

Sikkim Spiritual Sojourn: Pilgrimage to Sacred Monasteries

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Sikkim



Duration
6 Nights 7 Days



Starting from
Rs. 24,800 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↖ **Gangtok · 2N**

↖ **Pelling · 2N**

↖ **Yuksom · 1N**

↖ **Gangtok · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-6-nights-7-days-package-1125>

Overview

Sikkim Spiritual Sojourn: Pilgrimage to Sacred Monasteries – A 6 nights / 7 days Sikkim Pilgrimage tour package designed for seekers of peace and culture. This carefully crafted Sikkim tour package visits the most revered monasteries and sacred lakes of Sikkim, offering immersive spiritual experiences, scenic drives and comfortable stays. Ideal as a 6 and 7 Sikkim Pilgrimage tour package or a dedicated Sikkim Pilgrimage package for first-time and returning travelers.

Highlights:

- Visit iconic monasteries: Rumtek, Pemayangtse, Tashiding, Dubdi, Enchey
- Sacred lakes & rituals: Khecheopalri Lake (wish-fulfilling lake)
- Cultural immersion: Local prayer ceremonies, monastery interactions
- Panoramic views: Khangchendzonga vistas from Pelling and Yuksom
- Comfortable stays & transfers across Gangtok, Pelling and Yuksom

Highlights above are concise and scannable for quick reading.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ 6 nights accommodation in comfortable hotels on twin/double sharing basis
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 4 vegetarian/continental dinners (customizable on request)
- ✓ All surface transfers and sightseeing by private AC vehicle as per itinerary
- ✓ Local English/Hindi speaking driver and guide charges for monastery visits
- ✓ Permit and parking charges (where applicable)
- ✓ All applicable hotel taxes
- ✓ This itinerary and inclusions are tailored for a Sikkim Pilgrimage tour package and can be adjusted for the 6 and 7 Sikkim Pilgrimage tour package variations.

✗ Not Included

- ✗ Airfare / Train fare to Bagdogra / NJP
- ✗ Monument / monastery entry fees and donations to monasteries (unless specified)
- ✗ Personal expenses: laundry, phone calls, tips, and portorage
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in inclusions and any special dietary requests (unless pre-arranged)
- ✗ Travel insurance and emergency evacuation costs
- ✗ Any expenses arising due to natural causes, landslides, weather or political disturbances
- ✗ Please note: Entrance donations and special puja fees to monasteries are generally voluntary and are not included.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival, Transfer to Gangtok and Evening Leisure

Arrive at Bagdogra Airport / New Jalpaiguri Railway Station and drive to Gangtok (approx. 4-5 hours). En route enjoy scenic views of river valleys and Himalayan foothills. Check in to your hotel and rest. In the evening, take a gentle walk along MG Marg to soak in local ambience and visit nearby prayer centers.

Important: Allow time to acclimatize. Keep hydrated and avoid strenuous activity on arrival day.

Day

2

Gangtok Monastery Trail & Spiritual Orientation

Full-day exploration of Gangtok's spiritual landmarks. Visit Rumtek Monastery (one of Sikkim's most important Kagyu monasteries), Do-Drul Chorten & Guru Rinpoche Stupa, and Enchey Monastery. Learn about Buddhist rituals, attend a puja if available, and spend time with resident lamas for insights.

Evening free for optional cultural programs or meditation sessions at the hotel.

Tip: Carry a light shawl for monastery visits and maintain quiet reverence inside prayer halls.

Day

3

Drive to Pelling — Scenic Journey & Local Exploration

After breakfast, drive to Pelling (approx. 4-5 hours). The route offers breathtaking views of terraced fields and mountains. Check in and relax. Late afternoon visit the Pemayangtse Monastery (close to Pelling) — a major seat of Nyingma tradition — and view the ruins of Rabdentse, the ancient capital with spiritual significance.

Note: Travel time on mountain roads can vary; start early to maximize sightseeing.

Day

4

Pelling Sacred Sites: Pemayangtse & Khecheopalri

Morning visit to Pemayangtse Monastery for prayers and panoramic views of Mount Khangchendzonga. Then drive to Khecheopalri Lake, revered by Buddhists and Lepchas as a wish-fulfilling sacred lake. Spend time in quiet reflection and explore local prayer rituals.

Afternoon at leisure to enjoy Pelling's viewpoints, visit local bazaars, or take short walks to nearby prayer spots.

Special Note: Respect local customs at Khecheopalri — avoid loud conversations and refrain from littering.

Day

5

Transfer to Yuksom via Tashiding — Heart of Sikkim's Pilgrimage

Drive towards Yuksom, the historic first capital of Sikkim. En route visit Tashiding Monastery, one of Sikkim's holiest pilgrimage sites. Participate in or observe afternoon prayers and the serene rituals that define the monastery.

Arrive in Yuksom, check in, and visit Dubdi Monastery (one of Sikkim's oldest), and take time to experience the spiritual atmosphere that pervades the valley.

Tip: Wear comfortable shoes; some monasteries require a short uphill walk.

Day

6

Morning in Yuksom & Return to Gangtok

Early morning visit to local shrines and a quiet walk in the pine-scented Yuksom valley. After breakfast, drive back to Gangtok (allow approx. 5-6 hours). En route, enjoy scenic stops for photographs and tea with mountain views. Check into your Gangtok hotel and enjoy a farewell dinner.

Important: Use this evening to relax and prepare for departure the next day.

Day

7

Departure Transfer

After breakfast, check out and transfer to Bagdogra Airport / New Jalpaiguri Railway Station for your onward journey. End of the Sikkim Spiritual Sojourn: Pilgrimage to Sacred Monasteries.

Note: Allow ample transit time for road travel to the airport/railway station; departure times vary.

🔗 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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