

LOSAR



A LOSAR JOURNEY THROUGH
THE MOUNTAINS OF SANGTI

ChaloHoppo

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INTRODUCTION

High in the quiet folds of Arunachal Pradesh lies Sangti Valley, a place where time slows, traditions breathe, and festivals are lived rather than performed. This journey invites you into the heart of Losar, the Monpa and the Tibetan New Year, as it unfolds naturally across village homes, open fields, monasteries, and mountain paths. In 2026, Losar marks the beginning of the Year of the Fire Horse, according to the lunar calendar, a cycle associated with energy, dynamism, strength, and a spirit of adventure that holds deep cultural significance for the Monpa community.

Over four carefully paced days, you journey from the plains of Guwahati into a Himalayan valley shaped by ritual, community, and seasonal rhythm. You wake to prayer filled mornings, walk alongside villagers during sacred ceremonies, and witness ancient dances whose meanings are carried through generations. Kitchens open their doors, stories flow easily, and meals are shared not as hosts and guests, but as people brought together by celebration.



This is not a festival viewed from the sidelines. It is an invitation to slow down and belong, even if briefly. From the rhythmic movements of the Ajilamu dance to the communal warmth of bonfires and song, every moment is rooted in authenticity.

Designed as a small journey, this experience balances structure with flexibility, allowing Losar to guide the days as it always has. You return not just with memories, but with the quiet feeling of having been part of something deeply real.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the sacred Ajilamu dance and the Ramney ceremony, rituals rooted deeply in Monpa spiritual life.
- Explore rare Monpa art forms through close-up demonstrations of prayer flag printing and traditional paper making, led by skilled local artisans.
- Enjoy home-cooked Monpa meals and festive snacks inside village homes, thoughtfully prepared with seasonal produce and time-honoured recipes.
- Stroll through villages glowing with Losar lights, gaining insight into village life and seeing how festive celebrations blend naturally with everyday mountain rhythms.
- Watch as villages come alive in preparation for the New Year, with homes, monasteries, and pathways filled with a quiet sense of anticipation.
- As dusk falls, come together for folk music, cultural performances, and warm bonfires under expansive Himalayan skies.
- A small-group, unhurried, and deeply immersive journey into Himalayan heritage, living culture, and ways of life.

DAY WISE BREAKDOWN

Date	Starting Point	Ending Point	Driving/ Distance Time	Experience	Inclusions	Exclusions
March 1st	Guwahati	Sangti Valley	8-9 hours approx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long day of drive to Sangti valley at 7 am sharp. Stop by Chillipam monastery on the day if time permits. Check-in to your stay at Sangti valley. Spend the evening at leisure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stay (Rooms on Double sharing basis) -Transport with all parking, tolls, fuel, and drivers expenses on all days. -ChaloHoppo certified driver. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast Lunch Dinner Entry tickets to all sightseeing points
March 2nd	Day in Sangti Valley		1-2 hours approx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start your festival with the famous Ajilamu dance in the morning. Visit local houses to witness the preparation of the last day of Losar festival. Get a chance to witness activities like flag printing, paper making, momo making, board games in the village. Traditional lunch in a Monpa home. Have a relaxed Afternoon at leisure by the river. A fun evening of Cultural performances and traditional folk music in the evening by the bonfire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast, Stay, Transport, Local Guide, Local performances, Traditional lunch 	
March 3rd	Celebrate Losar in Sangti Valley		3-4 hours approx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Witness the Ramney ceremony in the morning. A walk through the village celebrating house to house and celebration of Losar festival. Celebrate Losar and local Holi in Sangti village Bonfire and celebrate the end of Losar in Sangti village. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast, Stay, Transport, Community festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch Dinner
March 4th	Sangti Valley	Guwahati	8-9 hours approx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drive to Guwahati. Departure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast, Stay, Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinner Lunch



DAY 1- ARRIVAL IN SANGTI VALLEY FROM GUWAHATI

The journey begins early from Guwahati as the plains slowly give way to winding mountain roads. Tea gardens fade into forests, rivers cross your path, and the air turns crisp as you climb higher into Arunachal Pradesh. The drive is long but unhurried, with a relaxed lunch break en route allowing you to soak in the changing landscapes.

By late afternoon, you arrive in the wide open Sangti Valley. Framed by high mountain peaks and flowing rivers, the valley feels instantly calming. After checking into your stay, the evening is left deliberately slow. A bonfire is lit as the temperature drops, and you settle into quiet conversations under a Himalayan sky. The village rests, preparing for the days of celebration ahead.

OVERNIGHT IN SANGTI VALLEY



DAY 2- DANCES, CRAFT TRADITIONS AND LOSAR PREPARATIONS

You wake to soft morning light spilling across the valley. After bathing and preparing for the auspicious festival day, tea and freshly fried khapse are served as the village slowly comes alive.

The morning begins with witnessing the Ajilamu dance, one of the most sacred ritual dances of the Monpa community. While the full dance unfolds over many hours, you observe its opening phase, learning about its symbolism, masks, rhythm, and spiritual meaning. The measured movements and ceremonial pace set the tone for Losar.

