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## **Overview** Darjeeling-gangtok Delight

Gangtok, a captivating hill town nestled in the northeastern region of India, offers an enchanting blend of natural beauty, vibrant culture, and spiritual serenity. With its awe-inspiring views of the mighty Kanchenjunga, the third-highest peak in the world, Gangtok is a paradise for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike. The town is dotted with tranquil lakes, towering mountains, and lush hills, creating a picturesque landscape that beckons travelers to explore its every corner. <br/>
Steeped in rich Buddhist heritage, Gangtok's colorful prayer flags flutter in the cool mountain breeze, while silent lamas chant sacred mantras in the background. The town's unique charm is further enhanced by vividly painted pagoda-roofed huts and the deep-rooted traditions of the Bhutias, Lepchas, and Nepalis. These cultures converge to form a harmonious blend of history, art, and spirituality, making Gangtok a hub for those interested in Tibetan Buddhism and Tibetan culture. <br/>
wourself immersed in the calming atmosphere of its monasteries and Tibetan institutions of learning. The curvaceous roads of Gangtok, lined with colorful begonias and vibrant orchids, offer a stunning backdrop as you venture through its scenic beauty. The winding paths through the verdant hills and sprawling tea estates create an unforgettable experience, inviting you to revel in the mesmerizing views of nature at its finest. Gangtok is truly a place where peace, beauty, and culture come together to create a magical experience.

# Day 1 NJP RIy Station / IXB Airport – Darjeeling (75 kms / 3 hrs)

Your journey begins the moment you arrive at NJP Railway Station or IXB Airport, where our warm and welcoming guide will greet you with a smile. From here, embark on a scenic drive of 75 kilometers to Darjeeling, perched at an altitude of 6,950 feet, where the cool mountain breeze and breathtaking landscapes will greet you along the way. As you drive through lush valleys and charming hills, the anticipation of exploring this enchanting hill station builds with every turn. Upon arrival in Darjeeling, check into your hotel and take some time to relax, soaking in the serene atmosphere of this picturesque town. Whether you choose to unwind in the comfort of your hotel or step out for a leisurely stroll, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy at your own pace. With the majestic mountains and vibrant culture awaiting you, your stay in Darjeeling promises to be a memorable one. Enjoy an overnight stay in this tranquil haven, where the beauty of nature and the warmth of the local hospitality combine to make you feel right at home.

## Day 2 Darjeeling Sightseeing

Your day begins early at 4:00 AM with a visit to the iconic Tiger Hill, where you'll be treated to a spectacular sunrise over the Himalayan range. On a clear morning, witness the golden hues of the sun gradually illuminating the snow-capped peaks of Kanchenjunga, the world's third-highest mountain, as the landscape comes to life in front of your eyes. (Please note, this visit is subject to the availability of permits/token.) After this unforgettable experience, return to the hotel for a hearty breakfast. At 8:30 AM, your exploration of Darjeeling's captivating landmarks begins. First, visit the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, a must-see for adventure enthusiasts, where the legacy of mountaineering and the spirit of the mountains are preserved. Next, head to the P.N. Zoological Park (closed on Thursdays), where rare and endangered wildlife thrive in this peaceful sanctuary. Not far from here, challenge yourself at Tenzing Rock, a 50-foot-high rock face named after the legendary Tenzing Norgay, offering a unique climbing experience. Feel the cool mountain breeze as you take a ride on the Ropeway, offering sweeping views of Darjeeling and its lush tea gardens. A visit to the Tibetan Refugee Self-Help Centre (closed on Sundays) will provide insight into Tibetan culture and craftsmanship, while the Tea Gardens (outer view) present a postcard-perfect scene of rolling green hills and tea pickers at work. Next, experience tranquility at the Japanese Temple, where serenity and spirituality meet, and take a step back in time with a visit to the Ghoom Monastery, home to the 15-foot Maitreya Buddha statue. Finally, marvel at the Batasia Loop, an engineering wonder where the famous Darjeeling Himalayan Railway weaves a spiral track through stunning gardens, offering an incredible view of the surrounding mountains. As the day comes to a close, enjoy some free time in the evening to shop for local souvenirs or simply relax, soaking in the charm of Darjeeling. After a day filled with adventure, culture, and history, return

