokhara (822 m)

You'll start the morning with one last sunrise over the Annapurna peaks from the garden patio at Dhampus Lodge. After that, you'll start the final part of the trek with a short walk downhill to Ghattekhola, which takes about one and a half to two hours and covers around 3 km. The stone steps are easy to manage, so you can take your time and enjoy your last look at the green hills. At Ghattekhola, about 1,000 m above sea level, the route flattens onto the valley floor, where the walk ends. Your driver and private vehicle are waiting for you.

The drive from Ghattekhola to Pokhara covers about 15 km and takes around 45 minutes. The road follows the river valley and brings you back from mountain villages to the lakeside town. By midday, you'll arrive at Phewa Lake and check in at Fish Tail Lodge by Annapurna. It opened in the late 1960s and has welcomed royal guests, heads of state, and famous visitors over the years.

In the afternoon, you can relax your tired legs with a spa massage, enjoy the sauna, or take a swim in the outdoor pool.

Destination:	**Accommodation**	**Altitude:**
15 km drive (45 minutes) Trek about 3 km (1.5 to 2 hours)	Fishtail Lodge by Annapurna	822 m / 2,697 ft

Meals
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Fly from Pokhara to Kathmandu and Transfer to Your Hotel (1,400 m)

Around 8:30 AM, you can enjoy breakfast at the Fish Tail Lodge and, if you have time afterward, take the lodge's private boat across the lake to the lakeside market. It is a good spot to pick up Himalayan coffee, tins of local tea or a few souvenirs, and to change money into Nepali rupees. Then your private vehicle takes you from the lakeside to Pokhara Airport, which is only a 15-minute drive away. Your guides help with your main bags and with check-in.

The flight back to Kathmandu takes about 25 minutes. When you land at the domestic terminal of Tribhuvan International Airport, you pick up your bags and head to your own hotel. Because this day is "Hotel Self," you choose where to stay. You can book a prepaid airport taxi or ask your hotel to send a car to meet you. Either way, you arrive in Kathmandu with a week of village life, mountain views, and good memories behind you.

Destination:	**Altitude:**	**Meals**
Flight 25 minutes Drive 15 minutes	1,400 m / 4,593 ft	Breakfast

