Garhwal Pilgrim Trek

Days:	19
Price:	2200 USD International flight not included
Comfort:	★★★★★
Difficult:	★★★☆☆
Trekking	

SNOWY SILENCES, SACRED TRAILS

The region's natural bounty is rich and diverse: Snow-bond peaks, crystal glacier, jagged rock faces, scenic valleys, meandering rivers, and cascading waterfalls and dense forests. Add to this a friendly and hospitable people, with a rich culture. No wonder, walking along India's ancient pilgrim routes is where we have some of the most magnificent Himalayan experiences.

We begin with a 1,500m ascent from Gaurikund to Kedarnath, a major pilgrimage centre with an ancient temple. Returning to Gaurikund, we set off for Maggu (3,250m), walking through Bugyals, refreshing alpine meadows typical of this region. The ascent to Panwali pass is exceptionally picturesque with fabulous views of the mountains, including Nanda Devi (7,817m). From Gangotri, our trek passes through lush rhododendron forests and verdant alpine pastures to reach Gaumukh, where the Ganges emerges from the glacier, set against Shivling peak (6,543m). We cross the glacier slopes to reach the expensive meadows of Tapovan (4,450m), the highest point of the trek, and visit Kedar Dome and Meru glacier before ending our trek at Gangotri. After a night's rest in Uttarkashi, we drive back to Delhi, stopping at Haridwar where Hindu pilgrims take a holy di in the Ganges and perform other sacred rituals

HIGHLIGHTS

- Picturesque villages, terraced fields and the enchanting Bugyals (Alpine meadows)
- Majestic Shivling peak (6,543m) – a spire of rock and ice
- Local temples and ghats of Rishikesh, Hindu temples and ashrams in Uttarkashi
- Tapovan (4,450m), the highest point of the trek
- Gaumukh – the source of the Ganges

Day 1. Traditional Welcome on arrival

Delhi

- Arrive at the **International airport** of Delhi. After the traditional welcome, transfer to the hotel for overnight stay.

Accommodation	Ashok Country Resort

Day 2. Drive to Rishikesh - Birth place of Yoga

Delhi

Delhi - Rishikesh

- In the morning we drive to Rishikesh, situated on the banks of The Ganges. Rishikesh is said to be the birth place of yoga and known as the gateway to four major Dhams (pilgrimage sites) of Hindus - **Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri**. Upon arrival here we are transferred to hotel for check-in. In the evening we visit the Ghats of river Ganga to see the Aarti ceremony- spectacle of sights, sounds and chanting. Rishikesh, flanked by The **Shivalik range** of the Himalayas is well known for its scenic beauty and spiritual experience.

240km - 6h 30m
Rishikesh

Breakfast	Ashok Country Resort
Lunch	Restaurant
Dinner	Hotel Neeraj Bhawan
Accommodation	Hotel Neeraj Bhawan

Day 3. Uphill drive to Gaurikund

Rishikesh
260km - 8h
Gauri Kund

Rishikesh - Gauri Kund

- Today we drive uphill almost full day along the serpentine road on the right side of river Ganges up to Devprayag. Here Bhagirathi from **Gaumukh and Alaknanda** from Satopanth join to form the sacred river of Ganges. We continue via Srinagar to Rudraprayag where we turn left on the side of Mandakini River and continue further to reach Gaurikund. Arrive & check-in to the lodge.

Breakfast	Hotel Neeraj Bhawan
Lunch	Restaurant
Dinner	Sunil Lodge
Accommodation	Sunil Lodge

Day 4. Trek to Kedarnath (3500m)

Gauri Kund
14km - 6h
Kedarnath

Gauri Kund - Kedarnath

- Today our trek starts with a gentle climb to Kedarnath. During the pilgrimage season there are chances to get mingled with the pilgrims who come from different parts of India; some of the devotees, Sadhus (holy men), women and children (unable to walk) being carried in palanquins (carrying chairs). The trek passes through rich, green and beautiful valleys, tumbling waterfalls and stark mountains with constant view of **river Mandakini** rolling down. Kedarnath Temple dedicated to lord Shiva and built by Pandavas after the war of Mahabharata, stands facing the Mandakini Valley against the background of some majestic peaks. The stone shrine of Kedarnath is at an altitude of (3500m).
  Duration of Trek: 6 Hrs
  Distance: 14 Kms

Breakfast	Sunil Lodge
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Sunil Lodge

Day 5. Tracking Back to Gauri Kund

Kedarnath - Gauri Kund

- Early morning we pay a visit to this holy shrine to feel the spiritual atmosphere in and around the temple; witness devotees buying incense and flowers from the shops near the temple to offer to Lord Shiva in the temple; and chasing the priests to perform rituals to pray for their families. Later we descend back to Gaurikund.
  Duration of Trek: 4-5 Hrs
  Distance: 14 Kms

