



Exploring North East India

Rhinos, Rivers and Remotelands

Assam is the tale of a river that romances with the lands, the living and the lore. Sourcing itself to the expansive grasslands, rice paddy fields, River Brahmaputra holds in itself remarkable river islands! Home to one-horned rhinoceros, many mammals and birds, the state takes you through the stories of successful conservation. But diversity is not just limited to nature and wildlife here. A land that has always been welcoming and open to novelty; Assam's culture fashions out of many unique traditions that paved into its ethos with the passing of time. While you start your trip with the magnum opus of Kolkata city, you slowly slide away into the simple, unhurried cultural landscapes of Assam. Welcome to the land of *Lahe, lahe!* as you lay back and unwind with a cup of tea.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- 🌀 **Discover** Kolkata's colonial heritage and revolutionary rebellions on guided walks
- 🌀 **Ramble** through rivers – raft in Kameng, walk along Diphlu and ferry across Brahmaputra
- 🌀 **Delve** into the wilderness with Assam's richest natural habitats
- 🌀 **Discover** the cultural facets of Majuli – simplicity of satras to the colourful Mishings
- 🌀 **Acquire** a taste for Assam tea as you learn what makes your cuppa so special

MAP



JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

DAY OF TRAVEL	DESTINATION	HOTEL	ROOM CATEGORY	DURATION OF STAY
Day 1, 2 & 3	Kolkata	The Lalit Great Eastern	Deluxe Room	3 nights
Day 4, 5 & 6	Jorhat	Kaziranga Golf Resort	Deluxe room	3 nights
Day 7, 8 & 9	Kaziranga	Iora Retreat	Luxury room	3 nights
Day 10 & 11	Balipara	Wild Mahseer	Golden/Silver Tips	2 nights
Day 12	Guwahati	Vivanta by Taj	Superior	1 night
Day 13	Kolkata	The Lalit Great Eastern	Deluxe Room	1 night
Day 14	Departure from Kolkata			

PERIOD OF OPERATION

The pricing for this itinerary has been worked out on the basis of rates for the period of operation from 01 OCT'2020 Till 31 Mar'2021 with exceptions as mentioned below.

1: Peak Period Travel (20 Dec' 2020- 10 Jan' 2021). Please refer to the pricing section for the additional costs incurred during these periods.

2: Beside that there might be mandatory festival supplement for Diwali (13/14 Nov'2020) & Holi Festival (28/29 Mar'2021) Hotels generally finalize it closer to date. So will advise for any such supplements

GROUND TRANSPORT

Ground transportation will be provided using a Deluxe Air-Conditioned Toyota Innova for India for 02 paying participants and an Air-Conditioned Tempo Traveller for 04 -06 Paying Participants

Our vehicles are equipped with cold water and soft drinks, wet and dry tissues, hand-sanitizers.

DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVE IN KOLKATA

Meals Included: None

Namaste and Welcome to India!

On arrival at Kolkata International airport you will be met by Travel Scope representative and transferred to your hotel.

Your stay in Kolkata: The LaLiT Great Eastern Kolkata

Built in 1841 as the Auckland Hotel, the renovated property is a combination of Victorian, Edwardian and contemporary styles. Centrally located in close proximity to key commercial and business locations, the hotel is spread over 13,000 square feet.

Website: [The LaLiT Great Eastern](#)

DAY 2: KOLKATA

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

The port city of Kolkata, formerly known as Calcutta – a name that conjures up suffering for most Westerners due to the well-published stories of post-war torture of British troops, but was a centre for intellectual and cultural change across India. A city of trade ties, Kolkata soon became a British capital, and later during India's struggle for independence was a hotbed of revolutionary unrest and freedom movements. Rabindranath Tagore, a poet-composer, Sri Aurobindo Ghosh, a philosopher-poet who founded a utopian city, Satyajit Ray, a filmmaker extraordinaire are some of the legendary people whose roots were in Kolkata and have made significant contributions to the fields of literature, music and movies. Kolkata is a rich, cultural potpourri of a quintessential Indian experience – the colonial elements overlaid by a patriotic, revolutionary zeal.

Included activities:

Kolkata Colonial walk - Embark upon a historical journey through Dalhousie Square, Flower Market, Fort William, Town Hall

The Park Street Cemetery and Victoria Memorial – Two great institutions left behind by the British.

