

Bhimtal

Bhimtal, a serene hill station, is a popular destination lying at about 25 kms from Nainital . Watch the flock of ducks revelling in the crystal clear water of Bhimtal lake. With a picturesque location in the midst of green kumaoni hills, it is reasonably pleasant in summers ; makes for a great holiday, nevertheless. One of the largest lakes in the state, Bhimtal was named after Bhim, a Pandava brother. Enjoy boating here.



When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Rail : The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 20 kms away.
By Road : Frequent buses run from Kathgodam, Haldwani, New Delhi, etc.

Places to See

- Bhimtal Lake
- Golu Devta Temple, Ghadaakhal
- Sat Tal
- Naukuchiatal

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Uttarakhand

From mighty mountains to verdant valleys, pristine glaciers to shimmering lakes, meandering rivers and streams to national parks and forests and many more; Uttarakhand, also known as Devbhoomi (the land of gods), is home to umpteen pilgrimages, temples and quaint hill stations, it is a Flawless tinian for rest, rejuvenation and peace. People flock here to seek spiritual solace. These aspects instill an exquisite singularity to Uttarakhand; it is truly 'heaven on earth', a getaway from the hustle-bustle of urban life. Uttarakhand is renowned for its culture, cuisine and hospitality ; accommodation is available which can suit different pockets.

Ranikhet

A quiet town, Ranikhet has maintained its old era ambience. It was named after Queen Padmini, wife of King Sukhardev of Kumaon. Who found the place so charming that she desired to settle here. Perched at 1,828 m above sea level, Ranikhet has umpteen trekking routes within picturesque mountains. Along with an enchanting view of Bhagirathi River (in the east) to Nandakot (in the west), the region is dotted with temples, orchards and museums.



Ranikhet Golf Course

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Rail : Around 78 kms away, lies Kathgodam Railways Station; it has train services to and from Bareilly, Howrah, Lucknow, New Delhi, etc.
By Road : Buses and cabs to Ranikhet are available from major nearby cities. Both the State transport corporation and private operators run regular services.

Places to See

- Jhula Devi Temple
- Upat Golf Course
- Mankamaheshwar
- Kalika Temple
- Chaubtia Gardens

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.

Almora

One of the most popular hill station, Almora stands at a height of about 1650 m above sea level. The city finds mention in the epic Mahabharata. It was built by a scion of the Chand Dynasty, King Kalyanchand, in mid16th century ; it sits on a horse-saddle shaped ridge-the eastern part is know as Talift which faces the rising sun; the western part is selfitf which faces the setting sun. The fort, monuments and royal courts are still present here. Kaushik (Kosi) and Shalmali (Suyal) are the two rivers flowing nearby. See snow-capped peaks from here.



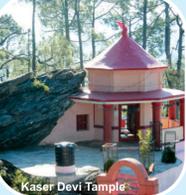
Almora Hill Station

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Rail : Kathgodam railway station is around 87km away. Trains reach Kathgodam from New Delhi, Bareilly, Lucknow, Howrah, etc. State-run buses and cabs are available from Kathgodam and Haldwani.
By Road : An excellent road network makes Almora a delight to drive to . Cabs are available from all the nearby major cities.

Places to See

- Nanda Devi Temple
- Kaser Devi Temple
- Katarmal Sun Temple
- G.B. Pant Public Museum
- Vivekananda Ashram
- Deer Park
- Bright End Corner
- Kalimath
- Chitai Temple
- Lakhudiyar

Where to stay:
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Lansdowne

This tranquil hill station can be best explained as a place where one would love to put a chair in the balcony and look at the undulating hills. Encompassed by oak, silver fir, spruce and pine forests, it is a perfect getaway for nature lovers.



