

4. **Sagarhawa:** The massacre site of the Sakyas.
5. **Araurakot:** The natal town of Kanakamuni Buddha.
6. **Sisaniya:** The industrial city of the ancient Sakyas.

Visitor can also pay a visit to the Kapilavastu museum while in Tilaurakot.

A must-see site while staying in Jagadihspur home-stay is Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Sakyamuni Buddha, about 30km to the east, on the way to Gautam Buddha Airport, Bhairahawa.

### Home-stay Menu

(prices are subject to change by the committee)

Plain Rice, Lentils with Curry ... Rs. 120  
Rice, Lentils and Curry with Meat ... Rs. 250  
Room (with two beds) ... Rs. 400  
Single Bed ... Rs. 200  
Tharu Ghongi ... Rs. 50/plate  
Dhakeri ... Rs. 50/set  
Chicher ... Rs. 50/plate  
Sohina ... Rs. 50/plate  
Tea ... Rs. 15/cup  
Tharu Cultural Dance/Music ... Rs. 2500/3 dance items

### Getting There

Jagadishpur can be reached via Tilaurakot (approx. 10km) or directly via Jitpur (approx. 13km) or Bangai (approx. 10km) on the East-west Highway. Visitors are advised to have their own vehicle although there are basic public transport facilities available in the area. Bhairahawa, Lumbini, Taulihawa, Jitpur and Bangai can be reached easily by using the standard bus services offered by numerous public transport service operators. Local public transport facilities are also available in Bhairahawa-Lumbini-Taulihawa and Jitpur-Jahadi-Taulihawa routes.

Jagadishpur home-stay is about 10km from Jitpur via Jahadi, about 12km from Tilaurakot via Niglihawa and about 10km from Tilaurakot via Sagarhawa through the Buddha Road.



### Travel Distance

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

Please Contact for Further Details

#### JAGADISHPUR JALASHAYA THARU HOME-STAY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jagadishpur, Kapilvastu, Nepal

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**Note:** Jagadishpur Jalasaya Tharu Home-stay was established, developed and promoted by Jagadishpur Reservoir Management Multi-Stakeholders Forum with technical and financial support from IUCN/Wetlands for Our Future Project.

# JAGADISHPUR JALASAYA THARU HOME-STAY

Visiting the Indigenous Tharu Cultures and Country's Largest Human Made Reservoir at the Home Town of Lord Sakyamuni Buddha



### Jagadishpur Jalasaya Tharu Home-stay

Jagadishpur, Kapilavastu, Nepal



Government of Nepal  
Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation  
**Lumbini Development Trust**

Sacred Garden, Lumbini, Nepal | [www.lumbinidevtrust.gov.np](http://www.lumbinidevtrust.gov.np)







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## Introduction

Jagadishpur Jhalasaya Tharu Home-stay is situated on the bank of Nepal's largest man made reservoir, Jagadishpur Tal, about 10 km north of Tilaurakot in Kapilavastu district.

The indigenous Tharu communities residing in the Jagadishpur Tal area, who

substantially claim to be the descendants of the ancient Sakyas are also the custodians of many ancient Buddhist heritage sites including Tilaurakot, Niglihawa, Sagarhawa etc. In recent days, these Tharu people are also preserving and promoting the country's largest man made reservoir, The Jagadishpur Tal (listed as a RAMSAR site) making it a suitable habitat for many residential and migratory birds. Jagadishpur Tharu Home-stay is an effort of these local people to offer basic but unique accommodation facilities and cultural experiences to the visitors who come to Jagadishpur reservoir and Buddhist heritage sites.

### Home-stay at Jagadishpur Tharu Village

- Jagadishpur Tharu village is the first community based home-stay in the ancient Kapilavastu, the hometown of Lord Sakyamuni Buddha.
- 13 Tharu houses have developed basic home-stay facilities, that basically include clean accommodation facilities (currently 26 beds), typical Tharu food and Tharu cultural experiences.
- Visitors are treated as guests and are

offered opportunity to have first-hand experience of the age-old cultures and hospitality of the people who claim themselves as progenies of the ancient Sakya clan.

