

Arunachal Pradesh Biking Traverse: East to West – 19 days

Tour JTT-APBC01 (cycling): Dibrugarh – Roing – Pasighat – Aalo – Mechuka – Daporijo – Ziro – Tezpur

Activities & sights: cycling, visit tea plantations, traditional tribal villages,

On this tour you'll cycle through some of India's most remote and least visited parts. Skirting the borders with Burma and Tibet (China) the back roads of Arunachal Pradesh make for very good cycling. There is little traffic, no dangers, the people are friendly and the scenics are



awesome. The tour starts in India's easternmost city, Dibrugarh, set among lush tea gardens on the banks of the Brahmaputra. Here, you'll stay in a nineteenth century tea planter's bungalow with an utterly pleasant old world atmosphere. Then we'll take you even further west to the quaint little town of Roing. From there you'll bicycle north along the Brahmaputra, following it upstream where it rushes through deep gorges in densely forested mountains dotted with archaic bamboo house villages. Turning west you pass through the small towns of Along, Daporijo and Ziro, each strongholds of different tribal cultures. Coming down to the Brahmaputra flood plain again you'll explore idyllic Majuli Island with its unique dancing Hindu monks.

Itinerary

Day 01: Dibrugarh

Arrival at Dibrugarh where you'll meet your guide and driver, who will take you to Mancotta tea estate bungalow. Mancotta is situated amidst lush green tea gardens that we will explore in the afternoon. After that you can reassemble your bicycle (provided you have brought your own).

Dinner and overnight.

Day 02: At Dibrugarh

After breakfast well do our first bicycling on this tour. We'll make a roundtrip through tea plantations, along small, traditional villages and along the banks of the mighty Brahmaputra River. Lunch will be had picnic style on the way at a scenic spot.



Day 03: Dibrugarh – Roing (162 km / 6 hrs)

Today we will drive to Roing in Arunachal Pradesh. On the way cross river Lohit by ferry. On arrival check into a private guest house. Afternoon walk around the place. Dinner and overnight.

Day 04: At Roing

We will spend the whole day cycling around Roing visiting villages of the Idu Mishimi tribes. The Idu Mishimi is the major tribe of this area. Dinner and overnight.

Day 05: Roing – Pasighat (100 km / 4 hrs plus river crossing)

Today after breakfast transfer to Pasighat. This day the road will be through villages, on the river bed and with river crossings. On arrival check in to Hotel Anne. Dinner and overnight.

Day 06: Pasighat

Day at Pasighat cycling around more villages. 'Minyong' is the major tribe of this region. After breakfast cycle to Ledum village, 32 km, through other smaller villages and paddy. Return to Pasighat by late afternoon. Dinner and overnight.

Day 07: Pasighat – Along (Aloo) (120 km)

Today is a long day for cycling. First 26 km will be with ascent with some small descents too.



After the first part of 26 km you will be cycling upstream of river Siang flowing on your right. On the way you will be crossing few small settlements. Last 22 km will be easy ride along the stretches of a river. On arrival check into Hotel Aagam. Dinner and overnight.

Day 08: Along



Whole day at Along visiting Adi Gallong tribal villages. Adi Gallong is the major tribe of this region. Dinner and overnight.

Day 09: Along – Tirbin (76 km)

After breakfast cycle to Tirbin. On arrival check into government guest house. Dinner and overnight.

Day 10: Tirbin – Daporijo (85 km)

After breakfast cycle to Daporijo. On arrival check into Ligu village guest house. Dinner and overnight.

Day 11: Daporijo

Whole day at Daporijo visiting Nyishi villages around. The Nyishi and the Tagin are the major tribes of this area. Dinner and overnight.

Day 12: Daporijo – Raga (85 km)

After breakfast you'll cycle to Raga. In the beginning you will be cycling through Nyishi area and around Raga you will come across another tribe called Hill Miri, a sub tribe of the Nyishi tribe. On arrival check into government guest house. Dinner and overnight.

Day 13: Raga – Ziro (74 km)

After breakfast cycle to Ziro. On arrival check into Siiro Resort. Dinner and overnight.

Day 14: Ziro

Whole day in Ziro visiting Apatani tribal villages, which is the major tribe of this area. Ziro is a very interesting place surrounded by hills dotted with Apatani villages, the only tribe of Ziro, and paddy fields. Traditionally Apatani ladies tattoo their faces and wear nose plug but now this is confined to the older generation. Cycle around some of



the villages on the plateau. The Apatani people in Ziro have comparatively much smaller houses which are packed closely together. The single-storey bamboo houses are supported on stilts but now it is generally roofed with corrugated steel. Later on visit the district museum which is small but houses some very interesting collection. Dinner and overnight.

Day 15: Ziro – Lakhimpur (130 km)

After breakfast move to Lakhimpur in Assam. Road till the interstate border is on hills, windy through villages and forest. On arrival check into Hotel Maple Leaf. Dinner and overnight.

Day 16: Lakhimpur – Majuli

After breakfast cycle to the ferry point, 22 km, to cross the mighty river to Majuli Island. Majuli is the biggest fresh water island in India and also the biggest seat for Vaishnavite monasteries. On arrival check into traditionally built tribal huts. Afternoon leisurely go around the village on cycle. Dinner and overnight.

Day 17: Majuli

After breakfast visit a local village inhabited by the Mishing tribe by cycle, interact with the people. Lunch. In the afternoon you can visit a local monastery, called satra, here interact and learn about the life style of monks. Dinner and overnight.

Day 18: Majuli

After breakfast we will ride to visit mask making families which is about 20 km away by cycle. Today you will be cycling on road, sometime through village and rice fields too. Return to your lodge by late afternoon. Dinner and overnight.

Day 19: Majuli – Jorhat (25 km/ 2 hrs ferry ride plus 1 hr drive)

After breakfast transfer to ferry point to catch the ferry to Jorhat. On reaching the other side you'll be transferred to Jorhat Airport.

TOUR PRICE

2,3 pax: INR 138.000 per person

4,5 persons: INR 125.000 per person

Ask for quotation for larger parties.

This is assuming you bring your own bicycle. For supplying rental bikes (mountain bikes, 21 gear or more) we charge an additional INR 1800 per day.

Accommodation is on twin share basis, using one pick-up (2, 3 pax) plus one Tata Sumo or Mahindra Scorpio SUV (4, 5 pax)

Prices quoted are net and non-commissionable.

Additional fees:

- Restricted Area Permit (RAP) fee of INR 5000 per person for Arunachal Pradesh.

Inclusions: Flights Delhi – Dibrugarh & Jorhat – Delhi; accommodation on twin share at the indicated places on full board; all transfers and sightseeing as per itinerary by vehicle specified; one English speaking escort throughout the tour; local guides where necessary; one bottled water per person per day; all entrance and monument fees, fresh fruits everyday; candies/ chocolates/ wafers on drives/ transfers.

Exclusions: International airfare; RAP; tips; drinks; laundry; telephone calls; insurance; expenses of personal nature.