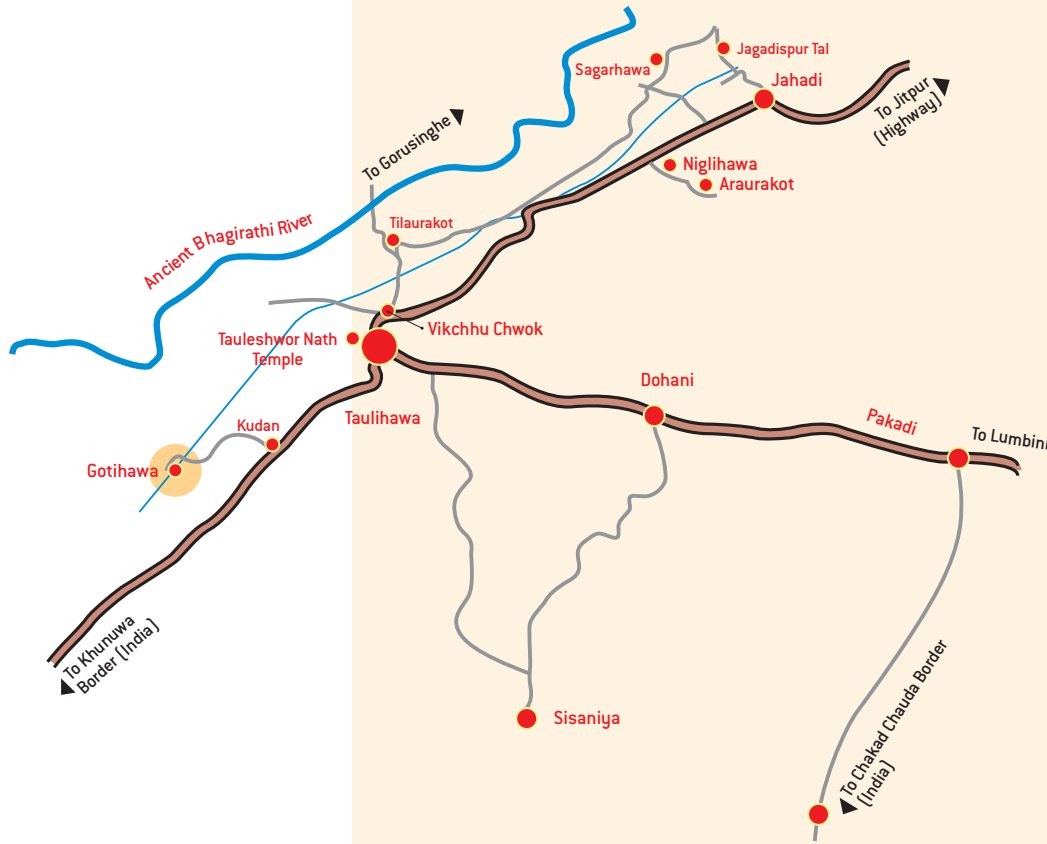




Standing image of Krakuchhanda

Travel Distance

Lumbini	→ Tilaurakot	29 km
Tilaurakot	→ Kudan	6.0km
Kudan	→ Gotihawa	3.0km
Gotihawa	→ ChoubisHajari	7.5km
Tilaurakot	→ Sagarhawa	8.0km
Sagarhawa	→ Jagadishpur	0.8km
Jagadishpur	→ Niglihawa	8.5km
Sagarhawa	→ Niglihawa	3.7km
Tilaurakot	→ Niglihawa	9.0km
Niglihawa	→ Araurakot	1.4km
Tilaurakot	→ Sisaniya	18.0km
Kudan	→ Sisaniya	10.0km
Taulihawa Bus Park	→ Kudan	1.5km
Taulihawa Bus Park	→ Tilaurakot	3.0km
Jitpur	→ Tilaurakot	23.3km
Taulihawa	→ Goringhe	14.0km
CDO Chowk	→ Dohani	4.7km
Dohani	→ Sisaniya	8.2km
Dohani	→ Lumbini	17.4km



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GOTIHAWA

The Birthplace of Kakruchhanda Buddha



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation

Lumbini Development Trust

Sacred Garden, Lumbini, Nepal | www.lumbinidevtrust.gov.np

Introduction

Located about 8km southwest of Taulihawa, Gotihawa is identified with the holy place where Krakuchhanda Buddha was born, attained enlightenment and met his father after his enlightenment.

Gotihawa is an important historic, archeological as well as religious site of Buddhist world. Emperor Asoka visited the site in 249 BC, erected the stone Pillar and built a big stupa, dedicating to the Krakuchhanda Buddha. The inscription bearing upper portion of the pillar is broken off long ago, and is still missing.

The area outside modern Gotihawa village is covered with ancient potteries, brick structures of stupas and monasteries. Although, human activities of 10th/9th century BC have been traced, the site of Gotihawa is believed to have started developing from 6th century BC.

Significant Monuments, Sites and Attractions of Gotihawa

Following monuments are of great religious, archaeological and historic value in Gotihawa:



The Stupa

The Stupa: The Stupa was built by the Emperor Asoka to pay reverence to Krakuchhanda Buddha in 3rd century BC. It is estimated that the enlargement of the stupa was carried out in Saka and Kushana period (end of 1st century BC to the 2-3 century AD).

Researcher Dr. L.A. Waddell cut a trench on the mound of the ruins and found the stupa that had a diameter of 22 m with a Pradakshinapatha (circumambulatory path) around it. The Nepalese and Italian joint excavation team excavated this site in 1993 and yielded the remains of human activities from 10th/9th century BC to 3rd or 4th century AD.



Asoka Pillar

The Asoka Pillar: The Asoka Pillar was erected by Emperor Asoka in Gotihawa in 249 BC to commemorate his visit to the birth spot of Krakuchhanda Buddha and to pay reverence to the Buddha. Standing in-situ on the original masonry basement foundation, existing pillar is 3.25 m high, has a diameter of 83/79 cm. and has lost its upper parts.

Prominent Chinese travelers Fa-hsien (399 -413 AD) and Hiuen Tsang (636 AD), in their travel accounts, mentions that Asoka pillar of Gotihawa, bearing a lion capital, was erected by Emperor Asoka to mark the birthplace of Krakuchhanda Buddha.

At the center of the present Gotihawa village there is an ancient well, which is still used

by the villagers and in the south there lies an ancient water tank (pond). Recently, locals have established a stone image of Kakruchhanda Buddha.

Important Sites Around Gotihawa

Other important Buddhist heritage sites around Gotihawa in the Ancient Kapilavastu include the followings:

- Tilaurakot:** The capital city of the Ancient Kapilavastu and home town of Prince Siddhartha.
- Kudan:** Where Lord Sakyamuni Buddha met King Sudhodhana the first time after returning from enlightenment.
- Niglihawa:** The birthplace of Kanakamuni Buddha.
- Araurakot:** The Natal town of Kanakamuni Buddha.
- Sagarhawa:** The massacre site of the Sakyas.
- Sisaniya:** An important archaeological mound, believed to have had an ancient stupa and a Sangharama built by the Sakyas.

Beautiful Jagadisapur Irrigation Canal that passes through the Gotihawa village is an added attraction to the visitors. Visitors while passing through the canal to Tilaurakot can observe thousands of residential and migratory birds. Major religious sites worth to visit around Gotihawa include Tauleshwor Nath temple, Ramghat temple, Laxmanghat temple, Kapiladham etc.



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