

Jewels of North East
Calcutta-Yangsum-Gangtok-Darjeeling-Kaziranga-Calcutta

DAY 1 ARRIVE KOLKATTA

Arrive Calcutta. Upon arrival at Calcutta, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Meals: None

Overnight:

DAY 2 KOLKATTA

Today you will be taken for a sightseeing tour of Calcutta.

Calcutta is a city of glaring contrasts - a curious blend of the old and the new, partly feudal, partly born out of growing urbanisation and partly un-definable. It is a medley of the east and the west, a graft of a European city imposed on the Asian scape that gives Calcutta its bewildering charm, confusion and excitement. Being just about 300 years old, Calcutta hardly has many great historical monuments. It is a city that shocks on first impression but eventually the visitor falls in love with it.

The sightseeing of the city includes a visit to the Victoria Memorial, Calcutta's most imposing and monumental dream in marble opened by the Prince of Wales in 1921, St. Paul's Cathedral and the Indian Museum, the largest in India, with one of the best collections of Indian art. You may also visit the charity of Mother Teresa, Botanical Garden and Kali Temple.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 3 KOLKATTA- BAGDOGRA - YANGSUM FARM

This morning you will be collected from your hotel and taken to the airport in time to board your flight for Bagdogra.

You will be met at Bagdogra airport and be driven to Yangsum Farm, approx 5 hrs. In the early evening, you will be given an introductory briefing of your tour, followed by dinner.

At an altitude of 6400ft, Rinchonpong, whose name means ‘meeting place’ in the local dialect is a pretty and un-spoilt Himalayan town. Yangsum Farm is a small locally run ‘home stay’ that has stunning views of the Himalaya.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Yangsum Farm – Double/twin Room

DAY 4 YANGSUM FARM



If the weather is clear, you will be taken for a short walk for a lovely view of Kanchenjunga massif. This will be followed by breakfast and a tour of the property with Thendup, the owner of the property.

Later in the day you can enjoy gentle hikes along a lush jungle trail passing a few isolated houses and hamlets (mostly belonging to Nepali immigrants) along

the way. Passing the Rangeet River in the valley below you will continue onto the Magi Darra, a stunning viewpoint of the entire valley and the newly constructed Gurung monastery.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Yangsum Farm – Double/twin Room

DAY 5 YANGSUM FARM - GANGTOK

After breakfast, you will be driven to Gangtok (approx 5hrs). Gangtok, located on a ridge at the height of 5500 feet, is the capital of Sikkim. It is scenically located and there are excellent views of the entire Kanchenjunga range from many points in the vicinity.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight:

DAY 6 GANGTOK



This morning you will be taken to visit Rumtek, the largest monastery around Gangtok. Traditional in design, it is a close replica of the original in Tibet with beautiful murals and Religious artefacts. It is an important centre for Kagyu teaching. The first monastery was built in 1717 AD but crumbled to ruins, later it was rebuild in 1960's by His Holiness the late

16th Gyala Karmapa when he took refuge in Sikkim after the Chinese attack. Devoted Lamas, robed in crimson, chant ancient mantras to the rhythm of drums and trumpets while soft light flickers from decorative lamps.

In the afternoon you will explore the small town of Gangtok. You will visit Do-Drul Chroten (stupa) and The Namgyal Institute of Tibetology which is only one of its kind in the world. It was established to promote research on the language and traditions of Tibet as well as into Mahayana Buddhism. You may also visit the Orchid Sanctuary, where you can see as many as 454 species of orchids.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight:

DAY 7 GANGTOK - BAGDOGRA - GUWAHATI

This morning you will be driven to Bagdogra airport (Approx 4 ½ hrs) for your flight to Guwahati.

On arrival Guwahati, you will be met and taken to your hotel where rest of the day may be spent in leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 8 GUWAHATI - KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK



This morning you will be taken for visit to Kamkhya Temple. Later you will be driven to Kaziranga National Park (5 hours drive). On arrival, you will be taken to your lodge and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Located on the banks of the Brahmaputra River in Assam, Kaziranga National Park covers an area of about 430 sq. km. It supports the largest number of endangered Indian one-horned rhinoceros in the sub-continent. With open country, covered mostly with elephant grass, Kaziranga gives the visitors a chance to see the

fauna at fairly close quarters.

A day's outing is more than sufficient for visitors to see the major species here. As the rising sun touches the hills in the distance, herds of barasingha and wild buffalo are seen in the marshes. The most ferocious bovine in the world, the massive wild buffalo is impressive and often weighs up to 915 kg. Rhinos browse unconcernedly as the visitors pass by and an occasional herd of elephant or wild boar is also sighted.

The grasslands are raptor country and the crested serpent eagle, the pallas fishing eagle and grey-headed fishing eagle can be seen circling the marshes. The water-bird variety includes swamp partridge, bar-headed goose, whistling teal, the Bengal florican, storks, herons and even pelicans.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight:

DAYS 9 & 10 KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK



In the morning, you will enjoy a short elephant ride in the National Park. After Elephant Safari you will be back to your lodge for breakfast and after breakfast you will be drive for a longer jeep safari in the park. Midday is free for walks in and around the Lodge. Afternoon enjoy a jeep safari in the National Park.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11 KAZIRANGA - GUWAHATI-KOLKATTA-ONWARD DESTINATION

Today you will be driven to Guwahati airport for flight to Kolkatta.

Upon arrival in Kolkatta you will be received and taken to your hotel near airport where you have day use room.

Later you will be collected from your hotel and taken to the airport for your flight back home.

*****End of the arrangements*****