

## Nepal celebrates welcoming over one million int'l arrivals in 2024

- A Monitor Desk Report

Date: 05 December, 2024



Dhaka: Nepal marks significant growth in international tourism this year by welcoming over one million international visitors arriving by air between January and November 2024.

According to official statistics, India remains the largest contributor, with 293,231 Indian nationals visiting the Himalayan country, a 2.1 per cent increase from 2023, when 287,244 Indian travellers arrived.

The boost underscores Nepal's expanding appeal as a top destination for international tourists in South Asia. Total international arrivals for November rose by 5.4 per cent, bringing in 114,000 visitors.

While India continues to be a major source of tourists, Nepal is diversifying its tourism market. The number of visitors from countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia has

steadily increased, reflecting the country's growing international appeal.

To maintain this upward trajectory, Nepal is investing heavily in both sustainable tourism practices and improved infrastructure. Upgrades to airports, better transportation links and expanded visitor facilities in popular destinations are helping provide a more comfortable and efficient travel experience. At the same time, Nepal is promoting eco-friendly tourism initiatives to minimise environmental impact while preserving the country's natural beauty for future generations.

Alongside traditional adventure tourism, Nepal is also tapping into emerging markets such as wellness tourism and cultural tourism. The growing popularity of yoga retreats, meditation centres and visits to UNESCO World Heritage Sites provides new avenues for travellers.

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