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Sanyog Gupta Voyages

Luxury Destination Management Company

As we have evolved as a company, we have come to realise that our love lies not in booking tour packages, but in showcasing the unique experiences across the nations we serve. We realised that there are many secret corners of our world, rare moments, mysteries and stories.

Our company owned by a family, but run professionally. We have hierarchical systems which are driven by our core family values. We have come to understand we do not want to be the largest company globally. We have never tried to be the richest or the most influential. I say, we just want to be the bestest in what we do.

We are a family tradition for over three decades that have been highlighting this part of the planet. All over Indian sub-continent, we have grown to become a popular, valued and autonomous DMC providing the finest cultural experiences, personal immersions and natural wonders. We are here to build stories for our clients, tales of love, of wonderful excitement. We are proud of our past and its legacy.

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Sanyog Gupta
President - Sales & Marketing

THIS IS THE TIME
THIS IS THE PLACE
THIS IS WEST BENGAL

WEST BENGAL

From the mighty Himalayas to the greenery of Gangetic plains, from serene beaches to mangrove estuaries - West Bengal is a land of many natural splendours. Adding to its charm and appeal are the magnificent heritage architecture, colourful folk festivals, beautiful arts and crafts, traditional and contemporary music, theatre and films and delicious ethnic specialities that make West Bengal truly a brilliant experience offering unique diversities.

IT ALL STARTS WITH KUBHALO

You may well be sipping a cup of Darjeeling as you read this – tea may be West Bengal's most famous export, but it certainly isn't its only attraction: this teeming Indian state is brimming with culture.

Capital city Kolkata (formerly known as Calcutta) is dotted with grand designs, including Taj-Mahal-tribute the Victoria Memorial, a shrine to art and national history.

Just outside this urban hub, the striking, 19th-century Dakshineswar Kali temple is a marvel of intricate domes and spires, resting near the banks of the Ganges.

Follow the river to the Bay of Bengal, where glittering coastal views stretch for miles, or travel north to the huge tea plantations in Darjeeling for a trip on the Unesco-protected railway (of Wes Anderson fame) through the Himalayan foothills.

And, if it's in-depth exploring you're after, our range of Indian adventures take you up, up and away into West Bengal's lofty climes...



The Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

Fondly referred to as the Grand Dame of Chowringhee, our 5 star hotel: The Oberoi Grand has been an icon on the landscape of Kolkata for more than a century; with a reputation for taking care of its guests that befits the best hotel in Kolkata.

The sense of calm that pervades the outdoor space is carried into the classically appointed rooms and suites that encircle the courtyard. Fine dining spaces, grand banqueting venues, a business centre and a spa ensure that all your needs are covered.

Taj Hotels, West Bengal

Taj, World's Strongest Hotel Brand*, is an iconic hospitality brand from the Indian Hotels Company Limited. The brand continues to be one of the most revered and loved hospitality brands with a legacy of over 116 years of impeccable service and genuine warmth.

Embodying the spirit of “Tajness”, authentic original palaces, landmark hotels, idyllic resorts and natural safari lodges interpret the tradition of hospitality in a refreshingly modern way to create unique experiences and lifelong memories.

- Taj Bengal, Kolkata
- Taj Chia Kutir Resort, Darjeeling



ITC Royal Bengal, Kolkata

Located on the cusp of business district & the city, ITC Royal Bengal is an ode to the region’s cultural heritage and lineage. It offers 456 rooms & suites, 82 service apartments, 6 dining destinations, 5,630 sqm of banqueting space & a luxury spa.

This monumental, magnificent edifice towers over Kolkata’s skyline and blends fine European and indigenous architecture with contemporary design.

Envisioned and created with royalty in mind – the luxury of immense space, the burnished gleam of aristocratic décor and the hushed elegance of a noble home, the hotel celebrates the finest expressions of Bengal.

JW Marriott, Kolkata

Experience the resplendent JW Marriott Hotel, a 5-star accommodation with understated elegance and sophistication.

Located 16 kilometers from Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Airport, our hotel is almost equidistant from the airport and the city's old business district. Well-appointed rooms and suites are spacious and offer premium amenities.

Four distinctive dining options include an inspired Asian restaurant and an edgy discotheque offering vibrant nightlife.



ITC Sonar, Kolkata

Set in an enchanting expanse of beautifully designed gardenscapes with lush trees and gentle water bodies dotted with water lilies and complemented by the artful minimalism of the hotel's architecture, ITC Sonar offers an unusual leisure environment for a 5 star luxury business hotel in Kolkata celebrating the golden era of Bengal, during the reign of the Pala dynasty.

Located strategically at the meeting point of the old city and the new business district, the hotel is a short drive from the airport and the city centre.

The Amaya Resort, Kolkata

Amaya Resort is a 5* star-class hotel located close to Kolkata. Easily accessible from the city, the property is sprawled across a staggering 13 acres of greenery.

Its surroundings are calm and serene, offering the perfect sanctuary for couples and families to relax and rejuvenate.

The property is equipped with 90 well-appointed rooms under varied categories to suit the individual taste and preferences of different people.





Hyatt Regency, Kolkata

Experience luxury at Hyatt Regency Kolkata, one of the finest 5 star business hotels in Salt Lake, Kolkata (Calcutta).

This Kolkata hotel is just 15 minutes' drive from the Kolkata Int'l airport and IT corridor of Kolkata. The location of the hotel makes it the most convenient hotel for business & leisure travelers.

Mayfair Darjeeling

MAYFAIR Darjeeling is a heritage property that is one of the best 5 Star hotel in Darjeeling. It exudes old world charm and quiet elegance.

Wake up to birdsong and beautiful views as you soak in the blissful ambiance. The green foliage and the crisp mountain air will refresh your senses. Striking the perfect balance between the old and the modern, MAYFAIR Darjeeling ranks as one of the best luxury hill resorts in India.

It indulges you with its beauty and warm genuine hospitality whether you are traveling on a honeymoon, on a work trip or a family getaway.



Zurrantee Tea Estate, Jalpaiguri

Situated 110km/3hr out of Darjeeling, the city of Jalpaiguri is home to this charming resort. Built in 1890, the renovated yet quaint property used to be the Director's Bungalow, and looks out on sprawling plantations.

The region teems with forests and wildlife, so plan a visit to the Neora Valley National Park, home to the red panda and about a 45-minute drive away, or the Gorumara National Park, about a half-hour drive, for a chance to spot rhinos.



The Elgin, Darjeeling

Over 125 years old and once the summer residence of the Maharaja (King) of Cooch Behar, The Elgin Darjeeling is now a luxury Heritage Hotel in Darjeeling. This spa hotel in Darjeeling is situated in the heart of the Darjeeling town, 6,000 feet up in the Himalayas.

A celebration of the elegance and grace of the Colonial Era in the Queen of Hill Stations, located in the majestic Himalayan ranges, The Elgin Hotels & Resorts in Darjeeling is very much a part of Darjeeling's colonial history.



Glenburn Tea Estate, Darjeeling

Glenburn is a heavenly little plantation retreat that lies on a hillock above the banks of the River Rungeet, high in the Himalayas, overlooked by the mighty Kanchenjunga mountain range.

Started by a Scottish tea company in 1859, Glenburn then passed into the hands of one of India's pioneering tea planting families – The Prakashes. One of India's pioneering tea-planting families, we have, over the years, come to be known as the “Chaiwala family” - which literally means “tea planters”.

The story of the Chaiwala family began over a hundred years ago, and is closely entwined with that of tea plantations in India.

Mayfair Tea Resort, Siliguri

A captivating confluence of old world charm and contemporary comforts, MAYFAIR Tea Resort which is India's first Boutique Tea Resort welcomes everyone to an experience of luxury that is unlike no other.

Built in the 16th century Tudor style architecture, the picturesque and palatial property features vintage furnishings, classic centuries-old collectibles, chequered black and white flooring carved with exquisite Italian marble.





Courtyard by Marriott, Siliguri

Experience 5-star service and amenities at Courtyard by Marriott Siliguri, serving as the gateway to northeast India. At the city center overlooking the Himalayan range in Siliguri, our hotel offers modern rooms, many with lovely views of Siliguri.

Upgrade to a residence-inspired suite with a scenic pool and mountain range views. Public spaces feature relaxed hospitality with intimate seating groups and free Wi-Fi.

Mayfair Himalayan, Kalimpong

Sweeping views of majestic snow-clad mountains and enchanting hills draped in sage and emerald green. A charming pathway lined with a blossoming nursery and lit by a natural skylight.

A tall elegant pine tree overlooking picture perfect lawns dotted with chairs and tables sheltered by sunshades. Welcome to the exquisite environs of the spectacular 5 Star hotel MAYFAIR Himalayan Spa Resort located in the endearing little hill town of Kalimpong.



The Elgin Silver Oaks, Kalimpong

Lounging in the landscaped gardens in a profusion of colors, one is treated to breath-taking view at The Elgin Silver Oaks, Kalimpong.

The natural décor is characteristic in the imposing Kanchenjunga which can be seen on a clear day, blooming petunias and asters, the serrated violet edges of iris, iridescent butterflies flitting through colourful azaleas, drooping geraniums, proud orchids and heaven, temporarily descends on earth.

Viceroy Beach & Spa Resort, Mandarmani

The classy expansive lobby with plenty of natural light gives you a holistic feeling of being very close to the sea.

The murals of Lord Buddha in the lobby imbibe a sense of calmness in the surroundings and draw you closer to nature.

The expanded lobby is accented with a full glass swing door leading to the open corridor with plenty of sunlight and Palm trees that leads to the different guest rooms. The interiors have been done to showcase the lobby in its grandeur form.



The Lalit Great Eastern, Kolkata

The LaLiT Great Eastern Kolkata was built in 1841 as the “Auckland Hotel” and is the longest continuously operating luxury hotel in Asia with 165 years of operation until its renovation in 2006, according to the CRISIL Report. The architecture at this hotel is a combination of Victorian, Edwardian and contemporary styles. The LaLiT Great Eastern Kolkata is centrally located in close proximity to key commercial and business locations.

Bari Kothi Heritage, Kolkata

Bari Kothi is a beautiful 18th Century palace, a heritage home built by the Dudhoria family more than 250 years ago that was sensitively restored to its former glory over a period of 5 years with a team of over 150 local artisans to preserve and share the story of this region’s heritage for generations to come.

Still owned by descendants of the family that founded Bari Kothi, the Dudhoria family originally hail from Rajasthan. Successful textile merchants, they moved to Murshibadad in Bengal and built their palatial home, Bari Kothi, in Azimganj as at the time this region was a major international centre of business.





The Rajbari Bawali, Kolkata

This 300-year-old Boutique Heritage hotel featuring a Greco-Roman style has been superbly restored. The property is reminiscent of both the British Raj and the feudal lifestyles of Bengal's Zamindari landlords.

It is the ideal place to experience centuries old architecture, opulence and history of this small hamlet of the 24 Paganas, and Bengal's traditional performing arts.

In addition, there is also a strong focus on highlighting and supporting the local arts and crafts from its surrounding village communities.

Glenburn The Penthouse, Kolkata

This discrete, elegant residence located in the heart of historic Kolkata has stunning landmark views and is filled with exquisite antique Bengal colonial furniture and art. The drawing and dining rooms are adorned with Hindoostan wallpaper depicting scenes of rural India from days gone by.

The balcony and tea veranda overlooking Victoria Memorial are perfect for outdoor dining, and where breakfast and afternoon tea is served (weather permitting). The terraces are used most of the year, and have vintage fans, white wicker furniture, tropical plants, and marble floors.



Sunderban Tiger Camp

Sunderban Tiger Camp is an escapade in the lap of nature. Located at Dayapur Island, it is a blissful world that shields you from your television, newspapers, Internet and (sometimes) telephone. Established in 2004, it is the flagship property of Waxpol Hotels and Resorts and is situated across the Sundarbans National Park, the largest estuarine mangrove forest in the world. It started as a camp wherein we were providing guests with tented accommodation, which led to the name: Sunderban Tiger Camp.

Allita Hotel, Kurseong

Allita, the best resort in Darjeeling, Kurseong India; offers all luxury facilities at the most competitive rates.

The beauty of Allita resonates from its name and encompasses everything around it into a magnificence of its own in India. It is an ode to the beauty that exists in the wilderness, is immaculate and has the healing touch of rejuvenating lives. Explore this tranquility and serenity of nature within and without, amidst the Himalayan ranges in the picturesque valley of Kurseong, Darjeeling.



The Elgin Fairlawn, Kolkata

Housed in a 1783 building with a colonial-era vibe, the memorabilia-filled iconic heritage hotel has been shaped by the hands and minds of generations of families whose memories and influences have contributed to the unique heritage. Since 1783, The Elgin Fairlawn has stood on the junction of Madge Lane and Sudder Street. This is the heart of the most cosmopolitan and vibrant part of the city.

It is within two minutes walk from the famous New Market area, a 100 years old market. Heritage buildings like the Indian Museum, Victoria Memorial and the enthralling Park Street are just beyond.

Raajkutir Swabhumi, Kolkata

Raajkutir is a metaphor for a figment of our imagination. It is a time capsule that endeavours to take you back in time. Into the enlightenment called the Bengal Renaissance.

It was set in the mid-nineteenth century until the time our country attained Independence. While it is an inspired period piece, it is also a boutique hotel, very suited for the global traveller and complete with contemporary amenities including an all-day dining restaurant, spa, shopping arcade, café cum deli and an artisans gallery.



