

TBZUKD08 INDIA UTTARAKHAND DHAM

1N HARIDWAR, 2N BARKOT, 2N UTTARKASHI, 1N GUPTKASHI, 1N KEDARNATH, 1N PIPALKOTI, 1N BADRINATH, 1N RUDRAYAG, 1N RISHIKESH

11 Nights & 12 Days



**Tour Start:** Delhi / Dehradoon **Tour End:** Delhi / Dehradoon

# **TOUR SUMMARY**

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DAY	OVERNIGHT	PARTICULAR
Day 1	Haridwar	Transfer Delhi/Dehradoon to Haridwar
Day 2	Barkot	Transfer Haridwar to Barkot (190km / 6h <mark>rs 30Mnt)</mark>
Day 3	Barkot	Yamunotri (6km Trek)
Day 4	Uttarkashi	Transfer Barkot to Uttarkashi (83km / 3H <mark>rs)</mark>
Day 5	Uttarkashi	Uttarkashi – Gangotri - Uttarkashi
Day 6	Guptkashi	Transfer Uttarkashi to Guptkashi (19 <mark>7km</mark> / 8hrs)
Day 7	Kedarnath	Transfer Guptkashi to Kedarnath ( <mark>15km</mark> Trek)
Day 8	Pipalkoti	Transfer Kedarnath to Pipalkoti (136km / 6hrs)
Day 9	Badrinath	Transfer Pipalkoti to Badr <mark>inath (7</mark> 7km / 3hrs)
Day 10	Ruraprayag	Transfer Badrinath to Rudraprayag (155km / 6hrs)
Day 11	Rishikesh	Transfer Rudraprayag to Rishikesh (141km / 5hrs)
Day 12	Departure	Transfe <mark>r Rishikes</mark> h to Delhi / Dehradoon

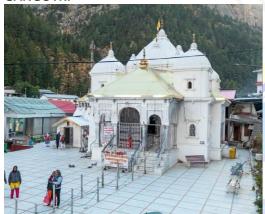
#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **YAMNOTRI**



Yamunotri stands proudly with its enormous mountain peaks, glaciers and gushing waters of Yamuna. River Yamuna, the second most sacred river of India, originates in Yamunotri, making it one of the pilgrimage sites in the Chota Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand. The venerated goddess Yamuna is said to be the daughter of Sun and twin sister of Yama (the god of death); in Vedas, Yamuna is called Yami (lady of life). A bath in the sanctified waters of Yamuna is said to cleanse all sins and protect from untimely or painful death. Such strong associations in Hindu mythology place Yamuna Devi (goddess) in high ranks of divinity.

#### **GANGOTRI**



Gangotri, situated in Uttarkashi, is closely related to Goddess Ganga, the river that we know as Ganges. The history of Gangotri dates back to centuries when Goddess Ganga transformed herself into a river to dissolve the sins of King Bhagirath's forefathers, following his penance. Gangotri is a popular pilgrim place in India, which stands at an altitude of 3042m and emits a highly pious aura. Religious rituals are in full swing in the Gangotri temple with the Arti ceremony performed by the pujaris of the Semwal family. The river Ganga originates from the Gangotri glacier and is known as Bhagirathi. The name Ganga picks up later on after the river passes Devaprayag and merges into the river Alaknanda. The striking presence of the snow-clad mountains in the vicinity and the pure crystal clear water of the Ganges flowing around add to the sanctity of the place.

## **KEDARNATH**



Atop 3584 mts, this is one of the Char Dhams and one of the busiest pilgrim centres in the Garhwal Himalayas. It is believed that in order to evade the Pandavas, Lord Shiva hid himself in the form of a bull at Kedarnath, and when found by the Pandavas, he went further into the earth leaving the hump on the surface.

