

Gurudongmar & Chopta Valley Expedition: High-Altitude Spectacle

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Sikkim



Duration
6 Nights 7 Days



Starting from
Rs. 38,200 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE



Gangtok · 4N



Lachen · 1N



Lachung · 1N

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-6-nights-7-days-package-1121>

Overview

Gurudongmar & Chopta Valley Expedition: High-Altitude Spectacle

Discover the ultimate Sikkim tour package designed for thrill-seekers and nature lovers: a Sikkim Adventure tour package that blends serene high-altitude lakes, alpine valleys, and cultural experiences. This 6 nights / 7 days Sikkim Adventure package focuses on the iconic Gurudongmar Lake and the breathtaking Chopta Valley (Yumthang) while offering comfortable stays, experienced local support, and necessary permits.

Highlights:

- Gurudongmar Lake (one of the highest lakes in India)
- Chopta Valley / Yumthang Valley – rhododendron carpets and panoramic mountain views
- Lachen & Lachung – North Sikkim high-altitude villages
- Gangtok – the capital with cultural sites and acclimatization
- Scenic high-altitude drives across mountain passes

This 6 and 7 Sikkim Adventure tour package is ideal for travellers comfortable with long drives and high-altitude conditions. Proper acclimatization is included in the itinerary.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Accommodation on twin/shared basis for 6 nights (as per itinerary)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 3 dinners
- ✓ All transfers and sightseeing by private vehicle (as per itinerary)
- ✓ Inner Line Permits for North Sikkim (Gurudongmar & Yumthang) processing
- ✓ Local English-speaking guide during North Sikkim visits
- ✓ Parking, fuel, driver allowances and tolls
- ✓ Basic first-aid kit and oxygen cylinder (on request)
- ✓ Note: Accommodation category and meal plans can be customized.

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ Airfare / Train tickets to Bagdogra / NJP
- ✗ Travel insurance and personal medical expenses
- ✗ GST, service charges, and government taxes (if applicable)
- ✗ Camera fees, monument entry fees not listed, and personal expenses
- ✗ Tips, portorage, and optional activities (e.g., hot springs entry, cable car)
- ✗ Any expenses arising due to natural calamities, roadblocks, or flight/train delays
- ✗ Important: High-altitude travel requires a current medical check-up for guests with heart or respiratory conditions.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival and Transfer to Gangtok

Arrival at Bagdogra Airport / NJP Railway Station. Meet and transfer by private vehicle to Gangtok (approx. 4-5 hours). Check in to your hotel and relax. Evening at leisure to explore MG Road for local shops and cafes.

Tip: Keep hydrated and rest — this day is for initial acclimatization.

Day

2

Gangtok Local Sightseeing & Acclimatization

After breakfast, enjoy a curated Gangtok sightseeing tour covering Tashi Viewpoint, Enchey Monastery, Do Drul Chorten, and Namgyal Institute of Tibetology. Evening free for optional cable car ride or local market shopping.

Important: Avoid strenuous activity; allow your body to acclimatize to altitude.

Day

3

Drive to Lachen (Gateway to North Sikkim)

Scenic morning drive from Gangtok to Lachen (approx. 6-7 hours) passing through picturesque landscapes and mountain roads. Check in at Lachen village guesthouse/hotel. Short walk around the village to observe local life.

Note: Carry warm clothing; temperatures drop significantly in North Sikkim.

Day

4

Gurudongmar Lake Excursion and Transfer to Lachung

Very early departure to Gurudongmar Lake (approx. 3-4 hours from Lachen). Spend time at the stunning high-altitude Gurudongmar Lake—take photos and soak in panoramic Himalayan views. After visiting, return and proceed towards Lachung (transfer, approx. 3-4 hours).

Important: Inner Line Permits required for Gurudongmar are managed by the tour operator. Expect high-altitude conditions; please inform the guide of any health issues.

Day

5

Chopta Valley (Yumthang) & Return to Gangtok

Morning visit to Chopta Valley (Yumthang Valley)—experience expansive meadows, seasonal rhododendron blooms, and the Yumthang Hot Springs (optional). After sightseeing, drive back to Gangtok (long drive, approx. 7-8 hours) with scenic stops en route.

Tip: Carry packed snacks and water for the drive. Weather in the valley can change rapidly.

Day

6

Leisure Day in Gangtok or Optional Adventure Activities

Relax in Gangtok or choose optional activities: a short trek, ropeway/cable car, or visit Tsomgo Lake & Baba Harbhajan Singh Mandir (full-day optional excursion, subject to permit availability). Use this day for shopping, spa, or exploring cafes.

Note: Optional excursions to Tsomgo Lake are weather & permit dependent. Inform the operator 24 hours in advance.

Day

7

Departure from Gangtok to Bagdogra / NJP

After breakfast, check out and transfer to Bagdogra Airport / NJP Railway Station for onward journey. Tour concludes with fond memories of your Sikkim Adventure tour package.

Important: Allow extra travel time for road traffic and mountain conditions.

? 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!

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