

Auden's Col Trekking Expedition 2013



Area: Garhwal Himalaya

Duration: 18 Days

Grade: Challenging - Tough

Max Altitude: 5450 mts/17876 ft

Season: Mid May to Early October

Auden's Col an Introduction Col is a mountain pass which connects Jogin I (6465m) and Gangotri III (6580m) peaks and is reportedly situated at a height of around 5400m. It also binds two glaciers on the opposite sides. One is Khatling glacier and the other one looks like the glacier belonging to Jogin I. Auden's Col is approachable from Gangotri and one can trek up to Kedarnath following Auden's Col and Khatling glacier. Auden's Col gets its name from J B Auden, who first crossed it in 1939-40.

Day 01: Delhi - Haridwar - Rishikesh

In the morning after breakfast drive to Rishikesh via Haridwar. 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 (170 kms/ 4-5 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).

In the morning after breakfast set out for Gangotri via Harsil & Bhairon Ghati. The drive will take 4-5 hrs to reach here. On arrival check-into Hotel. By evening visit the Gangotri temple. 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 (Rest day for acclimatization)

After a leisurely breakfast explore the holy town of Gangotri. In the first half of the day you will trek towards Pandava caves, which reminds about the famous epic of Mahabharata. It's about 4 kms hike both ways from the town. On the second half of the day it's a real pleasure to visit the



ashrams with demonstration of cultural traits of Hinduism. Evening will be well lighted and cherished with the famous Aarti of mother Ganges. Overnight and



dinner in the hotel.

Day 05: Gangotri – Nala Camp (8 km Trek 5 – 6hrs trek)

It's time to prepare gear to commence our adventure journey. The trail start on the true left of the valley with an ascend which continues to take you to Nala camp. It's a beautiful walk through the forest of pine and birch trees. Finally gets transformed into a picturesque walk with involves the views of some of the Himalayan beauties i.e. Jogin and Kedartal range. On arrival we will set our campsite by Rudragaira River. Overnight in the tents.

Day 06: Nala Camp to Rudra Gaira Base Camp (7 km -5 hrs trek)

The days trek commences with an ascend which takes you to a ridge and continues to a side stream. After stream it's a steep climb to the base camp, Apart from the strenuous stretches of hike during the day there are



compensating and rewarding views of Rudragaira peak, Jogin peak and Auden Col pass. On arrival a tiredness quenching tea is worth it. Overnight in the tents.

Day 07: Rudugaira BC - Rest day and acclimatization

The day is for rest and acclimatization. One can relax in the camp or involve himself/herself in hike round the corner which takes you towards Rudragaira



peak. Explore and enjoy majestic Himalayas. Overnight in the tents.

Day 08: Rudugaira BC - B C Gangotri Group (6 kms/5 hrs app)

Today's hike involves moraine and technical surface to be accustomed. The path is gradual throughout but challenging at times. Approach near the camp makes you feel cherished and refreshed with the gorgeous views of Gangotri I, II & III peaks. Overnight in the tents.

Day 09: B C Gangotri Group - Auden Col BC (6 km/5-6 hrs)

The hike for the day is equally challenging as the previous one. The path continues on moraine and finally takes you to the Auden Col base camp. The campsite is not well marked or distinguished but gives an opportunity to camp within a rocky colony. Overnight in the tents.

**Day 10: Auden Col B C - Khatling Glacier (12 km 10 hrs approx)**

An early start is must for the day. The walk involves technical aspects on glacier which continues to the pass. It's a walk of about 5 km to the pass which will



take about 4 hours. A rope is fixed on both sides to negotiate the pass. Aaaahhh!!! I have done it is the call from the heart, with stunning views of greater Himalayas all around. The views around are well deserved and worth it. A cautious descend on the other side of the pass with help of technical gear is suggested. After pass the day still continues for another 5-6 km on glacier until we finally camp for the day. Lots of rest and deep sleep is for sure for the night. Overnight in the tents.

Day 11: Khatling Glacier - Waterfall Camp/Zero Point (12 km/10 hrs approx)

The walk on the glacier continues for another 8 kms. The walk is technical and requires enhancement of technical gear as well. After this the path moves on to the moraine continues to descend to the campsite by the river. Overnight in the tents.



