



The Small Cruise
Ship Collection

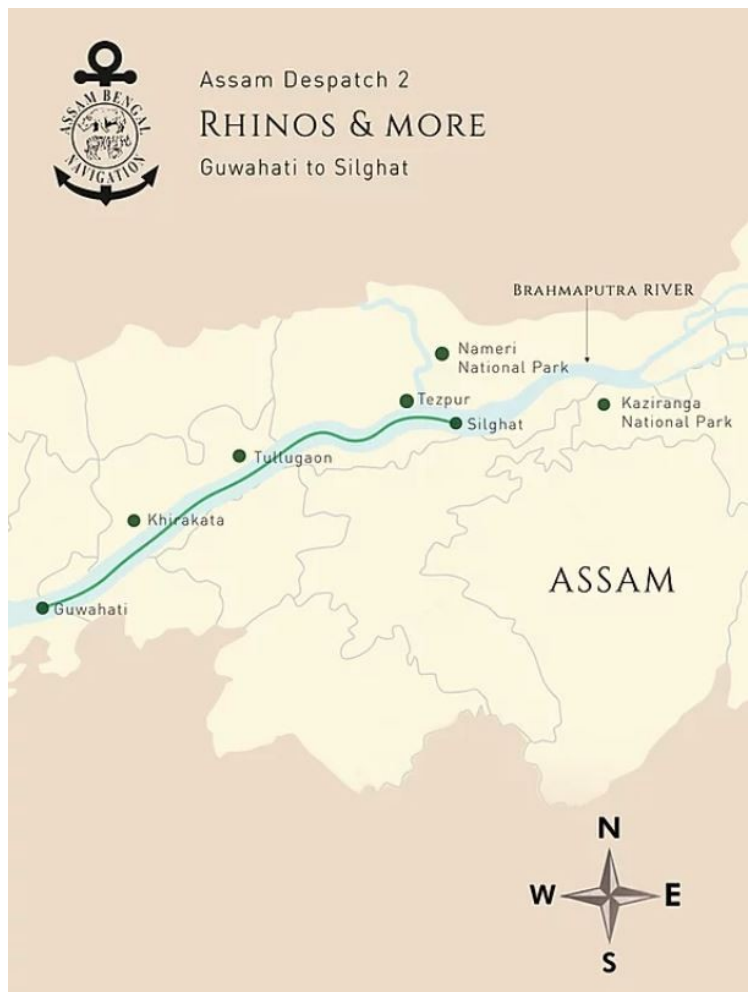
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RHINOS & MORE (ABN SUKAPHA)

Brahmaputra cruises feature visits and attractions such as wildlife viewing, village walks, visits to tea gardens, exploring country towns in cycle rickshaws, barbecues on deserted river islands, dance performances, and visits to craft workshops. This 7-night cruise starts at Guwahati and terminates at Silghat near Tezpur and Kaziranga.



ITINERARY

DAY 1 Guwahati

Meet at Guwahati airport and transfer to our cruise at Pandu port, Enjoy lunch while cruising downstream to Sualkuchi. PM

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walk through Sualkuchi, a bustling little town that is the centre of Assamese silk production, to visit weaving workshops. Witness the whole process of silk manufacture, from cocoon and spinning to dyeing and hand-weaving into exquisite mekhela chadars (a two-piece sari, the traditional attire of an Assamese woman). We then sail up to dock close to the great Saraighat bridge

DAY 2 Nilachal Hill

This morning, drive up Nilachal Hill to see the holy Kamakhya temple. With its tantric rites and animal sacrifice, the more squeamish among us may prefer to content themselves with the exteriors. Visit the poignant Commonwealth War Graves cemetery before embarking on your cruise vessel at Uzan Bazaar. We set sail and cruise pass Kurua on the north bank.

DAY 3 River Sailing

AM cruise up and visit a river side village, with its lush green fields of vegetables. The day is spent mostly cruising upstream with jungle-covered hills rising on either side, often battling against strong currents to reach Jotiabari. Enjoy Indian cooking demonstration onboard.

DAY 4 Tezpur

This morning, cruise on to reach Tezpur where, after lunch, we will visit the 6th century Da Parbatia temple ruins with its beautifully carved portal. Later, explore the town by cycle rickshaw, stopping at Cole Park with its medieval stone carvings saved from sites all over the region. Enjoy free time in local market. Our ship will be waiting at the town's waterfront for us to reboard.

