



पर्यटन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
TOURISM



GOVT. OF SIKKIM



SIKKIM TOURISM AND CIVIL  
AVIATION DEPARTMENT

SWADESH  
DARSHAN 2.0  
DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE DESTINATIONS

# GYALSHING TOURISM NEWSLETTER

Issue No.: 002 | January, 2024

## The Chronicles of Gyalshing

A discoverer's diary

"Gyalshing: Embarking on a Cultural Odyssey, Ringing in the New Year with Tradition!"



Welcome everyone,

As we step into the embrace of January in Gyalshing, let us embark on a journey that celebrates the rich tapestry of tradition and culture that defines our beautiful town. Our January newsletter, with the theme "Gyalshing: Embarking on a Cultural Odyssey, Ringing in the New Year with Tradition!", discovers the vibrant tapestry of local tribes – Bhutias, Lepchas, and Nepalese – as they weave tales of Buddhism, nature, and dynamic folk dances. Experience religious harmony and gender equality as embedded values. As a melting pot of cultures, Gyalshing beckons you to witness the harmonious coexistence of different communities through dance forms like Maruni, Yak Dance, etc., and music forms like Dohori and Tamang Selo. Join us in celebrating Gyalshing's unique cultural identity, making it a captivating destination for those who seek a New Year start steeped in tradition and culture.

# Destination Highlights

## Singyang Serenity

### Ancient Bhutia Homes and Sacred Spiritual Discovery



Nestled in the snowy landscapes of Gyalshing, Singyang beckons as a cultural haven, perfectly aligned with "Gyalshing: Embarking on a Cultural Odyssey, Ringing in the New Year with Tradition!" Explore century-old Bhutia, Gurung, and Limboo tribe homes, frozen in time. Discover the mystical aura of Singyang through its ancient monastery and a sacred pilgrimage site discovered recently. Carved with depictions of Dorjee Phamo, a sacred female spirit, this site adds a spiritual dimension to the village's snowy serenity. Immerse in history, tradition, and divine energies as Singyang unfolds its cultural treasures in the heart of Gyalshing.



## Yuksam Essence

### Tracing Royalty and Tranquility in Tradition



Embark on a cultural odyssey in Gyalshing, where Yuksam unfolds as a hidden gem at "Gyalshing: Embarking on a Cultural Odyssey, Ringing in the New Year with Tradition!" Meeting place of the three learned monks," Yuksam holds historical significance as Sikkim's first capital. UNESCO'S first mixed heritage site. Its serene landscapes and the Coronation Throne bear witness to the consecration of Sikkim's first king, Phuntsok Namgyal. Surrounded by the Himalayas, Yuksam invites you to explore the Nyingmapa order of Tibetan Buddhism, trek within the Kangchendzongha National Park, savor the untamed wildlife sanctuary—a perfect blend of royal heritage and natural tranquility.





# Travel Tips and Guide

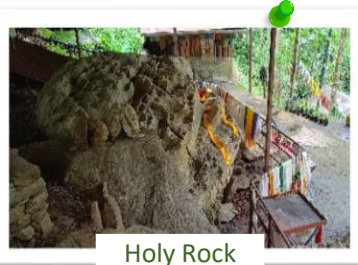
## Reaching Singyang Village



Approach road  
from Pelling with  
Nearby Hotels  
Distance - 3 Kms



Bhutia House



Holy Rock

### Basic Itinerary

- ✓ Explore Traditional Bhutia, Limboo houses - 100yrs of legacy
- ✓ Trek to Holy Rock with historical importance.
- ✓ Experience the local kiwi farms and cardamom cultivation.
- ✓ Trek into the Forest woods with a glimpse of waterfalls and nature trails.
- ✓ Majestic views to Khangchendzonga range

## Reaching Yuksam Village

- Yuksam is nestled in the western part of Sikkim under the Gyalshing district, India.
- Key attractions include Dubdi Monastery, Norbugang Chorten, Kathok Lake, and the historic Coronation Park.
- Access Yuksom by shared taxis from Pelling or Gyalshing.
- For those traveling from Siliguri, take a shared taxi to Pelling or Jorethang, then another to Yuksam.
- The nearest railway station is New Jalpaiguri (NJP), and the nearest airport is Bagdogra.
- Best time: Spring/summer for flowers, autumn for clear skies, and winter for quiet beauty.
- Avoid monsoon due to landslides. Obtain permits for trekking, especially for protected areas.
- Dubdi Monastery (1701), Norbugang Chorten, Kathok Lake, and the Coronation Park's historical sites.
- Dzongri Top and Goechala trek for panoramic Himalayan views.
- Phamrong Falls and Kanchenjunga Falls for natural beauty.

### Basic Itinerary

- ✓ Explore Dubdi Monastery, Norbugang Chorten, Kathok Lake, and the Coronation Park.
- ✓ Trek to Dzongri Top and Goechala for stunning Himalayan views.
- ✓ Visit Phamrong Falls and Kanchenjunga Falls.
- ✓ Take a historical journey through the Coronation Park.

- Stay in government guest houses, private hostels, or homestays in Yuksom.
- Popular accommodations include Dragon Hotel, Demazong Hotel, and Limboo Homestay.
- Enjoy vegetarian food; try local drinks like Bamboo (Chhang/ Tongba).
- Trekking gear can be rented locally. Permits are easily available through travel agencies.