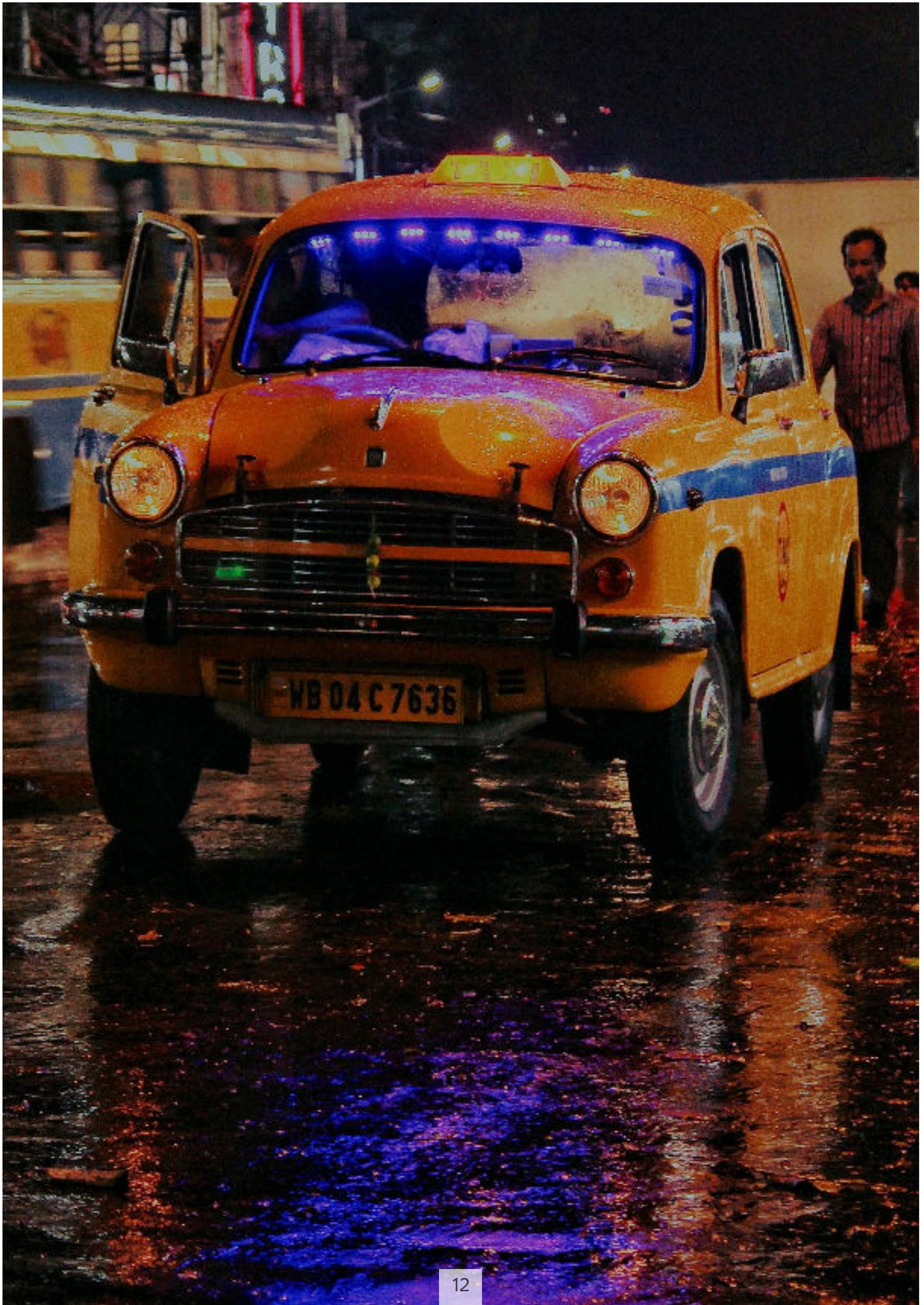


Kolkata - The Capital

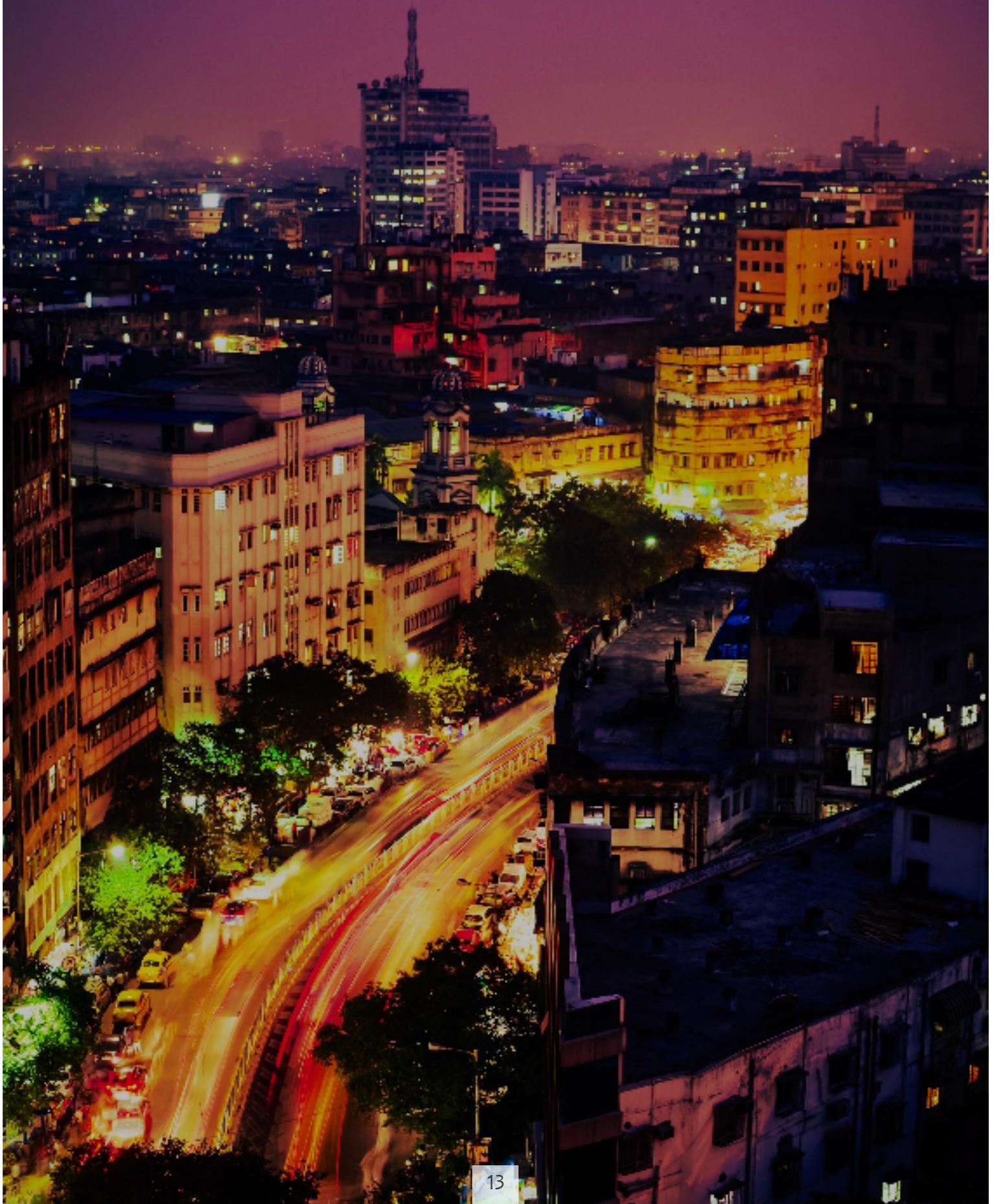
Kolkata is India's second-largest city and the face of West Bengal. It is an interminably progressing celebration of human existence. This dynamic 350-year-old city situated on India's Eastern Coast is the capital of West Bengal. It flourishes as the aesthetic, social, and intellectual capital of India.

Also known as the 'City of Joy', Kolkata is overflowing with liveliness. One can expect to be charmed by the cheap cost of things, the hand-pulled-rickshaws, wandering avenues, and a countless assortment of desserts.

Some highlights of this breathtaking city are The Victoria Memorial, Howrah Bridge, Fort William, Eden Gardens, and Jorasanko Thakur Bari – the ancestral home of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Brimming with various exciting things to do, make sure to add this city in your bucket list!



EXPLORE



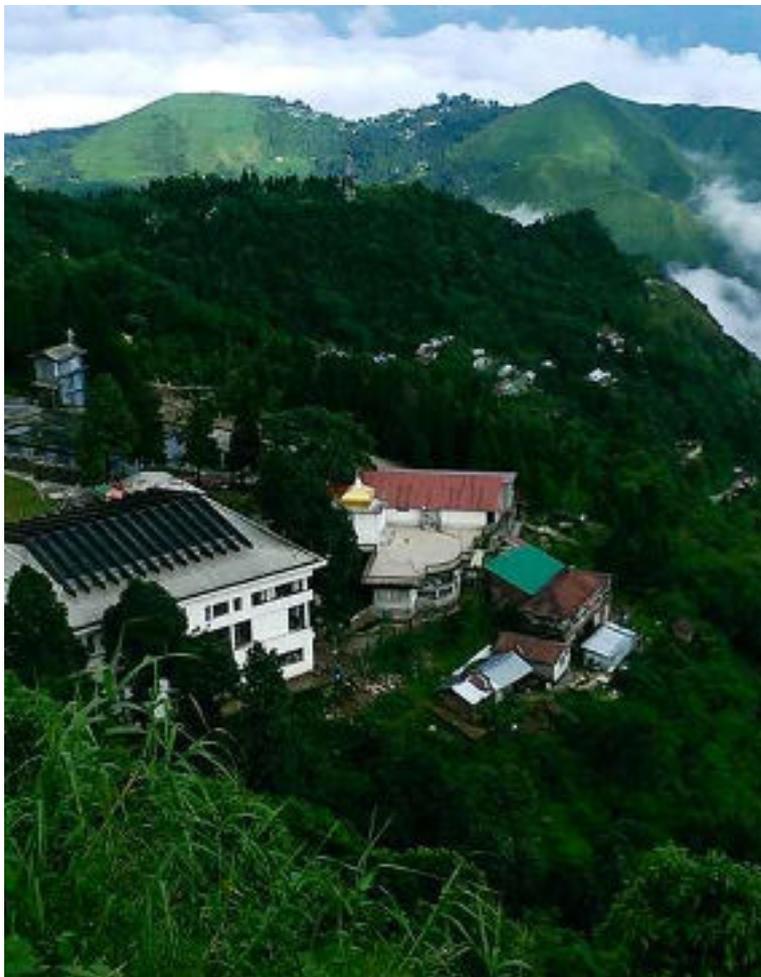
Darjeeling

Darjeeling conjures visions of snow peaks, serenity of vibrant green hills steeped in splendour, a land of breathtaking beauty crowned by the majestic Himalayas. Darjeeling is one of the most magnificent hill resorts in the world. This heavenly retreat is bathed in hues of every shade.

Flaming red rhododendrons, sparkling white magnolias, miles of undulating hillsides covered with emerald green tea bushes, the exotic forests of silver fir - all under the blanket of a brilliant azure sky dappled with specks of clouds, compellingly confounds Darjeeling as the QUEEN OF HILL STATIONS.

The crest of Kanchenjunga shining in the first dawn light truly supports the title.

Darjeeling beckons thousands today for a leisurely respite from the bustle of the madding crowd. The traveler - whether a tourist or a trekker, an ornithologist or a photographer, a botanist or an artist - will find in Darjeeling an experience which will remain etched in ones memory - forever.

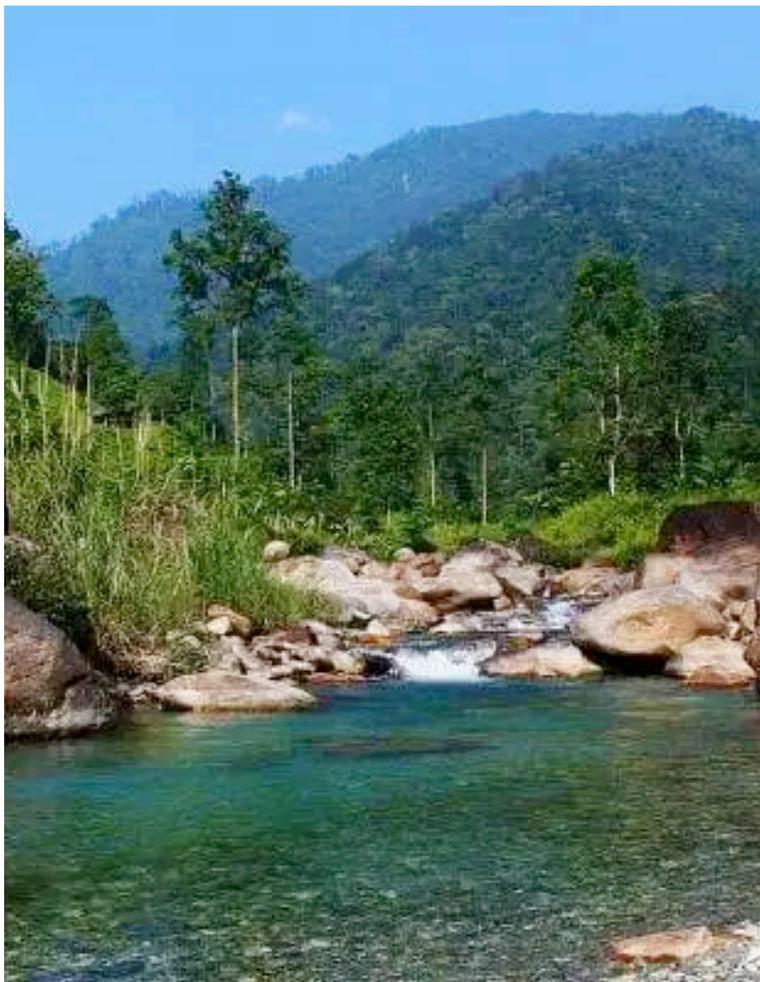


Kurseong

Kurseong is a hill station (and sub-divisional town) situated in Darjeeling District of West Bengal, India. Located at an altitude of 1458 meters (4864 ft), Kurseong is just 30 km from Darjeeling. It has a pleasant climate throughout the year and the winters are not as severe as Darjeelings.

The local name of Kurseong is "Kharsang" which in the Lepcha language means "Land of White Orchids". Kurseong is about 47 kms from Siliguri and is connected to the city by road and the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. The nearest airport is at Bagdogra.

The Land of the White Orchids nearest major railway station is New Jalpaiguri (NJP) railway station, which is about 53 km from Kurseong. The town is based mainly on schools and tourism. The best times to visit Kurseong are between March end and May and between the end of August and October. The Chogyal (Monarch) of Sikkim ceded Kurseong to the British Empire in 1835.



Kalimpong

Kalimpong is a beautiful place of great attraction. This sleepy little town situated at an altitude of 1,200 mtrs, some 50 kms to the east of Darjeeling. It once used to be the hub of the trans-Himalayan trade between India and Tibet when merchants used to ferry commerce by mule caravan over the Jelepla pass on the Sikkim-Tibet border.

The places to visit are Kalimpong Arts and Craft Center for handicraft goods; Tharpa Choling Monastery, a repository of old scriptures, and documents; Thongsa (Bhutan) Monastery, the oldest in the area; Dharmodaya Vihar, a Nepalese Buddhist Temple; Parnami Mandir and Mangal Dham; Durpin Danda from where the mountain ranges of Sikkim, including Jelepla, Tiger Hill and the confluence of the Relli, Riang and Tista rivers can be views Zong Dog Palri Fo Brang Monastery at Durpin Danda; deolo View Point for magnificent views: and Kalimpong famous flower nurseries.

Sandakphu

Sandakphu is the highest peak in the state of West Bengal, India. It is the highest point of the Singalila Ridge in Darjeeling district on the West Bengal-Nepal border. The peak is located at the edge of the Singalila National Park and has a small village on the summit with a few hostels. Four of the five highest peaks in the world, Everest, Kangchenjunga, Lhotse and Makalu can be seen from its summit.

From Sandakphu, the best view of the mountain Kanchenjunga is possible, which is known as the Sleeping Buddha or the Sleeping Shiva.

Sandakphu, situated at a height of 3636 mtrs above sea level is a true paradise for all adventure lovers. Trek to the highest point on this hill station and you will get the never seen before views of the Himalayan Range. A long stretch of Himalayas starting from Bhutan till Mt. Everest is visible. River Teesta flows through Sandakphu at quite a pace.



Dooars

The Dooars or Duars are the foothills of the eastern Himalayas in North-East India around Bhutan. Duar means door and the region forms the gateway to Bhutan from India. There are 18 passages or gateways through which the Bhutanese people can communicate with the people living in the plains.

This region is divided by the Sankosh River into the Eastern and the Western Dooars. The Western Dooars is known as the Bengal Dooars and the Eastern Dooars as the Assam Dooars. Dooars is synonymous with the term Terai used in Nepal and northern India and form the only nitrate rich plain in India.

The Dooars region politically constitutes the plains of Darjeeling Himalayas, the whole of Jalpaiguri district and Alipurduar district. The altitude of Dooars area ranges from 90 to 1,750 m. Innumerable streams and rivers flow through these fertile plains from the mountains of Bhutan.

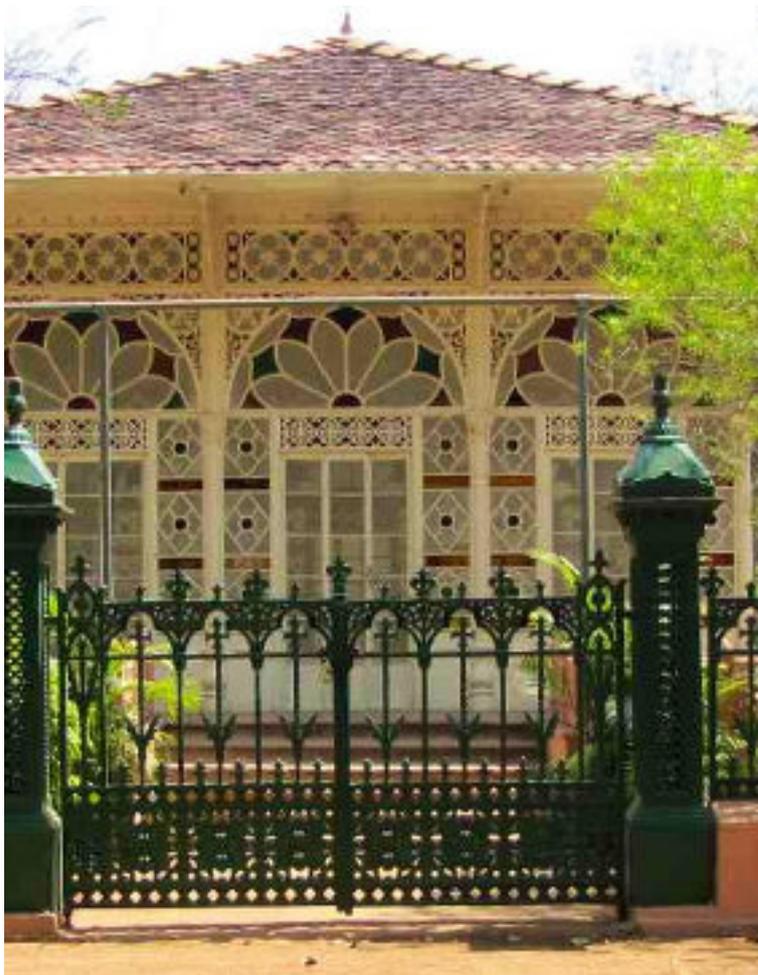


Jaldapara

The river Torsha flows through this rain forest sanctuary and have an area of 141 Sq.Km and altitude of 61 m. Jaldapara, the vast grassland with patches of riverine forests was declared a sanctuary in 1941 for protection of the great variety flora and fauna, particularly the one-horned rhinoceros, an animal threatened with extinction.

The Jaldapara Sanctuary covers 216 sq Km, is a mosaic of woods, grasslands, perennial streams, sandy river banks and extensive belts of tall grass. It contains a great diversity of flora and fauna of mixed deciduous forest, grasslands and river banks.

The Malangi River also flows nearby from east to west. Drained by rivers Torsa, Malangi, Hollong, Chirakhawa, Kalijhora, Sissamara, Bhaluka and Buri Torsa, the Sanctuary provides extensive grassland which is the last refuge to a wide variety of mammals, amphibians, reptiles and birds.



Santiniketan

Santiniketan is a popular tourist attraction of international repute. It is a famous cultural and heritage place of historical importance. Rabindranath lived here and penned many of his literary classics (namely Tagore songs, poems, novels etc.

The Santiniketan campus is adorned by splendid sculptures, frescoes, murals, and paintings of Rabindranath, Nandalal Bose, Ramkinkar, Binodbehari Mukhopadhyay and others. Birbhum District, where the Santiniketan is located, is also famous for its fairs and festivals like Poush Mela (December), Joydev Mela (January), Basanta Utsav (Holi) in March and the famous mystic Baul Singers.

Bengali New year and Rabindra Janmotsav, the birth day ceremony of Kobiguru Rabindra Nath are celebrated in the Bengali month of Boisakh with great cultural fervour.

Siliguri

Located on the banks of the Mahananda River and at the Himalayan foothills, Siliguri is endowed with natural scenic beauty and attracts numerous tourists all year round.

Views of the white snow-clad mountain peaks of the great Himalayan Ranges from Siliguri are not to be missed. The Kanchenjunga stadium and the Hong Kong market are famous tourist attractions.

Jaldapara Wildlife Sanctuary, located nearby, is also a great place to visit for a safari.

In Siliguri, there are several restaurants serving mouthwatering vegetarian and non-vegetarian food. The Chhang, a drink made of barley is a must try.

