



INSIDER-TOURS
re-connecting people, places and culture

NORTH EAST INDIA TOUR #1

This is a sample tour to Meghalaya, Assam and Nagaland. We can mix and match according to the dates and places you would like to visit. Email me your thoughts and I'll email a detailed plan with cost. Note that we don't arrange air flights.

16 days Meghalaya, Assam and Nagaland : North East India Tour

Day 01- 06: Shillong and Cherrapunjee (Meghalaya)

Fly in to Guwahati and drive up the enchanting mountains of Meghalaya to visit the Charming "Raj" hill station of Shillong; Look at fascinating bazaars, gardens, lakes and waterfalls. Venture out to the countryside for breath taking views, nature at its pristine best, green forests, with exotic flora, gurgling mountain streams, waterfalls, deep gorges and caves, and the unique living root bridges. Experience staying at atmospheric hotels and a traditional Khasi thatch and bamboo house.

Day 07-08: Kaziranga National Park (Assam)

From Shillong drive 337 Kms; first down the mountains and then through the wide Brahmaputra Valley to the The World Heritage Kaziranga National Park . This is a fabulous mosaic of grasslands, forests, and pools backed by misty hills. The Park has more than 70% of the world's one-horned rhino population, 70% of the world population of the Eastern Swamp Deer and 75% of the world's wild Asiatic water buffalo. It has a significant population of the Asian Elephant. Close encounters with the Great Indian one horned Rhino, wild Indian Elephants, Swamp Deer, Asiatic Water buffalo, and a host of animals are assured. There are plenty of Tigers around – but there is only a 25 percent chance of spotting one. The park is rich in avifauna with more than 450 species of birds, 18 of them are globally threatened species.

The varied terrain provides habitat for wetland, grassland, and woodland species The Bengal Florican is the main attraction. You will have one full day to explore the park taking an Elephant safari early morning followed by two jeep safaris. We will conclude the Tour on Day 16, when you drive 240 kms to Guwahati in 4.30 hrs.

Day 09-11 Jorhat Tea Garden and Majauli Island (Assam)

Continue your tour along the Assam Valley to Jorhat, to explore a tea garden and stay at a heritage tea bungalow. Thereafter cross the mighty Brahmaputra



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river by ferry boat to reach Majauli famous as the world's largest river Island, and for its 22 satras – Hindu Vaishnava monasteries. These are also centres for the arts. At the satras, Lord Vishnu is worshipped through dance dramas re-enacting the stories of the epic Mahabharata, with music and poetry. Visit a Satra. Look at the various activities like mask, making, boat building and more.

Explore local villages and meet Mishing, Deori, Chutias and Sonoalkachari tribals. Witness wet land agriculture, fishing, weaving and pottery making. Explore the shoreline for water birds, and watch the breathtaking sunset on the great river. Stay at a Mishing tribal abode hosted by the local community.

Day 12-16 Nagaland

Re-cross the river by ferry and drive through tea gardens and deep forests to Dimapur – the commercial hub of Nagaland. Nagaland is a land of picture post card landscapes, lush and verdant flora, peopled by 15 major tribes, who have hundreds of years of tradition as warriors and head hunters, who were converted from animist to good christens.

The Nagas are a fun loving, hospitable and deeply religious people, having a tradition of handicrafts, folklore, dances and music. Here traditional folk songs, eulogizing ancestors, and brave deeds, poetic love songs, gospel songs and modern pop tunes go hand in hand.

For four days you will travel in the Northern parts of Nagaland and explore Angami tribal villages of Khonoma, ToupHEMA, and Jakama for gaining insight into Naga lifestyles, agricultural practices, crafts, song and dance. Stay with the local community, and interact with them. Take a short tour of Kohima- the capital city. Explore the fascinating local bazaar, and the handicraft emporium. It is also a chance to visit the Second world war cemetery and the historical tennis court; where the Japanese invasion of India was halted in a bloody battle during World War 2. Finally drive back to Dimapur to board your departure flight to Kolkata.

Throughout the tour you will be accompanied by a English speaking guide, and travel in your own car. You will experience staying in atmospheric hotels, tribal homes, and a wild life resort.- all have been tried and short listed by us for their atmosphere, hospitality and service. You will get varied cuisine both Indian and Local with Western style breakfasts.



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NORTH EAST INDIA TOUR #2

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16 days Meghalaya, Tawang, and Kaziranga

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Day 07-14: Tawang, Dirang, and Bomdila

On Day 07 drive 280 kms from Shillong to Tezpur via Guwahati in 6-7 hrs, for overnight transit halt. On Day 08 start on your 7 days trip to Tawang The highway which connects Tezpur to Tawang , encounters three ridges, Of these the most formidable is the Sela Ridge rising up to 4900 Meters, which is crossed by the highway via the Sela pass at 4267 Meters, to reach Tawang, 3048 m, on Day 10. The 376 kms fascinating journey will take three days with a sightseeing halt at Dirang. As you drive on this mind boggling road see the entire range of flora from sub tropical to arctic, marvel at the great views, explore the picture postcard Dirang valley, and the rugged Se la pass; which was once the battle ground between India and China.

At picturesque Tawang, Visit the 7 th century Tawang monastery- the largest Buddhist monastery in India, and the The Urgelling Monastery , which is the birth place of the Sixth Dalai Lama. Explore the Monpa Villages and meet the charming Monpa people. Visit an Ani Gompa – Buddhist Nunery. Take a drive towards the Indo –Tibetan border to visit the over 4000 m high PTSO and Shungetsar lakes, and take in the landscape of the Himalayan uplands.

On the return journey on Day 13, we will drive back 210 kms to Bomdila, visiting



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the Indo- Chinese War memorial and to do some sightseeing at Bomdila; where we will look at the Rabgyaling Gontse Gumpa and the Thupchob Gatseling Gumpa. After a night halt, drive 265 kms to Kaziranga NP via Tezpur in 5-6 hrs

Arriving at Kaziranga NP by evening of Day 14, we will check into a wildlife Resort. The World Heritage Kaziranga National Park is a fabulous mosaic of grasslands, forests, and pools backed by misty hills. The Park has more than 70% of the world's one-horned rhino population, 70% of the world population of the Eastern Swamp Deer and 75% of the world's wild Asiatic water buffalo. It has a significant population of the Asian Elephant. Close encounters with the Great Indian one horned Rhino, wild Indian Elephants, Swamp Deer, Asiatic Water buffalo, and a host of animals are assured. There are plenty of Tigers around – but there is only a 25 percent chance of spotting one. The park is rich in avifauna with more than 450 species of birds, 18 of them are globally threatened species. The varied terrain provides habitat for wetland, grassland, and woodland species The Bengal Florican is the main attraction. You will have one full day to explore the park taking an Elephant safari early morning followed by two jeep safaris. We will conclude the Tour on Day 16, when you drive 240 kms to Guwahati in 4.30 hrs.

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