

Mountain Biking & Trail Riding: Adventure Around Gangtok

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Sikkim



Duration
4 Nights 5 Days



Starting from
Rs. 13,850 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

 **Gangtok - 4N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/sikkim/sikkim-4-nights-5-days-package-1137>

Overview

Mountain Biking & Trail Riding: Adventure Around Gangtok is an action-packed 4 nights / 5 days Sikkim tour package designed for cyclists and trail-riding enthusiasts who want to explore the highland trails, forested ridges and cultural highlights around Gangtok. This Sikkim Adventure tour package blends guided mountain-biking loops, moderate trail rides, scenic drives to iconic high-altitude lakes, and cultural visits to monasteries—ideal for travellers looking for a compact yet immersive Sikkim Adventure package. Perfectly positioned as a 4 and 5 Sikkim Adventure tour package, it suits intermediate riders comfortable on mixed terrain and travellers seeking a mix of adrenaline and culture.

Highlights:

- Guided mountain biking loops around Gangtok ridges and scenic trails
- Tsomgo (Changu) Lake & Baba Harbhajan Mandir scenic visit
- Trails in Fambong Lho Wildlife Sanctuary and nearby ridgelines
- Cultural stops: Rumtek Monastery, Enchey Monastery, MG Marg (Gangtok)
- Experienced local cycling guides, bikes, and safety gear included

Note: High-altitude day trips (e.g., Tsomgo Lake) require acclimatization and permits; riding routes are tailored to fitness and weather conditions.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation for 4 nights in Gangtok (standard / deluxe options available)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 2 full lunches during rides (as per itinerary)
- ✓ Mountain bike rental (hardtail/hybrid) with helmet, repair kit and basic spares
- ✓ Professional local cycling guide, support vehicle for luggage and emergency transfers
- ✓ All permit arrangements for listed attractions (except special restricted permits)
- ✓ Local taxes and guide charges
- ✓ First-aid kit and basic on-trail support

✗ Not Included

- ✗ Flight/train tickets to Bagdogra / NJP
- ✗ Meals not specified in the itinerary and personal expenses
- ✗ Nathula pass permit (special restricted permit if undertaken)
- ✗ Travel insurance (highly recommended – must cover mountain biking and high-altitude travel)
- ✗ Any additional bike upgrades, e-bikes or advanced suspension bikes (available on request at extra cost)
- ✗ Tips, portorage, and items of a personal nature
- ✗ Rescue/evacuation costs in case of medical emergencies (participant's insurance should cover this)

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival, Orientation & Short Warm-up Ride

Arrive at Bagdogra Airport / New Jalpaiguri (NJP) Railway Station and transfer to Gangtok (approx. 4–5 hours by road). Check in and relax. In the late afternoon, meet your cycling guide for a kit check, route brief and a short warm-up ride around MG Marg, Deorali, and the nearby ridgeline to acclimatize. This gentle 8–12 km ride helps you adjust to altitude and evaluate bike fit. Evening free to explore MG Marg's cafes and handicraft shops.

Important: Keep this day easy to allow proper acclimatization. Carry a light jacket – mountain evenings can be chilly.

Day

2

Trail Ride to Rumtek & Ranka Monastery Loop

After breakfast, set out for an engaging trail ride through forest tracks and village roads to Rumtek Monastery. The route includes mixed singletrack, gravel lanes and short climbs, offering panoramic views of the valley. Post-ride visit Rumtek, then continue on a scenic loop to Ranka Monastery and return to Gangtok via a downhill trail that ends near town. Expect 25–35 km of riding with intermittent walking sections on steeper stretches. Evening at leisure for local cuisine sampling.

Tip: Moderate fitness required; guides will suggest walking stretches if needed. Photography stops available at viewpoints.

Day

3

Full-Day Ride: Fambong Lho Wildlife Sanctuary & Ridge Trails

Today's highlight is a full-day moderate to challenging trail ride in Fambong Lho Wildlife Sanctuary and adjoining ridgelines. The ride covers dense rhododendron forests (seasonal blooms), steep switchbacks, and open ridges with views of the Kanchenjunga range on clear days. Picnic lunch en route and short nature walks to spot birdlife. Return to Gangtok by late afternoon. Distance covered: 30–45 km depending on chosen loop and group pace.

Note: Wildlife sightings are seasonal; please follow guide instructions to minimize impact on the habitat.

Day

4

High-Altitude Excursion to Tsomgo Lake & Baba Mandir (with optional short rides)

Early departure for a scenic drive to Tsomgo (Changu) Lake and Baba Harbhajan Mandir — a must-see for Sikkim visitors. Due to road access and altitude (~3,780 m), most of this transfer is by vehicle; however, there are excellent options for short guided rides on gentle trails near the lake and on surrounding meadows for those acclimatized. Return via picturesque passes; optional stop at Nathula (subject to permit and weather conditions). Evening free in Gangtok.

Important: This is a high-altitude day. Teams will monitor acclimatization closely and may suggest rest instead of riding for those feeling any symptoms of altitude sickness.

Day

5

Final Short Ride, Cultural Walk & Departure

Depending on your departure time, enjoy a final short morning ride or easy cultural walk to Enchey Monastery and Do Drul Chorten to soak in Gangtok's ambiance and spiritual vibe. Return to hotel, check out and transfer to Bagdogra Airport / NJP for onward journey.

Tip: Keep essentials and souvenirs packed the night before. Inform your guide of your transfer details to ensure timely departure.

? 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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