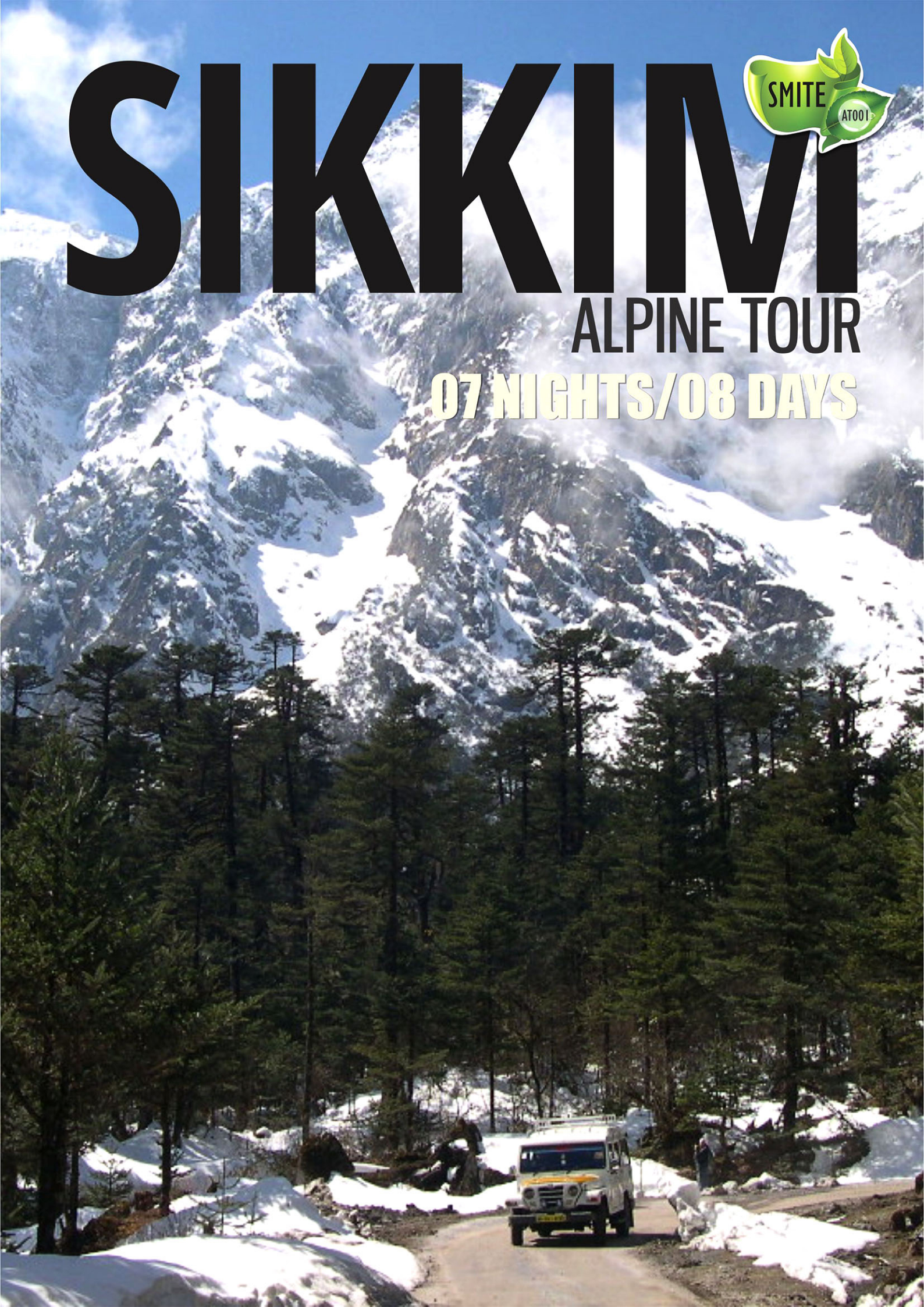


# SIKKIMI



ALPINE TOUR

07 NIGHTS/08 DAYS





## BAGDOGRA AIRPORT- GANGTOK (120 KMS/5 HRS)

- Upon arrival, meet our representative and after a short introduction about the staff & the tour, we drive to Gangtok, the capital town of Sikkim and reach there by the early evening. Check into the Hotel, refresh and evening time free.
- The precise meaning of the name Gangtok is unclear, though the most popular meaning is "hill top". Today, Gangtok is a centre of Tibetan Buddhist culture and learning, with the presence of several monasteries, religious educational institutions, and center for Tibetology
- Overnight at the Hotel.



