

Gangotri - Gomukh - Tapovan Trek 2015



The Holy River Ganges is the most sacred river in the Hindu religion and its source at Gomukh at the Gangotri glacier. The glacier measures about 30 kms long. The Gangotri glacier is surrounded by peaks belonging to the Gangotri Group of mountains, including some that pose a challenge to mountaineers, such as Shivling, Thalay Sagar, Meru, and Bhagirathi III. The glacier follows a North Westerly route located below Chaukhamba Mountain, the highest peak of the group.

Gaumukh is one of the holiest places for Hindu pilgrims who come here to witness the birth of Mother Ganga. The trek takes one to Gomukh (cows mouth), the mythological source of the River Ganges, which is at the snout of the Gangotri glacier.

Area: Garhwal Himalayas

Duration: 09 Days

Altitude: 4463 mts/14638 ft

Grade: Moderate

Season: May - June & Mid August - October

Day 01: Delhi - Haridwar - Rishikesh

In the morning take AC train from Delhi to Haridwar at 06:50 hrs. Arrival at Haridwar by 11:25 hrs and meet our guide, then drive to Rishikesh by car. Upon arrival at Rishikesh met our representative and check in to hotel. Evening free to explore the area. Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 02: Rishikesh – Uttarkashi (185 kms/5-6 hrs)

Morning after breakfast proceed for Uttarkashi (1150 mts), which takes 7-8 hrs drive.



Upon arrival check-in at Hotel. Evening free to explore the surrounding by your own. Overnight stay at hotel.

Uttarkashi is the principle town in the region. Nehru Institute of Mountaineering is situated here. It is also the gateway to many mountaineering and trekking expedition in Gangotri area.

Day 03: Uttarkashi – Gangotri (3048 m/10,000 ft) Drive (95 kms).

Morning after breakfast drive to reach Gangotri via Harsil (approx 25 km before Gangotri (3048 mt) by covering approx 95 km in 4-5 hrs. On arrival check-into Hotel. Overnight stay. There is a beautiful Gorge at Bhairon Ghati over which there is a steel guarder bridge. Gangotri is the place where the Goddess Ganga descended on Earth from Heaven. There is a Temple of Goddess Ganga where thousands of devotees throng to pay homage to her.

Gangotri:

The shrine of Gangotri is situated at an elevation of 3200 m surrounded by deodars and pines. The original temple was constructed by the Gorkha General Amar Singh Thapa. Every year people from all around the world visit this shrine. A number of ashrams and Dharamshala are located on the other side of the river. It is believed that Raja Bhagirath used to worship Shiva on a slab of rock "Bhagirath Shila" situated near

the temple. Submerged in the river there is a natural Shivling where, according to mythology, Lord Shiva sat when he received the Goddess Ganga in his matted locks. A days trek takes one to Gomukh, the source of the mighty Ganges.



Day 04: Gangotri (3048 mts) - Bhojwassa (3792 mts/12440 ft) 13 kms trek/5-6 hrs)

Morning after breakfast we commands our trek further to Bhojwassa via Chirbasa (3600mt). From Gangotri we move along the beaten track towards Chirbasa, which is on tree line. The entire trek to day is along the roaring Bhagirathi River. Beyond Chirbasa the terrain becomes really desolate and barren. In fact, it has been referred to as Artic Tundra by many trekkers. From Chirbasa we trek further to Bhojwassa, the entire trail passes through dense forest, Arrive Bhojwassa; there is a small temple and a potential campsite near down the river. We make our camp near river side. Afternoon free to explore the area and to enjoy excellent sunset on Bhagirathi group of peaks. Dinner and overnight stay in tents.

Day 05 Bhojwassa - Gomukh (3890 mts/12760 ft) - Tapovan (4463 mts/14640 ft)

Early in the Morning enjoy the panoramic view of Bhagirathi group of peaks. After breakfast trek to Gomukh (3890mt), the source of the Ganges. Gomukh is where the water of Ganga trickles down from the glaciers. The sages called it 'Gomukh', because in the distant past, it probably appeared like a cow's mouth. Explore the area and trek to Tapovan, one of the finest high altitude alpine meadows in the area. The trek from Gomukh to Tapovan is ascent steep, and as we climb, the view of the surrounding peaks becomes clearer. They appear to be just a stone's throw away. Tapovan known

for its beautiful meadows that encircle the base camp of the Shivling peak, Tapovan is a very pleasant surprised spot with a large meadow complete with bubbling streams, wildflowers and campsites. Herds of Bharal (blue mountain goats) are a common sight from here on mountain ridges. On the far side of the glacier the Bhagirathi I, II, III



(6454mt), provide an equally impressive backdrop. It is also the little wonder where Sadhus and saint choose this spot for extended meditation during the long summer month. Arrive Tapovan and camp. Dinner and overnight stay in camp.

