Gangtok & Tsomgo

Monasteries, a glacial lake and the road to the Nathu La pass.





Dates	Fri, 11 Dec 2026 to Sun, 13 Dec 2026 (3 days)
Travellers	2
Interests	All
Stay	Budget Hotel in Gangtok
Arrive via	New Jalpaiguri (rail) / Bagdogra or Pakyong (air)
Best season	Mar-Jun, Oct-Dec (ideal trip: 3 days)
Estimated cost	Rs. 16,209 (Rs. 8,104 per person)

Why visit Gangtok & Tsomgo?

Sikkim's capital is clean, friendly and full of Buddhist culture, and permits open up the high-altitude Tsomgo Lake, Baba Mandir and the China border at Nathu La.

Day-by-day plan

Day 1 | Fri, 11 Dec 2026 | Rumtek Monastery & Banjhakri Falls

7:00 AM	Drive New Jalpaiguri to Gangtok (120 km, ~4 h)
11:00 AM	Reach Gangtok and check in
12:00 PM	Drive to Rumtek Monastery (24 km, ~1 h each way)
12:45 PM	MUST SEE **Rumtek Monastery** Seat of the Karmapa, one of the largest monasteries in Sikkim.
2:45 PM	Return to Gangtok
3:30 PM	MUST SEE **Banjhakri Falls** Waterfall park celebrating Sikkimese shamans.
Night	Night: Gangtok

Day 2 | Sat, 12 Dec 2026 | MG Marg & Enchey Monastery & Ganesh Tok & Tashi Viewpoint

7:00 AM	MUST SEE **MG Marg & Enchey Monastery** Pedestrian promenade and a 200-year-old monastery.
9:00 AM	MUST SEE **Ganesh Tok & Tashi Viewpoint** Viewpoints for Kanchenjunga at sunrise.
Night	Night: Gangtok

Day 3 | Sun, 13 Dec 2026 | Departure

7:00 AM	Drive Gangtok to New Jalpaiguri (120 km, ~4 h driving)
11:00 AM	Reach New Jalpaiguri for your onward journey
Night	Departure - end of trip

Budget estimate

Item	Amount
Stay - Budget Hotel, 2 nights, 1 room	Rs. 4,400
Food - 2 people x 3 days	Rs. 4,800
Local cab - about 316 km incl. transfers and day trips	Rs. 5,688
Entry fees, safaris and tickets (approx.)	Rs. 120
Miscellaneous / buffer (8%)	Rs. 1,201
Total (estimated)	**Rs. 16,209**

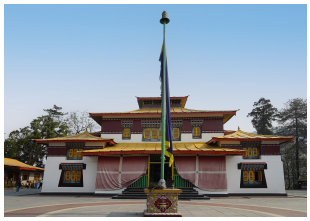
Places on your trip - and why to visit them



MUST SEE **Rumtek Monastery**
24 km from Gangtok · time needed: 2 h · entry: Rs. 10
Why visit: Seat of the Karmapa, one of the largest monasteries in Sikkim.



MUST SEE **Banjhakri Falls**
7 km from Gangtok · time needed: 1 h · entry: Rs. 50
Why visit: Waterfall park celebrating Sikkimese shamans.



MUST SEE **MG Marg & Enchey Monastery**
1 km from Gangtok · time needed: 2 h · entry: free
Why visit: Pedestrian promenade and a 200-year-old monastery.



MUST SEE **Ganesh Tok & Tashi Viewpoint**
6 km from Gangtok · time needed: 1.5 h · entry: free
Why visit: Viewpoints for Kanchenjunga at sunrise.

If you have more time



MUST SEE **Tsomgo Lake & Baba Mandir**
38 km from Gangtok · time needed: 5 h · entry: free
Why visit: Glacial lake at 3,753 m, often frozen in winter, and the shrine of the soldier-saint Baba Harbhajan Singh.
Tips: Permit needed via a registered agent; carry ID and photos

Travel tips

- Carry a government photo ID - hotels, monuments, permits and many temples ask for it.
- Book safaris, special darshan / aarti passes, permits and toy-train seats online in advance.
- Temples often have dress codes and do not allow leather, phones or cameras inside.
- Mountain roads can close after rain or snow - keep a buffer day and check road status locally.
- Keep this itinerary offline; network is patchy in hills and forests.