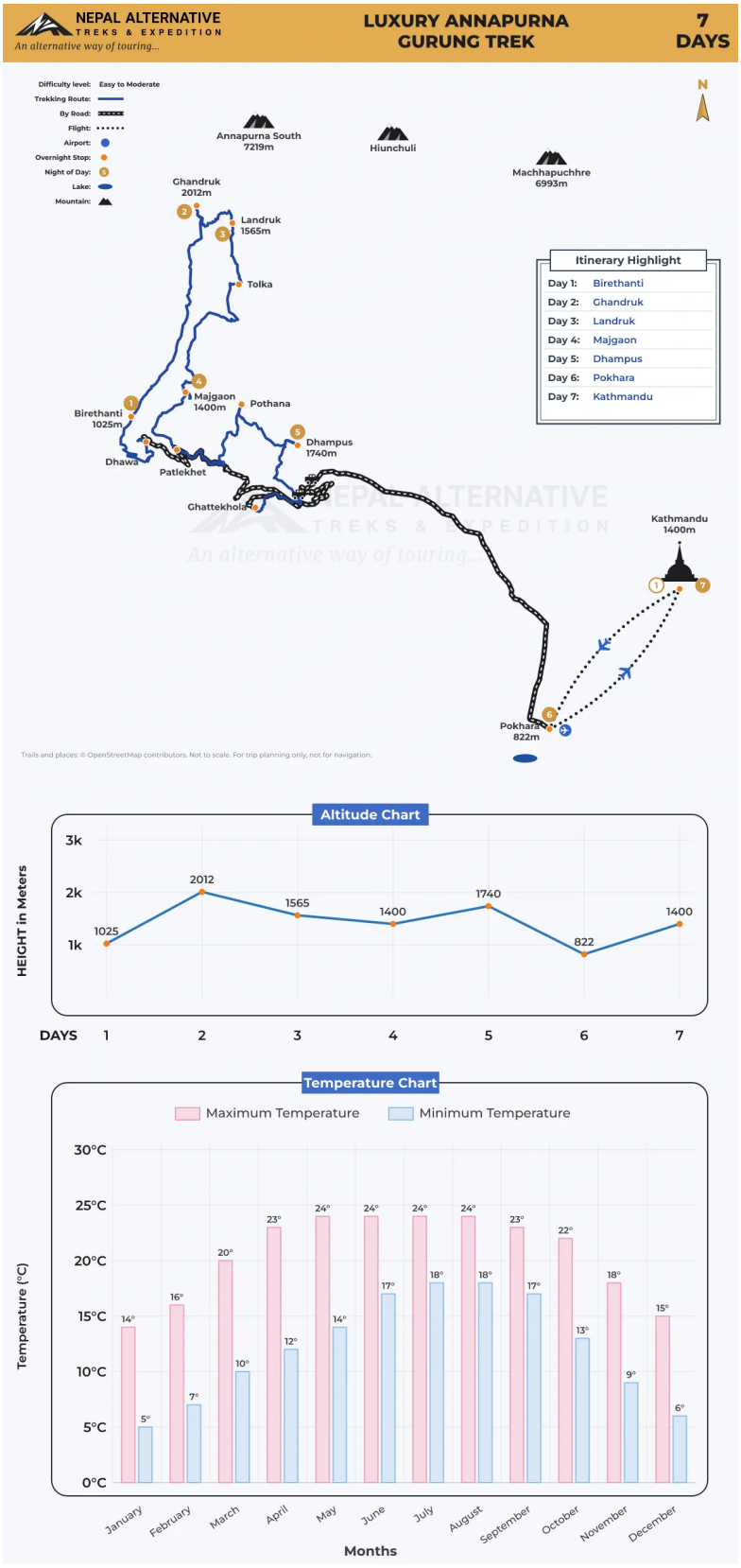
What's included

- Tribhuvan International Airport pick-up and transfer to a hotel in Kathmandu.
- Hotel accommodation (double/twin share) in Pokhara.
- Lodge accommodation (double/twin sharing basis) during the trip.
- All meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) along the trek.
- One highly experienced, first-aid-trained, fluent-in-English, friendly, and government-authorized trekking guide and porters (one porter for two persons).
- Guide and porter food, accommodation, salary, insurance, transportation, and equipment.
- Private vehicle transportation as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) permit and necessary documents.
- A trekking map, daily oxygen saturation check-up, beanie, first aid kit, water purification, fresh seasonal fruits, trekking completion certificate, company T-shirt, etc.
- Government taxes and service charges.
- Assistance for emergency rescue and evacuation.
- Public liability insurance.

What’s not included

- Hotel accommodation and meals in Kathmandu.
- Hard and soft drinks such as tea, coffee, Coke, Fanta, hot water, bottled water, beer, and bar drinks, as well as hot showers, device charging, laundry, and phone bills.
- Personal travel insurance.
- International flight tickets.
- Nepal tourist visa fee.
- Tips for guides and porters (highly suggested).