## EXCURSION IN AND AROUND GANGTOK

After breakfast, we leave for Rumtek Monastery/Dharma chakra centre (24 kms/1 hr) belonging to the Kagyu sect of Buddhism. The monastery is said to be the replica of Tshurpu monastery in Tibet and was founded as the official seat in exile to His Holiness The Karmapa, head of the Kagyu lineage by the Late 16<sup>th</sup> Karmapa Rangjung Rigpe Dorje. Later we drive back to Gangtok and visit the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology (only museum of its kind in whole of India) The museum housed in a traditional Tibetan-style mansion boasts a jaw-dropping collection of artefacts related to Vajrayana Buddhism and Tibetan culture. Established in 1958 to promote scholastic and cultural research, its ground-floor hall displays Buddhist manuscripts, icons, thangkas (Tibetan cloth paintings) and Tantric ritual objects, such as a thöpa (bowl made from a human skull) and kangling (human thighbone trumpet). The library on the 1st floor houses precious Buddhist tomes, some dating back several hundred years.

Day  
**2**

## EXCURSION IN AND AROUND GANGTOK

- Lunch will be served at Hotel and after lunch and after a brief rest, we set to cover the second session of the day which includes the Handloom & Handicraft centre & Enchey Monastery(one of the oldest in Sikkim) and later We stroll at the MG Marg for a while before calling it a day.
- Overnight at the Hotel.

Day  
**3**

## EXCURSION TO TSHOM-GO LAKE

- The lake is at the altitude of 12400 feet, the alpine zone and the considered sacred lake among the many in Sikkim has its own ambiances to offer. A oval shaped lake enroute the NH 10 to Indo-Chinese border is something to cherish in the days to come. The lake surface reflects different colours with change of seasons and is held in great reverence by the local Sikkimese people. Buddhist monks prognosticated after studying the changing colours of the lake. A couple of hours return journey will give us a ample of chances to view quite a charming views of the hills and valleys in the far-sight enroute Gangtok.
- Overnight at the Hotel.





## GANGTOK TO LACHEN

(127 KMS/5-6 HRS)

- The day is to journey towards the northern part of the state, the place where one define, a land of “Hidden Paradise” has much more to offer when visited in reality. Though the roads in some part is yet rough & rugged, the journey to the North is a worth every penny as it offers quite a adventure till we reach our destination for the day, the Himalayan village-Lachen at 9000 feet . The village is inhabited by the Lachen-pa's, a Bhutia community believed to have come from Paro region of Bhutan a long time ago and settled here in the lap of Himalaya.
- Overnight at the Hotel.



## THANGU-CHOPTA VALLEY-LACHUNG

- The journey for the day starts very early (around 05:00 hrs) through the rough and dusty roads and the mighty River Teesta on our side running downwards towards the plains of India and the views of some of the unnamed peaks is just mesmerizing till we reach the farthest settlement of the region Thangu. We stop for a entry at the check post and a hot tea to cherish for a while, its already a morning time with sun up in the sky. Chopta valley is just about 15 minutes drive where the true hikers find out the word “Hidden Paradise” is just absolute and the hiking trails is just awesome where we can spend a easy 2-3 hours hiking around the valley. After a while, we drive back to Lachen through the same trails and get back to the Hotel for a Lunch as after Lunch we have about 02 ½ hours drive to the other side of the mountain ,the next destination called Lachung which is at around 9000 fts, a small and picturesque village quite close to the Tibetan frontier.
- Overnight stay at Hotel in Lachung.





## SHINGBA RHODODENDRON SANCTUARY-YUMTHANG VALLEY

- The journey could be started after the breakfast. We drive to Yumthang valley which is just 24 kms and an hour away from Lachung. The place is also called the valley of flowers as the valley itself offers a much varieties of seasonal flowering plants to the many species of rhododendron bushes and the tall pine trees. The valley is a open meadow with a small chilled river flowing making a kind of mesmerizing sound, the sound which could just move you in a musical note kind of thing. We have a beautiful trail through the Rhododendron bushes and the tall pine trees alongside the river until we come across the bridge to cross over the river to go to the nearby Hot-spring. While we drive back, we can stop by the newly formed lake (formed due to the huge rock slide) and walk for a while as it gives us much more time to spend with a beautiful nature. We come back for a late lunch at the Hotel and the afternoon time is free to stroll around the village of Lachung to see and experience the local life-style and the traditions.
- Overnight stay at the Hotel.



## LACHUNG-GANGTOK

(124 kms/5-6 hrs)

- The journey is via same route after we cross the place called Chungthang through the same valleys and rivers and many more with different ambiances. The view of Mt.Khanchendzonga (03rd highest peak in the world) from Singhik adds another joy to the trip and to our heart.
- Overnight at the Hotel in Gangtok.



## DEPARTURE

- Departure to Bagdogra which is about 5 hours from Gangtok.

