

Kanchengdzonga "WhiteMagic"

Trip Facts

Duration: 14 days

Trip Destination: Kanchendzonga / Sikkim

Trip Start & End Point: Gangtok / Darjeeling

Duration of Trip: 14 Days

Group Size: 2 Persons or Above

Accommodation: Hotel

Tour Type: Private Service

Maximum Altitude: 4200 m

Transportation & Drive Hours: Private Vehicle (approx. 4 to 5 hrs)

Trip Grade: Difficult

Best Season: March through November

Highlighted Places: Gangtok- Kanchendzong Base Camp - Darjeeling

This itinerary is built around a strenuous trek that takes you to Dzongri 4200 mtrs. which offers a magnificent view of Mt. Kangchengdzonga (8345 mtrs.), the third highest mountain in the world and also one of the most majestic peaks. The trek begins through dense sub-tropical forests and passes vast pasture lands to finally reach the alpine region where the only vegetation are Rhododendron shrubs rising a few inches above the ground. The day temperature could rise to a maximum of 20°C during trek while the minimum temperature could hover around zero.

The tour portion in Sikkim offers an opportunity to explore and experience the rich cultural and natural heritage of the region.

Darjeeling-“The Queen of the Himalayas” is a bustling tourist town renowned for its tea gardens, the Himalayan mountaineering Institute, the sunrise over the Himalayas from the Tiger Hill and imprints of the British Raj.

Day to Day Itinerary

Day 1: Bagdogra/Bhadrapur - Gangtok

Walking hr: - | **Accommodation:** - | **Meal:** -

Distance: 124 km / 184 km | Time: 4 hrs / 6 hrs (approx.) Meet assist at the airport and drive along the Teesta valley to the Sikkim border at Rangpo and onto Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim. Under the majestic Mt. Khangchendzonga, the guardian deity of Sikkim and the third highest mountain in the world, Gangtok is a happy blend of the traditional and the modern. Overnight hotel.

Day 2: Day excursion to Tsomgo Lake.

Distance: 70 km | Time: 5 hrs Located east of Gangtok at an altitude of 3650 mtrs. The Tsomgo Lake is a typically beautiful mountain lake just 15 kms from the Indo - Tibet border. The journey to the lake offers a magnificent view of Mt. Khangchendzonga and other peaks of Sikkim Himalayas. Overnight hotel.

Day 3: Drive Gangtok – Rumtek - Rabong

Distance: 98 km | Time: 4 hrs (approx.) After breakfast visit the Enchey Monastery. This century old monastery perched on a hillock overlooking the city follows the Nyingmapa sect and is the main monastery in Gangtok. Also visit the Government Institute of Cottage Industry: This centre offers you the opportunity to observe the local artisans at work and their skills being imparted to young boys and girls. If you want to take back souvenirs, the institute's salesroom is well stocked with local handicraft and handloom products. Flower Show Pavilion: Situated on the ridge above the city, this centre displays the floral diversity of Sikkim. The famed orchids of the state are on display as also a stunning variety of seasonal flowers. Overnight Hotel. Enroute to Rabong visit Do-Drul Chorten : One of the most important Stupa of Sikkim built by the late Venerable Trulsi Rimpoche in 1945-46, it contains a mandala of Dorji-Phurpa, holy texts, mantras and is encircled by 108 prayer wheels. Namgyal Institute of Tibetology: Situated close to the Chorten, this institute is a repository of the largest collection of Tibetan artifacts outside Tibet. Also renowned worldwide for the study of Buddhist philosophy and religion, it is a treasure house of rare Thankas, Buddhist icon and objects of art. Rumtek Monastery: a magnificent monastery built by the late Gyalwa Karmapa, the head of the Kagyu sect, as an exact replica of the original Kagyu monastery in Tibet. It is also the international headquarters of the Karma Kagyu centres. On arrival at Rabong check in at Mt. Narsing Village Resort, an ideal place to experience the peace and tranquility of the Sikkimese countryside coupled with the warmth of the typical Sikkimese hospitality. A couple of hours of hike into the nearby villages will help you loosen up for the tough trek ahead. Overnight Mt Narsing Village Resort.

Day 4: Rabong – Village hike.

A day in Rabong to hike into the villages. A good way to loosen up for the trek and also experience the cultural and natural heritage of Sikkim in a rural setting. Overnight Mt Narsing Village Resort.

