

Darjeeling Short Break: Toy Train, Tea Gardens & Tiger Hill

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination

North-East



Duration

3 Nights 4 Days



Starting from

Rs. 10,250 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

← **Darjeeling • 3N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/north-east/north-east-3-nights-4-days-package-625>

Overview

This 3 nights / 4 days North–East tour package is crafted as a refreshing North–East Family tour package ideal for families and couples looking for a quick getaway. The package highlights Darjeeling's iconic experiences – sunrise at Tiger Hill, a ride on the Darjeeling Himalayan Toy Train, visits to lush tea gardens, and leisurely strolls on Mall Road. This compact itinerary is perfect for travelers searching for a 3 and 4 North–East Family tour package that balances sightseeing with relaxed time for tea and local culture.

Highlights:

- Sunrise at Tiger Hill for Himalayan views (including Kanchenjunga)
- Darjeeling Himalayan Toy Train (joyride & Batasia Loop)
- Happy Valley / Tea Garden visit with tea tasting
- Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park & Himalayan Mountaineering Institute
- Strolls on Mall Road and visit to Tibetan Refugee Centre

Special notes: Early morning departures (for Tiger Hill) require a pre–dawn start; carry warm clothing and a camera.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ 3 nights accommodation in Darjeeling (standard / superior category as per booking)
- ✓ Daily breakfast
- ✓ Arrival and departure transfers: NJP/Bagdogra "Darjeeling (seat-in-coach or private transfer as selected)
- ✓ Guided sightseeing as per itinerary in a private vehicle or shared coach (as per package option)
- ✓ Entrance fees to listed monuments/parks (where applicable)
- ✓ Tea garden visit with tasting
- ✓ Local taxes and service charges
- ✓ Inclusions are subject to change based on supplier availability and group size.

✗ Not Included

- ✗ Airfare / Rail fare to/from NJP/Bagdogra
- ✗ Lunches, dinners and personal expenses (unless specified)
- ✗ Monument/park fees if not mentioned in inclusions
- ✗ Adventure activities, special permits (if applicable)
- ✗ Tips, portorage, and optional transfers or excursions
- ✗ Any item not specified in the inclusions
- ✗ Exclusions are standard; please check your booking voucher for specifics.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival, Transfer to Darjeeling & Evening at Mall Road

Arrival at NJP / Bagdogra (IXB) – transfer to Darjeeling (approx. 3–4 hours by road). Check-in and relax at the hotel. In the evening, take a leisurely walk on Mall Road / Chowrasta to soak in the local vibe, shop for souvenirs, and sample street snacks. Optional short Toy Train joyride (subject to schedule and availability) around town.

Tip: Keep slippers or comfortable shoes handy for the Mall Road stroll. Altitude is mild but evenings can be chilly.

Day

2

Tiger Hill Sunrise, Batasia Loop & Tea Garden Visit

Pre-dawn drive to Tiger Hill to witness the spectacular sunrise over the Eastern Himalayas and view Kanchenjunga. On the return, visit Batasia Loop and the Ghoom Monastery. Post-breakfast, enjoy a guided tour of a local tea garden (such as Happy Valley) with a tea tasting session and a walk through the tea bushes. Evening free for leisure or optional visit to the Tibetan Refugee Self-Help Centre.

Important: Tiger Hill visits start early (approx. 4:00–5:00 AM). Plan clothing layers for cold mornings.

Day

3

Himalayan Parks, Tenzing & Tea Experiences

Visit the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (high-altitude animal centre) and the adjacent Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI) where you can see mountaineering memorabilia and learn about local alpine history. See the famous Tenzing Rock and explore the Tibetan Market for handicrafts. Afternoon arranged visit to a tea processing unit to see the tea-making process and enjoy fresh Darjeeling tea.

Tip: Carry sunscreen and water; some walking on uneven paths is expected.

Day

4

Departure: Leisure Time & Transfer to NJP / Bagdogra

After breakfast, enjoy some free time for final shopping or a short walk. Check out from the hotel and transfer to NJP railway station or Bagdogra airport for onward journey. Service ends on arrival at the drop-off point.

Note: Departure times depend on onward train/flight schedules; coordinate checkout with your transfer time.

Frequently Asked Questions

❓ **What is the best time to visit Northeast India?**

The ideal time to visit Northeast India is October to April when the weather is pleasant and dry. October–November offers post-monsoon freshness with clear skies, perfect for sightseeing and outdoor activities. December–February brings cool, crisp weather ideal for exploring hill stations like Gangtok, Shillong, and Tawang. March–April features blooming rhododendrons and comfortable temperatures. Avoid June–September monsoon season as heavy rainfall can disrupt travel plans, cause landslides, and make roads inaccessible. However, if you're interested in experiencing lush green landscapes and don't mind occasional showers, post-monsoon September can be beautiful. For specific festivals like Hornbill Festival in Nagaland (December) or cherry blossoms in Shillong (November), plan accordingly. Winter temperatures range from 5–20°C in hills and 10–25°C in plains.

❓ **How can I reach Northeast India from major Indian cities?**

Air travel is the most convenient option with Guwahati (Assam) serving as the main gateway, connected to Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Bangalore. Other airports include Bagdogra (for Sikkim), Imphal, Agartala, Dibrugarh, and Dimapur. From Guwahati, you can reach other states by road or connecting flights. Train connectivity exists to Guwahati, New Jalpaiguri (for Sikkim), and Agartala via broad gauge lines. The Rajdhani Express connects Guwahati to Delhi. Road access is possible via NH27 through West Bengal and NH37. For Sikkim, fly to Bagdogra then drive 4 hours to Gangtok. Many tourists prefer flying to Guwahati and then taking domestic flights or hiring vehicles for interstate travel. Book flights in advance as options are limited and prices can be higher than other destinations.

