



## North East Expedition

**Note:** *This is an adventures road trip and involves hectic driving schedules. So we suggest you to join this tour only if you are passionate to go for self-drive and prepared physically and mentally for extreme situations. Alternatively we can arrange the chauffeur to drive you through this picturesque terrain at an extra cost.*

**Duration:** 20Days/19Nights

**Places to Visit:** Guwahati - Hajo/Sualkuchi – Guwahati – Shillong - Nameri Eco Camp (NEC) – Dirang – Tawang – Ziro - Kaziranga National Park (KNP) – Kohima – Tuophema – Mokokchung - Dibrugarh.

### **Day 01: Guwahati**

Arrive Guwahati at the hotel. It is situated on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River. Srimata Shankerdev Kalashetra, a multi art complex portrays the rich cultural diversity and life of Assam as well as that of North East. Afternoon visit Shankardev Kalashetra. Overnight at the hotel

### **Day 02: Guwahati-Hajo/Sualkuchi-Guwahati (78KM)**

After breakfast visit Kamakhya Temple. One of the best known temples of Guwahati is Kamakhya, situated on Nilachal Hill. This temple is dedicated to Goddess Kamakhya. Later drive to Sualkuchi. Sualkuchi situated on the north bank of Brahmaputra River is the dazzling world of Assam's silk industry. Enroute visit Hajo. It has a number of temples and is the meeting point of Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu faiths on the north bank of Brahmaputra River. The bell-metal work of Hajo is renowned for the interesting artifacts made by the local craftsmen. Afternoon drive back to Guwahati. Overnight at the hotel in Guwahati.

### **Day 03: Guwahati-Shillong (100KM/3Hours)**

After breakfast, drive to shilling. Meghalaya is one of India's prettiest states inhabited by the tribal groups of Khasis, Jaintals and Garos. They are known for the matrilineal society, which governs lineage and ancestral inheritance through the female line. It stands out for its traditional and natural beauty among the other states. Evening at leisure or option to visit the local market. Overnight in Shillong.

### **Day 04: Shillong**

After breakfast, proceed for sightseeing in and around Shillong. Shillong is known for its pine hills, singing brooks and crashing waterfalls. The Shillong Peak (1965 mtrs) offers a view of the city spread out against its hill slopes. Amongst the popular waterfalls, close to the town is the Elephant Falls. The Butterfly Museum is worth visiting as it has a good collection of the winged beauties, many of which are facing extinction. In the afternoon visit the DBCIC(Don Bosco Centre for Indegenous Culture). Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 05: Shillong-Nameri (280KM/7Hours)**

After breakfast drive to Nameri. Nameri National Park is located on the banks of the river Jia Bhorelli on the northern side of the Brahmaputra. It is also a tiger reserve. Deciduous forests with the river Jia Bhorelli flowing by its side, have added a unique charm to it. A



trek inside the forest enables good sighting of the White Winged Wood Duck. Reach late in the afternoon. Rest of the time is free for leisure. Overnight in Nameri.

**Day 06: Nameri-Dirang (270KM/7Hours)**

Early morning drive to Dirang, the sub-divisional headquarter of West Kameng district situated between Bomdila and Tawang. Steeped in scenic beauty, this town is situated in the valley of river Kameng. This place is inhabited by the Monpa tribe. Enroute visit Tippu Orchiderium. Dirang, in Arunachal Pradesh is bound by China in the North, Myanmar in the east, and Bhutan in the west and the states of Assam and Nagaland in the south. Upon arrival to the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 07: Dirang-Tawang (180KM/5Hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Tawang- a scenic drive through the serpentine roads along the river Kameng with beautiful landscapes. There is a strong Tibetan presence in Tawang. Numerous prayer flags can be seen fluttering in the breeze. Cross the Sela Pass at 13,700 ft. Upon arrival to the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 08: Tawang**

At Tawang visit the famous Buddhist Monestry which was in the route chosen by the Dalai Lama to enter India from Tibet. A stunning 8 mtrs high gilded statue of Buddha dominates the sanctum. Attached to the monastery, there is a museum and a library with priceless collections. The monastery is one of the largest in Asia with a thousand monks. Visit the craft centre that sells beautiful masks, hand woven carpets, tangkhas and jewellery in silver, turquoise, coral and amber. The museum presents the rich cultural diversity of Tawang. Option to go shopping. Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 09: Tawang-Dirang (180KM/5Hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Dirang. The journey is along a very scenic road traversing forested hills and crossing over the Nichephu pass to the Tenga valley. Traversing the Tenga Valley, the road climba up though a series of hairpins to the town of Bomdila, located at a 2800m high pass of the same name. Hereafter the road descends to the picture postcard Dirang Valley at 1600 m, which is our destination for the day. Upon arrival to the hotel for overnight stay.

**Day 10: Dirang-Nameri (270KM/7Hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Nameri. Upon arrival transfer to the hotel. Later visit the Nameri National Park, covering an area of about 200 sq. KM is located at the foothills of eastern Himalayas about 35KM from Tezpur, the nearest town. Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 11: Nameri-Ziro (180KM/6Hours)**

Early morning drive to Ziro. It is at a height of 5754 ft. from the sea level on the Apatani plateau surrounded by hills all around. Upon arrival to the hotel. Later free time for leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

**Day 12: At Ziro**

After breakfast, full day excursion at Ziro. Visit Hong village- the largest Apatani tribal village in this plateau and interface with the tribes to know their rich cultural tradition and customs. Both men and women tattoo themselves and the women are distinctive with their great nose plugs made of bamboo and face tattoo. Overnight at the Hotel.



