



# West Bengal Travel Plan – Where Culture Meets Nature (9–12 Days)



## Best Time to Visit West Bengal

- **October – March:** Best season overall
- **April – June:** Hot (hill stations preferred)
- **July – September:** Monsoon (lush landscapes, Sundarbans at its best)

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### 1 Kolkata – *City of Joy*

**Ideal Stay:** 2–3 days





## About

Kolkata is the cultural capital of India, famous for **colonial architecture, literature, art, and food.**

## Top Attractions

- Victoria Memorial
- Howrah Bridge
- Dakshineswar Kali Temple
- Kalighat Temple
- Indian Museum
- Prinsep Ghat

## Experiences

- ✓ Heritage tram ride
- ✓ River Hooghly cruise
- ✓ Book shopping at College Street

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## 2 Darjeeling – *Queen of the Himalayas*

**Ideal Stay:** 2–3 days





## About

Darjeeling is world-famous for **tea plantations, toy train, and Himalayan views.**

## Top Attractions

- **Tiger Hill** – sunrise view of Kanchenjunga
- **Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (UNESCO)**
- **Batasia Loop**
- **Tea Estates**
- **Peace Pagoda**

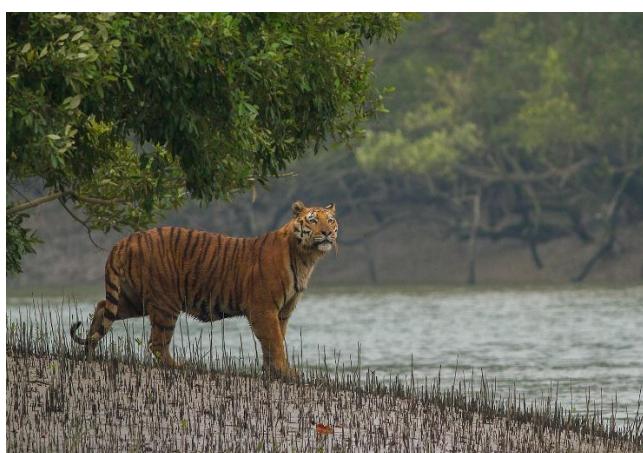
## Experiences

- ✓ Toy train ride
- ✓ Tea tasting
- ✓ Mountain photography

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### 3 Sundarbans – *Land of the Royal Bengal Tiger*

**Ideal Stay:** 2 days





## About

The Sundarbans is the **largest mangrove forest in the world** and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

## Top Attractions

- Boat safaris through mangroves
- Watchtowers (Sajnekhali, Sudhanyakali)
- Mangrove forests & creeks

## Experiences

- ✓ Wildlife spotting
- ✓ Birdwatching
- ✓ Village eco-tours

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### Shantiniketan – *Abode of Peace*

Ideal Stay: 1–2 days





## About

Founded by **Rabindranath Tagore**, Shantiniketan is a center of **art, education, and culture**.

## Top Attractions

- Visva-Bharati University
- Kala Bhavana
- Uttarayan Complex
- Baul music performances

## Experiences

- ✓ Cultural immersion
- ✓ Art & craft shopping
- ✓ Peaceful walks

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## 5 Digha – Seaside Escape

**Ideal Stay:** 1–2 days





## About

Digha is West Bengal's most popular **beach destination**.

## Top Attractions

- **New Digha Beach**
- **Marine Aquarium**
- **Chandaneswar Temple**
- **Nearby beaches: Mandarmani & Tajpur**

## Experiences

- ✓ Beach walks
  - ✓ Seafood tasting
  - ✓ Sunrise & sunset views
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## ⊕ Additional Must-Visit Places in West Bengal

### 6 Kalimpong

- Orchid nurseries
- Monasteries & viewpoints

### 7 Siliguri

- Gateway to North-East & Darjeeling
- Malls & monasteries

### 8 Bishnupur

- Terracotta temples
- Baluchari sarees

### 9 Murshidabad

- Hazarduari Palace
- Nawabi history

### 10 Jaldapara National Park

- One-horned rhinoceros
- Jeep safaris

## Suggested 11-Day Itinerary

- **Day 1–3:** Kolkata
- **Day 4–6:** Darjeeling
- **Day 7–8:** Sundarbans
- **Day 9:** Shantiniketan
- **Day 10–11:** Digha

## Must-Try Bengali Food

- Macher Jhol
- Shorshe Ilish
- Kosha Mangsho
- Luchi & Alur Dom
- Rasgulla, Sandesh & Mishti Doi

## Festivals & Culture

- **Durga Puja** (world-famous)
- **Poila Boishakh** (Bengali New Year)
- **Poush Mela (Shantiniketan)**
- Rabindra Sangeet & Baul folk music

## Travel Tips

- Use trains for comfortable intercity travel
- Book Darjeeling toy train tickets early
- Follow forest rules strictly in Sundarbans
- Carry light cotton clothes & rainwear