



WORLDWIDE WALKING HOLIDAYS

INDIA & BHUTAN – THE HIMALAYAN TRIANGLE

16-day / 15-nights - guided walking & sightseeing holiday

Absorb the old world charm of India's colonial Darjeeling Hill Station, step into the gentle beauty of the enchanting, remote landscapes of Sikkim and peer into the magic that is the isolated, Shangri-la Kingdom of Bhutan, all the time against a backdrop of the mighty Himalayas.

Departs: Please ask for current details & prices Starts & Ends in Calcutta

Includes: 15 nights' accommodation in twin/double-bedded en-suite rooms. Full Board from breakfast on arrival to dinner on day of departure. All internal flights. Services of local guides and a Walks leader. Walks, sightseeing and entrance fees for the itinerary as described, Travel by Jeeps & train

Not Included: UK Flights, Airport transfers (these can be pre-booked at extra cost – please ask for details).

Suggested Itinerary

Day 1: Our 'Land Only' clients arrive Calcutta to join the tour - 1 night

Days 2 & 3: Darjeeling – 2 nights We fly on to Bagdogra and transfer to the historic hill station of Darjeeling. This charming town is laced with reminders of the colonial era and has Himalayan vistas dominated by the summit of Kanchenjunga. We explore the many intriguing facets of this quintessentially Indian resort including walks through the abundant forests and tea estates, a ride on the world famous Darjeeling Railway and a visit to Tiger Hill to witness sunrise over the mountains.

Days 4 & 5: Pemayangtse - 2 nights Drive to Sikkim and the town of Pemayangtse from where there are spectacular views of the surrounding villages and Mt Pandim. Our walks take in the Tibetan-inspired Buddhist monasteries of Sanga Choeling and Pemayangtse, the oldest and most important in Sikkim.

Days 6 & 7: Martam - 2 nights We move on to Martam, a beautiful village situated in a large valley. Walking through rice terraces and the fringes of the forests we can visit remote communities and get a real feel for the local way of life.

Days 8 & 9: Kalimpong - 2 nights Our route continues to Kalimpong in West Bengal. This airy retreat may be less famous than Darjeeling but is equally enchanting and our walk provides a contrast along the villages paths, terraced hillsides and small hamlets.

Day 10: Phuensholing - 1 night Travel to the mountain kingdom of Bhutan and Phuensholing.

Days 11 & 12: Thimpu - 2 nights Continue to the secluded, relaxed capital, Thimpu, from where we walk the trail to Tango monastery with excellent views of the beautiful valley below.

Day 13: Punakha - 1 night Our route takes us over the Dochula Pass (10,230ft) for spectacular views of the eastern Himalayas on our way to Punakha with its remarkable 'dzong', a fortress set at the confluence of two rivers and once the seat of power in Bhutan.

Days 14 & 15: Paro - 2 nights Travel to Paro where we have time to soak up the bucolic atmosphere of this most private of countries and from where we visit Taktsang, the 'tigers lair' perched on a rocky edge.

Day 16: Calcutta - 1 night Fly to Calcutta for a leisurely afternoon prior to departure.

Please Note: The above programme gives a good feel for the walks on this tour but is subject to change.

Contact **Outdoor Travel** or your travel agent for more details, travel brochures and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright, VIC 3741, Australia.
- Travel Agent Licence No 31102