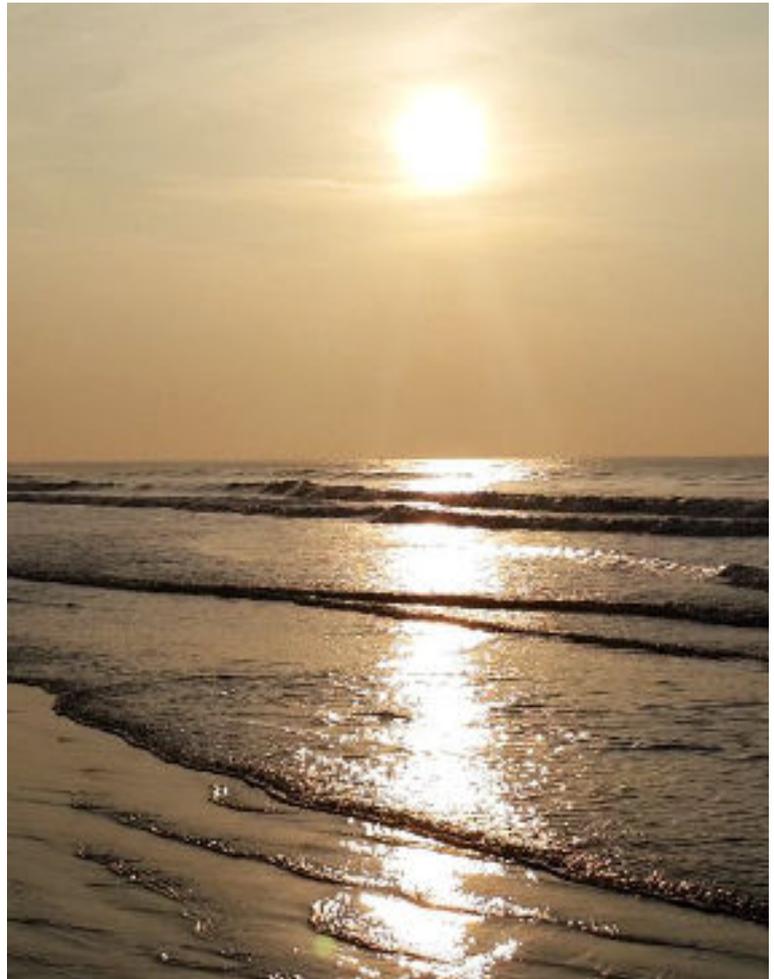


Digha

Digha is the most popular sea beach in West Bengal. It is located 187 km south-west of Kolkata. Digha has a low gradient with shallow sand beach that extends up to 7 km in length and has gentle rolling waves. The scenic beauty of this place is charming and alluring. The beach is girdled with casuarinas plantations along the coast which enhances its beauty.

Apart from beautification these trees also help in reducing erosion of the dunes. One can enjoy both the sunrise and sunset at the Digha sea beach. The sunset and sunrise reflecting the salty waters of the Bay of Bengal is something straight off an artist's canvas. The sea at Digha is calm and shallow for about a mile from the beach making it quite safe for swimming.

Digha originally known as Beerkul during the time of Warren Hastings, was discovered in the late 18th century by the British. It was mentioned as the "Brighton of the East" in one of the letters of Warren Hastings (1780 AD) to his wife.



Mandarmani

Mandarmani is a seaside resort village in East Midnapore district and at the northern end of the Bay of Bengal. It is one of the large and fast developing seaside resort village of West Bengal.

It is almost 180 Km from Kolkata Airport on the Kolkata - Digha route. Red crabs crawling around the 13 Km long beach is a special attraction of Mandarmani. It is argued to be the longest drivable (drive in) beach in India.

This is literally a virgin beach. The loneliness of the beach makes one meet nature in various forms. On the beach one will undoubtedly get the chance to feel the divinity and tranquility. If that's not enough to please your senses, then roll on the sand and listen to the waves crashing upon the shore, which will surely refresh your body and mind.

Relax, swim and enjoy every moment of your stay at the beach. The moment you get tired you can cool down with green coconut water. You are not likely to have many visitors around and that's the beauty of this beach.



Sunderbans

The Sunderbans a UNESCO World Heritage Site is located at the South eastern tip of the 24 Paraganas district about 110 km from Kolkata. It got its name from one of the mangrove plants known as Sundari (*Heritiera Minor*). Sunderbans are a part of the worlds largest delta, formed by the mighty rivers Ganga, Brahmaputra and Meghna.

Situated on the lower end of Gangetic West Bengal, the Sunderbans is criss-crossed by hundreds of creeks and tributaries. It is one of the most attractive and alluring places remaining on earth, a truly undiscovered paradise.

The Sunderbans is the largest single block of tidal, halophytic mangrove forests in the world. The name can be literally translated as beautiful jungle. The name may have been derived from the Sundari trees that are found in the Sunderbans. . It spans a vast area covering 4264 sq. km in India alone. It is the largest Tiger Reserve and National Park.

Gangasagar

"Sab tirath bar bar, Gangasagar ekbar", may we visit other holy places several times - but a visit once to Gangasagar is worth a life-time, keeping it in mind Hindus from all over the world, from Nepal, Thailand, West Indies, Canada, Japan, far from Australia and from every state of India reaches the confluence of Ganges at Sagar Sangam situated in southern part of West Bengal in India.

Gangasagar or Sagar Island is an island in the Ganges delta, lying on the continental shelf of Bay of Bengal about 100 kms (54 nautical miles) south of Kolkata. The island is large with an area of 224.3 kms. Gangasagar is a charming tourist destination, which attracts both pilgrims and adventure lovers.

Located on an island in the Sunderbans, Gangasagar offers the charms of an un-spoilt beach on the estuary of the river Ganges. Gangasagar offers acres of silver sand and clear blue sky, and the calm sea for visitors who would like to spend their weekend in tranquility.



Belur Math

Belur Math or Belur Muth is the headquarters of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission, founded by Swami Vivekananda, a chief disciple of Ramakrishna Paramahansa. It is located on the west bank of Hooghly River, Belur, West Bengal.

It is a place of pilgrimage for people from all over the world professing different religious faiths. Even people not interested in religion come here for the peace it exudes. The serene campus of Belur Math on the Ganga includes temples dedicated to Sri Ramakrishna, Sri Sarada Devi and Swami Vivekananda, in which their relics are enshrined, and the main monastery of the Ramakrishna order.

The place has been sanctified by the stay of Swami Vivekananda and most of the monastic disciples of Sri Ramakrishna who spent several years here. Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi also visited this place on several occasions. The room in which Swamiji attained Mahasamadhi has been preserved here.



Dakshineswar

Dakshineswar Kali temple is one of the holiest places of Eastern India. It is one of the must visit places in Kolkata. Dakshineswar is a Hindu temple located in Dakshineswar near Kolkata.

Situated on the eastern bank of the Hooghly River, the presiding deity of the temple is Bhavatarini. The temple was built by Rani Rashmoni, a philanthropist and a devotee of Kali in 1855. The temple is famous for its association with Ramakrishna, a mystic of 19th century Bengal. The temple compound, apart from the nine-spired main temple, contains a large courtyard surrounding the temple, with rooms along the boundary walls.

There are twelve shrines dedicated to Shiva (Kali's companion) along the riverfront, a temple to Radha-Krishna, a bathing ghat on the river and a shrine dedicated to Rani Rashmoni. Nahavat-Khana, the chamber in the northwestern corner just beyond the last of the Shiva temples, is where Ramakrishna spent a considerable part of his life.



Kalighat

Kalighat was a Ghat sacred to Kali on the old course of the Hooghly river in the city of Calcutta. The name Calcutta is said to have been derived from the word Kalighat. The river over a period of time has moved away from the temple. The temple is now on the banks of a small canal called Adi Ganga which connects to the Hoogly.

The Adi Ganga was the original course of the river Hoogly (the Ganges). Hence the name Adi Ganges. Kalighat is regarded as one of the 51 Shakti Peethas of India, where the various parts of Satis body are said to have fallen, in the course of Shivas Rudra Tandava.

Kalighat represents the site where the toes of the right foot of Dakshayani or Sati fell. Legend has it that a devotee discovered a luminant ray of light coming from the girathi river bed, and upon investigating its source came upon a piece of stone carved in the form of a human toe.

Murshidabad

The last capital city of independent Bengal before British rule was named after Nawab Murshid Quli Khan, the Dewan of Bengal, Bihar and Odisha.

Situated on the banks of the Bhagirathi, it is a city of splendour and is famous for its silk. It was made the capital of Bengal in 1717. The British shifted the capital to Kolkata in 1773.

Plassey (Palashi), where the historic battle was fought in 1757 between Nawab Siraj-ud-Doula and Lord Clive of the East India Company, is only 40 km south of Murshidabad.



Bishnupur

Bishnupur is a town in the Bankura District of West Bengal and located at about 132 km from Kolkata. It is famous for its terracotta temples and Baluchari sarees. The town has a glorious past that is reflected in its rich architecture, music and handicrafts such as pottery and weaving. It prospered in the 17th and early 18th centuries.

Ruled by a line of Hindu Rajas of the Malla dynasty, Bishnupur developed a unique form of architecture and has perhaps the most brilliant and detailed terracotta work in Eastern India that has withstood the ravages of time.

The Terracotta tiles depict stories from Ramayana and Mahabharata. The Temples like the Shyam Ray Temple, the twin shrines of Jorbangla and the Rasmancha are a must visit.

Apart from its heritage, Bishnupur is also known for its traditional handloom sarees. Pottery, artifacts and even jewellery made of terracotta in Bishnupur are also very popular.



Tarapith

Tarapith is famous for the temple of Tara Ma and Sadhan Pith of Sadhak Bamakhyapa. Tarapith, a holy religious place, is situated in a village Tarapur under Rampurhat Police Station of Rampurhat Sub-Division in the district of Birbhum. It so called because the eyeball (Tara) of Sati fell here. Others say that Tarapith is not a pith but the place owes its sanctity to the fact that the Sage Basistha here worshipped the Goddess Sati in the form of Tara.

The Goddess Tara is a form of Kali with two hands, garlanded with snakes and adorned in sacred threads. But the Temple is dedicated to the destructive aspect of Shiva, which takes the form of Kali. She requires sacrifice daily to satisfy her blood lust so every morning goats are sacrifices on the altar of the Temple.

The deity of Tara is enshrined inside the temple. It is a special temple for more reasons than one. The nearby cremation ground makes this a quite rare temple, especially considering its surroundings.



Hooghly

The district of Hooghly is just 47 km north of Kolkata and is steeped in history and heritage. Dotted with several small but important towns, the district is testimony to the rule of foreign settlers—the British and Portuguese at Hooghly, the Dutch at Chinsurah, the French at Chandannagar, and the Germans and Austrians at Bhadreswar.

The Portuguese were the first to settle here in 1537, but were defeated by Shah Jahan in 1632. The British East India Company then followed and set up a factory here in 1651.

Chandannagar (Chandannagar) was once a French colony and is still under the influence of French language and culture. Chinsurah was a Dutch settlement from 1656 to 1825. It was later exchanged by the Dutch for the British-held Indonesian island of Sumatra in 1825. The Hooghly, as the Ganga River is called here, dominates the landscape and people use ferries to cross from one town to another.

Cooch Behar

Once a princely State, Cooch Behar is known for its fine climate, natural freshness, and beauty. During the 11th and 12th Century AD, the Pala-Senas ruled Cooch Behar. The sculptures and coins of the Sultanate and the Mughal Periods, and the temples and mosques of the medieval and late medieval periods reveal that the ancient kingdom of Kamrup played a role in the development of the present Cooch Behar.

The main attraction in Cooch Behar is the palace of the Koch king Maharaja Nripendra Narayan. Designed to resemble the classical European style of the Italian Renaissance, this magnificent palace was built by the Maharaja in 1887.

Cooch Behar is also famous for large water bodies. Among them the Rasik Bill is famous for a huge population of migratory birds that assemble here every year. The Forest Department has built accommodation at this site to meet the demands of a growing number of tourists interested in ornithology.



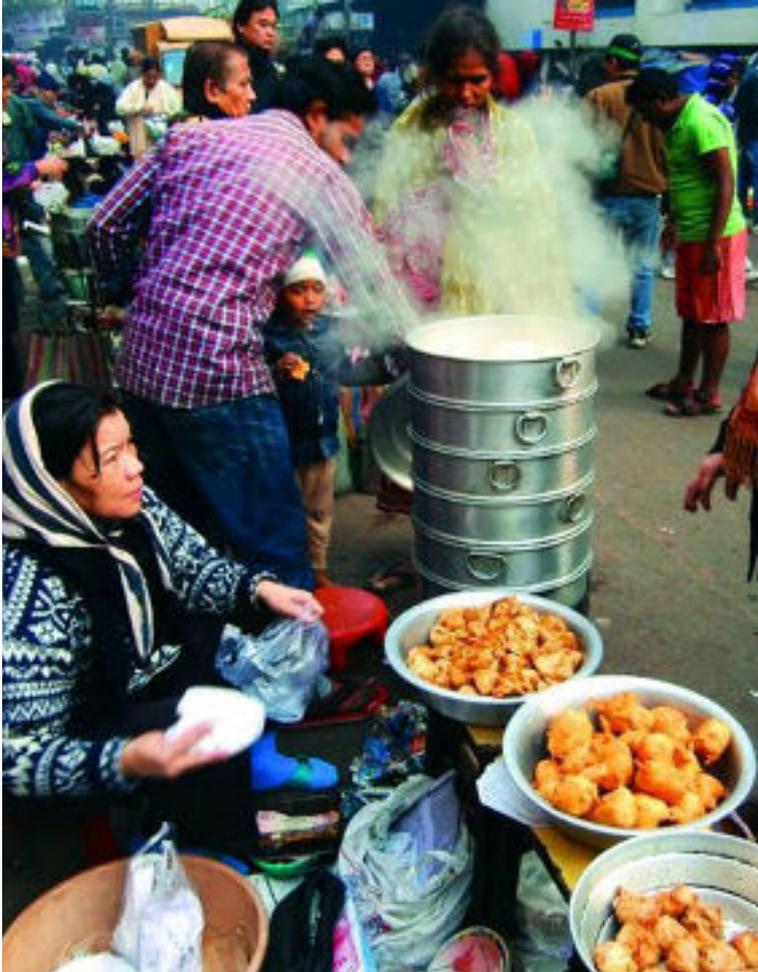
Howrah

Once known as the Manchester of Bengal, this District has a number of places of tourist interest, a few of which are the most visited sites in the country and all located in and around the Howrah Municipal Corporation.

Howrah, the second largest city of West Bengal and twin of Kolkata is said to have a rich history that dates back to 500 years. The name itself is possibly derived from a village named Harirah which was located in or about the site of modern day Howrah City.

Venetian explorer Ceasare Federici was the first European who mentioned a place called Bator in his journal in 1578 AD which is identifiable with the modern day place around the Howrah City.

The Howrah Railway Terminus came up in 1854 and in 1862 the first municipal administration started functioning though the modern day Corporation as we see it now came into being in 1980 when the Howrah Act, 1980 was implemented.



Chinatown of Kolkata

Chinese, The Traders, Buddhist Monks and imperial envoys from China used to come to the different kingdoms of the Indian subcontinent regularly since the fifth century AD.

The first record of travel from China is provided in the travelogue of Faxian (Fa-Hien) who visited Tampralipta, in what is now Tamluk in the 5th century AD. Many words in Bengali can be attributed to Chinese influences.

For example, chini, the Bengali word for "sugar" comes from the word for China, and words like Chinamati for porcelain china hint at Chinese influences.



Jalpaiguri

Rarely can one find a place like Jalpaiguri that is so potentially rich in tourism. But a major part of it still remains to be exploited. Turbulent rivers battling out of the steep gorges, the vast stretches of forest cover, the undulating span of Tea Estates and the panoramic grandeur of the Himalayas are only a few jewels that made the British ground their roots deep into the heart of this land. Just drive around or take a hike, never will your eyes feel to rest. If a tourist is a nature lover or an admirer of Wild Life there cannot be a better place than this for him. One can run wild in the various Sanctuaries, National Parks & Tiger Reserves that are on offer.

Jalpaiguri, this narrow stretch of land lying between the Sikkim - Darjeeling Himalayas and Gangetic West Bengal has more than often evoked a sense of both eerie and romanticism in many a heart. Since the early British Rule, A major stretch of area is bordered in the north by Bhutan and hence the name - DOOARS/DUARS which mean - the Door to Bhutan.

Malda

The gateway to North Bengal, Malda, with its rich history and heritage, is one of the most famous tourist destinations of West Bengal, nestled at the confluence of the Mahananda and Kalindi rivers. Malda town, with all its grace, adds to the beauty of Bengal.

Malda was previously known as English Bazaar. It got that name from the English factory that was established here in 1771. From Malda, you can visit Gaur and Pandua. Gaur was the capital of three dynasties of ancient Bengal - the Buddhist Palas, the Hindu Senas and the Muslim Nawabs.

Pandua, once the alternate seat of power to Gaur, has the third largest concentration of Muslim monuments in Bengal.

Historical monuments include the mosque Jami Masjid (1566) and the landmark Nimasari tower across the river. The Malda Museum has a great collection of the regions architectural and anthropological specimens.



Bankura

Bankura has gained wide appeal as a popular tourist destination. The district can legitimately take pride in having a wide range of spots attracting tourists for a variety of reasons ranging from arts and architecture, terracotta temples, dense virgin forests, hills and the scenic spots at Mukutmonipur etc. Since ancient times, it is popularly known as Rarh area in Bengal.

Bankura district, falling under Eastern Chhotanagpur Plateau, looks like handpicked by Mother Nature and is blessed with old brown hills, murmuring rivers, ancient temples- all bearing testimony to a rich culture and tradition.

Bishnupur deserves a special mention in that the town hosts a good many temples like Madan Mohan temple, Shyam Roy Temple and a short distance away, at Jairambati the famous temple dedicated to Sarada Devi for crores of devotees of the Ramakrishna Monastic Order. The town also has its own distinct musical tradition known as Bishnupur Gharana.



Purulia

Purulia is a land of natural beauty. The lush green landscape, verdant hills and dense forests make it a perfect tourist destination that gives a rustic ambience and peaceful surroundings to weary city dwellers. This westernmost district of West Bengal unravels her untapped mystery and wondrous beauty.

The landscape is rocky and undulating. The tourism of Purulia centres round its hills, forests as well as its archeological excavations and the relics of ancient buildings and temples.

Tribal ethos enriches the mystic charm and natural beauty of this land of red soil and red blooms of Palash. The region is home to different tribal communities like Santhals, Kurmis, Kherias-Sabars to name a few. Song and dance are an intrinsic part in the lives of the tribal people.



Mayapur

Mayapur is laid-back pilgrim city with special significance for followers of Lord Krishna.

It's regarded as the the birthplace of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, a 15th century Vedic spiritual leader belived to be an avatar of Lord Krishna.