Picturesque Mountains

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Air : Jolly Grant Airport in Dehradun is at a distance of about 100 kms. Taxi services are available from airport to Lansdowne. Delhi has the nearest international airport at 264 kms.
By Rail : Kotdwara is the nearest railway station at 40 kms. Taxi services are available.
By Road : Bus services connects other neighbourhood cities in the region. Private and public buses are available from Lansdowne to kotdwara (40 kms) at regular intervals. It is connected to Haridwar, Dehradun and Mussoorie among others. by roadways.

Places to See

- Tip-n-Top and Show View point
- St. Mary's and St. John's Church
- Darwan Singh Sangrahalaya
- Bhim Pakora
- Tarkeshwar Mahadev
- Hawagarh
- The War Memorial
- Kaleshwar Mandir



Lansdown Church

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.

Nainital

Perched at an altitude of 1,938 m above sea level, Nainital is one of the most alluring tourist destinations in the state. The city has evolved around the naini Lake. The Summer capital of the erstwhile United Province, Nainital continues to be known as the 'lake district of India'. It has a String of lakes, each seemingly more beautiful than the other; go for paddle boating, rowing, sailing, kayaking or canoeing!



Naini Lake

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Rail : The nearest railway station is at Kathgodam, about 35 kms away. Trains connect kathgodam with Bareilly, Howrah, Lucknow and New Delhi.
By Road : State transport corporation operator several buses that connect Nainital with other cities of Uttarakhand and northern India.Besides, many private bus operates run deluxe bus services, including Volvo.

Places to See

- Naini Lake
- Raj Bhawan
- Boat House Club
- Nainital Zoo
- Pangot
- Naina Peak
- Tiffin Top
- Snow View
- Land's End
- Observatory
- Eco-cave Gardens
- St. John-in-the-Wilderness

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Kausani

Called as 'Switzerland of India' by Mahatma Gandhi, the beautiful hill station, Kausani opens up the panorama of Someshwar Valley on the one side and Garur and Bajinath Katyuri Valley on the others. It was his favourite home within the mountains; he stayed at the Anashakti Ashram for Yoga in early 20th century, and commented that Kausani was the perfect resort for seekers of good health.



View from Kausani- Trishul, Nanda Devi

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Rail : The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 136 kms away
By Road : Frequent buses run for Kausani from Kathgodam, Haldwani, New Delhi, etc.

Places to See

- Bajinath
- Bageshwar

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Bajinath Temple



Tiger at Jim Corbett National Park

Jim Corbett National Park

Jim Corbett National Park, situated in Himalayan foothills encompasses an area of about 521 sq.kms. ; along with Sonanadi WLS and Reserve Forest, the area makes Corbett Tiger Reserve about 1288 sq. kms. it supports innumerable floral, faunal and avi-faunal species. See the Royal Bengal Tiger and Asiatic Elephant along with over 600 types of birds. The park is named after the famous hunter , naturalist and conservationist, Edward James

When to go : The park is officially closed from 15th of June to 15th of Nov. April to mid-June is an ideal time for sighting animals, especially elephants.
How to reach :
By Rail : Rammagar is the closest railhead.
By Road : Route from Delhi is via Hapur-Moradabad. From Lucknow, It is via Bareilly - Kichha - Kashipur.

Places to See

- The Jim Corbett Museum

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Jeep Safari at Corbett

Rajaji National Park

Named after Late Sri C. Rajagopalachari, popularly as 'Rajaji' , this National Park is famous for its prestin beauty and rich biodiversity . A perfect place for nature and wildlife lovers, it is spread over an area of 820 sq. kms. it is a splendid ecospere nestled in the Shivalki ranges and is home to 23 kinds of mammals and more than 300 avi-faunal species.



A Herd of Elephants

When to go : 15 November to 15 June
How to reach :
By Air : Nearest airport is Jolly Grant, Dehradun-35 kms from Rajaji National Park.
By Rail : Haridwar Railway Station (8 kms), Dehradun Railway Station (55 kms)
By Road : Buses and cabs are available for Rajaji National Park . The Road distances are: Haridwar(8kms), Rishikash(27 kms) , Dehradun (55kms) &

Where to stay:
 Besides forest lodges, there are many resort available around the park.



