

Entry formalities for Arunachal Pradesh

- As Arunachal Pradesh falls under restricted area, official permission is required to enter the state. There are two kinds of official permits prescribed by Government for entering into any area within Arunachal Pradesh.
 - Inner Line Permit (ILP)
 - Protected Area Permit (PAP)
- The Inner Line Permit is required by Indians other than natives of Arunachal Pradesh for entering into any place in Arunachal Pradesh. The ILPs are issued by the issuing authorities of Government of Arunachal Pradesh with offices at Delhi, Kolkata, Tezpur, Guwahati, Shillong, Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur and Jorhat.
- The Inner Line Permit can be applied through an authorized tour operator or can be applied online on [Government of Arunachal Pradesh official website](#).
- The ILP allows maximum stay of up to 10 days.
- All foreign nationals are required have the Protection Area Permit or PAP for entering into Arunachal Pradesh. They can obtain the Protected Area Permit from
 - All Indian Missions abroad
 - All Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRRO) at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata
 - Chief Immigration Officer, Chennai
 - Home Ministry, Govt. of India
 - Home Commissioner, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar
- The PAP allows maximum stay of up to 30 days.
- Indian as well as foreign nationals have to specify the entry point as well as exit point along the intended tourist circuit.

Entry Formalities for Bhutan

Indian, Bangladeshi & Maldivian Travelers in Bhutan

- Indian, Bangladeshi, and Maldivian nationals can obtain a permit at the city of entry on producing a valid passport with a minimum 6-month validity (Indian nationals may also use their Voter ID Card).
- An online Regional Permit System for tourists from Bangladesh, India, and Maldives has been launched by the Department of Immigration, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs and the Tourism Council of Bhutan. The system facilitates the online processing of permits for regional tourists through registered Bhutanese tour operators and Department of Tourism certified hotels. The facility is offered as an optional channel to process permits for visitors from the region and is applicable for entry from Paro and Phuentsholing.
- Indian nationals are also allowed to travel on their own in Bhutan, with or without the services of a tour operator.
- Indians nationals don't require a visa to enter Bhutan, and are given a 7-day entry-cum-stay permit at the immigration offices upon presentation of a passport or government-issued ID such as a voter's registration card. This permit can be obtained from the Immigration office of Royal Government of Bhutan at Phuentsholing, or Paro Airport. The permit issued is free of cost and allows one to travel only within Phuentsholing, Thimphu, and Paro and can be extended at the Immigration Office in Thimphu for successive periods of 3 weeks each. One can also request a route permit here to travel beyond the three above-mentioned towns.
- Indian-registered vehicles are allowed within the designated zone without any charge. However, if the vehicle goes beyond Rinchending Check Post in Phuentsholing, they will be required to pay Nu 4,500 per day as Green Tax. They further need to register on Check Post Management System to cross the RBP check points. Documents required are (1) Original driving license, (2) Original registration certificate (vehicle registration shall not be more than 10 years from date of registration), (3) Vehicle insurance, (4) Vehicle emission and road worthiness certificate, and (5) Owner of the vehicle must be the same person. If the driver and owner are different, an authority letter from the owner to driver is required.

- Indians Nationals without stay permits can wander freely in Phuentsholing and go 5 km into Bhutan during the day, but must return to India before 10 pm. You are allowed to ply your vehicle in Phuentsholing without permit during the daytime.
- All of Bhutan outside of the Paro and Thimphu valleys is classified as a restricted area. Tour operators obtain a 'road permit' for the places on your itinerary, and this permit is checked and endorsed by the police at immigration checkpoints strategically located at important road junctions.
- The tour operator must return the permit to the government at the completion of the tour, and it is scrutinized for major deviations from the authorized program. In general, you won't be aware that any of this is going on in the background.
- There are immigration checkpoints in Hongtsho (east of Thimphu), Chhukha (between Thimphu and Phuentsholing), Rinchending (above Phuentsholing), Wangdue Phodrang, Chazam (near Trashigang), Wamrong (between Trashigang and Samdrup Jongkhar) and in Samdrup Jongkhar. All are open from 5 am to 9 pm daily.