## Day 3 Darjeeling – Gangtok (100 kms / 4 hrs)

After a delightful breakfast, bid farewell to the charm of Darjeeling as you embark on a picturesque 100-kilometer journey to Gangtok, nestled at 5,500 feet. The drive winds through verdant hills, tranquil valleys, and quaint villages, offering breathtaking views that will leave you enchanted at every turn. Let the cool breeze and the serene beauty of the landscape make your journey as memorable as the destination itself. Upon arrival in Gangtok, check into your cozy hotel and take the rest of the day to relax and rejuvenate. Whether you choose to unwind in your room, take a leisurely stroll around the town, or simply enjoy the fresh mountain air, the day is yours to explore at your own pace. Prepare to immerse yourself in the vibrant culture, spiritual serenity, and natural beauty that Gangtok has to offer in the days ahead. End your day with a peaceful overnight stay, ready to discover the treasures of this enchanting hill station.

## Day 4 Excursion to Tsomgo Lake & Baba Mandir

Start your day with a hearty breakfast before embarking on an unforgettable excursion to two of Gangtok's most iconic destinations—Tsomgo Lake

and Baba Mandir. The scenic 55-kilometer drive winds through rugged mountain terrain, offering awe-inspiring views of snow-clad peaks and tranquil valleys. Perched at a breathtaking altitude of 12,400 feet, Tsomgo Lake is a glacial marvel surrounded by rugged mountains and pristine beauty. The lake, revered as sacred, transforms with the seasons—icy and still in winter, and a shimmering blue in summer. Take in the serene atmosphere, and if you're lucky, you may spot vibrant prayer flags fluttering in the breeze, adding a touch of spirituality to the landscape. A little higher at 13,200 feet lies the Baba Mandir, a shrine dedicated to Baba Harbhajan Singh, a revered Indian Army soldier. The site, steeped in legend and patriotism, exudes a profound sense of peace and respect. Many visit the mandir not just for its spiritual significance but also to pay homage to a soldier whose legacy continues to inspire. After immersing yourself in the natural beauty and cultural richness of these high-altitude wonders, return to Gangtok. Relax and enjoy your evening at leisure, reflecting on the day's experiences. End your day with a comfortable overnight stay, cherishing the memories of these

enchanting sights. (Note: In case of landslides or any other reasons that restrict access to Tsomgo Lake, alternate sightseeing options will be provided.)

# Day 5 Gangtok Local Sightseeing

Start your day with a delicious breakfast before embarking on a full-day exploration of Gangtok, a town that beautifully blends spirituality, culture, and natural splendor. Your journey begins with a visit to Tashi View Point, where you can soak in panoramic views of the snow-capped peaks of Kanchenjunga and the surrounding hills—a perfect start to your day. Next, head to Ganesh Tok and Hanuman Tok, two serene temples perched high on the hills. These spots not only offer spiritual tranquility but also provide breathtaking views of Gangtok and the majestic mountains beyond. The crisp mountain air and peaceful ambiance make these temples a must-visit for nature and spirituality enthusiasts alike. Continue to the vibrant Flower Show, where a riot of colors awaits you. This delightful display of seasonal blooms and exotic orchids is a treat for the senses, showcasing the region's rich flora. Next, explore the Cottage Industry and Handicraft Centre (closed on Sundays and the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month), a treasure trove of traditional crafts where you can witness artisans at work and shop for unique souvenirs. Dive deeper into the region's cultural heritage at the Institute of Tibetology (closed on Sundays). This renowned center for Tibetan studies houses an impressive collection of artifacts, scriptures, and Buddhist relics, offering a glimpse into the spiritual and academic richness of Tibetan Buddhism. Nearby, visit the Dro-dul Chorten, a sacred stupa surrounded by prayer wheels that hum with a meditative rhythm. Your journey continues to Gonjang Monastery, a serene sanctuary that radiates peace and spirituality. Finally, wrap up your day with a visit to the enchanting Banjakhri Falls, a picturesque waterfall nestled amidst lush greenery, where you can relax and enjoy the soothing sounds of nature. After a day filled with exploration and discovery, return to your hotel for a restful overnight stay in Gangtok, cherishing the vibrant experiences of this captivating hill town.

