



trek Darjeeling

Tackle this tough trail over high mountain ridges in the Singalila Range, through flourishing valleys and rural villages, rewarding us with spectacular scenery over the Himalayas, including the mighty Kanchenjunga and Everest, ending in the enchanting hilltop town of Darjeeling.

actionchallenge in Darjeeling

This spectacular Himalayan 11 day adventure takes us high into the mountains of Northern India, experiencing unique culture and history as well as breathtaking scenery of the highest peaks in the world.

Our hike begins with a 1,500 m climb (more than the height of Ben Nevis!) to the Tonglu Ridge with its stunning views across Darjeeling and beyond to the plains of North Bengal and the snow-capped summits. We follow the trail high up over mountain ridges in the National Park, down to the lush valleys and rural villages, with a camp under the stars each evening.

Our tough ascents are more than rewarded with stunning views of towering Kanchenjunga (8586m) to the north and Everest further in the distance with the other giant peaks of Nepal and Bhutan in between. At Sammanden, we leave early to see the sunrise over the highest mountains in the world, lighting up the snowy peaks and deep valleys around us. A magical experience and a dawn we'll never forget.

After we finish our demanding challenge, we spend our final free day in the Himalayan hill station of Darjeeling exploring or taking a trip on one of the last remaining famous 'Toy Trains', an original steam train running on the UNESCO World Heritage railway. We celebrate our trekking achievement with a group dinner and party, a fitting end to a fabulous adventure.

at a glance

- Activity: Trekking
- Location: Darjeeling, India
- Duration: 11 days / 6 days trekking
- Difficulty: Moderate +
- Distance: 77 km
- Group size: 15 -25 people

trip highlights

- Enjoy views of Kanchenjunga & Everest
- Trek the stunning Tonglu Ridge, up to over 3600m
- Tackle the height of Ben Nevis in one day
- Visit colonial Darjeeling, surrounded by tea estates
- Camp under the starry Himalayan night sky
- Ride Darjeeling's 'toy train'

Action Challenge have been leading inspirational team adventures across the world for individuals, private groups, charities and corporate clients since 1999. Our trips enable people to experience the world's most exhilarating locations, often in aid of charity. At the heart of every challenge is team spirit and fulfilment; together we take on once-in-a-lifetime adventures, achieve formidable goals and forge friendships for life.



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introduction

This fully-inclusive adventure to Darjeeling will begin as soon as you register! You will receive a challenge pack including a training guide, kit list and discounts for all the essentials you may need. If you are raising money for a charity, we will sort out all the formalities so you can concentrate on your own preparation and fundraising. We offer pre-challenge briefings and training weekends in the UK, where you can meet our trek leaders, members of your group and others taking part in challenges around the world. On the day of departure you will meet your group and Action Challenge leader at the airport in London. Whether you're joining the challenge on your own or with others, you will instantly be made to feel welcome. As a team we will board our flight to Delhi, ready to take on the hike of a lifetime!

brief itinerary

Day 1	Depart UK	Day 7	Sammanden	17 km
Day 2	Darjeeling	Day 8	Rimbick	16 km
Day 3	Tonglu Ridge	11 km	Day 9	Darjeeling
Day 4	Kal Pokhri	13 km	Day 10	Delhi
Day 5	Sandakphu	16 km	Day 11	Arrive UK
Day 6	Sabargram	15 km		

what's included

- International and domestic flights
- Action Challenge Trek Leader
- Action Challenge UK Medic
- Full support team, including English-speaking local guides
- All accommodation, on a twin share basis
- All meals, except in free time
- Airline taxes (except fuel surcharges)
- Drinking water
- All transfers in local vehicles
- National Park entrance fees
- Day in Darjeeling ending with a celebratory dinner
- Pre-challenge briefing in London
- Discounted UK training weekends
- Fitness and training guide
- Discounts from UK retailers
- Reduced rates at Nomad Travel Clinics and Masta Health



dates

25 October - 4 November 2018

Please see our website for full details

cost

All inclusive trip cost: £2395 for 2018
Initial £399 deposit to sign up

Three payment options available



how tough is the challenge?

