

Arunachal Highlights: Dirang, Tawang & Monastery Circuit

Prepared by TourGrids

Destination
North-East

Duration
4 Nights 5 Days

Starting from
Rs. 18,250 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↙ **Dirang · 1N**

↙ **Tawang · 2N**

↙ **Bomdila · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/north-east/north-east-4-nights-5-days-package-635>

Overview

a compact 4 nights / 5 days North-East Adventure tour package designed to showcase the dramatic landscapes, high-altitude lakes, historic monasteries and cultural highlights of western Arunachal Pradesh. This package is ideal for travelers seeking a mix of scenic drives, monastery circuits and light adventure experiences.

Highlights:

- Tawang Monastery – one of the largest Buddhist monasteries in India
- Sela Pass & Sela Lake (Tso) – high-altitude pass with panoramic views
- Madhuri Lake (Sangestar Tso) – stunning blue-green alpine lake
- Nuranang (Jung) Falls – picturesque waterfall near Tawang
- Bomdila Monastery & local handicrafts – monastery circuit and cultural stops

Note: This is a moderate to high-altitude itinerary; proper acclimatization and warm clothing are essential.*

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ 4 nights accommodation in standard hotels (Dirang 1N, Tawang 2N, Bomdila 1N)
- ✓ Daily breakfast (additional meals as per plan)
- ✓ Private transport by innova/SUV (or similar) with experienced local driver
- ✓ All intra-trip transfers, sightseeing and parking charges
- ✓ Assistance for Inner Line Permit (ILP)/restricted area permits (permit fees extra if applicable)
- ✓ Experienced local English-speaking guide for sightseeing days
- ✓ Driver allowance, tolls and road taxes
- ✓ Emergency support and local phone assistance

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ Flights / train / arrival & departure city transfers unless specified
- ✗ Monument / camera fees, wildlife/forest entry charges if any
- ✗ Permit fees (Govt. ILP/permits) unless explicitly included
- ✗ Lunches, dinners, personal meals unless specified
- ✗ Tips, portorage, laundry, phone calls and personal expenses
- ✗ Adventure activities, snow activities or special permits (e.g., Bum La special permits)
- ✗ Travel insurance and medical expenses
- ✗ GST or any government taxes not specified

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival & Drive to Dirang — Settling into the Hills

Start your North-East Adventure package by arriving at the entry point (commonly Tezpur / Bhalukpong or a pre-arranged pickup from Guwahati). Meet your driver and guide and begin the drive to Dirang. En route enjoy rolling tea gardens and valley views. On arrival check in to your hotel and take it easy to acclimatize. In the late afternoon visit the Dirang Monastery and local markets.

Driving notes: The drive can be long depending on your arrival point; expect several stops for refreshments and photography. Keep your documents ready for permit processing if required.

Day

2

Dirang to Tawang via Sela Pass — High Altitude Landscapes

Early departure for Tawang, crossing the iconic Sela Pass. Stop at Sela Lake (Tso) for photos and panoramic views. Continue to Jaswant Garh (war memorial) and descend to the Tawang valley. On arrival in Tawang, check in and rest. If time permits, visit the Tawang War Memorial for sunset views.

Altitude: Sela Pass rises above 13,000 ft — take warm clothing and hydrate frequently.

Day

3

Tawang Monastery & Local Sightseeing — Monastery Circuit

Full day exploring the spiritual and natural highlights of Tawang. Visit the majestic Tawang Monastery (Gompa) — the largest monastery in India after Hemis — and the Urgen Namgyal Institute of Tibetology. Later drive to Nuranang (Jung) Falls and the photogenic Madhuri Lake (Sangestar Tso) (weather and road permitting). Evening at leisure in Tawang town to explore local markets and cuisine.

Tip: Photography is allowed at most outdoor sites but follow monastery etiquette — dress modestly and remove hats when inside prayer halls.

Day

4

Tawang to Bomdila — Monastery & Cultural Stops on Return

After breakfast begin the return journey toward Bomdila. En route stop at scenic viewpoints and local hamlets. On arrival visit Bomdila Monastery, explore apple orchards and the Bomdila handicrafts & artisanal centers. Spend the evening visiting a local viewpoint for sunset and sample regional cuisine.

Cultural note: Bomdila is known for its Tibetan-influenced monasteries and local craftwork — a good place to pick up souvenirs.

Day

5

Bomdila to Drop-off (Tezpur / Bhalukpong / Guwahati) – Departure

After breakfast depart Bomdila and drive to your final drop-off point (Tezpur / Bhalukpong / Guwahati) as per your booking. En route stop for short visits or photos if time permits. Complete formalities and depart with memories of the North-East Adventure.

Important: Allow buffer time for traffic, check posts and permit formalities when planning onward travel or flights.

🔗 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!

⚡ Why Choose TourGrids?

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