## Day 6 Gangtok – NJP Rly Station / IXB Airport (120 kms / 5 hrs)

As your journey in the serene hills of Sikkim comes to an end, enjoy a hearty breakfast before checking out from your hotel. With memories etched in your heart, embark on a picturesque drive to NJP Railway Station or IXB Airport, covering 120 kilometers in approximately five hours. The drive offers one last chance to soak in the tranquil beauty of the hills, with lush green valleys, meandering rivers, and misty mountain views accompanying you along the way. Reflect on the mesmerizing landscapes, spiritual experiences, and cultural richness that made your time in Gangtok truly unforgettable. As you bid farewell to the enchanting Himalayas, take with you not just souvenirs but also the warmth of its people, the serenity of its monasteries, and the breathtaking vistas that have left an indelible mark. Wishing you safe travels and hoping the charm of Sikkim calls you back for another magical adventure!

#### **TOUR COST INCLUDES**

- Accomodation as per the Itinerary
- Meal Plan (as per mentioned above).
- Exclusive Non-a/c vehicle for transfers & sightseeing. Please brief to guest that vehicle will not be at disposal it will be available to guest as per itinerary only (point to point basis).
- All permit fees & hotel taxes (as per itinerary).
- Rates are valid for INDIAN NATIONALS only.

#### **TOUR COST EXCLUDES**

- Airfare/ Train Fare
- Personal Expenses such as Laundry, telephone calls, tips & gratuity, mineral water, soft & hard drinks, rafting, rock climbing, paragliding, joy ride (Toy Train), Ropeway, porterage.
- Additional sightseeing or extra usage of vehicle, other than mentioned in the itinerary.
- Any cost arising due to natural calamities like, landslides, road blockage, political disturbances (strikes), etc (to be borne by the client, which is directly payable on the spot).
- Entrance Fees & Guide charges.
- Any increase in taxes or fuel price, leading to increase in cost on surface transportation & land arrangements, which may come into effect prior to departure.
- Room Heater Charges.
- Anything which is not included in the inclusion.

#### **CANCELLATION/NO SHOW POLICY**

• As per the Booking Conditions of the Tour, the cancellation charges will be applicable for any cancellation request of the tour, either by the customer or any member of the group. This will be intimated at the time of booking. In any other case, including 'No Show', the Company shall make no refund to the customer.

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- Itinerary is subject to change without any prior notice.
- No rooms on Hold. Confirmation will be subject to availability at the time of confirmation.
- Tour itinerary may be shuffled due to the inclement weather conditions and changes in Flight/ Ferry operations, which may incur extra charges.
- All the passengers should carry the valid ID during the travel
- Peak Season / Weekend Surcharges may be applicable at the time of confirmation. This will be intimated at the time of booking. However we will not be able to get this information prior.
- Child below 2 years is considered as infant and 2 years to 11 years are considered to be child.
- All the services included in the package are compulsory and no refund will be given if any of the services are not taken.
- Flights arriving Early Morning or Late Evening & departing Early Morning or Late Evening, passengers needs to book Private Transfers if Schedule Transfer is not operational
- Check-in time of the hotels starts from 14.00 hrs and check out time will be 12.00 hrs. Early Check in/late check out will be subjected to availability of rooms. However Hotel has the right to change the timing without any prior notice.
- Company will not be liable for any claims due to accidents, food poisoning, medical illness or other natural calamities arising during the tour/travel. Passenger will have to ensure themselves and company will not entertain any claims in this regard.
- At the airport driver will be holding placard under the main passenger name. If you do not locate the driver please call the emergency no and trace out the same.
- For transfers and tours please be ready on time and wait at the hotel reception. If you miss the same no refund. Please carry all your documents safely. All valuables, cash, traveler cheque, air ticket, Visa copy passport etc. should be carried in your handbag for easy access.