

Kalindikhal Trekking Expedition 2015

Fix Departure Dates: 10 July 2009 & 7 August 2015



Region: Garhwal Himalayas of Uttrakhand

Style of Trek: Indian Leader

Altitude: 5946 m/19500 ft

Duration: 18 Days

Season: July - August

Grade: Challenging - Tough

Group size: Maximum: 12 clients plus leader

Minimum: 4 clients plus Indian Leader

The high altitude trekking route from Gangotri – Badrinath, via Kalindikhal is generally known as Kalindikhal Pass Trek. It is more adventurous with requirement of some fundamental knowledge of mountaineering. The trekking starts from Gangotri eastward, via Gomukh, Tapovan, Nandanvan, Vasuki Tal, Kalindikhal to Gashtoli and then to Badrinath. Here is a trek that takes you half way round Garhwal from the Bhagirathi Valley to the Alaknanda Valley. A trip only for those who have done high altitude treks before; its very mention gives a thrill to even the most seasoned of climbers.

The trek starts from Gangotri and takes you through Nandanvan, the base of the Bhagirathi peaks, a place that offers an unparalleled view of the Shivling peak. The trail moves on to Vasuki Tal (4900 M). With towering peaks all around the lake, its surface shimmers like a pearl and is the source of the Vasuki Ganga that drains into the Mandakini. We proceed to cross the Kalindikhal pass (5968 M), a tough climb from where you feel that there is little else left to be seen. It is as if you are a part of this majestic setting of snow peaks. The trail then descends to Arwa Tal and to Mana the last village on the Chinese frontier. The trek fittingly ends at Badrinath with a visit to the holy temple.

Day 01: Delhi – Rishikesh (225 kms/6 hrs approx)

In the morning after breakfast drive to Rishikesh via Haridwar. On arrival transfer to hotel. Evening free to explore the near by area by your own. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 02: Rishikesh – Uttarkashi (170 kms/ 5 -6 hrs)

Morning after breakfast proceed for Uttarkashi (1150 mts), which takes 5-6 hrs. Upon arrival check-in at Hotel Shivlinga Complex. After lunch visit NIM (Nehru Institute of Mountaineering) Institute & Museum. Later come back to hotel. Overnight at hotel.



Uttarkashi: Situated at a distance of 145 km from Rishikesh and at an elevation of 1158 m on the bank of river Bhagirathi, this picturesque town acquires importance because of very significant pilgrimage centers: Gangotri, Yamunotri.

Day 03: Uttarkashi

Spare day for medical test, permit verification etc. Overnight at hotel.

Day 04: Uttarkashi - Gangotri (3048 m/ 10,000 ft) **Drive** (250 kms).

Morning after breakfast drive to reach Gangotri via Harsil (approx 25 km before Gangotri (3048 mts) by covering approx 95 km in 4-5 hrs. On arrival check into Hotel/Guest house.

Day 05: Gangotri – Bhojwassa (3792 m/12440 ft) **Trek** (14 kms /5-6 hrs).

In the morning met our trekking crew and later after breakfast start first days trek to Bhojwassa following the river Bhagirathi on right bank by covering approx 14 kms in 4-5 hrs. Trek is full of fascinating Himalayan sights and you can have beautiful views of snow clapped peaks around. Upon arrival at Bhojwassa, set up camp for overnight stay.

Day 06: 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 saints choose this spot for extended meditation during the long summer month. Arrive Tapovan and camp. Dinner and overnight stay in camp.



Day 07: Tapovan (4463 mts / 14640 ft)

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

Day 08: Tapovan - Nandanvan (Trek 4-5 hrs)

We trace back to Nandanvan via Gomukh glacier. The route from Tapovan leads from the upper section of the meadow till down and onto the glacier. From Gomukh turn towards Nandanvan (4340m) and steering on right one will be on top of the Gangotri glacier. The glacier runs between two ranges and the landslides make a layer of rocky moraine on the ice which makes the walking easier. The glacier walk is very slippery and a slight lack of concentration would be dangerous. Huge crevasses gaped here and there. After a walking for about a kilometer there is a vertical ascent. Big rocks enroute offer grips and foot - holds but many of them are deceptive too. Dinner and overnight stay in tents.

Day 09: Nandanvan – Vasuki Tal (4880 m/16000 ft) **Trek** (6 kms / 4-5 hrs).

Morning trek along with Chaturangi Glacier to reach Vasuki Tal, a beautiful base for Mt Satopanth and Mt Vasuki Parbat with a small lake. The trek is steady upward. Arrive in 5-6 hours and overnight stay in tents.

Day 10: Vasuki Tal – Khara Pathar (Suralya Bamak) (5480 m/17975 ft) **Trek** (6 kms/3-4 hrs).

Morning after breakfast start trek to Suraiya Bamak (Khara Pathar) with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight in camp. Camping on Moraine

Day 11: Khara Pathar – Kalindikhal Base (5500 m/18040 ft) **Trek** (8 kms / 4-5 hrs).

