

North Sikkim Explorer: Lachen, Gurudongmar Lake & Zero Point

Prepared by TourGrids

Destination
Sikkim

Duration
5 Nights 6 Days

Starting from
Rs. 27,500 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↖ **Gangtok · 1N**

↖ **Lachen · 2N**

↖ **Lachung · 2N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-5-nights-6-days-package-1104>

Overview

North Sikkim Explorer: Lachen, Gurudongmar Lake & Zero Point

Discover the high-altitude wonders of North Sikkim with this immersive 5 nights / 6 days Sikkim tour package tailored for adventure seekers and nature lovers. This Sikkim Adventure tour package covers pristine high-altitude lakes, dramatic mountain passes, alpine valleys and cultural villages. Perfect as a Sikkim Adventure package for travelers looking for awe-inspiring landscapes, photography opportunities and offbeat experiences.

Highlights:

- Gurudongmar Lake – one of the highest lakes in India
- Zero Point (Yumesamdong) – snow-capped frontiers and panoramic views
- Yumthang Valley – the Valley of Flowers in Sikkim
- Chopta Valley / Thangu – scenic high-altitude meadows
- Lachen & Lachung villages – authentic mountain life and culture

SEO keywords included: Sikkim tour package, Sikkim Adventure tour package, Sikkim Adventure package, 5 and 6 Sikkim Adventure tour package

Important note: Permits for North Sikkim (Gurudongmar Lake, Zero Point) are required and will be arranged as part of the inclusions. High-altitude acclimatization and flexibility in schedule are advised.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Accommodation for 5 nights on twin-sharing basis (1 night Gangtok, 2 nights Lachen, 2 nights Lachung)
- ✓ Breakfast and dinner at hotels (as per itinerary)
- ✓ All transfers and sightseeing in a well-maintained SUV/tempo traveller as per group size
- ✓ Inner Line Permits and North Sikkim permits (Gurudongmar, Zero Point access)
- ✓ Experienced local driver/guide, fuel, parking and tolls
- ✓ Emergency oxygen cylinder and basic first-aid kit
- ✓ Government taxes
- ✓ Note: Accommodation subject to availability; upgrades available on request.

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ Airfare / Train fare to Bagdogra / NJP
- ✗ Lunches, personal meals, bottled drinks and snacks
- ✗ Monument/park entry fees (unless specified), camera fees
- ✗ Insurance, personal expenses, tips and portorage
- ✗ Any extra cost due to roadblocks, landslides, weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances
- ✗ Anything not mentioned in inclusions
- ✗ Important: High-altitude travel insurance is recommended.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival, Transfer to Gangtok & Evening Stroll

Arrive at Bagdogra Airport / NJP Railway Station and drive to Gangtok (approx 4-5 hours). Check in to the hotel and relax. In the evening, take a leisurely walk on MG Marg to experience local cafes, handicrafts and Himalayan vistas. Briefing about North Sikkim permits and the road conditions for upcoming days.

Tip: Carry warm clothing even during summer evenings. Keep copies of ID and permit documents handy.

Day

2

Scenic Drive to Lachen via Chungthang

Early morning departure to Lachen (approx 6-7 hours). En route visit Chungthang, a confluence point and gateway to North Sikkim. Enjoy panoramic views of the Teesta River valley, terraced farms and rugged mountains. Reach Lachen, check in and enjoy the mountain village ambience.

Note: Roads to North Sikkim are mountainous and may be bumpy – travel time is subject to road/weather conditions.

Day

3

Gurudongmar Lake & Chopta Valley Excursion

Full-day excursion to Gurudongmar Lake (altitude ~17,800 ft). Early departure to beat traffic and acclimatization concerns. Experience the surreal, turquoise waters surrounded by snow-clad peaks. On the return, visit Chopta Valley / Thangu for high-altitude meadows and panoramic photography spots. Return to Lachen for the night.