Route Map


NEPAL ALTERNATIVE
TREKS & EXPEDITION
An alternative way of touring...
LUXURY ANNAPURNA GURUNG TREK
7 DAYS
Difficulty level: Easy to Moderate
Trekking Route:
By Road:
Flight:
Airport:
Overnight Stop:
Night of Day:
Lake:
Mountain:
N
Annapurna South 7219m
Hiunchuli
Machhapuchhre 6993m
Ghandruk 2012m
Landruk 1565m
Tolka
Majgaon 1400m
Pothana
Birethanti 1025m
Dhampus 1740m
Dhawa
Patlekhet
Ghattekhola
Kathmandu 1400m
Pokhara 822m
Itinerary Highlight
Day 1: Birethanti
Day 2: Ghandruk
Day 3: Landruk
Day 4: Majgaon
Day 5: Dhampus
Day 6: Pokhara
Day 7: Kathmandu
Trails and places: © OpenStreetMap contributors. Not to scale. For trip planning only, not for navigation.
Altitude Chart
HEIGHT in Meters
3k
2k
1k
1025
2012
1565
1400
1740
822
1400
DAYS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Temperature Chart
Maximum Temperature
Minimum Temperature
Temperature (°C)
30°C
25°C
20°C
15°C
10°C
5°C
0°C
14° 5°
16° 7°
20° 10°
23° 12°
24° 14°
24° 17°
24° 18°
24° 18°
23° 17°
22° 13°
18° 9°
15° 6°
January February March April May June July August September October November December
Months

Additional Trip Information

What Makes the Annapurna Gurung Trek a Luxury Experience?

The Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek lets you enjoy the beauty of the Himalayas without giving up comfort, with comfortable lodges built from local stone and wood with a private modern bathroom along with a hot shower and flush toilet. Beds come with soft linens and electric heated blankets, so cold mountain nights feel cozy. In the evenings, you can read in a lodge library, sit by a stone fireplace, or step into a garden to watch the stars.

Meals are a real highlight. Chefs prepare four-course dinners using fresh local produce, mixing familiar international dishes with refined versions of village favorites. Mornings start with fresh espresso, French press coffee or herbal tea brought to your room, and the day ends with cookies, snacks and a drink with your fellow travelers. The care starts the moment you arrive at each lodge. A private, air-conditioned vehicle takes you from your hotel in Kathmandu or Pokhara to the trailhead, so there are no crowded buses. Porters carry your main bag, and you walk with only a light daypack holding your camera and rain jacket.

Why Choose a Gurung Cultural Trek in Annapurna?

A Gurung cultural trek lets you meet the local people and learn about their way of life, not just see the mountains. You walk through villages where traditional customs and daily life are still a big part of the community. Here are some reasons to choose this trek:

- **Meet Gurkha families.** Many households have a father, brother or grandfather who served in the Gurkha regiments.
- **See stone villages up close.** Ghandruk and Landruk have multi-level houses made of hand-cut stone with slate roofs.
- **Look across a river valley of farms.** From Ghandruk you can see Landruk on the opposite hillside, with terraced fields that drop to the Modi Khola River and climb back up.
- **Feel a genuine welcome.** Gurung villages have a long tradition of gathering in houses called Rodhi to sing and talk.
- **Enjoy local music and dance.** Villagers may welcome you with Maruni dances and folk songs, and offer a Khada, a white scarf that wishes you a safe journey.

- **Visit village monasteries.** Inside, you will find painted walls, prayer wheels, and prayer flags.
- **Discover the wild honey tradition.** Gurung honey hunters collect honey from giant cliff bees using rope ladders and long bamboo poles.

Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek Difficulty

The Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek is easy to moderate, and it is one of the most approachable treks in the Himalayas. The route stays at a lower height than most mountain walks, so you will not struggle to breathe or feel unwell from the height. Most days have three to five hours of walking, and you only carry a light daypack with your camera, water, and rain jacket. Porters take your main bag. If you can walk for a few hours on hilly ground and have some fitness, you can finish this trek.

It is still a real mountain walk, so a few things are worth knowing. The trails here are known for stone steps, and the climb up to Ghandruk and the walk down from Dhampus have thousands of them. Your thighs and calves will work hard, and strong knees help a lot. Walking poles can ease the load on the way down. You will also cross several long metal suspension bridges, including the Modi Khola. They are safe and well built, but they can feel scary if you are afraid of heights.

