

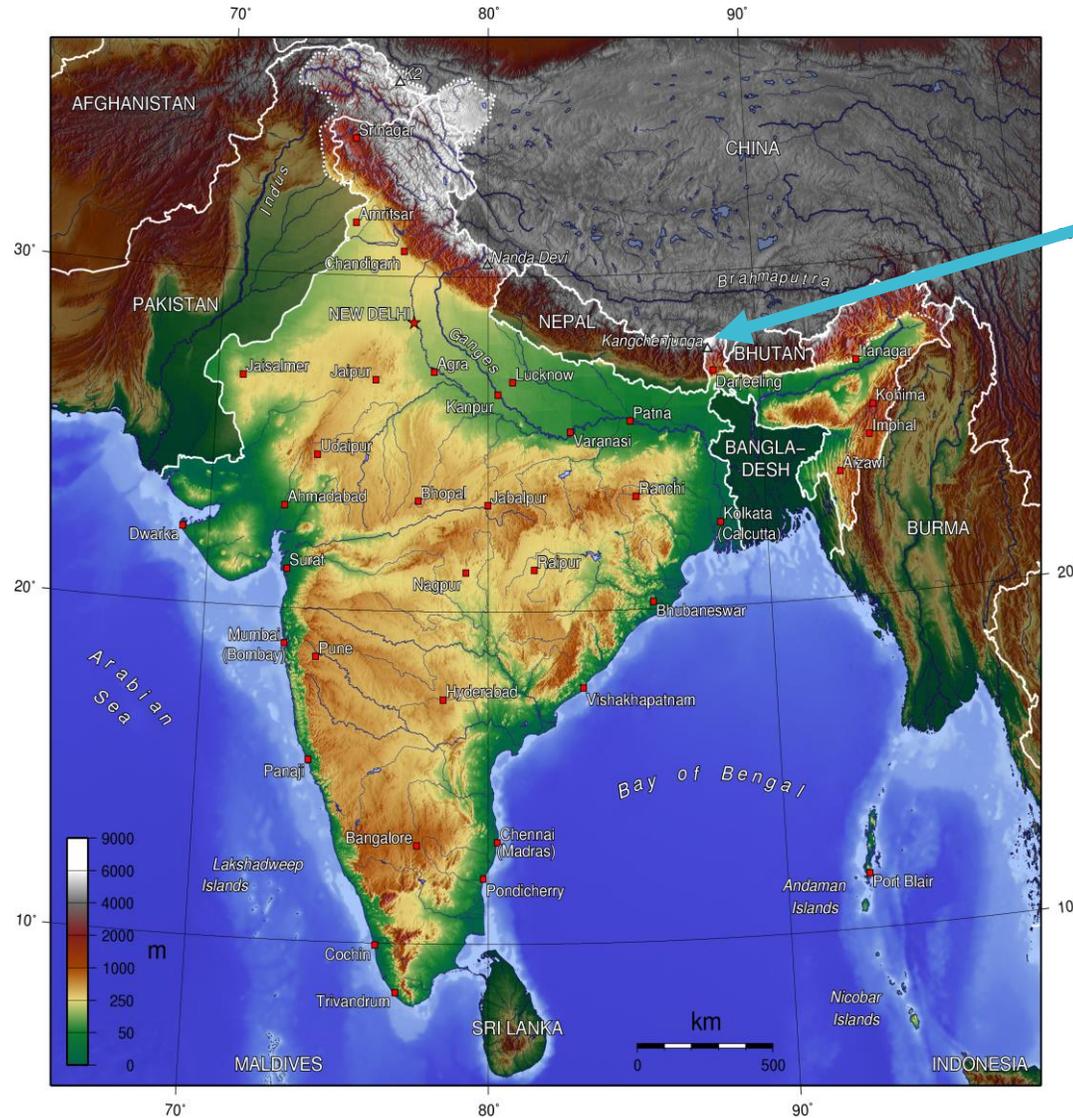
# SABAS Trek 2019: Hiking in The Himalayas\*

\*India; but no cities/forts/palaces/bazaars/slums.

We're Sorry. Not Really.



# Destination?



There!

What's over there?

Sikkim, India's nicest state (OK, I'm biased)

The world's third highest mountain – Mt. Kangchenjunga

India's most pristine national park AND a UNESCO Heritage site

One of the best hiking routes



# What You Get

Day 1, Day 2, Day 3 and Day 6

**Note: All pictures taken by me, NO photoshoping!**



# More of What You Get

Day 4



Day 5



That's a Human Being. Yes, I'm serious.

