MYSTERIES OF NAGALAND



Nagaland is one of India's most beautiful states. Sometimes referred to as the Switzerland of the east, it is a land of rolling hills and lush valleys. Nagaland is engulfed in mystery, inhabited by vibrant people each fiercely proud of their identity. Folklore still abounds, with stories passed down from generation to generation and music is an integral part of their life.

On this journey, we will appreciate a pocket of India that is so rarely experienced. This land of proud warriors, weavers and green pristine hills is like a chapter that one always wants to read again and again. Our journey is calling you to come unravel its mysteries and explore a different way of life.

ITINERARY

Day 1- 10 December - Dimapur Arrival – Kohima (L,D)

All arrivals to reach Dimapur between 1300 – 1400 hours.

On arrival, you will be met by our local representative and we will head straight to Kohima (approx. 3 hours). There will be some packed snacks for the journey.

You will be booked at the **Hotel Vivor** or similar. Check in and relax. We will organise some tea/coffee and more snacks for you on arrival.

Rest of the afternoon at leisure.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel

Day 2-11 December - Kohima – DZUKOU VALLEY HIKE (B,L,D)

After an early breakfast depart for your **Dzukou Valley hike**.

One of the most charming valleys in Nagaland, Dzukou Valley is a spectacular visual treat. On our hike you will witness the magnificence of emerald, green hills covered by a thick blanket of verdant forests, the beauty of aqua blue serpentine streams and a myriad colourful blooms across the hillocks.

The drive time to the start point of your trek will take roughly 2 hours. The hike to the Dzukou valley will take you about 4 hours. We will spend an hour or two exploring the valley. Lunch will be arranged at the base camp. After lunch, we will start our hike back. Transportation will be waiting for us at the base camp.

Return to the hotel in the evening. Dinner & overnight at the hotel.

Day 3- 12 December - Kohima (B,L,D)

After breakfast this morning we will head out on a **Heritage walk of Kohima**. We will visit the war cemetery and the museum and interact with our local guide to understand the role the region played during the second world war.

Lunch will be in a local restaurant.

Post lunch, we will visit the local market. This is the main market in Kohima (open air) selling vegetables, indigenous tools, fruits etc. You will get to see several local crafts too like baskets and wooden plates, which they use daily.

Early this evening, we will participate in an **interactive session with local young artists** and artisans who will display their works and talk to us about their culture and a deeper understanding into their life and work. This will be arranged in a café along with tea/ coffee and will continue into the late evening where a local young band will perform. Western music is very popular in the northeast and no trip to the east is complete without a jam session.

Dinner will be in a traditional Angami kitchen to sample traditional dishes. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 4-13 December - Kohima to Khonoma / Kigwema (B,L,D)

We will check out of the hotel post breakfast and drive 2 hours to the village of **Khonoma** or Kigwema, the home of the Angami tribe where their beautiful old traditional huts have been well preserved. This village is steeped in the history of the proud warrior race. It also has the repute of being the **first green village in India**.

For the Angami tribe, hunting was their sacred cultural practice. But with the hunting ban, there came a gradual shift in their lifestyle.

Here we stay in local homes for an **authentic rustic Naga village experience.** The stay will be clean and comfortable but basic. The group will be divided into 3- 4 homes. *This is the best way to get an insight into their lifestyle.*

Post lunch, enjoy a heritage walk around the village, exploring the rustic lifestyle & interact with your hosts.

In the evening enjoy a local cultural performance, traditional dinner and the rice beer.

Overnight at your Homestay.

Day 5-14 December - Khonoma / Kigwema - Dimapur (B,L,D)

Morning Nature walks through the paddy fields. This is a wonderful experience and is wonderful for bird watching and seeing the local farmers at work. It is also great for some birdwatching and will give you an insight into why Khonoma is considered a green village and how a community can practice sustainability as a whole and help the environment.

We will try and arrange breakfast outdoors for this day.

Nagaland is known for its headway into sustainable agricultural practices and like the rest of the tribal regions in the north-east follow holistic farming practices in harmony with their natural environment. This is a wonderful way to explore and learn about their farming practises.

Later, check out and drive towards Dimapur (2 hours). Lunch will be en route.

From here, we head to our hotel, Niathu Resort or similar.

Check into the hotel by early evening and relax by the poolside.

Dinner at the hotel.

Day 6- 15 December - Dimapur (B,L,D)

This morning, after breakfast, you will visit Diezphe village (1 hour away)

At Diezphe Village, we will visit an exotic echo weaving center which was started by a textile enthusiast to promote the weaves of her tribe. This wonderful activity includes demonstrations on loom, spinning and a walk through the center. You will enjoy a wonderful, interactive session with weavers that are a part of an organization that employs and encourages local women to weave and earn an income from. Lunch today will be a simple lunch in the village.

Later, time permitting, we will visit the Bamboo center or Naga handloom where you will see beautiful old traditional baskets being woven.

Later this evening, you will join a well-known **local chef at his residence for a slow-cook local food demonstration** and dinner. He will show you the art of adding a smoky fragrance to your food, tips on grills and introduce you to indigenous ingredients. Enjoy a traditional Naga-style dinner tonight

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 7-16 December - Dimapur Departure (B)

This morning, the transfer to the airport will be arranged for you. The transfer will be for flights departing between 1330 – 1430 hours.

** Return home with wonderful memories of your holiday **

Price per person on a twin-sharing basis: Rs 72,900

Single supplement: Rs. 34,600

Inclusions

- 6 nights accommodation in the hotels mentioned or similar
- Daily Breakfast
- All meals from Lunch on Day 1 to Breakfast on Day 7
- Services of a tour escort
- A local Naga guide throughout the tour
- Sightseeing tours as mentioned
- All entrance fees
- All local permits & taxes

Exclusions

- Airfare to Dimapur & back
- Tips to the driver / guide
- Drinks with meals
- Items of a personal nature
- Anything not specifically mentioned under "Inclusions"
- 5% GST

Please note:

- > Accommodation in the homestay is basic and the services and facilities are different from typical hotels.
- Due to Covid restrictions, we may need to re-plan the itinerary and it may require certain cost adjustments.
- > All guests are required to get a Covid Test done and sent to us within 72 to 48 hours prior to departure.
- > We require a minimum of 10 people to operate the group.





Crafting Memorable Experiences

For bookings, please contact us on E: aparna@uniglobeodysseytravel.com | T: 020 66442929