

Sikkim Pilgrimage & Peace: Gurudongmar, Rumtek & Sacred Trails

Prepared by TourGrids

Destination
Sikkim

Duration
5 Nights 6 Days

Starting from
Rs. 20,600 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↗ **Gangtok · 3N**

↗ **Lachen · 1N**

↗ **Lachung · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-5-nights-6-days-package-1134>

Overview

Sikkim Pilgrimage & Peace: Gurudongmar, Rumtek & Sacred Trails

Experience a soulful Sikkim tour package focused on spiritual sites, serene high-altitude lakes and sacred monasteries. This Sikkim Pilgrimage tour package blends cultural discovery with nature's tranquility – from the Buddhist grandeur of Rumtek Monastery to the pristine sacred waters of Gurudongmar Lake, and the floral splendour of Yumthang Valley.

Highlights:

- Gurudongmar Lake (early morning pilgrimage at 17,800 ft)
- Rumtek Monastery (Karma Kagyu seat near Gangtok)
- Yumthang Valley & Hot Springs (Lachung)
- Enchey Monastery, Do Drul Chorten & Hanuman Tok (Gangtok sacred circuit)
- Scenic North Sikkim passes: Chungthang, Lachen, Lachung

This 5 nights / 6 days Sikkim Pilgrimage package is designed for travelers seeking spiritual calm, cultural insight and high-altitude landscapes. Be prepared for early starts and altitude changes.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Accommodation for 5 nights on twin/double sharing basis at specified category hotels (Gangtok 3 nights, Lachen 1 night, Lachung 1 night)
- ✓ Daily breakfasts and selected meals as per itinerary (B/B or specified meal plan)
- ✓ Private non-air-conditioned vehicle for transfers and sightseeing as per itinerary (subject to group size)
- ✓ All inner-line permits & restricted area permits required for North Sikkim (Gurudongmar/Yumthang routes)
- ✓ Local English-speaking driver-guide for mountain drives
- ✓ Parking charges, tolls and driver allowances
- ✓ Emergency assistance and route support
- ✓ Notes: Hotels are subject to availability; final confirmation will be shared at the time of booking.

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ Airfare / Train fare to Bagdogra / New Jalpaiguri (NJP)
- ✗ Personal expenses, tips/gratuities, laundry, phone calls
- ✗ Travel insurance, medical expenses or evacuation costs
- ✗ Entrances/activities not mentioned in inclusions and optional excursions (e.g., guided monastery ceremonies with donations)
- ✗ Additional permits or charges levied at time of travel due to local regulations or peak season surcharges
- ✗ Any increase in fuel surcharge or state taxes beyond the time of booking
- ✗ Important: High-altitude excursions like Gurudongmar may be subject to last-minute closures due to weather or administrative reasons. Additional costs arising from such changes are not covered unless specified.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival at Bagdogra/NJP and Transfer to Gangtok

Arrive at Bagdogra Airport / NJP Railway Station. Meet your representative and drive to Gangtok (approx. 4–5 hours). Check-in at the hotel and relax. In the evening, take a gentle walk along MG Road to soak in the local culture and cuisine.

Important: Keep your permits and ID handy for upcoming North Sikkim transfers.

Day

2

Rumtek Monastery & Gangtok Sacred Circuit

After breakfast, visit Rumtek Monastery — the spiritual seat of the Karma Kagyu lineage. Continue to the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, Do Drul Chorten (Stupa) and the scenic Enchey Monastery. Later visit Hanuman Tok for panoramic views of the Kanchenjunga range and return to MG Road in the evening for leisure.

Tip: Rumtek has guided timings; carry a light jacket for wind-chill at viewpoints.

Day

3

Drive to Lachen — Gateway to Gurudongmar

Early morning after breakfast, depart for Lachen via scenic roads through Chungthang. Enjoy changing landscapes — rivers, terraced fields and rhododendron forests. Check in at the hotel in Lachen and rest early to prepare for the next day's high-altitude excursion.

Note: Road conditions can vary; keep some warm layers and motion-sickness remedies.

Day

4

Gurudongmar Lake Excursion and Transfer to Lachung

Very early pre-dawn departure to the sacred Gurudongmar Lake (altitude approx. 17,800 ft). Spend time at the lakeshore, soak in the surreal, prayerful atmosphere and take photographs. Return to Lachen for a brief refresh and then transfer to Lachung. Evening at leisure — gentle walk in the village surroundings.

Vital: Acclimatization is crucial. Carry necessary medications and consult your doctor if you have pre-existing conditions. Permits will be required for Gurudongmar and will be arranged prior to departure.

Day

5

Yumthang Valley, Hot Springs & Return to Gangtok

After breakfast, visit the Yumthang Valley (Valley of Flowers) and nearby Yumthang Hot Springs. If weather and road permits, an optional visit to Zero Point can be arranged (subject to permit and road conditions). Post lunch, begin the scenic drive back to Gangtok. Evening free for shopping or rest.

Tip: Yumthang is cold year-round; warm clothing and sunscreen are essential.

Day

6

Departure — Transfer to Bagdogra / NJP

After breakfast and hotel check-out, transfer to Bagdogra Airport / NJP Railway Station for your onward journey. En-route photos stops available depending on time and traffic.

We recommend allowing ample time for mountain traffic and flight/train check-in.

? 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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