Day 12: Waterfall Camp/ Zero Point - Chowki (8 kms/4-5 hrs)

After a trek of 3 km the river is over crossed to find a trail that leads to the open meadows. Continue trekking further for another 4 km to reach Chowki, with a fairly distinguished campsite. Overnight in the tents.

Day 13: Chowki – Masar Tal (8 kms/6-7 hrs)

The treks for the day involves a steep ascend with switch backs leading to ridge



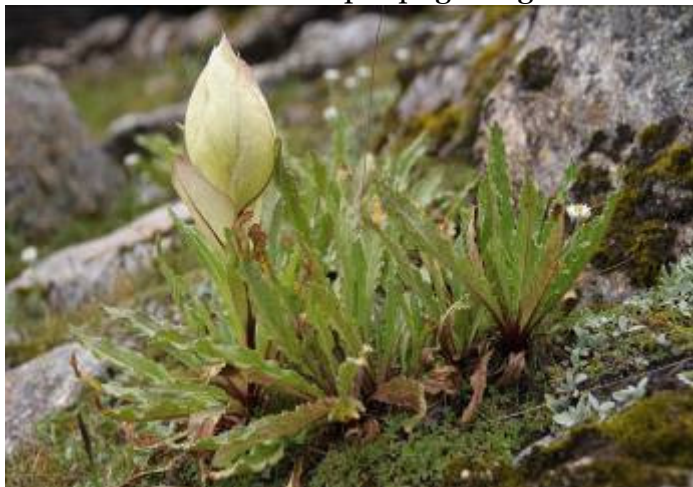
overlooking the valley. The trail is well defined and with picturesque surrounding leading to Masar Tal. On arrival camp nearby the beautiful lake. Overnight in the tents.

Day 14: Masar Tal – Vasuki Tal (12 kms/6-7 hrs)

The day continues with the ascend of 3 km to reach ridge, followed by a series of switch backs descend that brings you to picturesque lake of Vasukital. Arrive and camp by the lake. Overnight in the tents.

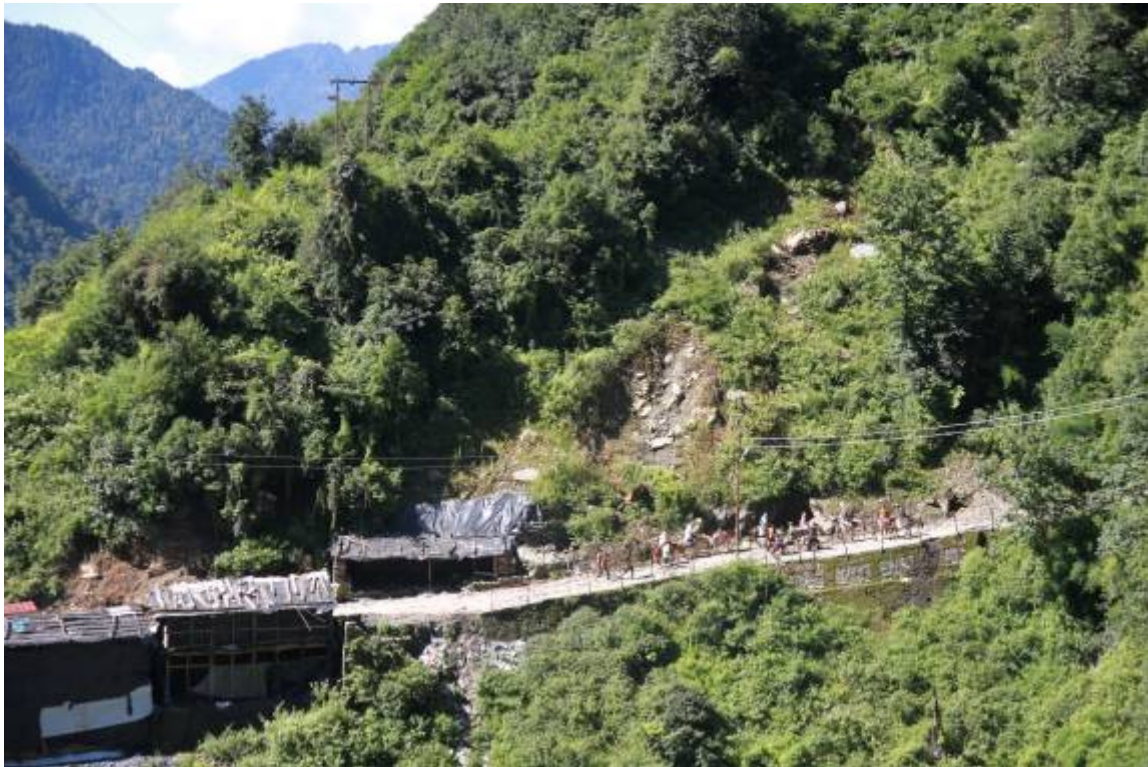
Day 15: Vasuki Tal – Kedarnath (5 kms/3 hrs)