Morning after breakfast trek 10 Km to reach Kalindikhal Base (Sweta Glacier) (5500 mts). Dinner and overnight stay in the camp.

Day 12: Kalindikhal Base – Raja Parav (4910 m/16105 ft) Trek (12 kms / 6-7 hrs). Mornings after breakfast proceed your trek (12 km) to Kalindi Pass (5947 mts). Spend some time at the spot and then trek down to Raj Parav for dinner and overnight stay in the camp.



Day 13: Raja Parav - Arwa Tal

Morning after breakfast proceed your trek to reach Arwa Tal (3910 mts) 13 km from Raj Parav. Overnight stay in the camp.

Day 14: Arwa Tal – Ghastoli (3796 m/12450 ft) Trek (16 kms / 5-6 hrs).

Morning after breakfast proceed your trek to reach Ghastoli (3796 m), which is 16 Km from Arwa Tal. Dinner and overnight stay in the camp.

Day 15: Ghastoli - Mana – Badrinath (3096 m/10155 ft) Trek (18 kms / 5-6 hrs).

Morning after breakfast start trek to Badrinath situated on the bank of Alaknanda, standing like twin sentinels over the valley are the Nar and Narayan peaks, and in the distance soars the resplendent Neelkanth peak. A seven hrs walk brings you to Mana Village, the last village before the border, where you break for lunch. Later a 2 kms drive brings us to town of Badrinath. On arrival check into hotel. Afternoon visit the temple of Badrinath. Return to hotel for Dinner & Overnight.

Day 16: Badrinath - Joshimath

Early in the morning visit the temple. After breakfast drive to Joshimath. Morning after breakfast drive down to reach Joshimath 44 Km from Badrinath. Overnight stay in the Hotel Dronagiri.

Day 17: Joshimath - Rishikesh

Morning after breakfast drive (257 km) down to reach Rishikesh. On arrival check-in the Hotel for overnight stay. In the evening after wash and change visit Laxman Jhula, Thirteen storied temple, Geeta Ashram, Parmarth Niketan and later join the Aarti ceremony at Triveni Ghat. Latter return back to the Hotel for overnight stay.

Day 18: Rishikesh – Delhi

After breakfast drive to Delhi via Haridwar.

Trip & Services Ends Here

COST OF THE TRIP

USD 1885 per person (for a minimum of 4 person)*

INR 88500 per person (for a minimum of 4 person)*

*3.5% Service tax extra

COST INCLUDES

- **Transport:** All road transfer by AC Tempo Traveller FROM Delhi to Delhi. (AC will not run on the hills).
- **Accommodation:** Hotel/Guest House in Rishikesh, Uttarkashi, Gangotri, Joshimath & Badrinath and while on the trek accommodation will be provided in dome/alpine tents on double sharing basis.
- **Meals:** All meals on trek. At Rishikesh, Uttarkashi, Badrinath, Joshimath and Gangotri only breakfast will be serving. Meals will be mix of Indian Chinese and Continental.
- **Camping equipment** like tents, mattresses, mess tent, dining tent, camping stools, table etc
- **Professional and experienced** English speaking local trekking guide who knows the area very well
- **Cook and High altitude porters**
- **All necessary Permits**

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Enroute meal
- Accommodation at Delhi
- Any meals / service not mentioned above
- Liquor, soft drinks, bottled water, beverages, etc.
- Personal expenses like tips, telephone calls, laundry, etc.
- Any costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances like landslides, road blocks, bad weather, etc.
- Travel insurance,
- Evacuation expenses, etc.
- Camera fee

Note: The trek will run for a minimum of 4 people

Kalindikhal; Trekking Equipments List

Duffel bag	Down/synthetic camp booties
Sunglasses	Light gloves
Sleeping bag & Air Mattress	Flashlight/Headlamp with extra batteries
Sleeping bag liner	Camera
Daypack	One liter water bottles wide mouthed
Trekking Boots	Water purification/filter
Camp shoes/sneakers	Pee bottle
Tevas and/or sandals	Film
Cotton socks	Note book with pens and pencils
Gore-Tex jacket	Lip balm
Light wind jacket	Sunscreen / Moisturiser
Down jacket/vest	Camp towel/towel/sarong
Fleece jacket/vest	Personal toiletries
T-shirts	Personal medicines
Underwear	Money pouch/belt
Trekking pants	Energy bars
Thermal tops	Vitamin tablets
Thermal bottom	Extra passport photos
Warm hat	Bandana/scarf
Sun hat/baseball cap	Wind- and rain-gear with hood
Swiss Army Knives (Classic pocket tool)	Neoprene Supports
Two cotton shirts/T-Shirts	One warmer (jacket with hood)
One pair cotton trousers or shorts	Walking stick / Trekking pole

At Last, Just Carry Lots of Enthusiasm.....