Kedarnath is popular for its ancient Shiva Temple, shrines, Himalayan ranges and undulating landscapes. Marked by the Kedarnath temple, near Chorabari Glacier, the area is flanked by the Kedarnath peaks and countless more ranges with peaks silver with snow. The most remote of the Char Dhams, and maybe hence, one of the most majestically beautiful

#### **BADRINATH**



Sandwiched between Nar and Narayan mountain ranges, Badrinath in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand is one among the most sought after pilgrim centers in the Indian subcontinent. Badrinath is beautifully set in the backdrop of the colossal Neelkanth mountain peak and never fails to make the visitor spellbound with its unparalleled gorgeousness.. The term Badrinath is a derivative of badri, which means the place where beries grow abundantly.

A place, which holds so many myths and legends, Badrinath acquires predominance in the travel itinerary of a pilgrim. The popular belief is that Badarinath was the domain of Lord Shiva, and Lord Vishnu managed to unseat Shiva from here to Kedarnath.

#### **DETAIL ITINERARY**

# DAY 1 TRANSFER DELHI/DEHRADOON TO HARIDWAR ( 220KM / 5HRS) OVERNIGHT : HARIDWAR







Arrival in Delhi Airport/ Station and drive to Haridwar from Delhi via Meerut and Roorkee.

Haridwar- Gateway to land of Gods: As you step into the city of Haridwar you'll be welcomed with the chimes of the temple bells and the religious chanting of the priests. The city has a religious significance as the holy river Ganga enters the Indo-Gangetic Plains of North India for the first time in Haridwar. Thereby making its former name 'Gangadwara' perfect in every sense

Haridwar serves as the gateway to the CHAR DHAMS of Uttarakhand. The "Panch Tirth" or the five pilgrimages located within the periphery of Haridwar are Gangadwara (Har Ki Pauri), Kushwart (Ghat), Kankhal, Bilwa Tirtha (Mansa Devi Temple) and Neel Parvat.

Upon arrival, check into the hotel. Later, in the evening visit the pious Har Ki Pau<mark>ri fo</mark>r Aarti Darshan. Thereafter unwind yourself through a comfortable overnight stay in the hotel.

#### DAY 2

# TRANSFER HARIDWAR TO BARKOT (190KM / 6Hrs30Mnt)

**OVERNIGHT: BARKOT** 

Post breakfast, drive to Barkot via Dehradun and Mussoorie. En route enjoy lunch in Mussoorie and then continue the journey.

Barkot: Situated at an elevation of 1,220 meters above sea level. It is a part of Garhwal division. The Barkot city is surrounded on the north by the Dehradun district, on the northeast by Tibet, on the east by Chamoli, on the southeast by the Rudraprayag district and on the south by Tehri Garhwal district.

From Barkot, one can easily view magnificent peak of Banderpoonch and it is an ideal holidaying and adventure destination for nature lovers and adventurers as the place proffers with many beautiful apple orchards, ravishing landscapes, scenic views and trekking excursions. The Yamunotri Dham is around 50 Km far from Barkot

You will reach Barkot by evening, upon arrival check into your hotel.



#### DAY 3

#### BARKOT – YAMUNOTRI – BARKOT (6km Trek)

**OVERNIGHT: BARKOT** 

In the morning after an early breakfast, head off for a 42 km drive towards Janki Chatti. Upon arrival, begin your 6 km trek towards Yamunotri.



Yamunotri stands proudly with its enormous mountain peaks, glaciers and gushing waters of Yamuna. River Yamuna, the second most sacred river of India, originates in Yamunotri, making it one of the pilgrimage sites in the Chota Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand. The venerated goddess Yamuna is said to be the daughter of Sun and twin sister of Yama (the god of death); in Vedas, Yamuna is called Yami (lady of life). A bath in the sanctified waters of Yamuna is said to cleanse all sins and protect from untimely or painful death. Such strong associations in Hindu mythology place Yamuna Devi (goddess) in high ranks of divinity.

The River Yamuna originates from the Yamunotri glacier, which rises up to 6,315 meters above sea level, and lies against a steep slope just below the top of the Kalind peak. From here Yamuna comes down into Saptarishi Kund and from there gushes southwards in a series of waterfalls.

