



ChaloHoppo


"Gentle rhythms of Meghalaya and Kaziranga"

AN ITINERARY SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES

(8N/9D)

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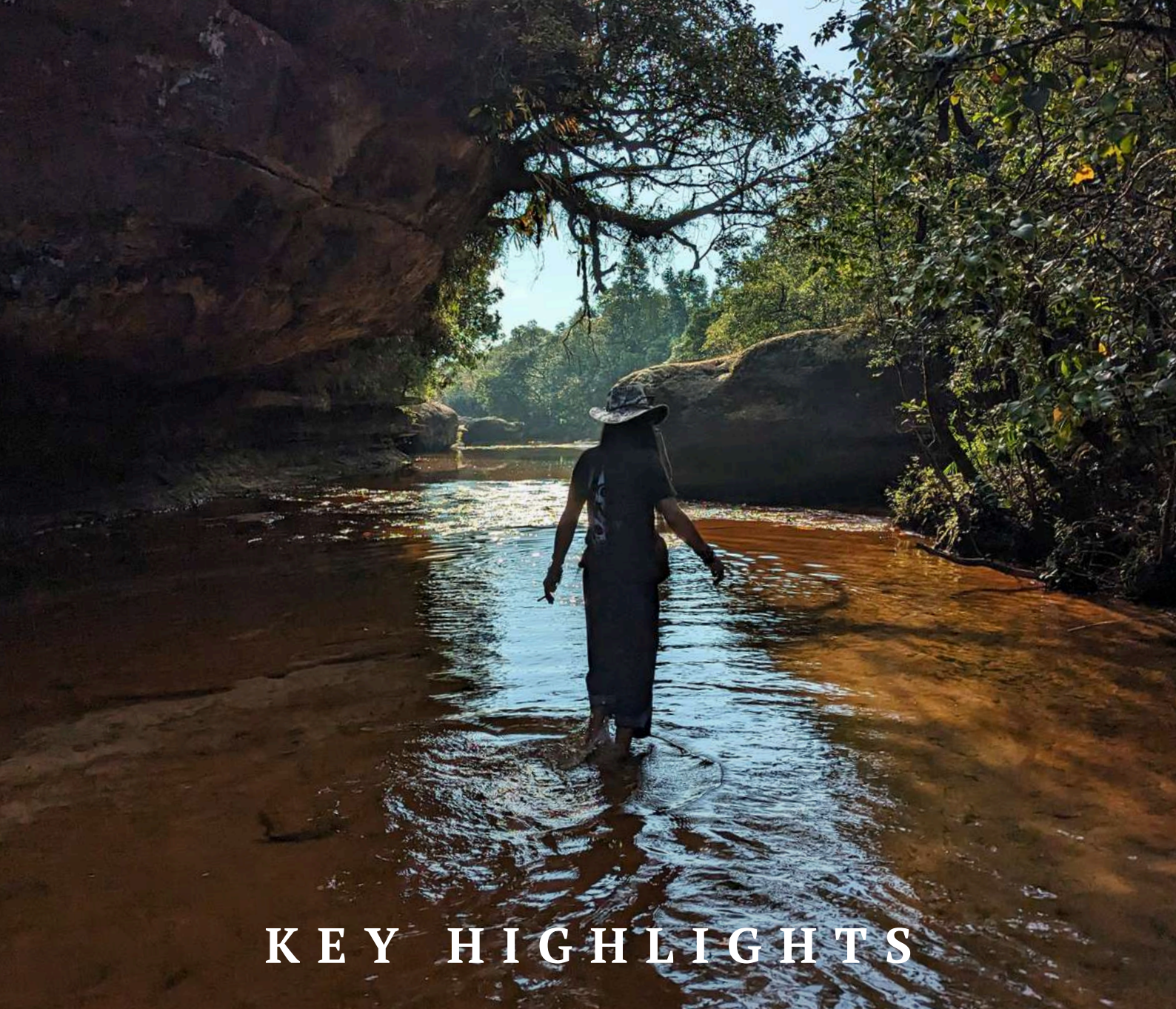


INTRODUCTION

This journey blends the gentle charm of Meghalaya's hills with the timeless landscapes of Assam. Designed especially for travellers seeking a slower pace, it traces an unhurried path through sacred groves, mist-draped waterfalls, and clean villages where traditions thrive. Beginning on the banks of the Brahmaputra, the trail winds upward into Meghalaya's living root bridges, forested canyons, and rolling ridges before returning to Assam's riverine plains and wild sanctuaries.

