



Nagaland

CULTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR FT AOLEANG

April 1st to 6th 2025 FESTIVAL

3...2...1......1...2...3

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CAPTURE THE STORIES OF THE LAST REMAINING HEADHUNTERS!

CAPTURE THE AMAZING LIFE & CULTURE OF KONYAK TRIBE, NAGALAND

JOIN OUR 5-NIGHTS, 6-DAYS CULTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR TO NAGALAND, FEATURING THE VIBRANT AOLEANNG FESTIVAL OF THE KONYAK TRIBE! EXPLORE THE LIFE AND CULTURE OF KONYAK VILLAGES.

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GEOGRAPHIC MOMENTS
AWARD, HUMANITY PHOTO AWARD,
CGAP PHOTO CONTEST XPOSURE,
SHARJAH, HIPA AND MANY MORE..

WHO ARE THE KONYAK PEOPLE?

THE KONYAK ARE NAGA PEOPLE, KNOWN AS THE '**HEADHUNTERS**' AND ARE RECOGNISED AMONG OTHER NAGA BY THEIR TATTOOS, WHICH THEY HAVE ALL OVER THEIR FACE AND HANDS; FACIAL TATTOOS WERE EARNED FOR TAKING AN ENEMY'S HEAD. THEY HAVE THE LARGEST POPULATION AMONG THE NAGAS. THE KONYAKS CAN BE FOUND IN THE MON DISTRICT OF NAGALAND, INDIA AND IN MYANMAR, IN THE TIRAP AND CHANGLANG DISTRICTS OF ARUNACHAL.



ABOUT **AOLEANG FESTIVAL**

AOLEANG MONYU IS THE SPRING FESTIVAL OF KONYAK NAGA TRIBE, OF NAGALAND. THIS MAY ALSO BE CALLED AS FESTIVAL OF SPRING. IT IS THE GREATEST OF ALL THE FESTIVALS THAT KONYAK NAGA OBSERVES. THIS AOLEANG FESTIVAL IS AS OLD AS THE PEOPLE OF KONYAK. IT HAS BEEN OBSERVING SINCE THE TIME IMMEMORIAL. KONYAK AOLEANG IS OBSERVED FROM 1ST-6TH APRIL EVERY YEAR.





IMPORTANCE OF DOCUMENTATION

CAPTURING THE KONYAK TRIBE OF NAGALAND IS VITAL FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION, HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION, AND RAISING GLOBAL AWARENESS. KNOWN FOR THEIR RICH TRADITIONS, FACIAL TATTOOS, AND HEADHUNTING HISTORY, THE KONYAKS ARE A UNIQUE INDIGENOUS GROUP WHOSE WAY OF LIFE IS INCREASINGLY THREATENED BY MODERNIZATION. PHOTOGRAPHY HELPS PRESERVE THEIR CUSTOMS, ATTIRE, AND RITUALS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, ENSURING THEIR HERITAGE IS NOT LOST. ONLY A FEW ELDERLY HEADHUNTERS REMAIN TODAY, SERVING AS LIVING LINKS TO A PRACTICE THAT HAS NOW CEASED BUT REMAINS A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THEIR HISTORY.



WHAT ARE WE OFFERING

JOIN OUR 5-NIGHT, 6-DAY CULTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR TO NAGALAND, FEATURING THE VIBRANT AOLEANG FESTIVAL OF THE KONYAK TRIBE! EXPLORE THE LIFE AND CULTURE OF KONYAK VILLAGES IN MON, INCLUDING LONGWA, MON, WAKKA, AND CHINU VILLAGES. WE PROVIDE A PHOTOGRAPHY MENTOR, GUIDE, TRANSPORTATION, AND ACCOMMODATION. IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THEIR TRADITIONS, CAPTURE STUNNING VISUALS, AND DOCUMENT THE LEGACY OF THE KONYAK PEOPLE. BOOK YOUR SPOT NOW!





INCLUSIONS



- PICK-UP & DROP-OFF (DIBRUGARH TO DIBRUGARH)
- ACCOMMODATION IN HOMESTAYS
- FOODS IN ETHNIC STYLE/INDIAN
- TRANSPORTATION DURING THE TRIP
- 6 DAYS OF PHOTO GUIDE SERVICES BY PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS
- PHOTOGRAPHY POST-PROCESSING SESSIONS
- HIKING AND PHOTOGRAPHY LOCATION FEES



RECOMMENDED CAMERA GEAR

- ✓ DIGITAL SLR OR MIRRORLESS CAMERA BODY.
- ✓ WIDE ANGLE LENS IN THE 16-35MM RANGE.
- ✓ MID-RANGE ZOOM LENS IN THE RANGE OF 24-100MM.
- ✓ TELEPHOTO LENS IN THE 70-200MM
- ✓ MACRO LENS IF YOU WANT TO DO CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHY.
- ✓ STURDY TRIPOD AND BALLHEAD.
- ✓ AN L-BRACKET IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR YOUR CAMERA!
- ✓ A MONOPOD CAN BE USEFUL FOR QUICKLY SHOOTING AT THE PLANTATIONS.
- ✓ BACKPACK TO CARRY YOUR GEAR.
- ✓ EXTRA BATTERIES, MEMORY CARDS, AND CLEANING SUPPLIES.
- ✓ LAPTOP IF YOU WISH TO BACKUP YOUR PHOTOS.

