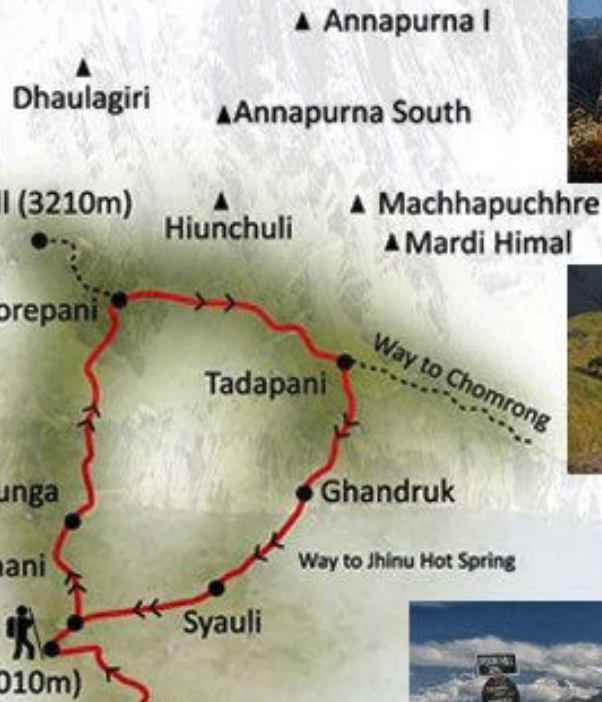




NATTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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BEAUTY OF GHOREPANI POONHILL



MEETING WITH THE OFFICIALS OF BFTD



Mr. Rezaul Ekram, the CEO of Entourage (Dhaka) and Executive Director of Bangladesh Foundation for Tourism Development visited NATTA Secretariat today, the 20th February 2015 and informed the NATTA Board about the upcoming Bangladesh International Tourism Fair 2015 and also proposed NATTA to join hands in their effort to form SAARC Tourism Forum representing private sector.

NATTA'S MEET WITH SAMARTH



President D.B. Limbu, Secretary General Mihika Dhakhwa, Treasurer Narayan Pd. Gurung Koney and CEO Prof. Dr Hari Sarmah called on the office of SAMARTH on 16th February on a goodwill mission and held discussions on various tourism related programs and plans of NATTA with Tourism Component Manager Wouter Schalken and his colleagues including Sumit Baral, Niki Shrestha and Neha Shrestha.

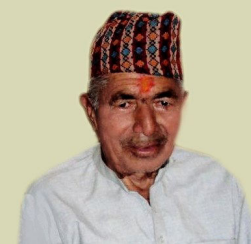
NAC OPERATES ITS NEW FLIGHT

Nepal Airlines Corporation is re-starting flights to New Delhi from 25 February, 2015 with their brand new aircraft AB 320-200. At the beginning it would be operating weekly 4 flights which will be increased to 10-14 weekly flights from 1 May 2015 once they receive the 2nd aircraft.

In the mean time, also they are operating flights to Bangkok and Hong Kong by AB 320-200 aircraft ensuring better reliability and punctuality of flights .

NAC would be offering more reliable onward connecting flight to most of the destinations to USA, Europe, Australia, Korea, Japan and other parts of the world via Delhi, Bangkok and Hong Kong.

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCE















We would like to express our deepest condolence to NATTA 1st VP Mr. Shambhu Raj Pathak on the sad demise of his father, Bhimnidhi Pathak. Our prayers are always with him and his bereaved family during this difficult moment.

May the eternal soul rest in peace.