Responsible Tourism in Gurung Villages

A luxury trek can do more than give you a comfortable stay. When you travel with care, your visit helps the families and villages you walk through. Ask before you take a close-up photo of anyone, especially village elders and former soldiers. Inside a monastery, check with your guide before you take any pictures, and always walk clockwise around prayer walls and stupas. Keep your drone in your bag unless your guide has the village’s clear permission, since the buzz can upset homes and prayer ceremonies.

Your choices also decide where your money goes. Pick a trek company that hires people from the villages, so young people can earn a fair wage as guides, cooks and lodge managers and do not have to leave home to find work. Never bargain down the daily pay of guides and porters. A few dollars means little in your travel budget but a lot to a family. Buy woven cloth, Gurung hats and wild honey straight from the people who make them. Take care of the mountains too. Refill

your bottle with the boiled, filtered water in your room so you do not add plastic to the trail.

Gurung Food, Hospitality and Village Life

Food in the Gurung hills comes straight from the fields around the villages. Families grow millet, buckwheat and corn, and these grains make up many of the local meals. You can try warm millet bread with fresh butter or honey, which tastes rich and earthy. Dhido is a thick, soft dish made by stirring flour into boiling water. You tear off a small piece and dip it into a stew. There is also gundruk soup, made from sun-dried leafy greens that are left to ferment, and it has a tangy taste that goes well with heavy mountain meals.

Meat lovers can try sukuti, which is spiced and smoke-dried buffalo or goat, and sekuwa, which is meat grilled over charcoal and flavored with mountain herbs. Welcoming guests is an old tradition in Gurung villages. It is seen as a duty to the community and not just a job. When you step into a family home, you are greeted with a smile, a hot cup of tea and a Khada, a soft scarf placed around your neck to wish you safety and good fortune. Whether you are staying in a comfortable lodge or stopping at a village home for a midday rest, your hosts will treat you like family.

What You Will Notice That Is Different From a Standard Annapurna Trek

The biggest differences show up in the small details of each day. You will notice them in your room, at the dinner table, on the trail and in the way the villages welcome you.

What You Notice	Standard Annapurna Trek	Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek
Rooms	Simple tea houses with thin walls	Small stone and wood lodges with comfortable rooms
Bathrooms	Shared and sometimes outside	Private bathroom with hot shower and flush toilet
Sleeping	Basic bed and a thin blanket	Soft linens, thick quilts and heated blankets

What You Notice	Standard Annapurna Trek	Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek
Meals	Same few dishes like dal bhat and noodles	Four-course dinners with fresh local food
Mornings	Early start with tea or coffee	Fresh coffee or herbal tea brought to your room
Arrival at a lodge	Find a seat and wait for a room	Warm towel and hot honey, lemon and ginger tea
Getting to the trail	Public bus or shared jeep	Private vehicle from your hotel to the trailhead
What you carry	Your own pack	A light daypack while porters carry your main bag
Walking days	Longer days with more climbing	Three to five hours a day, mostly below 2,500 meters

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a special permit for the Luxury Annapurna Gurung Trek?

Yes, you need the Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) permit. We'll handle all the paperwork, photography requirements, and fees in Kathmandu or Pokhara before you arrive at the trailhead.

Can I book these luxury lodges independently without a tour operator?

No, individual bookings are restricted because Mountain Lodges of Nepal (MLN) prioritizes authorized luxury agencies that manage complete packages.

What is the cancellation policy for luxury lodge bookings during peak season?

There are non-refundable policies within 30 to 60 days of your departure date. Because peak autumn and spring dates sell out up to a year in advance, companies charge high cancellation fees to cover prepaid luxury lodge allocations and domestic flight deposits.

Can I leave my non-trekking luggage behind at the staging hotel?

Yes, five-star hotels in Kathmandu and Pokhara provide complimentary luggage storage rooms for your non-trekking gear. You can safely store suitcases, formal clothes, and extra electronics there and retrieve them immediately when you return from the mountains.

Is high-speed Wi-Fi available at all the premium boutique lodges?

