

Bhimtal

Bhimtal, a serene hill station, is a popular destination lying about 25 kms from Nainital. Watch the flock of ducks revelling in the crystal clear water of Bhimtal lake. With a picturesque location in the midst of green kumaoni hills, it is reasonably pleasant in summers; makes for a great holiday, nevertheless. One of the largest lakes in the state, Bhimtal was named after Bhim, a Pandava brother. Enjoy boating here.



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 20 kms away.

By Road: Frequent buses run from Kathgodam, Haldwani, New Delhi, etc.

Places to See

- Bhimtal Lake
- Golu Devta Temple, Ghadaakhal
- Sat Tal
- Naukuchital

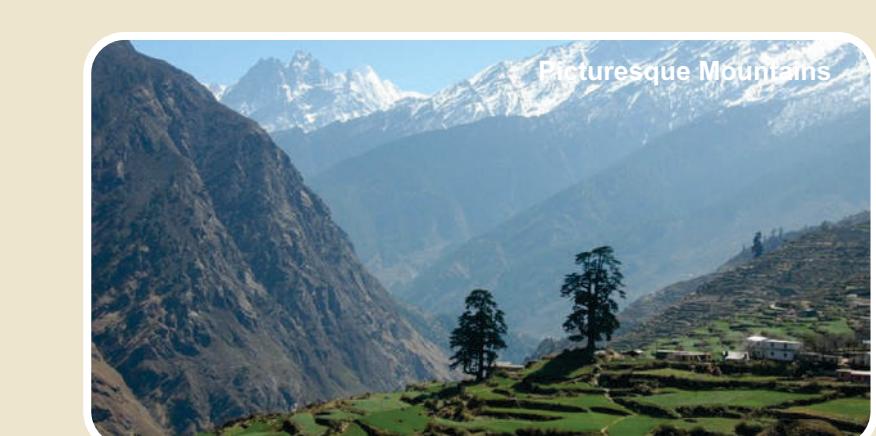
Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Lansdowne

This tranquil hill station can be best explained as a place where one would love to put a chair in the balcony and look at the undulating hills. Encompassed by oak, silver, spruce and pine forests, it is a perfect getaway for nature lovers.



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Air: Jolly Grant Airport in Dehradun is at a distance of about 100 kms. Taxi services are available from airport to Lansdowne. Delhi has the nearest international airport at 264 kms.

By Rail: Kotdwara is the nearest railway station at 40 kms. Taxi services are available.

By Road: Bus services connects other neighbourhood cities in the region. Private and public buses are available from Lansdowne to Kotdwara (40 kms) at regular intervals. It is connected to Haridwar, Dehradun and Mussoorie among others, by roadways.

Places to See

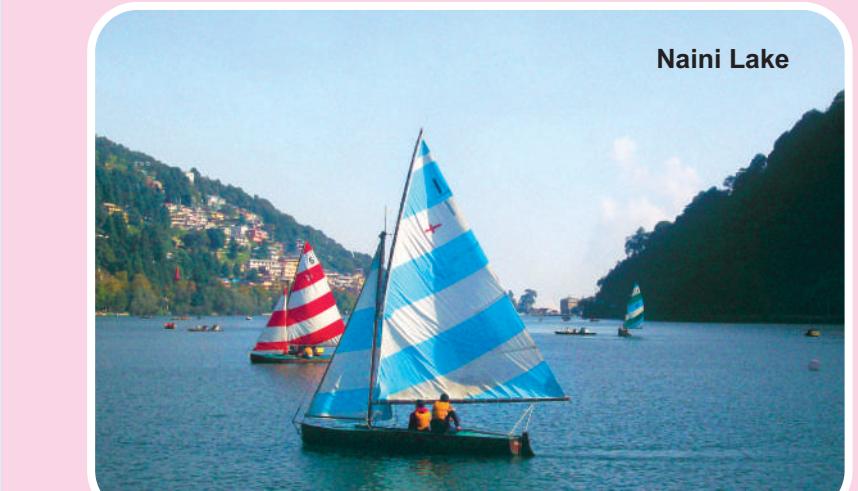
- Tip-n-Top and Snow View point
- St. Mary's and St. John's Church
- Darwan Singh Sangrahalaya
- Bhim Pakora
- Tarkeshwar Mahadev
- Hawaghar
- The War Memorial
- Kaleshwar Mandir

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.