To the west of the Kalind Parbat is located Banderpoonch, which is a dominant mountain in central Himalayan area of Garhwal and divides the watershed of Yamuna from that of the Ganges. Coming out from Kalind Parbat, Yamuna is also known as Kalindi. Once reached, visit the main Yamunotri temple for darshan fold your hands and bow your head down before the Goddess Yamuna, and take her blessings for the pilgrimage. After paying homage, trek back to Janki Chatti in evening. From here our driver will take you back to Barkot, there you will enjoy an overnight stay in the camp.

#### DAY 4

# TRANSFER BARKOT TO UTTARKASHI (83Km / 3Hrs)

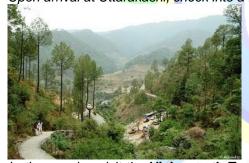
**OVERNIGHT: UTTARKASHI** 

Begin the morning with an 82 km long drive to Uttarakashi. In the journey visit the Prakateshwar Cave, a natural limestone cave that is famous for having formations resembling the holy Shivling

**Prakateshwar Cave** is between Barkot & Uttarkashi. Found a decade ago, this is a natural cave is formed by limestone. The cave has attained religious significance due to the limestone formations resembling Shiva Linga. Once need to climb 100 steps to reach the entrance of the cave. Crawling down the cave will lead to an area where we can stand and look at the formations. Cold water flows in the cave creating a small pool.

After short break proceed for Uttarkashi. Uttarkashi: The town is located on the banks of the Bhagirathi at an altitude of 1,165mts above sea level. Bhagirathi River is also known as Ganga before the confluence of Devprayag. Uttarkashi is also home of a variety of flora and fauna. One can find rich varieties of Fur, Pine, Deodar and also various kinds of medicinal herbs and shrubs in Uttarkashi. Uttarkashi is one of the most picturesque town of Garhwal region of Uttarakhand state.

Upon arrival at Uttarakashi, check into a hotel.







In the evening visit the **Vishwanath Temple.** In the center of Uttarkashi, in a buzzing market is a beautiful temple of Lord Vishwanath which is worth a visit. Lord Vishwanath in the form of a shiva-linga has been residing in the Vishwanath temple in Uttarakashi in deep meditation since time immemorial, showering his blessings on all the living beings. Unlike the other Shiva temples, the shivalinga in this temple leans towards the South direction. The garbha-griha or sanctum sanctorum also houses the Deities of Lord Ganesha and Goddess Parvathi Devi.

The Shiva Linga of Lord Vishwanath was installed by Lord Parashurama. The present temple was constructed by Queen of Tehri – Khaneti Devi, the wife of Sudarshan Shah in the year 1857 AD. The stone temple is built in the Katyuri style and sits on a rock foundation which is a depiction of the local Himalayan architecture.

Later return back to the hotel for an overnight stay. Uttarakashi

#### DAY 5

UTTARKASHI - GANGOTRI - UTTARKASHI

**OVERNIGHT: UTTARKASHI** 

Have early morning breakfast and start drive to Gangotri early in the morning.







Gangotri, situated in Uttarkashi, is closely related to Goddess Ganga, the river that we know as Ganges. The history of Gangotri dates back to centuries when Goddess Ganga transformed herself into a river to dissolve the sins of King Bhagirath's forefathers, following his penance. Gangotri is a popular pilgrim place in India, which stands at an altitude of 3042m and emits a highly pious aura. Religious rituals are in full swing in the Gangotri temple with the Arti ceremony performed by the pujaris of the Semwal family. The river Ganga originates from the Gangotri glacier and is known as Bhagirathi. The name Ganga picks up later on after the river passes Devaprayag and merges into the river Alaknanda. The striking presence of the snow-clad mountains in the vicinity and the pure crystal clear water of the Ganges flowing around add to the sanctity of the place.

