



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.km
Taulihawa Bus Park → Kudan.....	1.5km
Taulihawa Bus Park → Tilaurakot	3.0km
Jitpur → Tilaurakot	23.3km
Taulihawa → Gorusinghe	14.0km
CDO Chowk → Dohani	4.7km
Dohani → Sisaniya.....	8.2km
Dohani → Lumbini.....	17.4km

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ARAURAKOT

The Natal Town of Kanakamuni Buddha



Government of Nepal
 Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation

Lumbini Development Trust

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



The Site of Ancient Moat & Brick Fortification

Introduction

Located to the 1.4km east of Niglihawa and about 10 km northeast of Taulihawa, Araurakot is identified as the Natal Town of Kanakamuni Buddha where he lived, grew up, and spent his married life. It used to be a walled forest in ancient times. It is a large rectangular fortified area with the remains of ancient moat and brick fortifications.

A massive fortification wall has enclosed a large rectangular piece of ruined area. The wall seems to have been built in the ancient times as bricks and antiquities dating to historical times are seen scattered on the surface. Very little has been done to excavate the details of this site.

A UNESCO led joint geophysical survey of LDT, DoA, and Durham University, UK under JaFIT project in 2015 unveiled many huge structural ruins underneath the citadel.

Important Sites Around Araurakot

Niglihawa: Niglihawa is identified as the holy place where Kanakamuni Buddha was born. It is a significant



Ashoka Pillar, Niglihawa



archeological site situated about 7 km northeast of Taulihawa, where, close to a large pond lie the remains of a broken Asoka Pillar. Emperor Asoka visited the site in 249 BC and erected the stone pillar with an inscription to attest the birthplace of the Kanakamuni Buddha.

The Nepalese-Italian joint archaeological team (1996-1997) has identified nine archaeological sites including Niglihawa and Araurakot in this area. Other important sites include Thumwa, Semari, Thagi Baba Ki Dadi, Derwa, Gobari, Shivapura, and Banduli.

Important Buddhist heritage sites around Araurakot in the Ancient Kapilavastu include the followings:

- a. **Tilaurakot:** The capital city of the Ancient Kapilavastu and home town of Prince Siddhartha.



The Western Gate, Tilaurakot

- b. **Kudan:** Where Lord Sakyamuni Buddha met King Suddhodhana the first time after returning from enlightenment.
- c. **Gotihawa:** The birthplace of Kakruchhanda Buddha.
- d. **Sagarhawa:** The massacre site of the Sakyas.
- e. **Sisaniya:** An important archaeological mound, believed to have had an ancient stupa and a Sangharama built by the Sakyas.

Major cultural villages worth to visit in and around Araurakot includes Tilauri village, Nigali village, Jagadisapur Tharu village, Herdewa village, Shivpur village, Nigali village, Bikuli Kot etc.

Other popular religious and sacred sites include Touleshwor Nath Teemle, Ram Ghat, Laxman Ghat-Bolbom Dham, Samay Mai, Bikuli Kot, Dohani Kot, Darkhaswa (about 1.5km south from Sagarhawa), Chetra Dehi ((about 4km northwest from Taulihawa) etc.

अरौराकोट

अरौराकोट कनकमुनि बुद्धको जन्मस्थल, बाल्यकाल तथा वैवाहिक जीवन विताइएको ठाउँको रूपमा परिचित छ । आयताकार एवम् चौडा यस पुरातात्विक एवम् धार्मिक महत्वको क्षेत्रलाई प्राचिन कालका ईटा प्रयोग गरी बनाइएको किल्ला पर्खालले घेरेको छ । यस क्षेत्रको बारेमा निकै थोरै मात्र उत्खनन् तथा अन्वेषण भएका छन् । पुरातत्वविद् तारानन्द मिश्रले सन् १९७७ मा यस क्षेत्रको अन्वेषण गरी अरौराकोट कनकमुनि बुद्धको जन्मथलो हुन सक्ने र निग्लिहवामा रहेको अशोक स्तम्भको जग (Basement) यहाँ हुन सक्ने संकेत गरेका छन् । पछिल्ला Geo-physical Survey हरूले अरौराकोटको जमीनमुनि प्राचीन भवनका ठुला भग्नावशेषहरू रहेको देखाएका छन् ।