Nainital

Perched at an altitude of 1,938 m above sea level, Nainital is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the state. The city has evolved around the Naini Lake. The Summer capital of the erstwhile United Province, Nainital continues to be known as the 'lake district of India'. It has a string of lakes, each seemingly more beautiful than the other; go for paddle boating, rowing, sailing, kayaking or canoeing!



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Rail: The nearest railway station is at Kathgodam, about 35 kms away. Trains connect Kathgodam with Bareilly, Howrah, Lucknow and New Delhi.

By Road: State transport corporation operator several buses that connect Nainital with other cities of Uttarakhand and northern India. Besides, many private bus operators run deluxe bus services, including Volvo.

Places to See

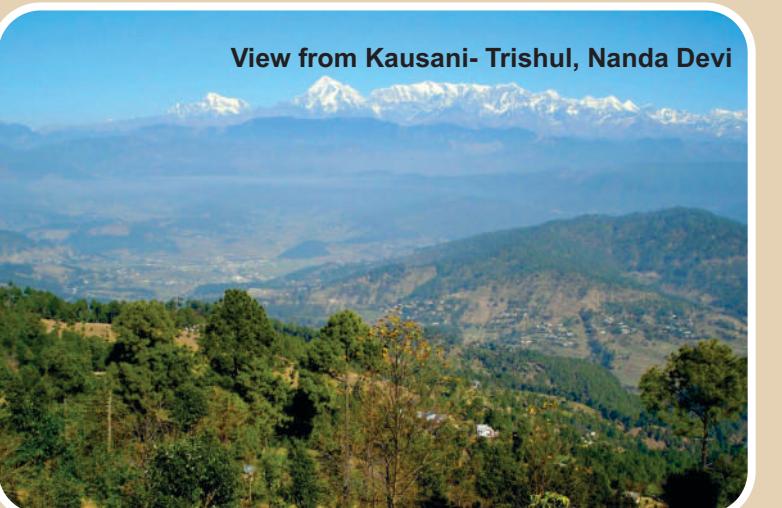
- Naini Lake
- Raj Bhawan
- Boat House Club
- Nainital Zoo
- Pangot
- Naina Peak
- Tiffin Top
- Snow View
- Land's End
- Observatory
- Eco-cave Gardens
- St. John-in-the-Wilderness

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.

Kausani

Called as 'Switzerland of India' by Mahatma Gandhi, the beautiful hill station, Kausani opens up the panorama of Someshwar Valley on the one side and Garur and Bajnath Katyun Valley on the others. It was his favourite home within the mountains; he stayed at the Anashakti Ashram for early 20th century, and commented that Kausani was the perfect resort for seekers of good health.



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 136 kms away.

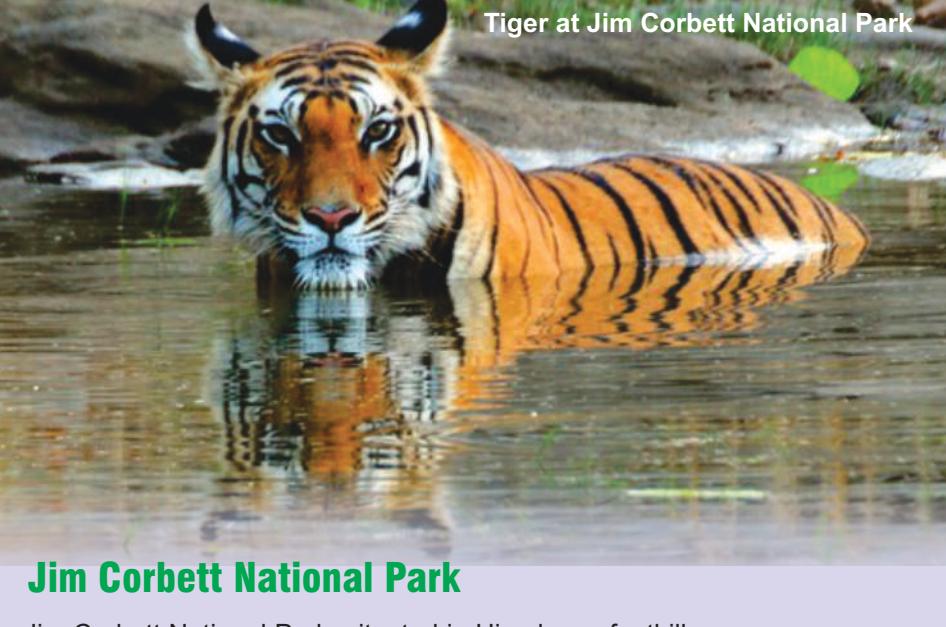
By Road: Frequent buses run from Kathgodam, Haldwani, New Delhi, etc.