NATTA Executive Committee

For the Month of March

	<p><u>Season's Best</u> Dalhousie Gangtok Kalimpong Mount Abu Los Angeles Seychelles Muscat Vietnam</p>	<p><u>Cruises</u> Asia Australia & New Zealand Bahamas Galapagos Islands South America</p>		<p>05</p>
	<p><u>Special Events</u> Nauchandi Mela Meerut Elephant Festival Jaipur International Yoga Festival, Rishikesh Gudi Padwa</p>		<p><u>Off Season's Special</u> Bermuda Bhutan Budapest, Hungary Greece Leh London Netherlands Shimla</p>	<p><u>Festivals</u> Las Fallas Velancia St Patrick's Day Holi India Bath Literature Fest Navroz Ugadi, Karnataka Gangaur Festival</p>
<p><u>Adventure</u> Belize Bheemeshwari Glacier Park, USA Kamshet, Maharashtra Munsiyari Rishikesh Snowy Mountains, Australia Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia</p>		<p><u>Pilgrimage</u> Ajmer Sharif, Ajmer Dharamsala Israel Yogyakarta Sarnath, UP Kanchipuram Sun Temple, Konarak Rameshwaram Dwarka</p>	<p><u>Beach</u> Havelock Island Bay of Islands, NZ Cancun, Mexico Cape Town, SA Tarkarli Gopalpur on Sea Pattaya, Thailand Visakhapatnam Jamaica</p>	
<p><u>Honeymoon</u> Bali Caribbean Cruise Fiji Islands Honolulu Manali Mauritius New Zealand</p>	<p>17</p>	<p><u>Hill Stations</u> Cameron Highlands Bhimtal Gstaad, Switzerland Helsinki, Finland Kurseong Santiago, Chile Panchgani</p>		<p><u>Luxury</u> Leela, Goa Rawla Nalrai, Udaipur Vanya Vilas, Ranthambore Rambagh, Jaipur Palace on Wheels</p>
	<p><u>Heritage</u> Belur, Karnataka Chichen Itza, Mexico Jodhpur Khajuraho Mandalay, Myanmar Hampi Tashkent, Uzbekistan Uluru, Australia Laos</p>		<p><u>Wildlife</u> Addo National Park, SA Corbett National Park Dandeli, Karnataka Kaziranga Bandhavgarh NP Lake Tahoe, USA Sunderbans Periyar, Kerala Sarawak, Malaysia</p>	
<p><u>Spa & Health</u> Udai Vilas, Udaipur Golden Palms, Bangalore Beau Rivage, Mauritius Carmelia Havens Resort, Kerala</p>		<p><u>Offbeat</u> Araku Valley Daman Yangon Pokhara Diveagar Nahan</p>		<p>31</p>



Decoration of Sri Pashupatinath Temple on the occasion of MahaShivaratri.

NEPAL, INDIA TO JOINTLY PROMOTE TOURISM

KATHMANDU: Nepal and India agreed to jointly promote the Buddhist Circuit (Sarnath-Bodhgaya-Kushinagar-Lumbini-Swayambhunath-Kankrebihar) and two other religious circuits namely, Pashupatinath-Muktinath-Gosaikunda-Varanasi-Kamakhyia-Bhubaneshwar and Janakpur-Ayodhya during the first meeting of the joint working group (on tourism) held in New Delhi today.



Artistes wearing masks of various deities perform during the Democracy Day function at Tundikhel, Kathmandu.



Nepal Army personnel performing a drill from helicopter at Tundikhel organized by the Nepal Army to mark the Army Day, coinciding with MahaShivaratri.



China celebrating the Lunar New Year - Year of Goat (or Sheep)

Both the parties agreed to sell joint packages for the Buddhist circuit in the international market by setting up joint travel marts in the international market. The 12-member team, including the private sector, led by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) Joint Secretary Umakanta Parajuli held a meeting with the team led by his Indian counterpart today. Both parties have signed a memorandum of understanding regarding joint promotion and exchange of tourism related information, according to Shreejana Rana, Senior vice president of Hotel Association Nepal.

Talking to The Himalayan Times from New Delhi, Rana said that both the countries will enhance cooperation for better promotion of tourism in each other's country. Both the parties discussed about developing common infrastructure for tourism too.

Along with Parajuli and Rana, Director General of Department of Tourism Tulasi Prasad Gautam; Member Secretary of Lumbini Development Trust Ajit Man Tamang; Ramesh Dhamala, president of Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal; DB Limbu, President of Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents, Ashok Pokhrel, chairman of Nepal Association of Tour Operators, Nandini Lahe Thapa and Ghanendra Bahadur Shrestha of Nepal Tourism Board participated in the meeting.