From sunset cruises and scenic drives to quiet forest walks and cultural encounters, every day carries a balance of nature, culture, and comfort. Nights are spent in carefully chosen stays, resorts tucked into Sohra's cliffs, village homestays alive with Khasi music, and heritage-style hotels in Shillong. Meals celebrate regional flavours, with time always made for tea, conversation, and simply watching the hills turn golden with the evening light.

By the time you step back into the bustle of Guwahati, the waterfalls, forests, and stories of Meghalaya and Assam linger, not as a rushed itinerary, but as a gentle rhythm of life you have lived for nine days.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Sunset cruise on the Brahmaputra, where golden skies meet rolling waters.
- A guided walk through Mawphlang's Sacred Forest, one of Meghalaya's most revered groves.
- Discover Sohra's iconic waterfalls and limestone caves.
- Walk on the living root bridges, marvels of Khasi ingenuity and harmony with nature.
- Boat on the crystal-clear Umngot River at Dawki.
- Slow travel through Mawlynnong, Asia's cleanest village, and enjoy traditional Khasi musical evening in Pynter.
- Breathtaking panoramas from Laitlum Canyons and café-hopping in Shillong.
- River dolphin boat safari on the Brahmaputra in Assam, accompanied by a local folk musician on deck.
- Jeep safari in Kaziranga National Park and a cultural encounter in a Karbi weaving village.

DAY WISE BREAKDOWN

Day	Starting Point	Ending Point	Distance & Time	Experience	Meal Plan	Stay
1	Guwahati		Short drive to river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunset cruise on Brahmaputra with flute music 	NA	Hotel in Guwahati
2	Guwahati	Sohra	140 km / 4-5 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred Forest walk with local guide, Khasi culture stories 	Breakfast, Local Khasi lunch	Resort in Sohra
3	Day in Sohra		Local sightseeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Umkar root bridge, Arwah Caves, Garden of Caves, Nohkalikai Falls 	Breakfast	Resort in Sohra
4	Sohra	Pongtung	100 km / 4 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Umngot River boating (optional), Indo-Bangladesh Gate Mawlynnong village walk Khasi music evening at Pynter 	Breakfast	Resort in Pongtung
5	Pongtung	Shillong	80 km / 3 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laitlum Canyons view, Shillong café hopping / free evening 	Breakfast	Homestay in Shillong
6	Day in Shillong		Local sightseeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Don Bosco Museum, Ward's Lake walk, leisure & shopping 	Breakfast	Homestay in Shillong
7	Shillong	Kaziranga	250 km / 6-7 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> River dolphin safari on Brahmaputra with folk music 	Breakfast, Tea and Snacks	Resort in Kaziranga
8	Day in Kaziranga		Local safari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeep safari (Kohora range) Karbi weaving village Orchid Park (optional) Cultural show at Orchid Park. 	Breakfast, Karbi village lunch	Resort in Kaziranga
9	Kaziranga	Guwahati	220 km / 5-6 hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drive to Guwahati 	Breakfast	Fly



DAY 1- ARRIVAL AND RIVER SUNSET

Your journey begins in Guwahati, the gateway to the Northeast and a city that breathes alongside the Brahmaputra. As you arrive by early afternoon, the vast river greets you with a sweep of shimmering waters, flowing wide and unhurried, carrying with it centuries of history and legend. After checking into your hotel and taking some time to refresh, the day takes on a softer rhythm. By evening, you step aboard a river cruise. The Brahmaputra, bathed in gold, stretches endlessly as the sun descends, casting fiery streaks across the sky. Gentle flute melodies float through the breeze, mingling with the calls of distant waterbirds. On one side, Guwahati's skyline begins to glow, and on the other, the distant hills slip into silhouettes. As twilight deepens into evening, you return to your hotel, carrying with you the calm of the river. Dinner is relaxed, and the night is left free, a quiet beginning to days of adventure ahead.

