

# SIKKIM & DARJEELING



09 NIGHTS/10 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 & Relax. 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.





- 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.
- 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.





A woman is riding a mule through a snowy mountain landscape. The mule is carrying a large, colorful bag. In the background, there are snow-covered mountains and a clear blue sky. The woman is wearing a dark jacket and a patterned scarf. The mule is wearing a red and blue saddle pad. The overall scene is a beautiful winter landscape in the Himalayas.

Day  
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## 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 –RAVANGLA VIA TEMI TEA-GARDEN (65 KMS / 3-4 HRS)

- The journey starts from Gangtok going downwards to Singtam town and crossing over the River Teesta entering into the Southern part of the state where Tourism has been growing every single day. We reach the famous Temi Tea Garden (only one in Sikkim) which is absolutely 100% organic to offer you the best scenic view of the valley and the mountain on the far sight in the Western side. There is a place, a cafeteria where we can stop by, have a sip of tea/coffee or light eateries i.e momo's and after a while we drive further to Ravangla to see the "Tatha-gatha Tsal" or the Buddha Park which is beautiful with a giant statue of Sakyamuni Buddha, a 130 feet high statue is its centerpiece. After seeing the place, we drive further to Selep, a beautiful village with a homestay to welcome you traditionally.
- Overnight at the homestay.







## RAVANGLA VILLAGE EXCURSION

- The schedule for the day is to have a walk in the surrounding village to see and experience a well preserved traditions and the cultures by the local people of the area. The other highlight of the day is to visit Dorling monastery (Nyingma-pa) and the Bon Monastery (only Bon monastery in Sikkim & one of the very few in India). The walk itself is a beautiful walk through the villages and the trails through the forest which offer you many good chances to sight a some of the rare species of birds too.
- Overnight at the Homestay.







## SELEP TO PELLING (52 KMS/ 3 HRS)

- We drive to the western part of the state on this day, much closer to the mighty Mt.Khangchendzonga (03rd highest peak in the world), Pelling from where we can cherish the closest view of the mountain (from motorable point). We have our lunch ready at the check-in time itself, we take lunch, rest for a while and we hike to Sanga-choeling monastery which is on the hill-top and is about an hour hike from Pelling and from where we can have a magnificent view of the villages below and the hills and valleys on the far-sight. Established in the 17th century by Lama Lhatsün Chempo, is one of the oldest monasteries in Sikkim and literally meaning "Island of the Guhyamantra teachings", or "secret Mantra teachings of "Vajrayana Buddhism". It is late evening while we reach the hotel.
- Overnight at the Hotel.







## PELLING SIGHT-SEEING

- After breakfast, we start our day itinerary with Khechupalri lake, an hour drive is on the top of the list. This unusually calm and placid lake, located in the midst of a dense forest is considered sacred to both Buddhist and the Hindus, who come here to make a wish and is among the pilgrimage site of Sikkim. It is also believed to be the wish-fulfilling lake. Later we drive again for another an hour when we reach Yuksum, the first capital of erstwhile kingdom of Sikkim and the place where we visit the Norbu Ghang Coronation Throne, the place where the first king of Sikkim was coronated, The place where the coronation took place is marked by the original stone throne and an amazing footprint on a rock face The footprint is said to have left by one (first ) of the three monks and thus the history of Sikkim's erstwhile monarch starts from this very place dating back to 1641-42 A.D. The place is still a village but the place is full of trekkers and the backpackers as the place is where the famous Dzongri-Goechala trek starts, it's a base. It will be late afternoon when we reach back to the Hotel and rest for the day.
- Overnight at the Hotel.