Places to See

- Bajnath
- Bageshwar

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Jim Corbett National Park

Jim Corbett National Park, situated in Himalayan foothills encompasses an area of about 521 sq.kms.; along with Sonananda WLS and Reserve Forest, the area makes Corbett Tiger Reserve about 1288 sq. kms. It supports innumerable floral, faunal and avifaunal species. See the Royal Bengal Tiger and Asiatic Elephant along with over 600 types of birds. The park is named after the famous hunter, naturalist and conservationist, Edward James

When to go: The park is officially closed from 15th of June to 15th of Nov. April to mid-June is an ideal time for sighting animals, especially elephants.

How to reach:

By Rail: Ramnagar is the closest railhead.

By Road: Route from Delhi is via Hapur-Moradabad. From Lucknow, it is via Bareilly-Kichha-Kashipur.

Places to See

- The Jim Corbett Museum

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Rajaji National Park

Named after Late Sri C. Rajgopalachari, popularly as 'Rajaji', this National Park is famous for its pristine beauty and rich biodiversity. A perfect place for nature and wildlife lovers, it is spread over an area of 820 sq. kms. It is a splendid ecosystem nestled in the Shivalik ranges and is home to 23 kinds of mammals and more than 300 avifaunal species.



When to go: 15 November to 15 June

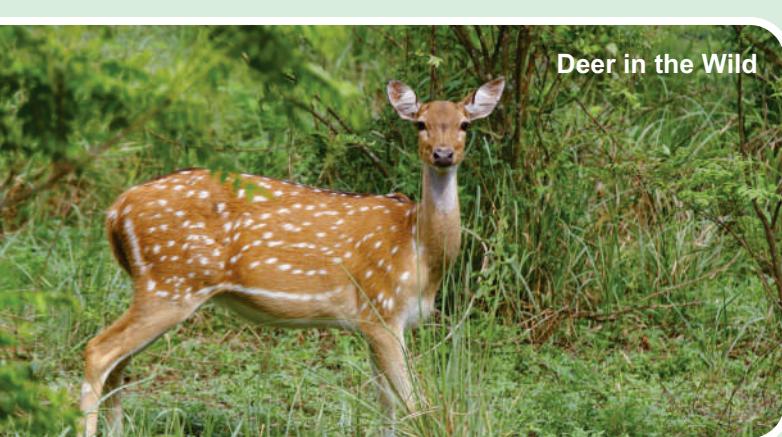
How to reach:

By Air: Nearest airport is Jolly Grant, Dehradun-35 kms from Rajaji National Park.

By Rail: Hardwar Railway Station (8 kms), Dehradun Railway Station (55 kms)

By Road: Buses and cabs are available for Rajaji National Park. The road distances are: Hardwar(8kms), Rishikesh(27 kms), Dehradun (55kms) &

Where to stay: Besides forest lodges, there are many resort available around the park.



Binsar

Binsar is located at a distance of about 30 kms from Almora; it used to be the summer capital of the Chand kings. The place gets its name from the famous 16th century Bineshwar Mahadev Temple.



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 112 kms away.

By Road: Frequent buses run from Kathgodam, Haldwani, New Delhi, etc.

Places to See

- Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary : Spread over 46sq. kms. in lush green forests, the sanctuary is home to Leopard, Himalayan Black, Barking Deer, Chital and Porcupine, it also nestles over 200 bird species with some rare varieties like Forktail, Blackbird Laughing Thrush, Kalij Pheasant and Monal. The park provides of the trekking opportunities. Don't miss the 'Zero Point' which offers an aerial view of the towering Himalayan peaks like, Nanda Devi, Shivaling, Trishul, etc.