OVERNIGHT IN GUWAHATI



DAY 2- SACRED GROVES AND HILLS

After breakfast, the road draws you out of Guwahati and into the rising Khasi hills. The drive itself is part of the charm, with pine forests lining the winding roads and the air growing cooler and sharper as you ascend. Soon, you reach Mawphlang, home to the fabled Sacred Forest. With a local guide leading the way, you step beneath a canopy where sunlight filters gently through ancient trees. This grove is no ordinary woodland, it is a living temple for the Khasi people, where every rock, plant, and monolith carries spiritual meaning. Medicinal herbs, moss-draped stones, and age-old legends come alive in stories shared along the path. After a traditional Khasi lunch in the nearby village, you continue towards Sohra, better known as Cherrapunji. The resort where you stay overlooks sweeping valleys, where clouds roll in like waves and mists rise dramatically from the cliffs. The evening is for leisure, soaking in the beauty of nature's quiet theatre.

OVERNIGHT IN SOHRA



DAY 3- FALLS, CAVES AND BRIDGES

The morning in Sohra begins with the sound of birds echoing through valleys still draped in mist. After a hearty breakfast, you set out to explore the natural wonders that have made this region world-famous. The day begins gently with a visit to Umkar, where living root bridges stand as marvels of human patience and nature's artistry, woven over generations by Khasi hands. Next, the dim chambers of Arwah Caves invite you in, echoing halls of limestone where fossils whisper of a prehistoric world. From here, you move to the Garden of Caves, where small waterfalls and mossy rocks create a dreamlike setting. Later, you stand before the mighty Nohkalikai Falls. The sheer drop of its waters into a turquoise pool below is both powerful and poetic, a sight that lingers in memory long after you leave. The evening is unhurried back at your resort, with the sound of crickets rising from the valley and a sense of quiet wonder settling in.

OVERNIGHT IN SOHRA



DAY 4- BORDERS AND MUSIC

This day takes you closer to the edge of India, both geographically and culturally. The road winds through rolling hills until you reach Dawki, where the Umngot River gleams like glass. Its waters are so clear that pebbles on the riverbed glint visibly beneath your boat. A drift across this emerald surface feels like floating through air itself. Afterward, you pause briefly at the Indo-Bangladesh friendship gate, where borders seem more symbolic than real, marked by smiles and waves across the line. From here, the journey carries you to Mawlynnong, famed as Asia's cleanest village. Walking through flower-filled lanes, bamboo walkways, and neatly tended gardens feels like stepping into a living postcard. By evening, you reach Pynter village, where the Khasi spirit comes alive in music and storytelling. The rhythms of drumbeats, songs of community, and stories passed down generations create a memorable evening. You end the day at a warm homestay in Pongtung, wrapped in the simplicity of village life.

OVERNIGHT IN PONGTUNG



DAY 5- CANYONS AND CITY LIGHTS

The morning begins with breakfast amidst Pongtung's quiet rhythms, before the road carries you to one of Meghalaya's grandest spectacles, the Laitlum Canyons. Standing here feels like gazing at the very edge of the earth. Verdant ridges plunge into mist-filled depths, and the horizon stretches endlessly, dotted with villages perched far below. The silence of this place is profound, broken only by the whisper of winds and the rustle of prayer flags tied to nearby rocks. After soaking in this breathtaking view, Shillong greets you with pine-fringed avenues, colonial-era cottages, and the hum of a lively café culture. After checking into your hotel, the evening is yours to shape. You may choose to wander through Police Bazar's bustling lanes, step into a charming café with live music, or simply relax on your porch, watching the city lights twinkle against the cool mountain air.