Important: Due to extreme altitude, keep hydrated and follow guides' instructions. Snow and sub-zero temperatures are possible; carry insulated jackets.

Day

4

Transfer to Lachung with En-route Stops

Drive from Lachen to Lachung (approx 3-4 hours) with picturesque stops. Visit local viewpoints and small villages to experience authentic North Sikkim culture. Check-in at Lachung hotel and enjoy a relaxed evening exploring the village and interacting with locals.

Tip: Short nature walks around the village help acclimatize and offer beautiful sunset views.

Day

5

Yumthang Valley & Zero Point (Yumesamdong) Excursion

Excursion to Yumthang Valley (Valley of Flowers) and Zero Point (Yumesamdong). Visit the hot springs nearby and enjoy vast meadows framed by snow-capped peaks. Zero Point lies further up and offers pristine snowy landscapes and striking panoramas – an unforgettable high-altitude experience. Return to Lachung in the evening.

Note: Access to Zero Point may be limited in heavy snowfall; alternative activities include extended time in Yumthang and local nature walks.

Day

6

Return to Gangtok & Departure

After breakfast, drive back to Gangtok (approx 6-7 hours). Depending on your onward schedule, you will be dropped at Bagdogra Airport / NJP Railway Station for your onward journey. If time permits, quick stops for photos en route are arranged.

Tip: Plan flights/trains the next day if possible to avoid long same-day travel fatigue. Carry snacks and water for the road transfer.

? Frequently Asked Questions

? What is the best time to visit Sikkim?

The prime seasons are March–June and October–November. Spring (March–June) offers clear mountain views, blooming rhododendrons, and pleasant weather with temperatures around 15–22°C in Gangtok. This is peak season for trekking and visiting high-altitude lakes. Autumn (October–November) provides crisp, clear skies perfect for photography and mountain views. Winter (December–February) brings snow to high passes like Tsomgo Lake and Nathula, with possible road closures. Monsoon (June–September) sees heavy rainfall and frequent landslides that can disrupt travel on NH-10. For rhododendron blooms, visit Yumthang Valley between late February and mid-June. Each season has its charm, but spring and autumn offer the most reliable weather and accessibility.

❓ **How do I reach Sikkim from major Indian cities?**

The most reliable route is flying to Bagdogra Airport (IXB) in Siliguri, West Bengal, then driving 4–5 hours to Gangtok via NH-10. Major airlines connect Bagdogra to Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and other cities. By train, New Jalpaiguri (NJP) is the nearest major railhead, about 120km from Gangtok. From NJP/Siliguri, take shared jeeps or hire taxis for the scenic mountain drive through Sevoke, Teesta Bazar, Melli, and Rangpo. Pakyong Airport in Sikkim exists but currently has no scheduled commercial flights as of 2025—always verify before planning. The under-construction Sivok–Rangpo railway may bring rail connectivity to Sikkim by 2027. Road travel during monsoon may face landslide delays.

❓ **Do I need special permits to visit Sikkim?**

Indian citizens need permits for certain areas: Nathula Pass, Tsomgo Lake, North Sikkim (Lachen/Lachung), and the Old Silk Route. These can be arranged through registered tour operators 24–48 hours in advance. Bring 2 passport photos and valid ID (Voter ID, Passport, or Driving License—Aadhaar often not accepted). Foreign nationals require a Protected Area Permit to enter Sikkim and can only visit designated areas like Tsomgo Lake, Gangtok, Pelling, and Yuksom. Foreigners cannot visit Gurudongmar Lake, Zuluk, or Nathula Pass. Children under 18 need birth certificates. Permits may be suspended during bad weather or security concerns. Always carry multiple ID copies and extra photos.

