16. Chandrashila Winter Summit Trek

Grade: **
Round the year - 7 days

It is a popular trek that can be undertaken round the year, except during heavy snowing months of December and January. Chandrashila summit is a rock face above the temple of Tungnath, the highest of all the temples in the Himalayas. It is a short but rigorous hike beyond the temple. The Chandrashila summit affords the most beautiful view of the Nandadevi, Trishul, Kedarpeak and Chaukamba peaks. If the sky is clear you get the feeling that you are sitting in a sea of mountains. So start early in the morning and you might be able to catch a clear sky.

The oak forest through which you trek to the summit abounds in wildlife, especially foxes, pheasants, musk-deer, and leopards. But it is safe, as the animals keep away from the trail. We begin at Chopta, which is one of the most mesmerizing alpine meadows in Garhwal Himalayas; whatsmore, it also offers excellent camping opportunities. And if we’re here in the month of March, there are good chances that as we climb from Ukhimath to Chopta we may get the rare opportunity to see Rhododendron flowers in shades varying from crimson-red to bright white.