

EXTENSION

INDIA

Darjeeling



Classic
JOURNEYS



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

India's Himalayan Retreat

The quiet remoteness of the Himalayas is so addictive that it's hard to leave. So we say don't.

Add our Darjeeling extension to your Bhutan trip, and take full advantage of the rare chance to explore this part of the world. Located in India's West Bengal state, Darjeeling is world-famous for its namesake tea – but it's also the mountaineers' gateway to the world's tallest peaks and a garden spot of the first order. Our unforgettable visit includes three glorious nights at a luxury tea estate.

DAY 1

GLENBURN

- Fly Paro to Bagdogra
- Transfer to the luxury Glenburn Tea Estate
- Cooking instruction

You'll rediscover the long-lost thrill of looking out of your airplane window as you make the scenic flight from Paro to Bagdogra along the edge of the Himalayas. Glenburn, your luxury estate hotel for the duration of your visit, is just a three-hour drive away at the far northeastern tip of India, just across the River Teesta from Sikkim. After settling, the balance of the evening is yours to relax.

OVERNIGHT: GLENBURN
MEALS: D

DAY 2

DARJEELING

- UNESCO World Heritage "Toy Train" through the Himalayas
- Visit a Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and Tibetan Refugee Center
- Afternoon tea tasting session

After breakfast, your hosts at Glenburn show you around their lush, hilly tea plantation. Depending on the season, you may see the tea pickers moving through the fields, hand-selecting the leaves. At a Tea Tasting Session, you discover the differences in aroma, flavor and appearance of tea manufactured in different ways, at different times of the year.

Don't be fooled by the nickname: The "Toy Train" is an engineering marvel with UNESCO World Heritage Status. With rails that are just two feet apart, it's the narrowest of narrow gauges, and its route through the foothills of the Himalayas makes for a stunning journey. We'll also arrange visits to the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and the Tibetan Refugee Center where the shopping for traditional crafts is especially fine.

Tonight: another elegant dinner in the hotel's fine restaurant.

OVERNIGHT: GLENBURN
MEALS: B, L, D

DAY 3

BORA GAON / SIKKIM

- Morning walk to Bora Gaon village into Simbong Forest
- Explore River Rungeet with a walk across Manjitar Suspension Bridge
- Enter the Indian state of Sikkim

After breakfast, you're off for a lovely downhill walk through the lush terrain. Your naturalist guide will lead you to Bora Gaon village and into the Simbong Forest. It's a habitat rich with birds and butterflies. Your gradual 3,000-descent ends at the River Rungeet where you can go fishing, paddle in the rock pools or get in some croquet or beach cricket.

And we love the spectacular walk across the Manjitar Suspension Bridge. Two hundred feet across and 100 feet over the river, it's an adventure all its own. Even better, at the far end, you can enter the Indian state of Sikkim – and if you love to "collect" destinations, the chance to say you've set foot on its remote soil is a real treasure.

In the evening, you're invited to a cooking instruction in the gourmet restaurant's open kitchen.

OVERNIGHT: GLENBURN
MEALS: B, L, D

DAY 4

DEPART

- Your India visit ends at breakfast
- Transfer to Bagdogra for flight to Bangkok

After breakfast, your transfer to Bagdogra for your flight to Bangkok.

Please note: the internal flight is included.

OVERNIGHT: NONE
MEALS: B



Tour Hotels



Glenburn Tea Estate

This tea plantation retreat lies in an estate with 1,000 acres of forest. Suites are in gracious, colonial-style bungalows that overlook the grounds. It's a stunning setting with rolling tea fields, rivers and snow-capped Himalayas in the distance.

OVERNIGHT: BAGDOGRA | NIGHTS: 3

Tour Dates & Prices

Tour Dates	Price per Person	Price per Person
	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy
November 11-14, 2019	\$3,490	\$3,985
April 20-23, 2020	\$3,195	\$3,690
November 9-12, 2020	\$3,195	\$3,690

Want a different date? Or your own date? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://www.classicjourneys.com/private) to learn more about private journeys.

INTERNAL AIRFARE

\$495 per person (approximate) - This trip includes internal flights from Paro, Bhutan to Bagdogra, India on Day 1 and from Bagdogra to Bangkok, Thailand on Day 3. The flight is priced separately from the land tour at this amount. If you prefer to fly through Delhi, India, we can make these flight arrangements for you as well.

Trip Essentials

TRIP LENGTH: 4 Days, 3 Nights

START: Lobby of Glenburn Tea Estate, Darjeeling, India Transfer to Glenburn included

END: Lobby of Glenburn Tea Estate, Darjeeling, India Onward flight to Bangkok International Airport (BKK) or Delhi International Airport (DEL) included

TERRAIN: Easy to moderate on good trails. An average of 2 to 3 hours of walking per day (transfer days are less)

What's Included

- Memorable accommodations for 3 nights
- All breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners
- Guided activities on a sharing basis
- Admissions to historic sites and scheduled events as detailed in the daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

Above & Beyond Benefits

- **Privileged Access Events**

READY TO BOOK?
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Or give us a call

1-833-387-1210

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

moreinfo@classicjourneys.com



TRAVEL WORRY-FREE!