DAY 3: KOLKATA

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Kolkata is a rich, cultural melange of a quintessential Indian experience – the colonial elements overlaid by a patriotic, revolutionary zeal. Allow us to take care of the canvas as you brush through the colors of chaos in the city.

Included activities:

Flower market – A colourful amalgamation of morning energy, bringing the cityscapes to life

Kumartuli – Kolkata's famous Potters' Market where giant life-like religious idols are created

Paresnath Jain Temple - Dedicated to the 23rd Jain Tirthankaras, one of the most important Jain temples in Kolkata.

College Street Book Market – A treasure trove for the book lovers, where you can find a wide range of crisp new or second-hand books on every subject imaginable.

Mother Teresa's home - glimpse the legacy of Mother Teresa - visit her humble house, and if interested even some of the institutions she set up to help the destitute

Sunset Cruise (Shared) - Cruise down the River Hooghly as the sun sets in the horizon, with the majestic Howrah Bridge on sight.

DAY 4: KOLKATA - JORHAT

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Fly from Kolkata to Jorhat by Indigo flight 6E5989 departing at 10:30 / arriving at 12:00

You will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel in Jorhat.

Rest of the day at leisure.

Your stay in Jorhat:

Kaziranga Golf Resort centres around 18-hole, par 71 golf course in the midst of a tea garden is a first of its kind in the world and developed on a 150-acre site. With its heritage tea bungalow that is now a club house, the property is set with colonial style cottages.

Website: [Kaziranga Golf Resort](#)

DAY 5: JORHAT

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Besides being a tea haven in its modern-day facet, Jorhat has been home to many inspired writers, musicians and artists of Assam. Jorhat also serves as one of the nearest access to the state's cultural quintessence stowed in the river Island of Majuli. The closely located Gibbon Sanctuary is a rare habitat that homes seven out of thirteen primates found in the Indian subcontinent.

Hoolongpar Gibbon Sanctuary - Early morning jungle walk in search of the only ape found in India and six other primates that the sanctuary homes.

Sivasagar - trace the lineage of Ahom kingdom that flourished for almost 600 years - the longest rule by a single dynasty in the region.

DAY 6: JORHAT – Excursion to Majuli

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Majuli is a unique cultural experience where the Assamese folks follow a faith of Neo-Vaishnavism, the reason for which is the noticeable number of satras that dot this island. The mask making tradition is another interesting facet of this river island while a visit to a tribal village of the Mishings adds a rural element to your visit.

In the morning, drive to Neamati ghat jetty and board a passenger ferry for our day excursion to Majuli island.

We will return to the mainland by the last ferry later in the afternoon and drive back to the hotel.

DAY 7: JORHAT – KAZIRANGA

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Journey time: 3-hour drive

Kaziranga National park is an immersion into the wild. Inscribed into UNESCO's world heritage site in 1985 and Orchestrating one of the greatest success stories for the endangered Indian One-horned rhinoceros, the grasslands of Kaziranga prides to be the habitat to wide variety of wildlife.

Included activities:

Safari by Jeeps: Venture into the national park looking out for its variety of wildlife including endangered Indian one-horned rhinoceros

Your stay in Kaziranga:

Iora Retreat is a centrally located property set amidst tranquil surroundings. Rooms are inspired by ethnic elements and offer modern amenities.

Website: [Iora Retreat](#)

DAY 8 & 9: KAZIRANGA

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Our next 02 days will be covered on game drives inside Kaziranga national park in Central and Western zones. Apart from adding to the birding list, we will also have ample opportunities to capture some of the best rhino images on these game drives. The central and western usually offer more up close and personal encounters with Rhinos as compared to Eastern.

We recommend shuffling our chances between the zones in case there is any consistent tiger movement in any one of the three zones. In addition to this, photographic opportunities will also include species of Hog, Swamp and Sambar deer.

Included activities:

Morning & afternoon jeep safaris

DAY 10: KAZIRANGA – BALIPARA

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Journey time: 2.5 hours

Commence your drive to reach the next destination - Balipara.

Check-Into your accommodations at the Balipara Tea Estate. The rest of the day is at your leisure. Relax and enjoy the day at the property or you may choose to take a stroll around the botanical arc.