For Indian Nationals:

You don't need a visa, but you will need an entry permit.

Here are the documents required for the entry permit:

1. Original passport with a minimum validity of 6 months from your intended departure date from Bhutan or original Voter ID card issued by the Election Commission of India.
2. Two recent passport-sized photographs.
3. A recommendation letter from your local host/counterpart in Bhutan (may or may not be requested).

For Foreign Nationals (except India):

You will need a visa to enter Bhutan. There are 2 ways to apply for a visa:

- e-Visa: You can apply online through the Department of Immigration's online portal [Bhutan e-visa ON Department of Immigration, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs visit.doi.gov.bt].
- Through a Tour Operator: Many Bhutanese tour operators can assist you with the visa application process. This is usually the recommended way for most foreign tourists.

Here are some additional things to keep in mind:

India tourists are required to pay Sustainable Development Fee of INR 1,200/- per person per night. Children aged 5 years and below are exempted of SDF and children between the age of 6-12 years are given 50 % concession on SDF.

You must book your trip through a registered Bhutanese tour operator.

For more information on entry formalities for Bhutan, you can visit the website of the Department of Immigration [Bhutan Department of Immigration ON Department of Immigration, Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs doi.gov.bt] or the Tourism Council of Bhutan [Tourism Council of Bhutan ON Bhutan Tourism tourism.gov.bt].

Entry Formalities for Mizoram

Indian Nationals:

- An Inner Line Permit (ILP) is required for all Indian nationals entering Mizoram.
- You can obtain the ILP from any Mizoram House located in Kolkata, Silchar, Shillong, Guwahati, or New Delhi. It's also conveniently available upon arrival at Lengpui Airport for tourists flying in.

Foreign Tourists:

- **Great news!** Foreign nationals no longer require a Restricted Area Permit (RAP) to enter Mizoram. This eliminates previous restrictions like minimum group size and designated areas.
- **Important:** Foreign nationals must register themselves at the local Foreigner Registration Office (FRO) within 24 hours of arrival in each district they visit.

Exceptions:

- Citizens of Afghanistan, China, and Pakistan still require prior approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs before entering Mizoram, even though the RAP is no longer mandatory.

Recommendation:

- Double-check for any last-minute updates with the official Mizoram tourism website or government portal closer to your travel date, just in case.

This information should be accurate as of May 2, 2024.

Inner Line Permit (ILP) for Indian Nationals

- **Required:** All Indian nationals entering Nagaland or Mizoram must obtain an ILP.
- **Documents Required:**
 - Address Proof (except Mizoram if arriving at Lengpui Airport)
 - Identity Proof issued by Government of India (PAN card not accepted)

- Age Proof (Child Birth Certificate or School ID card)
 - 3 Passport-sized photographs (self-attested photocopies of all documents)
- **Processing Time:** 3-4 working days

Entry formalities for Nagaland

Indian Nationals:

All Indian Nationals require Inner Line Permit to visit Nagaland. To procure ILP permit, the required documents are Address Proof, Identity proof issued by Govt. of India (PAN card is not acceptable), child birth certificate or School Identity card and 03 copies of Passport size photographs of every person. It takes 03-04 official days to process the permit; all photocopy documents need to self-attested.

All Indian Nationals intending to visit Nagaland should obtain the Inner Line permit issued by the following authorities:

- Deputy Resident Commissioner, Nagaland House (New Delhi, Kolkata)
- Assistant Resident Commissioner (Guwahati, Shillong)
- Deputy Commissioner (Dimapur, Kohima, Mokokchung)

Foreign Nationals:

- **Great news!** Foreign nationals no longer require a Restricted Area Permit (RAP) or Protected Area Permit (PAP) to enter Nagaland or Mizoram. This eliminates previous restrictions like minimum group size and designated areas.
- **Important:** Foreign nationals must register themselves at the local Foreigner Registration Office (FRO) within 24 hours of arrival in each district they visit.

