

Footprint Adventures

the way to go.....



Travel Itinerary



Travel Trust
Association
No. R704x



Trekking and Tiger Safari

Sikkim has the unique distinction of being bounded by three sovereign nations, Nepal in the west, Bhutan in the east and China's Tibet in the north. It also shares its southern border with the state of West Bengal. It has an area of around 7096 sq km and it is about 64 km from east to west and 110 km from north to south. Mt. Kanchendzonga, the third highest peak in the world dominates the landscape of the State and is revered as Sikkim's guardian deity. The state has a good number of glaciers and some of the very important ones are Zemu, Rathong, Lona in North Sikkim. The river Tista is the lifeline of Sikkim and it originates from Lake Cholu. Its tributaries are Rangeet, Ramam and Rangpo. Sikkim offers best buys for hand woven carpets, thankas and other paintings. Other items typical of the state and are large cardamoms, Lepcha weave bags, purses, jewellery and liquors etc. The main inhabitants of the state are the Lepchas, Bhutias and Nepalis

DELHI-BAGDOGRA (IXB) AIRPORT – KALIMPONG (01 NT) – GANGTOK (02 NTS) - YUKSOM (01 NT) - TREKKING (03 NTS) - DARJEELING (02 NTS) - BAGDOGRA (IXB) AIRPORT-DELHI-JABALPUR-KANHA-DELHI

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DAY 01

Arrive Delhi Transfer to Hotel Connaught. Overnight Hotel on B&B

Day 02

Delhi Full day sight seeing Overnight Hotel on B&B

DAY 03

Take a direct flight to Bagdogra On arrival at IXB Airport, you will be met by our local representative at who will assist you to board your vehicle to Kalimpong (85 kms / 3hrs). Check in and over night at Hotel.

DAY 04 KALIMPONG – GANGTOK

Today visit to Flower Nurseries, Durbin Dara Hills & Jang-Dong-Palriffo Brang. Transfer to Gangtok (85 kms / 3 hrs). Overnight at Hotel.

DAY 05 GANGTOK

Go for a half day sightseeing covering Rumtek Monastery, Droul Chorthen, Research Institute of Tibetology, Directorate of Handicraft & Handloom (Closed on Sunday) & Flower Show. Overnight at Hotel.

DAY 05 GANGTOK - YUKSOM

Transfer to Yuksom (116 kms / 5 hrs). Overnight at Hotel.

DAY 06 YUKSOM - TSOKA

Following an early morning start, you trek for three hours through lush green meadows and cross four mountain streams. Henceforth, the trek is a continuous uphill path lined with conifers and is virtually carpeted with a bed of leaves to leach Bakhim- a hill village at an altitude of 9000 ft. Tsoka is a slightly settlement with a few houses, a monastery and is the last village on the route. You spend the night at Tsoka (17 kms / 7 hours trek). Overnight stay at Trekkers Hut / Tent.

DAY 07 TSOKA - DZONGRI

Trek Dzongri from Tsoka, 10 km climb takes 05 hours. The vegetation changes to stunted bushes of rhododendrons and miniature pine trees resembling bonsais as you gain altitude with every step to reach Dzongri (13220 ft). Overnight stay at Trekkers Hut / Tent.

Day 08 DZONGRI - TSHOKA

An early morning trek at around 4.30 am to Dzongri top which at 4269 mtrs is higher than most mountain peaks in Europe, presents yet another view of the Kanchenjunga along with other ranges basking in the glory of the rising sun We return to the campsite and after breakfast trek to Tshoka. We call it a day at Tsoka. Over night at Trekkers hut / Tent.

Day 09 TSHOKA - YUKSOM

A veritable repeat of your 3rd day, the only difference being that you are walking downhill to Yuksom. A visit to the Dubdi monastery- one of the oldest in Sikkim, is a must. Overnight at Hotel.

DAY 10 YUKSOM - DARJEELING

Transfer to Darjeeling (115 Kms / 05 Hrs). Overnight at Hotel.

DAY 11 DARJEELING

Early morning tour to Tiger Hills (at around 4 am) to view sunrise over Kanchenjunga Peak (subject to clear weather). On way back visit Ghoom Monastery, Batasia Loop. Afternoon go for a half-day sight seeing of Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park & Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (Closed on Thursday), Tibetan Refugee Self-Help Center (Closed on Sunday) & Tea Estate. Overnight at Hotel.