The meeting of the joint working group will take place every two years. Both the countries had signed a MoU to enhance cooperation on tourism on the sidelines of the 18th SAARC summit held in Kathmandu and a joint working group was formed to implement the MoU. It will be automatically extended for further periods of five years at a time, unless either of the parties wants to terminate it.

Published on The Himalayan Times and Snaps from Various Daily News

Must Try Foods in Nepal

Food definitely makes for a good story to share later. Every country has a different flavor to offer. As diverse as its nature and culture, Nepal is rich in its foods too. A multi-ethnic Nepal and every ethnic group with its own kind of food culture there are so many foods that you have to try out when in Nepal.

1. Dal-Bhat



As the saying goes “Dal-bhat power 24 hour”, it can be said as the National food of Nepal. Basically Dal which means lentils is highly proteineous and Bhat meaning rice is all carbohydrate.

2. Momo- The most popular dish in Nepal



Momo is a nepali innovation of chinese dumplings. A white-flour dough filled with, depending on people both meat and vegetables are used as fillings. Once you have got the taste it's not just momo its momos..

3. Chatamari- The Nepali pizza



Chatamari a kind of rice crepe, is the special traditional food of the newari people. The most rejoiced food in Nepal, Newari cuisine is Chatamari. Also sometimes referred as Nepali pizza, this is a must try delicacy.

4. Sel roti



Sel roti is a ring shaped, sweet Nepali dish. A doughnut like appearance, sell roti is made of rice flour and deep fried in butter and is mostly prepared during festival of Tihar,

5. Raksi



Raksi is a traditional homemade distilled alcoholic drink in Nepal and Tibet, usually made from millet, rice or maize. It is a strong, clear drink with over 45 percent of alcohol content. It was also placed in 'World's 50 most delicious drinks' by CNN.

6. Dhindo



Not exactly Polenta but something similar, Dhindo is a food that is made by boiling hot water and continuously mixing flours of maize and buckwheat. Dhindo a traditional Nepali food is widely consumed in hilly and mountain areas of Nepal, especially in dry areas where rice or wheat crops are difficult to grow.

7. Yak Cheese



Made from Yak milk, Yak-cheese is something that is loved by many Nepal travelers. Yaks are found in the Himalayan regions of Nepal and Tibet. With two major variants a softer one and other, the hard one often called Churpi.

7. Juju Dhau



A specialty of the town of bhaktapur, Juju dhau means the “King Yogurt”. Rich in taste and with thick creamy consistency.

8. Sekuwa – The Nepalese style barbecued meat



The long metal sticks that you see here are locally termed as Jhil. If you are a meat lover and you fail to try this, the god of Non Veg dishes would send you to suffer in hell.

9. Yomari – The sweet traditional bread



It is made with rice dough filled with a Nepali sweet “Chaku” made from sugar. The worst thing about it is that you can never ever get enough of it!

10. Tongba



Tongba is the perfect drink for Himalayan winters. This drink is made from fermented millet called Jaand. Traditionally it is made out of bamboo along with a bamboo straw. But, at most places you will find an aluminum container with an aluminum straw. Tongba is served with a kettle of hot water with unlimited refills.

Su Chia

Also, popularly known as Butter Tea, is a staple drink of the Tibetans. As the name suggests, its buttery, it is salty and it really fills you up. It is made from tea leaves, salt and yak butter and involves a lot of shaking. This tea is consumed in Tibet, Nepal and the Ladakh region in India. The Tibetans call it 'Po Cha' and the Ladakhi's 'Goor Goor'.

Recipe:

Boil the tea leaves in water and then add more boiling water to it. Later add salt, yak butter and milk. Fill the content in a pot called 'Dhому' and shake the tea for several minutes to mix it well. Now the tea is ready to serve.

Normally, butter tea is served in Tibetan restaurants as a welcome drink.

Eating in Kathmandu can be overwhelming. Bon Appetit !!

Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents

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