This has been classed as a moderate+ challenge which means that some prior training is recommended to undertake it. The terrain is varied with some steep uphill climbs and downhill passes. The highest point along the route is 3,636 m.

extensions

Why not stay on after the challenge and explore some more of India's highlights? Extensions include:

- Visit Taj Mahal, Agra and even Jaipur
- Explore South India's beaches
- Plus many more options

Please email us for more information

when to go

The best time to visit India is between October and April, when the country is at its most beautiful after the rains. The temperature is balmy and visibility is excellent, making sure you get the most stunning views throughout the trek.



trek

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itinerary

DAY 1 - Depart UK

We have an overnight flight to India.

Meals: In flight

DAY 2 - Darjeeling

On arrival into Delhi, we take a domestic flight to Bagdogra, where we are met on arrival and transferred 4 hours to Darjeeling for our overnight stay. En route we stop at Kurseong, where we have the chance to taste our first cup of Darjeeling tea. Tonight we are at 2134 m altitude and enjoy a typical Darjeeling welcome meal.

Meals: L,D Accom: Hotel

DAY 3 - Tonglu Ridge 3,070 m

We leave our hotel early and transfer 1½ hours to Maneybhanjang (1,972m) where our challenge begins. Our first day of trekking is a tough one as we climb a mighty 1,500 m onto the Singalila Ridge for spectacular mountain views. We then continue at a steady pace to the magnificent Tonglu Ridge, where we reach our camp for the night in the village of Tonglu.

Meals: B,L,D Accom: Tent Distance: 11 km

DAY 4 - Kal Pokhri 3,081 m

Today we wake early to watch the sunrise over the panorama of the Singalila and Chola ranges. Tumling is our destination for breakfast, after which we trek through the beautiful Singalila National Park with its mature forests, cascading streams and colourful wild flowers. We descend at a leisurely pace to Garibas before climbing gradually back up to Kal Pokhri 3032m. We spend the evening under canvas relaxing under the stars at camp.

Meals: B,L,D Accom: Tent Distance: 13 km

DAY 5 - Sandakphu 3,636 m

We have another hard day of trekking today as we climb to Sandakphu, but the challenge is well worth it as we are rewarded with remarkable panoramic views of the Himalayan peaks. After passing through villages, we head back up into the woodland and into low bush forest. We soon rejoin the main Rimbick-Sandakphu trail and from here onwards the ascent is gradual and the trail widens out making it a pleasant climb to our campsite in time to watch the sunset over this breathtaking mountain scenery.

Meals: B,L,D Accom: Tent Distance: 16 km

food

Breakfasts each morning will be at our accommodation/at the campsite whilst lunches will be en route. Evening meals will be freshly prepared for us at our hotel or camp in time for our arrival. There will be a variety of rice, pasta, vegetables and a selection of fresh meat and fresh fish.

We can cater for all dietary requirements if informed in advance.

accommodation

- Four nights in comfortable 2-3* hotels
- 5 nights camping in well-equipped tents with thick sleeping mats

All accommodation is on a twin/triple-share, single-sex basis and we will pair you with someone of a similar age, where possible.

If you wish to share a room with someone you are travelling with, please specify this on your registration form.

single supplement

If you decide that you would like to have your own room on the challenge, we can accommodate this in the majority of places, just let us know when you sign up.

Please email us for more information



additional costs

- Insurance - Price varies on cover
- Visa - £110
- Vaccinations - Malaria tablets are required, please seek advice from your GP & check your boosters are up to date
- Tips for local staff - Recommended £50
- Airline fuel surcharge - Capped at £170



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DAY 6 - Sabargram 3,600 m

Due to the undulating terrain today, there is no let up for our weary legs as the trail winds through rich flora and fauna with a picturesque backdrop of snow-covered peaks. After lunch we have a 200 m climb over 4 kilometers to Sabargram and our campsite for the night.

Meals: B,L,D Accom: Tent Distance: 15 km

DAY 7 - Sammanden 2,380 m

After a hearty breakfast, we descend through the forest towards the village of Gorkhey. In springtime there is a riot of colours from the rhododendrons, magnolias and other wild flowers on display. From here we climb gradually to Sammanden, where we enjoy a well-earned rest and an early night after another long day of trekking.

Meals: B,L,D Accom: Tent Distance: 17 km

DAY 8 - Rimbick 2,500 m

And so to our final day, we wake early to watch a truly unforgettable sight, the sunrise above four of the highest mountains in the world. The trail takes us through forests, past flowering trees and orchids to the village of Rammam where we stop for lunch by a fast flowing stream. We continue to the small bazaar town of Rimbick where we transfer three hours to Darjeeling and our comfortable hotel.