Once reached, take a holy dip in the pious water of the holy river Ganges, (also known as Bhagirathi). Perform the respective rituals and bask in the splendid and serene surroundings of the place. In the afternoon drive back to Uttarakashi and Overnight at Uttarkashi

### DAY 6

# TRANSFER UTTARKASHI TO GUPTKASHI (197Km / 8Hrs)

#### **OVERNIGHT: GUPTKASHI**

After an early breakfast check out from the hotel and drive to Guptkashi. A late lunch is scheduled en route at Molgarh/Tilwara/Ghansali. In the way, see the heritage city of Tehri.

**Tehri Garhwal** is on of the sacred hilly districts of Uttarakhand State. Before the creation of universe, Lord Brahma is said to have meditated on this sacred land. Muni-ki-Reti and Tapovan of the district are the places of penance for the ancient Rishis. Its hilly terrain and lack of easy communications have helped it to preserve its culture almost intact. Tehri and Garhwal are the two words combined for naming the district as Tehri Garhwal.

The gushing Bhagirathi which runs through seems to divide the district into two, while the Bhilangna, Alaknanda, Ganga and Yamuna rivers border it on the east and west. Its neighbouring districts are Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Pauri, Rudraprayag and Dehradun.

Slowly sinking into the mighty waters of the Holy River Ganges due to the construction of the Tehri Dam. Take a lunch break and then continue your journey with the wonderful view of the beautiful river Mandakini. You will reach Guptkashi by evening







Guptkashi is situated 47kms before the holy shrine of Lord Shiva, Kedarnath. It is located on the route to Kedarnath on a ridge on the west side of the Mandakini river valley at an elevation of 1,319mts above sea level. Guptkashi is a religiously important town of Uttarakhand as it houses ancient temples like Vishwanath temple and Ardhnareshwar temple.

The centermost attraction of Guptkashi town, Manikarnik Kund is a place where two streams of the Ganga and Yamuna meet. Gaurikund, the town from where trek to Kedarnath commences is situated 34kms ahead of Guptkashi. Guptkashi is situated on the mountain facing Ukhimath town.

Upon arrival check in to a hotel and have a relaxing overnight stay.

#### DAY 7

## TRANSFER GUPTKASHI TO KEDARNATH VIA GAURIKUND (32KM Trek)

#### **OVERNIGHT: KEDARNATH**

In the morning drive to Gaurikund (32 km from one side). Upon arrival, you will have to walk through a zigzag route. Enroute the lunch is scheduled at Rambara. Post lunch continue trekking towards the Kedarnath Temple (Total trek of around 15-16 kms). This route has been recommended by NIM (Nehru Institute of Mountaineering). As the route between Rambara and Kedarnath was completely swept away, pilgrims can reach Kedarnath via Linchauli.







Trek Route To Kedarnath From Gaurikund : (Gaurikund – 6 kms  $\rightarrow$  Rambara Bridge – 4 kms  $\rightarrow$  Jungle Chatti – 3 kms  $\rightarrow$  Bheembali – 4 kms  $\rightarrow$  Linchauli – 4 kms  $\rightarrow$  Kedarnath Base Camp – 1 kms  $\rightarrow$  Kedarnath Temple)

**Kedarnath:** Atop 3584 mts, this is one of the Char Dhams and one of the busiest pilgrim centres in the Garhwal Himalayas. It is believed that in order to evade the Pandavas, Lord Shiva hid himself in the form of a bull at Kedarnath, and when found by the Pandavas, he went further into the earth leaving the hump on the surface.

Kedarnath is popular for its ancient Shiva Temple, shrines, Himalayan ranges and undulating landscapes. Marked by the Kedarnath temple, near Chorabari Glacier, the area is flanked by the Kedarnath peaks and countless more ranges with peaks silver with snow. The most remote of the Char Dhams, and maybe hence, one of the most majestically beautiful

On arrival, check into a hotel or tourist bungalow. Freshen up and visit the Kedarnath Temple. Pay homage at the holy shrine and then in the evening visit the Adi Shankaracharya Samadhi, located just behind the temple. Return back to the hotel for an overnight stay.