- Visitors may have opportunities to experience many festivals as well as rites and rituals that are observed through the lives of local Tharu people during their stay in the village.
- Stick dance and Dandiya Dance are performed upon request by the visitors in the evening.

### Home-stay Tour Packages and Activities

- Jagadishpur Jhalasaya Tharu Home-stay offers a unique tourism experience combining cultural, natural and Buddhist heritage experiences in a single visit.
- All accommodations and meals are offered in the typical Tharu homes on a rotational basis. Each host family provides clean bed, toilet and a family dining room.
- The hosts welcome and bid farewell to the visitors by offering Tika, garland or a bouquet of flowers.
- Visitors may choose activities of their preference upon arrival in the village. The activities that are currently offered by the home-stays in the village include the followings:



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#### i. Cultural Experiences

Major cultural activities include the followings:

- Staying at the typical Tharu village and enjoying local organic food and beverages including typical Tharu dishes such as Dhakeri, Chicher, Sohina, Ghongi etc.
- Cycling or walking through the Jagadishpur Tharu village and other typical rural villages such as Jahadi, Nigali, Tilauri, Shivpur, Harnampur etc.
- Observing the local craftsmanship of Tharu women. This includes local Muchh and fiber made Dhikri, mat etc.
- Observing the traditional fishing practices of Tharu men in the local ponds, irrigation canals and Banganga (ancient Bhagirathi) river near the villages.
- Observing and participating the traditional Tharu cultural dance in the evening.
- Visiting other popular religious sites such as Tauleshwor Nath Temple, Ram Ghat, Laxman Ghat-Bolbom Dham, Samay Mai, Patthar Kot etc.
- Enjoying day sightseeing tour to either Supa Deurali in Arghakhanchi district or Shivagadhi Temple in Kapilavastu-Dang district border. You may hire a private vehicle or use one of the local transportation facilities to complete this tour.

#### ii. Natural Experiences

Major natural activities include the followings:

- Bird watching at the country's largest man made reservoir Jagadishpur Tal, which is the home for about 169 species of birds, 11 of them are rare.
- Evening and morning eco-walks in the 5km long wilderness path built along the reservoir.
- Spending leisure time sitting at the bank of the reservoir or watching the tranquil lake water and birds from the view tower.
- Guided jungle walk to Tilaurakot Sajhedhari forest and ancient Bhagirathi river (Banganga river).
- Fishing and swimming in the Banganga river.
- Recreational fishing and boating opportunities in the reservoir (to be in operation soon).
- Day hiking and trekking to Churia Hill through KapilDham and Shringi Ashram.

Jagadishpur reservoir is the largest man made reservoir in Nepal and inlisted in the list of Wetlands of International Importance, known as RAMSAR site in 2003. It is spread over 225 hectares with 157 hectares covered by water surface. Maximum depth of lake is 5 meters in south-west with average depth of 3 meters. It has a capacity to hold 47,500,000 cubic



liters of water. Apart from being a natural habitat to the indigenous ones, the lake lies on the flight path of migratory birds from Siberia, Russia, China, Mongolia, Central Asia, Turkmenistan and Kirgizstan. It is also a home to 9 species of turtles, 25 species of snakes, 23 species of mammals, 39 to 47 species of fish and 14 species of lizards. The lake irrigates 6350 hectares of surrounding agricultural field benefitting more than 6700 households.

#### iii. Spiritual Experiences-Visit to Buddhist Heritage Sites

One of the unique features of this home-stay which sets it apart from other home-stays in Nepal is that visitors while enjoying the ethnic hospitality of Tharu people and eco-tourism experience at the reservoir can also visit many sacred Buddhist heritage sites including Tilaurakot, the capital city of the ancient Sakya Kingdom and Hometown of Lord Sakyamuni Buddha.

Important Buddhist heritage sites in the area include the followings:

1. **Kudan:** The ancient Nyigrodharama where Lord Sakyamuni Buddha met King Suddhodhana for the first time after the enlightenment.
2. **Gotihawa:** The birthplace of Krakuchhanda Buddha.
3. **Niglihawa:** The birthplace of Kanakamuni Buddha.