Places to See

- Ganesh Temple

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Haridwar

A famous Hindu pilgrimage, Haridwar is also the getaway to four pilgrimage destination in the state. It is here that the holy Ganga leaves the mountains and enters plains. It is said that by taking a dip here one attains Nirvana i.e. moksha from the cycle of birth and death. The Holy Trinity, Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh are believed to have blessed Haridwar. It is also a shaktipeeth and a center for religious learning. Known as a major centre for art and culture, the city has sustained the Hindu teaching methodology of Gurukul.

With Ujjain, Nasik and Allahabad, Haridwar is one of the four important centres where Kumbh Mela is organized every 12 years.



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Rail: Haridwar is located 39 kms from Jolly Grant Airport. Buses and cabs are easily available.

By Rail: Haridwar railway station is placed on the rail network.

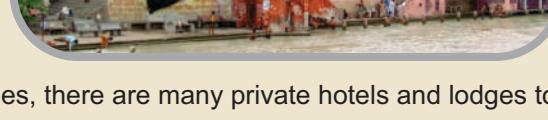
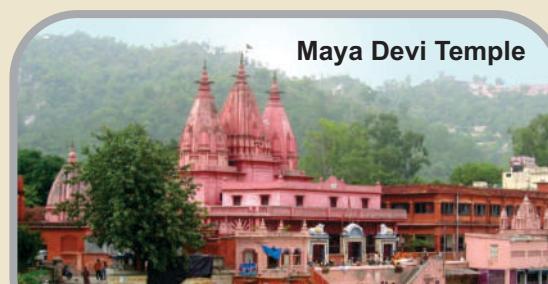
By Road: The city has regular bus services to and from Agra, Chandigarh, Delhi, Dehradun, Josimath, Manali, Rishikesh, Shimla, and Uttarkashi. Cabs are also available.

Places to See

- Har-ki-Pauri
- Mansa Devi Temple
- Vaishno Devi Temple
- Maya Devi Temple
- Bharat Mata Mandir
- Sati Kund
- Bhimgoda Kund
- Ved Mandir

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Jageshwar

Located about 36 kms from Almora, Jageshwar has a group of 124 temples and many statues. The complex is surrounded by lush green Deodar trees. Adi Guru Shankaracharya is said to have visited in the 8th century AD during the Kaliyug. Jageshwar is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas.



When to go: Throughout the year

How to reach:

By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Kathgodam, 122 kms away.

By Road: Bus services connect destinations within state as well as neighbouring states.

Places to See

- Vridh Jageshwar
- Mritola Ashram

Where to stay:

Besides Tourism rest houses, there are many private hotels and lodges to suit all budgets.



Valley of Flowers

Valley of Flowers is famous all over the world for its alpine flowers, striking natural and fauna. Situated in the Garhwal Himalayas, it was discovered by the famous mountaineer, explorer, and botanist, Frank S. Smith in 1937. It is home to over 300 species of wild flowers. Some of the rare ones that can be spotted are Anemone, Geranium, Marigold, Potentilla, Aster, Ranunculus, Inula, Campanula, Thermopsis, Dactylorhiza, Cypridium, Strawberry, Rhododendrons, etc.



When to go: June to October

Getting there:

By Air: Located at 17 kms from Jolly Grant Airport; buses and cabs are available from the airport.

By Rail: Connected to Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Lucknow and Varanasi on the rail network.

By Road: Rishikesh has regular bus services to and from Delhi, Dehradun, Hardwar, Uttarkashi and Joshimath.

Places to See

- Bharat Mandir
- Triveni Ghat
- Laxman Jhula
- Rishikund
- Geeta Bhawan
- Ashrams
- Ram Jhula
- Neelkanth Mahadev Temple
- Kailash Niketan Temple
- Shivanand Ashram

Where to stay:

Besides forest lodges, there are many resort available around the park.



Auli

Auli is a beautiful ski town that can be reached by road, or by ropeway from Joshimath. Its terrain is considered to be excellent for skiing, even by international standards. The facility is available in winter, while in summer it assumes a very picturesque look. Nandadevi and Kamet are a visual delight when viewed from the lap of Auli Bugyal.



When to go: April to June, September to October

How to reach:

By Air: The closest airport for Auli is Jolly Grant, Dehradun 282 kms away.

By Rail: The nearest railhead is at Rishikesh, 264 kms away.

By Road: Frequent buses run for Joshimath from Dehradun, Rishikesh and Hardwar. It is also possible to get to Auli by hired jeeps or taxis.

Places to See

- Josimath
- Vanashrayan Kalpeshwar
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