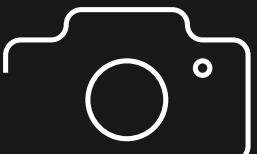
PERSONAL GEAR LIST

- ✓ STURDY FOOTWEAR AND LONG PANTS.
- ✓ WARM JACKET FOR COOL MORNINGS.
- ✓ WATERPROOF SHELL OR RAIN JACKET.
- ✓ SUNSCREEN, SUNGLASSES, SUN HAT.
- ✓ WATER BOTTLE.





HIGHLIGHTS



- >EXPLORE NEW CULTURES AND WAYS OF LIFE AS YOU EXPERIENCE LOCAL CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS, AND CULTURAL EVENTS.
- >SEE DESTINATIONS MOST TOURISTS DON'T AND DISCOVER UNIQUE CULTURAL PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES
- >BENEFIT FROM PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDES AND IMPROVE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS



- >TELL CAPTIVATING VISUAL NARRATIVES AND CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF A CULTURE
- >SELECT FROM A CHOICE OF FOCUS AREAS INCLUDING TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY , PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY , STREET PHOTOGRAPHY, PHOTOJOURNALISM, AND IMPACT PHOTOGRAPHY

CULTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY CENTERS ON CAPTURING THE ESSENCE OF THE LOCAL CULTURES OF A PLACE. THE ESSENCE OF A CULTURE CAN BE ANYTHING, FROM THE LOCAL PEOPLE, ARCHITECTURE, FOOD, AND EVEN LANDSCAPES. AS A PHOTOGRAPHER, YOU'LL IMMERSE YOURSELF IN LOCAL CULTURES, WHILE VISUALLY NARRATING THE STORIES OF THESE CULTURES THROUGH YOUR LENS.



ITINERARY



DAY 1: DEPARTURE FROM DIBRUGARH

OUR JOURNEY BEGINS IN DIBRUGARH, A CHARMING CITY IN ASSAM, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "TEA CITY OF INDIA." KNOWN FOR ITS LUSH TEA GARDENS, VIBRANT CULTURE, AND THE MIGHTY BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER, DIBRUGARH IS THE PERFECT STARTING POINT FOR OUR PHOTO TOUR.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY:

MORNING:

BREAKFAST: START YOUR DAY WITH A HEARTY ASSAMESE BREAKFAST.

ORIENTATION: GATHER AT THE DESIGNATED MEETING POINT FOR A BRIEF ORIENTATION SESSION. WE'LL DISCUSS THE ITINERARY, TRAVEL PLANS, AND SAFETY GUIDELINES.

TEA GARDEN VISIT: IF TIME PERMITS, EXPLORE THE LOCAL TEA GARDENS AND LEARN ABOUT THE TEA-MAKING PROCESS. DIBRUGARH IS FAMOUS FOR ITS ASSAM TEA, SO DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO ENJOY A FRESH CUP AND CAPTURE THE LUSH GREENERY THROUGH YOUR LENS.

DEPARTURE FOR MON TOWN: AT SHARP 11:00 AM, WE'LL LEAVE DIBRUGARH AND BEGIN OUR JOURNEY TOWARD MON TOWN, NAGALAND.

ON THE WAY TO MON TOWN:

THE DRIVE FROM DIBRUGARH TO MON TOWN IS APPROXIMATELY 6-7 HOURS, COVERING A DISTANCE OF AROUND 200 KM.

ENJOY THE SCENIC BEAUTY OF THE NORTHEAST AS WE PASS THROUGH ROLLING HILLS, DENSE FORESTS, AND PICTURESQUE VILLAGES.

WE'LL MAKE A FEW STOPS ALONG THE WAY FOR PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES AND REFRESHMENTS.

EVENING:

ARRIVAL IN MON TOWN: BY LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING, WE'LL REACH MON TOWN, THE CULTURAL HUB OF THE KONYAK NAGA TRIBE.

CHECK-IN: SETTLE INTO YOUR ACCOMMODATION AND TAKE SOME TIME TO RELAX.

