Rishikesh & Haridwar

Ganga aarti, ashrams and yoga, with white-water rafting a few kilometres upstream.





Dates	Fri, 11 Dec 2026 to Sun, 13 Dec 2026 (3 days)
Travellers	2
Interests	All
Stay	Budget Hotel in Rishikesh
Arrive via	Haridwar (rail) / Dehradun Jolly Grant (air)
Best season	Sep-Jun (ideal trip: 3 days)
Estimated cost	Rs. 16,308 (Rs. 8,154 per person)

Why visit Rishikesh & Haridwar?

Where the Ganga leaves the Himalaya, Rishikesh and Haridwar are two of Hinduism's holiest towns. Evenings belong to the aarti on the ghats, mornings to yoga, and the river above town offers some of India's best rafting.

Day-by-day plan

Day 1 | Fri, 11 Dec 2026 | Triveni Ghat & Ganga Aarti & Laxman Jhula, Ram Jhula & Parmarth Niketan

7:00 AM	Drive Haridwar to Rishikesh (25 km, ~1 h)
7:45 AM	Reach Rishikesh and check in
5:00 PM	MUST SEE **Triveni Ghat & Ganga Aarti** Rishikesh's main bathing ghat, where the evening aarti with lamps floated on the river draws devotees every day. Tip: Arrive by 5:30 pm for a good spot
7:00 PM	MUST SEE **Laxman Jhula, Ram Jhula & Parmarth Niketan** The suspension bridges over the Ganga link the ashram side of town; Parmarth Niketan holds the best-known riverside aarti. Tip: Walk between the bridges along the river
10:00 PM	MUST SEE **Beatles Ashram (Chaurasi Kutia)** Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's former ashram where the Beatles stayed in 1968, now a graffiti-covered ruin inside Rajaji Tiger Reserve.
Night	Night: Rishikesh

Day 2 | Sat, 12 Dec 2026 | White-water rafting from Shivpuri & Kunjapuri Devi Sunrise

7:00 AM	NEARBY **White-water rafting from Shivpuri** The 16 km stretch from Shivpuri back to Rishikesh has grade III-IV rapids such as Roller Coaster and Golf Course. Tip: Season Sept-June
11:00 AM	Drive to Kunjapuri Devi Sunrise (25 km, ~1 h each way)
11:45 AM	NEARBY **Kunjapuri Devi Sunrise** Shakti Peetha on a 1,676 m ridge with a sweeping sunrise view of the Garhwal peaks. Tip: Leave Rishikesh by 5 am
1:45 PM	Return to Rishikesh
Night	Night: Rishikesh

Day 3 | Sun, 13 Dec 2026 | Har Ki Pauri, Haridwar

7:00 AM	Drive to Har Ki Pauri, Haridwar (25 km, ~1 h each way)
7:45 AM	NEARBY **Har Ki Pauri, Haridwar** The ghat where the Ganga enters the plains; the evening aarti at Brahmakund is one of India's great spectacles. Ropeways climb to Mansa Devi and Chandi Devi temples. Tip: Combine with Mansa Devi ropeway
11:45 AM	Return to Rishikesh
12:45 PM	Check out and transfer to Haridwar (25 km) for your journey home
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 196 km incl. transfers and day trips	Rs. 3,600

Entry fees, safaris and tickets (approx.)	Rs. 2,300
Miscellaneous / buffer (8%)	Rs. 1,208
Total (estimated)	**Rs. 16,308**

Places on your trip - and why to visit them



MUST SEE **Triveni Ghat & Ganga Aarti**
1 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 2 h · entry: free
Why visit: Rishikesh's main bathing ghat, where the evening aarti with lamps floated on the river draws devotees every day.
Tips: Arrive by 5:30 pm for a good spot

MUST SEE **Laxman Jhula, Ram Jhula & Parmarth Niketan**
3 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 3 h · entry: free
Why visit: The suspension bridges over the Ganga link the ashram side of town; Parmarth Niketan holds the best-known riverside aarti.
Tips: Walk between the bridges along the river

MUST SEE **Beatles Ashram (Chaurasi Kutia)**
3 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 1.5 h · entry: Rs. 150
Why visit: Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's former ashram where the Beatles stayed in 1968, now a graffiti-covered ruin inside Rajaji Tiger Reserve.



NEARBY **White-water rafting from Shivpuri**
16 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 4 h · entry: Rs. 1,000
Why visit: The 16 km stretch from Shivpuri back to Rishikesh has grade III-IV rapids such as Roller Coaster and Golf Course.
Tips: Season Sept-June; Book with a licensed operator

NEARBY **Kunjapuri Devi Sunrise**
25 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 2 h · entry: free
Why visit: Shakti Peetha on a 1,676 m ridge with a sweeping sunrise view of the Garhwal peaks.
Tips: Leave Rishikesh by 5 am



NEARBY **Har Ki Pauri, Haridwar**
25 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 4 h · entry: free
Why visit: The ghat where the Ganga enters the plains; the evening aarti at Brahmakund is one of India's great spectacles. Ropeways climb to Mansa Devi and Chandi Devi temples.
Tips: Combine with Mansa Devi ropeway

If you have more time



NEARBY **Neelkanth Mahadev Temple**
32 km from Rishikesh · time needed: 2.5 h · entry: free
Why visit: Hilltop Shiva temple where Shiva is said to have held the poison from the churning of the ocean in his throat.
Tips: Very crowded in the Shravan month

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.