Entry formalities for Nepal

Indian Nationals:

- Do not require a visa, but must carry valid identification:
 - Passport
 - Voter ID card issued by the Government of India
 - Emergency certificate issued by the Indian Embassy in Nepal (if applicable)

Other SAARC Nationals (except India):

- Get a free visa (valid for 30 days) upon arrival for the first visit in a year.

Other Countries:

- Apply for a visa beforehand at a Nepalese embassy or consulate abroad.
- Alternatively, obtain a visa on arrival (VOA) at Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA).

Visa on Arrival (VOA) Process:

1. Fill the online Tourist Visa form (before arrival or at kiosks upon arrival).
2. Pay the visa fee according to your stay duration (USD 25 for 15 days, USD 40 for 30 days, USD 100 for 90 days).
3. Submit documents and fee receipt to the immigration officer for visa processing.

Additional Notes:

- Tourist visas can be extended at the Immigration Office in Pokhara (for tourist visas) or Kathmandu (for other visas, if eligible).

(<https://www.immigration.gov.np/>)

Entry formalities for Sikkim

Foreign Nationals:

- **Inner Line Permit (ILP):** Foreigners still require an ILP to enter Sikkim. You can obtain it at the mentioned locations with a valid passport, Indian visa, and passport photos.
- **Restricted Area Permit (RAP):** There's a simplification! Foreign nationals from Pakistan, China, Myanmar, and Nigeria no longer need a separate approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs for a Restricted Area Permit (RAP). They can obtain the ILP directly, which now serves the purpose of both ILP and RAP.

Protected Area Permit (PAP):

- The requirement for a PAP for specific protected areas such as Tsomgo Lake, Dzungri, Nathula, etc. remains unchanged for both foreigners and Indians.

Foreign Travel Restrictions:

- **Group Travel:** The minimum group requirement of two foreigners in protected areas has been lifted. Solo foreign tourists are now allowed in these areas.
- **Tour Operators:** Foreigners can still apply through registered tour operators for a smoother experience, but it's not mandatory anymore.

General:

- **Photo ID:** As mentioned, carry a valid photo ID proof (passport, voter ID, driving license) but remember PAN cards are not accepted.

(<https://www.sikkimtourism.gov.in/>)

Entry formalities for Manipur

Entry for Indian Nationals:

- **Inner Line Permit (ILP):** No ILP is required for Indian nationals to enter Manipur. This applies even if you're traveling by road and passing through Nagaland (you would only need an ILP for Nagaland itself).

Entry for Foreign Nationals:

- **Great news!** Foreign nationals no longer require a Restricted Area Permit (RAP) to enter Manipur.
- **Important:** Foreign nationals must still register themselves at the local Foreigner Registration Office (FRO) within 24 hours of arrival in each district they visit.

(<https://manipurilponline.mn.gov.in/>)

Foreign Nationals in Bhutan

- With the exception of visitors from India, Bangladesh and Maldives, all other visitors to Bhutan need a visa.
- Foreign nationals are not allowed to travel on their own in Bhutan, or without the services of a tour operator.
- The minimum daily package for tourists travelling in a group of 3 persons or more is as follows:
 - USD \$200 per person per night for the months of January, February, June, July, August, and December.
 - USD \$250 per person per night for the months of March, April, May, September, October, and November.
- All other tourists must obtain a visa clearance prior to travel to Bhutan. Visas are processed through an online system by your licensed Bhutanese tour operator, directly or through a foreign travel agent.
- You are required to send the photo copy of your passport to your tour operator who will then apply for your visa. The visa will be processed by the Tourism Council of Bhutan (TCB) once the full payment of your holiday (including a USD \$40 visa fee) has been wire transferred and received in the TCB bank account. Once received the visa clearance will be processed within 72 working hours.
- The minimum daily package covers the following services.
 - A minimum of 3-star accommodation (4 & 5 star may require an additional premium).
 - All meals
 - A licensed Bhutanese tour guide for the extent of your stay
 - All internal transport (excluding internal flights)
 - Camping equipment and haulage for trekking tours
 - All internal taxes and charges
 - A sustainable development fee of \$65. This sustainable development fee goes towards free education, free healthcare, poverty alleviation, along with the building of infrastructure.
 - Permits to enter monasteries / temples in Bhutan