His teachings were revived and brought to the west in the 20th century by Srila Prabhupada, who founded the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) and spread the "Hare Krishna movement" throughout the world.

The headquarters of ISKCON is located in Mayapur, along with a magnificent temple complex dedicated to Srila Prabhupada.

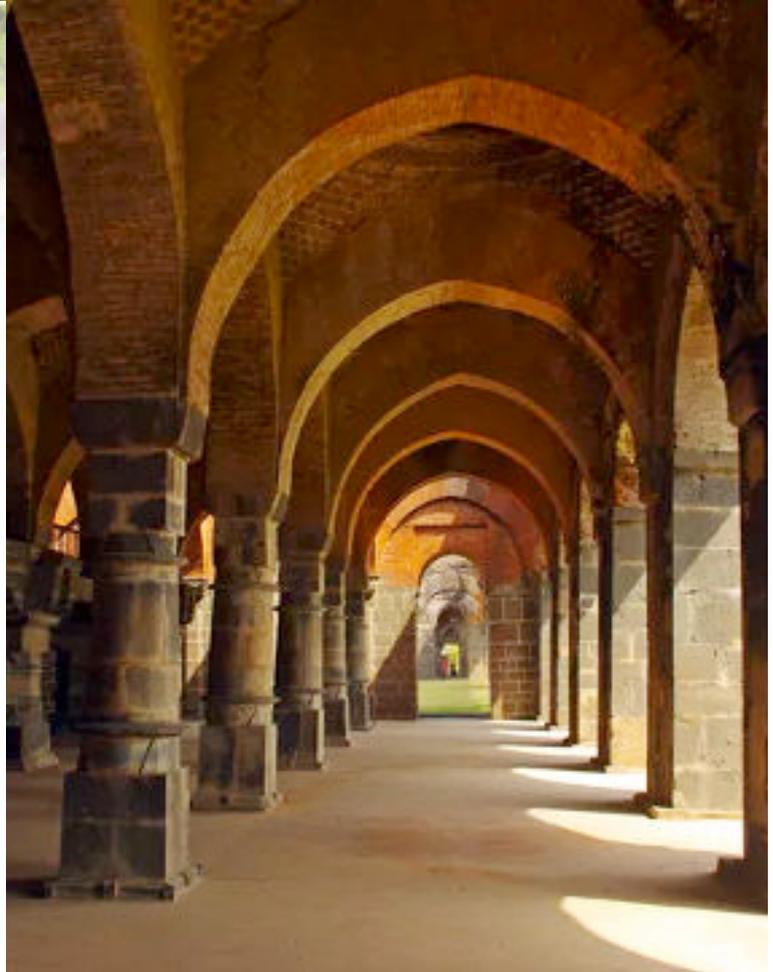


Pandua & Gaur

Spread throughout Pandua and Gaur, in West Bengal's Malda district, are the fascinating ruins of the former capitals of Muslim nawabs (rulers) dating back to the 13th-16th centuries.

Most of the ruins are mosques, including the 14th century Adina Masjid in Pandua. It's one of the largest mosques in India and it contains the tomb of its builder, Sikander Shah.

It is located about 330 kilometres north of Kolkata.



Barrackpore

History buffs should also head to Barrackpore, where the British set up their first military barrack or cantonment in India in 1772, to explore some relics of the Raj era. After the British gained control of India, the area was transformed into a retreat for the Kolkata-based governors-general and viceroys.

Barrackpore started losing its sheen after the British capital was shifted to Delhi. However, the heritage buildings and park were recently restored, and a museum constructed.

Notably, the city was home to some important members of the Indian independence movement. In fact, Barrackpore was the scene of an incident widely credited with starting the Indian Rebellion of 1857.



Mirik

Located on the banks of a huge lake, the hill town of Mirik adds to North Bengal's bounty. Amidst the Himalayan Valley, Mirik has more to offer than just beautiful mountains and lakes.

From boating experiences for your romantic getaway to temples for the faithful to orchids and gardens for the nature's child, West Bengal tourism is incomplete without Mirik.

The well populated, yet not over crowded town also offers viewpoints for those quiet moments of introspection and traditional Indian Bazaars to splurge. Going to Mirik for the perfect hill station getaway is an idea you'll never go wrong in.



Durgapur

Often touted as the Steel Capital of East India, Durgapur is the embodiment of the quintessential Bengali town. With a total population of less than half a million, Durgapur is in the Burdwan District of West Bengal, on the bank of the Damodar River. It is about 170 kms from the city of Kolkata.

Durgapur is the perfect amalgamation of a metro's energy and a small town's charm. The place is brimming with temples, old-world markets, parks and even a barrage.

Located in the heart of West Bengal, this industrial town has more to offer than just authentic food and a few tourist spots. If you are looking for an authentic Indian getaway, Durgapur is the place to be

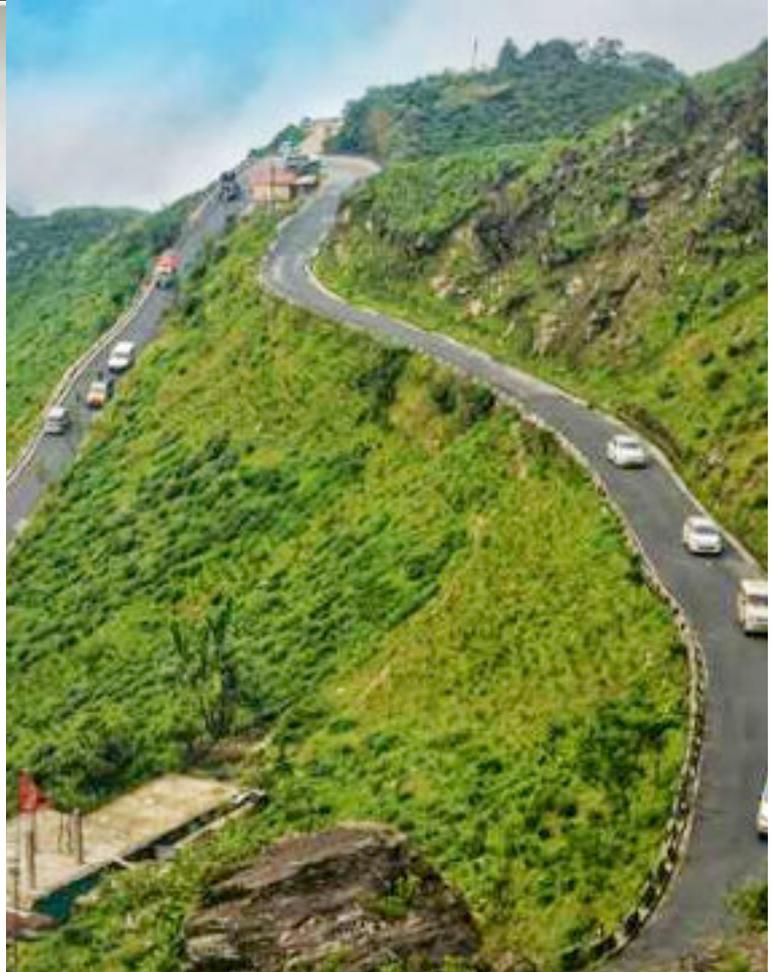
Bagdogra

Bagdogra is a small hill station town resting at the foothills of the Himalayas, in the Darjeeling district of West Bengal. It is often regarded as the gateway town to North-East India and the Himalayas.

Bagdogra is famous for its tea estates and the abundance of greenery. The town becomes mesmerising during monsoons as you get to see the clouds hovering around the peaks of the mountains.

Bagdogra is a quiet and beautiful destination that is ideal for nature lovers and anyone looking for a refreshing and peaceful holiday.

Bagdogra has been blessed with an abundance of nature and greenery. River Teesta flows through this town, making it an excellent spot for river rafting. The city is surrounded by lush green tea gardens and serves as a perfect getaway for nature lovers.

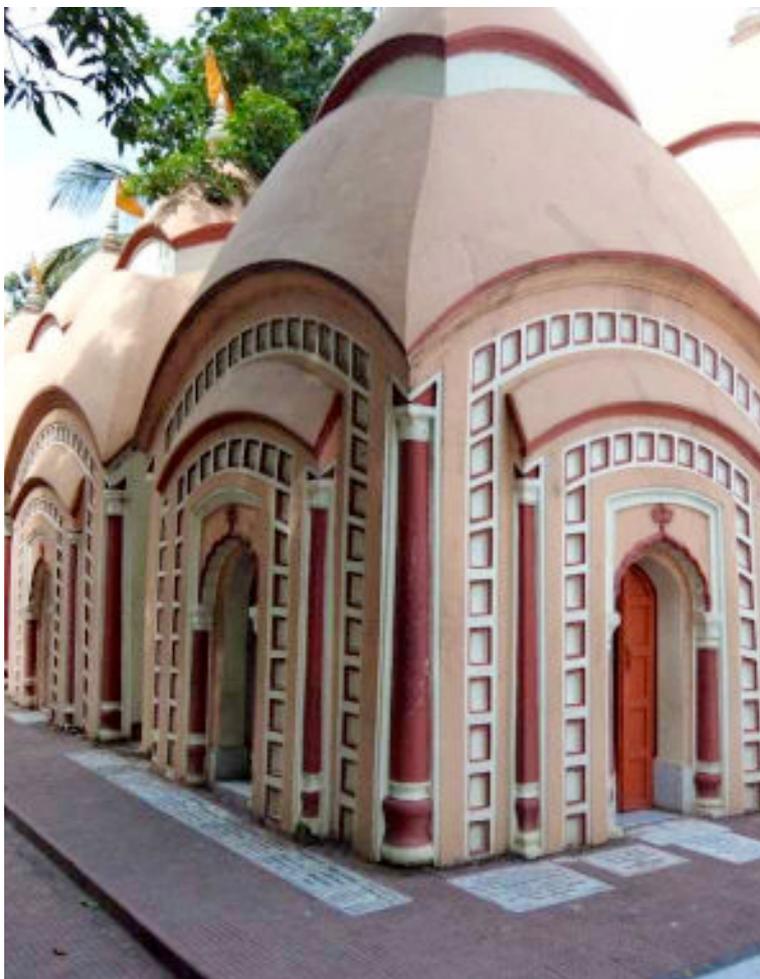


Asansol

"Land of Black Diamond, The City of Brotherhood".

Asansol is the second biggest city in West Bengal, after Kolkata. It is also one of the busiest commercial centres of India and the most populated city in West Bengal. It is located approximately 200 km from Kolkata, West Bengal's capital. The city's economy is primarily dependant on its coal and steel industries and railways.

Asansol was ranked 11th among the fastest-growing cities in India. It is known for some significant religious spots, heritage temples and scenic parks. 'Asan' refers to a species of tree that is usually found growing on the banks of River Damodar. 'Sol' translates to land. Asansol has been coined as a combination of these two terms.



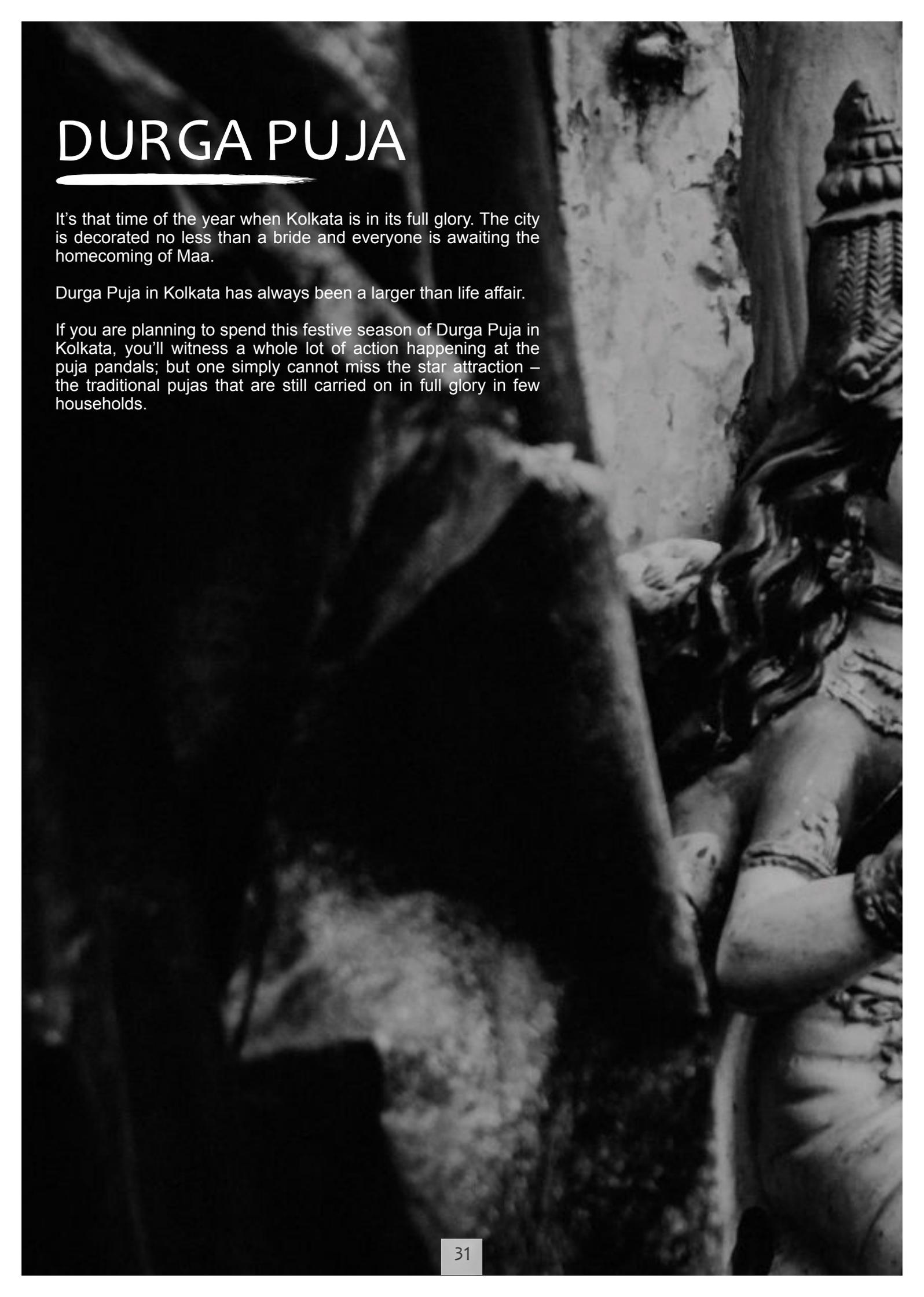
Bardhaman

"For the believer and the skeptic and the historian and the nature lover"

With a convergence of religion, nature, man-made marvels and the proverbial old world charm, Bardhaman is the ideal fit for a weekend getaway.

Take a group comprising the most diverse people. Even with nothing else being common, they will all agree on one thing- Bardhaman's Splendor. Perhaps the only place in India that will manage to appease every mind and mindset, this Unique Bengali town has an air of its own.

DURGA PUJA



It's that time of the year when Kolkata is in its full glory. The city is decorated no less than a bride and everyone is awaiting the homecoming of Maa.

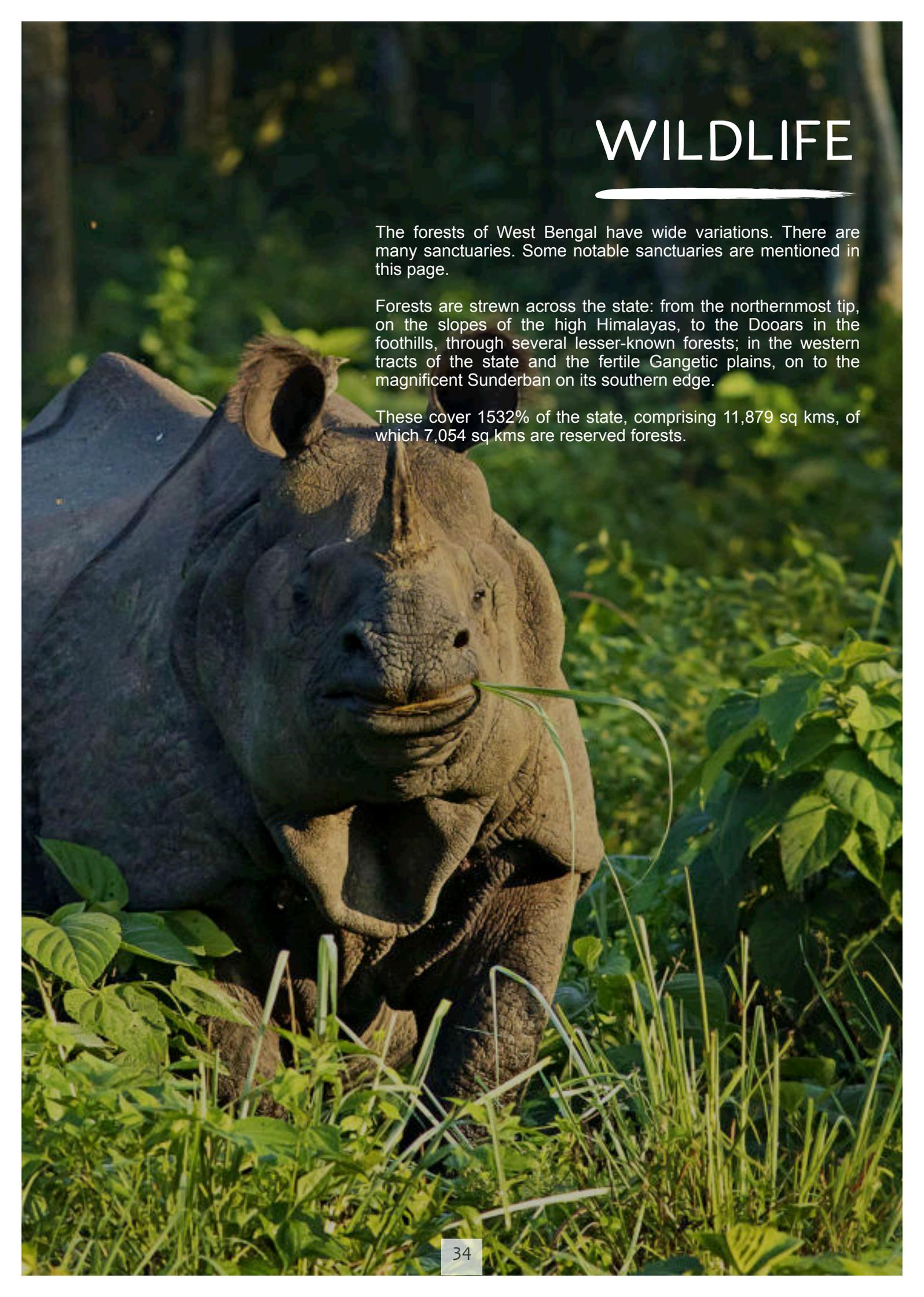
Durga Puja in Kolkata has always been a larger than life affair.

