

OM

## SANDAKPHU TREK

Sandakphu is the highest Point in West Bengal, India. The area is under cover of alpine forest and is accustomed to snowfall. People are few; this is a small hamlet and is guarded by Indian Army. The route is approachable from more than five routes but the most popular is the route given below. Spring is best to enjoy the varieties of rhododendron and high altitude plant life and bird watchers. October - November is best for clear weather and good mountain views. The drives are enjoyable and the route is nearly virgin. Tourist with breathing or cardiac problem should avoid this. Trek grading is termed moderate to strenuous and the best **season** - April to May and October to November. 15 days on either side is also acceptable. The maximum trek altitude - Sandakphu 3636 meters / 11,929 feet – and maximum camp altitude is Sandakphu – will give a feeling like staying at the top of the world. Porter and Guide arrangement etc will be as per the standard norms. The route from Sandakphu to Phalut is dense forest and chances of spotting Bear and Red panda is prize. There is also abundant flora and fauna and is a paradise for Botanist, bird watcher, trekker, academician, adventurer and tourist alike

### **Day 01 Arrival Calcutta :**

### **Day 02 Calcutta :**

Arrive breakfast tour briefing & followed by half day visit of the 'City of Joy ' also the Mother Teresa's city. Palaces to visit are the Jain Temple , Zoological Gardens, Victoria Memorial & drive past Howrah Bridge , Dalhousie Square , Fort Williams , Secretariat Building and Old Court House Street. Overnight at Hotel.

### **Day 03 :Drive - Bagdogra Airport (IXB) / New Jalpaiguri Railway Station (NJP) - 130 Kilometers / 4 Hours – Gangtok**

On arrival at NJP Railway Station / (IXB) Bagdogra Airport, you will be met by our office executive who will assist you to board your vehicle to Gangtok. **Gangtok** – Capital of the 22nd State of India, Sikkim enjoys a mild, temperate climate all year round and offers spectacular views of the Himalayan ranges. This is a scenic and winding drive, takes you along the River Teesta which leads to the capital of Sikkim. Rangpo is the border town of Sikkim. Foreign National has to complete the entry formalities against your special permit to tour around Sikkim. Refreshment and continue the drive Gangtok. Arrive and check - in to Hotel.

## **Day 02 : Drive / Trek - Gangtok Sight Seeing**

Early morning after breakfast visit to the Rumtek Dharma Chakra Center, situated 24 kilometers from Gangtok. Way back visit Do-Drul Chorten Stupa, an inspiring stupa – Tibetology - An institution, devoted to Tibetology the only of its kind in the world where is displayed perhaps the largest artifacts collection in Sikkim, after lunch visit Institute of Handicrafts & Cottage Industries - local handicrafts such as carpets, woodcarvings etc are displayed for sale. Flower Show at White Hall is a must for all. Overnight stay at hotel in Gangtok

## **Day 03 : Drive - Gangtok to Maneybhanjan (2134 meters / 7001 feet) - approximately 120 kilometers - 4 to 4 ½ hours**

Either one can do a small trek of ½ hour to Chitrey or one can stay back at Maneybhanjan. A small hamlet with a few shops, this place is situated in between the route from Darjeeling to Mirik (a popular summer resort with a huge natural lake) - One can roam around in the evening preparing for the trek - Dinner and overnight stay at Lodges / Camp.

## **Day 04 : Trek - Maneybhanjan to Sandakphu –**

Maneybhanjan (2134 meters / 7001 feet) – Chitrey – Meghma – Juabari (this trip can be terminated here) - Tonglu – Guaribas – Kalopokhri (2950 meters / 9679 feet) – **Approximately 25 kilometers – 6 to 6 ½ hours** - Morning after breakfast start the first leg of trekking to reach Tonglu – This route is picturesque and fascinating - The track has a gradual ascent and descends through the forest following the Nepal border - Overnight stay in trekkers hut / camp.

## **Day 05 :Trek - Kalopokhri to Sandakphu –**

Kalopokhri ( 2950 meters / 9679 feet) – Bekhey Bhanjan (3350 meters / 10991 feet) – Sandakphu (3636 meters / 11929 feet) – **Approximately 6 kilometers – 2 to 3 hours – 06 kilometers** – Morning after breakfast start trekking to reach Sandakphu along a well marked road / track - Initially the track climbs steadily next the climb is steep for the last 2 kilometers - One may not feel the climb after reaching Sandakphu as the view will mesmerizing - Arrive at Sandakphu - One can have fantastic view of Mount Kanchenjunga, Mount Pandim, Mount Kabru etc. in fact whole of the Himalayan Range is visible - Overnight stay in trekkers hut / camp.

## **Day 06 : Trek - Sandakphu to Phalut –**

Sandakphu (3636 meters / 11929 feet) – Phalut (3600 meters) – **21 kilometers - 5 ½ hours to 6 hours - Rest at Phalut** – The route is along the political boundary of India and Nepal - One can have fantastic view of Mount Kanchenjunga, Mount Pandim, and

Mount Kabru etc. on the way – Overnight halt at **Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council Guest house / camp**

#### **Day 07 :Trek - Phalut to Gorkay –**

Phalut (3600 meters / 11811 feet) – Gorkay (2667 meters / 8749 feet) – **Approximately 13 Kilometers – 3 ½ hours to 4 hours - Trek** - Morning after breakfast start trekking to reach Gorkay – a valley by the side of River Ramam – Treat to stay – Hamlet with 20 family - One can have fantastic view of Mount Kanchenjunga, Mount Pandim, Mount Kabri etc. on the way - From Phalut one has to actually descend all the way to reach Gorkey, a valley worth spending a couple of days - Overnight stay in trekkers hut / camp.

#### **Day 08 :Trek - Gorkey - Hilley - 4 Kilometers - 1 ½ hours to 2 hours –**

Morning after breakfast start trekking – Trek till Hilley- **from Hilley use vehicle / public transport system - Sombari – Jorethang – 58 kilometers – 1 hour to 1 ½ hours - to Jorethang** – Overnight stay at Jorethang or from Jorethang last phase of the Journey by Vehicle to **Darjeeling – 81 kilometers and 2 ½ hour to 3 ½ hour**. Reaching **Darjeeling** by late afternoon – Darjeeling known as the Queen of the Hills is the jewel in the crown of the Eastern Himalayas and offers spectacular views of the Himalayan ranges including Mount Everest and Mount Kanchendzonga. It is famous for tea gardens, breathtaking valleys and scenery. Situated on the foothills of the Himalayas at an elevation of 2134 meters / 7001 feet, it has a rich legacy of invaluable worth. Check in and over night stay at hotel

#### **Day 09 :Drive - Local Sight Seeing at Darjeeling –**

Early morning tour to Tiger Hills (at around 4 AM) to view sunrise over Kanchendzonga Peak (subject to clear weather). On the way back visit Ghoom Monastery, Batasia Loop (an Engineering marvel). After breakfast half - day sight seeing of Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park & Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (Closed on Thursday), Tenzing & Gombu Rock, Tibetan Refugee Self-Help Center (Closed on Sunday) & Tea Estate - Afternoon there is a visit to Rock Garden & Ganga Maya Lake. Over night stay at hotel.

#### **Day 10 : Drive - Transfer to Siliguri - New Jalpaiguri Railway Station (NJP) / Bagdogra Airport (IXB) –**

Intime drive to Bagdogra airport to connect the flight for Calcutta . On arrival at Calcutta airport, transfer to hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at Hotel.

#### **Day 10 – Departure Calcutta**

After breakfast day free. Provide intime departure & transfer to airport to connect the flight for onward journey.

**End of Services.**