



## The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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## NAGALAND'S HORNBILL FESTIVAL AND BRAHMAPUTRA EXPEDITION - EXPLORE NORTHERN INDIA

Nagaland is known as the land of festivals and each December, the Hornbill Festival takes place in Kohima uniting the various Naga tribes for a yearly celebration of the culture and traditions of the region. Famed for its fierce and distinct Naga Warriors, Nagaland is a must-see for travellers in India's North East and for the first time Pandaw is offering a guided tour of this unique annual celebration, combined with a 7 night expedition along the mighty Brahmaputra River. We have 2 special departures sailing on the 22nd November 2025 & 29th November 2025, the perfect way to experience the once-in-a-lifetime festival and experience North East India with Pandaw. This is a group tour exploring the Hornbill Festival across multiple days after a 10-night Brahmaputra expedition. Transportation to and from the festival site and excursions each day are provided as a group by coach or car but our local guides and vehicles will be on hand to support those who wish to return early. This is a flexible tour which may change depending on specific festival activities at time of visit or group consensus.



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lectures to learn more about the region's fascinating culture and history.

## DAY 3 SILGHAT & VILLAGE WALK

Arrive in Silghat and disembark for a leisurely walk through a typical Assamese village, experiencing the daily life and traditions of the friendly locals. In the evening, enjoy a captivating performance of traditional Assamese folk dances like the Jhumur and Bihu.

## DAY 4 KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK

Embark on a thrilling jeep safari through the renowned Kaziranga National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This wildlife haven boasts the world's largest population of the Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros and a high density of Royal Bengal Tigers, though sightings of these elusive creatures are rare. Keep an eye out for other fascinating wildlife like Indian elephants, bison, swamp deer, and a variety of bird species as you traverse the park's diverse landscape.

## DAY 5 NAMERI NATIONAL PARK & BAMUNI HILLS

After an early breakfast, embark on an exciting adventure to Nameri National Park, nestled at the foot of the blue hills of Arunachal Pradesh. Take a relaxing float trip down the Jia-Bhoreli River, spotting diverse birdlife and soaking in the breathtaking scenery. Later, journey to Bamuni Hills to marvel at the ancient rock carvings dating back to the 8th century, offering a glimpse into the artistic heritage of the region.

## DAY 6 MAYONG VILLAGE

Step ashore in Mayong Village, shrouded in mystique and known for its long-standing association with magic and sorcery. Delve into the intriguing history of this unique village, learning

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 GUWAHATI

Arrive in Guwahati and transfer to the RV Kindat Pandaw or from the your hotel in the morning. At 2pm, we cast off from Pandu Port and begin our journey upstream. Learn about the Brahmaputra River with a talk from our knowledgeable guide. Enjoy a cocktail hour with canapes. We anchor near Mayong for the night.

### DAY 2 SAILING

Spend the day sailing against the strong currents of the Brahmaputra River, making your way through the lush Assam countryside. Take advantage of the onboard activities and



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about ancient mantras and their uses in everything from healing to identifying thieves. You might even witness a captivating magic demonstration by a local resident. Later, continue sailing downstream, enjoying the ever-changing scenery and onboard activities.

### DAY 7 SUALKUCHI & TEA GARDEN

Rise early for a visit to the Noonmati Tea Garden, where you'll witness the fascinating process of tea production, from plucking the leaves to the final stages of drying and packaging. After lunch, sail to Sualkuchi, a major center for silk production in Assam. Discover the intricate art of silk-making, from the delicate silkworms spinning their cocoons to the skilled weavers creating exquisite sarees worn by local women.

### DAY 8 GUWAHATI - KOHIMA

Early disembarkation from the ship in Guwahati and bid farewell to the majestic Brahmaputra River as you transfer to the train station for your 6:20am departure to Dimapur on the Jansatabdi Express. Meet your guide at 10:15am and transfer by coach to Kohima. Enjoy a welcome lunch en route (Approx 2.5 - 3.5h journey time). In the afternoon, enjoy some free time to settle in. In the evening, attend an engaging talk by your expert guide on the Battles of Kohima and Imphal from World War II's Burma Campaign. Enjoy a welcome dinner and spend the night in Kohima.

