History-

Pelling was founded by a man named Freddie (Pelling), who arrived during the reign of the empire. He organised security for the residents of the town, who were threatened by raiders from the north who were stealing minerals from the mines. Since then, Freddie has become a local hero, and each year a parade is held in his honour, honouring and praising the changes he brought about. They even renamed the community after him as a show of their gratitude.

Tourist attractions-

Local monasteries, rock gardens, waterfalls, the holy rock of Rani Dhunga, the towering double-pronged Kanchenjungha Falls, the antique charming Singshore Bridge, the Changey Waterfalls, and the Buddhist-holy Khecheopalri Lake are all worth seeing in and around Pelling.

Rabdentse Palace Ruins - Rabdentse was the second capital of the former Kingdom of Sikkim from 1670 to 1814. The capital city was destroyed by the invading Gurkha army and only the ruins of the palace and the chortens are seen here now. However, the ruins of this city are seen close to Pelling and in West Sikkim district in the Northeastern Indian state of present-day Sikkim.

Pemayangtse Monastery - It was built in 1705 located in Pemayangtse (2 km from Pelling). The Buddhist monastery was founded by Lama Lhatsun Chempo. Built as a three storied structure, the monastery depicts paintings on its walls and statues of saints and Rinpoches, deified in various floors.

Darap Village - A small village about 7 km on the way to Yuksam. It is mostly occupied by the Limboo tribe including small population of other communities as well.

Rimbi Waterfall - Situated 5 km from Darap en route to Khecheopalri. It is the oldest in west Sikkim being constructed in early 70s during the reign of the last Sikkimese King. The state government has developed the Sewaro Rock Garden here which is complete with rocks, pathways, pools, manicured gardens etc.

Kanchenjunga Falls - Further 18 km from Rimbi River and about 28 km from Pelling. It is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Sikkim and is normally active throughout the year.

Changey Waterfall - 10 km from Pelling.

Sanga Choeling Monastery - Situated on a ridge above Pelling and overlooking the famous Pemayangtse Monastery. Built in 1697 AD, it is considered to be one of the oldest monasteries in the State.

Pelling Sky Walk and Chenrezig Statue - A new attraction near Sanga Choeling is the gigantic 137 feet statue of Chenrezig (Avalokitesvara) and a transparent Sky Walk made of glass that leads to the statue. It was opened in November 2018 and since then it has attracted significant footfall.[1]

Other locations close to Pelling are Yuksom, Rinchenpong, Dzongri and Hee Burmiok.[2]

Singshore Bridge - Singshore Bridge is located around 26 km away from Pelling. The bridge has a height of over 100 m and 240 m in length, is the highest bridge in Sikkim and the second highest bridge in Asia.

Timing-

The summer season is the ideal time to observe Pelling's enthralling splendour. From March to May, this is the season. This charming hill station remains pleasant during this season, with temperatures ranging from 7°C to 28°C. The snow melts throughout this season, revealing lush flora. Pelling's summer months are ideal for sightseeing and thrilling outdoor adventure activities. This is the busiest time of year, with crowds of tourists flocking to the region's enticing sights.

Distance from transportation-

Via air- Bagdogra, 160 kilometres away, is the closest airport. Regular flights connect the airport to all major Indian cities, including Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata. Hire a private cab or take a shared taxi (available from Siliguri) to Pelling from Bagdogra Airport.

Via train- The nearest railhead, located 152 kilometres from Pelling, is the New Jalpaiguri (NJP) Railway Station. The NJP station is served by trains from all over the country, with connections to major cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata. Outside the railway station, taxis are readily available for hire. If you want to travel by shared cab, go to Siliguri, which is 6 kilometres away, and then take a shared cab to Pelling.

Road connectivity- Pelling is easily reached through all-weather metalled roads. In addition to buses maintained by the state transportation department, shared and private cabs are available from all major towns and cities in the region. Pelling is well connected by road to Gangtok, Siliguri, and Darjeeling. Because the road from Siliguri to Pelling is fairly hilly, it is preferable to travel by a SUV rather than bus.