Yes, all luxury properties provide complimentary wireless internet access in their main lounge areas and inside the guest rooms. However, connection speeds can fluctuate during heavy mountain storms or local power outages.

Do the luxury lodges charge an extra fee to recharge my electronic devices?

No, device charging is completely free and available via standard electrical outlets inside your private room. Unlike standard teahouses that charge hourly fees for charging power banks or cameras in common areas, luxury properties include electricity.

What type of electrical plug adapters should I pack for the rooms?

You should pack a Type C, D, or M adapter plug, as these are the standard configurations used across Nepal.

Are electronic payment methods accepted at shops along the village trails?

No, small village shops, local museums, and independent weavers accept only physical Nepalese Rupees (NPR) for small purchases. While your luxury lodges accept international credit cards for extra bar bills, you should carry local cash for trail snacks.

Is laundry service available at the properties along the trail?

Yes, laundry services are available for an extra charge at multi-night stops like Ghandruk. However, because clothes are traditionally line-dried in the mountain air, services depend on clear weather conditions and your overall trekking schedule.

What toiletries are included in the en-suite bathrooms?

Rooms have eco-friendly shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, and fresh, soft towels. You only need to pack your personal toothbrush, toothpaste, specialized skincare items, and heavy-duty sun protection.

Can the luxury lodge kitchens accommodate strict dietary restrictions?

Yes, our professional chefs can prepare meals for gluten-free, vegan, kosher, lactose-free, and nut-allergy diets. If you have a serious food allergy, please let your guide know when booking so they can plan your meals safely.

Are medical clinics or pharmacies available on the Gurung trail?

Yes, basic health posts are located in villages like Ghandruk, and your guide carries a comprehensive first-aid kit. For any serious medical issues, Pokhara’s private hospitals are just a short drive away.

Do I need specialized medical travel insurance for this low-altitude trek?

Yes, you must have travel insurance that covers emergency medical expenses and mountain evacuation. Even though the altitude is low, insurance provides immediate helicopter deployment or private ambulance dispatch in case of sudden injury.

Do I need to pack a heavy-duty down sleeping bag?

No, sleeping bags are unnecessary because the luxury rooms have heavy down duvets, premium linens, and electric blankets. You only need standard, comfortable sleepwear, as indoor room temperatures are well regulated.

What size daypack should I carry during the daily hikes?

A 20 to 30-liter daypack is perfect for your daily trail needs. Since porters carry your primary luggage duffel, your daypack only holds water, a camera, a rain jacket, sun cream, and personal medications.

What is the tipping custom for luxury guides and porters?

Tipping is customary and highly appreciated, though it is left to your discretion. A general guideline for a luxury trek is around USD 15 to 25 per day for your guide and USD 10 to 15 per day for your porter, presented at the end of the trip.

Is it acceptable to give gifts directly to local village schools?

Yes, but gifts must be given formally through the school headmaster or your lead guide. Educational supplies, books, and sports equipment should be distributed evenly through official channels rather than handed out randomly.

Cancellation Policy

We understand that plans can change willy-nilly. However it is our responsibility to ensure fairness and transparency among our customers regarding our cancellation policy. So we kindly request all travelers to carefully review the cancellation and refund policy before confirming their trip.

After your trip starts, we cannot provide a refund for any voluntary withdrawal, cancellation, or early departure by the traveler. This means ***the full amount paid to us will not be refunded after the trip has begun.*** Likewise, if during the trip, any services such as accommodation, sightseeing, meals, transportation, etc. included in the itinerary/trip are not used by the customer, no refunds or reuse will be provided to whatever portion remains unused on the trip.

Also, please note that ***last-minute cancellations are non-refundable.*** You have to understand that many trip arrangements such as accommodation, transportation, permits,

guides, and operational logistics are confirmed and pre-booked. Thus, cancellations made at the last minute create non-recoverable costs for the company and so do for our clients. In addition, cancellations made shortly before the departure date or after the trip has started will be considered as last-minute cancellations and will not be eligible for any refund.

