

Ruby Valley Trek



Immerse on the authentic Himalayan culture ingrained to Tibetan Buddhism along with perception of wilderness treading the off the beaten route that leads to **Ganesh Himal region** dominated by spectacular Ganesh Himal nestling on the remote setting of the tiny country Nepal in the form of **Ruby valley trek**.

Named after valuable gem Ruby that can be found on this region, boasts amazing lakes black kund and white kund, famous waterfall Ganga and Jamuna named after twin sisters that hosts two days religious fair during month of December where numerous people throng on this place, natural hot springs along with graceful culture on pristine form preserved by the friendly inhabitants of this region.

Ruby valley trek starts from Syabrubesi which is also starting and ending venue for the **Langtang region** trek so Ruby valley trek can be connected with Langtang trek granting the enthralling experience of the crossing the Pangsang Pass.

As you know Nepal has lots of possibilities on promoting tourism with countless hidden route mountains and various traditional cultures in the societies. Trekking is always with concept of doing adventures type, doing summit of passes and mountains and trails. Staying one place can discover many other villages, many ethnic groups, their cultures, languages, their lifestyle and for the adventures there are also passes, lakes, mountains and peak climbing.

Duration: 14 days

Price: \$2399

Group Size: 2

Grade: Moderate

Destination: Nepal

Activity: Trekking

Region: Ganesh Himal

Equipment Lists:

Recommended equipment list: Trekkers need to provide their own personal clothing and equipment. Some items of equipment are available for hire from us as like Down Jacket

Footwear : Well broken-in walking shoes - these must be suitable for snow, thick socks, light socks, camp shoes.

Clothing : Down or fiber filled waterproof jacket and trousers, sweater or fleece jacket, underwear, warm and cotton trousers or jeans, shirts and T-shirts, shorts, long underwear, wool hat, sun hat, gloves, bathing suit, track suit.

Other equipment: Sleeping bag (5 seasons), lock, day pack, water bottle, sun cream, sunglasses, flashlight with spare bulbs and batteries, lip salve, gaiters.

Other items: Insect repellent, toilet articles, diary, toilet roll, laundry soap, wet ones, pocket knife, towel, sewing kit, plasters, binoculars, camera, film, cards and personal medical kit.

Itinerary:

Day 1: International Arrival overnight in Hotel

A Lantang Ri Trekking & Expedition representative will greet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel. When you are ready you will be collected from your hotel lobby and driven to our Thamel office where you will be formally introduced to your Trekking Guide. We will go through all your trek itinerary and arrangements with you and ensure every detail is in place. We will also ask for your passport photographs and any other details so that we can organize any permits required for your trek and the region you will be exploring.

Day 2: Trek preparation & Sightseeing in Kathmandu overnight in Hotel

After breakfast, we start an interesting tour around Kathmandu. Escorting by an English speaking guide (can be provide any language speaking guide on request) the tour will give you a taste of our vivid Nepali culture and history. In our sightseeing tour we go to Monkey Temple Swayambhunath, Pashupatinath, Bouddhanath and Kathmandu Durbar Square.

Bouddhanath: Bouddhanath is a Buddhist religious complex with a history dating back over 500 years. Located on the eastern edge of Kathmandu it is now a site of great pilgrimage for Buddhist followers who circle its massive stupa, spin its many prayer wheels and visit its beautiful monastery. The main feature of Bouddhanath is its huge hemispherical white stupa with central golden tower and the all-seeing eyes of the Buddha. Visitors should circle the stupa in a clockwise direction and spin prayer wheels for good fortune and a good life. Visitors may also enjoy visiting the thangka painting school within the complex to see highly skilled artists at work on religious mandala paintings.

Pashupatinath: This Hindu Temple is a very large complex and focal point for the Hindu religion in Nepal. This old and very revered complex of buildings and shrines is dedicated to the Lord Shiva, one of the main deities of Hinduism. While Lord Shiva has multiple forms he is often seen as the destroyer. This has great significance for the Pashupatinath temple as it is the site of many Hindu ritual cremations each day. Pashupatinath is considered by Hindus to be an auspicious site for passing from one stage of life to the next through the purifying and destroying flames of cremation. However, on a happier note, visitors may also get to see the temple in a buoyant festival mode with one of the many Hindu festivals celebrated here through the year.