Day 5: Drive Rabong-Yuksom

Distance: 58 km | Time: 2 ½ hrs (approx.) Enroute visit Tashiding monastery (10 mins uphill walk), the most sacred monastery in Sikkim and considered the heart of “Beyul Dremajong”, Sikkim-the hidden sacred land.

On arrival at Yuksom check in to your hotel and after lunch can visit Dubdi Monastery, the oldest monastery in Sikkim built by Gyalwa Lhatsun Chenpo, the revered Buddhist monk who introduced Buddhism in Sikkim in 1641 AD or stroll around the tranquil Karthok Lake. Overnight Hotel.

Day 6: Trek Yuksom to Sachen

Distance: 8 km | Time: 3 ½ hrs (approx.) After breakfast, we start our trek through dense forests and mountain streams. The trail is undulating with a very gentle rise in altitude till Sachen, a place where grazers sometimes stay. Overnight stay in Tents.

Day 7: Sachen to Tsokha

Distance: 4 km | Time: 3 hrs (approx.) The trail passes through Bakhim, a good place for bird watching. After Bakhim is a steep uphill climb till Tsokha. Overnight camp at Tsokha.

Day 8: Trek Tshoka - Dzongri

Distance: 9 km | Time: 3 hrs (approx.) A steep climb through fascinating rhododendron forests. The magnificent view of Mt. Kangchendzonga and Mt. Pandim can be witnessed all through the route. Overnight stay in a Trekkers huts/Tents.

Day 9: Dzongri

A day return excursion to Dzongri Pass along a route through towering white peaks. Also a day for acclimatization. Overnight Camp.

Day 10: Trek Dzongri – Bakhim

Time: 3 ½ hrs Trek...it is a downhill trek to Tsokha where we camp or stay in a small lodge.

Day 11: Trek Bakhim - Yuksom

Time: 4 hrs Retrace your steps back to Yuksom. The trek is mainly downhill. Overnight Hotel or similar.

Day 12: Drive Yuksom – Darjeeling

Distance: 135 km | Time: 5 hrs (approx.) After breakfast drive to Darjeeling. The drive passes through typical Sikkimese villages and after crossing the Rangeet valley, it is a steep drive through tea gardens of Darjeeling. On arrival check in the hotel. Afternoon free to explore the markets. Overnight hotel.

Day 13: Darjeeling - sightseeing

We start with an early morning drive to Tiger Hill to for a singular experience of the first rays of the sun bathing the Himalayas. On the return visit the Ghoom Monastery. Built in 1875 the monastery which follows the Gelugpa sect, houses one of the largest statue of the Maitreya Buddha-“the future Buddha”. After breakfast visit The Himalayan Zoo which houses the Himalayan fauna like the Red Panda, black bear, yaks, tigers, snow leopard etc. in their natural habitat, and the adjacent Himalayan Mountaineering Institute - a premier training centre for mountaineers and a museum detailing the ascent of the Mt. Everest by Tenzing Sherpa & Sir Edmund Hillary and numerous other expeditions. Also visit Tibetan Self Help Centre, a centre of training young people in the intricate art of Tibetan handicrafts and handlooms. The sales emporium is open to visitors

to pick up souvenirs. In the afternoon a ride on the famous Darjeeling Himalayan Railway lovingly called the Toy train. The over 100 year old railway is now a UNESCO heritage site and the ride from Darjeeling station to Ghoom (8 kms), is a great experience. Overnight hotel.

Day 14: Drive Darjeeling –Bhadrapur

Distance: 154 km | Time: 4 ¼ hrs (approx.)

Trip Cost Includes

- Accommodation in one Dbl room in hotels as mentioned.
- All meals from lunch on Day 01 to breakfast on Day 14.
- All transfers and sightseeing as per the itinerary in exclusive vehicle.
- All trek arrangements including camping equipment, porters/pack animals, kitchen staff
- Permit & Entry fees.
- Experienced English speaking guide.

Trip Cost Excludes

- Personal & baggage insurance.
- Personal expenses – tips, laundry, phone etc.
- Extra costs on account of change of itinerary by clients.
- Extra costs on account of road blockages, strikes and events beyond our control.
- Indian Visa & Nepal visa
- International flight tickets to & fro
- Bottled drinks
- Services not included above.