

# DISCOVERING DARJEELING

## FEATURES

- Darjeeling's famous tea plantations
- Trekking, with views of five of the highest peaks in the world!
- A very high standard of camping, with full support team
- Diverse and colourful cultures

## ITINERARY

**Day 1** From Kolkata (Calcutta) airport, we take a lunchtime flight (1 hr) to Baghdogra, and drive (3 hrs) through stunning scenery up into the foothills and on to Darjeeling town (2,050m / 6,710ft), and our hotel in the heart of the colonial city.

**Day 2** Leisurely day to acclimatise, with a visit to the Indian Himalayan Institute and its surrounding forested parkland. Afternoon stroll through the town.

**Day 3** Scenic drive (4 hrs) to meet our trekking crew. After lunch we climb steadily up through hamlets and forest to our camp (3 hrs).

**Day 4** Climbing on good paths through mature Himalayan forest we come to a ridge with spectacular views to Kangchenjunga (8,586m / 28,119ft). We camp at 2,900m / 9,500ft, on the Nepalese border (6 hrs).

**Day 5** We follow a broad ridge path offering extensive views across Nepal. We then enter the Singalila National Park and climb to our camp at 3,500m / 11,480ft. We enjoy uninterrupted views of the Himalayan chain from Nepal to Bhutan (400 miles) including five of the world's highest mountains (4 hrs).

**Day 6** We follow the same broad ridge path over high pastures, dominated by Kangchenjunga. Easy walking with unrivalled views all day – to our meadow campsite (3,500m / 11,265ft) (6 hrs).

**Day 7** Morning descent along a ridge crest, through meadows, then forest to our campsite in the picturesque village of Siri Khola (2,400m / 7,872ft) (5 hrs).

**Day 8** Descend to road-head (2,000m / 6,560ft) (3 hrs) and drive (4.5 hrs) to Glenburn Tea Estate, Darjeeling's best organic tea plantation, where we stay for 2 nights.

**Day 9** After a tea factory visit we walk from the Planter's Bungalow down through the tea estate's plantation and villages to their fishing lodge for a barbeque picnic (4 hrs). Leisurely afternoon return to the Planter's Bungalow for a cup of 'First Flush' tea.

**Day 10** We drive to Baghdogra (3 hrs) for a flight to Kolkata.

## 10 DAY TRIP

- Destination airport: Kolkata (Calcutta)
- Fitness: Walking level is 30+ but rated higher due to altitude: 35+ (see pages 14–15)
- Days of walking: 7 + sightseeing
- Shortest / Longest day's walk: 3 / 6 hrs

## ACCOMMODATION

NIGHTS 1 & 2  
Darjeeling



New Elgin  
★★★

NIGHTS 8 & 9  
Darjeeling



Glenburn Tea Estate  
Boutique Hotel

### TREKKING / CAMPING NIGHTS 3 TO 7



- Spacious Marmot dome tents (one per couple or DFS) with mattresses
- Communal 'mess tent' for meals and socialising
- Hot water provided
- Qualified mountain guides and experienced chefs

## SOME OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR SCENERY IN THE HIMALAYA

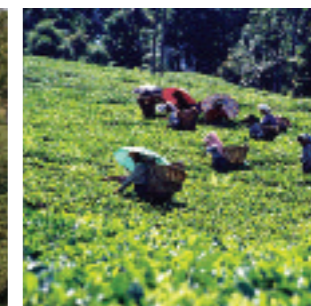
This trip combines easy walking, much of it through high meadows in some of the most spectacular scenery in the Himalaya, with exploration of tea plantations and astonishing views across Nepal and to Bhutan, including five of the world's highest mountains and around fifty other major peaks. All this, and a range of diverse and colourful cultures, make this a truly outstanding trip.



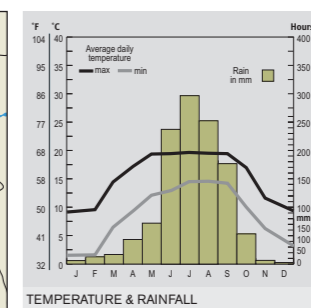
SUNRISE OVER KANGCHENJUNGA



TEA PLANTATIONS



HARVESTING TEA



### TERRAIN

Well-made paths and tracks through forest, tea gardens, along high ridges and through jungle.  
High-altitude walking.

## Extend your trip!

ATG offers all-inclusive pre- and post-trip extension packages in Kolkata, with excellent accommodation, meals, transfers and excursions to city highlights accompanied by an ATG leader.

For further information please contact the office.

## DATES & PRICES

2012 TRIP DATES	PRICES (excluding flights)	DFS supplement (per night)	2013 TRIP DATES
8th Apr to 17th Apr	£3,575 / \$6,255	£24 / \$42	7th Apr to 16th Apr
14th to 23rd Oct	£3,695 / \$6,465	£26 / \$46	27th Oct to 5th Nov

Prices include internal flights but not flights to/from the beginning/end of trip

2013 Prices to be advised