



curated experiences by julie kagti

Echoes of Assam

Bihu Unveiled Chota Assam tour

2025 | 11- 17 April



The Essence of Assam: Bihu Unveiled

The New York Times newspaper in their list of destinations to visit in 2025 mentioned Assam in the 4th place:

“Assam is undoubtedly one of the most breathtaking places in India. With its natural beauty, rich culture and lush green tea plantations, it is one of a kind destinations. Visitors are sure to have an unforgettable experience.”

Embark on a transformative journey through Assam, where wildlife, culture, and stunning landscapes await you. Experience the vibrant Bihu festival in Majuli, savor local cuisines, and connect with the rich heritage of Assam in Majuli, Jorhat, and Sivasagar.

Thrilling safaris at Kaziranga National Park, spotting the iconic one-horned rhinoceros and diverse bird species.

Discover the inspiring Molai Forest, a testament to human dedication to nature, learn traditional Bihu dance and savour rustic cooking from the locals in the villages of Majuli and enjoy a stay in a tea garden at Jorhat.

Uncover the history of the Ahoms in Sivasagar, home to UNESCO-listed sites that tell the story of Assam's past.

With comfortable accommodations and expert guides, you'll have a seamless experience filled with rich insights and unforgettable memories. Join us and immerse yourself in the beauty and culture of Assam through our small group curated experience !

For more images click here :

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GCRjiG_6S7GNxgx85fNPss-qWf3qq9jp

