



# Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board

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## CHOPTA-CHANDRASHILA TREK

**Destination:** Rishikesh, Deoriatal, Chopta, Tungnath temple, Chandrashila

**Duration:** 6 days

**Altitude:** 3669 m (Approx)

**Experiences:** Trekking – Easy to Moderate

**Budget:** Approx INR 9,000 per person

### Start

#### Day 01 RISHIKESH TO SARI

An eight-hour drive from Rishikesh via Devprayag (the holy site of confluence of rivers Bhagirathi and Alakananda) will take you to Sari, the base camp for this trek. A small village with about a 100 houses, Sari enchants visitors with its neat paddy fields, stunning vistas and warm people. If you are lucky, you will be able to spot the summit of the Mt Chandrashila from here.

**By air:** Jolly Grant Airport is the nearest Airport to Rishikesh situated at a distance of 21 km. Taxis are easily available from Jolly Grant Airport to Rishikesh. Jolly Grant Airport is well connected to Delhi with daily flights. Rishikesh is well connected by motorable roads with Jolly Grant Airport.

**By train:** Rishikesh is well connected by railway networks with major destinations of India. Trains to Rishikesh Railway station are frequent. Taxis and buses are easily available from Rishikesh to Muni-ki-Reti and Swargashram.

**By road:** Rishikesh is well connected by motorable roads with major destinations of Uttarakhand and northern states of India. Luxury and regular buses to Rishikesh are easily available from Delhi ISBT Kashmiri Gate and Meerut.

#### Day 02 SARI TO DEORIATAL

Begin your adventure with a trek to Deoriatal from Sari via a well-defined rocky trail. It's a gradual climb up the mountains. After about 30 minutes of a steady uphill trek, you will reach the first view-point. Stop and feast your eyes on the magnificent views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Resume your trek and tread the trail passing by a forest of maple and rhododendron. Another 40-minute trek and you will reach Deoriatal, your camp site for the night. Deoriatal, a fairytale-like lake surrounded by snow-clad mountains, is one of the most popular trekking destinations in the Garhwal region of Uttarakhand. But what's most spectacular is the sight of Mt. Chaukhamba looming above Deoriatal. You will have some time in hand before sunset so you can either explore the trails around the campsite or chose to sit and let the tranquility of the site engulf you.

#### Day 03 DEORIATAL TO SYALMI VIA ROHINI BUGYAL

Located in the Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary, the route from Deoriatal to Chandrashila is a treat for wildlife lovers. The trail you will be covering on the third day is a breathtaking one, lined with rhododendron and maple trees. You will even be able to catch glimpses of Kedar Dome and Chaukhamba peaks through the trees. In March and April, the trail is ablaze by red and pink rhododendron flowers. You will pass by Rohini Bugyal, a pretty meadow surrounded by beautiful rhododendron forest and a view of the Kedar dome and the Kala Parvat peaks, on your way to the Syalmi campsite.

#### Day 04 SYALMI TO BANIYA KUND

On this day, you will cover 6 km, during which you will pass through a ridge top called Tikidi Khal, which is covered in dense forest cover and a small beautiful meadow.

#### Day 05 BANIYA KUND TO CHOPTA BY CAR. TREK TO CHANDRASHILA PEAK VIA TUNGNATH AND BACK TO SARI

Get an early start to the day, if you wish to experience a stunning sunrise from Tungnath. The path between Chopta and Tungnath runs on a well-defined concrete-bound trail and is about 3 km. Stop to admire the temple, the highest of its in the world dedicated to Lord Shiva, before making your way to Chandrashila peak. The peak is 1.5 km above the temple complex. During winter, this trail is completely buried in snow and the climb from Tungnath to Chandrashila is a steep, 600-ft ascent. But the views from the peak are incomparable! You will be able to sight some of the most notable mountains Uttarakhand, including Nanda Devi, Trishul, Nandaghunti, Kamet, Dunagiri, Chaukhamba, Kedar dome, Thalaysagar, Gangotri ranges, Jahanukut and more. There is also a small temple here. Trek back to Chopta by evening. The descent is comparatively easy and will not take more than 2-3 hours. Retire for the night.

**By Road:** The road from Baniya Kund to Chopta is good and it will take you about 3 hours to cover the distance of around 75 km.

#### Day 06 CHOPTA TO RISHIKESH

On the last day of the trek, you will hit the road to drive back to Rishikesh, a distance of around 170 km and it will take you about 5 hours to cover it.