

YE-007-AMAZING STAY ON A SPRAWLING FARM IN SIKKIM



This is your once in a lifetime opportunity to live on and experience a sprawling farm in Sikkim!

ABOUT THE FARM

This farm is tucked away far from the crowds, in an idyllic countryside with a backdrop of the Khangchendzonga (Kanchenjunga) group of peaks and the skyline of the Singelila Range. The heritage farmhouse was built in 1833 and remodelled in 1966. The farmhouse has 44 acres mountain farm which has pine, Himalayan alder, schima, chestnut, magnolia, rhododendrons, cherry and other trees.

We also grow cardamom, avocados, oranges, bananas, pears, apricots, and mangoes. Cultivated agriculture yields maize, paddy, millet, potatoes, ginger, turmeric, and sweet potatoes. In addition to these, seasonal vegetables such as cauliflower, cabbage, tomatoes and peas are also grown. The farm is fully organic.

ABOUT US

Drive through groves of bamboo to reach a beautiful rustic heritage farmhouse which is located in West Sikkim, close to a small bazaar village of Rinchenpong at an altitude of 1500 metres. Sikkim is just slightly bigger than the area of Delhi, but its size belies its richness of culture, customs, heritage, flora and fauna.

The accommodation is simple and rustic with five wood-panelled rooms in the Tibetan style and private bathrooms with hot and cold running water. This is a fabulous place for gentle walks and an insight into local Buddhist culture and life in the foothills of the Himalaya.

AMENITIES

Kettle in room with Tea & coffee sachets

Mobile hotspot 10mbps

Toiletries

Towels

Laundry

ACCOMODATION IN THE HOMESTAY



There are various room configurations in this homestay.

The Standard room: It is called the Out-House, a long wooden building with 3 rooms next to each other and has a large Veranda for sit out. The rooms are all spacious and comfortable and has attach bath room with hot and cold-water facility.

Stone and Mud Cottage with roof top Balcony: It is an Old Cottage with stone from Outside and inside and with mud walls. Its spacious and comfortable with attach bathroom. It has a private balcony at the roof top for mountain view.

Circular Deluxe Cottage: There are 2 Wooden Circular Deluxe Cottages. Each is round in shape with private balcony in each. are deck chairs in the balcony.

Heritage room: It is an old two Storied house. Only the upper floor is used for the guests. It is a large room with private balcony on front and back side of the room for mountain view. There are 2 double beds in the room and has attached bathroom.

FOOD:

Local ethnic Sikkimese meals are served. They include fresh vegetables, and also Non veg items. Breakfast & dinner are included in the room rate. Besides local Sikkimese food, other Indian and Chinese dishes are also served. There is a cook at the property. No restaurants nearby.

Here you will enjoy freshly prepared, hearty meals to suit non-vegetarians or vegetarians. Wherever possible, fresh organic farm produce is used. You can sample Sikkim cheese, nettle soup and a wide range of other tasty, local dishes. You can either dine in the owner's cosy living room or choose to be served on your veranda or in a gazebo overlooking the fields and hills.

From a guest review: " *There is no pre-printed menu card. You can get whatever you want, within reasonable means, and however you want. You can also let your hosts surprise you with their suggestions. We were introduced to several food items we loved immediately: ningro saag, local cottage cheese, chhurpi (light cottage cheese soup), khuri (light rice pancakes with potato and cottage cheese filling).*"

ACTIVITIES:

Village walk cum Nature walk

There are number of trails around Yangsum Farm and Rinchenpong, where hikers get to experience the rich and diverse vegetation of Sikkim. The walks are through villages, forest along plain ridges with undulating elevation making the walks easy and less tiring.

Bird-watching

Sikkim has a rich diversity of various bird species and offers a good list of sighting for an avid bird watcher. The farmhouse has good knowledge of birding and the various locations for the sightings and we can arrange bird watching tours for the interested visitors.

Learning Sikkimese cuisines

An excellent opportunity to be taught traditional receipts and cooking methods of Sikkim on a wood burning hearth.

The farmhouse serves various Sikkimese cuisines which are prepared from fully organic vegetables cultivated in the farm premises. Visitors are invited to learn to prepare the delicious Sikkimese cuisines at kitchen of the farmhouse.

