

8days 7nights Sikkim (Darjeeling – Gangtok – Namchi – Kalimpong)

Tour Date: 15-22 September 2018

Day 01: SIN-KOLKATA SQ516 (SIN CCU 2100 / 2235)

Upon arrival, transfer to hotel.

Day 02: KOLKATA – BAGDOGRA – DARJEELING Domestic Flight & 94km, drive 3-4 hr BLD Domestic Flight: CCU IXB

Early morning transfer to the airport to board your scheduled domestic flight to Bagdogra. On arrival at Bagdogra Airport meet and greet by your Odyssey Manager and drive through picturesque tea gardens to the world renowned hill station Darjeeling at an altitude of 2134 m. **Darjeeling** is set amidst a majestic backdrop of the great *Himalayan peak of Kanchenjunga* (3rd highest peak in the world at 8586m) and is regarded as the Queen of East India. After dinner, enjoy your free and easy time at the local bazaar.



Day 03: DARJEELING SIGHTSEEING BLD

Set off early morning before sunrise between 4-6 am, drive to Tiger Hill (2685 m) to experience the panoramic view of the spectacular snow-clad mountain peaks of the High Himalayan Range where sun rises from this highest point in town. On our way back we visit the **Ghoom Monastery**, built in 1850 by Lama Sharb, which enshrines a 15ft. Statue of Maitreya Buddha. After visiting the monastery we drive back to the Hotel for breakfast and spend some time relaxing before we take a walk through vegetable and meat market and then to the train station to board the Joy Ride Train to Ghoom. Visit the **Ghoom Museum** on arrival. After our lunch in Darjeeling, continue our visiting tour to the **Tibetan Refugee Centre** and the **Tea Gardens**, before returning to town around 1700 hour. On arrival, spend your free time exploring or shopping around the market for shopping till 1900 h before returning to our Hotel.



Sunrise as seen from Tiger Hill

Day 04: DARJEELING - GANGTOK 100 km, 3.5hr drive + 2 hour lunch permit BLD

After breakfast drive to Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim. The journey is an exhilarating experience along the Tista River and through green forest and picturesque landscape. **Gangtok** – the capital of Sikkim, tucked away in the clouds. Gangtok is spread out on a ridge 1520m above sea level, and looks something out of a fairy tale with houses precariously balanced on the slopes of steep hills apart from the gorgeous view of deep valleys, waterfalls and snow-capped mountain ranges that separate from neighbouring Tibet, Bhutan and Nepal. On arrival, check in to hotel and relax for the rest of the evening.



Day 05: GANGTOK - TSOMGO LAKE (3 HRS) - GANGTOK BLD



After breakfast, drive to **Tsomgo Lake**, also known as The Source of the Lake (3,780 m). Warm clothing is needed for this place. The lake derives its water from melting snow from the surrounding mountains, which is one of the famous sacred lakes in Sikkim, situated near the borders of Tibet. Observe the array of scenery on the spectacular drive back to the hills. Take your time to explore around the lake before driving back to Gangtok. Spend the rest of your afternoon relaxing or shopping in the market.

Day 06: GANGTOK – RUMTEK – RAVANGLA – NAMCHI 40km, 3-4 hr drive & 3hr visit BLD

After breakfast drive to visit **Rumtek monastery**. Rumtek served as the main seat of the Karma Kagyu lineage in Sikkim for some time. But when Rangjung Rigpe Dorje, 16th Karmapa, arrived in Sikkim in 1959 after fleeing Tibet, the monastery was in ruins. Despite being offered other sites, the Karmapa decided to rebuild Rumtek. On completion drive to Singtam for Lunch. After lunch drive Ravangla to visit **Tathagata Tsal** also known as Buddha Park. It was constructed between 2006 and 2013 and features a 130-foot high statue of the Buddha as its centerpiece. The site was chosen within the larger religious complex of the Rabong Gompa (Monastery), itself a centuries-old place of pilgrimage. After visiting Tathagata, drive to Namchi and transfer to Hotel. Namchi commands panoramic view of the snow-capped mountains and vast stretches of valley. It is also headquarters of South Sikkim district.



Day 07: NAMCHI - KALIMPONG 50 km 2.30 hr BLD

After breakfast drive to **Samdruptse** - the world's largest statue (at 118 feet) of the Buddhist Padmasambhava, also known as Guru Rinpoche, the patron saint of Sikkim, is on the Samdruptse hill (The Wish Fulfilling well) opposite Namchi. It was completed in February 2004. It is also said that the Samdruptse hill is actually a Dormant Volcano. Myths say that the buddhist monks have been going on top of the hill and offering prayers to the volcano to keep it calm. On completion drive to visit recently inaugurated (November 2011) Siddhesvara Dhaam where you can view 87 ft statue of Lord Shiva and replicas of four Dhaams



of the country at one place at Solophok hilltop in Namchi. The four most revered Dhams of the Hindus Jagannath, Dwarika, Rameshawaram, Badrinath. After visiting we drive to visit **Sai Temple**. Return to Hotel for Lunch. After lunch drive through picturesque tea gardens to the world renowned hill station Kalimpong. After dinner, enjoy your free and easy time browsing at the local bazaar.

Day 08: KALIMPONG – BAGDOGRA – KOLKAT A– FLY HOME 75 km, 2.5 hr B L

Domestic IXB CCU : SQ517 CCU SIN 2350 / 0640+1

After breakfast, we drive to Bagdogra (2.5hr). On arrival, enjoy your lunch at the airport before boarding your scheduled flight to Kolkata. On arrival, if time permit then we shop around Kolkata, near airport. After dinner (own expenses) transfer to airport to board your scheduled flight to Singapore.

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