

An aerial photograph of a vast mountain range. The peaks are rugged and covered in snow, with deep shadows cast in the valleys. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall scene is majestic and serene.

Sandakhpu-Phalut

06 Nights 07 Days

01

Arrival day (Base camp - Jau-bari)

- Arrive at Bagdogra airport or NJP railway station and drive to Jau-bari.
- SMITE will arrange for pick up vehicles from the airport/railway station to the base camp – Jau-bari.
- It will take approximately 5 hours to reach Jau-bari from the airport/railway station.
- Reporting time at Jau-bari is 5 pm, sharp. The trek starts at 8:30am the following morning.

02

Jau-bari to Tonglu

- Start trek at 8:30 am from Jau-bari to Tonglu.
- You will need to cover a total of 11 km with an altitude gain of 953 m in 7 hours today.
- The trail is a combination of gradual as well as steep ascents. There are a few rocky paths, and level meadow walks.
- Look out for Chimal and Magnolia trees. If you are lucky and very quiet you might be able to spot a red panda.
- You will pass through Lamaydhura – a small Tibetan village, an SSB check post and a Buddhist monastery. Foreigners need to keep their visas and Indians need to keep their ID proofs ready for verification at the SSB post.
- The trek ends at Tonglu. Camp for the night at Tonglu.

03

Tonglu to Kalipokhri

- Wake up early morning to view an amazing sunrise above the peaks of the Khanchendzonga range.
- Today's trek covers a distance of 11 km starting from Tonglu with an altitude gain of 83 m.
- The trail goes through forests, a clearing, few meadows and the Singalila National Park.
- Watch out for a border stone near Gairibas. You will see India on your left and Nepal on your right.
- The trail from Kaikhatta to Kalipokhri is perfect for bird watching.
- The final destination of the day is a small black lake known as Kalipokhri. You will find Buddhist prayer flags hanging above it.
- Camp overnight at Kalipokhri, which is exactly on the India-Nepal border.

04

Kalipokhri to Sandakphu

- Today's trek is relatively easy, mostly level walks with some gradual ascents and a few steep ones.
- It is a 6 km trek from Kalipokhri to Sandakphu with an ascent of 466 m.
- It will take you approximately 3 hours to reach Sandakphu.
- Watch out for Bikhaybhanjyang (Valley of Poison) en route. It gets its name from a poisonous aconite plant which grows in abundance here.
- You will trek through forests of silver firs, rhododendrons, magnolias and lovely large-leaved drumstick primulas.
- Enjoy a 180-degree panoramic view of the Himalayan peaks from here.
- You will be able to see Makalu, Lhotse, Everest, Nuptse, Baruntse, Chamlang, Chomolonzo, Machapuchhare and other peaks of the Annapurna range spread on towards the west. Three sister peaks stand tall towards the north and then of course, the Sleeping Buddha lies before you. Towards the east, you see the highest ranges of Bhutan – Chomolhari which rises above of all other peaks around it.
- Mobile network is available at the highest point in Sandakphu.
- The temperature at the top dips to sub-zero post sunset.



05

Sandakphu to Phalut

- Start trekking early morning from Sandakphu. You will need to descend down to reach Phalut.
- It's a long trek covering 21 km in approximately 8 hours.
- Look out for the Forest Check Post at Sabarkum en route.
- After descending 21 km (37 m) you will reach Phalut.
- Camp for the night at Phalut.

06

Phalut to Gorkhey

- The trail is mostly descending with a few gradual ascends between dense forest cover.
- It covers a distance of 10 km starting at Phalut and ending at Gorkhey.
- It will take you around 3 hours to reach Gorkhey.
- The highlight of today's trek is the river crossing (Gorkhey river) at the end of the day.
- Camp overnight at Gorkhey.

07

Gorkhey to Sepi

- Depart from Gorkhey to Sepi early morning.
- You will reach Sepi around 1 pm. The trek ends at Sepi.
- SMITE will arrange for transport from Sepi to Darjeeling/Siliguri through shared/exclusive cabs.

Distance & Timings

Sepi to Darjeeling

- Sepi to Darjeeling – 60 km (4 hours approx)
- Darjeeling to Bagdogra – 66 km (3 hours approx)
- Darjeeling to NJP – hours 70 km (3 hours approx)

Sepi to Siliguri

- Sepi to Siliguri – 123 km (7 hours approx)
- Siliguri to Bagdogra – 8 km (30 hour approx)
- Siliguri to NJP – 6 km (30 mins)