Still, the company will use their discretion in setting the conditions for the refunds, therefore, few of the conditions mentioned are subject to change. The company holds every right to cancel the trips booked by the customers before it is guaranteed to run or an official agreement is signed. A trip is guaranteed to run once it has two fully paid travelers unless minimum numbers state otherwise.

Unfortunate circumstances such as unforeseen natural disaster, canceled flights, strike, industrial action, wars, riots, quarantine, government intervention, weather, the deteriorating health condition of a group member, etc. could lead to cancellation of trips. In such cases, the customer can either ask to get back the 90% of the total trip cost paid to the company (13% Government Tax will be deducted) or reuse the cost in an alternative trip with the same price, immediately, in the following season of the same year.

The company will require a written notice in case of any cancellation. Please ensure the date of the trip cancellation is the date on which the written cancellation is received by the company. If you cancel the trip anytime prior to the departure date of the actual trip, 90% of the total cost is reusable for a year or refund.

Trip Amendment

First and foremost, please note that all the amendment conditions are applied to the trips listed on this site only. Below are a few notes to take about the amendment fees in case of any changes during, while, or after the booking:

If the company receives a request on the booking amendments at least 60 days prior to the trip, a total of USD 50/person is charged to the customer. However, if the customer’s request for a booking amendment in less than 60 days before the trip departure, then the charges will be as per the cancellation policy mentioned above. In case of any changes in the price of the trip during the procedure of booking and the amendments, the new cost will be applied to the trips. Please note that these changes might not be applied by the company, but can be levied upon the company by the third parties i.e. the hotels or the service providers working with the

company.

Any changes, amendments, or additions in aggregation to the trips you have booked, for example, hotels, transfers, additional days, etc. will account for no additional fee.

Health Conditions

Nepal Alternative Treks places the highest priority on the safety and well-being of all travelers. We need to ensure the traveler’s well-being and health condition at the time of booking. While travelers can participate without medical documentation, those with chronic illnesses or long-term medical conditions must obtain a doctor’s consent before joining the trip. This is to ensure their health is not badly affected during the adventure and that they can safely enjoy the journey.

The company will not be responsible for any type of mishaps and will not bear the medical and evacuation expenses on behalf of the participant. Therefore, we request our clients to consult their doctors for a thorough checkup and vaccination before booking a trip with us. In addition, clients with specific health needs or concerns should inform the Company in advance. This allows us to provide guidance and, if required, arrange additional services to make the trip safer and more comfortable. If needed, clients may also request additional services related to the length of the trip or stay in the country of travel.

Weather and other unfavorable conditions

Clients should be well aware of the unpredictability of the weather conditions in the mountainous regions. The unfortunate weather conditions, especially in the Everest, Jomsom, and Kanchenjunga regions, can sometimes lead to unfavorable circumstances that include delay or cancellation of flights. The Company will cover the expenses of accommodations and food in the departing location until the arrangement of flights is done. However, the Company holds every right to reroute the original trip or transports which will be in favor of the situation without any addition in the cost. Please note that the company will not be responsible for any missed international flights, losses caused by Altitude Sickness, or any other unpredictable circumstances, and the participants will have to pay all the charges incurred. Nonetheless, the Company will connect and assist you to make the necessary alternative arrangements, but, the additional charge will be covered by the customers themselves.

Regardless of stating every condition and information about the trips on the website and brochures of the Company, we will not be responsible for the unforeseeable situations that may arise before or during the trips. The Company will, however, try its level best to give prior notice about it and take alternate strategies to deal with it. These booking conditions may only be waived in special circumstances, and in writing, by a letter from the Chief of the Company. Note that all the legal agreements set up and signed between the client and the Company shall be subjected to and governed by the Nepalese law.

Note: All the Terms and Conditions mentioned are prepared as per the laws of the Government of Nepal and is governed by them. Therefore, only the head of the Company gets to intervene and holds the authority to make any amendments.

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