If you are planning to spend this festive season of Durga Puja in Kolkata, you'll witness a whole lot of action happening at the puja pandals; but one simply cannot miss the star attraction – the traditional pujas that are still carried on in full glory in few households.



EXPERIENCES



A large rhinoceros is the central focus of the image, shown in profile as it eats a long blade of grass. The rhino's thick, grey, wrinkled skin is highly detailed. It is surrounded by dense, vibrant green foliage, including tall grasses and broad-leafed plants. The background is a soft-focus forest with dappled sunlight filtering through the trees. The overall mood is peaceful and natural.

WILDLIFE

The forests of West Bengal have wide variations. There are many sanctuaries. Some notable sanctuaries are mentioned in this page.

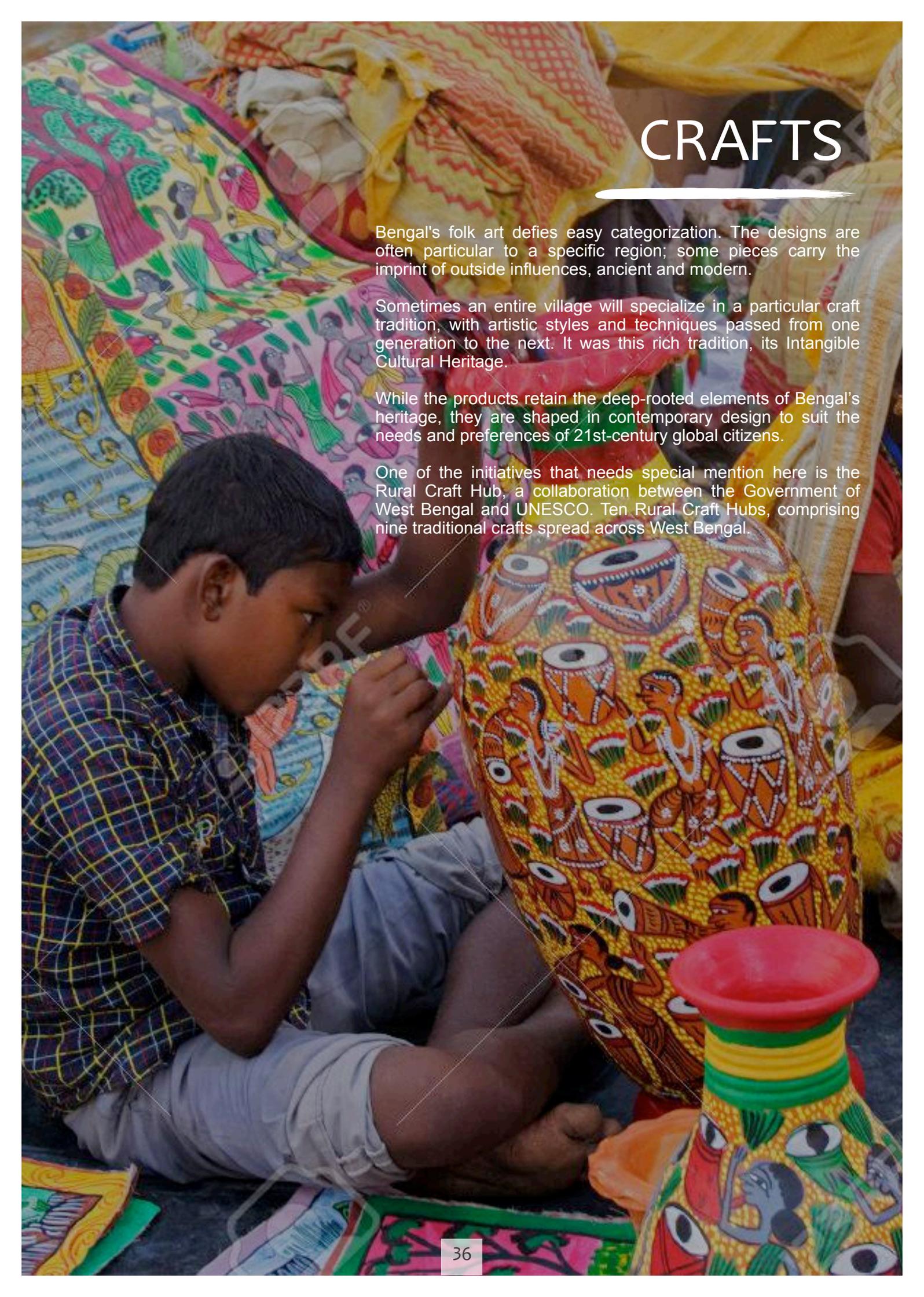
Forests are strewn across the state: from the northernmost tip, on the slopes of the high Himalayas, to the Dooars in the foothills, through several lesser-known forests; in the western tracts of the state and the fertile Gangetic plains, on to the magnificent Sunderban on its southern edge.

These cover 1532% of the state, comprising 11,879 sq kms, of which 7,054 sq kms are reserved forests.

MUSEUMS

The Indian Museum is the largest and oldest museum in India and has rare collections of antiques, armour and ornaments, fossils, skeletons, mummies, and Mughal paintings. It was founded by the Asiatic Society of Bengal in Kolkata (Calcutta), India, in 1814. The founder curator was Dr Nathaniel Wallich, a Danish botanist.

It has six sections comprising thirty five galleries of cultural and scientific artifacts namely Art, Archaeology, Anthropology, Geology, Zoology and Economic Botany.



CRAFTS

Bengal's folk art defies easy categorization. The designs are often particular to a specific region; some pieces carry the imprint of outside influences, ancient and modern.

Sometimes an entire village will specialize in a particular craft tradition, with artistic styles and techniques passed from one generation to the next. It was this rich tradition, its Intangible Cultural Heritage.

While the products retain the deep-rooted elements of Bengal's heritage, they are shaped in contemporary design to suit the needs and preferences of 21st-century global citizens.

One of the initiatives that needs special mention here is the Rural Craft Hub, a collaboration between the Government of West Bengal and UNESCO. Ten Rural Craft Hubs, comprising nine traditional crafts spread across West Bengal.

CUISINE

Bengali cuisine is one of the finest blends of non-vegetarian and vegetarian dishes. Bengal is known as the land of 'Maach aar Bhaat' which means 'fish and rice'.

The wide varieties of Bengal Cuisine in festivals, occasions and seasons are integral part of Bengali Culture - literature, songs, paintings, movies have a nostalgic appeal.

The Bengali cuisine has an unique feature being an assimilation of the best of the world gastronomy and Indian diverse cookery. Rasogolla and sweets of Bengal are world famous. We invite visitors and tourists to have a taste of Bengali Cuisine.





FESTIVALS

West Bengal is a land of festivals. There is a popular saying in Bengali “Baro Mase Tero Parban”: it literally means thirteen festivals in twelve months. Almost all festivals of all religions are celebrated here with equal religious sentiment and fervor.

The people of West Bengal strive hard to maintain the tradition and culture of its land in the festivals they celebrate. A great number of fairs are also organized. The most popular festival celebrated in West Bengal is Durga Puja where all the people come out in the streets and celebrate this four day festival.

Other festivals celebrated in West Bengal are Kaali Puja, Basant Panchami, Dushera, Bahi Dooj, Holi, Mahavir Jayanti, Buddha Jayanti, Rathyatra and Christmas.

ECO TOURISM

West Bengal can now be inevitably counted among very few Eco Tourism concept followers of India on their way to promote such travellers who truly care for nature.

Apart from the luxurious hotels of West Bengal, now nature lovers can truly feel the warmth of true abode of nature in form of Eco Tourism in that includes the unexplored places of Bengal, specially in the north and some parts of rural countryside with its major contribution towards the promotion of Eco Tourism in India.

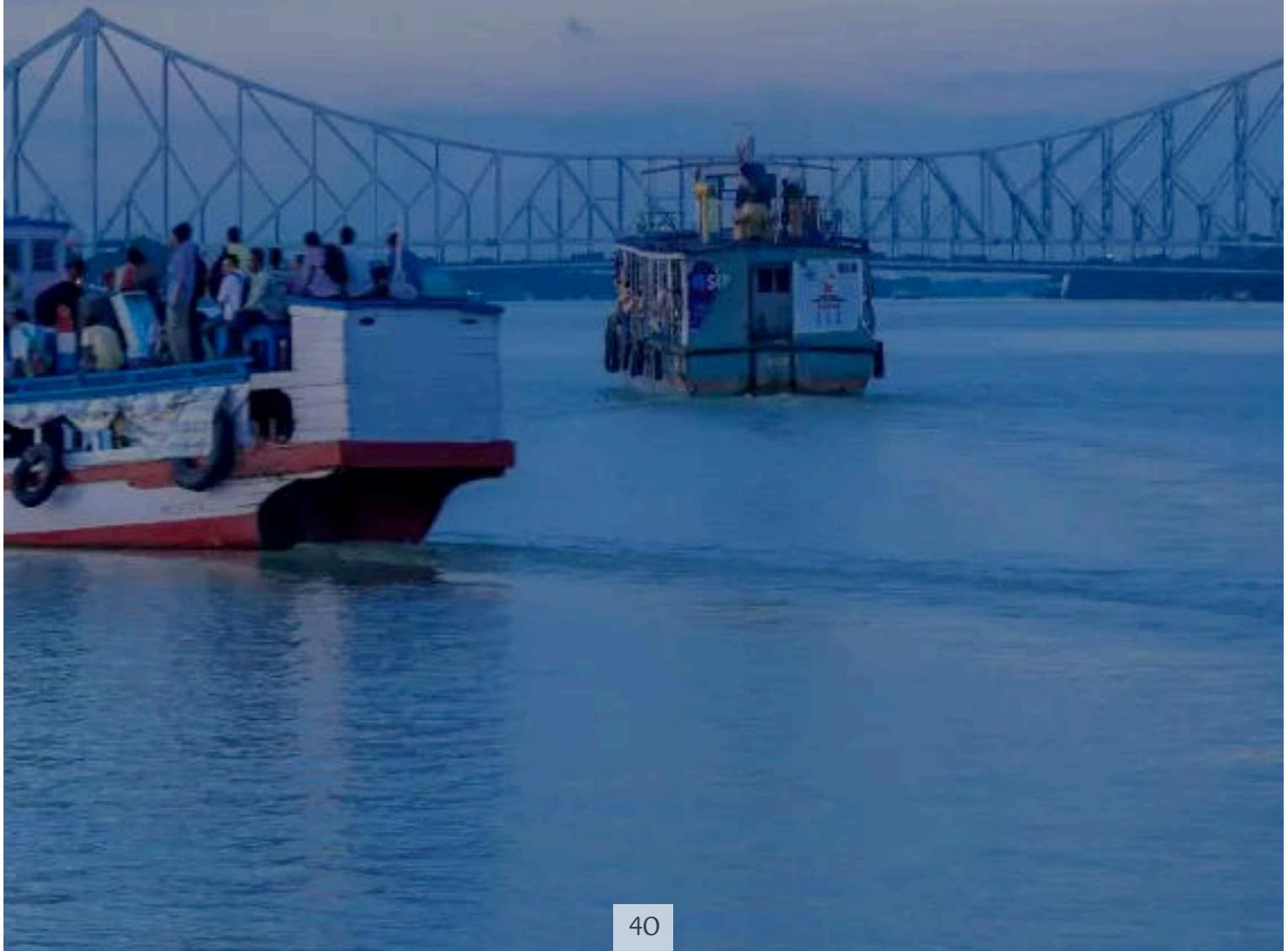
Therefore, for economic benefits, that somewhere plays the major role in saving environment, Tourism can be considered as the most effective industry that covers all the feasibility conditions.

Eco-tourism is the best example in this context, where all the feasible conditions are met following the rules of environment more stringently further improving it with the inclusion of the term "community development".

RIVER SIDE

Kolkata is adorned by the beauty of River Hooghly. The lush greenery and serene atmosphere surrounding the river are surely captivating. In fact, lots of tourism spots have been developed around the river, of which one is the Millennium Park.

A relatively new park in the city, it was inaugurated on December 26, 1999 and opened to the general public on January 1, 2000. This park was built by Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA/CMDA), adorning the surrounds of the river.



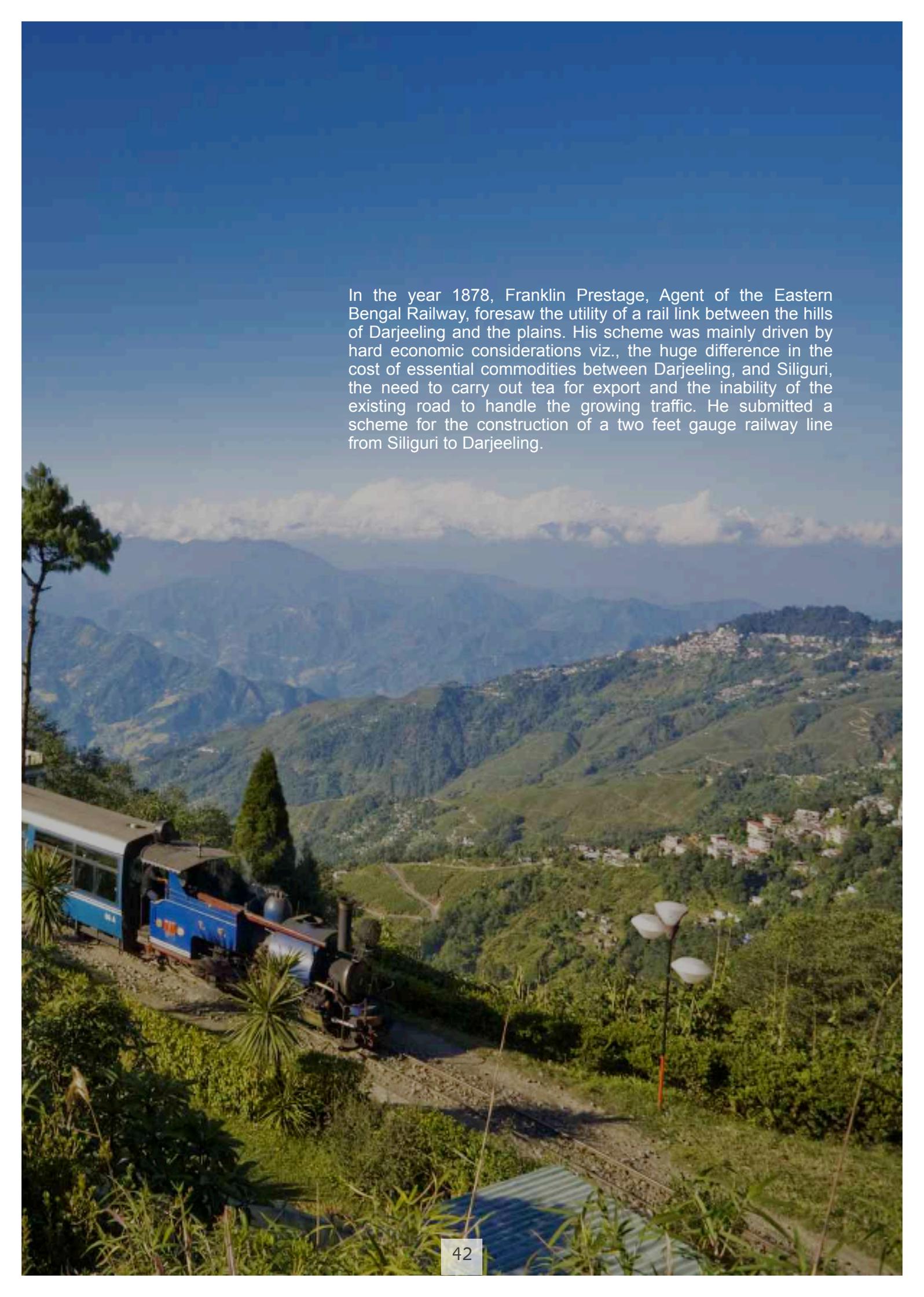
Darjeeling Himalayan Railway

A UNESCO World Heritage Site

The settlement at Darjeeling really began in 1828 with British interest. By 1835, it was separated from Sikkim for establishing a Sanatorium for the invalid servants of the East India Company. It then consisted of a monastery on observatory hill clustered with about 20 huts and a population of about 100 people.

Planning began in 1839, to lay out the Darjeeling town and construct a hill road connecting Siliguri, Pankhabari, Kurseong and Darjeeling. At the same time, evolution of hotels began, the first being The Darjeeling Family Hotel's, followed by other hotels. By 1840, Darjeeling town had about 30 buildings and a few respectable houses.





In the year 1878, Franklin Prestage, Agent of the Eastern Bengal Railway, foresaw the utility of a rail link between the hills of Darjeeling and the plains. His scheme was mainly driven by hard economic considerations viz., the huge difference in the cost of essential commodities between Darjeeling, and Siliguri, the need to carry out tea for export and the inability of the existing road to handle the growing traffic. He submitted a scheme for the construction of a two feet gauge railway line from Siliguri to Darjeeling.

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ACTIVITIES



Biking From Kalimpong To Siliguri

Indulge in this exciting biking tour and get a chance to explore the majestic beauty of this region while riding through the rough terrains.

Start your tour from Kalimpong and drive to the tour location. Ride through the mountains and witness the stunning geographical features of the region. Enjoy a delicious local Nepali meal before reaching Lava via Algara riding for about 32 kms.