Gomukh: The Gomukh glacier is the source of Bhagirathi (Ganges) and is held in high esteem by the devout who do not miss the opportunity to have a holy dip in the bone chilling icy water.

Tapovan: Tapovan is an ideal location for the tourists looking for peace and adventure. Tapovan is located on an altitude of 4463m/14640ft above sea level. Tapovan is base camp for Shivlinga peak in Utrakhand hills. One can also have a nice view of Bhagirathi peaks from Tapovan Meadow. Every year this place has been visited by thousands of tourist including foreigners for adventure activity like mountaineering & trekking.

Day 06: Tapovan (4463 mts / 14640 ft)

Free to acclimatize, relax and enjoy the magnificent snow clapped peaks, flora & Fauna and mountain landscape. Explore the Kriti & Meru Glacier. Dinner and overnight stay at the camp.

Day 07: Tapovan – Bhojwassa (Trek 4-5 hrs)

Early morning enjoy the sunrise on high peaks. After breakfast trek down to Bhojwassa. Arrive Bhojwassa and camp. Dinner and overnight stay at the camp.



Day 08: Bhojwassa – Gangotri (Trek 4-5 hrs) - Uttarkashi

Morning after breakfast trek down to Gangotri and from here drive to Uttarkashi. On arrival check in to hotel. Overnight stay.

Day 09: Uttarkashi – Haridwar - Delhi

Morning after breakfast drive to Haridwar and from here catch AC train for Haridwar at 18:05 hrs. Arrival at Delhi by 22:45 hrs.

Cost of the Trip

USD 685/- per person (for a minimum of 2-4 people)*

INR 32500/- per person (for a minimum of 2-4 people)*

*3.9% service tax extra

Cost Includes

- Train: AC Train from Delhi – Haridwar & back
- Transport: Mahindra Max Car from Haridwar to Gangotri & back
- Accommodation: Hotel in Rishikesh, Uttarkashi and Guest House in Gangotri on breakfast basis. While on trek we will provide you Dome/Alpine trekking tents on twin sharing basis. Camping mattresses, mess tent, dining tent, camping stool, table, toilet tent etc would be provided.

- Meals: Breakfast at Rishikesh, Uttarkashi and Gangotri while on trek all meal will be provided. All meals will be freshly prepared and will be a mix of Indian, Chinese & Continental.
- Porters: For carrying camping equipment, rations, vegetables and some amount of personal gear of the clients (one bag not weighing more than 15 kgs).
- Professional local trekking guide and kitchen staff would accompany the group
- Entry fee for the park
- Trekking permit fees

Cost does not Include

- Any charges for carrying still/video cameras etc.
- Alcohol, soft drinks, bottled water, beverages, etc
- Personal expenses like tips, telephone calls, laundry, etc.
- Any meals/services not mentioned above
- Any costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances like landslides, road blocks, bad weather, etc.
- Travel insurance

Fix Departure Dates 2015

2, 8, 15, 22, 29 May 2015

5, 12, 19 June 2015

18, 25 September 2015

09, 16 October 2015

Trekking Equipments List

1. Trekking boots - well broken in and waterproofed
2. Down jacket or equivalent with hood
3. One heavy wool shirt or sweater, two cotton shirts
4. One pair cotton trousers or shorts, one pair woolen trousers
5. One pair shorts or calf-length skirt for women
6. Three pairs of regular underwear, Long underwear - thermal or wool
7. Wind- and rain-gear with hood, Sun hat with brim
8. Woolen hat or balaclava, Woolen gloves
9. Woolen socks to wear with boots, Cotton socks
10. Personal first-aid kit including medication for common ailments
11. Flashlight with extra batteries
12. Sunglasses or snow goggles (an extra pair is recommended)
13. Water bottle, preferably wide mouthed, with at least one liter capacity
14. Plastic bags - small size for books, film etc., larger bags for clothes, sleeping bags
15. Well fitting strong shoes with a couple of woolen socks. The shoes should be used before treks to avoid blisters.
16. First aid set for minor accidents and sickness.
17. A raincoat is necessary to meet uncertainties of weather.
18. Chocolates, lozenges, candies, glucose and dry fruits provide extra pep and energy.
19. It is advisable not to exhaust energy by walking fast, as otherwise the trek will be not enjoyable.