As the day unfolds, you step into village homes to witness the preparation of Losar. Kitchens buzz quietly with activity as festive food is prepared, stories are exchanged, and traditions are passed down. Try your hands in the art of momo making. You then visit a local home to witness Monpa art of flag printing and traditional paper making, using wooden dyes and age-old techniques that blend devotion with everyday craftsmanship. If lucky, you could also spot locals playing Para-Sho, the Tibetan dice game.



DAY 2- DANCES, CRAFT TRADITIONS AND LOSAR PREPARATIONS (CONT.)

Lunch is a warm and intimate traditional Monpa meal, served inside a family home. Seated on the floor, you share food, conversation, and laughter in a setting that feels genuine and unforced.

By evening, the valley gathers. A bonfire is lit and cultural performances unfold around it. Folk songs, dances, and local music fill the night air as stories are shared and wine flows gently. It is celebratory yet grounded, offering a true sense of community rather than spectacle.

OVERNIGHT IN SANGTI VALLEY



DAY 3- RAMNEY RITUALS AND THE CLOSING CEREMONIES OF LOSAR

This is the final and most meaningful day of Losar. After an early start, you set out for the Ramney ceremony, a communal walk to a higher point in the valley. Locals walk alongside you carrying prayer flags and offerings. At the ceremony site, flags are installed while refined wheat is gently applied to faces as blessings for the year ahead. Breakfast is enjoyed outdoors, surrounded by open skies and mountains. On the return walk, you may spot the graceful Black necked crane moving through the fields.

Late morning is spent walking through the village during Losar, moving from house to house as celebrations continue. Doors are open, smiles are easy, and the village feels alive with colour, ritual, and shared joy.



DAY 3- RAMNEY RITUALS AND THE CLOSING CEREMONIES OF LOSAR (CONT.)

The afternoon remains flexible and is decided organically on the ground. Depending on village rhythms and weather, you may go for a walk alongside the river, or remain in the festival grounds in Sangti to celebrate the closing moments of Losar and local Holi and brew with the community. This fluidity allows the experience to remain authentic rather than scheduled.

As night falls, the final bonfire of Losar is lit. You gather once more to celebrate the end of the festival, sharing stories, warmth, and quiet gratitude. The valley feels familiar now, almost like a temporary home.

OVERNIGHT IN SANGTI VALLEY



DAY 4- RETURN TO GUWAHATI

After breakfast, you begin the long drive back to Guwahati. As the mountains slowly recede and the roads widen, Sangti lingers with you in small ways. In shared meals, ritual walks, laughter around the fire, and moments that unfolded without hurry. The journey ends, but the feeling of having truly witnessed Losar stays long after.



PRICING

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE : 8-10 ADULTS

“Price on request”