Overnight in Kohima

Meals: Packed Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### DAY 9 KOHIMA

Explore the historic Kohima Ridge in the morning, visiting key sites from the iconic Battle of Kohima, often referred to as the

"Stalingrad of the East." Visit the serene Kohima War Cemetery, a poignant tribute to the soldiers who fought bravely. After lunch, visit the Kohima Cathedral, a stunning landmark and a symbol of peace. Spend the night in Kohima.

Overnight in Kohima

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

### DAY 10 KOHIMA & KHONOMA

In the morning, visit the Nagaland State Museum, exploring the fascinating culture and traditions of the Naga tribes through an impressive collection of artefacts and costumes. After lunch, visit Khonoma, India's first "Green Village" and home to the Angami tribe. Enjoy a picnic lunch amidst the picturesque surroundings. Take a guided walk through the village, exploring Morungs (age-group houses), ancient forts, ceremonial gates, and experiencing the unique Angami way of life. Spend the night in Kohima.

Overnight in Kohima

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

### DAY 11 HORNBILL FESTIVAL, KISAMA

Head to Kisama Heritage Village, the vibrant hub of the Hornbill Festival, often called the "Festival of Festivals." Immerse yourself in the cultural extravaganza: Watch mesmerizing tribal performances, explore traditional Naga houses and engage with the rich heritage on display, sample local delicacies and enjoy indigenous brews, and witness thrilling indigenous games. Spend the night in Kohima.

Overnight in Kohima

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

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### DAY 12 HORNBILL FESTIVAL, KISAMA

Continue to experience the vibrant atmosphere of the Hornbill Festival. Explore the kaleidoscope of tribal life, from vibrant attire to the rhythmic beats of traditional music and dances. Discover hidden gems in the lively market stalls. Spend the night in Kohima.

Overnight in Kohima

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

### DAY 13 MOUNT PULIEBADZE

Hike to the summit of Mount Puliebadze (2,300m), offering breathtaking views of Kohima. For those who prefer not to hike, an additional visit to the festival venue can be arranged. Enjoy a local lunch at the base of the mountain. Free time to relax and soak in the atmosphere of Kohima. Spend the night in Kohima.

Overnight in Kohima

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

### DAY 14 DEPARTURE

After breakfast and check-out from your hotel, transfer to Dimapur for your onward journey.

Meals: Breakfast

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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### YOUR SHIP: KINDAT PANDAW

**YOUR SHIP:**

**Kindat Pandaw**

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

Kindat Pandaw is a very shallow draft vessel that can go just about anywhere anytime, it is big enough to carry 30-40 passengers with lots of outdoor deck space. The ship has quality mountain bikes for your independent exploration. ACCOMMODATION 8 upper deck, 10 main deck, 170 square feet, finished in teak and brass, AC with individual control, Premium mattresses, Multi-configuration plugs, 24h laundry service WINING & DINING Bistro style dining room with outside seating and air-conditioning inside, Local master chef heading an experienced international culinary team, Semi-buffet breakfast, semi-buffet lunch, and seated theme dinners, Daily lean & light menu options, Complimentary local mineral water, juggled coffee, teas & tisanes, Extensive wine list with premium wines, Welcome drink on arrival, Welcome cocktail, Farewell reception, Theme dinners, 24hrs hospitality bar, Onboard bakery with daily freshly baked breads and rolls ON EXCURSIONS Admissions, Shoe cleaning after excursions, Bottled drinking water, We give away aluminium water bottles, Cold towel service after excursions, Refreshing drink following excursions, 1st aid trained assistant guide to follow all tours and excursions, Quality mountain bikes available for independent exploration SAFETY &

SECURITY All onboard crew is trained and certified as per international marine standards, Fire alarm system in all cabins, public areas and back areas, Fire fighting system in all ship areas, Expert marine superintendent, 24 hrs watch on duty ONBOARD STAFF Captain, River Pilot, First Officer, Chief Engineer, 1st Engineer, Electrician, Bosun & nautical crew, Ship manager, Housekeeping, Dining, Bar keeper, Chefs, Local tour guides PUBLIC SPACES Guest relation desk, Library with contemporary and classic



literature



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## PRICING

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### ADDITIONAL CHARGES:

Port Taxes 90 USD pp



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