Gaze at the stars in the clear blue night sky while having a delightful camping experience camping.

Continue your ride from Lava to Sevoke and explore the spellbinding appeal and the tranquility of this place. Reach Sevoke after a riding a distance of 103 kms via Gorubathan and Damdim. End this amazing tour at Sevoke and head back home.



Paragliding In Kalimpong

Kalimpong, situated in the foothills of the vast Himalayan land towards the Northernmost Bengal. With lush green landscapes and picturesque nature views around, Kalimpong makes for one of the frontrunners in the list of places offering exciting adventure sports like hiking, trekking, paragliding, & a lot more.

Embark on this adventure-filled day out with Kalimpong Paragliding and chase the skies overlooking the mountains and plateaus with a set of certified pilots and flying enthusiasts.

This activity will be conducted under the provision of trained experts, instructors will lead a quick briefing session, and then a group of professionals will gear up the paraglider. Soon after that, be ready to experience the Darjeeling peaks' aerial views and feel the natural breeze with this adrenaline-inducing adventure.





Cruise On Hooghly River in Kolkata

Hooghly River is a distributary of the Ganges River in West Bengal.

Go on a cruise and see the famous monuments, memorials, and markets from the water. See the 54 ghats and explore the history and heritage of the ghats.

Book this Hooghly river cruise Kolkata and give your family or friends a fun day out as all ages are welcome. Admire the best sights of East India with this 3 hours cruise experience.

Camping At Teesta River

Indulge yourself in the tranquil environs of this Teesta River Campsite. Wake up to the adorning sounds of alluring waters adorned by the chirping of birds, and start your day with an adrenaline-inducing experience of river rafting.

This camping experience includes a mesmerizing nature walk and a bonfire session, followed by delicious snacks and party music with the mesmerizing views of river Teesta in the backdrop.



White Water Rafting In Rangpo

Engage in this amazing experience of rafting in the River Teesta and Rangeet, Darjeeling. This gorgeous river offers both the beginner and the expert a thrilling rafting experience.

Feel your adrenaline rush as you fight the raging wave's grades of descent levels that will challenge your wits.

All the rafts and other required equipment meet international standards of safety. As per your preference you can embark on long and short rafting trips down the river.

The short trip is a 5 Kms stretch while the other longer takes you 8 Km through exciting white water rapids. These rafting trips are conducted daily and you don't need to know swimming to join in the fun.



Nature Walk To Tea Garden In Darjeeling

Darjeeling is best known for its Tea estates nestled in misty hill, Happy Valley tea estate turns out to be in the bucket list of many wanderers. Established in 1854, its history is closely entwined with the origins and cultivation of Darjeeling tea. This garden, located in the town of Darjeeling, is home to spectacularly lush fields, endowed with a natural, breath taking charm. Get glimpse into a fascinating process of tea making.

It is the only tea garden in the heart of Darjeeling town. The factory at Happy Valley is the highest in the region and produces the finest quality of Darjeeling Tea. There is no better way to immerse yourself in the culture, history and traditions of the region than by witnessing the process by which fresh tea leaves are plucked, withered, rolled, fermented, dried, sorted, graded and packed to produced a variety of Teas : the traditional black tea, green tea and the exquisite specialty teas. A guided tour of the Happy Valley tea offers visitors a glimpse of the fascinating process of manufacturing tea.



Kolkata Heritage Walking Tour

This 4-hours Kolkata heritage tour will give you access to explore the history of this contemporary city. Uncover the history and little-known treasures of Kolkata with the guide. The guide can speak in English and will tell you the secrets about the city.

At first, the heritage walking tour of Kolkata takes you to Howrah Bridge. Howrah Bridge, a suspension bridge over the sacred Hooghly River. After visiting the Howrah Bridge, take a short walk to the local Raj Bhavan. Raj Bhavan, the official residence of the West Bengal Governor. Your next destination after Local Raj Bhavan is Calcutta High Court. After exploring the monuments, walk around the local markets of Kolkata.

Kolkata Street Food Tour

If you are a food lover and want to try a new food culture, then grab this deal. Spend your evening while exploring the authentic food culture of Kolkata. Taste the different kinds of delicious Bengali cuisines and street food. This 4-hours Kolkata street food tour comes with a guide and authentic local dishes.

Meet with the guide and start your Kolkata street food tour. Walkthrough the streets and your expert foodie guide will tell you about the secrets of the dishes. See many shops and old buildings which were built in the '20s-'30s. You will be going to taste some of Kolkata's best delicacies and street food such as Pani Puri, Bhel Puri, Pao Bhaji or Momos. These are just some names, you will be going to taste much more than mentioned with this Kolkata food tour.

After that, head to the Prinsep Ghat, a ghat that was built in 1841 during the British Raj. Take some time to rest here and take a sip of Masala Chai.



Mallick Ghat Flower Market Tour

Mallick Ghat- Asia's biggest Flower Market which is in Kolkata. Take a walk to this market and see the flower growers from around the region gather, cut and sell flowers. This Mallick ghat flower market tour offers you to enjoy the Kolkata city skyline. See the varieties of flowers as you walk through the flower market. Book this amazing tour and don't miss the chance to explore Asia's biggest Flower Market.

Meet your guide at the meeting point and start your tour to Mallick Ghat, the very famous flower market. After reaching, see the streets are surrounded by yellow, orange, red and many other colors. See the people buying different types of flowers for gods and goddesses. You will be lost in the sweet and pleasant smell of fragrance from these flowers. You can buy a few for your own.



Jungle Safari At Gorumara National Park

If you are a nature lover and love exploring the wildlife, then this tour is the perfect fit for you. Commence your exciting jeep safari after reaching the Gorumara National Park.

Get a chance spot the wild rhinoceros and explore its habitat.

Witness the myriad flora and fauna of this region as you ride through the park. Enjoy a delicious lunch before continuing the rest of the safari. You can also witness a soulful dance performance.

Spot about 194 species of birds, 22 species of reptiles, 7 species of turtles and 27 species of fishes in this Gorumara National Park. End your safari after 6 hours.



Paragliding in Darjeeling

Soar through the clear blue skies while you paraglide over the scenic beauty of the northeastern tea gardens of Darjeeling. Take off from Lebung, one of the best viewing spots in Darjeeling which offers prime views of towering mountains at sunrise and sunset.

This unique sensation of free flight and breathtaking panoramic views of the mountains is an absolutely unforgettable adventure at Kalimpong.

Embark on this adventure-filled day out with Darjeeling paragliding with a set of certified pilots and flying enthusiasts. Paragliding will be conducted under the provision of trained experts, instructors will lead a quick briefing session, and then a group of professionals will gear up the paraglider.

Kolkata Temple Tour

If you are a religious person and love to explore temples, then Kolkata is the place for you. Kolkata- Land of the Goddess Kali and Durga. Some of the oldest and most popular temples, churches, and masjids are located in and around the city. Explore Jain, Buddhist, and Hindu traditions with this Kolkata temple tour.

Start your day tour with a guide from the hotel and first explore the Kalighat. Kalighat is a famous temple dedicated to Goddess Kali and located near the Hooghly River. After that, visit the Dakshineswar Temple, where Rama Krishna Paramhansa attained his spiritual vision.

Visit the famous four temples at the Jain Temple of Kolkata. You can enjoy the local food on a short break at your own expense. Enjoy the view of Hooghly River while crossing the Howrah Bridge. End your day Kolkata temple tour by dropping at the hotel.



Mahananda Lake Trek In Darjeeling

Engage in this delightful downhill trekking expedition that enables you to witness the stunning beauty of this region.

Enthrall in a trip that provides you with scenic views from Simring Basti to Mahananda Lake.

Hike through lush-green thickets while enjoying the scenic landscapes comprising of tea gardens and wildlife sprawling the surrounding region.

Witness the diversified flora and fauna with a trip to Mahananda Lake and rejuvenate yourself with a refreshing bath in the lake.



Adventurous Day Out In Darjeeling

Crowned at an altitude of around 6,700.00 ft, Kalijhora is one of the highest mountain located in the north eastern India.

Come closer to nature and participate in an array of adventure activities like rock climbing, rappelling and tyro lean traverse under the guidance of a trained professional instructor.

Delight in the amazing natural beauty surrounding you while indulging in an array of adventure activities along with friends and family.



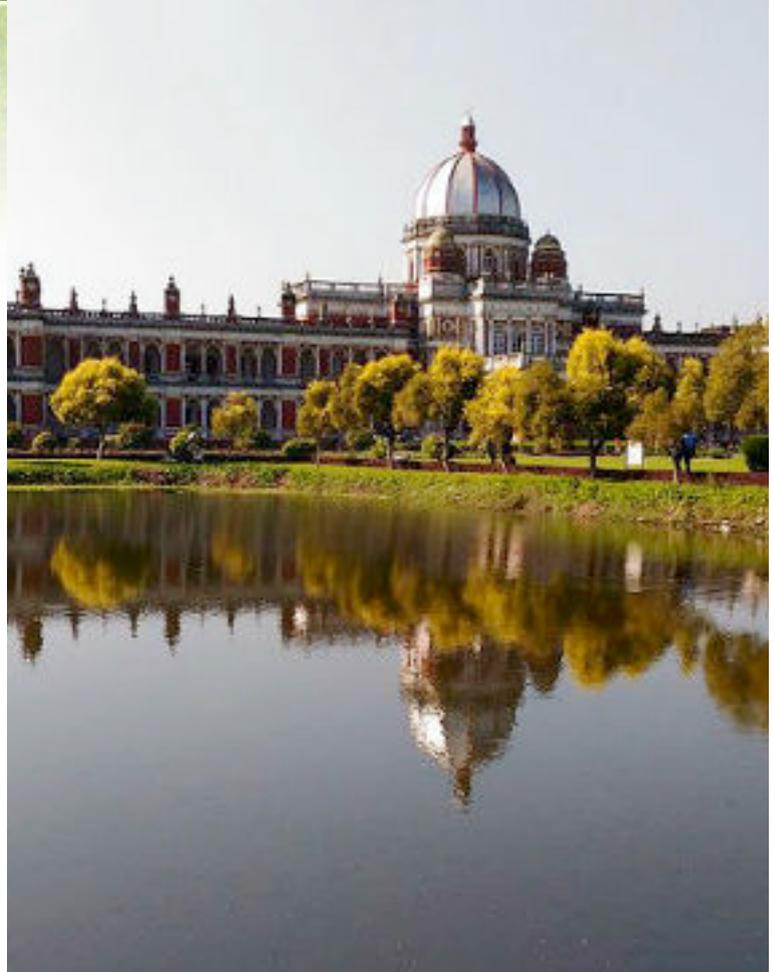
Hazarduari Palace

As the name suggests, Hazarduari Palace has 1000 doors. However, 100 amongst these doors are false so as to confuse any predator from escaping. Hence, the palace only has 900 real doors. Formerly known as Bara Kothi, this grand royal residence is located in the campus of Kila Nizamat, which is the site of the old fort of Murshidabad in West Bengal.

Cooch Behar Palace

Also known as Victor Jubilee Palace, Cooch Behar Palace is one of the most elegant palaces in West Bengal. It is located in the city of Cooch Behar and was built during the reign of Maharaja Nripendra Narayan in 1887. Being inspired from the Buckingham Palace, it is natural for this structural beauty to be a significant landmark in the city.

Cooch Behar Palace is always commended for its architecture in classical western style. It is also noted for its surrounding beauty in the form of gardens and lawns and hence, it is definitely a frame worth seeing. Even though most articles and precious objects in various rooms and halls of the palace are lost, Cooch Behar Palace still hasn't lost its charm and stands tall as an important historical monument.



Marble Palace

Marble Palace is a 19th-century mansion in northern Kolkata and was built by Raja Rajendra Mullick, a wealthy Bengali merchant who was very passionate about collecting fine works of artistry.

Today, the mansion is one of the best-preserved houses of the 19th century in Kolkata and serves as a home to the descendants of Raja Rajendra Mullick. The magnificence and glamour of the palace lie in its marble walls, floors and sculptures.

Another peculiar feature about this mansion is that it is built in a neoclassical style with a touch of a traditional Bengali courtyard. Marble Palace also houses several western sculptures, pieces of Victorian furniture and numerous artefacts that depict the rich art and history of the country.



Jhargram Palace

Jhargram Palace is situated in Jhargram district of West Bengal and is one of the most beautiful palaces in the state. The architecture of this palace is a cross between Italian, Islamic and Bengali architecture, which gives it a very elegant and royal grandeur.

This 16th century palace was built by Sarveshwar Singh during the 16th century.

Surrounded by gardens and beautiful lawns, Jhargram Palace is a must-visit spot if you are looking to explore and learn about the history of the place.



Kathgola

Although Kathgola Palace isn't as grand as many other palaces in West Bengal, it still holds a very significant part in history. It was here William Watts and Walsh met Mir Jafar, three days after the Battle of Plassey in 1757.

This four-storeyed palatial palace is located in Kathgola Gardens, which is one of the most beautiful gardens in Kathgola, and is spread over an area of 30 acres. It is believed that black roses were cultivated in Kathgola Gardens; however, now one can only find mango trees and certain other shrubs.



Nashipur Rajbari

Nashipur Rajbari, also known as Nashipur Rajbati, is a grand palace in Nashipur and is adjacent to the palace built by Raja Debi Singha. This 19th-century palace was built by Raja Kirti Chandra Singha Bahadur.

Nashipur Rajbari is very similar to Hazarduari Palace and is often referred to as a miniature version of Hazarduari Palace. It is a very important historical monument on account of its relation with Debi Singha, who was the tax collector under the British and was a very influential person amongst the people of East India Company.



Mother Teresa House - Kolkata

Mother Teresa is the epitome of peace, love, and happiness. When she arrived in India, she started as a teacher but she was gutted by the widespread poverty in Calcutta, and this led to the establishment of the "The Missionaries of Charity" in 1950. Their purpose is to aid mankind with the oath of "Wholehearted and free service to the poorest of the poor".

The house consists of 4,500 members of the congregation known as sisters who have unconditionally dedicated their lives to assist the crippled, the addicts, the ones who are mentally challenged or are dying, former prostitutes, abandoned children and those who have fallen prey to natural disasters.

Mother spent over 40 years of her life in a small room with a metal bed and a wooden desk and a few notable items like her like a cross and wreath of thorns on the wall. It is indeed humbling to see a room where she peacefully passed away on that very bed on the 5th of September 1997.



Sunderban Cruise

At the tip of the Ganges is a mystic mangrove forest on the myriad of islands. Impenetrable mangrove forests, winding rivers, Lush Sundari trees, water changing its colour at every creek from muddy river to emerald blue sea, narrow creeks to several miles wide rivers, where the man and man eaters eat fish to survive, crabs climb the tree, tiger swim long distances and mighty crocodile bask in the sun.

This is a wonderland indeed and to be explored through waterways only. From the north to the south east to west, the cruise transverses the entire area anchoring at the most exotic waters.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to West Bengal

West Bengal is a state in eastern India, between the Himalayas and the Bay of Bengal. Its capital, Kolkata (formerly Calcutta), retains architectural and cultural remnants of its past as an East India Company trading post and capital of the British Raj.

The city's colonial landmarks include the government buildings around B.B.D. Bagh Square, and the iconic Victoria Memorial, dedicated to Britain's queen.

People

The majority of West Bengal's people live in rural villages. Of those living in urban areas, more than half reside in greater Kolkata. Of the different religions, Hinduism claims the adherence of more than three-fourths of the population. Most of the remainder is Muslim.

Bengali, the main language of the state, is spoken by much of the population. Other languages include Hindi, Santali, Urdu (primarily the language of Muslims), and Nepali (spoken largely in the area of Darjiling). A small number of people speak Kurukh, the language of the Oraon indigenous group.

Attire

The traditional Bengali attire for men is dhoti and kurta (a sleeved vest) and for women, it is sari or salwar-kameez. Though these attires are still dominant in the rural areas, the urban people have almost fully adopted to the western attires. The only exceptions are the religious ceremonies, when they can be seen clad in their traditional costumes.

Cultural Life

Bengalis have long fostered art, literature, music, and drama. The visual arts have, by tradition, been based mainly on clay modeling, terra-cotta work, and decorative painting.

Bengali literature dates to before the 12th century. The Chaitanya movement, an intensely emotional form of Hinduism inspired by the medieval saint Chaitanya (1485–1533), shaped the subsequent development of Bengali poetry until the early 19th century, when contact with the West sparked a vigorous creative synthesis. The modern period has produced, among others, the Nobel Prize-winning poet Rabindranath Tagore (1861–1941), whose contribution still dominates the Indian literary scene.

Climate

West Bengal's climate is transitional between tropical wet-dry in the southern portions and humid subtropical in the north. Throughout West Bengal there is a pronounced seasonal disparity in rainfall.

