



Great Wall Nepal Pvt. Ltd.

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Shey-Phoksundo National Park

Shey-Phoksundo is Nepal's largest national park and is located in the Trans-Himalayan region. The most significant landmark of the park is Phoksundo lake. Visit this park and have a chance to see the rare snow leopard and its prey, the blue sheep.

Practical:

Size: 3555 Km²

Established: 1984

Best Season: April - September

Park Main Entrance: Suligad

Location: Western Himalayas



Climate

Due to the high altitude of most of the park, the temperatures remain cold throughout the year. During the Spring and Summer the temperatures are the most favourable. July through September are however also the monsoon months leading to severe rain fall in some parts of the park. Dhaulagiri and Kanjiroba Himal are located in a rain shadow and do not receive as much rain fall as the other parts of the park. The annual precipitation varies from 1500mm in the south to just 500mm in the dry northern part of the park.

Flora and Fauna

Shey-Phoksundo is rich in variety and has an incredible 21 eco-systems with trees such as the Cypress, Cedar, Spruce, Blue Pines, Mountain Oak, Birch, Juniper, Rhododendron, Caragana Steppe and alpine scrubs. In addition the park is home to hundreds of plant species and flowers.

The fauna of the park is also rich with 35 species of mammals including the Snow Leopard, Blue Sheep, Musk Deer, Wild Dog and the Tibetan Wolf. Shey-Phoksundo is also home to 208 bird species such as the Himalayan Griffon, White Breasted Deeper, Monal Pheasant and the Cheer Pheasant. The abundance of flowers and plants also attracts many insects and butterflies (29 species in total) including the highest flying butterfly in the world, the *Paralasa Nepalaica*.

Areas of Interest

The main attraction of the park is the stunning turquoise coloured Phoksundo lake. The scenery around the lake is just spectacular and supposedly one of the most scenic High Altitude National Parks in the world. Around the lake there are several glaciers and local villages, built in Tibetan style 900 years ago. Ringmo is one of the small villages in this area. All villages together house around 900 inhabitants. The inhabitants are still mainly depending on agriculture and trade with Tibet. The ancient Salt Route links Shey-Phoksundo with Tibet.



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For the individual trekker it is important to keep in mind that it is not permitted to visit the Inner Dolpa region, beyond the Shey-Phoksundo lake. Also one should take care of falling rocks while trekking through the park. Most trails are rocky and prone to rock falls and minor land slides in the rain season.



Activities

Due to the remoteness of the location, the Headquarters can only be reached by a multiple day trekking adventure, making this park primarily of interest to the active nature lover. Individual trekkers may not go into the Inner Dolpa region as this route is opened only to group tourists.

Access

Shey-Phoksundo is best reached through air to Juphal airstrip in Dolpa through Nepalgunj. From Juphal it is a half day trek to the Park entrance in Suligad. Apart from the regular airline services one may also charter a small aircraft or helicopter to reach Juphal directly.

From Suligad it takes another three days of hiking to reach the park headquarters. As an alternative to the route from Juphal the headquarters can also be reached through the Jumla trade route in the West or from Jomsom in the North-East.

Facilities

In the towns of Dunai, Sangta, Chhepka and Ringmo some accommodation is available. These are basic trekkers lodges where food and limited supplies are available. Throughout various spots within the National Park there are campsites with toilets and shelters available. Park offices are to be found in Suliga, Chhepka, Palam Ringmo and Toijem. In Palam there is also a small visitor centre. Due to the limited facilities it is highly recommended to take tents, food, fuel, first aid kits and all other materials needed for a trekking trip. If you need any help organising your hotel or activities in Shey-Phoksundo, please [contact](#) us.

Park Information

Shey-Phoksundo National Park Office
Palam, Dolpa
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