Highlights



Wildlife Safaris & Forest Walks



Bihu Festivity



Local Artisans & Demonstrations



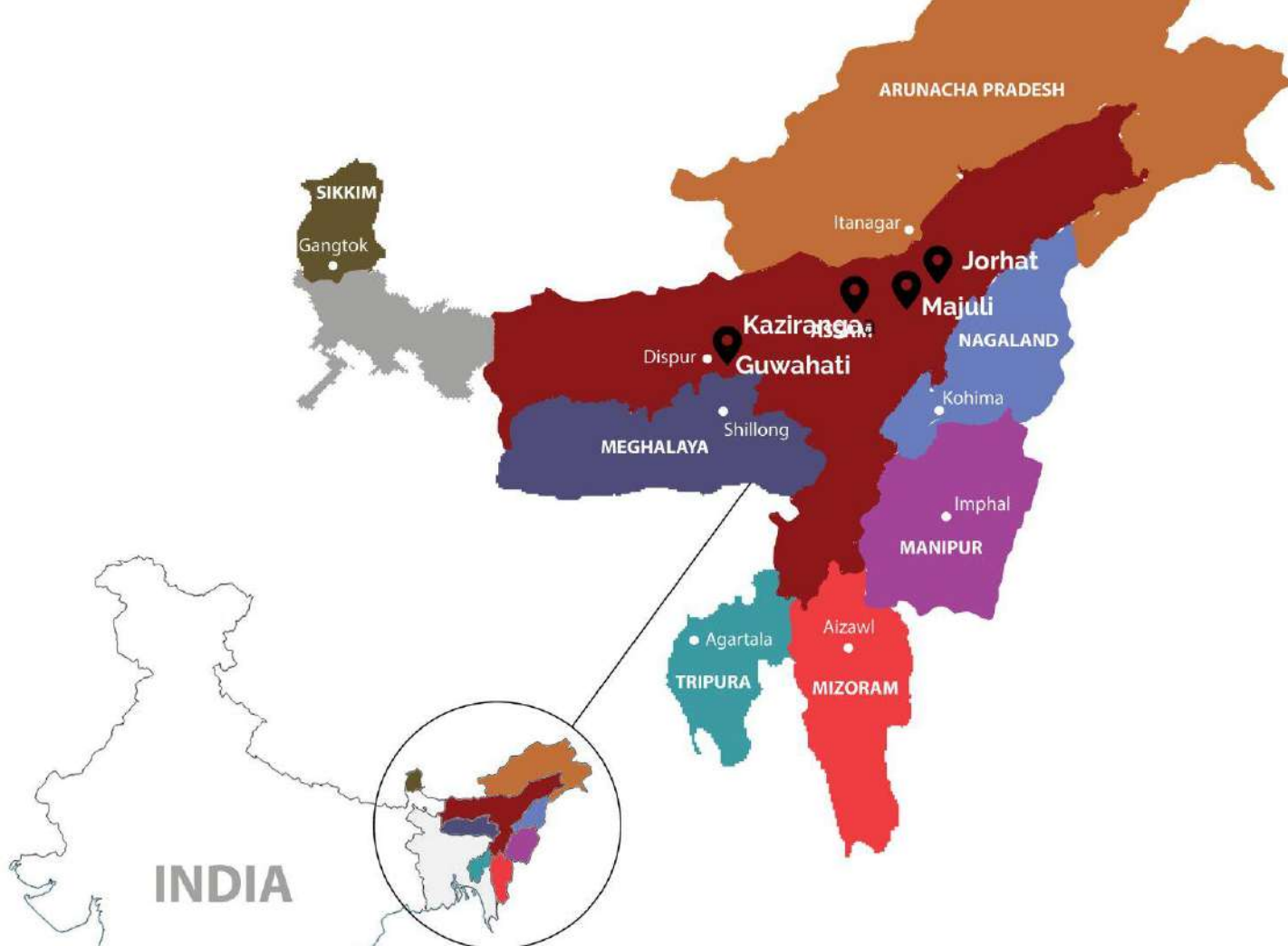
Small Group Curation & Interactions



Savour Cuisines and Traditions



Explore Faded Histories & Sites



Journey at a Glance

DATE	FROM	TO	DISTANCE	DURATION	MEALS
11 April, Friday	Guwahati	Kaziranga	170 kms	4.5 hrs	L
12 April, Friday	Kaziranga				B
13 April, Saturday	Kaziranga	Majuli Island (Via Nimati Ghat)	By road and ferry	2 hrs 30 mins by road 1 hrs 30 mins sail	B, L, D
14 April, Sunday	Majuli	Local Activity			Brunch, D
15 April, Monday	Majuli	Jorhat - Molai forest - Jorhat	By ferry and road	1 hr 40 mins ferry 30 mins drive	B, L
16 April, Tuesday	Jorhat	Sivasagar - Jorhat	20 kms	1 hour (oneway)	B,L
17 April, Wednesday	Jorhat	Jorhat airport	20 kms	40 mins	B



Itinerary

Day 1

11 April, Friday

Guwahati Airport - Kaziranga

Arrive at Guwahati airport via a morning - mid morning flight, pickup time will be 12 noon, if this is not possible to reach by 11.30 - 11.45 am then please arrive a day earlier and we will recommend a hotel to stay in Guwahati and arrange your pick up from there.

Meet your tour guide and drivers outside the arrival gate, they will assist to transfer you and your luggage to the cars.

Enjoy an Assamese style brunch known as Jalpan closer to the airport before you start the journey. The meal includes fried wheat bread, potato curry, mutton gravy, and flatten puff rice served with curd and jaggery. Tea or coffee is included too.

Start the trip with a guided walk of the Kamakhya Temple complex. Please note this does not include a Darshan within the inner sanctum. Your guide will explain the history about the origin of the temple, touch a bit on tantric practices of the region and more about. Duration of the Kamakhya walk is about an hour 30 mins.

Later drive towards Kaziranga with a tea stop en route. Drive duration is about 4 hrs 30 mins.

Check in to your hotel by late evening and relax. Dinner is included with the stay if its Infinity Resort.

Overnight stay at Kaziranga



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Jeep Safari Kaziranga National Park

Itinerary

Day 2

12 April, Saturday

Kaziranga

Morning and afternoon jungle activity for the day.

An early breakfast and get ready for the safari. The safari jeep and naturalist will report at the hotel by 7.30am. Please be ready and at the lobby by then. The duration of the safari is 2 hours approx.

Please Note : No plastic is allowed inside the park. Kindly wear neutral colours and avoid any bright colours. Carry a cap, sunglasses and a scarf for dust.

Return to the hotel for some downtime and lunch. There is a pool at the hotel grounds so carry your swimwear. The safari jeep and naturalist will report at the hotel by 1:45 pm for the afternoon safari. The safari duration is for about 2 hours.

Evening after the safari, there will be time to do some souvenir shopping at Kohora market area, your vehicles will pick you up from here.

Overnight stay at the property.



shravan  **curtain call adventures**
gram: @shrav_sk

Rhino spotting at Kaziranga

Itinerary

Day 3

13 April, Sunday

Kaziranga - Nimatighat - Majuli Island

After breakfast please check out by 8.30 am and visit the incredible orchid park where over 300 - 400 species of orchid from across the Northeast are cultivated. It also houses a small craft museum where you can see a live demonstration of the local weaving techniques.

Later drive to Nimati Ghat to board the public ferry to Majuli Island.

