

Package #1

Bicycle Trail -1 Guwahati

There are several man made water tanks in Guwahati, called pukhuris in Assamese. These serve as major landmarks of the city. One can avail bicycles on hire and visit the pukhuris.

The Northbrook Gate, was constructed to welcome British viceroy Lord Northbrook who visited Guwahati in 1874. The gate was built near Sukreswar Ghat where the viceroy anchored his ship. It is the only monument and lone surviving brick architecture from colonial times.

Nag Pota Pukhuri was constructed by the Ahom king Swargadeo Parmatma Singha. This tank derived its name from the Assamese custom of serpent worship. Commissioned by Swargadeo Rajeshwar Singha, **Silpukhuri** originally known as Nau Kunia Pukhuri (nine – cornered tank) had nine wells dug around the corners. The water is believed to have been used to perform the ritualistic bath invoking the Nabagraha (Nine Planets). The true heart of the city namely **Dighalipukhuri**, is a man made rectangular tank around 805 m long. According to legends a canal was dug from the river Brahmaputra by King Bhagadatta and was used by the Ahoms as the naval yard during the ancient times. Towards the eastern side of Dighalipukhuri lies Jorpukhuri, a pair of tanks separated by a road. It was built to connect with the river Brahmaputra via the Naojan channel which was operable for the naval ships and boats used by the Ahom royalties who visited the Ugratara temple.

Package # 2

Bicycle Trail-2

Cycle from Azara (near Decathlon) to Chandubi Lake which is just 70km from Guwahati city. Chandubi Lake is located at the base of the misty Garo Hills, with the river Kulsu to the south. The Lake is a natural water body which was born as a result of a massive earthquake. The locals say that five mountains sank into the ground: “ Chand” means five in Khasi and “ Dubi” means sank and hence the name Chandubi. This tectonic lake has a picturesque setting surrounded by dense forests, and small habitation of the Rabha tribe. The waters of Chandubi are calm enough to invite a leisurely rowboat ride. Chandubi has as many as 42 fish species approximately and is especially famous for its huge population of chital fish, a staple in feasts across Assam. A sheer paradise for birdwatchers, the lake is more or less a secluded wetland, making it a haven for birds and a potential site for bird conservation. Besides the varied species of resident birds, large number of migratory birds has also been spotted here including several vulnerable species. For adventure seeking tourists, one can visit the Kaphendonga waterfall located in Ranikhamar a paradise for the hikers and trekkers. It takes about half an hour by foot from Boraigaon and is about 7,5 kms away Rajapara. Not far away is the Solaka Dare waterfall near Baregaon Village a paradise for nature lovers.

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Package #3

Guwahati Morning Heritage Walk

The Guwahati **Heritage Walk** takes the tourists to certain localities that bring back the old world fascination once you set foot in them. These epoch parts are best explored if you walk down its alleys and corridors. The Heritage Walk begins at 5.00 a.m and the starting point is the **North brook Gate** that was constructed to welcome the British viceroy Lord North brook who visited Guwahati in 1874. From there proceed to home to Assam's premier educational institute, **Cotton Collegiate H.S. School, Cotton College** Panbazar – a place which is always alive with young student crowd. Then head towards the **Dighalipukhuri** (a massive pond with boating facilities) one of the most happening landmarks of the city via heritage **Christ Church & Curzon Hall** before rerouting to **Chief justice residence** where you will come face to face with some of the oldest residential colonies in Guwahati. From here you can head to **Latasil, Ugratara temple, Jorpukhuri** or twin ponds that were built by Swargadeo Siva Singha to fulfill the requirements of water of the **Ugratara temple**. Proceed toward **Raj Bhawan** via the naojan path which was operable for the naval ships and boats used by the Ahom royalties who visited the Ugratara temple. The roads to Raj Bhawan are a beautiful stretch of road that goes parallel with the Brahmaputra River amid lush greenery.

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Package #4 Eco – Tourism Destination – The Umswai Valley

35 kms from Nellie junction of Guwahati – Kaziranga Highway (2 hours drive approx) the Umswai valley is a picturesque valley situated in the West Karbi Anglong district of Assam. The valley is bestowed with a mosaic of cultural heritage and natural resources. It's enthralling landscape, flora and fauna, fascinating tribes, culture, myths, legends, music, food, monoliths, method of making organic tea is a must visit destination.

Places to visit:

Far from the hustle and bustle of city life, **Shikdamakha** offers tranquility, adventure, nature's beauty and to add to this cleanliness. In fact it has been declared as the cleanest village in the north east. The **Amsai Pinung** is a treasure of monoliths. The religious leader of that place puts two stones every year, one parallel to the ground and the other vertical to the ground stone. It has more than 3000 erected stones which indicate that the village existed before the Christ. The **Langorkhon** is a good trekking trail with a balancing rockstructure called the Longpak at the top of the hill with much folklore of the Karbi and Tiwa Community.

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Package #5 *Rural Tourism – Chanaka Village Eco Camp & Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary*

Located in Chanaka Village near Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, this camp is 37 kml (One and half hour drive) from Guwahati and situated near the bank of mighty Brahmaputra River. One will feel the serenity of the place the moment one steps into the road leading to the Eco Camp. On one side of the road are rocky ridges that are covered with moss and ornamental ferns, and on the other side of the road, the mighty river is lazily flowing along with the traveller. Even though the Brahmaputra has its own beauty in every season, it assumes totally different look with sand covered basin spreading graciously presenting a heavenly vision to the onlookers. One can enjoy breathtaking view of the sunset from the beautiful river bank. The camp is surrounded by hills in two sides, paddy fields on one side and mighty Brahmaputra flowing few meters away from it.

