



Northeastern Circuit walking tour – 19 days

Assam & Arunachal Pradesh, jeep tour with walks

Tour JTT-ASAP-W02 (walking): Dibrugarh - Pasighat - Along - Daporijo - Ziro – Eco Camp - Kaziranga National Park – Majuli – Jorhat

Activities & sights: tea estates, wildlife, tribal villages & culture, walking & rafting

On this tour we take you to two of the Northeast's most famous parks, Kaziranga and Nameri National Park, where you come eye to eye with Asia's last sizable population of one-horned rhinos. You'll see the parks by jeep, on elephant back, on foot and by raft. The major part of your trip, however, you'll be



traversing Arunachal Pradesh. This is India's most densely forested state and some travelers have described it as "one big national park." But it is not devoid of people. Here, every valley has a different culture, a different language and customs, and possibly the highest diversity of cultures found in Asia. You'll meet the fascinating and peaceful Apatani tribe, as well as the welcoming Tagin and Hill Miri. At the end of this very complete trip you'll visit Visiting Majuli Island in the Brahmaputra River, home to beautiful wetlands and a unique community of Vaishnavite monks that practice an esoteric form of dance.

You'll sleep in small town hotels, clean and welcoming family guesthouses, as well as comfortable lodges and tea bungalows in Assam. Highlight among your accommodations will be, no doubt, the luxurious and atmospheric Mancotta Tea Bungalow in Dibrugarh.

Itinerary

Day 01: Dibrugarh

Arrive Dibrugarh Airport. Meet and assist by our staff on arrival and transfer & check into Mancotta tea bungalow. Afternoon walk around the tea garden. Dinner and overnight.

Day 02: Dibrugarh

Day at leisure. Visit tea gardens, tea factory or local village. Walk among the tea gardens and over the banks of the Brahmaputra. Dinner and overnight.

Day 03: Dibrugarh – Pasighat (8 hr ferry ride plus short drive)

Today we start our journey to Pasighat. Along the way we will cross the mighty Brahmaputra river by ferry which will take about 8 hr. If we're lucky, we'll spot the rare Gangetic dolphins that live here. On arrival check into Hotel Anne. Dinner and overnight.

Day 04: Pasighat - Along (140 km/ 5 hr)

Drive to Along. On the way walk along the mighty Siang for about an hour or two. Pick-up by cars and transfer to Along. On arrival check into Hotel Aagam. After lunch visit museum (Sunday closed). Dinner and overnight.

Day 05: Along

Today after breakfast drive for fifteen minutes to a village. Walk around the village and walk towards Paya village is 15 kms away. Pick-up by cars from Paya village, transfer to hotel.

Day 06: Along – Daporiji (170 km/ 6 hr)

Today after breakfast we will set off for Daporijo. On arrival check into Village Guest House. Dinner and overnight. This is a Nishyi tribal village. Afternoon walk around the village intermingling with village folks. Dinner and overnight.

Day 07: Daporijo

After breakfast walk to the next village, about 2 hours walking distance, where we will enjoy our packed lunch. After lunch we'll trek further into the hills, another 2-3 hour walk. Jeeps will take us back to the guesthouse.

Day 08: Daporijo – Ziro (172 km/ 6 hr)

After breakfast drive to Ziro, one of the most traditional areas in Arunachal Pradesh. On arrival check into Hotel Blue Pine. Evening visit to local market. Dinner and overnight.

Day 09: Ziro

Whole day in Ziro visiting Apatani tribal villages (on foot), which is the major tribe of this area.

Day 10: Ziro

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Day 11: Ziro – Eco Camp (300 km/ 7 hr)

After breakfast drive to Eco Camp, near Nameri National Park. Eco-Camp is a tented accommodation with thatched roof, beds, en-suite shower. Dinner and overnight.

Day 12: Eco Camp

After breakfast we first drive to Bhalukpong near the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border. Walk along the Bhorelli river and then board rubber dinghies and raft down approx. 2 hours on the Bhorelli river. Disembark and walk up to Eco Camp. Afternoon walk in the villages nearby.

Day 13: Eco Camp – Kaziranga (110 km/ 3 hr)

After breakfast drive to Kaziranga National Park. On arrival check into Jupuri Ghar or similar. Dinner and overnight.

