

DEHRADUN TO LAKHAMANDAL

Destination: Dehradun, Mussoorie, Lakhamandal, Hanol, Asan Barrage

Duration: 4 days, 3 nights

Distance: Approx 350 km

For family and groups

Experiences: Sightseeing, spirituality and adventure

Budget: Approx Rs 5,000 per person

Start

Day 01 DEHRADUN TO MUSSOORIE

Dehradun, the summer capital city of Uttarakhand is lined with verdant and lush sal forests and makes for a beautiful haunt in the Garhwal hills. Dehradun is cut by two perennial rivers, and is a favourite with travellers looking for a serene natural retreat. It offers a wide range of adventure activities like trekking, river rafting, paragliding, angling, cycling, etc. Spend the day touring the city and its various attractions. Post lunch, drive towards Mussoorie, enjoying the view. Stay the night in Mussoorie.

By road: The distance between Dehradun and Mussoorie is around 30 km and you should be able to complete it in about an hour.

Day 02 MUSSOORIE

Have a hearty breakfast and head out to explore Mussoorie. Shrouded in mist, this popular summer getaway gives you the best views of snow-capped mountains and the emerald Doon Valley. Mussoorie is called the queen of the hills as it is speckled with sparkling waterfalls and pristine natural sights. Don't forget to enjoy nature walks.

Day 03 MUSSOORIE TO LAKHAMANDAL

The next day, head towards Lakhamandal around 3 hours away. The Lakhamandal Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The main attraction is the graphite Shiva lingam, which shimmers when water is poured on it. The temple has an embellished architecture, which reflects the riches of Indian heritage. Thus, it has been declared as a Monument of National Importance.

By road: The distance between Mussoorie and Lakhamandal is around 75 km and is extremely scenic.

Day 04 LAKHAMANDAL TO HANOL

Around two hours from Lakhamandal lies Hanol, a quaint hamlet on the banks of Tons river. It is famed for its natural beauty and the Mahasu Devta Temple. Don't forget to keep your camera handy to capture views of the lush green scenery.

By road: Hanol is about 80 km from Lakhamandal, the road passing through picturesque scenery.

Day 05 HANOL TO ASAN BARRAGE AND DEHRADUN

Start your day early to reach the barrage. Sprawled along the banks of the Yamuna river, Asan is the first conservation reserve of India, set up in 2005. It is best known for its avifauna and has been declared an Important Bird Area. Some of the delightful species you can spot here are winter migratory birds. Keep your eyes peeled to catch the star attraction - congregations of Brahminy ducks. After spending an hour or two here, you can start your return journey.

By road: The distance of 148 km approximately can be covered in five hours. And on the return journey, Dehradun is around 50 km from Asan.