

# Goechala Trekking in Sikkim

<https://www.nectravels.com/package/the-goecha-la-trekking/>

Goechala trek is an admired trek which will add cherishable memories. The trek starts from Yuksom and through Sachen pass, it joins the conventional Dzongri-Goechala trail. The Ridge is really gorgeous and full of exciting activity whereas the Goechala pass is the decisive destination for the magnificent sight of Mountain Kabru and Kanchenjunga. Next day you will trail descend steep forest to the overpass on the Dzongri-Goechala track after walking an hour from then you will reach Tshoka.

The trek comprises the big grazing land and opaque forest which comes in the way. Day by day you are enjoying your trek more and more as you can feel the essence of beautiful landscape views. The climb to the Dzongri top is very pretty and hefty too. There you will move further to Black Kabru Pandim, Kabru North, Kabru Dome and many peaks. The feeling of the sun waves warming our solid bodies is really a wonderful experience. After packing our bags we started for another destination to another camp spot for the day Thensing.

A very striking place, opaque mist-packed forest, bubble RathongChu river and fat mat of grassland and plants on the ground. Next stop is Pandim and the preliminary part of the journey takes you down to the bank of the river. It overlooks the Talung dale and gives a very inspiring view of the mountain. The way down is swift and the night halt is at Mokokchung where you can stay and enjoy a luscious dinner.

After the finishing point of your trek you will move early in the morning and return back to Yuksom by air route or by road. Finally an unforgettable trek came to an end and all travelers enjoyed a wonderful experience.

## Itinerary

**Day 01: Pick up From IXB Bagdogra airport And Transfer to Yuksom. 133km, 6hrs, 1780 meters. Pemayangste - Yuksom Pemayangtse Monastery.**

Pick up From IXB Bagdogra airport And Transfer to Yuksom. 133km, 6hrs, 1780 meters. It is 35-km by car and 16-km by trekking which takes about six to eight hours. After visiting the monastery, one of the oldest in Sikkim, the pilgrimage starts and the six to eight hours trek gives glimpses of Sikkimese life and provides a good acclimatization for the next few days. Passing through terraced fields of rice, barley and corn, the track is dotted with Nepalese, Sherpa and Lepcha huts. Crossing first, the Rimbi 'Chu', the trekker gets to the turbulent mountainous streams of Sikkim. A tableland of barley and apples, Yuksom provides beautiful vistas of mini lakes with the Himalayan background. The night can be spent in tourist huts.

**Day 02: Yuksom - Bakhim (2,750m or 9,000 ft)**

The trail now runs through rice wood hills abounding in flora and fauna, though moss-laden forests of Oak, Spruce, Chestnut, Fir, Pines, Giant Magnolias and Rhododendron a botanists' paradise. Not to be outdone, the naturalist's can view hundreds of varieties of exotic of birds, butterflies and orchids. It takes six hours before the Bakhim forest bungalow is reached for the night.

**Day 03: Bakhim- Dzongri (4, 550m or 13,221 ft)**

8-km and six hours away, each step to Dzongri leads to the world of the famed Kanchenjunga massive. The spectacle at dawn and dusk tinted in softest hues, is one never to be missed – a supernatural vision of ethereal beauty. Camp in tents or yak huts.

**Day 04: Dzongri-Thangsing (3,930m or 12,467 ft)**

7-km from Dzongri, the four hours' trek leads through meadows and valleys down the burrows into the most beautiful valley of all situated at the base Jopine peak. To reach the camping grounds dwarfed in the giant valley, one crosses a wooden bridge over the stream under the watchful even of majestic Pandim.

**Day 05: Thangsig-Chemathang (4,800m or 15,748 ft)**

Situated at the base of mighty Pandim, Chemathang is 8-km from Thangsing and takes 6 hours to trek.

**Day 06: Chemathang-Goecha La (4,940m) - Chemathang**

Still higher and steeper, is the Goecha (also spelt as Guicha) pass about 5-km away but taking a good three hours to cover. This is the northernmost and highest point of the trek.

**Day 07: Chemathang - Thangsing**

This is the return journey and is spent looking for rare high altitude birds and blue sheep roaming in the wilderness of high cliffs and snows, among the thick and low bushes.

#### **Day 08: Thansing - Dzongri**

It is a four to five hour climb through Rhododendron forests to the camping grounds. Side Trip To Chowrithang (4,380 metres or 14,370 ft). It is an eight-hour and 10-km trip to the Chowrithang falls at the Rohtang glacier. Here is the base camp of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute of Darjeeling, world famous as a centre for training mountaineers. Splendid views of the peaks, Frey, Kaktang, Kabru, Rating, Chandra Peak and the Kabru Dome are obtained from here. En route one passes the forbidden Kabru Rock, which none is allowed to climb. From Chowrithang a two-hour walk along the glacier leads to the Hour-Chu Lake, the special feature of which is its accumulated milky water. Also ten years from Chowrithang on the way to Bakhim is Zamlang Gaon, named after Tenzing's son and a good place to break the journey.

#### **Day 09: Dzongri - Bakhim via Jamlingthang (Zamlang Gaon)**

This different route to Bakhim passes through one of the most spectacular forested areas of Sikkim engulfed in the fragrance of magnolias, which is all the more beautiful in the spring when the giant magnolias and more than ten types of Rhododendron are in bloom and the trail runs through the garden of flowers.

#### **Day 10: Bakhim -Yoksum**

A leisurely walk of about four hours brings one back to Yuksom.

#### **Day 11: Yuksom-Tashiding (1,470m or 4,822 ft)**

A pleasant 6-7 hour steady and beautiful trail through fields and Cardamom groves, giant bamboos and orange gardens leads to the Tashiding monastery which crowns the hill-top. One can camp near the monastery.

#### **Day 12: Tashiding - Legship (520m)**

This is the last day and a 4-5 hour walk downhill all the way brings the trekker to the village of Legship along the Rangeet valley ending the delightful 'Pilgrimage Trek'.