Day 14: Kaziranga

Early morning we will see the National Park on elephant back. Apart from the Rhino, other species found are hog deer, swamp deer, wild buffalo, elephants and if you are lucky, the tiger. It is virtually a paradise for bird watchers, with a variety of migratory and resident birds darting from tree to tree. It is also home to pelicans, storks and darters as there are a number of water bodies inside the Park. We will return to the Lodge for breakfast. Afternoon jeep safari inside the park (Central range). Return to the Lodge. Dinner and overnight.

Day 15: Kaziranga

This morning we'll go again into the National Park by jeep, this time visiting another of the four ranges (parts) of the park. After lunch visit a village of the local Mishing tribe or walk

around nearby tea plantation (depending on season, visit to tea factory). Alternatively, go for a walk in Burha Pahar range inside the park with a naturalist and armed park guards (for safety reasons, max. 5 clients only). Dinner and overnight at the lodge.



Day 16: Kaziranga – Majuli (110 km/3 hr plus 2 hr ferry ride)

After breakfast we will drive to Neemati Ghat near Jorhat. Then we will take a ferry to Majuli - the largest river island in the world and the seat of Vaishnava culture in Assam. The great 15th century Assamese reformer and saint, Shankardeva had come down here and set up 'satras' or Vaishnavite monasteries to make the people motivated towards culture and religion. We will be visiting these 'satras' and interact with the monks and other locals there. On arrival check into Mishmi Cottages. Dinner & overnight.

Day 17: Majuli

After breakfast visit village by foot inhabited by Mishing tribe, interact with the people. Lunch. In the afternoon we will have lunch at a monastery and learn about the life style of monks. Here we will witness a rare, in fact unique, sight in India: dancing Hindu monks. As Hindu priests and ascets generally don't live together in monasteries like the Buddhist lama's do, for instance, Vaishnavite monasteries are a rarity in itself. The dances, choreographed by Sankardeva, that these monks perform can only be seen on Majuli Island.

Dinner and overnight.

Day 18: Majuli

After breakfast visit mask making families and pottery village. Alternatively, those who want can make a bicycle ride over small dirt roads and dikes along the picturesque villages of the northern part of the island. Rest of today's activities will be mixture of



driving and walking, visiting local villages. Dinner and overnight.

Day 19: Majuli – Jorhat Airport (25 km/1 hr plus 2 hr ferry ride)

After breakfast transfer to Jorhat airport for flight departing for Kolkata/ Delhi.

The tour ends

Tour Price

For 2 persons: INR 155.000 per person, using 1 Tata Sumo Victa (SUV)

For 3 persons: INR 126.000 per person, using 2 Tata Sumo Victa (SUV)

For 4 persons: INR 133.000 per person, using 2 Tata Sumo Victa (SUV)

Single supplement: INR 53.000

Above tour price is on current rates only. Not all properties have yet decided and declared their new tariff. Tour price may rise in case of fuel price hike as well.

Price includes: all transfers by Tata Sumo, all accommodation in twin sharing, all meals (Day 02 Lunch till Day 19 Breakfast), English speaking escort throughout, fuel and driver allowance, park entry fee, 2 jeep safaris and 1 elephant ride at Kaziranga National Park, rafting in River Bhorelli, ferry charges at Pasighat and Majuli, Bicycle ride in Majuli, village visit, local guide whenever necessary, daily bottle of mineral water, Government tax.

Price excludes: Train/ Air fare, RAP fee, tips, laundry, alcohol, insurance and any other expenses of personal nature.

Additional:

Restricted Area Permit fees of INR 5000 per person. See below.

Entry formalities

Please note that all Foreign Nationals need Restricted Area Permit (RAP) to visit Arunachal Pradesh.

The Arunachal Pradesh Government stipulates the number of tourists to minimum 2 in a group to apply for RAP. The charges for a Restricted Area Permit are INR 5000 (€ 68, \$ 76). Please note that an individual traveler can also apply if the total fee of 2 persons is paid by the client.

The following documents are required for the permit:

- 1) Photocopy of passport & visa
- 2) passport size photographs (digital is okay)
- 3) Duly filled RAP application form (provided by us)

We need at least 15 days to process the R.A.P. after we receive these documents.