OVERNIGHT IN SHILLONG



DAY 6 - EXPLORING SHILLONG – CULTURE AND LEISURE

Shillong unfolds today at a gentle pace, inviting you to explore its cultural and natural charms. A local guide accompanies you to the Don Bosco Museum, a modern space that brings alive the diverse traditions of the eight Northeastern states. Through vibrant exhibits, textiles, tools, and performances, you gain a deeper understanding of the region's rich mosaic of cultures. Later, a walk around Ward's Lake offers a quiet contrast. The pathways curve gracefully around calm waters, shaded by flowering trees and dotted with benches for rest. This space is beloved by locals, and you will see families, couples, and visitors alike enjoying its timeless charm. The afternoon is left open—you may stroll through the lively Police Bazar for shopping, seek out a quiet café, or return to your hotel for rest. By evening, Shillong feels less like a city to pass through and more like a pause that encourages you to simply breathe and belong.

OVERNIGHT IN SHILLONG



DAY 7 - CROSSING INTO ASSAM

After breakfast, you bid farewell to Shillong and descend from the Khasi hills into the wide plains of Assam. The journey is scenic, with lush paddy fields stretching into the distance, villages punctuated with bamboo houses, and the slow presence of the Brahmaputra returning once again. By afternoon, a special experience awaits, a river safari on the Brahmaputra. Aboard a boat accompanied by a naturalist, you drift across its calm expanse, flute music setting a meditative rhythm. The waters here are home to the rare and endangered river dolphin, and if fortune favours, you might catch the sight of its arched back breaking the surface. Light refreshments are served as the landscape shifts around you, painting a portrait of riverine life. By evening, you reach your lodge near Kaziranga National Park. Dinner is warm and welcoming, and the forest's calls—crickets, night birds, and distant rustles—remind you that tomorrow holds encounters with the wild.

OVERNIGHT IN KAZIRANGA



DAY 8 - WILD ENCOUNTERS

The day begins before sunrise as you set out for a jeep safari in Kaziranga, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of India's most celebrated wildlife reserves. The Kohora range greets you with mist rising above elephant grass, where the silhouette of a rhinoceros might suddenly appear, grazing in solitude. A naturalist helps you spot wild elephants, swamp deer, and a dazzling array of birdlife. From hornbills to fishing eagles, and perhaps even an elusive tiger paw print pressed into the earth. After this exhilarating morning, the pace softens with a visit to a Karbi weaving village. Here, women work patiently at their backstrap looms, creating textiles that shimmer with traditional patterns. A traditional Karbi lunch introduces you to earthy flavours of the region. The afternoon allows rest, with the option of visiting the Orchid Park for a cultural performance that celebrates local music and dance. As evening falls, you return to your lodge, the forest breathing around you.

OVERNIGHT IN KAZIRANGA



DAY 9 - BLESSINGS AND DEPARTURES

Your final morning begins with breakfast at leisure, before the road carries you once more across Assam's fertile plains. Depending on the time of your departure, there is an option to pause at the Maha Mrityunjay Temple. Here, a towering statue of Shiva Lingam rises skyward, and the resonant chants of priests create an atmosphere of devotion and calm. It is a fitting space to pause, reflect, and carry blessings onward. By afternoon, you arrive in Guwahati, where your journey comes to a close at the airport or hotel. The waterfalls of Sohra, the still waters of the Umngot, the music of Khasi villages, and the wild heart of Kaziranga now belong to you, not as fleeting photographs but as moments that rest gently in memory. As the Brahmaputra flows steadily on, you carry with you the timeless rhythm of the Northeast, a reminder of landscapes and stories that continue to live within.

FAREWELL!



