

Patan Museum

The Patan Museum was inaugurated in 1997 by Late King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah. The museum quadrangle, known as *Keshav Narayan Chowk*, takes its name from the temple in the center of the main courtyard and is best known for its beautiful facade framing the Golden door and window. This and two adjacent palace courtyards have it long and important history as a palace of the Malla kings of Patan.

The Patan Museum displays the traditional sacred arts of Nepal in an illustrious architectural setting. Its home is and old residential court of Patan Darbar, one of the royal palaces of former Malla Kings of the Kathmandu Valley. Its gilded door and window face one of the most beautiful squares in the world.

The Museum's exhibits cover along span of Nepal's cultural history and some rare objects are among its treasures. Their meaning and context within the living traditions of Hinduism and Buddhism are explained. Most of the objects are cast bronzes and gilt copper repousse work, traditional crafts for which Patan is famous.

Mary S. Slusser, the eminent cultural historian, created the innovative spatial and educational design of the exhibition, choosing 200 objects from the existing collection of 1500 pieces and providing the scholarly identification, dating, and description of each object. The Smithsonian Institution generously provided additional expertise in conservation and exhibition design. The main galleries are devoted to Hindu and Buddhist Sculptures of Nepal, many of which were created in the nearby workshops of this city, a centre of metal craft for the region. The techniques of "**lost wax**" metal casting and "**repousse**" are explained in the Technology Gallery.

As Patan is known for its Buddhist architecture, a special section focuses on ancient Buddhist monuments known as *chaityas* or *stupas*, using models, drawings and photographs as well as devotional objects. In addition, there is a fascinating collection of historic views, documenting the Kathmandu Valley a century ago.

Location of Patan Museum

Patan is one of the sub-metropolitan cities of Nepal located in the south-western part of Kathmandu valley. It is located about 5 km south from Kathmandu. The southern side of the Bagmati River, Patan is one of 3 royal cities in the valley. It is best known for its rich cultural heritage, and city of Fine Art. It is also called as city of festival and feast, fine ancient art, making of metallic, wood and stone carving statue. Patan Museum is located heart of the city at Patan Darbar Square complex.

Visitor Information

Patan Museum is seven days open museum in Nepal.

Opening hours

Ticketing hours

08.00 AM to 06.30 PM

Museum hours

08.00 AM to 06.30 PM

Winter season

Ticketing hours

08.30 AM to 05.30 PM

Museum hours

08.30 AM to 05.30 PM

Entrance fees for Visitors

Foreign visitors Rs. 1000.00 (Including Patan City Entrance)

SARRC visitors Rs. 250.00 (Including Patan City Entrance)

Nepalese visitors Rs 30.00

Nepalese Students Rs. 15.00

Facilities

Guest Studio

Guest Studio for foreign scholars and artists

Courtyard

The courtyard area may also be booked for special evening functions for classical dance or music, for receptions, banquets, theatre, etc.

Gift Shop

The museum is also home to a fine museum gift shop selling unique handicrafts of the valley and museum reproductions.

Café

Patan Museum Café is located at garden to the rear of the museum has been adapted to incorporate a pleasant resting place and The Patan Museum Cafe run by the Summit Hotel, Kathmandu. The Patan Museum Cafe has been crafted to complement the superb period ambience achieved by the architects and builders of the Museum itself. Located in the inner courtyard of the Keshav Narayan Chowk in Patan Durbar, the cafe will offer a mix of traditional and western delicacies and light meals in a setting unparalleled in the Kathmandu valley.

Temporary Exhibitions gallery and Seminar hall

The Temporary gallery for Exhibitions, rooms for workshops and lecture

Publication

Guide book of Patan Museum

Patan Museum Guide Book

Patan Museum, Nepal 2002

207 pages, Colour and black and white

Illustrations, line drawing

ISBN 99933-203-1-5

Price Rs. 1000.00

The book serves as a very useful didactic tool for the visitors introductions Chapters present a brief but clear background to the Nepalese Cultural which produced these objects and the chapter on the history of the palace in which the museum is housed shows the marvelous and Transformation of this venerable building.

The bulk of the guide is made up entries explaining the individual highlight the collection. These are divided into main section on Hindusim and Buddhism. In line with division of the galleries and each section is preceded by brief description of the religion. Photographs are beautifully reproduced, with many of the important object in full colour, and the balance in pleasing sepia toned black and white.

PATAN MUSEUM

The Transformation of a Royal Palace in Nepal

Hardcover & Soft cover

Publisher: Art Media Resources; illustrated edition

144 pages

Price Rs. 3000.00 soft cover

The Patan Museum, a former palace of the late Malla dynasty of the Kathmandu Valley, was restored and adapted over a period of 15 years and completed in 1997 with professional and financial assistance from the Austrian Government. Set in one of the world's most beautiful squares, it was conceived not only to display a collection of artifacts as a showcase for the cultural legacy of Nepal but also to celebrate the Malla-period palace itself.

Götz Hagmüller, who directed the palace's transformation into a state-of-the-art museum, presents this process in narrative essays of exploration and discovery. From the outset, his intention was to create a museum within the cultural context of its collection as an integrated aesthetic whole. This synthesis of art and setting, emphasized by the project's main curator and cultural adviser Mary Shephard Slusser, has resulted in one of South Asia's most attractive museums.

Posters / Post Card { Photo}

Poster and Post card are available on gift shop

Research

The Collection of Art and Museum books at Patan Museum Reference Library