❓ **What are the local transportation options within Sikkim?**

Shared jeeps are the backbone of Sikkim transport, connecting all major towns and tourist spots. They're affordable and frequent on popular routes. Local taxis are available for sightseeing and can be hired for full days. Sikkim Nationalised Transport (SNT) runs intercity buses on main routes, though services are limited compared to jeeps. The Gangtok Ropeway offers scenic city views connecting Deorali to Tashiling. Self-driving is possible but challenging due to mountain roads, weather conditions, and permit requirements—hired vehicles with local drivers are more practical. Most hotels can arrange transportation. For North Sikkim trips, tour operators provide vehicles as individual permits and local knowledge are essential. Book transport in advance during peak seasons.

❓ **Where should I stay in Sikkim and what accommodation options are available?**

Gangtok is the main base with options from budget guesthouses to luxury resorts like MAYFAIR Spa Resort & Casino and heritage properties like The Elgin Nor-Khill. MG Marg area offers convenient access to restaurants and shopping. For West Sikkim, stay in Pelling near Pemayangtse Monastery—The Elgin Mount Pandim offers heritage charm with mountain views. North Sikkim requires overnight stays in Lachen (for Gurudongmar Lake) or Lachung (for Yumthang Valley)—try Apple Orchard Resort or Yarlam Resort. Yuksom offers trekking base camps and eco-lodges. Ravangla and Namchi have emerging hotel scenes. Book well in advance for peak season (March–June). Many properties offer package deals including meals and local sightseeing. Homestays in villages like Dzongu provide authentic cultural experiences.

❓ **What are the must-visit attractions in Sikkim?**

Tsomgo Lake, a sacred glacial lake at 3,753m that freezes in winter, is accessible from Gangtok. Nathula Pass on the Indo–China border offers historical significance (Indians only). Yumthang Valley, the 'Valley of Flowers,' showcases alpine meadows and rhododendrons. Pelling features the Chenrezig Skywalk (India's first glass skywalk) and Pemayangtse Monastery. Rumtek Monastery is Sikkim's largest gompa with stunning architecture. Khecheopalri Lake is considered wish-fulfilling by locals. Buddha Park in Ravangla houses a 130-ft Buddha statue. Gurudongmar Lake at 5,183m is among the world's highest lakes (Indians only). Khangchendzonga National Park, a UNESCO site, offers incredible biodiversity and trekking. Temi Tea Garden provides organic tea experiences. Each destination offers unique cultural and natural experiences.

❓ **What local food and cuisine should I try in Sikkim?**

Sikkim's cuisine blends Nepali, Tibetan (Bhutia), and Lepcha influences. Must-try dishes include momos (steamed dumplings), thukpa (noodle soup), and sha phaley (Tibetan meat pasties). Try phagshapa (pork with radish and dried chilies), gundruk soup (fermented leafy greens), and kinema curry (fermented soybeans). Ningro with churpi (fiddlehead ferns with local cheese) represents indigenous flavors. Sel roti is a traditional ring-shaped bread. Tongba, a warm millet-based alcoholic beverage, is perfect for cold evenings. Don't miss Temi tea, grown in Sikkim's only tea estate. Visit Taste of Tibet on MG Marg for authentic momos, 9INE Native Cuisine for traditional Sikkimese plates, and local markets for fresh churpi cheese and organic produce.

★ **Traveller Reviews**



Vivek Tiwari

★★★★★ 5/5

One of the Best Trips Ever

I can say this was one of the best trips ever. The diverse landscape of Sikkim was incredible!



Meenal Joshi

★★★★☆ 4/5

A Colorful Cultural Tour

Sikkim offers a colorful cultural experience. Glad we opted for this tour, our lives are richer for it!



Prakash Oza

★★★★★ 5/5

Discovering Nature's Bounty

This tour was a wonderful discovery of nature's bounty in Sikkim. Unforgettable trips to lakes and mountains!



Kiran Gill

★★★★★ 5/5

A Suitable Escape for Everyone

Whether you seek adventure or relaxation, Sikkim has it all. Our tour was filled with both!



Deepak Agarwal

★★★★☆ 4/5

Amazing Weather & Scenery

The weather was perfect during our visit to Sikkim, enhancing the beautiful scenery. The whole tour was very enjoyable!

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