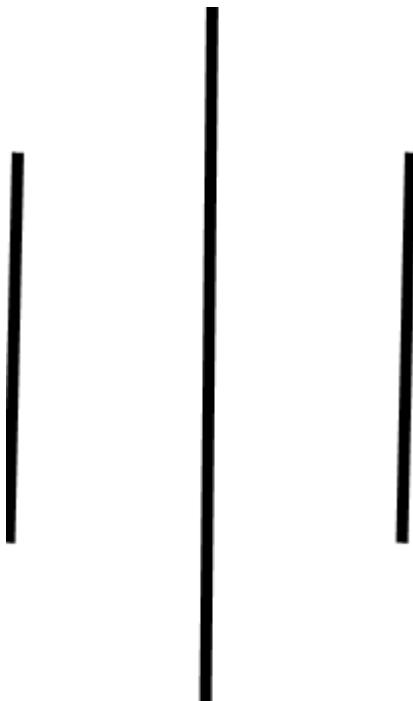


## **Project Work: Tourism and Mountaineering (Class 12)**

### **Tourism in Western Nepal**



**Submitted To:**

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Reg no:

In partial fulfillment of the requirement for practical paper of Tourism and Mountaineering  
(TMS)-Class 12 held by National Examination Board (NEB), Nepal

**Shaheed Smarak College**

**Bharatpur-19, Bakhanpur, Chitwan**

**2080**

## **Acknowledgement**

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our respected Principal and subject teacher for this valuable guidance and support in completing my project. I am also grateful to them for providing me this useful opportunity to do a project on Tourism in Western Nepal. Without his support and suggestions, this project wouldn't have been completed. I would like to convey my deep appreciation for my parents who provided me with every facility needed for the project. Finally, I am grateful for all of my classmates for the motivation and coordination. I hope we will achieve more in our future endeavors.

I would like to state that the project was finished by me and not copied. I would like to apologize and do better in future if this one doesn't meet expectations. Once again, I enjoyed and learned a lot while doing this project. Thank you so much for the opportunity!

- Manish Rana

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# Tourism

Tourism refers to travel for pleasure and the commercial activity of providing and supporting such travel. It encompasses people travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for leisure, business, or other purposes. Here are some key points about tourism:

**Definition:** The World Tourism Organization defines tourism as more than just holiday activities. It includes people spending time away from home for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business, or other reasons. Tourism can be domestic (within the traveler's own country) or international<sup>1</sup>.

## Types of Tourism:

Domestic Tourism: Involves travel within one's own country.

International Tourism: Involves travel across national borders.

Inbound Tourism: Refers to foreign tourists visiting a country.

Outbound Tourism: Involves residents of a country traveling abroad.

**Economic Impact:** Tourism contributes significantly to a country's economy through tourist spending, job creation, and infrastructure development.

## Environmental and Social Considerations:

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Globally, tourism accounts for approximately 8% of greenhouse-gas emissions.

**Sustainable Tourism:** Efforts are being made to promote sustainable tourism to mitigate negative effects on local communities and the environment.

**Recent Challenges:** The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted global tourism, leading to a decrease in international tourist arrivals and substantial financial losses.

In summary, tourism involves exploration, relaxation, and pleasure, while making use of commercial services provided by the travel industry

# Importance of Tourism

Tourism plays a vital role in the global economy and society. Let's explore its significance:

### **Economic Impact:**

**Revenue Generation:** Tourism contributes significantly to a country's economy. It generates revenue through tourist spending on accommodation, food, transportation, and attractions.

**Job Creation:** The tourism industry provides employment opportunities for millions of people worldwide. It supports jobs in hospitality, travel agencies, transportation, and related sectors.

**Foreign Exchange:** International tourism brings in foreign currency, which helps stabilize a country's balance of payments.

### **Cultural Exchange and Understanding:**

**Cross-Cultural Interaction:** Tourism fosters interaction between people from different backgrounds. Travelers learn about local customs, traditions, and lifestyles.

**Promoting Tolerance:** Exposure to diverse cultures promotes understanding, tolerance, and appreciation for differences.

### **Preservation of Heritage and Environment:**

**Heritage Sites:** Tourists visit historical and cultural sites, contributing to their preservation and maintenance.

**Natural Beauty:** Tourism encourages conservation of natural landscapes, as visitors appreciate and value scenic beauty.

### **Infrastructure Development:**

**Transport and Accommodation:** To cater to tourists, countries invest in better transportation networks, hotels, restaurants, and recreational facilities.

**Urban Development:** Tourism drives urban growth, leading to improved infrastructure and amenities.

### **Promotion of Local Businesses:**

**Small Enterprises:** Tourism benefits local businesses such as handicraft shops, restaurants, and tour operators.

**Community Empowerment:** Income generated from tourism can boost local communities.

### **Health and Well-Being:**

**Rejuvenation:** Travel provides an escape from daily routines, reducing stress and promoting mental well-being.

**Adventure and Recreation:** Tourists engage in outdoor activities, promoting physical health.

### **Education and Research:**

**Educational Tourism:** Students and scholars visit historical sites, museums, and universities to enhance their knowledge.

**Scientific Exploration:** Researchers study ecosystems, wildlife, and cultural phenomena.

### **Promotion of Peace and Diplomacy:**

**People-to-People Diplomacy:** Tourism fosters connections between nations, promoting peace and understanding.

In summary, tourism is not only about leisure; it's a multifaceted industry that impacts economies, cultures, and individuals worldwide.

