

North East Pilgrimage Trail: Tawang, Dirang & Sacred Monasteries

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination

North-East



Duration

6 Nights 7 Days



Starting from

Rs. 24,300 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↙ **Bhalukpong · 1N**

↙ **Dirang · 1N**

↙ **Tawang · 3N**

↙ **Bomdila · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/north-east/north-east-6-nights-7-days-package-663>

Overview

a curated 6N/7D North-East Pilgrimage tour package designed for spiritual seekers and nature lovers. This tour package covers the most revered monasteries, serene high-altitude passes and cultural landmarks across Arunachal Pradesh. Ideal for travelers looking for a North-East Pilgrimage package and those searching for 6 and 7 North-East Pilgrimage tour package options.

Highlights:

- Tawang Monastery (Golden Namgyal Lhatse) – the largest monastery in India
- Sela Pass & Sela Lake – dramatic high-altitude vistas
- Bumla Pass & Jaswantgarh War Memorial – historic and spiritual sites
- Dirang Hot Springs & Dirang Monastery – peaceful alpine valley
- Bomdila Monastery & Craft Centre – panoramic views and local culture

Note: Inner Line Permit (ILP) assistance is provided. High-altitude acclimatization and flexible pacing are recommended.*

✓ What's Included

- ✓ 6 nights accommodation in comfortable hotels/guesthouses (twin/double sharing)
- ✓ Daily breakfast (as per hotel policy)
- ✓ All transfers and sightseeing by comfortable private vehicle (as per group size)
- ✓ Experienced local driver and local guide for major sightseeing
- ✓ Inner Line Permit (ILP) assistance and permit processing
- ✓ Monument/Monastery entry assistance and local taxes
- ✓ 24/7 emergency support and on-ground coordination

✗ Not Included

- ✗ Airfare / Train fare to Guwahati and return
- ✗ Meals other than breakfast (lunches & dinners)
- ✗ Personal expenses (tips, laundry, phone calls, etc.)
- ✗ Entrance fees where applicable (if specifically excluded), special permits for Bumla Pass (if required)
- ✗ Travel insurance and medical expenses
- ✗ Any items not mentioned under inclusions

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival at Guwahati and Drive to Bhalukpong

Meet at Guwahati (or Tezpur) and begin the scenic drive to Bhalukpong via Tezpur. En route enjoy views of the Brahmaputra plains and cross into Arunachal Pradesh. Evening at leisure in the riverside town.

What to expect: Long drive with several stops, gentle acclimatization.

Tip: Start early to avoid traffic; carry light snacks and water.

Day

2

Bhalukpong to Dirang – Valley Views & Hot Springs

Drive from Bhalukpong into the Dirang Valley. Visit the Tipi Orchid Research Centre (optional) and stop at local viewpoints. In Dirang, explore the Dirang Monastery and relax at Dirang Hot Springs.

Evening: Walk through the traditional market and interact with Monpa locals.

Note: Altitude slowly increases – keep hydrated and take it easy.

Day

3

Dirang to Tawang via Bomdila – Monasteries & Mountain Roads

Depart early for Tawang. En route stop at Bomdila Monastery and the local craft centre. Continue through winding mountain roads with panoramic valley views. Arrive in Tawang by evening and check in to the hotel.

Highlights en route: Bomdila viewpoint, local monasteries and craft shops.

Important: Road conditions can be variable; travel time may be longer than expected.

Day

4

Tawang Monastery & Cultural Exploration

Full day exploring Tawang. Visit the iconic Tawang Monastery (Golden Namgyal Lhatse), Tawang War Memorial, local monasteries and the bustling town market. Learn about Monpa culture and Buddhist rituals from local lamas.

Evening: Attend a cultural interaction or explore local cuisine.

Tip: Modest clothing recommended while visiting monasteries.

Day

5

Sela Pass, Nuranang Falls & Bumla/Border Excursion

Today's spectacular sights include the high-altitude Sela Pass & Sela Lake, the cascading Nuranang (Jang) Falls, and an optional excursion to Bumla Pass (subject to permit and weather). Visit Jaswantgarh War Memorial on the return leg.

This day offers iconic Himalayan vistas and important historical sites.

Note: Bumla Pass visit requires additional permissions and is weather dependent – please check in advance.

Day

6

Return Drive to Bomdila – Heritage & Panoramas

After a relaxed morning in Tawang, begin the return journey to Bomdila. Stop for photo points and brief visits to viewpoints and small monasteries on the way. Evening at Bomdila with optional visit to the Bomdila Monastery if missed earlier.

Tip: Carry warm clothing—temperatures drop significantly after sunset.

Day

7

Bomdila to Guwahati – Departure

Drive back to Guwahati (or Tezpur) for onward connections. En route enjoy the changing landscape from alpine to plains. Drop-off at Guwahati railway station / airport / designated point.

Trip ends with memories of the spiritual North-East Pilgrimage Trail.

Important: Confirm onward travel timings before departure.

🔍 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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