DAY 11 DARJEELING - IXB AIRPORT

Transfer to IXB Airport, (100 Kms / 3 Hrs) to connect direct flight to Delhi. Reach Delhi & transfer to Hotel Janpath. Overnight hotel on B&B.

Day 12

Drive by road to Agra visit Taj & take a evening train to Jabalpur. Overnight on train.

Day 13

Reach Jabalpur early morning, transfer to Hotel Krishna Jabalpur for fresh n up & breakfast. After breakfast proceed to Kanha (3 hrs) check in Krishna. Evening drive.

Day 14, 15, Kanha on full board Jungle plan.

Day 16 Drive back to Jabalpur after breakfast. Lunch at Hotel Krishna Jabalpur.3.55P.M. take a direct train to Delhi. Overnight train.

Day 17 Reach Delhi early morning transfer to international airport or to hotel if you have booked extra nights.

Tour ends.

LUXURY HOTELS USED

Kalimpong: Silver Oaks

Gangtok: Norkhill

Yuksom: Tashi Gang Hotel

Pelling: Norbu Gang Resort

Darjeeling: Cedar Inn

Delhi: The Connaught

Kanha: Krishna

Costs Include:

- Twin Sharing Per Person
- Transportation based on 02 NON AC Tata Sumo / Similar.(IN Sikkim only) for rest of the places it will be AC car.
- Accommodation at Kalimpong, Gangtok, Yuksom, Pelling & Darjeeling will be on APAI (Full Board) basis.
- 04 DAYS Trek using Trekkers Hut / Tents on APAI (All Meals) basis.
- English speaking Escort cum Guide assistance in Sikkim throughout. In Delhi & Agra local escort.
- Flight ticket Delhi to Bagdogra & back to Delhi All road transfers by AC car All rail journeys by AC sleeper class.
- Lunch & Breakfast at Hotel Krishna Jabalpur Kanha on full board Jungle Plan

Kanha Jungle Plan includes

- Two park rides daily
- Accommodation
- Full day meals
- All park entrance fees
- Guide charges
- Lecture on wildlife,

- Service of resident naturalist,
- Elephant ride (on Tiger sighting),
- Daily bonfire.

Cost will Not Include:

- Payments for service provided on a personal basis
- Cost for any services not mentioned in the "Costs Include"
- Cost incurred due to mishaps, strikes, political unrest etc.
- Personal expense in items such as laundry, soft drinks, Camera Charges, Bottle water, incidentals, Portage, Bellboy charges tips or any other services
- Services other than mentioned will be charged extra.

FEW WORDS OF OPERATION

Please be informed that the area that is Sikkim / Darjeeling is not as developed as other parts of the world. The infrastructure available is bare minimum and people coming to this area, should expect, nothing more than to be with nature with basic necessities. The infrastructure used is the best available as per category, not to be compared with the developed world.

For entry to INDIA a valid visa is must, which you can have it indorsed at Indian embassy in the home country OR at Kathmandu. Visa for India is not available upon arrival. With valid visa one can visit Darjeeling & Kalimpong (NO SPECIAL PERMIT REQUIRED). For SIKKIM a SPECIAL INNER LINE PERMIT is required which is available at NO EXTRA COST. All the guest has to do is mentioned their desired to visit to SIKKIM while stamping Indian visa on the passport. In case the client has a valid Indian visa and they do not have SPECIAL PERMIT to Sikkim then our office in India will get the necessary organise. In such case the itinerary will be modified because permit will be subjected to working of the government offices. For such happening the company will not be responsible for any kind of compensation & refund. All additional & extra expenses will be collected directly.

For the Sikkim Inner Line permit we need the following details a month in advance

- 02 photograph
- Photo Copy of Passport
- Valid Indian Visa.
- Fathers name, occupation & Residential Addresses.

The Trek starts and ends at Yuksom and is on Full Board (Includes all Meals). Please note that this areas are cold through out the year and you must be equipped with proper warm clothes. The accommodation provided during the trek will be at Trekkers Hut / Tents with very basis facilities like.

During the trek we provide

- Warm water for washing.
- The food prepared will be fresh, by the local trained Sherpas's.
- The best season for trekking is Mid Sep to Mid December & Mid March to Mid June.
- Camping equipment, Porters, Guide, Cook etc.

- Sleeping Bags & Inner
- We have noted that many guests are very particular on hygiene & have seen them bringing their own Sleeping Bags. In case the passengers are getting their own Sleeping it is always welcome.

Weather

Cool - from middle of October to end of February.