Sightseeing tours

We offer local sightseeing tours to places of Interest in West and South Sikkim. The Tour programs can be suitable customized to your needs and generally full day tour. Some of the places of Interest are Tashiding Monastery, Pemayengtshen Monastery, Rabdentse ruins, Ralong Monastery, Buddha Park and more. (The tours involve driving on steep & uneven roads so those with car sickness may not be comfortable)

Strolling, Hiking, Trekking

Whether it's a leisurely stroll through the garden, a three-hour hike to visit local villages and monasteries, or a five-day trek, there is something to suit everyone. Hike through rhododendron forests and watch local people at work in their fields and orchards. For the more adventurous, Thendup can arrange treks to the nearby mountains. At the right time of year, see amazing views of Kangchenjunga, the world's third-highest peak.

[Rabongla to Maenam, 10km](#)

A three hour trek uphill from Rabongla through the Maenam Wildlife Sanctuary teeming with Magnolia, Rhododendron and small bamboo to reach the hilltop which is at an altitude of 3235m (10612ft). The view from Maenam summit is picturesque and breathtaking. In the west an amazing vista of the sparkling peaks of the Kanchendzonga range spreads before you.

Hilley to Varsay, (8km return)

From Hilley, one has to trek for four kilometres that takes approximately one hour to reach Varsey which is at an altitude of 3049m (10000ft). At Varsay the rhododendrons reign supreme and during the month of March they are a riot of red and white.

White Water Rafting

The white waters of the Tista and the Rangit offer some good stretches of thrilling rapids. Swirling rides can be organised from Melli. The rapids, rated according to the Colorado River standards, are grade 2 and 3.

Monastery tour

From Rinchenpong the tour starts with a visit to Pemayangtse, the Perfect Sublime Lotus, a magnificent monastery in western Sikkim commanding one of the finest views of the Kangchendzonga range. From there you travel to Sangacholing an even older monastery than Pemayangtse. Next you visit the sacred lake of Khechopalri and the monastery closeby.

TRAVEL TIPS

Temperature Summer : Max.28oc / Min.13oc

Winter-Max Max: 15oc / Min.3oc

Annual Rainfall: 3,894mm.

Best Season: April to Mid-June, Mid-September to November.

Clothing Summer: Light Woolens Winter-Heavy Woolens

Language: Hindi, English, Nepali, Tibetan, Sikkimese

GETTING HERE

Road

The Farm is located 153 Kms (05 hrs) from Bagdogra airport, 92 kms (3.30 hrs) from Kalimpong, 66 kms from Darjeeling (3 hrs), and 36 Kms (1.30 hrs) from Pamayangtse.

Rail

The nearest railhead connected to the rest of India is the station of New Jalpaiguri, a suburb of Siliguri, situated 124 km (77 mi) away from Gangtok. Work has also commenced for a broad gauge railway link from Sevoke in West Bengal to Rangpo in Sikkim that is planned for extension to Gangtok.

Air

The closest airport is Bagdogra Airport, (IATA airport code IXB), 16 km (10 mi) from Siliguri. Gangtok is linked to Bagdogra airport by a daily helicopter service that operates only once a day and carries four passengers.

We can organize pick and drop from nearest Airports etc. at an extra charge.

ABOUT SIKKIM

Sikkim is a state in northeast India, bordered by Bhutan, Tibet and Nepal. Part of the Himalayas, the area has a dramatic landscape that includes India's highest mountain, 8,586m Kangchenjunga. Sikkim is also home to glaciers, alpine meadows and thousands of varieties of wildflowers. Steep paths lead to hilltop Buddhist monasteries such as Pemayangtse, which dates to the early 1700s.

It is one of the smallest states in India. Sikkim is bordered by the Tibet Autonomous Region of China to the north and northeast, by Bhutan to the southeast, by the Indian state of West Bengal to the south, and by Nepal to the west.

The capital is Gangtok, in the southeastern part of the state

A part of the Eastern Himalaya, Sikkim is notable for its biodiversity, including alpine and subtropical climates, as well as being a host to Kangchenjunga, the highest peak in India and third highest on Earth. Sikkim's capital and largest city is Gangtok. Almost 35% of the state is covered by the Khangchendzonga National Park.

Long a sovereign political entity, Sikkim became a protectorate of India in 1950 and an Indian state in 1975. Its small size notwithstanding, Sikkim is of great political and strategic importance for India because of its location along several international boundaries. Area 2,740 square miles (7,096 square km). Pop. (2011) 607,688.

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Dipali & Atul

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