❓ **Do I need special permits to visit Northeast states?**

Permit requirements vary by state and visitor nationality. Indian citizens need Inner Line Permits (ILP) for Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Nagaland, obtainable online or at checkpoints. Manipur requires ILP for certain areas. No permits needed for Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Sikkim for Indians. Foreign nationals need Protected Area Permits (PAP) for Arunachal Pradesh, obtained through registered tour operators with 30-day advance application. Sikkim requires permits for certain areas like Nathula Pass and North Sikkim. For group travel, tour operators usually handle permit procedures. Apply online through official state websites or at designated counters in Delhi, Kolkata, and Guwahati. Carry multiple passport-size photos and ID proofs. Permits are usually processed within 2–7 days. Some border areas may have additional restrictions, so check current regulations before travel.

❓ **What are the local transportation options within Northeast states?**

Shared taxis and sumos are the most common intercity transport, especially in hilly regions like Sikkim and Meghalaya. State transport buses connect major towns but can be crowded and slow. Private buses offer better comfort for longer routes. In cities, auto-rickshaws, cycle-rickshaws, and local taxis are available. App-based cabs operate in Guwahati, Shillong, and Gangtok. For sightseeing, hiring a private car with driver is recommended, costing ₹2,500–4,000 per day depending on the vehicle and distance. Motorcycle rentals are popular in Sikkim and Meghalaya among adventure travelers. River transport exists in Assam via ferries across Brahmaputra. Helicopter services operate in Sikkim for scenic tours. Book vehicles in advance during peak season. Mountain roads can be challenging, so experienced local drivers are advisable. Fuel stations may be sparse in remote areas.

❓ **What types of accommodation are available and where should I stay?**

Northeast India offers diverse accommodation from luxury resorts to budget homestays. Government tourism properties provide good value with basic amenities. Luxury options include Taj Tashi (Thimphu), Mayfair Hotels (Gangtok, Shillong), and heritage properties. Mid-range hotels are abundant in major towns. Homestays are popular, especially in Sikkim, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh, offering authentic cultural experiences at ₹1,000–3,000 per night. Stay in Gangtok for Sikkim exploration, Shillong for Meghalaya, Guwahati for Assam, Itanagar for Arunachal Pradesh. In remote areas, government guest houses and forest rest houses are available but require advance booking. Eco-lodges near national parks offer nature experiences. During festivals, book well in advance as accommodation fills quickly. Many properties offer package deals including meals and local sightseeing. Check for hot water availability in hill stations during winter months.

❓ **What are the must-visit attractions in Northeast India?**

Top attractions include Kaziranga National Park (Assam) for one-horned rhinos, Tawang Monastery (Arunachal Pradesh) – India's largest monastery, and Nathula Pass (Sikkim) on the Indo-China border. Shillong, the 'Scotland of East,' offers colonial charm and living root bridges in Cherrapunji. Majuli Island (Assam) is the world's largest river island with unique culture. Hornbill Festival (Nagaland) showcases tribal heritage. Loktak Lake (Manipur) features floating islands. Unakoti (Tripura) has ancient rock carvings. Adventure seekers enjoy river rafting in Arunachal Pradesh, trekking in Sikkim's Goecha La, and caving in Meghalaya's Mawsmai Caves. Tea gardens in Assam and Sikkim offer scenic beauty. Sikkim's Rumtek Monastery and Gangtok's MG Marg are cultural highlights. Each state offers unique experiences – from wildlife safaris to monastery visits and tribal village interactions.

🔗 What local foods and cuisines should I try in Northeast India?

Northeast cuisine is unique, featuring rice as staple with minimal spices and extensive use of herbs, bamboo shoots, and fermented ingredients. Must-try dishes include Assam's fish curry with khar (alkaline preparation), Sikkim's momos and thukpa, Nagaland's smoked pork with black sesame, and Manipur's Eromba (vegetable curry). Meghalaya's Jadoh (rice with meat) and Mizoram's Bai (vegetable stew) are local favorites. Fermented fish, bamboo shoot pickles, and bhut jolokia (ghost pepper) add distinctive flavors. Sikkimese cuisine shows Tibetan influence with gundruk (fermented leafy greens) and chhurpi (yak cheese). Try local rice beer, particularly Sikkim's chang and Assam's rice wine. Street food includes Assam's pitha (rice cakes) and various tribal preparations. Many dishes might be unfamiliar to outsiders, so start with milder options. Vegetarian options are available but limited in tribal areas. Local restaurants and homestays offer authentic experiences.

★ Traveller Reviews



Gunjan Tiwari

★★★★☆ 4/5

North-East Travels - An Enriching Experience

Traveling to the North-East was an enriching experience for me. The diverse ecosystems and cultures made the trip memorable. Highly recommend exploring this region!



Ranbir Choudhury

★★★★★ 5/5

Journey of a Lifetime

This North-East tour was indeed a journey of a lifetime! Beautiful landscapes, thrilling adventures, and rich culture made it all worth it. Will cherish these memories forever!



Nandita Roy

★★★★★ 5/5

Well-Organized North-East Package

The North-East tour package was well-organized with friendly staff and seamless arrangements. Every detail was taken care of and it made our travel experience delightful!



Sourabh Yadav

★★★★★ 5/5

Beautiful North-East Awaits You

The beautiful North-East awaits everyone! This tour package was filled with exciting activities and places that offered picturesque views. I can't recommend it enough!



Akanksha Mehta

★★★★☆ 4/5

Adventure Awaits in North-East

Adventure awaits in the North-East! This tour gave us thrilling experiences while also allowing us to soak in the serene beauty around us. Great trip overall!

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