

**ARUNCHAL PRADESH, KAZIRANGA, AND
SEKRENYI IN NAGALAND
February 9 – 28, 2011**

Through some of the more beautiful and interesting parts of remote Arunchal Pradesh. Then to Kaziranga National Park for rhinos and a wide range other mammals and birds. To Nagaland for the memorable Sekrenyi festival in Kohima and Toupheema.

<u>February</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Night</u>
9 W	Gather at Amari Boulevard Hotel. Walking near hotel. Group dinner (option).	Bangkok
10 Th	Fly to Guwahati, check in at Dynasty Hotel; it has the best food in northeastern India. Visit market near hotel, night market in street in front of hotel.	Guwahati
11 F	Visit Kamakhya Temple, one of the greatest shakti in India. Drive to Bhalukpong beyond the A.P.border. Stay at Prashanti Cottages, jungle walk and along the Bhorelli River.	Bhalukpong
12 S	Northwestward through the mountains. Villages, scenery, then temperate areas having apples and walnuts. Near Bhutan so can visit a Bhutanese Dzong. Evening visit traditional market.	Dirang
13 S	Further through the mountains to Tawang in the extreme northeast, near the border with China and Bhutan. Crossing the high Sela Pass, memorial site of India-China war. Gyaki Khangzhang Hotel. Walking tour of town, home of the Monpa tribe.	Tawang
14 M	Visit Tawang Monastery, Monjushree Orphanage Institute. After lunch visit a Monpa tribal village outside of town.	Tawang
15 T	To Bomdila, visit Upper Gompa, view the towering mountains of the eastern Himalayas, including Gorichen Peak.	Bomdila
16 W	To Eco Camp adjacent to Nameri National Park. Numerous bird habitats; 374 bird species noted, including Great Indian Hornbill. Also deer, wild elephants, buffaloes.	Eco Camp
17 Th	Drive upstream along the Bhorelli River, boat back down the river to Eco Camp. Then northward to Ziro. Hotel Blue Pine. Ziro is in a very attractive area, a plateau dissected by many smallish rivers. It is best known, however, for the Apatani people. They are heavily tattooed and older women have the wooden nose plugs.	Ziro
18 F	All day in and around Ziro. Visit Apatani tribal villages in this very traditional area.	Ziro
19 S	To Itanagar, the capital of Arunchal Pradesh. From the temperate Himalayan jungles down into the tropical rainforest nearer the Brahmaputra. Historic Ita Fort, museum, Buddhist Vihar.	Itanagar
20 S	Cross the river to Kaziranga National Park, check in at Diphlu River Lodge. Afternoon: Jeep safari to the Western Range of the park. Rhinos, wild elephants, huge array of birds.	Kaziranga

21 M	Early morning elephant ride to see rhinos, elephant, wild hogs, 2-3 kinds of deer, possibly a tiger. Dozens of bird species. Later a Mishing tribal village. Great weaving and interesting “fishing”. Last time it involved spearing eels; previously it was netting a type of walking fish. Afternoon: Jeep safari along eastern edge and along the river to the north.	Kaziranga
22 T	South and east to Dimapur for lunch, then to Kohima in Nagaland. Visit markets and Naga Emporium.	Kohima
23 W	Drive to Khonoma, a hotbed of Naga nationalism. Very interesting town. Then into the nearby mountains to look for the almost mythic mithum (<i>Bos frontalis</i>). Later: Visit the WWII cemetery, a legacy of The Battle of Kohima (Google it) which marked the high tide of Japanese expansion in Asia.	Kohima
24 Th	To ToupHEMA Chalets built in the Angami Naga style. Explore Old ToupHEMA. Sekrenyi preparations, Ritual slaughter of hogs, singing and dancing in the evening.	ToupHEMA
25 F	Sekrenyi; the festival of cleansing and renewal for the Angami Naga. Ritual, dancing, singing, contests. Visiting the festival is a great experience. These festivals involve thousands of Naga and our group members are sometimes the only outsiders present. Evening: The feast, singing, dancing.	ToupHEMA
26 S	Morning at the festival, then to Kohima and on down to Dimapur in the Brahmaputra Valley.	Dimapur
27 S	Fly to Kolkata and then Bangkok. Group dinner (option).	Bangkok
28 M	Tour ends after breakfast.	

The cost of \$3,730 includes all hotels, all guides, transport, and food in India, park entry fees, elephant and jeep safari, boating, and the Restricted Area Permits. It does not include laundry, individual items, camera fee at Kaziranga, insurance, or the visa to India. Single Supplement is \$884. A deposit of \$600 will hold a place, final payment by January 1.

Weather should be clear and sunny, with day temperatures of 65-75 degrees in Nagaland and at lower elevations. It should also be clear and sunny at the higher elevations of Arunchal Pradesh, but cooler.

I will be with the group all of the time, as will an excellent English speaking guide.

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It is best to communicate by email as I am away from home a lot of the time.