Deer in the Wild

Binsar

Binsar is located at a distance of about 30 kms from Almora; it used to be the summer capital of the Chand kings. The place gets its name from the famous 16th century Bineshwar Mahadev Temple.



Bineshwar Mahadev Temple

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Rail : The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 112 kms away.
By Road : Frequent buses run from Kathgodam, Haldwani, New Delhi, etc.

Places to See

- Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary : Spread over 46sq. kms. in lush green forests, the sanctuary is home to Leopard, Himalayan Black Bear, Barking Deer, Chital and Porcupine. . it also nestles over 200 bird species with some rare varieties like Fortkiall, Blackbird Laughing Thrush, Kalij Pheasant and Monal. The park provides of the trekking opportunities Don't miss the 'Zero Point' which offers an aerial view of the towering Himalayan peaks like, Nanda Devi, Shivaling, Trishul, etc.
- Gananath Temple

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Haridwar

A famous Hindu pilgrimage, Haridwar is also the getaway to four pilgrim destination in the state. It is here that the holy Ganga leaves the mountains and enters plains. It is said that by taking a dip here one attains Nirvana ie. freedom from the cycle of birth and death. The Holy Trinity, Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh are belived to have blessed Haridwar. It is also a shaktipeeth and a center for religious learning. Known as a major centre for art and culture, the city has sustained the Hindu teaching methodology of Gurukul. With Ujjain, Nasik and Allahabad, Haridwar is one of the four important centres where Kumbh Mela is organized every 12 years.



Har-ki-Pauri

When to go : Throughout the year
How to reach :
By Air : Haridwar is located 39 kms from Jolly Grant Airport. Buses and cabs are easily available.
By Rail: Haridwar railway station is placed on the rail network.
By Road: The city has regular bus services to and from Agra, Chandigarh, Delhi, Dehradun, Josimath, Manali, Rishikesh, Shimla, and Uttarkashi. Cabs are also available.

Places to See

- Har-ki-Pauri
- Mansa Devi Temple
- Vaishno Devi Temple
- Maya Devi Temple
- Bharat Mata Mandir
- Sati Kund
- Bhimgoda Kund
- Ved Mandir



Maya Devi Temple

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.

Rishikesh

Also famous as "Abode of Sages", Rishikesh is a divine place located about 24 kms upriver from Haridwar. It is said that after the prayers and penance of Rabhya Rishi God with the name of "Hrshikesh" emerged; hence the name . Rivers Ganga and Chandrabhoga meet here. Considered to be the starting point for the Char Dham Yatra (pilgrimage), Rishikesh is the quintessential haven for pilgrims and those interested in different aspects of Hinduism and of course yoga and meditation.

If you are interested in adventure Rishikesh is known for rafting and is the starting point for treks to many Himalayan peaks. The International Yoga event held on the bank of Ganga annually for a week in February attracts people from all over.



The Holy Ganga at Rishikesh

When to go: Throughout the year
How to reach:
By Air: Located at 17 kms from Jolly Grant Airport; buses and Cabs are available from the airport.
By Rail: Connected to Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Lucknow and Varanasi on the rail network.
By Road: Rishikesh has regular bus servies to and from Delhi, Dehradun, Haridwar, Uttarkashi and Joshimath.

Places to See

- Bharat Mandir
- Triveni Ghat
- Laxman Jhula
- Rishikund
- Geeta Bhawan
- Ashrams
- Ram Jhula
- Neelkanth Mahadev Temple
- Kailash Niketan Temple
- Shivanand Ashram

Where to stay:
 Besides forest lodges, there are many resort available around the park.