Kedarnath
14km - 4h 30m
Gauri Kund

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Sunil Lodge

Day 6. Drive to Triyugi Narayan and Trek to Maggu

Gauri Kund
10km - 1h
Triyugi Narayan
12km - 5h
Maggu

Gauri Kund - Triyugi Narayan

- In the morning, we take a short transfer up to the trek **starting point** and walk around 1 hour through some rice fields up to **Triyugi Narayan Temple**. Legends say that Lord Shiva got married to goddess Parvati here.

Triyugi Narayan - Maggu

- We continue our trek with gradual ascents passing through a beautiful village and dense forest; green meadows and pastures with spectacular views of snow peaked mountain ranges.
  Duration of Trek: 5 Hrs
  Distance: 12 Kms

Breakfast	Sunil Lodge
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 7. Trek to Panwali Kantha via Dhupandha

Maggu
15km - 7h
Panwali Kantha

Maggu - Panwali Kantha

- This day, one of the most exciting days on the trek, provides us magnificent views of surrounding mountains and landscapes. We begin with a gradual climb for about 2 hours from the camp to **Maggu Top**. From the top ridge one can appreciate the panoramic views of high mountain peaks of **Kedarnath, Sumeru Parvat** and other snow-covered peaks. We walk a long way on the ridge overlooking the valley of rhododendrons and bamboos that provides us a chance to spot some wildlife such as black faced langoors (a species of monkeys) and deer. We then walk through a small but very beautiful **village of Panwali** before reaching our camp.
  Duration of Trek: 7 Hrs
  Distance: 15 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 8. Trek to Ghuttu

Panwali Kantha
16km - 7h
Ghuttu (1600m)

Panwali Kantha - Ghuttu (1600m)

- Today's trek starts with gradual ascent for about half an hour to Panwali Pass where one can appreciate panoramic views of the massive of **Nanda Devi (7817m)** on one side and fantastic views of forests, green meadows and pastures on the other. The trail then descends for about 6 hrs through thick forests up to the base and after crossing a big stream; the trail passes through **Ghuttu Village** with its rice fields.
  Duration of Trek: 7 Hrs
  Distance: 16 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 9. Trek to Bhairon Chatti

Ghuttu (1600m)
10km - 6h
Bhairon Chatti

Ghuttu (1600m) - Bhairon Chatti

- Today our 6-7 hr. trek starts with a gradual acclivity. The trail passes through some beautiful villages where people welcome us with a smile and men are eager to talk to us. Watching ladies working in rice fields and small children running here and there makes our day a wonderful experience. We continue through thick forests and alpine meadows to reach Bhairon Chatti. We camp at a beautiful site with lush green ground near Bhairon Temple with fantastic views of some high mountains and thick forest.
  Duration of Trek: 6 Hrs
  Distance: 10 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 10. Trek to Buda Kedar

Bhairon Chatti
13km - 6h
Buda Kedar

Bhairon Chatti - Buda Kedar

- Today we have about 6-7 hours trek starting with gradual descent through thick forests for about 2 hours and then almost a flat walk through some rice fields leading us to a picturesque **village of Binakkhal**. We continue our trek on the trail that again passes through forests all the way down for about 2.5 hours to **Agunda via Buda Kedar** located near **River Bal Ganga**.
  Duration of Trek: 6 Hrs
  Distance: 13 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 11. Trek to Belak Pass

Buda Kedar
16km - 5h
Belak Pass (2950m)

Buda Kedar - Belak Pass (2950m)

- Today our 5-6 hours long trek starts with a gradual walk through the village. After crossing **Bal Ganga** by wooden bridge at Jalla we walk uphill through thick forests and some pastures up to Belak, which is on the border line of **Chamoli** and **Uttarkashi towns**, to camp at the top of the forest.
  Duration of Trek: 5 Hrs
  Distance: 16 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 12. Trek till Malla and drive to Gangotri

Belak Pass (2950m)
10km - 4h
Malla
75km - 2h
Gangotri

Belak Pass (2950m) - Malla

- Today our 4-5 hour long trek starts with gradual descent towards **Lata**. The trail passes through dense forests for about 3-4 hours to the bottom of the forest. We cross a big stream walking over a beautiful wooden bridge and then a level walk up to **Malla**, the road head, which connects **Uttarkashi** with **Gangotri** .
  Duration of Trek: 4 Hrs
  Distance: 10 Kms

Malla - Gangotri

- Transfer to **Gangotri** (75 kms) by bus/Jeep. We arrive in Gangotri and check-in to our lodge.

