

## Best of Uttarakhand

**Starts At Delhi Airport / Railway Station Ends At Delhi Airport / Railway Station**

### Itinerary

#### DAY 1 DELHI – MUSSOURIE (7 HRS)

Arrival at Delhi Airport / Railway Station, Proceed to Mussourie, Drive of 6 – 7 Hrs. Mussourie is a hill station, situated in the foothills of the Garhwal Himalayan ranges, is also known as the Queen of the Hills. It has a nature walk known as "Camel's Back Road". This road takes its name from a rocky outcrop in the shape of a camel's hump. Arrival at Mussourie. Evening free time at Rest & leisure. O/N Mussourie.

#### DAY 2 MUSSOURIE – LOCAL SIGHTSEEING EXCURSION

Morning after breakfast leave for Mussourie local sightseeing by visiting "Gun Hill" where a cannon was used to sound out midday for many years. Gun Hill is accessible by the cable car on the Mall road. Happy Valley has a small Tibetan temple. This was the first Tibetan temple built in India. Kempty Falls – The place showcases nature in an exquisite manner. With the Kempty river flowing through it, Lake Mist has many small waterfalls made by the river. Thus, this is a gem in the queen of hills. Jharipani Fall – The fall is about 1.5 km on foot. Sir George Everest's House - Park Estate is where one can find the remains of the building and laboratory of Sir George Everest, the Surveyor General of India from 1830 to 1843. It is after George Everest that the world's highest peak Mt. Everest is named. The place provides an enchanting view of Doon Valley on one side and a panoramic view of the Aglar River valley and the snow peaks of the Himalayan ranges on the other. Nag Devta Temple – An ancient temple dedicated to Snake God Lord Shiva and is situated on Cart Mackenzie Road. Back to Hotel. O/N Mussourie.

#### DAY 3 DELHI – HARIDWAR – RISHIKESH (6 – 7 HRS)

Arrival at Delhi Airport / Railway Station, Proceed to Rishikesh, drive of 6 – 7 Hrs. Rishikesh – has been a part of the legendary 'Kedarkhand' (the present day Garhwal). Legends state that Lord Rama did penance here for killing Ravana, the demon king of Lanka; and Lakshmana, his younger brother, crossed the river Ganges, at a point, where the present 'Lakshman Jhula' bridge stands today, using a jute rope bridge Evening one can visit to Har Ki Pauri in Evening for famous Ganga Aarti (Prayer) – This sacred Ghat was constructed by King Vikramaditya (1st century BC) in memory of his brother Bhurthari. It is believed that Bhurthari came to Haridwar and meditated on the banks of the holy Ganges. The evening prayer (Aarti) at

dusk offered to Goddess Ganga at Har-Ki-Pauri (steps of God Hara or Shiva) is an enchanting experience for any visitor. A spectacle of sound and colour is seen when, after the ceremony, pilgrims float diyas (floral floats with lamps) and incense on the river, commemorating their deceased ancestors. Thousands of people from all around the world do make a point to attend this prayer on their visit to Haridwar. Back to Hotel. O/N Rishikesh.

#### **DAY 4 RISHIKESH – AULI (7 - 8 HRS)**

Morning after breakfast leave for Auli, Journey of 7 – 8 Hrs of winding roads, Auli – Is an important ski destination in the Himalayan mountains, It is also known as a 'bugyal' in the regional language which means meadow. Auli is surrounded by high peaks like Mana, Kamet and tallest of all Nanda Devi. The 270 degree view will be enough to make you forget the long and tiring ride to reach Auli. Once the Skiing is over the best thing one can do in evening is to take chair out and get treated to great view of snow clad mountains as they keep changing colors every minute the sun goes down. Here you will understand why the Sadhus (sage) came to Himalayas for meditation. The feeling of solitude and oneness with god will do wonders to you mind and have a positive effect on you body. You will get which no money can buy "Peace of Mind" Auli is blessed with a breathtaking panoramic view of the lofty peaks of the greatest mountain range in the world, the Himalayas. O/N Auli.

#### **DAY 5 AULI**

Full day at Leisure at Auli, or one can for short treks in summer or enjoy the ski at one of the best skiing grounds in the world in Winter. O/N Auli.

#### **DAY 6 AULI – CORBETT (6 – 7 HRS)**

Morning after breakfast leave for The Jim Corbett National Park is India's oldest national park. The park – named for the hunter and conservationist Jim Corbett who played a key role in its establishment – was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park. The park acts as a protected area for the endangered Bengal tiger of India, the secure survival of which is the main objective of Project Tiger, an Indian wildlife protection initiative. The park contains a wide variety of wild life including elephant, tiger, chital, Sambar Deer, nilgai, gharial, King Cobra, muntjac, wild boar, hedgehog, common musk shrew (White-toothed shrew), flying fox, Indian Pangolin, and nearly 600 species of birds. Corbett has been a haunt for tourists and wildlife lovers for a long time. Tourism activity is only allowed in selected areas of Corbett Tiger Reserve so that people get an opportunity to see its splendid landscape and the diverse wildlife. The Park is a heaven for the adventure seekers and wildlife adventure lovers alike. Corbett National Park is India's first national park which comprises 520.8 km<sup>2</sup>. area of hills, riverine belts, marshy depressions, grass lands and large lake. The elevation ranges from 1,300 feet (400 m) to 4,000 feet (1,200 m) Dense moist deciduous forest mainly consists of sal, haldu, pipal, rohini and mango trees, and these trees cover almost 73 per cent of the park. The 10 per cent of the area consists of grasslands. It houses around 110 tree species, 50 species of mammals, 580 bird species and 25 reptile species. O/N Corbett.