Hemkund Sahib

Hemkund Sahib is located at an altitude of 4329 m amid pristine envions. A5 to 6 hours steep climb from Ghanghria would bring one to this holy spot. With snow - capped peaks and glaciers all around, its clear waters reflect the surroundings. One of the most important pilgrmage spots for Sikhs and Hindus, Hemkund Sahib houses a Gurudwara; the Lakshman temple lies nearby. According to the holy Guru Granth Sahib, Guru Gobind Singhji, the 10th Guru of the Sikhs had meditated here.



Hemkund Sahib

When to go: June to Early October
How to reach:
By Air: Nearest airport-Jolly Grant, Dehradun(298 kms).
By Rail: Nearest railhead Rishikesh.

By Road: 5 kms from Ghanghaira; go by foot from Govindghat, where the roads from Rishikesh, Koldwara and Dehradun end.

Places to See

- Laxman Temple

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Jageshwar

Located about 36 kms from Almora, Jageshwar has a group of 124 temples and many statues. The complex is surrounded by lush green **Deodar** trees. Adi Guru Shankarachary is said to have visited in the 8th century AD during the Katyuri rule .Jageshwar is one of the 12 *Jyotirlingas*.



Jageshwar Temple

When to go: Throughout the year
How to reach:
By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 122 kms away.
By Road: Bus services connect destinations within state as well as neighbouring states.

Places to See

- Vriddh Jagewshwar
- Mritola Ashram

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Ancient Jageshwar Temple

Valley of Flowers

Valley of Flowers is Famous all over the world for its alpine flowers, striking natural and fauna. Situated in the Garhwal Himalayas, it was discovered by the famous mountaineer, explorer, and botanist, Frank S. Smith in 1937. It is home to over 300 Species of wild flowers. Some of the rare once that can be spotted are Anemone, Geranium, Marigold Potentilla, Asters, Ranunculus, Inula, Campanula, Thermopsis, Dactylorhiza, Cypripedium, Straberry, Rhododendrons, etc.



Valley of Flowers

When to go: June to October
Getting there
 It is a 13 kms trek from Govindghat (37 kms from Badrinath) , posters are available at Govindghat & Gangaria.

Deoria Tal
 Deoria Tal is situated near Ukhimath. It is considered a holy place as well as a trekking destination This lake is surrounded by magnificent snow-cats peaks. it has forests all around. An ideal place for bird-watchers and fishing enthusiasts, it is a destination of the beautiful 8 kms trek or a drive from Ukhimath.



Deoria Tal

Auli

Auli is a beautiful ski town that can be reached by road, or by ropeway from Joshimath. Its terrain is considered to be excellent for skiing, even by international standards. The facility is available in winter, while in summer it assumes a very picturesque look. Nandadevi and Kamet are a visual delight when viewed from the lap of Auli Buggy.



Skiing

When to go: April to June, September to October
How to reach:
By Air: The closest airport for Auli is Jolly Grant, Dehradun 282 kms away.
By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Rishikesh, 264 kms away.
By Road: Frequent buses run for Joshimath from Dehradun, Rishikesh and Haridwar. It is also possible to get to Auli by hired jeeps or taxis.

Places to See

- Josimath
- Kuari Pass
- Vanshinarayan Kalpeshwar
- Tapovan(Hot Spring)

Where to stay:
 GMVN tourist complex. There are a few budget hotels on Josimath-Auli road as well.



Huts on the hillside - Auli

Mussoorie

The gateway to Garhwal Himalayas or 'Queen of the Hills,' Mussoorie (34 kms from Dehradun) is one of the most popular holiday destinations in India. Around 2,005 m above sea level, the vally overlooks a fantastic view.



Mussoorie City

When to go: Throughout the year
How to reach:
By Air: The closest airport is Jolly Grant, Dehradun 60 kms away.
By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Dehradun, 34 kms away.
By Road: Buses and taxis are available from Dheradun, Haridwar, etc.

Places to See

- Municipal Garden
- Kempty Falls
- Tibetan Temple
- Bhatta Falls

Where to stay:
 Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Kempty Falls

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