

TRANSINDIA RAIL

HIMALAYAN RAILWAYS & BENGAL DELTA

The Full Expedition

DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY · KOLKATA · BANGLADESH BY RAIL

2027 (Exact Dates TBC) · 14 Nights / 15 Days

A journey stitched together by rail — from a diesel transfer at the outset to private steam charters climbing the switchbacks of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, through the colonial grandeur of Kolkata, to the sleeper trains of the Bengal delta. Heritage rail as the spine of the journey; jungle, coastline, and borderland as the adventure that surrounds it.

DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY

KOLKATA HERITAGE

BANGLADESH BY RAIL

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A Rail Journey Across Two Countries

Light, smoke and the long climb from the delta to the clouds

This is a journey built around the railway itself — from the narrow-gauge switchbacks of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, over a century old and still climbing through tea gardens and forest, to the sleeper trains that cross the Bengal delta into Bangladesh. Along the way: the colonial grandeur of Kolkata, the world's longest unbroken sea beach, swamp forest and borderland in Sylhet, and the tea gardens of Srimangal. Every day is built around the rhythm of rail travel — the right train, the right stretch of line, time enough to take it in.

- **Part One — Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (Days 1–4):** Bagdogra, Siliguri, Tindharia, Kurseong, Darjeeling
- **Part Two — Kolkata (Days 5–6):** colonial heritage, trams, and river markets
- **Part Three — Bangladesh by Rail (Days 7–15):** Dhaka, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Srimangal

DAYS 1 – 4

DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY SECTION

DAY 1 – BAGDOGRA ARRIVAL

First Steps Into the Foothills

Land at Bagdogra Airport, where you'll be met and transferred by road to New Jalpaiguri (NJP), approx. 45–60 minutes. In the afternoon, board a private diesel charter for the short, scenic run from NJP to Siliguri Junction — a gentle introduction to the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. As dusk settles over the foothills, an exclusive steam-hauled dining charter marks the start of the journey proper.



The DHR steam charter after dark, en route from Siliguri

Meals: Dinner · Overnight Siliguri

DAY 2 — SILIGURI TO KURSEONG (VIA TINDHARIA)

The Zigzags to Tindharia

A full day aboard the DHR, and the heart of the railway experience. The private steam charter climbs from Siliguri toward Tindharia through the line's famous zigzags and loops — one of the most dramatic sections of narrow-gauge railway anywhere in the world. A traditional thali lunch at Tindharia is followed by an exclusive visit to the historic Tindharia Railway Workshop (subject to permission). The steam charter continues on to Kurseong, arriving by early evening.



The steam charter working through the switchbacks toward Kurseong

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch · Overnight Kurseong

DAY 3 — KURSEONG TO DARJEELING

Through Ghum to the Queen of the Hills

The steam charter completes its climb into Darjeeling, running through Tung and Sonada before reaching Ghum — the highest railway station in India — and the celebrated 360° sweep of the Batasia Loop into Darjeeling itself. Check in and explore the town at leisure — Mall Road and Chowrasta.

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Darjeeling

DAY 4 — DARJEELING FREE DAY

A Day at Your Own Pace

A full day to explore Darjeeling at your own pace. Highlights on offer include Tiger Hill at sunrise for classic Himalayan views over Kanchenjunga (weather permitting), a visit to one of Darjeeling's celebrated tea estates, the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, and an optional steam-hauled joy ride on the DHR, Darjeeling–Ghum–Batasia Loop–Darjeeling.

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Darjeeling

DAYS 5 – 6

KOLKATA — CITY OF PALACES

DAY 5 — DARJEELING TO KOLKATA

Down From the Clouds

A morning road transfer from Darjeeling to Bagdogra Airport (approx. 3–3.5 hours), followed by a flight to Kolkata. Evening at leisure following check-in.

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Kolkata

DAY 6 — KOLKATA HERITAGE DAY

Trams, Spires and Flower Markets

A full day exploring colonial Kolkata with a private guide and vehicle throughout: the Victoria Memorial, Howrah Bridge, a ride on the city's historic tram network — one of Asia's oldest — and the riot of colour at the Mullick Ghat flower market.



The Victoria Memorial, Kolkata

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Kolkata

DAYS 7 – 15

BANGLADESH BY RAIL

DAY 7 — KOLKATA TO DHAKA

Crossing Into Bangladesh

A free morning for the Kumartuli potters' quarter or the College Street book bazaar, before an afternoon flight to Dhaka. On arrival, transfer to Sadar Ghat for a paddle steamer ride on the Buriganga River.



A paddle steamer on the Buriganga River, Dhaka

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Dhaka

DAY 8 — DHAKA: RAILWAY HERITAGE & OLD CITY

Palaces, Sheds and Rickshaws

Morning: Rail Bhaban and Kamalapur Railway Station, including the diesel shed (subject to permission) — a rare look behind the scenes for the railway enthusiast. Afternoon: Ahsan Manzil (the Pink Palace) and Lalbagh Fort. Evening: a rickshaw ride through the atmosphere of old Dhaka.

