

## **Valley of Flowers with Hemkund** **(Grade: soft/Duration: 4 days)**

### **Day 01: Flight to India (New Delhi)**

You arrive in Delhi by international flight. After a traditional 'Swagat' (Welcome) our representatives would assist you at the airport and to our hotel for check in and overnight stay.

### **Day 02: New Delhi – Rishikesh (248 kms, 6 hrs)**

In the morning, we will drive to Rishikesh represents the Gateway to the Himalayas in the **Tehri-Garhwal** region of Uttar Pradesh. It abounds in natural splendor. The spectacle of the **Ganga** rushing through the Himalayan foothills is an awesome sight. Several temples dot the banks of the Ganga at Rishikesh. In the evening a Maha Aarti is performed on this ghat. Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 03: Rishikesh - Joshimath (265 kms, 7 - 8 hrs drive)**

After an early breakfast drive to Joshimath via Deoprayag. On the way visit Deoprayag where Bhagirathi and Alaknanda rivers meet. From here the holy river Ganges started. Arrival at Joshimath by evening, check into the hotel. Dinner & overnight stay. On arrival check in camp / hotel. Overnight at camp / hotel. (Joshimath: The religious centre, established by Adi Shankaracharya, which he called Jyotirmath, later came to be known as Joshimath. Among the sites of interest are the temples of Nav Durga and Narsingh. Apart from its obvious religious importance, Joshimath is known for its scenic beauty.)

### **Day-04: Drive from Joshimath to Govindghat (1828 mts, 9 kms drive-2 hrs, 14 kms trek-7/8 hrs.):**

A less than two hour drive along the Alaknanda river brings us to Govindghat. From here our trek starts. On a given day there are hundreds of Sikh pilgrims headed for the Shrine at Hemkund, till Ghangaria. The 7 kms. from Pulna to Bhyundar Village are a steady ascent and the altitude is moderate. Shortly after Bhyundar, the trail crosses the Laxman Ganga, over a bridge elevated by giant boulders. The trail is steeper now but Ghangaria is only 3 km. away. Our campsite is beyond Ghangaria in a relatively isolated area.

### **Day 05: Ghangaria - Valley Of Flowers - Ghangaria (5 kms one side/4-5 hrs)**

Current Government regulations do not permit any camping within the notified area of the valley and entry to the valley is restricted to permit holders only. The trail is well chalked out, and is a delightful ramble as it climbs gently through a coniferous forest, before descending to a bridge, and check-post that mark the official entry to the Valley of Flowers. Climbing up a rocky trail, with the forest behind us, the first flowers begin to appear.

### **Day 06: Ghangaria - Valley Of Flowers - Ghangaria (5 kms one side/4-5 hrs)**

We again spend a day to see the great valley of flowers. Trekkers would be escorted into this garden of Eden to explore different cross sections of the Bhyundar Valley. Packed lunches, flasks full of hot beverages as well as assorted refreshments would also be arranged. By evening the group would be escorted

back to our base camp at Gangharia where dinner would be served after a round of refreshments.

**Day 06: Ghangaria - Hemkund Sahib - Ghangaria (10 kms trek)**

After breakfast leave with packed lunch for Hemkund Sahib (a Sikh religious place) on the banks of Hemkund Lake at a height of 4320 mts. This trek is gradual ascent on the cobbled path from the altitude of 3049 mts to 4320 mts in just 5 kms. Return to Ghangaria by evening for overnight stay

**Day 07: Ghangaria - Govindghat - Rishikesh (283 kms 8/9 hrs)**

Every morning after breakfast, & leave for the longest drive to Rishikesh, enroute stop for the magnificent view of river confluence at Deoprayag. Overnight in Rishikesh.

**Day 08: Rishikesh - Delhi (240 kms / 5 - 6 hrs)**

Early morning visit Ganges for the last time after breakfast leave for Delhi. On arrival at Delhi, transfer to hotel or for your onward journey to the airport.