

Scenes from Swayambhunath

Description:

This video shows the famous Swayambhunath *stupa*. It is one of the most important pilgrimage sites for both Hindus and Buddhists in Nepal and all over the world. In Nepali, “*swayambhu*” means “self-manifested.” The main *stupa* is believed to have been manifested in its own.

In the video, we can see the main *stupa* (the white structure with a round base) in the beginning. Then we move on to the surrounding temples near the main *stupa*. Even though the *stupa* itself has Buddha’s eyes and eyebrows, we can find temples of many Hindu Gods and Goddesses in the surrounding areas. It is also called the “Monkey Temple” because the temple is a home to many monkeys. In Hindu mythology, monkeys are considered reincarnation of God Hanuman, so many pilgrims offer them food and snacks.

Swayambhunath is situated atop a hill and we can see a breathtaking view of the whole Kathmandu valley from the temple. There are many other attractions in the temple, like the wishing pond with Buddha’s statue in the middle that is also shown in the video. The temple area is surrounded by prayer flags everywhere and the atmosphere is very colorful. As is apparent from the video, Swayambhunath is a very popular site among both domestic and international tourists.

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