PRICING

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE : 10

“Price on request”



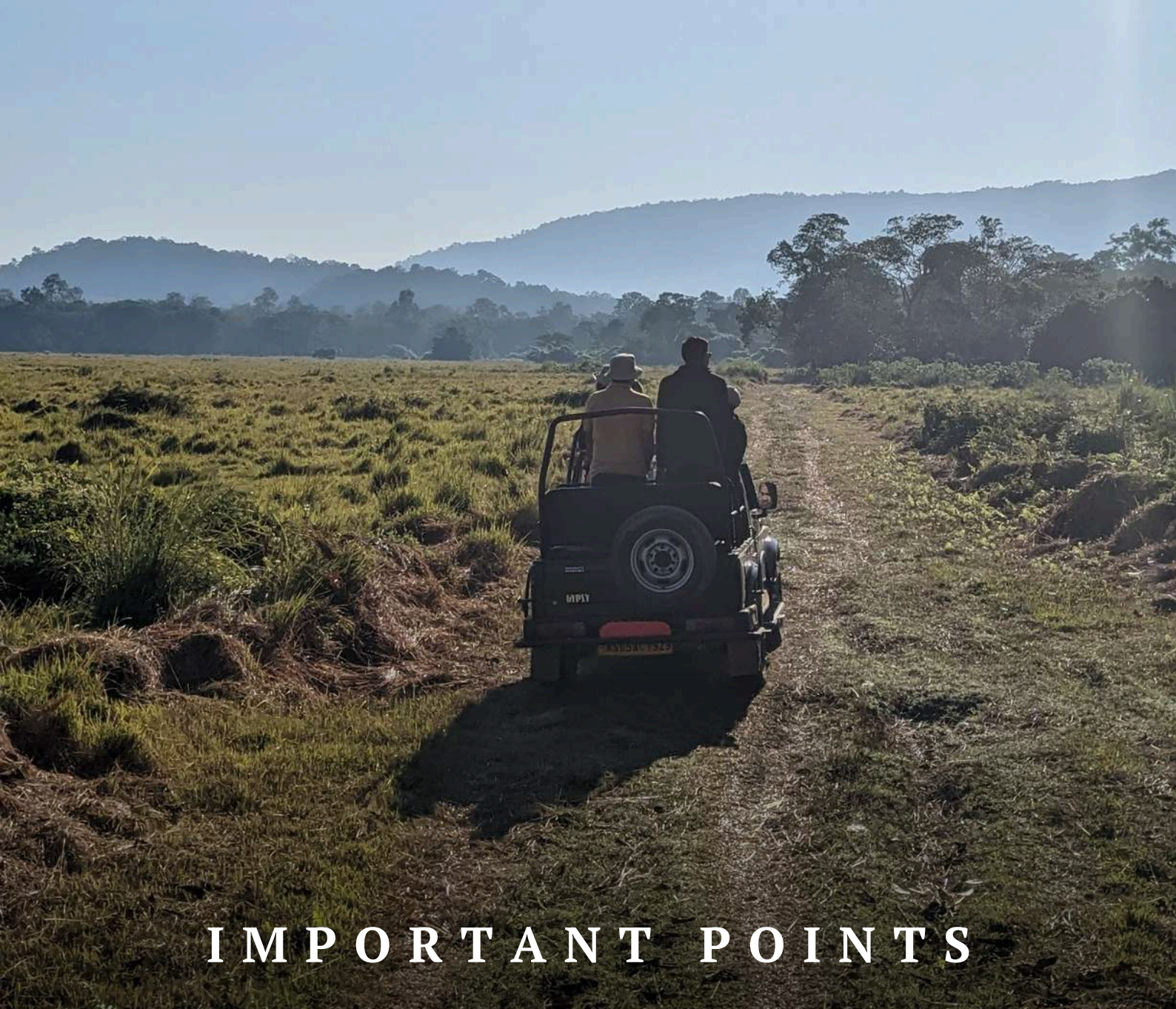
INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation in clean and comfortable hotels, resorts, and homestays on a twin-sharing basis throughout the journey.
- Breakfast on all days except Day 1.
- Lunch on Day 2 (local Khasi meal), and Day 8 (Karbi village lunch).
- All sightseeing and guided experiences as per itinerary: Sacred Forest guided walk, Umkar Living Root Bridge walk, Khasi music evening in Pynter, Karbi weaving village experience.
- Sunset cruise on the Brahmaputra.
- River dolphin boat safari in the Brahmaputra with naturalist, forest entries, local folk music, light refreshments, and safety jackets.
- Morning Jeep Safari in Kaziranga with naturalist, vehicle, and forest permits.
- All ground transportation in comfortable, chauffeur-driven vehicles with ChaloHoppo certified drivers.
- Entry tickets to sightseeing points, forest clearances, and temple visits.
- Assistance with all local arrangements including permits and village visits.
- Experienced local guides for cultural and nature walks.