## PELLING-DARJEELING (135 KMS/ 5-6 HRS)

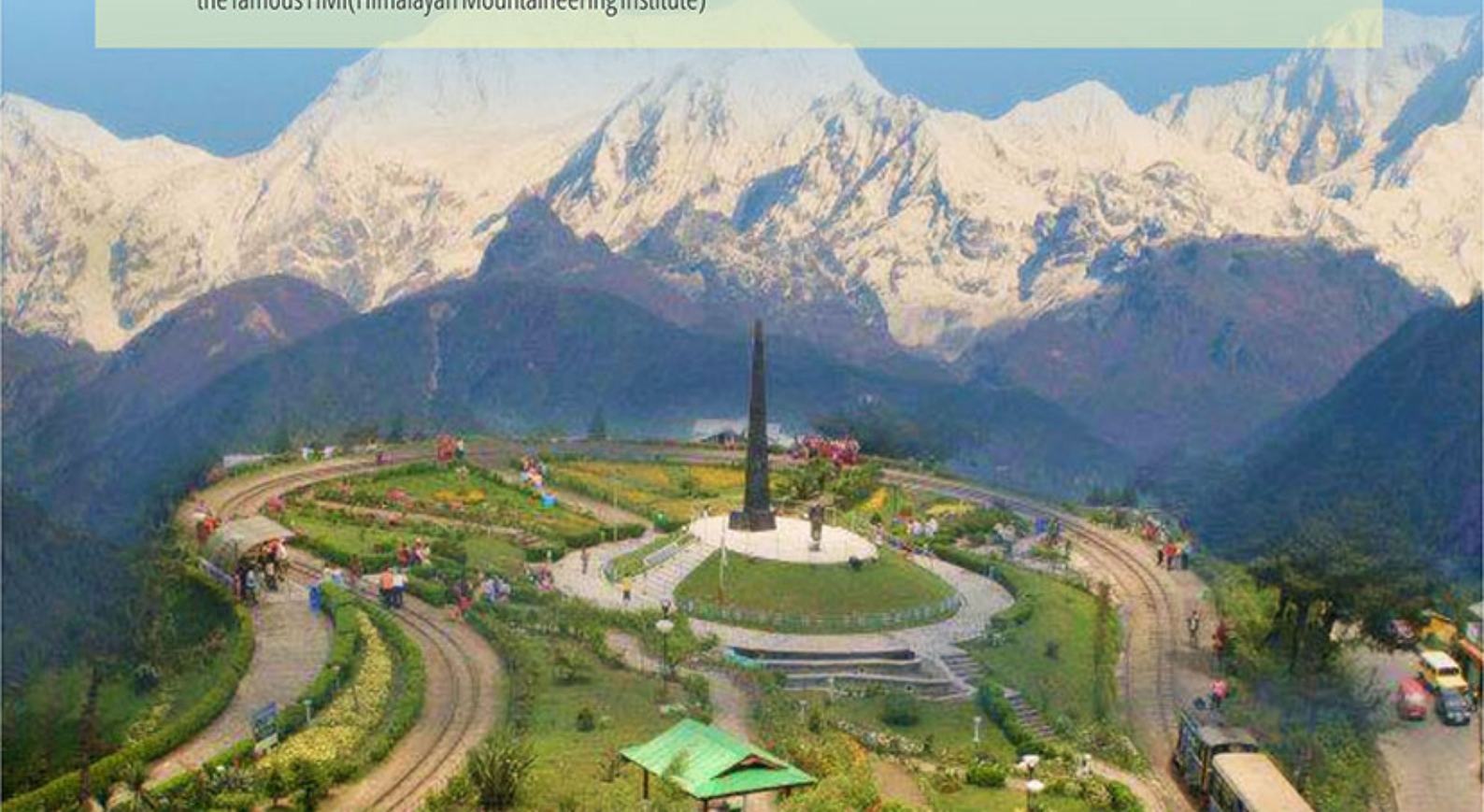
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- The last day in Sikkim, the land of "Hidden Paradise" as we drive to the Queen of the hills-Darjeeling. As we drive by the River Rangeet, we try to memorize the good moments of Sikkim until we reach the border town-Melli and the final look back at Sikkim as we drive further in West Bengal alongside river Teesta and through the beautiful tea gardens till we reach the altitude of around 2200 mtrs where we find the one of the highest & oldest railway station of India dating back to 1890-91, The famous toy train, a UNESCO world heritage site still running by the road side through this hilly town adds a extra charm to the tour. Different places with different ambiances ,finally reaches us to the hotel to check-in, refresh and relax.
- Overnight at the Hotel.

## DARJEELING SIGHT-SEEING

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- The Tiger Hill at about 2600 mtrs, is a place from where we can have a magnificent sunrise view over the mountain, the mountain of Everest,Khanchendzonga, Makalu the giants of the Himalaya is seen from the top which explains why the Darjeeling is named "the queen of the Hills" we spend most of the morning here mesmerizing the view of a lifetime and we slowly head back to the town to visit the Dali Gumpa (Gelug sect monastery), We can also add Batasia loop in our itinerary but after the view from the top of Tiger Hill, the view doesn't give much of compares. The breakfast is served at the hotel and an hour rest is essential after a bite. The day follows with a visit to the Padma-jha Naidu Zoological Garden and the famous HMI(Himalayan Mountaineering Institute)







## DARJEELING SIGHT-SEEING CONTINUES...

Day  
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- founded by Lt.Tenzing Norgay (First man to summit Mt.Everest with Sir E.Hillary) and some of his close friends. The museum at HMI is a place to observe and learn many thing about the Himalaya, the mountaineering skills and techniques. We have a afternoon time free to stroll around the famous Chow-rasta(Mall) to collect a souvenirs' from the hills to carry back home which will reminds you of your beautiful and memorable trip to this part of the world for a life time.
- Overnight at the Hotel.

## DEPARTURE

Day  
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- Departure to Bagdogra which is about 75 kms via beautiful Kurseong and the tea valleys till you reach the plains of india .It takes around 4 hours to reach to the Airport.