

THE KUMAON VILLAGE WALKS & STAY



What is it? A group holiday exploring the quaint side of Kumaon- its exotic villages, people, cuisine and more - on foot. 20th – 27th Nov 2010.

A quintessential Kumaoni village comes complete with its own set of folk tales, unique angle view of the snow covered peaks, its twist to the regional cuisine, personal meadows, lake and a hilltop temple. Things you will not experience unless you stay with them, eat with them and walk their paths. And this is exactly what we will do in this trip. Short, easy walks will take us from one village to another as we accumulate all the stories and experiences. The stay will be comfortable, bordering on luxury, food authentic and the smiles genuine. The crisp early winter air and the warm Sun will only help.





The village stay program

One of the best sustainable tourism initiatives, the Kumaon village stay program connects a series of villages in the Binsar-Jageshwar belt with the locals hosting visitors and providing for them. The benefits are distributed between the host family and the village co-operatives. Simple yet effective way of making a contribution.

Binsar and Jageshwar

The wildlife sanctuary in Binsar and the ancient temple town of Jageshwar straddle the middle ranges of the Kumaon Himalaya and present as unique a region of biological diversity as any. The extensive stretch of forests, the 11th century architecture, the rivers, the excellent snow views. This is the region we will be traveling in.

Itinerary

| Date | Activity | Remarks | You have to... |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Saturday 20th Nov 10 | Fly into Delhi and take the overnight train to Kathgodam. | Overnight train journey in Ranikhet express is an easy way to get to the starting point of the trip, Kathgodam. | Book your tickets to Kathgodam. |
| 21st Nov | Reach Kgm early morning. Drive to and stay in Jageshwar guest house. ~ 3 hours. | The 11 th century temple complex is an architectural marvel and is a heritage site under the ASI. We stay just opposite. | |
| 22nd – 25th Nov | Walk 1 – Jaulabanj to Bridh Jageshwar. Walk 2 – To Binsar eco camp. Walk 3 – To Gaunap village. Walk 4 – To Dalharh village. | Short easy walks as we explore the Binsar sanctuary and the villages there. Daily walking distance rarely exceeds 8km and is through forest, fields and fruit orchards. Enough time and opportunity to mingle with the locals. The itinerary is flexible and gives us the opportunity to stay longer in a village if we wish to. | |
| 26th Nov | We come back to Binsar eco camp today. | We round off the trail with a stay at the Binsar eco camp on the periphery of the sanctuary. | |
| Saturday 27th Nov | Drive back to Kathgodam to catch the train back to Delhi. ~ 3 hours | We will take the morning Utr Sampark Kranti express train back to Delhi. | Book your return air/ train tickets. |

Cost for the trip:

The cost of the trip = **Rs 25000/-** per person

Cost includes: Stay, food (except when in transit) and transportation throughout. Doesn't include air/train tickets.

Note: The group size for this trip will not exceed 10. Get on the advance list by making a non-refundable payment of Rs 5000 before 21st Aug. Balance before 21st Sep to confirm your place. Check our cancellation policy on the website.

Payment options:

1. Cheque/ DD:

For 'Connect with Himalaya'.
403, Ram Krishna Chambers
Linking Road, Khar west
Above Reebook showroom
Mumbai -400052

2. Online transfer/ Deposit to:

Account name: Connect with Himalaya
Bank: Axis bank
Branch: Springfield- Lokhandwala, Mumbai
Current A/C #: 415010200003681
IFSC: UTIB0000415, SWIFT: AXISINBB002

What to get along?

Pleasant autumn days and crisp, clear views make it an ideal time for day walks in Kumaon. Temp ranges from 7 to 20 degrees and the weather is mostly clear. Comfortable walking shoes will make the trip, well, very comfortable. We will of course carry woolen sweater, cap, socks, gloves etc. Complete list on signing up.

Making a contribution:

There is always a way of giving back to the place and people where we go for our holidays. Not only will be contributing to the local economy when we stay in the villages, but also to our understanding of the culture and the way of life there. We will also be employing local guides as well as transportation providers. You can support rural handicraft weavers by buying your woolens, etc from them directly.

Get connected:

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Pics from our trip last year, [here](#)

GIFT THIS TRIP

You can chose from gift vouchers starting from Rs 5000.

Write to us with the name of the receiver and the denomination of the voucher.