DAY 8
TRANSFER KEDARNATH ( GAURIKUND )TO PIPALKOTI (136KM / 6Hrs)
OVERNIGHT: PIPALKOTI







Trek down to Gaurikund in the morning, and on arrival drive towards Pipalkoti.

Pipalkoti is a small and scenic town situated at an elevation of 1,260 mts above sea level. It is located 17 kms after Chamoli on NH58.

Pipalkoti acts a relaxation point for people traveling to Badrinath, Auli, Hemkund Sahib and Valley of Flowers. Nestled amidst lush green mountains and terraced fields, Pipalkoti provides delightful views of the snow clad mountains and green hills all around.

By evening you will check into a hotel at Pipalkoti. Relax and enjoy an overnight stay in the hotel.

#### DAY9

# TRANSFER PIPALKOTI TO BADRINATH (77Km / 3Hrs)

**OVERNIGHT: BADRINATH** 

In the morning, post breakfast drive to Shri Badrinath Ji. There are various temples that will fall in the way like the Narsingh Temple and Adi Shankaracharya Samadhi. Visit these shrines for attaining peace of mind and then continue the drive to Badrinath.





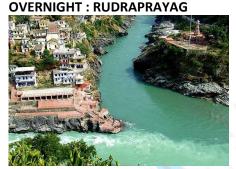
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here to Kedarnath. Another belief is that when Ganga made her descend to earth she split up in to twelve streams and one among the channels, Alakananda felt on Kedarnath which gives Badrinath it's majestic look.

It is not just recreational activities, shrines and pilgrimage that Badrinath offers. It proffers the awesome beauty of the snow clad mountain peaks and the surging landscapes of the Garhwal region

Upon arrival, check into a hotel. Later, take a holy dip in the Tapt Kund, followed by a visit to the main temple. In the late afternoon, visit the Mana Village, the last village before the Tibetan border, Bheem Pul, Byas Cave & Ganesha Cave. Drive back to Badrinath and in the evening you can visit the shrine for Aarti Darshan. Later, enjoy an overnight stay in the hotel.

DAY 10 TRANSFER BADRINATH TO RUDRAPRAYAG (155Km / 6Hrs)







If you want to see the Holy bath of the Sri Badrinath then wake up early in the morning and enjoy the beautiful sight. After breakfast drive to Rudraprayag via Joshimath, Chamoli, Nanda Prayag and Karna Prayag.

Joshimath: Nestled with love in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, the sacred town of Joshimath spreads its celestial aura in the entire Garhwal region of Uttarakhand.

The town of Joshimath is also nicknamed as Jyotirmath and is the winter seat of Lord Badri, whose idol is brought down from Badrinath temple to Vasudeva temple at Joshimath. This holy town is revered by the Hindus for being an important pilgrimage centre of the country.

Chamoli is a beautiful town nestled in the Garhwal Himalayas of Uttarakhand. It is perched at an elevation of 1300 metres above sea level and is bedecked on the holy banks of river Alaknanda. The city offers a promising view of nature, woods, the rumbling creeks and the alpine hills.

Nanda Prayag is a small town located at the sacred confluence of the Alaknanda and Nandakini River. The source of Alaknanda River is Satopanth near Badrinath Dham and Nandakini River emerges from the foot of the Nanda Devi Peak. It is believed that a holy dip in the confluence of Nandprayag is capable of washing all the sins.

Karna Prayag Being one of the highly blessed five confluences of the Alakananda River, Karnaprayag is a splendid town by default. Surrounded by verdant locales and snow capped mountains, host to chilly conditions and perennial rivers, this place was destined to be a spectacular tourist destination.

Karnaprayag is a city and municipal board in Chamoli District in the Indian state of Uttarakhand located at an elevation of 1,451 metres. The other 4 prayags including Rudraprayag, Devprayag, Nandprayag and Vishnuprayag along with Karnaprayag make for the Panch (five) Prayag. This destination has a lot of mythological significance given the fact that it is believed to be the place where Karna of Mahabharata worshipped the Sun God. That's not it, it is considered to be the centre of meditation for Swami Vivekananda and his disciples. And, when all this combines with some adrenaline pumping adventure sports, it makes one's stay in this blissful town worthwhile.