LUXURY JOURNEYS



Darjeeling & Sikkim - The Eastern Himalaya

Duration: 11 Nights / 12 Days

Cruises: Kolkata | Bagdogra | Kalimpong | Gangtok | Pelling | Tashiding | Glenburn | Bagdogra | Kolkata

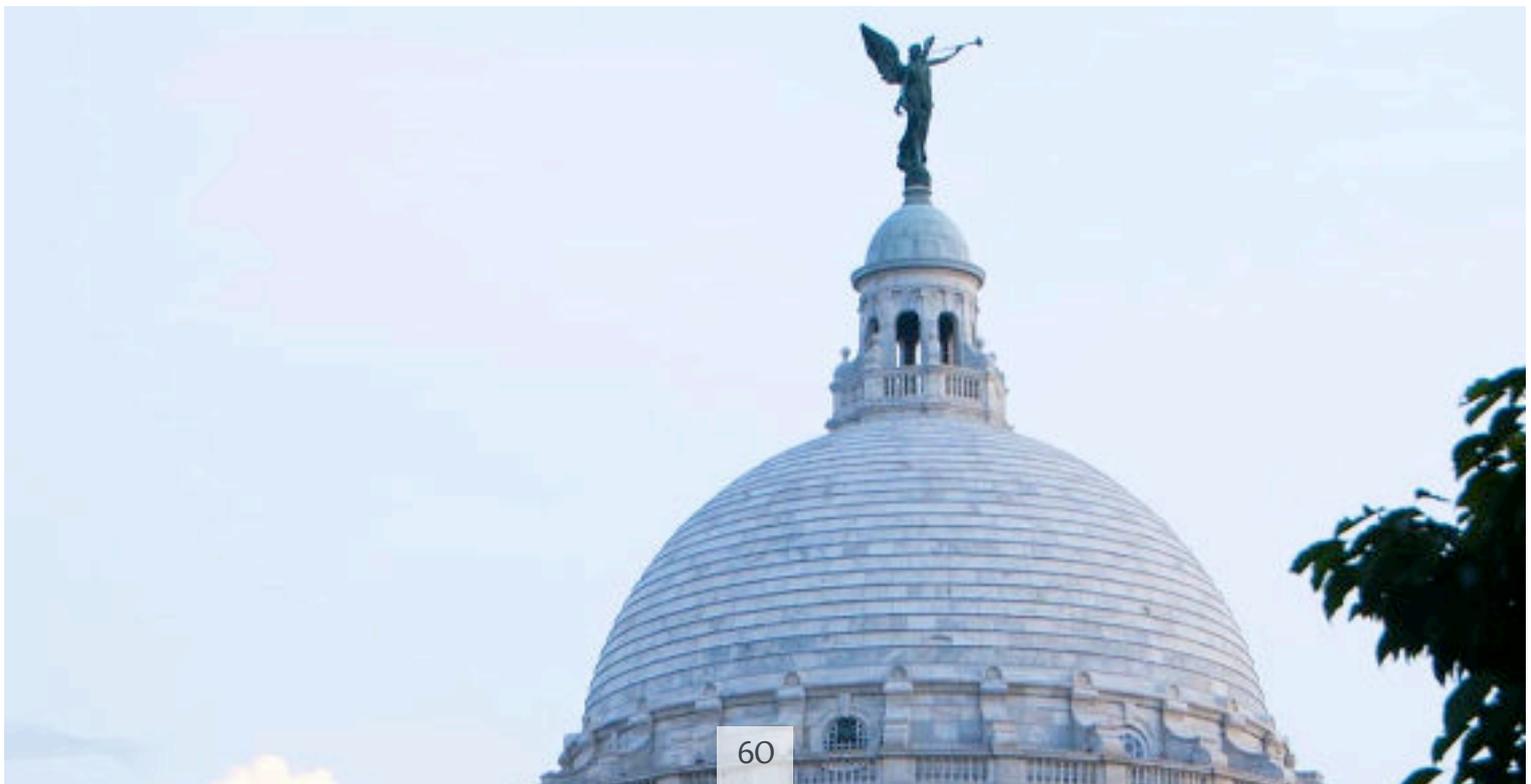
Avg. Cost: US \$ 9800 pp

This exciting Himayalan journey explores the tiny north-eastern state of Sikkim, otherwise known as 'The Garden State', on account of its spectacular flora and fauna and abundant flower nurseries.

Boasting a plethora of monasteries and exceptional mountain scenery, this beautiful state is inhabited predominantly by gentle Buddhists and small settlements of tribal people.

Just over the border is Darjeeling, in the heart of the tea growing country, which is now, as always, a popular summer vacation destination.

Combined with a few days exploring the sites of the oft-misunderstood but fascinating city of Kolkata (Calcutta), this well-rounded tour offers a great insight into Himalayan, Buddhist and city life in the north-east.



The Birds of Assam & West Bengal

Duration: 12 Nights / 13 Days

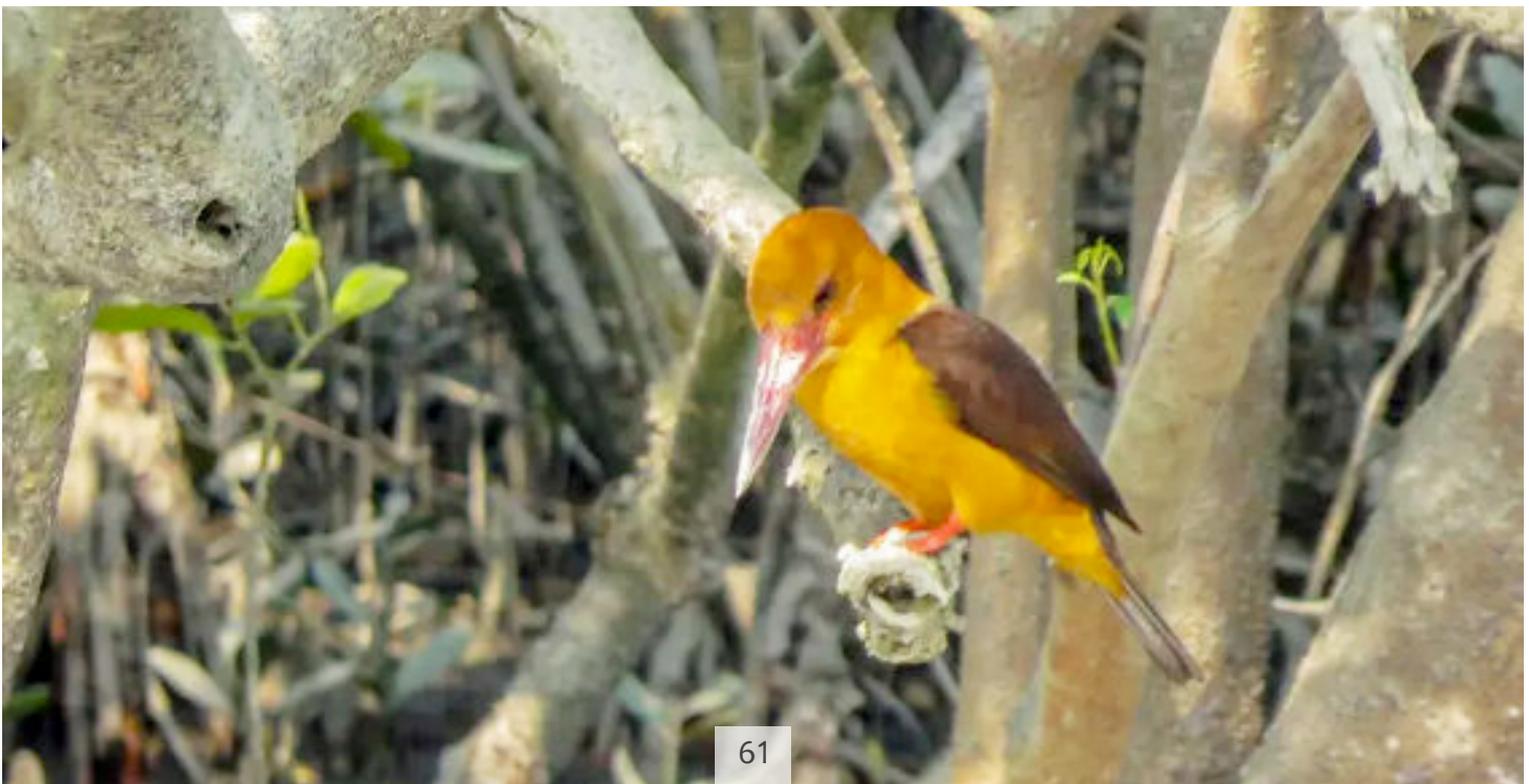
Places: Kolkata | Guwahati | Kukurmara | Chandbubi | Kaziranga | Nameri NP | Guwahati | Kolkata
| Sunderban NP | Kolkata

From: US \$ 3800 pp

India offers some of the best birding in the world. Over 1250 birds have been recorded in the country, and most places offer a fair sample of the avian diversity. The species richness is due, in no small measure, to the habitat diversity. That means one needs to travel to different parts of the country to see the special birds which have adapted to a life in the area.

Are you an avid bird watcher who just cherishes to see the various species of birds in their natural habitats or enjoy their sweet chirping? If yes, then a bird watching trip to Assam and West Bengal is what you should not miss. Welcoming the bird watching enthusiasts from worldwide, these two states boast of several species of birds. Watching them and clicking their pictures is certainly a memorable experience.

With our attractive deals and packages, our foremost objective is to deliver you a remarkable birding experience, never-ending fun and great value for money!



Tiger & Rhino Tour

Duration: 13 Nights / 14 Days

Places: Kolkata | Sunderban | Kolkata | Guwahati | Manas NP | Guwahati | Nameri NP | Kaziranga NP | Jorhat | Kolkata

From: US \$ 6800 pp

Globetrotters travel all over the world, looking forward to experience nature in its wildest and most untouched form. With this journey, arranging for a holiday in the lush forests, which are home to a variety of flora and fauna, has become easier.

A tour to Assam cannot be said to be complete unless you visit the three renowned national parks - Manas, Nameri and Kaziranga. For all the wildlife lovers, a trip to these national parks is an experience of a lifetime.

The diverse flora and fauna in the park entices the tourists from all parts of the world, especially the one-horned rhinoceros.

For an unforgettable 6 nights and 7 days tour to these three national parks in Assam, we offer an attractive package, at surprisingly affordable prices. Do not miss out on this exciting wildlife expedition.



Darjeeling Gangtok & Lachung Tour

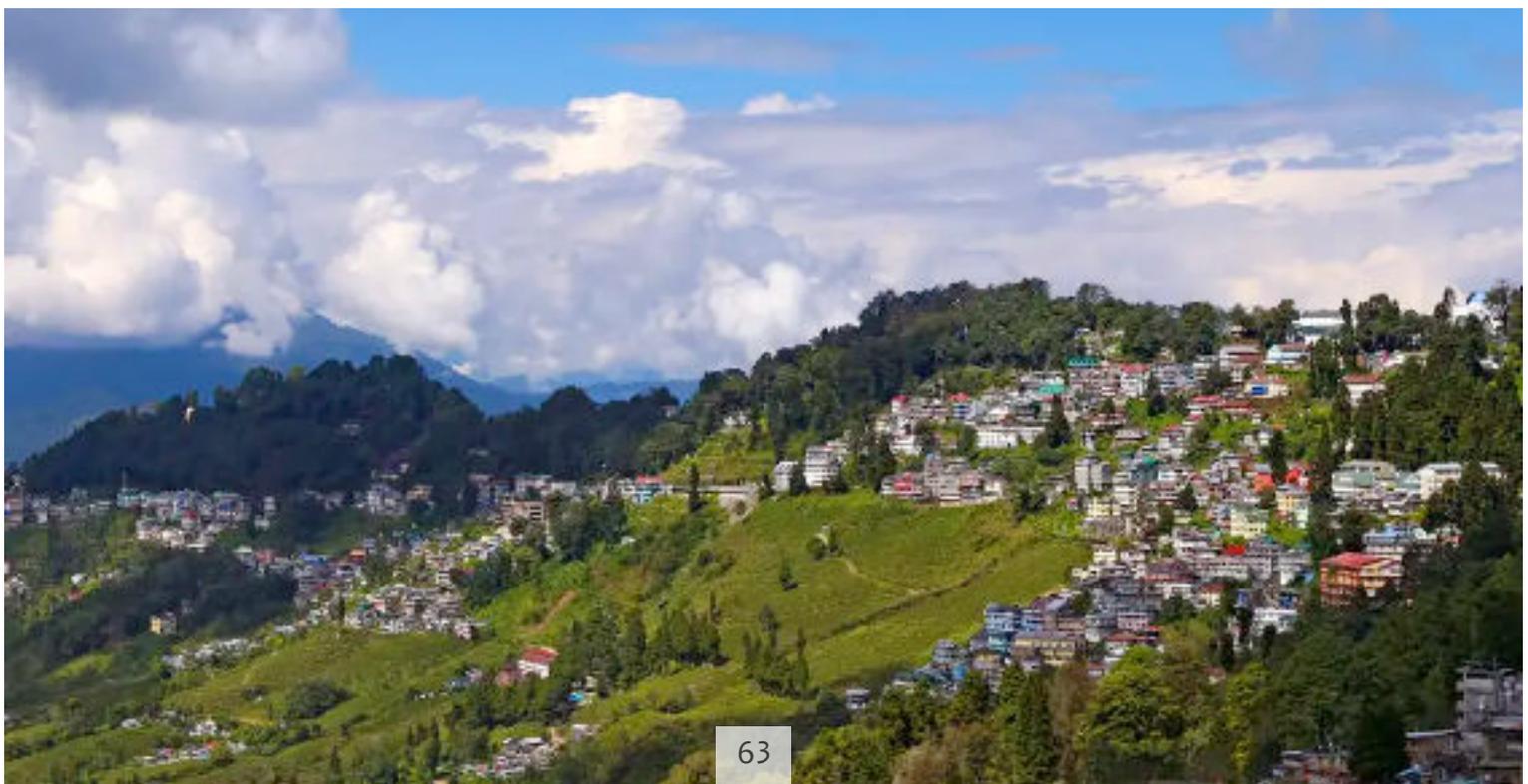
Duration: 08 Nights / 09 Days

Places: Kolkata | Bagdogra | Darjeeling | Pelling | Gangtok | Lachung | Bagdogra | Kolkata

From: US \$ 7100 pp

Find the perfect escape tucked in the lap of nature on our Darjeeling Gangtok Lachung Tour. In our 8N/9D Sikkim tour package experience the might of Mother Nature. Also, delve deeper in the history of North East and seek adventure in exploring the less trodden scenic trails in Sikkim. Wake up each morning to beautiful landscape and soak in the culture that is colourful and humble. Packed with thrills and peace this Darjeeling Gangtok Lachung Tour is all that you need to forget about the hectic city life and routines.

Giving a fantastic start to the tour, we begin at Darjeeling. The colonial-era hill station is quite a soulful place, where one can enjoy sightseeing and a ride on the historic Toy Train. Adorned with sprawling tea gardens, Darjeeling narrates some very interesting stories of a bygone era. Gangtok is rightly termed as a destination that reflects Sikkim. The capital city boasts of a fine melange of rustic charm and urban culture. At Gangtok, natural beauty; alpine landscapes welcome one with a warm heart. From urban to rural, our next destination would be Lachung, which is a scenic village in North Sikkim. Blessed with nature's bounties, this place can be any nature lovers dream destination.



Royal Heritage of Bengal

Duration: 08 Nights / 09 Days

Places: Kolkata | Ganga Sagar | Shantiniketan | Kolkata | Sunderban | Kolkata

From: US \$ 4700 pp

West Bengal, positioned in eastern India, is an immaculate with an affluent variety. Abode to different civilizations and acknowledged for its cultural assortment, this state has a great history as well. West Bengal finds its mention in the epic Mahabharata.

Bengal is a beautiful land boasting ancient culture and literature and displays the best insignias of prehistoric traditions of well. It is the symbol of modernity blending with ancient cultures and traditions. There are several intriguing destinations in Bengal that behold several distinct reasons for visiting.

Some of these must-visit destinations are Kolkata, Gangasagar, Dakhineswar, Belurmath, Sunderban, etc. This 08 Nights and 09 Days itinerary covers the royal heritage prevailing in the land of Bengal. This tour is perfect for all the travelers who want to get drenched into ancient traditions, exquisite panoramas and lush green forests offering spectacular sites of exotic flora and fauna.



The Hill --- Triangle

Duration: 08 Nights / 09 Days

Places: Kolkata | Bagdogra | Darjeeling | Kalimpong | Gangtok | Bagdogra | Kolkata

From: **US \$ 5890 pp**

North East when combined with Darjeeling can be assumed to deliver an outstanding travel experience. Our Darjeeling-Kalimpong-Gangtok Tour is specially formulated for those who seek nature, adventure and history all in one tour in India.

North-eastern part of India is blessed with oodles of natural gifts that entice travelers. On one hand Darjeeling enchants visitors with the aroma of tea plantations and on the other hand Kalimpong invites travelers to explore its flower nurseries. The list doesn't end here; as Gangtok mesmerized tourists with the beauty of Tsonmgo Lake.

This was just a glimpse of what all the north-east holds for travelers. If you want to explore the real gems of these destinations, then allow our north-east hill station tour package to help you. This 8 nights and 9 days package takes you to every tourist charm located amid the tranquility and splendor of these hill stations. Further, from your accommodation to commutation, we take care of all. So hurry up and grab a package right away.



Darjeeling Tea Tasting Tour

Duration: 07 Nights / 08 Days

Places: Kolkata | Bagdogra | Darjeeling | Bagdogra | Kolkata

Tea Estate: Glenburn Tea Estate

From: US \$ 8100 pp

Glenburn is a heavenly little plantation retreat that lies on a hillock above the banks of the River Rungeet, high in the Himalayas, overlooked by the mighty Kanchenjunga mountain range. Started by a Scottish tea company in 1859, Glenburn then passed into the hands of one of India's pioneering tea planting families – The Prakashes, One of India's pioneering tea-planting families, we have, over the years, come to be known as the “Chaiwala family” - which literally means “tea planters”.

The charming Glenburn Tea Estate allows guests to experience the romance of an authentic Indian tea plantation. The Glenburn Tea Estate is a heavenly little plantation retreat that lies on a hillock above the banks of the River Rungeet, high in the Himalayas, overlooked by the mighty Kanchenjunga mountain range. Guests are accommodated in one of the two bungalows, each comprising four beautifully decorated suites and common areas, gardens, verandahs and terraces accessible to all guests. The estate also offers beauty and massage treatments, hikes, day trips, fishing, river rafting and cooking lesson for their guests' enjoyment.



Jaldapara & Gorumara

Duration: 07 Nights / 08 Days

Places: Kolkata | Bagdogra | Gorumara | Jaldapara NP | Bagdogra | Kolkata

From: US \$ 4650 pp

Not many know that there is a lot more to West Bengal than the rich culture, lip-smacking food and magnificent temples. This eastern state of India is blessed with plenty of exotic wildlife. Our wildlife tour to Jaldapara and Gorumara national parks comprises of 7 nights and 8 days itinerary that offers you a great chance to see several animals and birdlife species. These include the one horned rhinos, elephants, gaur, spotted deers, Pallas's fishing eagle, jungle fowl, peafowl and partridges. The tour's specially designed itinerary lets you watch the best of West Bengal wildlife from close quarters.