#### **DAY 7 CORBETT A€“ JUNGLE SAFARI**

Early morning for Jungle Safari in open jeep. Back to Hotel for Breakfast, later post lunch leave for Jungle safari / Elephant joy ride. Evening time at Leisure. O/N Corbett.

#### **DAY 8 CORBETT A€“ KAUSANI (4 HRS)**

Morning after breakfast leave for Kausani - Is a beautiful hill station. There are very few places in the Himalayas which can compare with the beauty of Kausani - a picturesque hill station famous for its scenic splendour and its spectacular 300 km-wide panoramic view of Himalayan peaks like Trisul, Nanda Devi and Panchchuli. Mahatma Gandhi called this place the 'Switzerland of India', due to similarity in landscape. Another attraction named 'Anashakti Ashram', is a quiet and revered place where Mahatma Gandhi spent his some days and wrote his commentary of Anashkti Yog. Lakshmi Ashram is a center run by Kumauni women and dedicated for social service and upliftment of women. O/N Kausani.

#### **DAY 9 KAUSANI A€“ RANIKHET (3 HRS)**

Early morning wake up for Sun rise glimpse at Himalayan Peaks like Trishul, Nanda Devi & Panchchuli Peaks. After Breakfast leave for Ranikhet is a hill station & cantonment town in Almora district. It is the home for the Military Hospital, Kumaon Regiment & Naga Regiment and is maintained by the Indian Army. Ranikhet, which means Queen's meadow in Hindi, gets its name from a local legend, which states that it was here, that Raja Sudhardev won the heart of his queen, Rani Padmini, who subsequently chose the area for her residence, giving it the name, Ranikhet. In 1869, the British established the headquarters of the Kumaon Regiment here and used the station as a retreat from the heat of the Indian summer. Evening free time at Leisure & Rest. O/N Ranikhet.

#### **DAY 10 RANIKHET A€“ NAINITAL (3 HRS)**

After breakfast leave for Nainital is a popular hill station in Kumaon region of Uttarakhand. It is set in a valley containing a pear-shaped lake, approximately two miles in circumference, and surrounded by mountains, of which the highest are Naina, Deopatha and Ayarpatha. Evening free time at Leisure. O/N Nainital.

#### **DAY 11 NAINITAL A€“ LOCAL SIGHTSEEING EXCURSION**

After Breakfast visit to Naini Devi Temple- The temple is located on the northern shore of Naini lake. The presiding deity of the temple is Maa Naina Devi represented by two Netras or eyes. Flanking Naina Devi are the deities of Mata Kali and Lord Ganesh. Nainital is believed to be one of the 64 Shaktipeeths, where one of the body parts of Goddess Sati fell, when Lord Shiva carried her body. In Nainital, the eyes (naina) of the Goddess are assumed to have fallen. The shrine of Naina Devi is a must visit for devout Hindus. Snow View is situated at an altitude of (7,450 ft) and located atop the Sher-ka-danda Ridge (north by north-east of the town centre), is easily reachable by cable car. On a clear day, it offers spectacular views of the snowbound

high Himalaya, including Nanda Devi, Trisul, and Nanda Kot. Naini Peak also known as China or Cheena Peak or Naina Peak is the highest peak in the town, with an altitude of 8,579 ft. From atop the peak, one can not only see a broad swath of the snow clad high Himalaya, but also obtain a panoramic view of Nainital town itself. The summit is an invigorating hike from Nainital town; in addition, for the less energetic visitors, ponies can be hired in Mallital. Evening spend time at Naini Lake, it is situated in the heart of the city and it is owing to this lake that Nainital earned its name. The eye-shaped lake is a tourist hotspot and acts as a magnet for all those visiting the hill resort. Here, a person can either take a leisurely stroll or indulge in boating and enjoy the surrounding beauty. O/N Nainital.

#### **DAY 12 NAINITAL – LOCAL SIGHTSEEING EXCURSION**

Morning After breakfast leave for Lake Visit in nearby villages of Nainital by visiting Bhimtal Lake - is the biggest lake of Nainital. It is named after the second Pandava brother Bhima in the Mahābhārata who was known for his prodigious strength. The lake, which is larger than Naini Lake, There is an island in the lake with a popular restaurant on it. There is also a 17th century temple complex, the Bhimeshwar. Sattal, literally Seven Lakes, in the Lower Himalayan Range. It is a cluster of small interconnected lakes in the midst of an old oak forest. On approaching Sattal, the first lake encountered is the Nal-Damyanti Lake; next it is the Panna or Garude lake; and finally there is a cluster of three lakes: Ram, Laxman, and Sita lakes. Naukuchia Tal, literally, Nine-Cornered Lake, It is the deepest of the lakes in the greater Nainital area. According to legend, if one takes in all nine corners in one glimpse, one can disappear in a cloud of smoke. Back to Nainital by late afternoon. Evening free time at leisure to stroll at Mall road of Nainital on the banks of Naini Lake. O/N Nainital.

#### **DAY 13 NAINITAL – DELHI (6 – 7 HRS)**

Morning after breakfast leave back for Delhi. Journey of 6 – 7 Hr. Drop at Delhi Airport / Railway Station. Journey Ends Here.

## **Others**