Trek towards one of the famous and much revered temple pilgrimage center in India. Its descend of 5 km and takes approximately 3 hours. On arrival one can essence the spiritual environment of Hindu culture. The Kedarnath temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and the temple has an architecture which is unparallel. Evening visit the temple. Overnight in the hotel.



Day 16: Kedarnath – Gaurikund (14 kms/3-4 hrs) – Rudraprayag

Awake with a morning full of cherished religious environment followed by descend of 14 km towards Gaurikund. You will pass a lot of pilgrims proceeding



towards the temple of Sri Kedarnathji. Enroute pass through the village of Rambara having several restaurants serving pilgrims. Continue to descend further to reach Gaurikund. From here board the vehicles and drive for 4 hours to reach Rudraprayag, another revered religious place, on the verge of confluence of river Mandakini and Alaknanda. Overnight in the hotel.

Day 17: Rudraprayag – Rishikesh

Early in the morning take a holy dip at the confluence and later after having breakfast drive towards Rishikesh via another confluence Devprayag (Alaknanda & Bhagirathi Rivers) from here the holy Ganges start. In the evening one can visit the Ashrams & temples at Rishikesh. Explore Rishikesh: “haven of saint and Sadhus” Rishikesh, situated on the bank of river Ganga and enclosed on three sides by Himalayan ranges are a great pilgrimage centre of India. At Triveni Ghat, Evening held “Ganga Aarti”, most fascinating sacred ceremony in the world grand aarti (religious song when pilgrims light a butter lamp with fresh flowers and offering to the Goddess. Overnight in hotel.



Day 18: Rishikesh – Delhi

After having breakfast check out from the hotel and drive towards Delhi via Haridwar. One can stop at Haridwar to see Har Ki Peri. By evening arrive Delhi.

Cost of the trip

USD 2185 per person* (For a minimum of 4-6 people)

INR 950000 per person* (For a minimum of 4-6 people)

*4.9 % service tax extra

Cost Includes

- **Accommodation: Hotel in Rishikesh, Uttarkashi, Kedarnath and Rudraprayag on Bed and breakfast basis.** While on trek we will provide you **Dome/Alpine trekking tents**, Kitchen tent, dining tent, toilet tent, Camping mattresses, camping stool, table etc would be provided.
- **Transport: Toyota Innova/Toyota Qualis/Tavera/Mahindra Bolero** car from Delhi to trek point and back.
- **Meals: Breakfast in Rishikesh, Uttarkashi, Kedarnath and Rudraprayag**, 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 & Experienced English speaking local expedition guide** who know the area and route very well
- **Master chef for cooking fresh meal & Kitchen helper** would accompany the group
- **All Entry & permit fees of the trek**
- Fuel Charges
- All state & toll taxes
- Driver Allowances

Cost does not include

- Air fare
- Any charges for carrying still/video cameras etc.
- Enroute meal
- 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
- Evacuation expenses, etc.
- Camera fee

Auden Col; 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	Walking stick / Trekking pole
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)	One pair cotton trousers or shorts
Two cotton shirts/T-Shirts	One warmer (jacket with hood)

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