Jaldapara is one among the popular forests of Dooars. It is best known for the Jaldapara Wildlife Sanctuary, which was declared a sanctuary in 1943 to protect and preserve the myriad of flora and fauna. This sanctuary is located on the foothills of Eastern Himalayas on the banks of River Torsa.

Jaldapara offers a variety of activities to the visitors. One can visit the sanctuary to have a look at the mammals, amphibians, reptiles and birds of many kinds. Apart from the wildlife tourism, you can take a day off for the forest visit and enjoy the elephant safaris as you explore the forest. Jeep safaris are also available. One can explore Madarihat which is the main town near the forest.



Jewels of North East

Duration: 11 Nights / 12 Days

Places: Kolkata | Bagdogra | Darjeeling | Kalimpong | Pelling | Gangtok | Bagdogra | Kolkata | Sunderban | Kolkata

From: US \$ 6580 pp

Northeast India is dotted with numerous famous holy shrines, monasteries, lakes and hills. The 9 days North East Delight with Kalimpong tour is the best way to set on for the splendid holidays with loved ones. Bask in the beauty of sunset or sunrise views and amazing sights of Kanchenjunga from Tiger Hill. Unravel Yak or Mule rides at Tsomgo Lake. Hold your breath as you board the cable car to touch the clouds. A day trip to nurseries of Kalimpong, monasteries of Gangtok, tea farms of Darjeeling and exotic locations of Pelling will beguile you. Amazing blend of scenic beauty, entertainment options and tourist attractions make you stay here for longer than intended.

Cherish some good time amid the lush greenery in Darjeeling and visit its notable monasteries like Ghoom monastery. An early morning visit to Tiger hill to enjoy mesmerizing views of Kanchenjunga, Darjeeling. Enjoy enchanting views from Passenger Ropeway, Darjeeling. Visit important places of interest in Kalimpong including fascinating Pine View Nursery (cactus collection). Adore the natural scenic beauty of Pelling. Pay a visit to Pemayangtse monastery; one of the striking Gompas in Pelling. Enjoy yak or mule rides along Tsomgo Lake in Gangtok





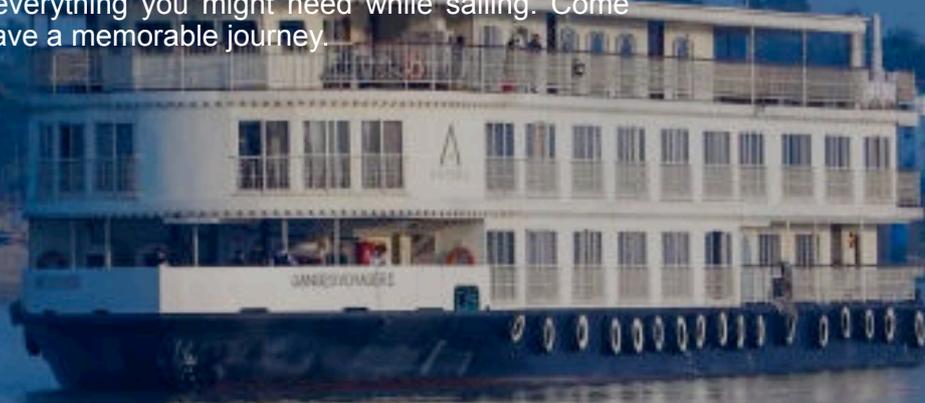


Anantara Luxury River Cruises

South Asia's Luxury Cruise on River Ganges

Antara River Cruises has introduced luxury river cruising across India with an exceptional attention to detail. An invitation to take you to untouched destinations bringing unmatched hospitality and immerse yourself in unforgettable experiences.

Encompassing luxury in every nook and corner, the river cruises by Antara are designed to make sure you have the most enthralling journey on our rivers. From comfortable suite accommodation to high-end amenities, the cruises are equipped with everything you might need while sailing. Come on board and have a memorable journey.





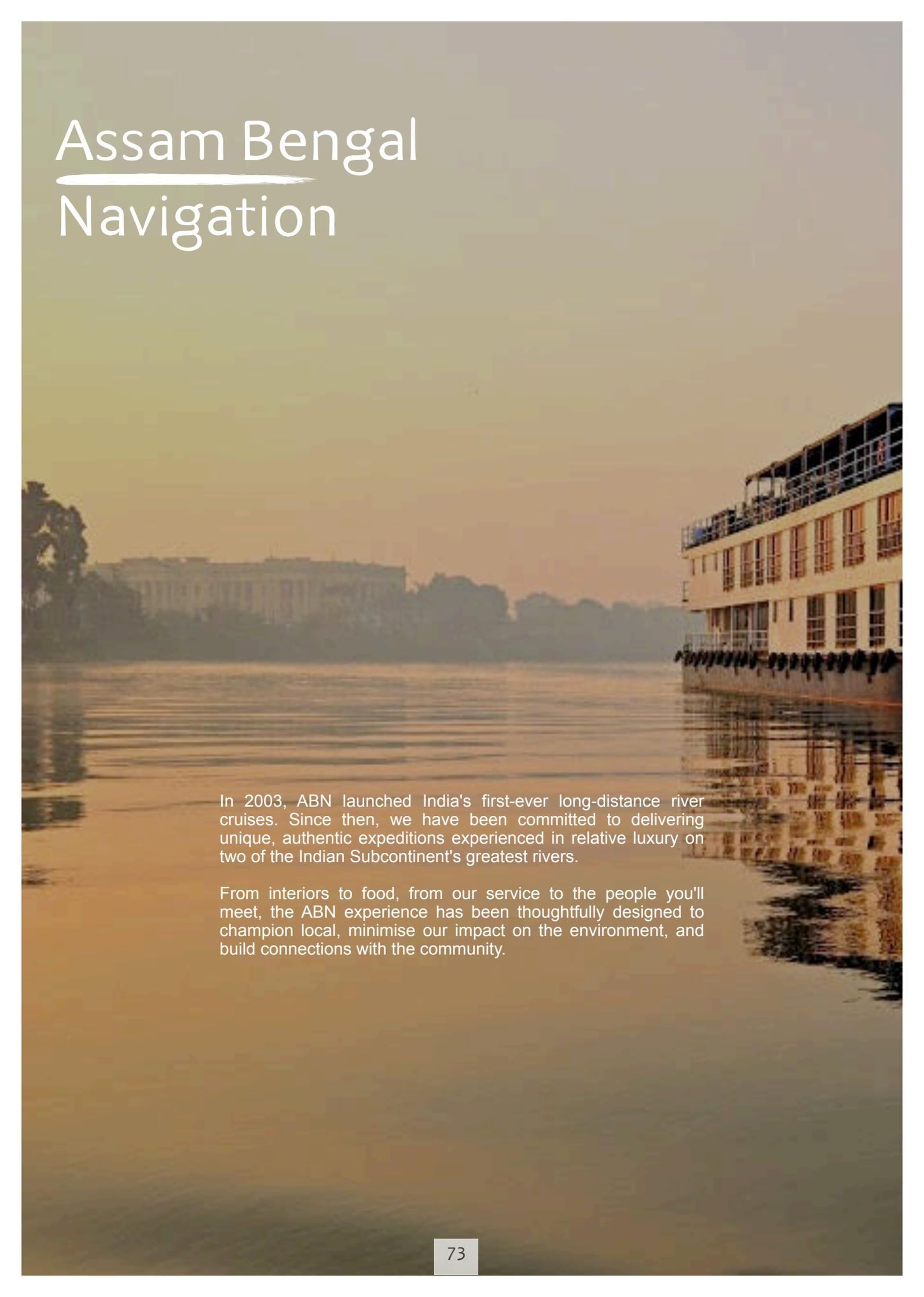
Vivada Cruises

Vivada Corporation Ltd. is engaged in inland waterways and related business for more than four decades. The Kolkata-based Vivada Cruises (our cruising division) flaunts a fleet of vessels and barges, a range of water transport services.

They have also been offering the most luxurious and successful inland waterway cruise to Varanasi, lower Ganges and Sunderbans. However, in recent years lots of queries from our visitors have compelled us to go forward with the short river trips in Ganges and Day Cruises.

Cruising on the Ganges is very riveting owing to the fact that the banks on both sides of the river are impregnated with historical significance. Vivada Cruises brings for its guests exotic Ganges Cultural cruises and Sunderban cruises in luxury inland cruisers like M.V. Paramhansa as well as fun cruising in smaller luxury cruisers like M.V. Ahalya and M.V. Millennium. We have also recently launched "The Auspicious" biggest vessel on Ganges river which capacity upto 1000 heads.

Assam Bengal Navigation

A large river cruise ship is positioned on the right side of a wide river, moving towards the left. The ship has multiple decks with windows and a balcony. The water is calm, reflecting the ship and the sky. In the background, a large, classical-style building with many columns is visible on the far bank, surrounded by trees. The sky is a soft, hazy orange, suggesting sunset or sunrise.

In 2003, ABN launched India's first-ever long-distance river cruises. Since then, we have been committed to delivering unique, authentic expeditions experienced in relative luxury on two of the Indian Subcontinent's greatest rivers.

From interiors to food, from our service to the people you'll meet, the ABN experience has been thoughtfully designed to champion local, minimise our impact on the environment, and build connections with the community.

A large, multi-deck boat with a white upper section and a dark blue lower section is on a river. The boat has a prominent mast with lights and railings on the upper deck. The name 'RAJMAHAL' is visible on the side of the lower deck. The boat is reflected in the calm water. The background shows a hazy, wooded riverbank under a soft, twilight sky.

For every cabin or room booked with ABN, we will contribute 5% of that cost to environmental, education and local community development efforts in the region of Assam and Bengal.

From building the Baranagar Tuition Centre to organising naturalist training camps for local youth, your support of ABN helps in the conservation of the environment as well as the upliftment of local communities.

MICE TOURISM

'MICE' tourism has gained a lot of momentum in Kolkata along with many other parts of West Bengal. This has been mainly on account of improved connectivity, the presence of 5-star hotels and even a "world-class" convention center.

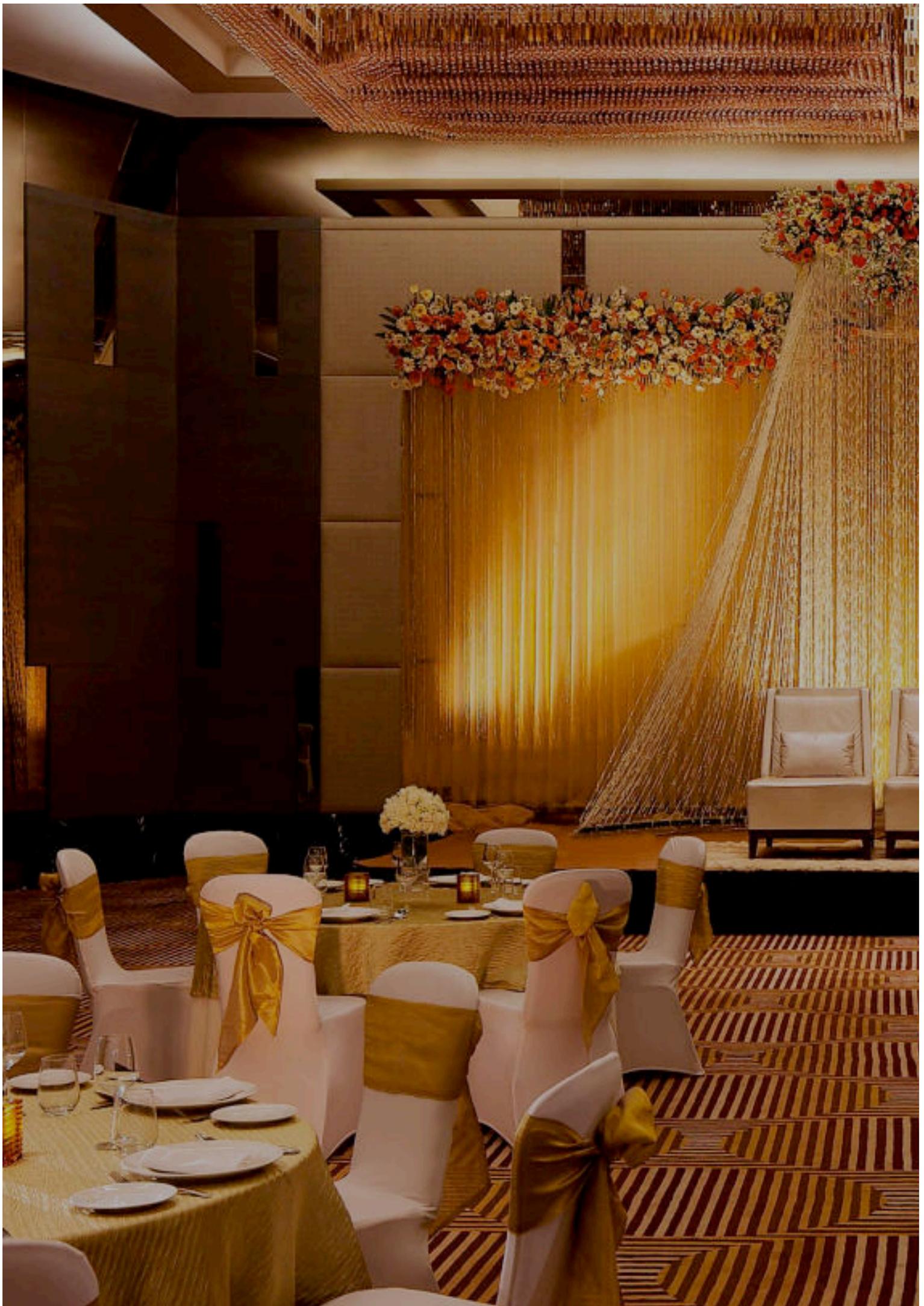
It is seen that often many corporate houses including international big houses look for exotic destinations for hosting big events. It is being seen that the demand for such types of events has become popular in recent times. A warm hospitality, rich historical and cultural heritage, coupled with some of the best business hotels and developing infrastructure are the key reasons for the growth of this segment in West Bengal.

In terms of tourism the sprawling Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, having several halls and other modern infrastructure, situated at New Town adjoining Kolkata, has already seen plenty of bookings being made for the year 2020. This makes it evident that it is indeed doing great business.

Apart from this Kolkata now also has many high-end hotels as well. All these make Kolkata along with the whole of West Bengal as an ideal MICE Tourism destination and thus the overall tourism seems very encouraging indeed.



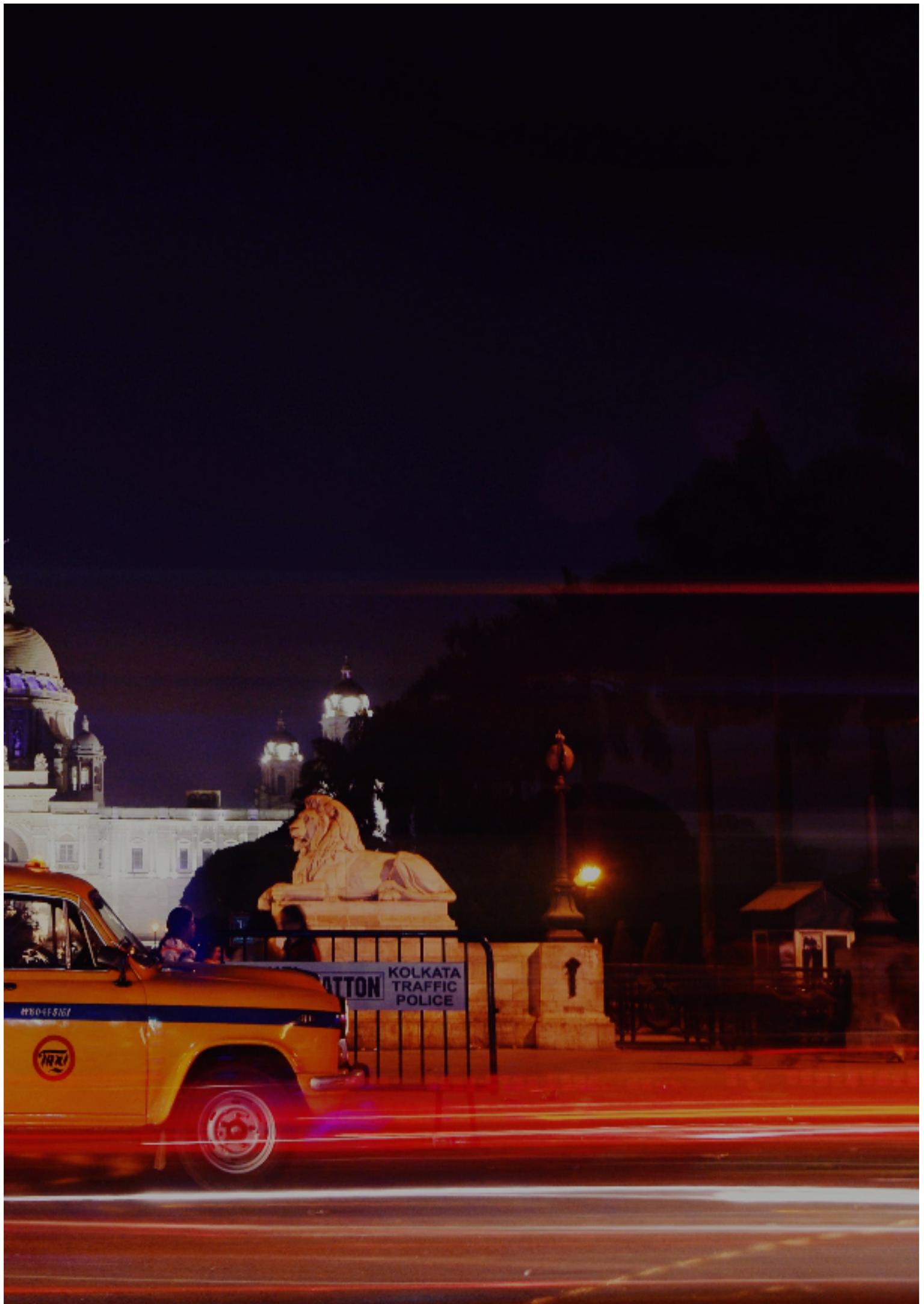






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