On arrival, check in to a hotel and have a comfortable overnight stay.

DAY 11 TRANSFER RUDRAPRAYAG TO RISHIKESH ( 141Km / 5Hrs) OVERNIGHT : RISHIKESH



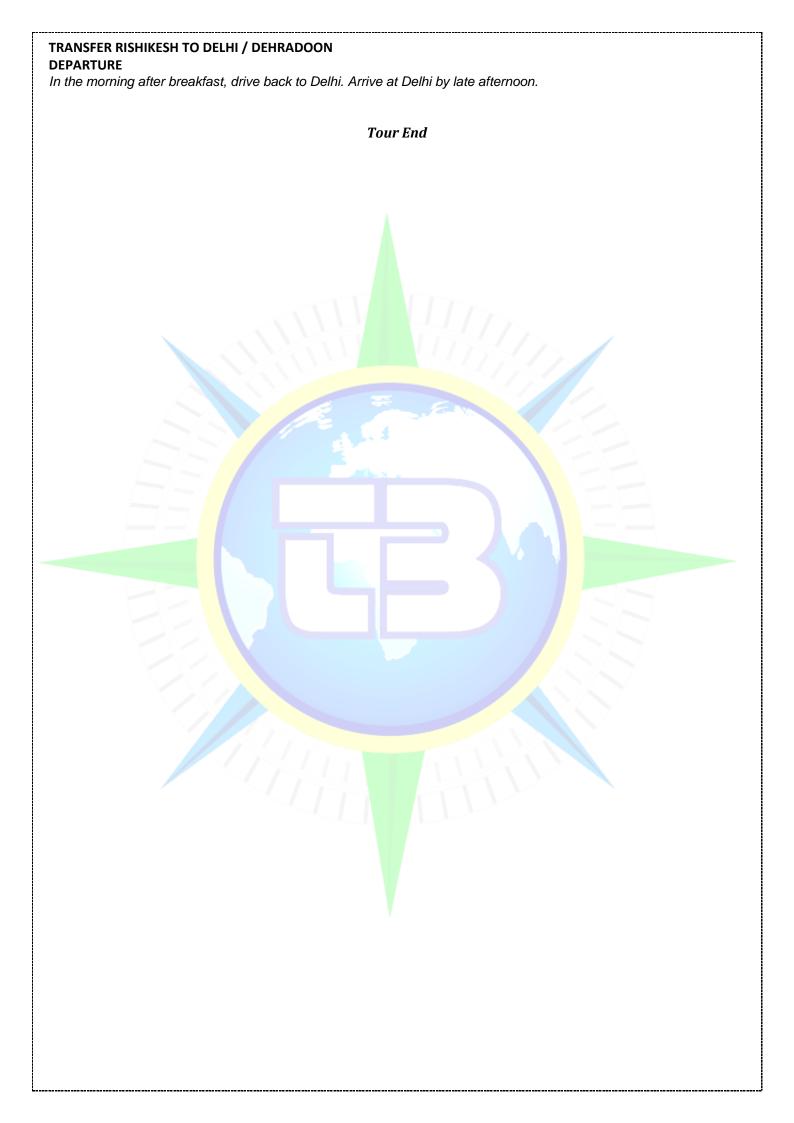




In the morning drive to Rishikesh via Srinagar and Devprayag. The celestial town of Devprayag is positioned at an elevation of 830 metres above sea level. Devprayag is the last Prayag or the holy confluence of the Alaknanda River, from here that the confluence of Alaknanda and Bhagirathi River is known as Ganga.

The town is the seat of the pundits of Badrinath Dham. The meaning of Devprayag is Godly confluence as "Dev" mans god and "Prayag" means confluence.

Once arrived at Rishikesh, check into a hotel. Later visit the Laxman Jhula, followed by an overnight stay in the hotel.







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