Meals: B,L,D Accom: Hotel Distance: 16 km

DAY 9 - Darjeeling

Today we have a free day and, for those who wish, a ride on Darjeeling's famous toy train. After lunch, we hope to be able to visit the Himalayan Mountain Institute or shop for last minute souvenirs at the colorful bazaar. This evening we celebrate our achievements with a wonderful dinner and partying late into the night.

Meals: B,D Accom: Hotel

DAY 10 - Delhi

We have a full day of travelling today as we transfer back to the airport and board our flight to Delhi.

Meals: B

DAY 11 - Arrive UK

This morning after breakfast we transfer to Delhi International Airport for our return flight back to the UK.

Meals: B *Subject to flight schedule*

kit & equipment

A kit list will be sent to you on receipt of registration. Many everyday items can be used on this challenge, and we offer a kit hire service to keep costs down.



land only

If you are planning on travelling to Darjeeling before or travel around India after the challenge, or simply wish to organise your own flights, we do offer a land only option. This has a significant discount off the trip price. You will be required to meet your group at the hotel on day two of the itinerary.



training weekends & briefings

We run a number of training weekends throughout the year in the Peak District, Brecon Beacons and Snowdonia. These are fully-inclusive - accommodation for 2 nights and all meals. We also organise training days in London and the North and South downs. On both, you will get the chance to meet our mountain leaders and test out your kit and fitness!

You will also receive an invite to a challenge briefing in central London.



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payment options

A **REGISTRATION DEPOSIT** of £399 for 2018 is required to secure your place.

Once registered, there are **3 PAYMENT OPTIONS** to fund the balance of the trip cost. Full details are on our website.

1) SELF FUNDED

For anyone who wants to pay for the entire trip themselves. It's then completely up to you whether or not you choose to raise any money for a charity of your choice.

The total cost of this trip is £2,395 for 2018, which, after you pay the £399 Registration Deposit, leaves a balance of £1,996. This final balance is due for payment 10 weeks before your departure along with any fuel surcharges levied by the airline.

2) SPONSORSHIP FUNDED

This is for anyone who wants to take on this challenge and will link it with fundraising a significant sum of money for a charity of their choice. You would have to raise at least £4,000 for 2018 via sponsorship and donations from friends, family and colleagues, and be confident at the outset that you can achieve this total.

Pay the Registration Deposit and nominate a charity to fundraise for. All fundraising goes directly to your charity and providing that you raise at least £4,000, your charity will pay for the balance of your trip costs to Action Challenge. That balance, paid by your charity, is £1,996 (the same as if you were you were 'Self Funded') - the charity will retain at least £2,000 to help fund their work. You will have to pay any airline fuel surcharges 10 weeks prior to departure.

3) MIXED FUNDED

A mix of the 2 options above! You pay about half the trip cost yourself, and also fundraise for your charity. They pay the remaining balance of your trip costs. Ideal for anyone who wants to take on the challenge and also fundraise for a charity, BUT is happy to pay a reasonable proportion of the trip cost themselves, which with your registration deposit, is set at a level that covers at least the costs of flights & accommodation; perfect for those who feel more at ease asking for sponsorship in respect to the 'challenge' component of their trip.

Pay the Registration Deposit and nominate a charity to fundraise for. All fundraising goes directly to your charity and providing that you raise at least £2,500 for 2018, your charity will pay a portion of your trip cost to Action Challenge. That balance, paid by your charity, is £1,221. At the same time, you will be required to pay the remaining balance yourself, which will be a figure of £775 (these two amounts add up to the same as the 'Self Funded' final balance) - the charity will retain at least £1,280 to help fund their work. You will have to pay any airline fuel surcharges 10 weeks prior to departure.

ATOL

Action Challenge is 100% ATOL bonded, which provides you with full financial protection. On receipt of your registration fee, you will receive an ATOL certificate explaining your protection. ATOL is a scheme that protects you from losing money or being stranded abroad if your travel company collapses.



how to book

To book on to this challenge, please visit our website; www.actionchallenge.com for a full list of prices and all available dates.

private groups

If you are a charity, business, school or private group with a minimum of 10 people and fancy your own bespoke trip, please call us on **+44(0)207 609 6695** or you can send us an email to events@actionchallenge.com for more information.

social media



contact us

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