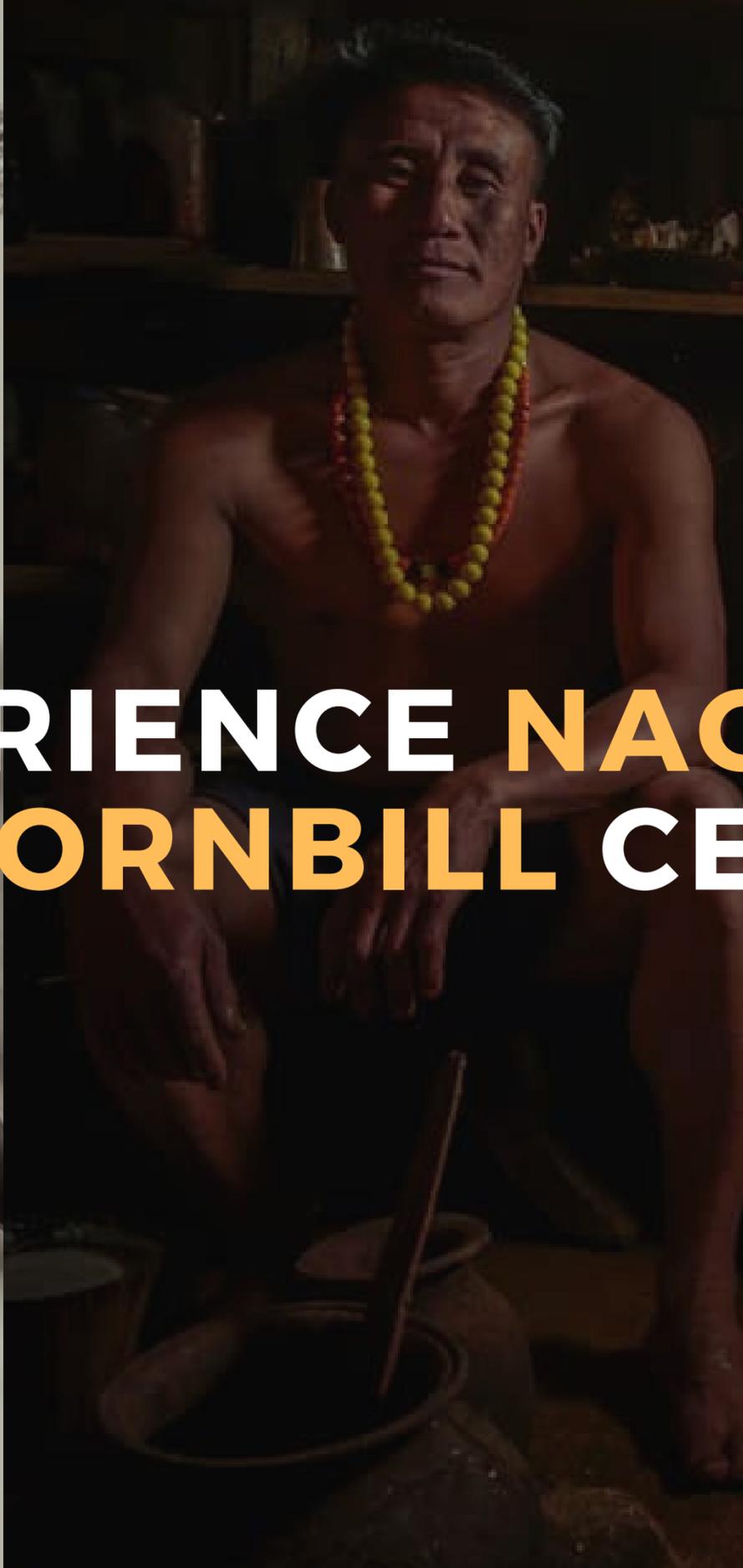




**EXPERIENCE
DESTINATION**



EXPERIENCE NAGALAND DURING HORNBILL CELEBRATION

TRIP OVERVIEW

Hornbill festival is a massive international occasion celebrated annually (Dec 1-10) in Kisama village, Kohima. Before anything is spilled about this celebration, one must know that **Nagaland is a land of eccentric cultural festivals**. These festivals are held year round among the varied tribes in their respective towns and villages. The fundamental theme of these activities (in a nutshell) is to bring back to life the age old tradition of the ancestors for a brief moment as a matter of identification and to showcase an element of a long lost culture to the contemporary generation. Once the celebration is set off, all the people present in the event has the liberty to indulge themselves in the traditional luxury of delicacies, drinks, arts, crafts, music, attire, folklores, equipments, paintings, muses and etcetera at the costs ranging from free to extravagant.