### **Day 13: Ziro-Kaziranga National Park (KNP) (440KM/8Hours)**

Early morning drive to KNP, home to the Indian Great one horned rhinoceros. Kaziranga is the title of a remarkable success story of conservation of the One Horned India Rhinoceros and other wild lives in North East India. It is homeland to the one horned rhinoceros, and also provides shelter to a variety of wild lives. Upon arrival to the hotel. Rest of the time free for leisure. Overnight at the hotel.

### **Day 14: At Kaziranga National Park**

Early morning go for an elephant safari to the central range of the park. KNP-is a world heritage site, home to more than 75% of the world's total population of the Great Indian One Horned Rhinoceros. It is on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River. Besides Rhino, the Asiatic Water Buffalo, Elephants, Tigers, Swamp Deer, Barking Deer and Hog Deer can be seen. About 400 species of birds are found in the park. Full day visit the KNP. Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 15: Kaziranga-Kohima (270KM/6Hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Kohima. Kohima is situated at an altitude of 1495 metres above sea level. This hill station, with a panoramic view of the rugged Naga Hills was witness to a fifty day and night non-stop fighting between the Japanese and Allied forces during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. Visit and discover the "Battle of Tennis Court!" Enroute see the Kachari monuments at Dimapur. Dimapur, 80KM northwest of Kohima, is Nagalands largest and most industrialised town. Standing on the riverside edge of the town, Dimapurs mushroom-like monuments, date back to the Kachari Kingdom. It was the capital of the Kachari rulers. The ruins date back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Upon arrival to the hotel for overnight stay.

### **Day 16: Kohima-Tuophema (37KM/1Hours)**

Breakfast at the hotel. At Kohima, visit the 2<sup>nd</sup> world war cemetery. Visit the State Museum that showcases some of the most fascinating aspects of Naga tribal life in all its variety and wealth of tradition. It also houses some of the ancestral weaponry, carved gateposts and traditional Naga costumes and jewellery. Option to visit the handloom and handicraft emporium. Afternoon drive to Touphema village (40KM/2Hours). Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 17: Tuophema-Mokokchung (142KM/5Hours)**

Early morning drive to Mokokchung via Wokha. Mokokchung is a picturesque town at an altitude of 1325mtrs. It is the cultural centre of the Ao Nagas. Wokha region is home to the Lotha tribe. It is located at an altitude of 1314 mtrs above sea level. Lotha Nagas are well known for their folk songs, colourful dresses and dances. Overnight at the Hotel.

### **Day 18: Mokokchung-Dibrugarh (260KM/7Hours)**

After breakfast drive to Dibrugarh. Enroute visit Aliba village to see the largest log drum in the world. Their valour is reflected in the gorgeous hand woven woollen shawls. It is situated at an altitude of 1325 metres above sea level. Dibrugarh is the gateway to the Hidden Land of Eastern Arunachal Pradesh. It is the Camellia town of Upper Assam, with its rich tea gardens resembling a lush green carpet. Experience and enjoy the richness of these tea gardens while staying at the Heritage Chang Bungalows. When the British established their tea plantations in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century they built comfortable bungalows designed to make life as pleasant as possible. One of the main features of these buildings has given rise to their name- Chang Bungalows. Chang in the local language means "raised



on stilts” and the design served multi purposes-to keep the house cool by allowing the breeze to blow underneath and to keep both water and animals out! Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 19: At Dibrugarh**

After breakfast drive to Nam Phake village-an ethnic Tai village. Enroute visit a tea estate to know the origin and the history of tea- how it is grown, all about tea tasting and its quality. Enjoy the tea tour through a 157 years old heritage tea garden gives an insight into the different activities that vary from season to season. During the winter months the dormant bushes are pruned to ensure vigorous growth during the summer months. Once the rains begin, and the temperature rises and the gardens come alive with teams of colourfully dresses tea pluckers to pluck the delicate buds and leaves. The harvest, which goes on continuously from March to November, is taken every day to the factory where it undergoes an age old process of being turned into the finished product. All stages of the process are carefully controlled to ensure that the tea leaves the factory is only of the highest quality, a quality that has made Assam Tea world famous. Nam Phake village- a village worth exploring, situated near the River Buri-Dihing. The villagers still maintain their age old culture. A Buddhist Monastery dots the village which belongs to the Hinayana sects. The monks in the monastery offer a warm welcome to the visitors and are always eager to explain their scriptures. Tai translation of the Ramayana written on handmade paper has been newly discovered in this village. The structures of the houses are unique as the walls are made of bamboo and the roof is of palm leaves mounted over a Chang or stilt. Overnight at the hotel.

### **Day 20: Dibrugarh-Guwahati (443KM/8:30Hours)**

After breakfast drive to Guwahati via Jorhat.

#### **Inclusions:**

- Accommodation on twin or triple share basis as per itinerary.
- Meals (Breakfast, Dinner), soft beverages, bottled water, chocolate bars on 1 serve per head per day basis.
- Recovery van with Oxygen cylinder and first aid kit.
- Inner line permit where ever applicable.
- Route map.
- Self-drive Merchandise

#### **Exclusions:**

- Cost of fuel.
- Cost of spare parts.
- Cost of recovery process.
- Toll tax, traffic lines.
- Vehicle servicing and repairs.
- Insurance.
- Camera charges if applicable.
- Any accommodation beyond our normal schedule.
- Any cost of medical emergency.
- Extra cost for change in itinerary due to natural calamities, political unrest or any other unforeseen conditions.