

## **Destination Updates** as on 3 September 2021

## NEPAL

With the lockdown measures being lifted in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal has been witnessing a surge in domestic tourism in the regions of Chitwan, Bnadipur, Pokhara, and Nagarkot. Hotels are seeing high occupancy in these places, especially during the weekends giving hope to the tourism industry. Hotels and visitors are following all government guidelines and protocols.

In another happy development, Sri Lankan Airlines has begun operating direct flights between Kathmandu and Colombo starting from 31 August 2021. These will operate twice a week on Tuesdays and Saturdays. This gives a boost to the tourism between the two nations and it can allow people to connect to other places where the airline operates.

The Everest Region is also open for domestic and international tourists who can visit with the basic requirements for entry into Nepal. Fully vaccinated guests need to produce their vaccination certificate and others need to provide a negative RT-PCR test. The Everest region is one of the highest vaccinated regions in the country with 99 per cent of the citizens being fully inoculated.

A variety of new hotels catering to different budgets is also coming up in different tourist areas of Nepal. Shinee Norchhok a premier boutique hotel with 16 rooms has opened its doors for tourists visiting Kathmandu city. Other hotels and resorts to look forward to include Villa Karma by Anadu Luxury Villas in Pokhara, Chitwan Midtown Resort in Chitwan, and R Shinee in Butwal all of which are poised to begin operations in late 2021. Patihani Resort a new 5 star luxury resort in Chitwan and Hotel Ashwatth a 5 star category hotel in Jhapa are hopeful of opening for tourists by early 2022.

Quarantine and protocols for foreign visitors remain unchanged. Nepal's vaccination drive is also in progress and as of now, about 4.4 million citizens have been fully immunised.

For latest figures and detailed statistics, please click here.