EXCLUSIONS

- Flights or trains to and from Guwahati.
- Lunch on Day 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9.
- Dinners on All days.
- Boating charges at Dawki (optional).
- Tips for drivers, guides, porters, and local hosts (recommended to support livelihoods).
- Personal expenses such as snacks, medicines, and souvenirs.
- Any cost due to unforeseen circumstances like landslides, weather changes, delays, or health issues.
- Optional experiences not listed in the itinerary (e.g., Orchid Park visit, café hopping beyond schedule).
- Personal portorage or special assistance beyond planned inclusions.



IMPORTANT POINTS

Travel Pace:

This itinerary is designed for older travellers and follows a gentle rhythm, with comfortable driving distances, leisurely sightseeing, and plenty of rest time.

Accommodation:

Expect warm hospitality at family-run resorts, boutique hotels, and homestays. Facilities are clean and comfortable with attached bathrooms, though luxury may be basic in remote villages like Pongtung.

Weather & Packing:

A detailed document will be sent to you prior to your travel by our Operations team.

Fitness & Accessibility:

The trip is rated easy to moderate. Daily walks are short (20–40 minutes) and optional. This itinerary avoids long treks and includes rest breaks, making it suitable for older travellers with basic fitness.

**Group Size:**

Small-group format, up to 10 travellers, with travel in comfortable SUVs or minibuses depending on group size.

Network Connectivity:

