Trikhal Tourism

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Magical Mechuka Tour [6 Days] – Off-beat Arunachal Pradesh

Day 1: Dibrugarh to Along/Aalo

The nearest airport and railhead for a trip to Mechuka is Dibrugarh, in Assam. We begin our one-week Mechuka tour from here. After landing in the morning, you will be received by OffbeatsArunachals representative. Keep your Arunachal Pradesh ILP (that we would have already sent you) ready, as we start our journey towards the Assam-Arunachal border, slowly leaving Dibrugarh behind.

Dibrugarh to Along is a beautiful drive, so, multiple photo stops along the way are expected. Don't shy away from requesting your driver-cum guide to stop and let you breathe in the fresh mountain air of Arunachal Pradesh.

After a gorgeous drive, by early evening, you will check in to your gorgeous hotestay/hotel in Along. This tastefully done homestay can be considered a small destination in itself. After a quick check-in, head out on foot to check out the surroundings. Tomorrow is going to be an exciting day.

Day 2: Along/Alo to Mechuka

If yesterday made you feel you have come to a very remote part of North East India, wait to see what happens today! Today is the day when you finally set foot in Mechuka, the real off-beat North East India. Not long after you leave Along, you will lose any phone connectivity that you might have, for the next few days. Suddenly, the surroundings start feeling denser and you will come across fellow humans, less and less.

You will notice traditional stilted homes dotting your way as you move ahead. The architecture in these parts of Arunachal Pradesh is quite different than what you get to see when you are on an <u>Arunachal Pradesh</u> tour, in the Eastern part of the state.

As you snake ahead on some of the bumpy roads, lost in the grandeur of the surrounding, the Siyom River will keep you company for a good part of the day. And while this off-beat part of Arunachal Pradesh does not boast

many waterfalls, it has a pretty gorgeous one, the <u>Siko-Dido waterfall</u>, that falls on the way to Mechuka from Along.

By evening, check in to your simple <u>homestay</u> and warm yourselves up by sitting by the bukhari.

Day 3: Exploring Mechuka

After a good night's sleep and breakfast by the kitchen fire of your homestay, it is finally now time to explore Mechuka. *Things to see in Mechuka*, as they say.

We begin our day by visiting the New Gompa. Spend some time walking around and appreciating the simplicity of the surroundings. From there, we will move to one of the best things to do in Mechuka.

A hike to the Mechuka-la!

It's a relaxed hike with beautiful views on every side. The scenery keeps getting better as you go higher and higher up. Once at the top, the view of Mechuka town is simply beyond words. Sit there and just enjoy the moment.

Being in this remote place, far away from almost everyone you know, and yet feeling very much at peace, the time spent here, doing nothing but being yourself, will stay with you for a long time.

From here, we will then visit the small but beautiful Dorjelling village and meet some of the locals to get to know about their life here. From Dorjelling, we will then go for a quick visit to the Tsokorphu village. Once back in town, we will head to the market for some local lunch.

After which, we head back to your homestay for some rest.

As the last thing and one of the best things to do in Mechuka, we will head to the Yargapchu River to spend some time in these beautiful surroundings.

Day 4: Things to See in Mechuka

After spending the last day in exploring Mechuka, we will focus on the best places to visit around Mechuka. After breakfast at our homestay, we will start our day by first driving up to the Old Gompa in Mechuka.

We will spend some time at this 400-year-old monastery, talking to the caretaker of the Gompa and appreciating the history that the place has been a guardian to.

Not to mention, the trail leading up to this historic place is sure to mesmerize you every second of the time you are there.

From there, we will then drive to the Lhalung village to see the Old Tibet road. This road has a lot of history attached to it. From there, we will head to the Mechuka Gurudwara, which is one of the most revered places in Mechuka. It is said that Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak Dev Ji, on his way back from Tibet, had spent some time here in Mechuka and had meditated at this very place.

The Gurunanak Tapasthan in Mechuka is maintained by the Indian army. We will have a very delicious lunch in the Guruduwra langarand then explore the local market. The evening is mostly free to roam around and enjoy there.

Day 5: Mechuka to Pashighat

After spending 3 nights in Mechuka, while on this off-beat Arunachal Pradesh tour, we start our return journey, in the morning.

The bright side of leaving early is the fact that we will get time to explore the tribal village(s) in and around Pashighat. Walking through a tribal village, according to us, is one of the best ways to get a *feel* of the place and to meet and interact with the locals.

By evening, check in to your homestay and spend some time relaxing and reminiscing about the past few days. Also, you will finally have decent

mobile phone connectivity, if all is well

Day 6: Pashighat To Dibrugarh

We will start with the final leg of our journey after breakfast today. Retracing the same path we took less than a week back, on our way to Mechuka, we make our way to the plains of Assam.

Our hearts filled with countless memories from the past few days and dreams to be back again, sometime soon.

With the drop in Dibrugarh, finally, a wonderful trip comes to an end. But it's just the trip that has come to an end, your relationships with the lovely people you have met in the course of the past few days, have only begun.