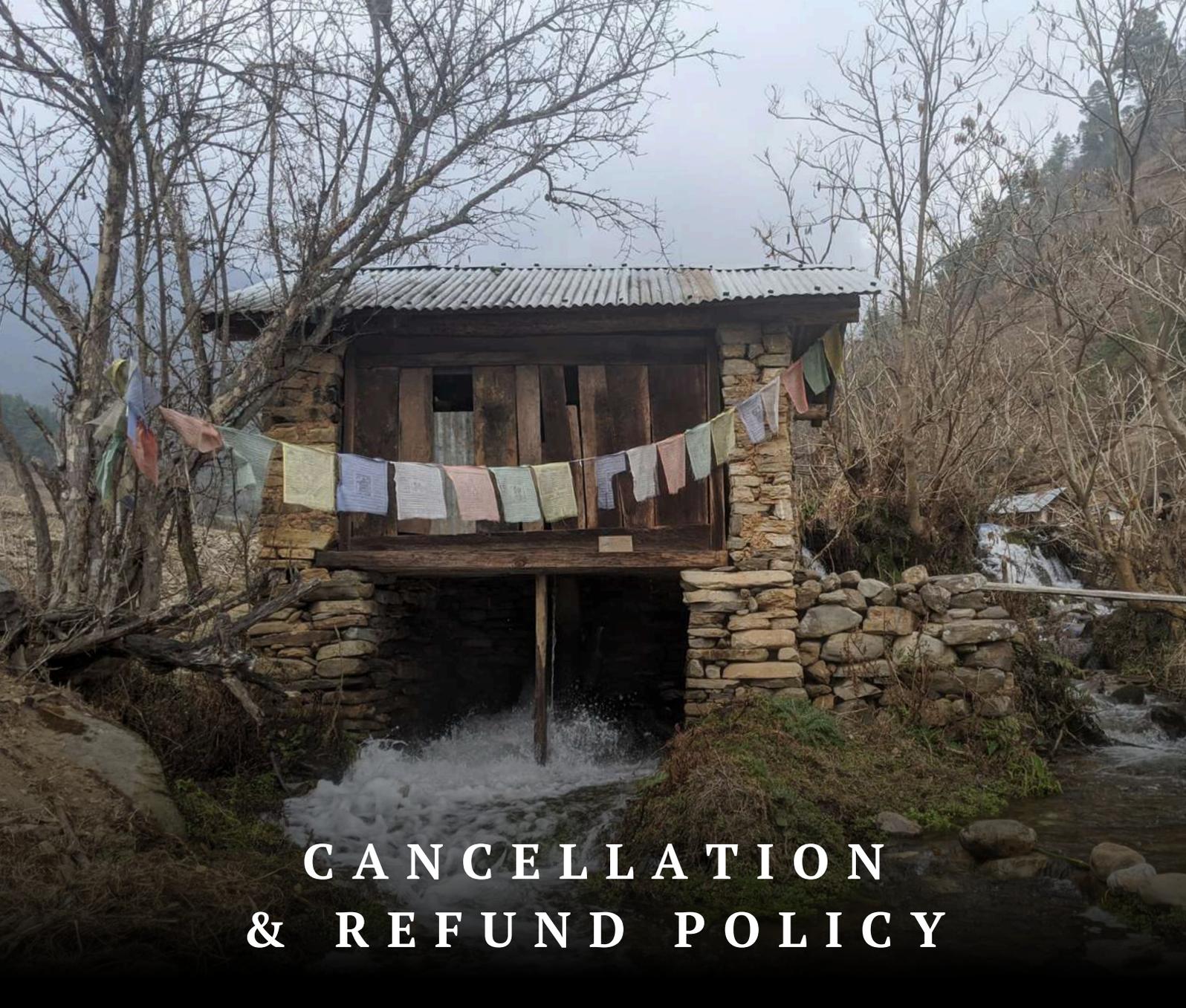
INCLUSIONS

- Breakfast on all days except the first day.
- Traditional Monpa lunch on Day 2
- Dinner on Day 1.
- An experienced Trip leader.
- Local guide on Day and 3.
- Transportation on all days. (Optional)
- Stay on double occupancy basis on all days.
- Traditional Ajilamu dance on Day 2.
- Paper making and flag printing workshop.
- Entry to the community festival grounds and local homes.
- Momo making workshop.
- Traditional Monpa activities and ceremonies like the Ramney ceremony..
- Monpa cultural performances and folk music.
- Bonfire in the evenings.



EXCLUSIONS

- Meals not mentioned under Inclusions
- Innerline Permits (for Non Arunachali residents)
- Hotel, driver, and guide tips
- Any personal expenses (shopping, snacks, laundry, medicines, etc.)
- Costs arising from itinerary or stay changes due to flight cancellations, bad weather, ill health, roadblocks, or any factors beyond our control
- Flight or train tickets
- Anything not specifically mentioned under *Inclusions*



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

How do I reach the starting point of this journey?

The experience begins in Guwahati. Guwahati is well connected by flights and trains from major Indian cities. Detailed pickup and meeting point information will be shared closer to departure.

What kind of accommodation can I expect in Sangti?

You will stay in clean and comfortable local stays that reflect the character of the valley. Rooms are simple, warm, and thoughtfully hosted, offering a genuine village experience rather than luxury facilities.

What is the festival we will be experiencing in Sangti?

The journey coincides with local Monpa festival and rituals of Losar festival. The festival marks the beginning of the new Buddhist year, including Ramney ceremonies, Ajilamu dance, village games, and community celebrations. These are living traditions, not performances created for visitors.

Can we reach Sangti by ourselves ?

Yes, absolutely. The cost will be reduced if you choose to use your own mode of transportation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How physically demanding is this experience?

This is a gentle and immersive journey suitable for travelers with a basic level of fitness. Activities include short village walks, a thirty minute uphill walk during the Ramnay ceremony, and optional forest walks. There are no strenuous treks.

Is this experience suitable for children or elderly travelers?

This experience is best suited for adults and older teenagers who are curious about culture and comfortable with rural settings. It may not be ideal for very young children or travelers with mobility challenges.

What kind of food will be served during the journey?

Meals are freshly prepared and largely local, featuring Monpa cuisine, simple Himalayan dishes, momos, noodles, rice based meals, and festive home cooked lunches. Vegetarian options are available on request.

Will we be actively participating or only observing?

This experience encourages gentle participation. You will take part in community walks, flag printing, paper making, cooking workshops, and festival rituals, always with respect and guidance from local hosts.

However, some local activities like board games can be slightly complex and participation is not guaranteed during an ongoing game in the festival.

What should I pack for this trip?

Warm layered clothing, comfortable walking shoes, a light jacket, personal medicines, reusable water bottles, and a small day pack are recommended. Festival days involve outdoor activities, so sun protection is also useful.

What will the weather be like during the trip?

Daytime temperatures are generally cool and pleasant, while evenings and nights can be cold. Weather in the mountains can change quickly, so layered clothing is essential.

Will there be mobile network and internet connectivity?

Connectivity is limited in Sangti Valley. Expect patchy mobile network and very little internet access. This journey offers a natural digital detox.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is this a small group experience?

Yes. This is designed as a small group journey to ensure meaningful interactions with the community and minimal impact on village life.

Are festivals guaranteed on fixed dates?

Festival rituals follow local calendars and community rhythms. While the overall experience remains intact, specific timings and sequences may shift slightly based on village customs and weather conditions.



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