Partake a simple lunch at the Nimati ghat before boarding the ferry. We will book the afternoon ferry and let you know the exact time a day ahead. This ferry ride provides you with beautiful views of the Brahmaputra and its vast expanse. Your local Majuli guide will meet you at the ferry point in Majuli.

Check into your hotel on arrival and catch up on some down time. The accommodation is basic but will be comfortable with attached bathrooms.

This evening around 4.30pm visit the local market to see produce and taste street snacks prepared especially for Bihu. Afterwards walk to a local home nearby on foot, to see how some of the snacks are made in an open fire, you can try your hand at making pita, an essential Assamese sweet snack prepared using rice flour with black sesame, a definite must for Bihu. Reach by evening aarti time, (evening prayers) after which the snack making begins.

Back to the hotel dinner. (please order before heading out in the evening)



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Mask maker giving a demonstration

Itinerary

Day 4

14 April, Monday

Majuli Island and Bihu

Morning by sharp 8.00 am set out to witness the first day of the Bihu Festival, Goru Bihu when locals wash their cows in the water bodies, ask for blessings and good health for their herds for the coming year. Duration about an hour. Quite a sight to experience. You can join in too.

Visit a local Vaishnavite Satra (Auniati monastery). Enjoy a traditional Assamese breakfast there which consists of 3-4 types of rice prepared differently, usually served with curd and jaggery.

Served with cups of la cha (black tea). The guide will explain the life of the habitants of the monastery.

Afterwards visit a center where they still practise the traditional bamboo frame form of mask making and catch a demonstration of how these masks are used.

Lunch will be in a Mishing tribal village around 1.30 pm. Sample homemade rice beer and join your hostess, who will prepare a traditional lunch in her kitchen as you sit around the fire. After lunch walk around the village, see how they live and meet the home weavers. While in the village we encourage you do some handloom shopping, buy direct from the weavers. The Mishing women are skilled weavers.

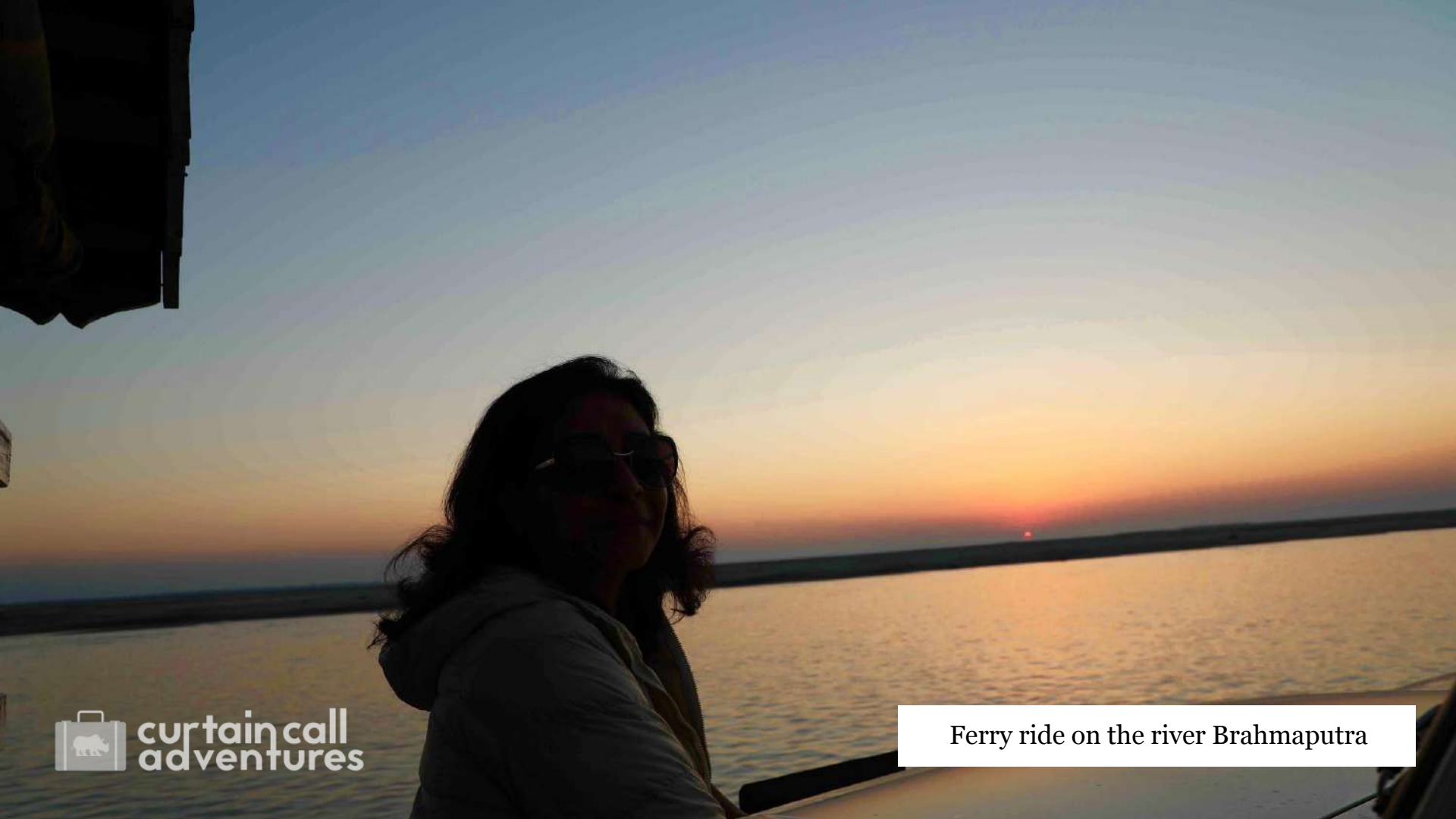
Enjoy some downtime in the hotel. This evening by 6pm head out to catch a performance of Bihu dance and join in to pick up a few steps in a nearby village. Great chance to interact with the locals. Later enjoy bonfire and dinner at the venue. A speciality dish on this day is a green stir fry, made using 101 varieties of herbs, some from the kitchen garden and some foraged from the forest area.