Activities available at Chanaka Eco Camp: Parasailing, ATV Ride, Rappelling, Boat Safari, Pobitora Safari (Jeep & Elephant), Angling, Trekking, Walking Tour.

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Package # 6 Handicraft Trail (Hajo – Sutarkuchi – Sualkuchi)

***Hajo** a spiritual abode, is a home to shrines dedicated to Hindu deities, the Buddha and a Muslim saint. It is an ancient pilgrimage site for people of multiple faiths. The drive to the destination is rewarding in itself as you will cross the 1.7 km long Double Decker Bridge – the Saraighat Bridge. The speciality of this bridge is that it is both a road cum Rail Bridge which has a National Highway on the top and railway tracks below with the Brahmaputra River flowing under it.*

Japi** a traditional headgear, once used by females of noble and rich families, now serves as a headgear for farmers to protect them from rain and sun. A typical Assamese peasant hat is similar to the headgear of farmers in China, Vietnam, Laos and Thailand. Ostensibly introduced by the Ahoms, Japis are made of strips of bamboo and dried palm leaves that are locally known as tokow-pat. The designs on the headgear are created with pieces of cloth, mainly red and yellow. The “Phoolam Japi” which is encircled with intricate designs on it is the speciality of a cluster of villages in and around Sutarkuchi, which churns out over a lakh japis annually. Besides Sutarkuchi, Murikona, Arikuchi, Mughkuchi, Bolamughkuchi, Tilana and Teresia villages form the hub of the Japi industry. **For tourists who are interested in trying their hand at making the traditional Japi may visit the village and enjoy their local cuisine and lifestyle.

***Sualkuchi**, also known as the Manchester of the east is a sleepy village in the northern bank of the river Brahmaputra. It is the center of Assam’s textile production, The weaver’s in the village specializes in mainly two types of silk, Muga silk and Pat Silk. Indegenous items such as **mekhela chadors** and **gamosas** made of these materials are the famous produces in the country./ it has been declared as a Handloom Heritage Village, and thus is steadily growing up as an important tourist spot in Assam. Eri silks and Endi cloths from this region is also quite well known. The village retains the traditional charm with bamboo houses and overall rustic nature of the villages.*

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Package # 7 **Temple Trail – North Guwahati**

*Picturesque North Guwahati, once known as magnificent Pragjyotishpura, was an important hub of learning of Astronomy and Astrology. The city was located on the banks of the mighty Brahmaputra and formed an integral part of the Kamrup Kingdom which went through a series of name changes under various dynasties. It came to be known Uttar or North Guwahati under the Ahom Dynasty, which persisted during the British reign and into the present day. The rock inscription at the Kanai Barosi Bowa is well documented vis –a – vis the triumph of the Ahoms against the powerful Mughals. Home to different temples, including the **Doul Gobinda, Rudreswar Temple, Manikarneswar, the Auniati Satra, Aswaklanta Devalaya, Dirgheswari Temple**, it is amorously known as the temple town of Assam. The lush wooded surroundings and soulful river landscapes from a beautiful backdrop to the various religious activities that take place here from daily pujas to complex vedic rites during the numerous festivals. Devotees frequently pay obeisance to both Vaishnav and Shaivite deities. Myths interwoven with the region expound how the area became an important religious destination, with legends of Lord Krishna visiting the region thrice. North Guwahati still retains the quaint natural settings unspoiled by the vagaries of urbanization.*

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Package # 8 **Peacock Island Cruise**

*A couple of steps away from the North Brook gate at Sukleswar Ghat where Jolporee – the cruise vessel of the Tourism Department, Government of Assam is docked one can visit the Peacock Island. The ride on the vessel on the mighty Brahmaputra is quite exciting. The river is seemingly peaceful on the surface but beneath it flows the deadliest of the current.. You can explore the entire region at leisure. Watching the sunset over the Brahmaputra river, turning its waters a blazing red is an unforgettable experience. The Umananda temple is located here. Legends say that Lord Shiva used to meditate here. The temple is located at the top of the Bhasmachala Hill, and the staircase leading to it originates from the small dock itself. The Peacock island is the home to the rare golden langur. **Contact Person: Mr. Biren Dutta, Jolporee***

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Package # 9 **White Water Rafting**

Bogamati is a perfect example of nature's bounty. Derived from the Assamese word it implies vast deposits of white sand and stone in the banks of the river. Located near the India – Bhutan border in the Baksa district of Assam, it is surrounded by hills and scenic locals, with the beautiful Bornadi river flowing through it. Adventure activities such as Rafting, Parasailing Night Camping, Jungle Trails and Aqua Roller is undertaken here. The locals depend exclusively on tourism in the area for their livelihood.

Distance : 91 KM. Approx 2 hours 30 minutes to reach the destination from Guwahati. It is best to hire a cab/ taxi service from Guwahati and drive to Bogamati.

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Package # 10

Guwahati City Tour

Tour duration : 8 hours

Pickup: From any location within Guwahati city metropolitan.

This tour would include sightseeing of the following places:

- *Kamakhya temple*
- *Nabagraha temple (temple of the nine planets)*
- *State Museum (closed on Monday and holidays)*
- *Assam State zoo.*
- *Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra*

Additional sightseeing (If time permits) :

- *Umananda island temple on river Brahmaputra (ferry crossing on own)*
- *Basistha temple*

Optional

- *Brahmaputra River Sunset Cruise Time 04:30 PM to 05:30 PM*
- *Brahmaputra River Sundown Cruise Time 05:30 PM to 06:30 PM*
- *Brahmaputra River Dinner Cruise 08:00 PM to 10:00 PM*
- *Traditional Assamese lunch*
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