**Detailed Itinerary – Sikkim Goecha-La trek**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Itinerary** | **Trail Distance/ Time** | **Ascent (ft)** | **Included** |
| Thursday, 11/1/18 | Participants arrive at Bagdogra airport[[1]](#footnote-1). Outfitter rep will meet us at the airport and transport us to Darjeeling by car ~ 4 hours through Assam tea plantations and tiny villages. Overnight at " Little Tibet Resort" hotel in Darjeeling. |  |  | Transfer, hotels, lunch and dinner |
| Friday, 11/2/18 | Sightseeing in Darjeeling including the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), the center and training school for Indian climbers, and the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park with its rare collection of animals. After this we will the Happy Valley Tea Garden and have lunchat the Tenzing Norgay family Residence.  We will have the unique opportunity to visit the late Tenzing’s personal museum, which houses an invaluable collection of medals and personal memorabilia.  Here we will have our Trek Briefing. After lunch we’ll have a free late afternoon to explore Darjeeling town and last minute shopping. Dinner on our own and overnight at " Little Tibet Resort" hotel.  | 0 | 0 | Guide, driver, hotel, breakfast and lunch |
| Saturday, 11/3/18 | After breakfast, drive through the green countryside into Sikkim, then continue through cardamom groves and small Sikkimese villages to historic Yoksum (5840ft), where in 1642 three monks crowned the first Chogyal (King) of Sikkim (total 6 hrs drive). At Yoksum we will meet our trekking staff, have lunch and hike 45 mins to Dubdek monastery and on to the coronation site of the 1st king of Sikkim (another 20 mins). Overnight in Yoksum at hotel. | 85 km drive | 0 | Guide, driver, hotel, meals |
| Sunday, 11/4/18 | Trek Yuksom TO Bakhim (9100ft). We start our trek rich wooded hills of oaks, spruce, orchids, giant magnolias and rhododendrons, then continue walking up the Ratong Valley. After crossing the Prek Chu, we have a steep climb to our camp at Bakhim. Max altitude 9700’, sleeping altitude 9150’. | 10 mi, 6 hours | 3860 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| **Day** | **Itinerary** | **Trail Distance/ Time** | **Ascent (ft)** | **Included** |
| Monday, 11/5/18 | Trek Bakhim To Phedang (12,100ft). A further climb brings us up to the Tibetan village of Tsokha (3,050m), and the last village on the trek with great views of the mountains ahead, especially the distinctive peak of Pandim . Then climb through thick rhododendron and fir forest to reach our camp in Phedang. Max and sleeping altitude 12,100’. | 3 mi, 3 hours | 2,950 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Tuesday, 11/6/18 | Trek Phedang to Dzongri (13,221ft). After breakfast, continue ascending to our camp in Dzongri , with views of Kanchenjunga and its satellite peaks. Camp at Dzongri. Max and sleeping altitude 13,221’. | 3 mi, 3 hours |  1,121 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Wednesday, 11/7/18 | Rest day at Dzongri. Back up day for sunrise in Kanchenjunga. Dayhike to Gingay Dara, a 14,200ft pass looking into the Ratong Valley with views of Ratong Glacier, Koktang, Kabru, Frey and peaks to the south of Kanchenjunga. Camp at Dzongri. Max altitude 14,200’, sleep altitude 13,221’. | 4 mi, 3 hours | 979 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Thursday, 11/8/18 | Trek Dzongri - Thangsing (12,900ft. After breakfast trek to Thangsing through meadows and gorges with beautiful views of Kabru, Sinolchu, Simvu, Pandim and Gochela Peaks along the way. Lunch and camp in Thangsing by the Prekchu river. Max altitude 13,500’, sleeping altitude 12,900’. | 6 miles, 5 hours | +1120, -600 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Friday, 11/9/18 | Trek Thangsing To Lamuney (12,995ft). Hike up the Onglathang valley, past yak herders and grazing yaks. After lunch option forl day hikes to Samiti lake (14,400) or to the base of Mt. Tinchin Khang’s glacier ( 15,500 ft). Lunch and camp at Lamunay. Max and sleeping altitude 13,700’. | 3 miles, 3 hours | 1180 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Saturday, 11/10/18 | Trek Lamuney To Goecha La Pass (16406 Ft) and back to Kochrung (12,152ft). Start early to climb behind Samiti Lake and cross the Zemathang Plateau under the shadow of Pandim. Then ascend moraine to pass a glaciated lake, traverse the lake and across a slope, and then on a well-trodden path to the pass festooned with brightly colored prayer flags and offering stunning views of the east flank of Kanchenjunga. We then descend to camp at Kochrung. Max altitude 16,406’, sleeping altitude 12,152’. | 8 mi, 6-7 hours | +3411, -4250 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Itinerary** | **Trail Distance/ Time** | **Ascent (ft)** | **Included** |
| Sunday, 11/11/18 | Trek Kochrung - Bakhim (9100ft). Get up early for short climb to nearby ridge for fantastic views of Khangchendzonga and Goecha La. Descend to the Prek Chu, contour around jungle to Phedang, then descend steeply to Tshoka . Camp there. Max altitude 12,500’, sleeping altitude 9100’. | 7 mi, 6-7 hours | +350, -2300 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Monday, 11/12/18 | Trek Bakhim To Yuksam. Descend to the Prek Chu on our route from the first day, then descend gradually to Yuksam, our starting point. Max altitude 9100’, sleeping altitude 5840’. | 10 mi, 5-6 hours | -3,260 | Guide, porters, camp, meals |
| Tuesday, 11/13/18 | Drive Yuksum To Pelling (3 hrs). After breakfast, drive to Pemayangtse with side trip to the holy Khecheopalri Lake, a sacred Lake for both Buddhists and Hindus, at ~6000’. From the lake we’ll continue driving another 1.30 hrs to Pelling and overnight in the Norbughang resort there. | 24 km drive | 0 | Transfer, guide, hotel, meals |
| Wednesday, 11/14/18 | Drive from Pelling to Bagdogra airport (5 hrs) to catch departing flights – everyone is on Vistara flight departing at 5PM to Delhi. | 120 km drive | 0 | Transfer, meals |

1. Bill, Sharon, Nina, Jim, Shuko, Robert, Cheryl Sack, Todd, Luciana, Cheryl Talbert, Jay, Faith and Patti will arrive in Bagdogra on the flight from Paro arriving at 3:55PM on Nov 1. Nathan and Lenna plan to sightsee a few days on their way and arrive in Bagdogra on Nov 1 as close to the same time as they can. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)