Swayambhunath: You will first visit the Swayambhunath temple complex that sits atop a high hill overlooking Kathmandu and the

entire Kathmandu Valley. Swayambhunath is perhaps the most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage site in Nepal. It consists of a very large white stupa with the all-seeing-eye of Lord Buddha plus many small stupa and beautifully carved stone shrines. This is a wonderful place to catch your breath and start to understand and appreciate the deep importance of Buddhist belief to the people of Nepal and the Himalaya region. Make sure you ring the many bells to awaken the gods and let them know you are in Nepal. Take the time to enjoy the view over Kathmandu and have your guide point out the many other highlights of the city. In the far distance to the east you may also be able to see the hills of Nagarkot. If you feel energetic you might also like to try some or all of the 350 steps that lead all the way from Kathmandu city up to your Swayambhunath temple vantage point.

Kathmandu Durbar Square: The next stop today is the beautiful Kathmandu Durbar Square, or the royal palace square of the ancient Malla Kings of the Kathmandu Valley. This square and all its architectural treasures are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. While some damage to buildings occurred in the 2015 earthquake the site still contains many stunning architectural gems. The original royal palace courtyards are open to visitors and you will marvel at the intricate timber carving and beautifully crafted brickwork of the palace. The open square outside the palace has many beautiful multi-storey pagodas and temples with ornate carving and carpentry artwork that tells some of the story of the ancient kings and their mystical time and beliefs. The square also contains many important Hindu temples and statues such as to Vishnu and Lord Shiva. Durbar Square also contains the unique and intriguing Kumari Chok. This is an ancient and ornate house where resides the Raj Kumari – the Living Goddess. She is a young girl chosen through an ancient and mystical selection process to become the human incarnation of the Hindu mother goddess, Durga. If you are in the courtyard of her home at the right time in the afternoon you may see a brief glimpse of the Goddess at her window.

Day 3: Kathmandu to Ghatlang 3271m (9 hour driving) overnight in tent

Drive from Kathmandu to Syabrubesi to Ghatlang which takes about eight hours. You head north out of Kathmandu driving through scenic foothills and ridgeline vistas to Syabru Besi passing through Dhunche. While passing along the road at the bank of Trishuli river you catch a glimpse of Ganesh Himal, terraces and green hills. As you pass through Dhunche you feel as if you are heading towards deep land. At the same time, you notice that the road is still under construction. You can see scenery from view point. The cultural show at Goljung and Ghatlang makes your trekking a memorable one.

Day 4: Ghatlang to Somdang ,overnight in tent

The trail ascends through pine and rhododendron forest to a lunch point of Yuri Kharka before continuing to Khurpu Bhanjyang and then dropping down to the Somdang River, border between Rasuwa and Dhading districts. A sprawling mining compound, no longer functioning but it seems locals appealing government to revive it, lies a few hours to the north up river. The hike passes through a scenic valley featuring the 200 m Chukarma Waterfall.

Day 5: Somdang to Pangsang pass, overnight in tent

After breakfast trek gently uphill passing through beautiful jungle and mesmerizing surrounding landscapes including Langtang ranges mountain views and finally in the mid day you arrive at this area's best view point named Pangsang Kharka. It is a viewpoint southwest of Somdang village with a broad panorama of the surrounding terrain. To the north are the soaring peaks of Manaslu and the Ganesh Himal Range. The large meadow is graced with a giant entry gateway and is a sensational location for camping and taking in the breathtaking scenery. The whole Ganesh Himal region is blessed with abundant herbal plants. This hill/danda/pass is known as one of the most beautiful and the best magnificent mountain views point to have almost in 270 degrees Langtang ragnes,

Ganesh Himal ranges, Manaslu ranges and bit of Annapurna ranges mountains.

Day 6: Pangsang Pass to Shertung to Tipling, overnight in tent

Pangsang Kharka is a viewpoint southwest of Somdang village with a broad panorama of the surrounding terrain. To the north are the soaring peaks of Manaslu and the Ganesh Himal Range. The large meadow is graced with a giant entry gateway and is a sensational location for camping and taking in the breathtaking scenery. The whole Ganesh Himal region is blessed with abundant herbal plants. Previously, herbs were taken to Tibet along an ancient trade route and exchanged for salt, livestock, wool and turquoise.