Apart from indulging ourselves in the **festive celebration**, we are going to stay in few of the warmest **homestays, hop villages**, we are also going to trek to the mighty **Dzukou valley**, a night of camping in the wild and make many many new friends!

Looking forward to hosting you in our home!

SHORT ITINERARY

7th December to 12th December, 2022
5 nights and 6 days

7th Dec: Dimapur - Kohima - Evening hornbill celebrations - Night Carnival

8th Dec: Khonoma village - Dzuleke Village - Kohima City - Evening Hornbill celebrations

9th Dec: Kigwema Village Walk - A day at Hornbill

10th Dec: Trek to Dzukou

11th Dec: Trek back from Dzukou and evening drive to Dimpaur. Catch music performance or explore cafes/pubs in Dimapur.

12th Dec: Drive to airport as per flight timings.



DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 - 7th December

Welcome to Nagaland

Your city - Dimapur - Kohima

Today is about breaking ice with the fellow travellers and the locals, experiencing Angami (local tribe) hospitality, warming up to the festivities, walking around in the town, exploring cafes, hornbill night carnival. If you are a non vegetarian, there are a number of seasonal exotic meats you may try. Delicious home cooked food available for vegetarians as well.

- Meet and greet at Dimapur airport/station by 12-1 pm.
- Drive straight to the capital town Kohima.
- We will stop at Kohima and take a stroll at the local Naga Market. Go to the hornbill venue and pour rice beer in the bamboo mugs and see where the evening takes us.

Overnight at Homestay

Total drive time is 3 hours.



Day 2 - 8th December

A day hopping villages in Nagaland

Kohima - Khonoma - Dzüleke - Kigwema

Today is about understanding the land more, the culture, history, architecture, food, lifestyle, superstitions and anything you are curious about the Nagas. Today is about storytelling. We walk around the first green village of Asia (more on that later) in a curated route through all main khels/sectors of the village with ED hyperlocal guides. After this we take a quick stroll in a very picturesque neighbouring remote village called Dzüleke. This area practices some of the most innovative strategies for conservation, distribution of resources and sustainability.

- Drive to Khonoma after breakfast
- Village walk in Khonoma, visit to paddy fields.
- Local Herbal tea time at UKU cafe.
- Lunch in Dzuleke
- Back to Kohima and head to Kigwema.
- Visit Hornbill venue in the evening.

Overnight in Japfü Homestay.

Total drive time 3 hours.



Day 3 - 9th December

A day in Hornbill

Kigwema - Kisama - Kigwema

We take the whole day today to indulge in Hornbill celebrations. We will visit morungs (house/gathering place/educational center) of every tribe. Try local cuisines, sip rice beer of different flavours, explore hornbill market and see lots and lots of colourful cultural performances. This isn't even the half of the experiences we will see that day. We will scatter all around the venue and spend as much time as we want in the venue.

There will be several independent ceremonies happening around the venue, based on the schedule, we can visit some of these. Its a whole day of colourful performances, lots of rice beer, exotic food, good music and merry.

- Explore hornbill and ceremonies at Kigwema village whole day. Visit to Kohima Town also possible.

Overnight in Japfü Homestay.

Total drive time 3 hours.



Stone pulling ceremony in Kigwema

Day 4 - 10th December

Trek to the Mighty Dzükou Valley

Kigwema - Dzukou

Today is about walking slowly in the most beautiful landscapes, camping and stargazing. It is the day to indulge in the nature's masterpiece, push ourselves a little out of the comfort zone, watch the most beautiful sunset, sleep under the milky way of stars, campfire conversations, smell of firewood, books, wine, conversations and photography.

- Breakfast will be served by 7:30 am and by 8 am.
- We will then drive to the starting point of the trek.
- First part of the trek is an ascend for about 60-90 minutes in a jungle. Terrains are rugged and rocky with no concrete steps.
- After the ascend we reach the valley and further 2-3 hours of pleasant easy walk will take us to the place where we can camp.
- Set up DIY camps (Our guides will be there to assist)
- Enjoy the evening



Overnight at Camps

Total Drive time 1 hour off-roading.

Day 5 - 11th December

A day in the valley

Dzukou - Kigwema

Today is about exploring the vastness and beauty of the valley. We go for a walk around the valley, pass through gushing streams, a giant cross, natural cave like formation etc. Spend the first half of the day exploring the valley, and by evening we return to our homestay where hot water and home-cooked lunch awaits us.

- Wake up to morning tea. Make DIY Sandwiches for breakfast.
- Pack up the tents and hand it to the porter.
- Start trek back to the base at around 11am-12noon.
- Hot water and lunch awaits for us at the homestay.
- Drive to Dimapur after lunch. Checkout night life and restaurants in Dimapur.

