

# Northeast Cultural Immersion: Manipur, Tripura & Local Festivals

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination

**North-East**



Duration

**7 Nights 8 Days**



Starting from

**Rs. 28,700 / person**

## ITINERARY ROUTE

↩ **Imphal, Manipur · 4N**

↩ **Agartala, Tripura · 3N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/north-east/north-east-7-nights-8-days-package-669>

## Overview

A thoughtfully curated 7 nights / 8 days North-East tour package that blends historical pilgrimage sites, living tribal cultures, serene lakes and lively local festivals. This North-East Pilgrimage tour package focuses on spiritual landmarks, cultural encounters and nature: Imphal (Manipur), Loktak Lake & Keibul Lamjao National Park, and Agartala (Tripura) including Ujjayanta Palace, Tripura Sundari Temple and Neermahal.

### Highlights:

- Imphal city tour: Kangla Fort, Shri Govindajee Temple, Ima Keithel
- Loktak Lake & Keibul Lamjao (floating national park)
- Ujjayanta Palace and Tripura Sundari Temple (pilgrimage site)
- Neermahal – the palace on water
- Local festival immersion & tribal cultural performances

Note: Festival dates vary each year; this 7 and 8 North-East Pilgrimage tour package may be scheduled to coincide with local festivals (e.g., Lai Haraoba, Khamba Thoibi, Garia Puja) depending on the calendar.

### ✓ What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation for 7 nights on twin/double sharing basis (4 nights in Imphal, 3 nights in Agartala)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 4 multi-cuisine dinners (including a local cuisine welcome and farewell dinner)
- ✓ All intercity transfers as per itinerary (Imphal–Agartala by road/flight as chosen)
- ✓ Local guided tours, entrance fees to listed monuments and parks (Kangla Fort, Manipur State Museum, Loktak Lake boat ride, Keibul Lamjao entry, Ujjayanta Palace, Tripura Sundari Temple, Neermahal boat ride)
- ✓ Cultural performances and village visit logistics (subject to schedule)
- ✓ Airport transfers on arrival and departure
- ✓ Bottled water during transfers and sightseeing
- ✓ All applicable taxes (unless specified otherwise)
- ✓ This package is marketed as a North-East tour package and North-East Pilgrimage tour package focusing on cultural and pilgrimage highlights.

### ✗ Not Included

- ✗ Air tickets to/from origin city (international/domestic to Imphal/Agartala)
- ✗ Visa, travel insurance, and personal expenses
- ✗ Meals other than specified (lunches and three dinners unless otherwise mentioned)
- ✗ Camera/video permits where applicable
- ✗ Optional activities and personal guide gratuities
- ✗ Any extra nights or transfers required due to flight schedule changes or force majeure
- ✗ Important: Festival events may require additional charges or permits depending on local organizers; these are not included by default.



## Day-by-Day Itinerary

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Day

1

### **Arrival in Imphal & Local Orientation**

Arrive at Imphal (Bir Tikendrajit International Airport). Transfer to your hotel and relax. Evening orientation walk and welcome dinner featuring Manipuri cuisine and a short introduction to the itinerary and festival alignment information (if applicable).

Day

2

### **Imphal City & Heritage Tour**

Explore the historical and spiritual heart of Manipur. Visit Kangla Fort — the ancient seat of Manipur's royalty — and the Manipur State Museum for a cultural primer. Continue to Shri Govindajee Temple, an important pilgrimage site, followed by the iconic Ima Keithel (Mother's Market) for handicrafts and textiles.

Day

3

### **Loktak Lake & Keibul Lamjao National Park (Floating Island Experience)**

Full-day excursion to Loktak Lake, the largest freshwater lake in Northeast India. Take a boat ride to see the unique phumdis (floating biomass) and visit Keibul Lamjao National Park, the world's only floating national park and home to the endangered Sangai deer (brow-antlered deer). Enjoy a picnic and photography at scenic viewpoints.

Day

4

### **Tribal Villages, Handloom & Cultural Immersion**

Visit nearby tribal villages and artisan workshops to learn traditional weaving and craft techniques. Attend a scheduled folk dance performance (subject to availability) and interact with local artisans. Evening free for shopping or optional cultural show. Tip: Carry small change and respect local customs when photographing people.

Day

5

### **Transfer to Agartala — Ujjayanta Palace & City Walk**

Drive or take a short flight to Agartala (travel time varies). On arrival, check in and visit Ujjayanta Palace, the former royal palace now housing state galleries. Stroll through Agartala's markets and try local Tripuri snacks. Note: Road transfer offers scenic rural views; flights save time.

Day

6

### **Pilgrimage to Tripura Sundari Temple & Neermahal Boat Visit**

Morning transfer to Udaipur (Tripura) to visit the revered Tripura Sundari Temple — one of the 51 Shakti Peethas and an important stop on this North-East Pilgrimage package. Later, head to Neermahal, the palace on Lake Rudrasagar. Enjoy a boat ride and sunset views; perfect for photography and spiritual reflection.

Day

7

## Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary / Local Festivals & Cultural Evening

Choose between a wildlife excursion to Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary (birdwatching, primate sightings, botanical garden) or a curated festival experience where available – witnessing traditional dances, rituals and community feasts. Evening farewell dinner with a cultural performance featuring Manipuri and Tripuri dances. Important: Festival inclusion is subject to timing and local permissions.

Day

8

## Departure from Agartala

After breakfast, transfer to Agartala (Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport) for onward flight. Optional short stop at local craft shops for last-minute souvenirs. End of the 7 and 8 North-East Pilgrimage tour package – safe travels!

## ? Frequently Asked Questions

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### ? 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.

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## ❓ **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.

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## ❓ **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.

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## 🔍 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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