Bihu Festival

Why Bihu in Majuli?

Bihu is a vibrant festival celebrated in Assam, marks the Assamese New Year and the arrival of spring. Lasting for seven days, it involves cultural performances, traditional music, and lively dance forms like Bihu dance. People engage in rituals, feasts, and exchange traditional sweets called pitha. The festival reflects the agrarian essence of Assam, celebrating the harvest season. Bihu is not just a cultural extravaganza but a joyous expression of Assamese identity and unity. At Majuli they still practise the traditional style of Binu which we would like you to experience.



Itinerary

Day 5

15 April, Tuesday

Majuli - Jorhat - Molai Village - Jorhat

Check out early by 7.30 am and drive to the ferry point. We will arrange a hot breakfast at a restaurant near Nimati ghat after reaching the other side.

Then drive to the Molai village with your guide, 40 mins duration. Catch a small ferry to one of the islands in the Brahmaputra to meet Jadav Payeng*, the 'Forest Man of India'. Over the course of several years he has planted and tended trees along a sandbar of the river Brahmaputra which now encompasses an area of 1360 acres. He received the Padma Shri in 2015 for his environmental efforts. The family members now look after the forest and will take you for a walk around, showing you interesting spots before returning back to Molai. Duration of activity is 3-4 hrs. Walking is moderate but to and fro takes about 2 hrs. It is quite humbling to explore and understand one man's dedication and passion. Also the walk in the sandbars of the Brahmaputra is an experience by itself.

Enjoy a simple Mising style meal in their village.

**We hope that Mr Payeng will be able to present during your visit, however due to his very busy schedule and many travel commitments we will only know this nearer the time.*

Check in to a resort near a tea garden by tea time. Overnight at the property.

Itinerary

Day 6

16 April, Wednesday

Jorhat - Sivasagar - Jorhat

This day is focussed on an older culture and period of Assam history . The time of the Ahom kings, the tai tribes and ta chance to savour their architecture and cuisine.

Start 9 am with a talk and presentation on Ahom history and culture at the vintage hub. Tea and snacks will be served. Vintage hub is an interesting culture center that houses a cafe, bookstore, publication house cum archive and a movie screening area with local youngsters running it.

Later start a day trip to Sivasagar. Drive duration is about 1 hour or so.

Explore Sivasagar, the Royal capital of Ahom kingdom, who ruled Assam for 600 years. Sivasagar still houses some of the wonderful architectural monuments and ruins built by Ahoms in the form of temples, palaces, stone bridges and tanks. They used egg shells, lentils, dry rice and fish bones along with sand mud to construct their buildings A guide will accompany you to explain and introduce you to the monuments.

Break to enjoy an Ahom style lunch.

Visit the UNESCO World Heritage site Charaideo Maidam before returning back to Jorhat. En route there will be a tea stop.

Overnight at the property.

