

Nanda Devi Trek

Tour My India Itinerary

2009-2010

Outline Itinerary

Day 01 Depart from Australia

Day 02 Haridwar - Rishikesh

Day 03 Rishikesh – Joshimath

Day 04 Joshimath - Lata Village

Day 05 : Lata Village - Lata Kharak

Day 06 Lata Kharak - Dharansi Pass

Day 07 Dharansi Pass –
Debrugheta - Dharansi Pass

Day 08 Dharansi Pass - Hitoli
Camp Site

Day 09 Hitoli Campsite -
Joshimath

Day 10 Joshimath – Rishikesh

Day 11 Rishikesh – Haridwar -
Delhi

Day 12 Delhi

Day 13 Delhi Departure



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Introduction

A classic trek that retraces the pioneering steps of Shipton and Tilman through the Garhwal Himalaya. The Nanda Devi basin is one of the most legendary regions in the entire Himalayan chain. The mountain itself, revered since time immemorial by all those who live in its shadow. It has always attracted the attention of the pioneering mountaineers and explorers, mystics and spiritualists, writers and everyday travellers who have visited the area. Everest may well be the highest peak in the world but the beautiful peak of Nanda Devi is also more fascinating. The area first came to the attention of the Western world as a result of the 19th century explorations by Trail, Graham and Long staff but shot to fame in the 1930's when Shipton and Tilman forced a route into the Inner Sanctuary.

Nanda Devi is the highest mountain situated completely within India and is surrounded by a ridge wall of nearly 6000m. The only break in this wall is the Rishi Ganga, a wild and seemingly impenetrable gorge. This classic trek takes us across the picturesque meadows and valleys that border the western edge of the Nanda Devi Sanctuary. The route we follow was used by Shipton and Tilman on their amazing journey to the Nanda Devi basin. During the trek there are many views of the surrounding peaks and the Kuari Pass (3658m) itself has an unrivalled panorama of the Great Himalayan peaks including Nanda Devi (7816m), Changabang (6864m), Doonagiri (7066m) and Kamet (7756m). This amazing feat of endurance and determination was capped when Tilman later returned to conquer the peak itself. Sadly, the mystic of the area led to an excess of expeditions and ecological damage and the Sanctuary was closed in 1980's. Investigations are currently underway to assess the recovery.

Day 01**Departure from your Country**

We depart from the Australia for our overnight flight to Delhi. We arrive into in the early hours and transfer to our hotel. Overnight stay.

Day 02**Delhi – Haridwar - Rishikesh**

In the morning after breakfast drive to Rishikesh via Haridwar. Upon arrival at Rishikesh check in to hotel. Evening free to explore the area. Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel. Haridwar: Haridwar is the gateway to the four pilgrimages of Uttaranchal.

It's a starting point on the journey to the sacred sources of the Ganga and the Yamuna Rivers. According to legend, Prince Bhagirath performed penance here to salvage the souls of his ancestors who had perished due to Sage Kapila's curse. The penance was answered and the river Ganga trickled forth from Lord Shiva's locks and its bountiful water revived the sons of King Sagara. In the tradition of Bhagirath, devout Hindus stand in the sacred waters here, praying for the salvation of their ancestors.

Day 03**Rishikesh – Joshimath (270 kms / 8-9 hrs)**

Today after breakfast we will take a hill drive to Joshimath via Devprayag, Rudraprayag. Lunch enroute. Upon Arrival at Joshimath check into hotel. Evening explore Joshimath. Overnight stay in hotel.

Day 04**Joshimath – Lata Village (2317 mts / 7599 ft) (2kms / 1 hrs)**

An hour's drive will take you to the Lata Village road head. Here you can trek to the village. Besides this we will visit the Nanda Devi Temple and get a first hand experience of the distinctive culture of the region. Overnight stay in the village.

Day 05**Lata Village – Lata Kharak (3689 mts / 12099 ft) (9 kms / 4-5 hrs)**

Today's trek is a steep incline. The going might be arduous but very satisfying as the trail unfolds before ones eyes. Lata Kharak is a high plateau with high peaks surrounding it. Trekking time could vary from 5 - 7 hrs. Overnight stay in Camp.

Day 06**Lata Kharak – Dharansi Pass (4250 mts / 13940 ft) (10 kms / 4-5 hrs)**

A good night sleep and what a morning! It seems we are in heaven with towering snow clad peaks present all around. Dronagiri, Nanda Gunthi and many more. The trail today takes a steep climb to Jhandi Dhar and Bagfyana Pass. From here on it ascends and descends through the narrow gorge of Satkul to Dharansi Pass. Overnight stay in Camp.

Day 07**Dharansi Pass – Debrugheata (3500 mts / 11480 ft) – Dharansi Pass (6 kms / 3-4 hrs)**

On today's trail the Malthuni - Bithartoli Ridges of the inner and outer sanctuary form a magnificent pass up to Rani Kholi and Donidar. The trail is a steep descent of about a kilometer to Debrugheta. Return to Dharansi Pass by late afternoon. Overnight stay at Camp.

Day 08**Dharansi Pass – Hitoli Camp Site (2900 mts / 9512 ft) (12 kms / 5-6 hrs)**

Today we will go through Jhandi Dhar a steep descent of 4.5 km to the Hitoli camp site through thick forests of Rhododendron, Birch and Fir. Overnight stay at Camp.

Day 09**Hitoli Campsite – Joshimath (1890 mts / 6199 ft) (8 kms/ 3-4 hrs)**

The trek goes through the village of Tolma to the road head from where it is a 30 km drive to Joshimath. We will trek through thick forests of Rhododendron, birch and many others. Upon arrival at Joshimath check into hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 10**Joshimath - Rishikesh**

After an early breakfast drive to Rishikesh via Nandprayag, Karnprayag, Rudraprayag and Devprayag. Upon arrival at Rishikesh check into hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 11**Rishikesh – Haridwar - Delhi**

In the morning after breakfast drive to Delhi via Haridwar. On arrival transfer to hotel to have some relaxing time. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 12**Delhi**

In the morning after breakfast take a guided sight seeing tour of Old & New Delhi covering Red Fort, Raj Ghat, India Gate, President House, Humaun Tomb, Lotus Temple etc. dinner & overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 13

Delhi Departure

Transfer to international airport according to your flight schedule.