Mountaineering in Sikkim

Open Peaks for Mountaineering in Sikkim (2024):

- Frey Peak (5830 meters)
- Lama Angden (5868 meters)
- Brumkhangse (5635 meters)
- Mount Tinchengkhang (6100 meters)
- Mount Jopuno (6002 meters)

Permit Fees:

- **Foreign Expedition Team:**
 - Up to 4 members: US \$350
 - Up to 8 members: US \$500
 - Each additional member: US \$75
- **Domestic Expedition Team:**
 - Up to 8 members: Rs. 15,000/-
 - Each additional member: Rs. 1,500/-
- **Local Expedition Team:**
 - Up to 8 members: Rs. 3,000/-
 - Each additional member: Rs. 300/-

Permit Issuing Authorities:

- **Permits:** Home Department, Government of Sikkim
- **Royalty Fees:** Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department
- **Overall Oversight:** Department of Tourism, Government of Sikkim

(<https://sikkim.gov.in/>).

Trekking Areas & Fees in Nepal

DOLPA DISTRICT: Areas of Upper Dolpa for the first 10 days US\$ 500 per person and after 10 days US\$ 50 per day person or equivalent foreign currency. Areas of Lower Dolpo Per week per person US\$ 10 or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

MUSTANG DISTRICT: Areas of Upper Mustang for the first 10 days US\$ 500 per person and after 10 days US\$ 50 per day per person, or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

GORKHA DISTRICT: Manaslu Region from September to November US\$ 70 per week per person and after 7 days US\$ 10 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency. From December to August US\$ 50 per week per person and after 7 days US\$ 7 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency. Areas of Chhekampar and Chunchet VDC (Sirdibas-Lokpa-Chumling-Chhekampar -Nile-Chhule Area) From September to November, per person US\$ 35 for first 8 days and from December to August per person US\$ 25 for first 8 days or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

MUGU DISTRICT: Areas of Mugu, Dolpu, Pulu and Bhangri for the first 7 days US\$90 per person and after 7 days US\$ 15 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

MANANG DISTRICT: Areas of Nar and Phu from September to November US\$ 90 per week per person and December to August US\$ 75 per week per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

DOLAKHA DISTRICT: Gaurishankar and Lamabagar- Per week per person US\$ 10 or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

RASUWA DISTRICT: Thuman and Timure- Per week per person US\$ 10 or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

HUMLA DISTRICT: Simikot and Yari (Areas of Limi and Muchu village Development Committee, and area way to Tibet via Tangekhola of Darma Village Development committee)- For the first 7 days US\$ 50 per person and after 7 days US\$7 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

SANKHUWASABHA: Areas of Kimathanka, Chepuwa, Hatiya and Pawakhola VDCs- For the first 4 weeks, US\$ 10 per person per week and after 4 weeks, US\$20 per person per week or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

TAPLEJUNG DISTRICT: Kanchanjanga Region (Areas of Olangchung Gola, Lelep, Papung and Yamphudin VDCs)- Per week per person US\$ 10 or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

BAJHANG DISTRICT: Areas of Kanda, Saipal and Dhuli- For the first 7 days, US\$ 90 per person and after 7 days US\$ 15 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

DARCHULA DISTRICT: Areas of Byas VDC- For the first 7 days US\$ 90 per person and after 7 days US\$ 15 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

Note:

- Permit fees vary depending on the trekking region and duration of your stay.
- Most regions have a higher fee during peak season (typically September to November).
- Fees are generally quoted in USD or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

Additional Considerations:

- Besides the Trekking Permit, you might also need a **TIMS Card** (Trekking Information Management System Card).
- Some restricted areas might require a separate **Restricted Area Permit (RAP)**.

[\(https://www.immigration.gov.np/\)](https://www.immigration.gov.np/)