Itinerary

Day 7

17 April, Thursday

Transfer to Jorhat Airport

Early morning **optional** - around 6 - 6.15 am visit The Hoollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary outside Jorhat, to spot the endangered ape called Hoolock Gibbon. The Sanctuary contains India's only primates - Hoolock gibbons, and northeast India's only nocturnal primate – the Bengal slow Loris. You need to let us know in advance if you want to visit. Back to the property for breakfast by 9 am.

A last hurrah, a tea tasting session will be arranged at the property by 10.00 - 10.30am. Later check out by 11.30 -12 noon. You will be dropped at the airport for on going flights.

Bid farewell to your guide and driver outside the airport.



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Walking inside the Hoollongapar Gibbon
Sanctuary

Accomodation

DESTINATION	HOTEL LINK	ROOM CATEGORY
Kaziranga	Iora or Infinity https://iorahotels.com/iora-the-retreat-kaziranga/ https://www.infinityresorts.com/infinity-resorts-kaziranga/	Luxury
Majuli	Enchanting Majuli https://bit.ly/48nJNLU	Standard (no twin available, separate blankets will be provided)
Jorhat	Kaziranga Golf Resort https://kazirangagolfresort.in/	Deluxe Twin cottages



“Can't thank you enough for planning such an experiential trip Julie. It was so wonderfully planned and executed. We are overwhelmed by your passion and energy and care to give us a truly authentic experience. This trip was one of a kind, immersive and engaging, feel totally energised after it. The bar of traveling has been raised for us. We look forward to more travels and experiences with you.”

Aparna Rao

Group size: 6-7 guests

In case the group size is less than 6 or more than 7 guests, surcharge will be applicable. Which we will inform you nearer the time.

Inclusion

- All Transfer and Sightseeing by SUV (3-4 guests per car plus the guide)
- Accommodation as mentioned or similar category on double/twin sharing based on availability
- Meals as stated in Journey Highlights
- Activities and entry fees as mentioned in the itinerary
- Accompanying Tour guide throughout
- In car snacks, hand sanitiser and water
- 5% GST

Exclusions

- Meals other than mentioned above
- Air Fare
- Expenses of personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, tips, liquor, snacks, Airport Tax
- Insurance, meals other than mentioned in the Itinerary
- Camera charges
- Any supplementary service not mentioned in itinerary or mentioned in itinerary
- Any other item not specified in “cost includes”



Booking and Cancellation Policy

We require 40% of the total to confirm your participation at the time of booking. Remaining amount to be paid 20 days before the trip starts. Please note a cancellation charge of 25% will be applicable after 2 working days. Non-payment will mean that you are not participating.

Clients must be insured to cover the costs of medical emergencies/ expenses incurred due to weather conditions, prevailing road conditions, political situations, natural calamities, change in flight schedule, mechanical malfunction, or any such unanticipated events or acts of God. Changes to the itinerary might be required and will be done by the organisers to improve your experience.

CANCELLATION BY THE TRAVELER

In order to cancel your participation on the trip, you must provide written notification of your cancellation by email. The date of your cancellation is the date on which we receive such notification. If you cancel your participation in the trip, the cancellation fees listed below will apply:

60 or more days prior to the group arrival date, a fee of 20% of the trip cost will apply

59 to 30 days prior to the group arrival date, a fee of 50% of the trip cost will apply.

29 to 11 days prior to the group arrival date, a fee of 90% of the trip cost will apply.

10 days or fewer days prior to the group arrival date, a fee of 100% of the trip cost will apply.

If you leave a trip for any reason after it has commenced or miss any features thereon, no refunds for unused services will be made.

CANCELLATION BY THE ORGANIZER

A partial monetary refund and credit note for future travel will be issued based on terms of our service partners should for some reason the trip needs to be cancelled

Weather to Expect

In April, Kaziranga, Jorhat, and Majuli in Assam witness a transition to warmer weather. Daytime temperatures range from 20 to 35 degrees Celsius, with cool nights.

Please come prepared for an occasional shower and carry rainwear and a waterproof backpack.



What to Pack

- Please carry all the medicines that you might require
- Please carry at least two pairs of shoes. If you are participating in a trek or any other village activity, there is a likelihood of getting your shoes wet. All electronic, mobile charges, insect repellent, sunscreen, a light backpack stole, cap.
- We will provide re-usable drinking water bottles. Please refill at the hotel. These bottles are for you to take back as souvenirs.
- Internet access in the north east is quite limited – however connectivity through mobile phones is reasonably good. Carry a hotspot and a power pack



Thank You

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