DAY 5 Nameri National Park

After an early breakfast, drive for some two hours to the Nameri National Park at the foot of the blue hills of Arunachal Pradesh, the old North East Frontier Agency. Here, we take a float trip of around two hours down the Jia-Bhoreli River through the park. There are excellent bird-watching opportunities here (look out for the great Hornbills) and, perhaps, the chance of sighting wild elephants. After lunch, take a village walk before returning to the ship. Continue upstream, passing below a seemingly endless new bridge across the vast width of the riverbed, to moor at Silghat.

DAY 6 Kaziranga National Park

Today, drive to Kaziranga's Central Range for a morning jeep safari. Enjoy lunch at DRL. Afterwards take another jeep safari in the little visited Burapahar Range before returning to the boat. Covering an area of approximately 430 sq kms, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kaziranga National Park is home to the world's largest population of the Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros as well as the Indian Wild Water Buffalo. It has also earned the distinction of having the highest density of Royal Bengal Tigers (one every five sq. km.) making this park an incredibly rich biodiversity hotspot. With its marshy swamps and thickets of elephant grass, this park supports large populations of Indian elephants, Indian bison, swamp deer, and Capped Langurs. Besides wildlife, Kaziranga National Park is also a birding paradise. A few of the bird species found here are the Oriental Honey Buzzard, Black-shouldered Kite, White-tailed Eagle, Himalayan Griffon and so on. Kaziranga National Park also frequently draws comparisons to the Serengeti in Africa due to the park's abundance of wildlife and birds.

DAY 7 Kaziranga National Park

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This morning, go on a visit to a local tea garden and weekly market of Uloni. In the afternoon, drive to Kaziranga's Western range (Bagori Range) for jeep safari.

DAY 8 Transfer to the Airport

Rise early for a 4-hour drive back to Guwahati airport. Alternatively, we can arrange a 40-minute transfer to Tezpur airport or a 2 ½ hr transfer to Jorhat airport.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: ABN SUKAPHA

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

With a maximum group size of 24 guests, she was designed to closely resemble ABN Charaidew, both as a result of popular demand and reasons of practicality, retaining many of the features which make our original vessel so popular but adding a small spa. In an effort to conserve India's forests, the interiors are bamboo-paneled, air-conditioned and roomy with en suite bathrooms. There is a spa and a saloon with a library. The dining room is on the main deck and a spacious sundeck at the very top. Fabrics on board have been handwoven by Bodo tribal villagers; the comfortable rattan chairs are locally sourced and made; and our gift shop stocks only arts and crafts made by local artisans. Onboard features Spacious cabins with individual climate control En suite shower/WC with Biotique toiletries Generous cupboard space and under-bed storage Hair drier in each cabin High quality linens Large sliding glass windows offering panoramic views of the river Vast sundeck with sunloungers or steamer chairs Spacious air-conditioned saloon with library and recorded entertainment Spa with choice of treatments. Services Shore excursion programme including all admissions Naturalist onboard the vessel Cold towel service after excursions Welcome drink after excursions Shoe-cleaning

after excursions Turndown service in all cabins Expertly trained culinary staff Single seating for buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner Acclaimed combination of Indian & Western cuisines Wide choice of wines, spirits & beer Complimentary tea, coffee & mineral water throughout Welcome reception Farewell reception Local on-board dance & song



performances.

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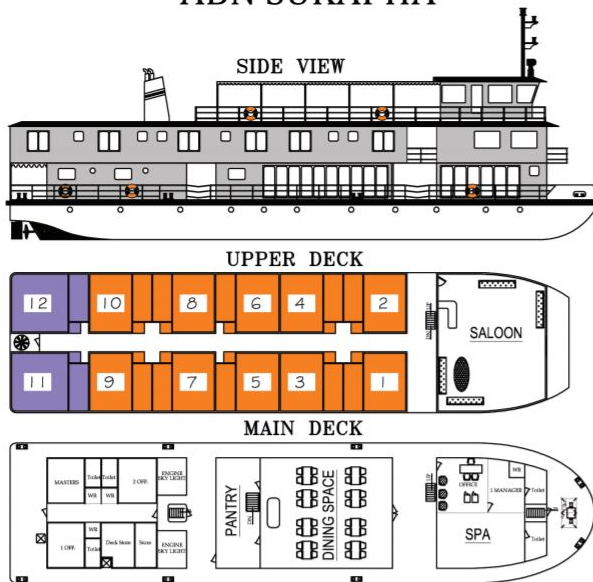
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PRICING



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