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Hotel Mandakini

Day 13. Trek to Bhojbasa via Chirbasa

Gangotri
14km - 6h
Bhojbasa

Gangotri - Bhojbasa

- The second part of the trek starts with a gradual ascent through the forest. From **Gangotri** we move along the beaten track towards **Chirbasa**, with a thick tree line. We follow the river **Bhagirathi** which takes the form of Holy Ganga on joining Alaknanda River after a few kilometers down. The views of high peaks are spectacular and the trail sometimes passes through forests full of deodars and conifers all the way up to **Chirbasa** but beyond Chirbasa all the way up to **Bhojbasa** the terrain becomes really desolate and barren. We arrive in Bhojbasa that has a small temple down the river. We camp near the river side. Afternoon is free to explore the area and to enjoy excellent sunset on Bhagirathi group of peaks.
  Duration of Trek: 6 Hrs
  Distance: 14 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team

Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 14. Trek to Tapovan via Gaumukh

Bhojbasa
9km - 6h
Tapovan

Bhojbasa - Tapovan

- Today we trek to Tapovan via Gaumukh enjoying the panoramic view of Bhagirathi group of peaks on our way. Gaumukh is the spot where water of Ganga trickles down from the glaciers into the **Gangotri Valley** and beyond. We arrive in **Gaumukh** and explore the area. Later, we continue our trek to Tapovan, one of the finest high-altitude alpine meadows in the area. The trek from Gaumukh to Tapovan is an ascent crossing over the Gaumukh Glacier. As one climbs up the trail the view of the surrounding peaks becomes clearer and the peaks appear to be just a stone's throw away. Tapovan is known for its beautiful meadows that encircle the base camp of **The Shivling Peak** that is visited by hundreds of tourists, mountaineers, trekkers and ascetics every year. Tapovan is a very pleasant surprise spot with a large meadow replete with bubbling streams, wildflowers and campsites.
  Duration of Trek: 6 Hrs
  Distance: 9 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 15. Trek to Chirbasa via Bhojbasa

Tapovan
14km - 5h
Chirbasa

Tapovan - Chirbasa

- Tapovan is a convenient base camp for climbers expeditions to different peaks and is a real delight for the keen and enthusiastic photographers. Early morning light makes the surrounding scenery an unforgettable experience while one enjoys the view of the golden rays of sunrise on high peaks and the crisp and dazzling morning sun on the campsite. Post breakfast we make a swift descent down to **Bhojbasa**, covering the seemingly endless trek in a matter of hours. We arrive in Bhojbasa and explore the local area.
  Duration of Trek: 5 Hrs
  Distance: 14 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Camping

Day 16. Trek till Gangotri and drive to Uttarkashi

Chirbasa
8km - 4h
Gangotri
95km - 4h
Uttarkashi

Chirbasa - Gangotri

- After a walk for about a couple of hours, we reach **Gangotri** where we meet our vehicle that carries us down to our lodge at Uttarkashi. Uttarkashi is situated on the bank of **Bhagirathi River** and is home to numerous temples and ashrams (4-5 hrs drive). In the evening, we have free time to explore the town.
  Duration of Trek: 4 Hrs
  Distance: 8 Kms

Breakfast	Made by your team
Lunch	Made by your team
Dinner	Made by your team
Accommodation	Hotel Jahanvi

Day 17. Drive to Rishikesh

Uttarkashi
125km - 5h
Rishikesh

Uttarkashi - Rishikesh

- After an early breakfast, we set out on another beautiful drive (6 hrs) to Rishikesh via **Chamba**. In the afternoon, we have an option to visit Lakshman Jhula or surrounding temples. There is also a chance to attend evening prayer at **Triveni Ghat**.

Breakfast	Hotel Jahanvi
Lunch	Restaurant
Dinner	Hotel Neeraj Bhawan
Accommodation	Hotel Neeraj Bhawan

Day 18. Return to Delhi visiting Haridwar

Rishikesh
240km - 6h 30m
Delhi

Rishikesh - Delhi

- Early morning we leave Rishikesh and drive to Delhi. En-route, we visit Haridwar which is one of the holiest places for Hindus in India. We visit **Har ki Pauri** where the pilgrims have a holy dip in the Ganges. We continue our drive to **Delhi** where we are transferred to the hotel for overnight stay.