Your stay in Balipara

Wild Mahseer, set amidst the tea gardens of Addabarie is a collection of tea planters' bungalows, spread across a twenty-two acres. We leave the rest of the day for Wild Mahseer to pamper you with its colonial indulgences.

Website: [Wild Mahseer](#)

DAY 11: BALIPARA – Excursion to NAMERI

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Nameri is a birdwatchers paradise and has one of the best experiences of accessing it. You cross the clear crystal blue waters of the Kameng River with the backdrop of the glacial mountains of Tawang at a distance. Nameri is enchanting at first sight itself. Orange bellied leaf birds, maroon orioles, scarlet minivets, Asian fairy blue bird and multiple other east Himalayan species fill the forest with their calls and movements. Animals that may be sighted while on the walk include barking deer, rhesus macaque, Malayan giant squirrel and wild elephants.

Walk through the park - A nature/birding walk inside Nameri National Park

Rafting along the Kameng River – Adventurous and relaxing at the same time, enjoy the gentle rapids of the river

DAY 12: BALIPARA – GUWAHATI

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Journey time: 5 hours

Guwahati, much like Assam as a whole, nestles in itself the blemishes and glories of bygone time. A revered seat that stood the tall when invasions claimed the kingdom of Assam. The temples and their architecture speak much of the beliefs and cultural influences of different kingdoms in its history.

Included activities:

Kamakhya Temple – Visit the seat of Shakti worship that celebrates a woman's power of creation.

Sunset in the Brahmaputra – Sail along the River Brahmaputra as you watch the sun go down.

Farewell Dinner – Enjoy a traditional Assamese meal in a local restaurant

Your stay in Guwahati: Vivanta by Taj

Located on the Guwahati-Shillong highway in the commercial and cultural heart of the capital of Assam, Vivanta Guwahati is an urban retreat designed for global business travellers, adventurers and connoisseurs of the good life

Website: [Vivanta by Taj](#)

DAY 13: KOLKATA

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Fly from Guwahati to Kolkata by Indigo Airlines 6E 394 departing at 12.25 / arrival 1355

Transfer to Hotel. Rest of the evening at leisure.

DAY 14: DEPARTURE FROM KOLKATA

Pack your suitcases with the souvenirs you picked up along the way.

Transfer to airport for your international flight. The memories of the trip will keep you company on the long flight back home.

This itinerary has been put together by Travel Scope India for Blue Dot Travel. You must read Blue Dot Travel's terms and conditions before making a decision to travel. You must complete a Blue Dot Travel booking form before we can accept any booking.

TABLE OF PRICES

Tour Cost	Price in Australian Dollars Per Person
Land Cost on Sharing Twin or Double	
02 Paying Participants	AUD 6180 Per Person
04 Paying Participants	AUD 5597 Per Person
Supplement for staying in Single Occupancy	AUD 1500 Per Person
Approx. Domestic Air (Kolkata- Jorhat & Guwahati- Kolkata) in Economy Class (Subject to Change)	TBA

All costs exclude international & domestic airfares as these are highly variable depending on the timing of flight bookings

Inclusions to Land Cost:

1. Accommodation for a total of 10 Nights as per hotel list and room category given below.
2. On breakfast plan except at Sarai at Toria -Panna which is on Full Board.
3. Ground Transportation by Air-Conditioned vehicle as specified.
4. Services of English-Speaking Local City Guide's as per itinerary.
5. Entrance Fee to Monuments.
6. Rickshaw ride in Old Delhi Lanes.
7. Boat Ride at River Ganges in Varanasi
8. 01 Jeep safari at Panna National Park including Park entrance & English-speaking Naturalist.
9. 01 Boat ride (Subject to Water level) or Village walk or Bird Walk at Panna.
10. Train ticket on Executive class travelling between Jhansi - Agra
11. Pink city rickshaw ride in Jaipur
12. Mineral Water and Soft Drinks in the vehicles.
13. Still Camera Fee
14. Tip for baggage at hotel, Airport, Local Guide's, Driver, paid meals, safari, naturalist.

Exclusions to the Land Cost

- 1) International & Domestic Air Fare.
- 2) Personal nature like Laundry, Telephone, Internet, and Drinks etc.
- 3) All alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.
- 4) Travel and medical Insurance.
- 5) All expenses arising out of voluntary or involuntary re-routing of the program.
- 6) Video Camera fees at Monuments.

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