

# Adventure & Offbeat Sikkim: Zuluk, Old Silk Route & Driving Thrills

Prepared by TourGrids

Destination  
**Sikkim**

Duration  
**5 Nights 6 Days**

Starting from  
**Rs. 24,300 / person**

## ITINERARY ROUTE

↖ **Gangtok · 2N**

↖ **Zuluk / Nathang Valley · 2N**

↖ **Siliguri / Bagdogra · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-5-nights-6-days-package-1111>

## Overview

---

Adventure & Offbeat Sikkim: Zuluk, Old Silk Route & Driving Thrills – A thrilling 5 nights / 6 days Sikkim tour package tailored for roadtrip lovers and offbeat explorers. Travel the historic Old Silk Route to remote highaltitude hamlets, witness sunrise over the iconic Zuluk ZigZag hairpin bends, and enjoy driving thrills across panoramic mountain passes. This Sikkim Adventure tour package blends cultural stops in Gangtok with raw, lesservisited landscapes of East Sikkim.

### Highlights:

- Zuluk & the 16 ZigZag Hairpins
- Thambi View Point & Nathang Valley (Old Silk Route)
- Scenic driving on the historic Old Silk Route
- Comfortable stay in Gangtok with local sightseeing
- Photography & sunrise viewpoints, offbeat hamlet visits

Ideal for: Adventure seekers, roadtrip enthusiasts, photographers, and travelers looking for an offbeat Sikkim Adventure package.

#### ✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ 5 nights accommodation as per the itinerary (standard / deluxe options available)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 3 dinners (as specified in the package)
- ✓ All transfers & sightseeing by private vehicle (as per group size)
- ✓ Experienced driver & fuel charges
- ✓ Innerline permits and basic sightseeing permits (as required)
- ✓ All applicable hotel taxes
- ✓ Local assistance and emergency support
- ✓ Note: Customized meal plans and room upgrades available on request.

#### ✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ Airfare / Train fare to Bagdogra / NJP
- ✗ GST or government taxes (if applicable beyond package rates)
- ✗ Personal expenses (phone, laundry, tips)
- ✗ Entrance fees, special permits (e.g., Nathu La permit), adventure activities not listed
- ✗ Any additional meals, sightseeing or services not mentioned in inclusions
- ✗ Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- ✗ Important: Due to the remote nature of Old Silk Route and Zuluk, vehicle availability and road conditions can change; alternate routing or accommodation may be arranged for safety.

## Day-by-Day Itinerary

---

Day

1

### **Arrival — Transfer to Gangtok and Evening at Leisure**

Arrive at Bagdogra Airport / New Jalpaiguri (NJP). Meet and greet by our representative and drive to Gangtok (approx. 4–5 hours) via scenic foothills. Check in at the hotel and relax. In the evening, take a stroll down MG Road — explore local cafes, handicraft shops and try Sikkimese snacks.

Important: Light travel on Day 1 to acclimatize. Carry warm clothing for evenings.

Day

2

### **Gangtok Sightseeing & Acclimatization**

After breakfast, enjoy a gentle sightseeing day to acclimatize and soak in Sikkim's cultural highlights. Visit Enchey Monastery, Do Drul Chorten & Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, and Tashi Viewpoint for panoramic views of the Kanchenjunga range (visibility permitting). Optional visit to Rumtek Monastery and local markets in the afternoon.

Tip: Carry water and sunscreen; temperatures vary quickly at viewpoints.

Day

3

### **Drive the Old Silk Route — To Zuluk via Nathang Valley**

Early departure from Gangtok for the legendary Old Silk Route. The drive is the highlight of this Sikkim Adventure tour package: pass through Rongli, climb to Thambi View Point for sweeping mountain vistas, and continue to Kupup (near the plateau and scenic lakes). Drive across the high meadows of Nathang Valley and reach the remote hamlet of Zuluk by late afternoon.

Expect multiple scenic stops for photos: the dramatic ZigZag hairpins, rustic hamlets, and expansive mountain panoramas. Overnight stay in Zuluk / nearby.

Note: Roads are mountain roads with steep hairpins — recommended for experienced drivers or trained drivers provided. Carry layered clothing and limited baggage.

Day

4

### **Explore Zuluk & Old Silk Route Loop**

Wake up early to catch the sunrise over the Zuluk ZigZag hairpins — one of the most photogenic scenes in Sikkim. Spend the day exploring the Old Silk Route: walk short trails around the hamlets, visit local shepherd settlements, and enjoy panoramic views across Nathang Valley and distant snow peaks. Explore lesserknown viewpoints and the plateau areas around Kupup and Thambi.

Special: Perfect day for photography and experiencing offbeat village life. Mobile network may be limited — disconnect and enjoy the landscape.

Day

5

## Return Drive to Gangtok — Scenic Stops en route

After breakfast, start the return drive toward Gangtok. Retrace the scenic Old Silk Route with stops at memorable viewpoints and local stops in Rongli or nearby villages. Arrive in Gangtok by evening. Check into the hotel and spend the evening relaxing or shopping.

Tip: Expect a long driving day — rest well and keep cameras ready for last scenic stops.

Day

6

## Departure — Transfer to Bagdogra / NJP

After breakfast, check out and transfer to Bagdogra Airport / NJP for your onward journey. En route, quick photo stops or short visits to local viewpoints (time permitting). Bid farewell to the Himalayas with memories of an offbeat Sikkim Adventure package.

Important: Ensure timely checkout and confirm flight/train timings with our representative.

## 🔗 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 gumpa 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!

## ⚡ Why Choose TourGrids?

---

Because your dream vacation deserves the best! From expert advice to personalized trips, easy booking, and unbeatable deals – we make travel stress-free and fun!

### ⚡ Expert-Guided Planning

Personalized guidance from verified travel experts who understand your needs.

### ⚙️ Customizable Packages

Tailor your trip your way – destinations, experiences, budget. All up to you!

### 🛡️ Hassle-Free Booking

Smooth, secure, and simple booking process without any stress or confusion.

### 🏷️ Best Price Guarantee

Multiple free quotes and booking at the most competitive rates available.

For the latest pricing, availability, and customization options, visit:

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-5-nights-6-days-package-1111>