# **7 Places to Visit in the Western region of Nepal**

## **1. Khaptad National Park**

If you want to take some break from cities hustle and bustle, Khaptad National Park is one of the best places to visit in the Far-western region of Nepal. The main attraction of this area are breathtaking green lush hilly grasslands, unique landscape, peaceful atmosphere, and the cool breeze coming from the Himalayas.

Khaptad is one of the top-rated tourist destinations in Nepal. It is situated at an elevation from 1400m -3300m (about 2.05 mi); the region covers 225 square Kilometers of area. Besides, it will offer you a mesmerizing panoramic view in the morning.

Further, wide fauna and flora, along with the chirping sounds of birds, will surely make your heart pump out loud.

## **2. Surmasarowar Lake**

The historical and therapeutic Surmasarowar Lake is located in the beautiful Bajhang district. The Lake, located at an altitude of 4300 meters, offers beautiful serene. People also find this Lake soothing and relaxing. Some also believe lake water has healing properties.

Further, the route to reach Surma Lake is also pleasing and beautiful to relax both body and soul. Besides, at the end of July, people celebrate Birijaat, an occasion where many people come to this Lake.

## **3. Api Himal Base Camp Trek**

The Api Himal is the highest mountain in the whole western region. The trek route offers amazing landscapes, real wilderness experiences, lush forests, deep blue rivers, cultural diversity, and many more. However, the trek can be quite challenging for some people; the view it offers is worth the pain.

Further, Api Himal (7,132m) base camp trek offers jaw-dropping views of Api Himal, Thado Dhunga Tappa (5,368 m), Kapchuli (6850m), Rajama (6,537 m) and many more to the trekkers. Also, you can explore rural mountain life and a mixture of Hindu-Buddhist culture on the trek.

## **4. Ramaroshan Area**

Ramaroshan area is one of the top-rated places to visit in the far-western region of Nepal, located in the Acham district. The main attractions of this place are twelve beautiful lakes, eighteen meadows, diverse flora and fauna. If you get lucky, you can witness tigers, bears and wild boars.

Further, the place has some religious beliefs too. People believe Lord Mahadev and Devi Parvati had spent some time there. Besides, the weather around the area is ever-changing due to different ecotypes.

## **5. Suklaphanta National Park**

Suklaphanta National Park is one of the beautiful open grasslands, which is the home for many swarm deer, wild elephants, tigers, rhinos, and amazing migratory birds. It lies in Far-western Terai and is one of the top-rated places to visit in the Far-western region of Nepal. Further, the national park is an attraction for many zoologists and researchers.

## **6. Badhimalika Temple**

It is one of the popular pilgrimage sites of the far-western region located in the Bajura district. Local hosts a huge fest during the month of Bhadra during Malika Chaturdashi. So, if you are planning to visit Far western, do not forget to add this temple to your bucket list.

## **7. Ghodaghodi Lake**

Ghodaghodi Lake, one of the biggest lakes, is situated in the Far-western region of Nepal. The wetland is a habitat for many wildlife and diverse vegetation. Many internal tourists visit this Lake each year. Besides, you can enjoy boating on the Lake.

# **7 Days Trip Plan to the Khaftad National Park**

## **Reach Khaptad National Park:**

By Air: Travellers can directly reach to Dhangadhi Airport in Nepal and from there they have to take a local taxi to Bajhang. From Bajhang trek starts to reach the national park.

By Bus: Buses from India also go directly to Dhangadhi, from where travellers will have to take 9 hrs to reach Bajhang. From Bajhang trek starts to reach the national park.

## **Adventure Activities at Khaptad National Park:**

### **1. Khaptad National Park Trek**

The Khaptad National Park is very popular for trekking. The Khaptad National Park Trek is a short and medium to easy trek. It starts from Dhangadhi and ends at Silgadhi.

### **2. Birdwatching**

As already mentioned before, the Khaptad national Park has a huge number of birds. It makes this park an ideal location for birdwatching. Once travelers reach the top, at the national park, they can start observing nature and the beautiful creatures it has created.

### **3. Lodging At Khaptad National Park**

There are very few lodgings available around the national park. If travelers can find a few lodges on their way, the National Park at Dipayal and Silgadhi. The lodges are not very expensive. Since Khaptad National Park is a trek, many travelers choose to camp. The guest houses and the army barrack at the park take care of the park and the visitors. They provide space and food, but if travelers are in the mood to camp, they should carry their own gear and food.

### **Planning :**

Day 1: Reach Dhangadhi

Day 2: 9 hrs. drive from Dhangadhi to Bajhang (also called Tamail)

Day 3: Start hike from Bajhang (1300 m) to Khaptad Campsite (3020 m), takes 7 hrs.

Day 4: Explore Khaptad and visit Khaptad Baba Ashram (3020 m)

Day 5: Start coming down from Khaptad Campsite (3020 m) to Bichpani Camp (2905 m), takes 5 hrs.

Day 6: Trek starts from Bichpani Camp (2905 m) to Silgadhi (1340 m), takes 5 hrs.

Day 7: After reaching the final check point drive to Dhangadhi, takes 9 hrs.

## **Other Details About Khaptad National Park**

Best Time to visit January to May, and September to December.

Permit is required, INR 63/- per person

Hotels Lodges at 320/- person

Entry INR 343/- person

-The End.

