



Great Wall Nepal Pvt. Ltd.

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Khaptad National Park

One of Nepal's least known and visited National Parks is Khaptad National Park. Khaptad offers a thrilling landscape and is located in the remote west of Nepal. The park itself lies isolated and can only be reached by foot as there are no road connections close by.

Practical:

Size: 225 Km²

Established: 1984

Best Season: October - November and March - May

Park Main Entrance: Jhingrana

Location: Mid-Western Hills



Climate

As Khaptad lies at an altitude of around 3000 metres the climate is fresh throughout the year. Between October and November and March till May weather is the most pleasant, with the least chance of snow and temperatures ranging between 10 and 20 degrees Celsius. From December to February the winter kicks in and temperatures drop. The national park will cover with snow and trails are not accessible. Between June and September the monsoon strikes bringing lots of rain throughout the days.

Flora and Fauna

Khaptad is well known for its flora spread over Patans (Moorlands), forested slopes, rivulets and the Khapar Lake. There are about 355 species of vascular plants from which 135 are specific for the Moorlands. In the spring Khaptad has a magical touch when flowers such as Primulas, Buttercups, Wild Berries and Bistortas are blooming. The lush green and pristine forest are filled with Fir, Oak, Hemlock, Laurel, Nepalese Alder and Rhododendrons.

All these plants and flowers attract a wide variety of butterflies, moths and insects. Bird watchers can enjoy the 287 bird species to which Khaptad is a home. Some examples: Impeyan Pheasant, Peregrin Falcon, White Rumped Vulture, Partridge, Bul Bul, Flycatcher and the Cuckoo. The 23 mammals living in Khaptad include Leopards, Musk Deer, Barking Deer, Wild Boar, Goral, Himalayan Black Bear, Yellow-Throated Marten, Wild Dogs and Rhesus and Langur Monkeys.



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Areas of Interest

The main attraction of the park is the wonderful green nature and the 22 moorlands. From the Park Headquarters there are several day hikes by which the park can be explored. Amongst locals Khaptad is popular for spiritual retreats and experiences. The Khaptad Baba Heritage is the centre for spiritual activities with many shrines within walking distance. The most popular shrines are: Tribeni Confluence, Khaptad Dah, Shiva Temple, Sita Paila, Ganesh Temple, Naghdunga, Kedardhunga and Sahasra Linga with the highest point at 3200 metres. Duging Ganga Dashahara in May and Jaina Purnima in August thousands of Pilgrims gather in Khaptad.

Activities

Khaptad lends itself for several day hikes and enjoying the quietness of the nature. Bird and plant lovers will find plenty of opportunity to carry out their hobby and spot rare plants and birds amongst the stunning natural landscape. Khaptad is best enjoyed when you plan at least two extra days at the Park Head Quarters. From there you can make one of the following day hikes:

Khaptad - Lokhada

Khaptad - Kuduan

Khaptad - Rato Mato

Khaptad - Baleto - Sahasraling

Access

Khaptad is hard to reach as there is no road connection to the park entry. The easiest way to access Khaptad National Park is through Silghadi. From Kathmandu Silghadi can be reached in approximately 24 hours. From Silghadi it is then a 6 hours uphill walk till the park entry in Jhingrana. From Jhingrana till the park headquarters is another seven hour steep uphill walk. In the dry season one can also consider flying from Kathmandu to Nepalgunj and from there transfer on a flight to Dipayal. From Dipayal Silghadi can be reached in 30 minutes by public bus.

The walk from Silghadi to Jhingrana starts in the north of Silghadi where it goes into the hills past the army camp and radio tower. If you are not familiar in the area, we would recommend to take make use of a guide. From the park entrance gate there are two paths leading to the park headquarters. As a trekker you take the footpath, the second path is for mules carrying the goods to the head quarters. The first two hours are intense as you go steeply up from 2200 metres to just of 3100 metres. Once the plateau is reached the rest of the route goes up and down over the mountain ridge.

A second option to reach Khaptad is to fly to Achham and from there it is a two day hike to reach the park. The final option is a flight to Bajura from where it takes four days to reach the National Park. Please note that these flights are often cancelled due to weather conditions.



Facilities

As Khaptad is one of the least visited National Parks in Nepal, the facilities are very limited. At the park entry and the park headquarters there are several small and very basic lodges. Here you can also join for breakfast, lunch and dinner. If you want any extra foods, drinks etc. you will have to take these from Silghadi. Also do not forget to take a well equipped first-aid kit with you as medical facilities are close to none. If you need any help organising your hotel or activities in Chitwan, please [contact](#) us.

Park Information

Khaptad National Park Office
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