

Indian Excursion Program at Sikkim

DAY 01: BAGDOGRA – YUKSOM (1785m, Drive/6-7 hrs)

Arrive in Bagdogra and from here set out on the road trip to Yuksom. Yuksom is a small town and was the former capital of Sikkim. Yuksom marks the entrance to the Kangchenjunga National park. Evening explore Yuksom. Overnight in a hotel.

DAY 02: YUKSOM – BAKHIM (2750m, Trek/5-6 hrs)

The trail from Yuksom starts at the local market and follows main road towards the north. The trail climbs gently out of the valley and hugs the right bank of the Ratong Chu river, which can be heard thundering through the gorge below. We have lunch by the Prek Chu river. The trail crosses over four bridges to climb steeply towards north-west to the small settlement of Bakhim. Overnight in tents.

DAY 03: BAKHIM – DZONGRI (4030m, Trek/7 hrs)

It's a long walk today. The trail passes through the picturesque village of Tshokh, a refugee settlement of Tibetans. There's a small monastery and a lake here. We get a good view of the Pandim (6691m) from here. Continues climbing north through the forest of rhododendron to reach Phidang (3650 m) taking around 3 hrs to complete the ascent. From here also it's a steep ascend towards the open grazing meadows of Dzongri. On arrival set campsite for overnight stay. Overnight in tents.

DAY 04: DZONGRI - REST/EXPLORATION DAY

The day is for rest and acclimatization. On this day one can savour views of the mountain peaks by climbing up to Dzongri Top that will assist in acclimatization also. From the top there's a panoramic view of Kabru (7353 m), Ratong (6678m), Kanchenjunga (8534 m), Kaktang (6147 m), Pandim (6691 m) and Narsing (5825 m). Towards the west, the Singalila Ridge, which separates Sikkim from Nepal, can be seen. Overnight in tents.

DAY 05: DZONGRI – THANGSING (3800m, Trek/4-5 hrs)

We walk up to a ridge which affords good views across Sikkim. From here the path drops into the valley and then crosses the bridge over the Prek Chu river. It's an hour climb from the bridge to Thangsing (3800 m) located on the slopes of Mt Pandim. Overnight in tents.

DAY 06: THANGSING – SAMITI LAKE (4200m, Trek/3-4 hrs)

The trail from Thangsing to the lake will take about a couple of hours and climbs gently through alpine meadows following Prek Chu river. About an hour above Thangsiing we reach terminal moraines of the Onglathang glacier having a nice view of the south face of Kanchenjunga. The trail then skirts through a series of glacial moraines before crossing over meadows again, and arrives at the emerald lake at Samiti. It's a beautiful lake with emerald green water. Overnight in tents.

DAY 07: SAMITI LAKE – GOECHA LA (4986m) - THANGSING (3800m, Trek/8-10 hrs)

We set out towards the pass early in the morning. We climb the hill behind the lake, before traversing the moraine to descend to the sandy bed of an empty lake. This area is called the Chemithang Plateau. From here we ascend through moraine to reach a frozen lake. The Goecha La Pass is an hour away from here. The Pass is marked by brightly coloured prayer flags. There are stupendous views of the east flank of Kangchenjunga as well as mountains and valleys in the distance. Capture the sights in your camera and head back to the camp at Thangsiing. Overnight in tents.

DAY 08: THANGSING – TSOKHA (3050m, Trek/7-8 hrs)

It's another long day of walking. We take a different route from here to get down to the Prek Chu bypassing the Dzongri plateau and meet the original trail at Phedong. From here we get into the rhododendron and magnolia forests and descend to Tshoka. Overnight in tents.

DAY 09: TSOKHA – YUKSOM (1785m, Trek/5-6 hrs)

Retrace steps towards Yuksom on the final day of the trek. The going is easier as the path is mainly downhill. At Yuksom, we check into the hotel and enjoy a hot shower. Overnight in a hotel.

DAY 10: YUKSOM – BAGDOGRA (Drive/6-7 hrs)

After breakfast we drive for about 4 hrs to reach Bagdogra from where we catch a flight for New Delhi. Trip ends here

COST OF THE TRIP

Contact us for the price.

TREK TARIFF INCLUDES

- Accommodation in a hotel in Yuksom on single/double occupancy basis for 2 nights.
- High quality Camping arrangements
We believe that roughing it out necessarily doesn't mean sleeping in smelly sleeping bags, compromising on safety by using low quality equipment and having unappetising meals. We focus on your safety, basic comforts and the environment while camping. Keeping this in mind, the following equipment is provided on the trek:
 - 3/4 season Mountain Hardwear (www.mountainhardwear.com) or similar imported alpine tents
 - Fresh and clean Sleeping bags of very good quality
 - Imported Inflatable Camping Mattresses as against traditional foam mattresses
 - Camping stools
 - Mess Tent
 - Toilet tent with portable toilet seats
 - First Aid / Medical kit
- 2 guides for the group. This will ensure high safety and more information and personal attention which are necessary to appreciate a trek. All our guides are professionally trained and have many years of relevant experience in guiding treks.
- All meals starting from dinner on Day 1 till breakfast on Day 10. A lot of emphasis is given to nutritional needs and a menu of vegetarian dishes is prepared accordingly.
- Porter/mule charges for carrying camping equipment & rations
- Forest entry charges, permits & camping fee for the trek
- First aid kit (our guides are certified in handling first aid situations)

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Service Tax (@3.09%)
- Porter/mule charges to carry your personal bag
- Any meals/services not mentioned above
- Any charges for video cameras, still cameras, etc.
- Alcohol, soft drinks, beverages, etc.

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- Personal expenses like tips, telephone calls, laundry, etc.
- Any costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances like landslides, road blocks, bad weather, etc.
- Insurance

OTHER OPTIONAL CHARGES

Charges for a porter/mule to carry personal bag throughout the trek (not more than 10 kgs): Rs. 2000 per bag