



9. Roopkund Trek

Grade: **

Summer

10 days + 2 days to extend to Homekund

Roopkund is situated at a height of 5029m in the lap of Trishul massif. This is usually called the 'Mystery lake' since human skeletons and remains of horses were found here.

The lake, surrounded by rock strewn glaciers and snow clad peaks, is magnificent and enchanting.

Rishikesh - Mundoli - Wan - Bedni Bugyal - Bhaggubasa - Roopkund - Homekund - Sutol - Ghat

- Day 1** All the participants are requested to assemble at GMVN - Tourist Rest House, Muni-ki-Redi, Rishikesh. Dinner and overnight at TRH, Muni-ki-Redi, Rishikesh.
- Day 2** Drive to Mundoli 240 kms; hot lunch enroute. Dinner and overnight at TRH, Mundoli or in camps.
- Day 3** 13 kms trek to Wan with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight at TRH Wan or in camp.
- Day 4** 12 kms trek to Bedni Bugyal with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight in camp.
- Day 5** 9 kms trek to Bhaggubasa with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight in camps.
- Day 6** 12 kms trek to Shail Samudra via Roopkund & Jurangali Pass, with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight in camp.
- Day 7** 7 kms trek to Homekund & further 7 kms down trek to Chandaniya Ghat, with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight in camp.
- Day 8** 18 kms trek to Sutole with packed lunch. Dinner and overnight in camps.
- Day 9** 25kms trek to Ghat with packed lunch. 20 kms drive to Nandprayag. Dinner and overnight at TRH Nandprayag.
- Day 10** 191 kms drive to Rishikesh. Lunch enroute. Arrival Rishikesh. Tour concludes.

The mystery lake of Roopkund has brought here many a besotted traveler since the discovery of human skeletons in the lake and the glacier descending into it. For many years the origin of the skeletons remained a mystery, some thought it to be the remains of General Zorawar's army that lost its way while returning from Tibet. But the popular belief, narrated in the folk traditions about the pilgrimage to Nanda Devi undertaken by Raja Jasdhaval and his wife the Garhwali Princess Rani Balampa, who perished in a hailstorm at Jurangali, appears to be closer to truth; especially since the carbon dating of the skeletons and its anthropological studies point towards the authenticity of this folk-lore.

■ Roopkund the enigmatic lake

* soft trek
 ** seasonal / mild trek (Apr-May)
 *** hard trek -seasonal (high altitude) trekking expedition