Day 4



Day 4



Day 5





Day 5



Day 5



Day 5



Day 5





(Still Going)

# Summary of What You Get

- 6 days of hiking and camping in untouched, old-growth Himalayan forests; + 3 days in one of the loveliest villages in India (*bias alert*)
- A range of ecosystems – from broadleaf forests to alpine meadows
- No cellphone coverage – day 1 of the hike (about 45 mins in) to day 7 (last 45 mins)!
- Really, really good friends (see above point for reason)
- Maximum altitude of ~14500 ft
- AMAZING views of the Khangchendzonga range – several 7000m+ peaks within a few miles
- “Alpine Glow” – the pink/golden yellow first rays of sunlight on the snow-capped peaks. One of the prettiest sights I’ve ever witnessed.
- One hell of a workout
- A taste of Sikkimese culture
- Hopefully, a life-long addiction to hiking 😊

# Itinerary

- 15<sup>th</sup> March (Friday) early AM – Fly out to India
- 16<sup>th</sup> March (Saturday) early AM – land in Kolkata, catch connection to Bagdogara
- 16<sup>th</sup> March noon – drive to Yuksom (5-6 hrs)
- 17<sup>th</sup> March (Sunday) – rest day at Yuksom (~5600 ft)
- **18<sup>th</sup> March (Monday) – Yuksom to Bhakim (~8600 ft) / Hike Day 1**
- **19<sup>th</sup> March (Tuesday) – Bhakim to Tshoka (~9700 ft) / Hike Day 2**
- **20<sup>th</sup> March (Wednesday) – Tshoka to Dzongri (~13000 ft) / Hike Day 3**
- **21<sup>st</sup> March (Thursday) – Dzongri to Thansing (~13000 ft) / Hike Day 4**
- **22<sup>nd</sup> March (Friday) – Thansing to Tshoka (~9700 ft) / Hike Day 5**
- **23<sup>rd</sup> March (Saturday) – Tshoka to Yuksom / Hike Day 6**
- *\*Trying to add an extra hiking day on 17<sup>th</sup> March*
- 24<sup>th</sup> March (Sunday) – Yuksom to Bagdogara to Kolkata to NYC (it's all doable, plenty of time between connections)
- 25<sup>th</sup> March (Monday) early morning – arrive at JFK/EWR

# Cost and What's Included

- ~2700 to 2800 USD (depending on # of signups, working to lower this as much as possible, could end up around ~ 2500 USD)
- What's included
  - All Flights and Ground Transport
  - Visa fees (India now has an e-visa process, much simpler than earlier)
  - Hotel stays as applicable
  - Hiking Permit and Camping fees
  - All Meals during the hike
  - All hiking equipment like tents, floor mats, cooking services, guide fees, porter fees etc.
  - Yaks carry everything except your personal backpack (you can offload that as well if you'd like)
- What's not included
  - Meals at the airport
  - Meals while driving to/from Yuxsom and the day we're there (*context: an average meal costs 3-4 USD pp*)
  - Gratuity to the hiking staff (~ 30-40 USD pp)
  - *Estimated total for all extras: **at max** 100 USD per person*

# Disclaimers

- This is NOT a leisure trip. This is an ACTIVE holiday in every sense
- There will be no showering on the hike (hypothermia is annoying and creates logistical nightmares)
- Proper toilet structures do not exist on the hike. There will be toilet tents (hole in ground covered in a standing-room tent)
- Camping is 2-3 people in a tent on the ground (mostly smooth)
- Sleeping bags will be provided (in case you don't carry one) – there are you-specific liners that you will use for hygiene
- You don't need to be super fit – a basic fitness level is essential however; The fitter you are, the more enjoyable the hike is
- We are going to spend a few days in high altitude – please see your doctor about getting on Diamox (or other AMS-preventive medication)

A photograph of three hikers in a mountainous region. The hiker on the left is wearing a grey and black patterned long-sleeve shirt. The hiker in the middle is wearing a black long-sleeve shirt, sunglasses, and a backpack. The hiker on the right is wearing a brown long-sleeve shirt, a green bucket hat, and a black jacket, with a watch on his left wrist. They are standing in front of a wooden building with a white wall. The background shows a forested mountain range under a blue sky.

Contact

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