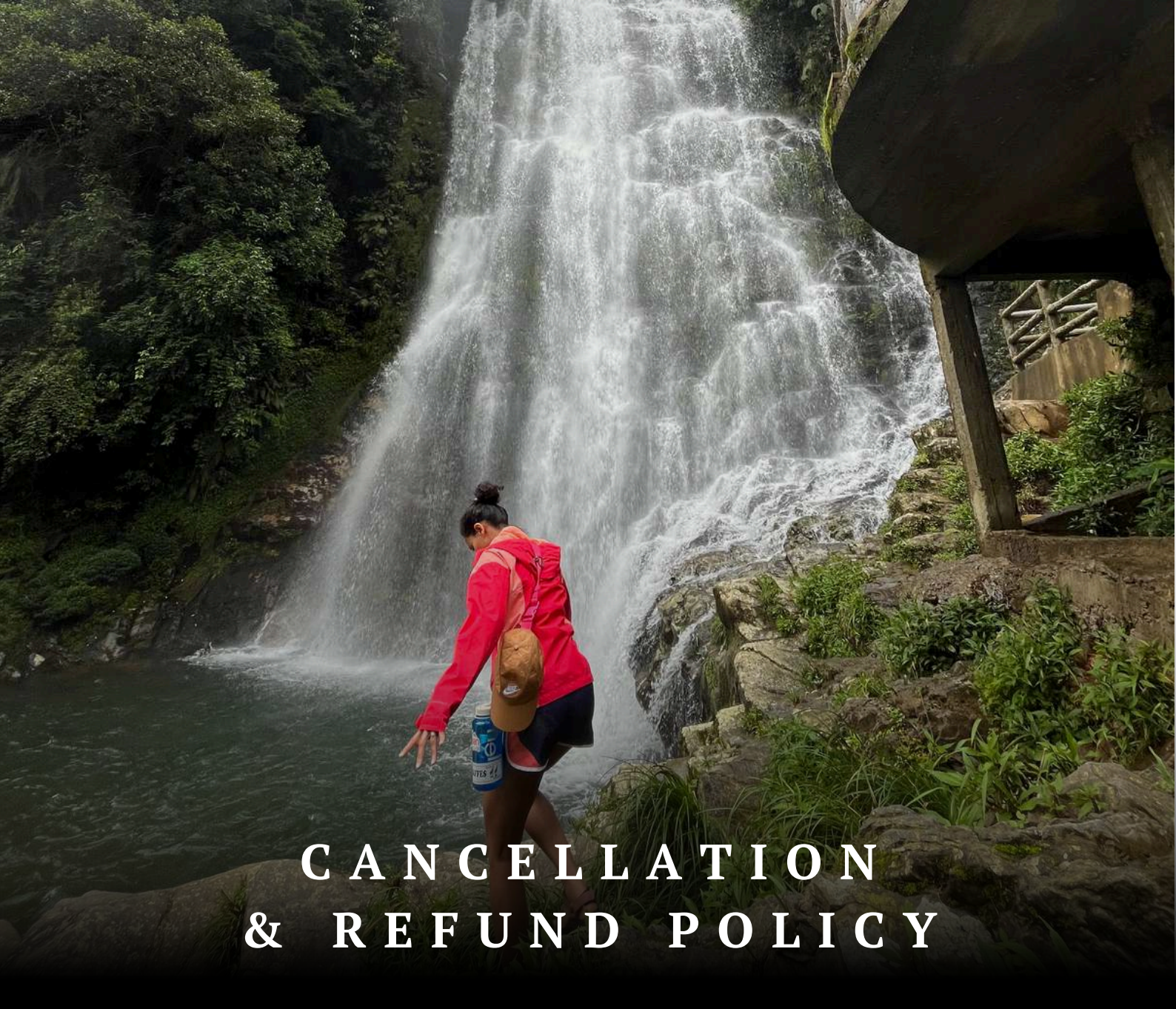
Most places have good mobile / internet network connectivity. Airtel and Jio are one of the most popular.

Connectivity:

- Guwahati has good connectivity from all the major airports in the country.
- Meghalaya has good connectivity of roads and is 3 hours away from Guwahati.

Food:

Meals include Assamese thalis, Khasi local food, and continental options at hotels. Lunches in villages highlight local dishes, smoked meats, rice, wild greens, and millet-based recipes. Vegetarian and vegan meals are available with prior request.



CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

General Refund Policy

45+ days prior to starting date of the trip – 100% refund of the total trip cost
30-44 days prior to starting date of the trip – 75% refund of the total trip cost
15-29 days prior to starting date of the trip – 50% refund of the total trip cost
8 -14 day prior to starting date of the trip – 25% refund of the total trip cost
7 days or less prior to starting date of the trip – No refund

Note - For Fixed Departures (Group Trips) - If you are able to find a replacement for yourself in the group, we'd be happy to provide you with a 100% refund!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What time does the trip start and end?

This trip is planned in a way that the group (guests+team) will be departing from Guwahati airport strictly by 11:45 AM.

Please ensure that you book your flights accordingly. If need be, we suggest flying in a day early. Guests who reach Guwahati after the scheduled time will have to make their way to Shillong by themselves.

How to get to Shillong -

Catch a shared/private cab from the airport. There will be options at the parking area itself.

Catch an Uber to Khanapara, from where you can book a Tempo Traveller / Sumo to Shillong

What are the pick-up points in Guwahati if I arrive before the trip starts?