Overnight at Acacia Hotel

Total drive time 1 hour off-roading + 2-3 hours drive



Day 6 - 12th December

Bid Adieu

Dimapur Airport - Fly back home

Drive to airport as per flight timings.
Our Hornbill celebration tales of Nagaland ends today.



ARRIVAL:

Take a flight to Dimapur on 7th December. Connecting flights via Kolkata from all major cities. OR fly to Guwahati on 6th December, 2022. Sleep a night there and take the 6:10 am train on the 7th to Dimapur (Train Number 12067 Jan Shatabdi Express).

DEPARTURE:

Fly out of Dimapur from 12:40 pm flight. It's a connecting flight via Kolkata to all the major cities in India. You can alternatively choose to take an overnight train from Dimapur to Guwahati and fly out from Guwahati on the 12th.

PRICE PER HEAD

INR 27,500/- per person

INCLUSIONS

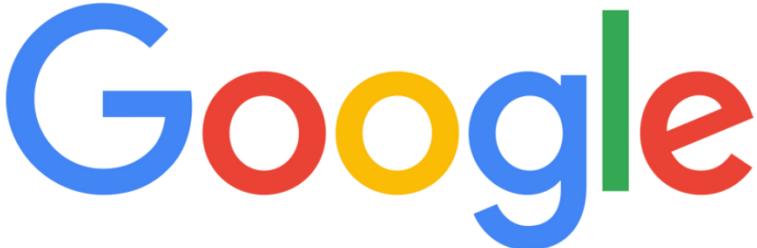
- GST
- Clean, Hygienic and comfortable Accommodation.
- Point to point transfers from Dimapur airport / station in the first day to Dimapur airport on the last day. Transfers from hornbill venue to kigwema homestay (5 minute drive) is not included because we wanted to keep a flexibility of staying in the venue as long as one wants. Private cabs are readily available and will cost not more than Rs 200 one way.
- Breakfast on all days.
- Dinner on all days except day 5.
- Lunch on Day 2, 3 and 4.
- ED Hyperlocal guide during the treks.
- ED storytellers during the village walk
- Parking and Tollcharges
- Driver Allowance, food and accommodation.
- Inner Line Permits.

EXCLUSIONS

- Airfare/RailFare
- Any food and beverage cost apart from the ones mentioned above
- Camera Fees
- Local transfers from Kigwema homestay to Hornbill Venue.
- Any Tips.
- Entry Tickets to Dzukou Valley, Museums, Parks, Cafes etc.(not more than 200 perhead for the whole trip)
- Any personal Expenditure (Shopping, medicines etc)
- Costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances such as bad weather, landslides, road conditions and any other circumstances beyond our control.
- Any items / services not specifically mentioned under the head 'inclusions'.

READ OUR REVIEWS

Click on the logos



SEE OUR TRIP UPDATES ON:



CANCELLATION POLICY

If it becomes necessary to cancel your booking, you must notify us immediately by mail on business@experiencedestination.com. Cancellation will take effect only after we receive the email from you. Following is the cancellation policy:

-45 days prior to departure - 90% total amount or trip deposit will be refunded.

-31 to 44 days prior to departure - 70% total amount. No refund on trip deposit.

-11 to 30 days prior to departure - 20% of total amount. No refund on trip deposit.

-0 to 10 days prior to departure - no refund.

Please note that the above quoted amounts may change without notice. If the tour/itinerary price is quoted as a package, no partial refunds or credit will be given for services not used. Experience Destination reserves the right to cancel any trip or booking in which case participants will be given a refund in full. However, you will not be entitled to make any further claim for any injury, loss, expenses or damage (either direct or consequential) or for any loss of time or inconvenience which may result from such cancellation (including but not limited to any travel reservation, visa, passport and vaccination charges, or departure, gear purchases, airport and airline taxes). We strongly recommend that you book refundable tickets. We also recommend that you obtain travel insurance upon booking.

Get in Touch with us at +919859960660 or social@experiencedestination.com for any Queries or assistance.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Experience Destination shall not be liable for damages / charges incurred by travellers including but not limited to the following reasons if applied:

- Natural Disaster, war, civil unrest, alteration or cancellation of tour itinerary due to such causes.
- Accidents during transportation or accomodation, damages by fire.
- Orders of either Indian Govt or immigration regulations, isolation resulting from infestious diseases and tour itinerary alterations due to such causes.
- Accidents occuring during the trip activities.
- Food Poisoning.
- Theft.

PAYMENT DETAILS

Experience Destination Name of Account Holder

Current Account No. 4513306659

IFSC Code KKBK0009529

Bank Kotak Mahindra Bank

Google Pay Number: **9859960660** (Ratan Jain)

VPA for UPI: **experiencedestination@kotak**

Get in Touch with us at +919859960660 or social@experiencedestination.com for any Queries or assistance.