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Dhaka

DAY 9 — DHAKA TO CHITTAGONG BY TRAIN

Paddy Fields to the Bay

Board the Sonar Bangla Express (or Mahanagar Provati) for a scenic run through paddy fields and river country. Afternoon: Patenga Sea Beach and the shrine of Hazrat Bayezid Bostami.



The Sonar Bangla Express

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Chittagong

DAY 10 — CHITTAGONG TO COX'S BAZAR

The World's Longest Beach

An early visit to the local fish market, then on by private car to Cox's Bazar. A cruise to Maheshkhali Island takes in the centuries-old Adinath Temple, a Rakhine Buddhist temple, and a village walk for handmade souvenirs, before free time on the world's longest unbroken sea beach.

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Cox's Bazar

DAY 11 — COX'S BAZAR TO SYLHET

Overnight Into the Hills

Return to Chittagong by private car, then board the Paharika or Udayan Express for an overnight sleeper run into the hills — one of the most atmospheric train journeys in the country.



On the line toward Sylhet

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12 — SYLHET TOUR

Swamp Forest and the Indian Border

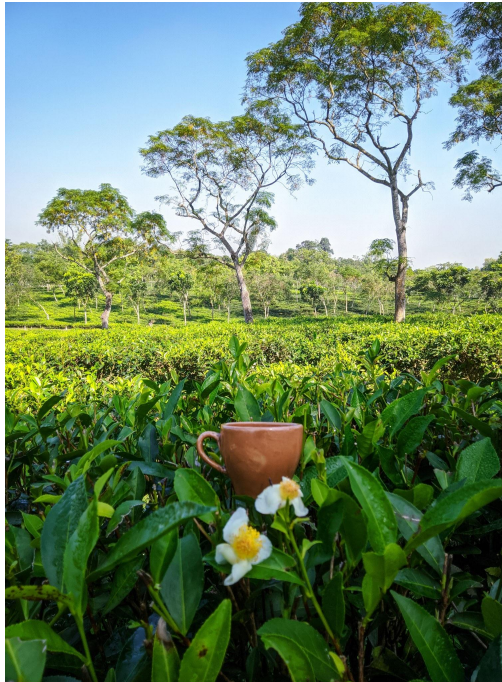
A full day exploring Ratargul Swamp Forest by boat, the stone-collecting hills of Jaflong, and the Tamabil–Dawki border crossing with India.

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Sylhet

DAY 13 — SYLHET TO SRIMANGAL BY TRAIN

Into Tea Country

Morning: the Upaban Express to Srimangal, the tea capital of Bangladesh. Afternoon: Lawachara rainforest, a Khasia village visit, working tea estates, and the region's famous seven-layer tea.



A tea garden in the Sylhet region

Meals: Breakfast · Overnight Srimangal

DAY 14 — SRIMANGAL TO DHAKA BY TRAIN

Last Miles to Dhaka

The Parabat Express or Jayantika Express back to Dhaka, with time for last-minute shopping at Aarong or Dhaka New Market before a night departure flight.

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 15 — DEPARTURE

Journey's End

Departure from Dhaka.

WHERE YOU'LL STAY

Siliguri	Cindrella Hotel or Similar
Kurseong	The Weekend Retreat or Similar
Darjeeling	Orsino Hotels and Resort or Similar
Kolkata	Peerless Inn or Similar
Dhaka	Hotel Golden Tulip The Grandmark or Similar
Chittagong	Hotel Agrabad or Similar
Cox's Bazar	Hotel Ocean Paradise or Similar
Sylhet	Hotel Rose View or Similar
Srimangal	Novem Eco Resort or Similar

TOUR COST — ALL INCLUSIVE

£3,800

Per person, twin/double sharing · 14 Nights / 15 Days

Single supplement: £850

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

INCLUDED

- ✓ Pickup and drop at Bagdogra and Dhaka airports
- ✓ Hotel accommodation and touring, twin/double sharing, 4★ throughout
- ✓ Daily breakfast
- ✓ Dinner on Day 1 (evening dining charter) and lunch on Day 2 (Tindharia thali lunch)
- ✓ Private diesel charter: NJP–Siliguri
- ✓ Private steam charter: Siliguri–Tindharia–Kurseong–Darjeeling, including the Tindharia Workshop visit and the evening dining charter
- ✓ English-speaking guide/escort throughout
- ✓ All transfers and sightseeing by AC private vehicle
- ✓ All entry fees
- ✓ Internal flights: Bagdogra–Kolkata and Kolkata–Dhaka
- ✓ Bangladesh rail tickets: Dhaka–Chittagong, Chittagong–Sylhet, Sylhet–Srimangal, Srimangal–Dhaka
- ✓ Maheshkhali Island tour
- ✓ Fuel, road tolls, parking, and driver's expenses

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to Bagdogra and from Dhaka
- Personal expenses
- Lunches and dinners not specified above
- Tips and gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Anything not specifically listed under Included

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