Breakfast	Hotel Neeraj Bhawan
Accommodation	Ashok Country Resort

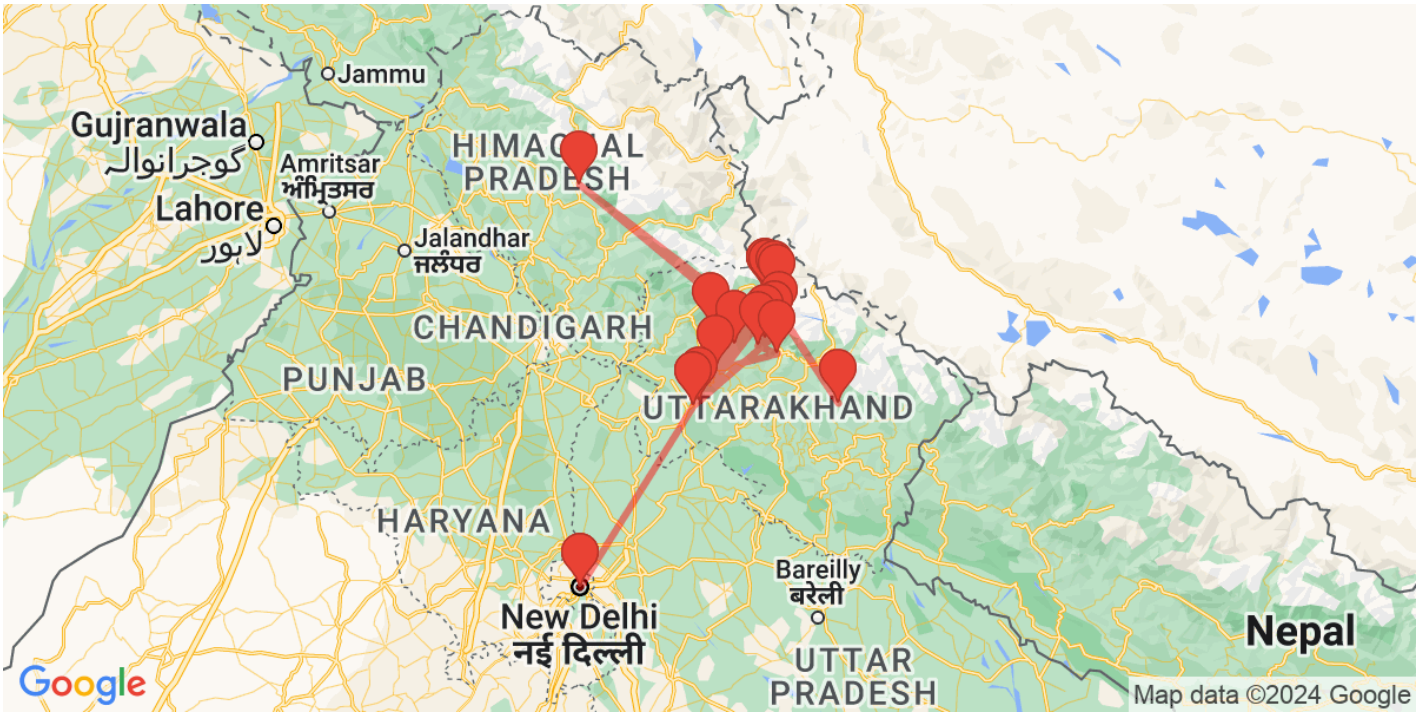
Day 19. Departure from Delhi

Delhi

- Today is a free day to relax or to explore **Old and New Delhi**. In the evening, we are transferred to **International Airport** to catch our flights to our respective destinations.

Breakfast	Ashok Country Resort

Itinerary map



Individual price per person

2-2	3-4	5-6	7-9	10-12
4405 USD	3395 USD	2735 USD	2325 USD	2200 USD

Included

- Accommodation for 16 nights on Full board in camp/tent/Hotel on double sharing basis from
- 02 nights in Hotel on double sharing basis on breakfast basis in Delhi
- All ground transportation included in the program using private air-conditioned vehicle with English speaking driver
- Trekking equipment and materials including food (excluding personal equipment)
- Trekking guide for 13 days from (D:4 till D: 16)
- Professional English speaking - Tour leader throughout the trip
- First aid kit
- Govt. Taxes

Not included

- International flights tickets
- Travel insurance
- These rates will not be valid for peak season from 20 December 2019 to 10 January 2020 , Christmas and New Year's extra supplement cost will be charged during this period
- Lunch and diners in Delhi
- Tips for trek guide, staff and other personal etc
- Rescue and evacuation services
- Miscellaneous Expenses - drinks, souvenir, personal expenses etc.
- The cancellation and baggage insurance, assistance and repatriation
- Indian Visa
- Other services not mentioned in 'Inclusion'