# Upcoming Festival/ Fair

Cultural Festivals for a Fresh Start

## Rimbi Maghey Mela 2024



Immerse yourself in the vibrant spirit of tradition and culture at the Rimbi Maghey Mela 2024, commencing on January 15th. This six-day festival promises a delightful showcase of Sikkim's rich cultural diversity through traditional stalls. Attendees can relish cultural programs, explore traditional and departmental stalls, and indulge in musical performances by artists from Nepal, Darjeeling, and Sikkim. Join us in embracing the New Year with joy, cultural enrichment, and a peaceful atmosphere at the Rimbi Maghey Mela.

## Kokfekwa Tongnam 2024



Celebrate the Limboo New Year with the Kokfekwa Tongnam 2024 event, organized by the Darap Chongbuma Yuma Manghim Management Committee in Gayzing, West Sikkim, India. Taking place on January 15, 2024, from 7:30 am to 7:30 pm, the festivities include Tongsing Mundhum Prayer chanting by Ya-Phedangmas and Sambas, aiming to dispel negative vibes and ensure peace and protection from natural disasters.

The event features traditional Limboo cultural programs, such as Yalak Dance, Kay Lang Dance, Tuyanghang Samloo (songs), and Negara performances. Additionally, there will be the lighting of Semi (Deyas), Tumdumseri (Tika) presentation, and the showcasing of Limboo traditional attire and ornaments.

## Monthly Calender

January 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

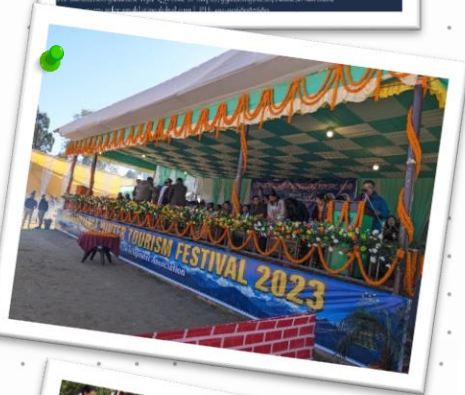
Maghe Sankranti : 15th  
Republic Day : 26th

# Previous Month Highlights



Logo and Tagline Competition: 'Discover Gyalshing' competition completed under Swadesh Darshan 2.0, with 50+ entries; the announcement will be done in the coming week of January 2024.

Social Media Presence: Launched "Visit Gyalshing" platform on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook, gaining 100+ followers.



Khangchendzonga Winter Festival: Coordinators Unveiled proposed projects, and Destination management activities – promoting and initiating awareness about tourism training program, linguistic training, skill development training, Registering about NIDHI+ platform and Travel for life pledge. Emphasizing on Community engagement, Tourist engagement. Promoting sustainable tourism at Pelling, West Sikkim.



Gyalshing District Tourism Page Update: District website refreshed, showcasing attractions, fairs/festivals, culture, music, folk, and costume details.

Swachhta Drive: Conducted cleanliness drive at Pelling street.



Workshop at Lhatsun Library: Day-long session on reading, writing, painting, zero waste management, and gardening, addressing Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Logo & Tagline competition.



DMC Meeting: Discussed issues, highlighted Experiential Lab in Pelling, and emphasized joint field surveys, data sharing, skill training, and aggressive media campaigns for destination development.



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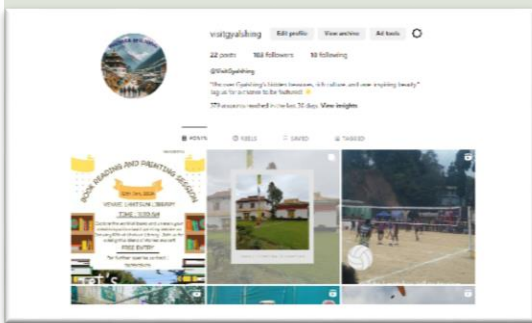
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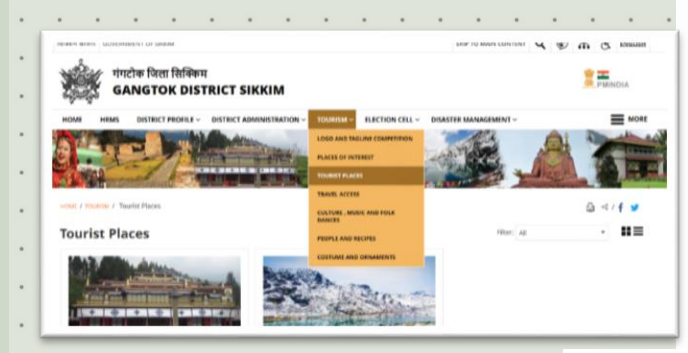
<https://twitter.com/GyalshingD>



[Discover Gyalshing](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553393796525)



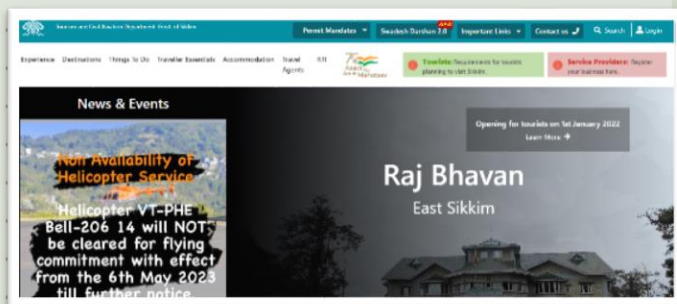
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[District Gyalshing](https://gyalshing.nic.in/)



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