

HARIDWAR TO VALLEY OF FLOWERS

Destination: Haridwar, Govindghat, Ghangaria, Valley of Flowers

Duration: 6 days

Distance /Altitude: Approx 20 km trek/ 4,389 m

Experiences: Trekking, hiking (easy to moderate)

Budget: Approx Rs 9,000 onwards (per person)

Start

Day 01 HARIDWAR TO GOVINDGHAT

The journey to Valley of Flowers begins at Haridwar. It is a full day road trip alongside river Alaknanda to Govindghat. Along the journey are beautiful sights of the emerald rivers. Lunch is arranged on the way. Positioned at the bank of River Alaknanda, Govindghat is the starting point for the Valley of Flowers trek. Relish the splendid scenes around and relax for the journey next morning.

Car: Govindghat is around 300 km from Haridwar and it generally takes around 10 hours to be completed. It's a picturesque drive and the roads are good.

Train: The nearest railway station is at Rishikesh, around 270 km away. From Rishikesh you can take a cab or a bus.

Airport: Govindghat is around 300 km from the nearest airport in Dehradun, Jollygrant.

Day 02 GOVINDGHAT TO GHANGARIA

Leave early after having breakfast so that you can start the trek by 8 am towards Ghangaria village. Be ready to witness enchanting views all along. From waterfalls to small lakes to rare bird species, the route is full of picturesque locale. Have lunch midway and reach Ghangaria by the evening. Take rest.

Day 03 GHANGARIA TO VALLEY OF FLOWERS AND BACK TO GHANGARIA

On the final day of the trek to Valley of Flowers, look forward to a short climb to the valley, moderate gradient and fetching landscapes. It will take you around 2-2.5 hours to reach Valley of Flowers. Right at the entrance stands the Ratban Parvat Peak, on the left is Nar Parvat and on the right is the dense Birch Forest. Stay here for some time and experience nature at its best. Head back to the camp at Ghangria.

Day 04 GHANGARIA TO HEMKUND SAHIB AND BACK TO GHANGARIA

Have an early breakfast and start for Sri Hemkund Sahib. Amidst snow-clad mountains and a beautiful lake alongside, this place is serene and spiritual. Brahmakamal and Blue Poppy are two rare species of flowers you will find here. Expect steep climbs at some places. Once there, soak in the beauty of the place as sip on the piping hot tea served at the Gurudwara. Visit Laxman Mandir next to the Gurudwara. Head back to Ghangria after lunch. Stay in a campsite.

Day 05 GHANGRIA-GOVINDGHAT

Trek back to Govindghat. Plonked on the banks of holy Alaknanda and with Neelkanth Peak as the backdrop, this place of worship makes for a riveting destination especially for those into spirituality. On the way, cross sulphur water pools and breathe fresh air. Head back to your lodge by evening. Rest.

Day 06 GOVINDGHAT-HARIDWAR

Dig into breakfast and head back to Haridwar. Your trip ends here.