Descend to Tipling, a large village that hosts two Buddhist gombas and both a Protestant and Catholic church. Along a ridge top to the east is a gomba and cremation ground for both Buddhists and Christians lined with colorful flags. Being a majority of Tamang people it has beautiful Tamang culture show. Tamang people have own rich culture to show for the visitors jhankri or shaman dance, ghode or horse dance, said to have been brought from Tibetan culture long ago. Jhankri (shaman) activity is robust in this territory with the worship of natural forces and indigenous local deities interwoven with Hindu and Buddhist practices. Mane dance, Mendo Maya, Paru dance and Ghode (horse) dance as well as Lama (monk) dance are quite popular.

Day 7: Tipling to Chalish village to Neber Gaon, overnight in tent

After breakfast trek down to Chalish village, 20 minutes down hill walk which is probably one of the most friendliest and hospitality village of the area. Quick visit Tin Kanya Hindu temple pass through small but beautiful village and then trek continue to Khar Khola and then trek gently up to Pasabar danda taking about an hour walk. View of Tribeni river mixed of three rivers. Hindus and both Buddhist believe as a holy river. From Pasabar danda trek gently uphill hill and reach at Kalbarang (just the small kharka name but no village or human settlement) trek continues to the hill edge walk and dense jungle. There is a chance rock fall from top of the hill due to inhabitant of wildlife so careful walking with your trek guide or helper. Finally reach at Hindung village where huge number of Tamang people live. It is a Tamang village of around 550 inhabitants. Crystals and rubies are harvested in areas to the north and yarsagumba is hunted too, in the surrounding highlands. Take lunch in Hindung and trek down to Hindung Khola and then trek uphill to Neber Gaon walking about 2 ½ hours.

Day 8: Neber Gaon to Natural Hot Spring ,overnight in tent

After breakfast say goodbye to locals and trek down to Chalish village, 20 minutes down hill walk which is probably one of the most friendliest and hospitality village of the area. Quick visit Tin Kanya Hindu temple pass through small but beautiful village and then trek continue to Khar Khola and then trek gently up to Pasabar danda taking about an hour walk Trek down hill to Tatopani (hot springs) where enjoy your half day bath and then the trail onward follows stone steps built by Kadoorie Agri Aid Association and British Gurkhas of Nepal. Both organizations are active in this area and responsible for building many water taps, bridges and improved trails. Take lunch at Hot Spring and trek continues passing through hairpin hill edge walk, carefully walk with your guide is high recommended. Pass through Tir Gaon on the way to welcoming Racyat and Kapur villages. Finally arrive in Kupchyat village over night in camp/local house of Tamang village.

Day 9: Hot springs - Kupchyat ,overnight in tent

Trek down hill to Tatopani (hot springs) where enjoy your half day bath and then the trail onward follows stone steps built by

Kadoorie Agri Aid Association and British Gurkhas of Nepal. Both organizations are active in this area and responsible for building many water taps, bridges and improved trails. Take lunch at Hot Spring and trek continues passing through hairpin hill edge walk, carefully walk with your guide is high recommended. Pass through Tir Gaon on the way to welcoming Racyat and Kapur villages. Finally arrive in Kupchyat village.

Day 10: Kupchyat - Khading – Lapa Gaon ,overnight in tent

Trek to Khading village passing through local paddy terraces and amazing views of Lapa Gaon and its surrounding landscape. In Khading village/Gaon you will see a big community of Gurung people having their own beautiful culture.

While you will be waiting your lunch explore Khading gaon and after lunch trek down to Lapa Gaon which is a big Tamang village of the area where you will enjoy having Tamang culture.

Day 11: Lapa Gaon – Borang - Jharlang ,overnight in tent

After breakfast trek down to Ankhu khola having its beautiful water fall views and then trek continues bit uphill to Borang village where stop for lunch and then trek continues passing through Ukhum and Lishne jungle, cross suspension bridge, walk a bit uphill and then arrive at Chhapchyat village. You walk stone steps uphill about 2 hours and half and then finally you arrive at Jharlang village (Ungul). This village is one of the biggest Tamang villages of the area and a breath taking panoramic mountain view point. Nearly 200 Tamang houses are built here.