It's easy with insurance from Travel Guard. Your policy can cover trip cancellation, travel delays, lost luggage, medical emergencies, and more. If you are traveling with kids, add them to your policy at no extra cost. [Click here](#) or call 800-826-4919 for details.

AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to a [whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

**Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

“Enthusiasm is Contagious”

AS TRAVEL + LEISURE NAMES CLASSIC JOURNEYS THE WORLD'S BEST TOUR OPERATOR FOR 2019, FOUNDER EDWARD PIEGZA REVEALS HOW IT FEELS. ENTHUSIASTICALLY.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Just before publication of this issue, Travel + Leisure magazine announced that its readers have voted Classic Journeys the World's Best Tour Operator for 2019. It's the second time Classic Journeys has won that recognition and the 14th consecutive year the company has been in the Top 10.

Congratulations! How did you get the news?

I received a top-secret email and phone call from the editor of *Travel + Leisure* a few weeks ago with orders not to tell ANYONE. Friends and neighbors must have wondered why my smile has been so extra big lately. Now they know.

And how does it feel to be the World's Best Tour Operator again?

Awesome. Humbling. So, so satisfying. Deeply gratifying to learn that we have achieved what we set out to do which is to handcraft trips of a lifetime for every guest who travels with us. I'm known as long-winded, so I could probably come up with 10 or 15 more ways to describe it if you want me to keep going.

Why do you think *Travel + Leisure* gave you this recognition?

Actually, it isn't the *T+L* editors who make the decision. That's the best part. Their readers cast the votes. So the people who do the traveling, the guests who explore the world with us and our competitors — they are the ones who raised their hands to tell *T+L* that Classic Journeys is the World's Best Tour Operator based on their own experiences. Let me say it right here: "To all of you who voted for us, you are the World's Best Guests!"

What do you think makes your guests the World's Best Guests?

That's easy. They are curious. They care about connecting with people of different cultures and immersing themselves in the world. They treasure experiences more than things. Like the old ad slogan went, they go for the gusto and crave the chance to have one-of-a-kind moments. They are incredibly interesting and interested people, and all of us at Classic Journeys count it as a real privilege to share in their passion for travel. And we feel that way on the

other 364 days of the year when we're not celebrating recognition like this.

I guess this is what you meant when you told me that "Enthusiasm is contagious."

Absolutely. That's not our official motto, but it could be. We love what we do. We enjoy helping guests figure out how to invest their precious time and budget. I can honestly say that all of us feel that way — the Guest Services folks who interact with you while you're planning your trip, the Tour Operations team members who plan all of the logistics, the local guides who lead each one of our trips full time. There's just a huge amount of positive energy in what we do, and I think it truly is hard to resist. We'd climb into every one of our guest's suitcases and go along with them if we could. Because we can't, we call each guest while they're on tour just to be sure they are having a trip of a lifetime.

Has anyone ever called Classic Journeys obsessive?

I hope so, because we are. Everything is in the details. For instance, we've created a special tour for the total eclipse of the sun which is going to pass over parts of South America in 2020. We've already analyzed likely traffic patterns in the most remote areas and figured out how to structure our itinerary so that our guests will be in place in the path of totality while the people who don't plan ahead will be stuck in jams on remote dirt roads. We enjoy obsessing about details like that so that our guests never have to.



How can you top this?

Oh, we never let ourselves think of it that way. We just continue to approach every single guest on each and every departure like the most important guest we've ever had. It seems to be working! Of course, we keep looking for new ways to win more converts. For 2019, we've launched a new series of Classic Journeys that are based from

"I voted for you!"

We've heard that expression so many times lately from guests who registered their votes with *Travel + Leisure*. Given the results, we know it's true ... and you know that your votes really count!

STAFF AND GUIDES

"I always feel like I'm traveling with a best friend. I prefer your local guides to the ones that other companies fly in."

ITINERARIES AND DESTINATIONS

"If it's on my bucket list, you always seem to go there. Of course, with so many options you always seem to make my list longer and longer!"

ACTIVITIES

"On your trips, I've cooked with Michelin chefs, sung songs with Quechua schoolchildren, and walked on glaciers with the descendants of Vikings. Fun doesn't begin to describe it."

ACCOMMODATIONS

"How you manage so many 5-star properties on these trips shocks me. But please, please, please keep it up!"

FOOD

"I have never eaten so well so often so happily. When you people claim that you are foodies, you aren't kidding."

OVERALL VALUE

"We have never had a better vacation at any price."

river cruise boats. On a different note, seeing how many travelers can't always find as much vacation time as they really want, we have developed a series of 6-day or shorter quick trips that go as far afield as Iceland, the Galápagos and Morocco.

Final thoughts?

It's always an honor to win recognition. But, for all of us at Classic Journeys, the biggest privilege is to share the dreams of our guests and make those dreams come true. That connection is the best feeling of all.