

Sikkim Adventure: Goecha La Base Trek Intro & Scenic Drives

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination

North-East



Duration

5 Nights 6 Days



Starting from

Rs. 22,800 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↖ **Gangtok · 2N**

↖ **Yuksom · 2N**

↖ **Pelling · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/north-east/north-east-5-nights-6-days-package-651>

Overview

A compact, immersive 5 nights / 6 days North-East tour package crafted for trekkers and nature lovers. This North-East tour package and North-East Adventure tour package combines gentle high-altitude trekking exposure, vivid Himalayan vistas, and scenic Sikkim drives. Ideal as a short introduction to the famed Goecha La route, the itinerary balances light trekking, cultural visits, and relaxed sightseeing. Perfect for travelers seeking a sample of the Goecha La experience without committing to the full multi-day trek.

Highlights:

- Gateway city: Gangtok (culture, viewpoints, and markets)
- Trek base: Yuksom – gateway to Goecha La
- Short guided trek: Intro to Goecha La Base with panoramic views of Kangchenjunga
- Scenic drives & viewpoints: Pemayangtse Monastery, Khecheopalri Lake, Pelling landscapes
- Cultural stops: Rumtek Monastery, Dubdi Monastery, local markets

Important note: Short trek sections are introductory and suitable for travelers with good fitness levels but limited high-altitude trekking experience.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation: 5 nights in twin/double rooms (hotel/guesthouse category as selected)
- ✓ Meals: Daily breakfast and 3 lunches during transfer/trek days (as per itinerary)
- ✓ Transfers: Arrival & departure transfers from Bagdogra/NJP, all intercity transfers by private vehicle as per itinerary
- ✓ Guides & Permits: Experienced local guide for the Goecha La intro trek, required permits for Sikkim (where applicable)
- ✓ Sightseeing: All sightseeing as per the itinerary
- ✓ Transport taxes & driver allowances.
- ✓ Note: Exact meal count and accommodation standards will be confirmed at booking.

✗ Not Included

- ✗ International / Domestic flights or train tickets to Bagdogra/NJP
- ✗ Trekking gear (sturdy boots, sleeping bag, trekking poles) – can be rented on request
- ✗ Personal expenses, beverages, tips & gratuities
- ✗ Travel insurance and emergency evacuation
- ✗ Monument / monastery entrance fees not specified in inclusions
- ✗ Any services not mentioned in 'Inclusions'
- ✗ Important: Additional charges may apply for last-minute itinerary changes or extended stays.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival & Transfer to Gangtok — Settle In and Relax

Arrive at Bagdogra Airport / New Jalpaiguri (NJP) and enjoy a scenic drive to Gangtok (approx. 4–5 hours). Check into your hotel and relax. In the evening, take a gentle walk on MG Marg to soak in the local vibe. Acclimatize well; stay hydrated.

Day

2

Gangtok Sightseeing & Local Culture

Explore the highlights of Gangtok: visit Rumtek Monastery, Tashi Viewpoint for Himalayan panoramas, Hanuman Tok, and Enchey Monastery. Spend time at the local markets for handicrafts and teas. This day helps you acclimatize further before heading to higher altitudes.

Day

3

Scenic Drive to Yuksom — Gateway to Goecha La

Depart Gangtok after breakfast for a picturesque drive to Yuksom (approx. 6–7 hours) — the historic capital and the base for the Goecha La trek. En route, enjoy valley views and stop for photographs. On arrival, check in and take a short orientation walk to Dubdi Monastery and the village. Early night recommended for the trek day ahead.

Day

4

Goecha La Base Trek Intro — Short Guided Trek & Panoramas

Begin a guided, introductory trek from Yuksom towards the lower approaches of the Goecha La route. This is a day-long guided walk (6–8 hours round trip) to reach a scenic base viewpoint where you get dramatic views of Kangchenjunga and surrounding peaks. Return to Yuksom by late afternoon. This is a moderate trek requiring good fitness and sturdy footwear; acclimatization is essential.

Day

5

Yuksom to Pelling — Khecheopalri Lake & Pemayangtse

After breakfast, drive to Pelling with en route stops at the sacred Khecheopalri Lake and the ancient Pemayangtse Monastery. Explore Pelling, visit Rabdentse ruins and enjoy sunset views of the Kanchenjunga range. Pelling offers dramatic cliffs and tea-garden panoramas.

Day

6

Departure: Pelling to Bagdogra / NJP

After an early breakfast, depart Pelling for Bagdogra Airport / New Jalpaiguri (NJP) (approx. 4–5 hours) for your onward journey. En route, quick photo stops at tea gardens and small waterfalls are possible. Drop-off time depends on your onward flight/train schedule.

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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