If you are landing a day prior to the trip, you can join the group either at Guwahati Airport, Jalukbari Junction, or near Khanapara — depending on where you are staying in Guwahati. These are the designated pick-up points en route to Shillong, as the vehicle will not stop or enter the city beyond these points.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I reach Guwahati?

Guwahati is well-connected with daily flights from major Indian cities and trains from across Assam. Local taxis and autos are available from the airport and railway station.

What time do we need to book our flights?

On Day 1, you will need to land in Guwahati by 11:20 am at the latest. Our trip will start from Guwahati Airport by 11:40 am. On Day 8, you have to book a return flight any time after 4:30 pm.

What is your Cancellation Policy?

We have elaborated on all the details of our cancellation policy on Page 19.

What happens if someone books their flights before reserving a slot with us and we are sold out?

It is important to note that booking flights before reserving a slot with us does not guarantee availability. In the event that we are sold out, we cannot be held responsible for any inconvenience caused.

What type of properties are we staying at?

We'll be staying at simple homestays, campsites, guesthouses and resorts throughout the trip. None of the properties on the trip are boutique/luxurious. They are all clean, comfortable and hygienic and have been vetted by our team! Note - Some of the properties have different categories of rooms and the allocation of rooms will be random and at CHaloHoppo's discretion.

What are the current road conditions and driving time?

The roads in Meghalaya are some of the best hill roads in the country with beautiful views. Chances of motion sickness are much lesser than usual mountain roads as the number of windy roads are much lesser.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What kind of terrain and weather should I expect?

Expect smooth highways and hilly roads with sharp turns. Weather ranges from sunny to misty with occasional rain. Temperatures vary between 0–24°C, depending on the month, cooler in Sohra and Shillong.

Is this trip suitable for older travellers?

Yes. The itinerary is specifically curated for senior travellers, with short drives, minimal walking, and easy pace. Assistance is provided where terrain may be uneven.

Are there a lot of stairs or steep climbs?

Some viewpoints and root bridges require moderate walking or a few steps, but all activities are optional. Alternate experiences are available for those who wish to skip.

What kind of food will be served?

Expect a mix of Indian (Assamese and Khasi) cuisine and continental dishes at hotels. Village meals are traditional and highlight local produce. Vegetarian and vegan-friendly options can be arranged.

When is the best time to do this journey?

The ideal season is October to April when skies are clear, waterfalls flow, and the weather is pleasant for slow travel.

What are the meals that are provided and what about the ones not included?

- Breakfast will be served at the properties we stay at. These are usually simple standard meals, ranging from Poori with vegetables to sandwiches, bread with butter, and omelettes.
- Lunches and dinners that are included are typically wholesome local meals—simple Khasi food in Meghalaya (rice, dal, vegetables, meat, pickles), ideal for days with hikes or water activities, and Assamese thalis while in Kaziranga.
- Other meals can be ordered either at the stay or at nearby restaurants. In Shillong, Pongtung, Sohra, and Kaziranga, you'll also find a variety of cuisines to choose from.

F R E Q U E N T L Y A S K E D Q U E S T I O N S

Room sharing

Rooms are shared on twin sharing basis. In case you are a solo traveller, you will be paired up with another solo traveller of the same gender. For those of you are interested in a single room, we can arrange this at an additional cost.

How can we swim in such harsh climates?

Your primary day of water activities shall be at Shnongpdeng. While no doubt the waters will be cold, a swim when the sun is harsh above you during the day is not the worst idea.

For the best experience, we would recommend full body wet suits during this season.

How much money should we carry?

While most of your expenses are taken care of, an additional Rs. 1,000 per day (upper limit) would be more than enough for all your expenses. You can take a look at our Exclusions to get a better understanding of how much money you may need.

What are some things I should carry?

Once you sign up for the trip, we will be sending you a detailed list of Things to Carry for the season!

How difficult is the caving experience?

The caving experience is moderately challenging. While the cave is spacious enough to avoid oxygen scarcity, its narrow passages can induce claustrophobia in some, leading to heavy breathing and the need for fresh air.



REACH US HERE

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