Day 12: Jharlang (Ungul) – Kuri – Khaniyabas ,overnight in tent

Take breakfast at the same place and trek all the way down Jharlang Papiro (Jharlang landslide) where takes about an hour to cross. Cross with your trek guide will be very convenient and during monsoon its bit slippery so careful ! Just after crossing landscape you trek to Ukhum trek continues all the way down hill to Dungere Khola about 1 ½ hours down hill walking. Cross suspension bridge and uphill walking about 2 ½ hours to get to Kuri Village. This is also a Tamang village lies right on the top of the hill from where you will see the beautiful surrounding landscape and Ganesh Himal ranges mountain views. There is no village or tea shops in between Kaule to Kuri village so some snacks or dry fruits will be very useful to carry with you unless you take heavy breakfast. A bottle of boiled water will be very useful. Great water fall view, paddy terraces and little bit of jungle walking experience will make you interesting walking of the day. After lunch trek continue and passing through Birchet village finally arrive at Khaniyabas Village or so called it Satya Devi. It's about 2 ½ hours walk from lunch spot and Satya Devi has several local lodges/tea shops for the trekkers. Next to school or Shree Bachchhala Devi temple, it will be nice to camp because small bush and open ground space will make you easier for camping. On the clear weather day you will have the best and breath taking sun set views. Ankhu river views and Todke hill in horizon gives you magnificent landscape scenery. Tamang, Bhramin and Dalit people live in Khaniyabas.

Day 13: Khaniyabas – Megang Danda ,overnight in tent

After breakfast trek to easy walk to Thambu Khola about an hour and then trek all the stone steps uphill walking Kimdang gaon (2 ½

hours walking) stop for lunch and trek to Megang Danda walking a big dense jungle right on the hill top. Being dense jungle wild animal may encounter so trek with your guide or helper is highly recommended. There is a dirt road in Kimtang to Trisuli Bazaar but only winter you will get a sharing local jeep but in the monsoon impossible to drive due to muddy track/road. Megang is another breath taking Mountain View point from where you will experience of 270 degrees mountain views. There used to be several lodges but due to road construction lodges removed however there is a basic lodges for the trekkers/travelers to spend a night.

Day 14: Megang Danda – Trisuli Bazaar – Kathmandu overnight in Hotel

You may trek to Trisuli Bazaar 6 hours down hill scenic walking or walk up to Deurali 1 ½ hours walking and then share local bus/Jeep with other people to Trisuli Bazaar (2 hours driving) and then continue drive back to Kathmandu by local bus (4 hours driving) or a private car/vehicle.

Day 15: Departure for home from Kathmandu Airport

We will meet you at your hotel and take you to the airport in plenty of time to meet your flight home.

Cost Include:

- Airport pick-up & drop-off transportation by private vehicle
- Twin/Double sharing accommodation at Kathmandu in 2-3 star hotel with breakfast & all taxes
- Sightseeing in Kathmandu. Escorted with English speaking guide. Private transportation. Entrance fees
- Kathmandu /Gatlang by local bus
- Accommodation in lodge during trekking or tent during camping trek
- Meals – Breakfast with 2cups of tea/ coffee, lunch, dinner – during the trek
- Sleeping bag
- Trekking map for group
- TIMS
- Professional government licensed English speaking guide
- One porter between each two members
- Accommodation, meals, salary, equipment, transportation and insurance for the trekking staff
- All government taxes
- Farewell dinner

Cost exclude:

- International airfare
- Extra meals in Kathmandu
- Drinking water during trek, extra charges levied for any hot shower or electricity for device charging
- Tips for guide and porter and driver
- Medical evacuation in case of emergency
- Personal gear & clothing
- Tips, any expenses of personal nature, client's insurance
- Soft/hard drinks
- Expenses incurred due to mishaps, landslide, strikes, political unrest etc. In such case extra will be charged as per actual cost.
- Anything not specified in the Cost Include section