Hot - from middle of March to middle of June.

Wet - from middle of June to middle of October.

The temperature ranges from a maximum of 42 ° C in May and June, to around 4° C in winter

Clothing

Neutral khakis, greys and green clothes are recommended. Ensure you have plenty of warm clothing for the early morning and late evening game drives.

Accessories: Camera, binoculars, sunglasses, and hats.

Excluded in price: **Camera and Video camera fees.**

Hint: Very nice Indian meals are available on the train or you can bring some food with you. Tea and coffee are also available on the train but only the Indian variety, with milk and very sweet. If you want any alcoholic drinks for your train journey bring them with you as they are not available on the train. Bottled drinking water is available on the platforms.

Kanha Tiger Reserve

Welcome to Kipling Country, the setting for the famous Jungle Book. The Kanha National Park in the Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh, spreads over 1,945 sq. km of dense sal forests, interspersed with extensive meadows and trees and clumps of wild bamboo. This is where you can spot the tiger in all his magnificence or feast your eyes on the rare Barasingha Deer amidst extensive grasslands.

The park forms the core of the Kanha Tiger Reserve created in 1974, under Project Tiger. It is one of the most well-maintained National Parks in Asia, and a major attraction for avid wildlife buffs all over the world. Two major rivers, Halon and Banjar, flow through the park.

Kanha National Park in the Mandla District spreads over 1,945 sq. km of dense sal forests, interspersed with extensive meadows and trees and clumps of wild bamboo. This area known as Kipling Country is where the jungle book of Rudyard Kipling was conceived.

- **Area : 1,945 sq. kms.**
- **Altitude : 450-872 metres.**
- **Temperature (deg C): Summer- Max 40.6, Min 23.9. Winter- Max 23.9, Min 1.1.**
- **Rainfall : 152 cms.**
- **Best Season : April to June and November to January**

Using your senses to find a Tiger

The key to successful tiger spotting lies in the jungle's reactions to the animal's movement. When the king of the forest is on the move, his kingdom is as responsive as the court of any of the great Mughal Emperors. Peacocks blare, Sambar bell, Spotted Deer call, Langurs explode in cough-like alarm, Jungle Fowl screech, Bison whistle shrilly and barking deer emit the impossibly raucous bark for which they are named. The continuous repetition of such calls as well as their combination from two or more species in the same small area of the forest is a very good sign that a Tiger is moving nearby.

Using your ears to listen to what other animals are saying is a good method of locating a Tiger.

Responsible Tourism

There seems to be a lot of hype and commotion in regards with features of wildlife tourism & conservation. Words such as tribal welfare, local upliftment usage of recycle products eco friendly dresses colours etc. all flashed by glamour struck organisations especially in recent times.

We started with a small team of Nature lovers who are dedicated, who were not necessarily qualified but were definitely born conservationist at heart and a born nature lover. These were the people instrumental in educating for the first time in the history of Kanha National park the locals in the field of catering, house keeping steward ship, the guides etc all of whom were fifth standard drop outs or not been to school at all. We taught the people cane weaving, earthen products such as ash trays & potteries all of which we used annually in our lodge. Thus increasing the uplifting the local economy.

The health scenario was deplorable at that time when there were no proper medical facilities, we gave talks, and we supplied medicines & told them about diseases such as malaria & so on. At this point of time the ousted tribal villages from within the core area nurtured great animosity against the Kanha Tiger reserve officials, they would not see eye to eye because the locals felt that more importance was being given to the wild animals then to them, so we intervened and created a healthy buffer based on which things improved to such an extent that the Park authorities held an unprecedented meeting with the lodge owners/managers and local villages regarding solving all problems amicably which to this day continues.

This feature or this event is a unique example & achievement for Kanha National Park as this has never happened in any other game reserve in India resulting in perhaps being the least poached national Park in India. We are highly concerned in educating every guest regarding the code of conduct at the lodge and as well as within the park.

One of the greatest & unique features of our buildings in our lodge is that we have not used any modern chemicals based colours for the exterior or interior white washing. The material used for exterior painting is made from the local yellow mud mixed with lime stone, which gives an ethnic look of the old India.

Again the only lodge where the entire open floor area is being smeared with cow dung paste mixed with husk which works as a binding material.

Important: Before you travel please check your **Tour Voucher** and **Arrival Information** for the latest joining instructions. This will be sent to you upon receipt of final payment.

All itineraries are subject to change without prior notice.