DINNER: ENJOY A TRADITIONAL NAGA MEAL, FEATURING LOCAL DISHES LIKE SMOKED PORK, BAMBOO SHOOT CURRY, AND AXONE (FERMENTED SOYBEAN) OR INDIAN STYLE VEG/NON VEG.

REST: PREPARE FOR AN EXCITING DAY AHEAD AS WE EXPLORE THE UNIQUE CULTURE AND TRADITIONS OF THE KONYAK TRIBE.

DAY 2: EXPLORING MON VILLAGE AND LONGWA VILLAGE

TODAY IS AN EXCITING DAY FILLED WITH CULTURAL IMMERSION, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES. WE'LL EXPLORE THE UNIQUE LIFESTYLE OF THE KONYAK TRIBE, AND WITNESS A STUNNING SUNSET IN THE HILLS ON OUR WAY TO LONGWA VILLAGE.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY:

MORNING:

BREAKFAST: START YOUR DAY WITH A TRADITIONAL NAGA BREAKFAST AT YOUR ACCOMMODATION.

EXPLORE MON VILLAGE:

WANDER THROUGH MON VILLAGE, THE HEART OF THE KONYAK NAGA TRIBE.

CAPTURE THE DAILY LIVES OF THE LOCALS, THEIR TRADITIONAL HOMES, AND THE ICONIC KONYAK HEADHUNTER TATTOOS

AFTERNOON:

LUNCH: ENJOY A TRADITIONAL NAGA MEAL IN MON VILLAGE.

DEPART FOR LONGWA VILLAGE: AT 1:30 PM, WE'LL LEAVE MON VILLAGE AND HEAD TOWARDS LONGWA VILLAGE, LOCATED NEAR THE INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER.

SCENIC DRIVE:

THE JOURNEY TO LONGWA VILLAGE IS APPROXIMATELY 2-3 HOURS, OFFERING STUNNING VIEWS OF THE HILLS AND VALLEYS.

WE'LL MAKE STOPS ALONG THE WAY TO CAPTURE THE MESMERIZING LANDSCAPES AND THE UNIQUE BEAUTY OF THE REGION.

EVENING:

SUNSET PHOTOGRAPHY:

ON THE WAY TO LONGWA VILLAGE, WE'LL STOP AT A SCENIC SPOT TO WITNESS AND PHOTOGRAPH A BREATHTAKING SUNSET IN THE HILLS.

THE GOLDEN HUES OF THE SETTING SUN AGAINST THE ROLLING HILLS WILL BE A HIGHLIGHT FOR PHOTOGRAPHY ENTHUSIASTS.

ARRIVAL IN LONGWA VILLAGE:

BY EVENING, WE'LL REACH LONGWA VILLAGE, HOME TO THE ANGH (CHIEF) OF THE KONYAK TRIBE.

CHECK-IN AT YOUR ACCOMMODATION AND RELAX AFTER A DAY FULL OF EXPLORATION.

DINNER: SAVOR A TRADITIONAL NAGA DINNER OR INDIAN STYLE AND SHARE STORIES FROM THE DAY'S ADVENTURES.🌟





DAY 3 & 4: IMMERSIVE PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE IN LONGWA VILLAGE

OUR TWO DAYS IN LONGWA VILLAGE WILL BE FULLY DEDICATED TO PHOTOGRAPHY, CULTURAL IMMERSION, AND LEARNING. LONGWA, A UNIQUE VILLAGE STRADDLING THE INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER, IS HOME TO THE KONYAK NAGA TRIBE, KNOWN FOR THEIR RICH TRADITIONS, INTRICATE TATTOOS, AND FASCINATING HISTORY AS FORMER HEADHUNTERS. THESE DAYS WILL BE A PHOTOGRAPHER'S PARADISE, OFFERING ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES TO CAPTURE STUNNING PORTRAITS, LANDSCAPES, AND CULTURAL MOMENTS.



HIGHLIGHTS OF DAY 3 & 4:

1. ATTEND THE AOLEANG FESTIVAL:

WHAT TO CAPTURE:

COLORFUL TRADITIONAL ATTIRE, INTRICATE JEWELRY, AND TATTOOS.

DYNAMIC CULTURAL PERFORMANCES AND RITUALS.

THE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE AND JOYOUS EXPRESSIONS OF THE LOCALS.

2. PEOPLE PHOTOGRAPHY & PORTRAITS:

THE KONYAK PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE ELDERLY WITH FACIAL TATTOOS, ARE ICONIC SUBJECTS FOR PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY.

LEARNING FOCUS:

LIGHTING: USE NATURAL LIGHT TO HIGHLIGHT TEXTURES AND EXPRESSIONS.

COMPOSITION: FRAME YOUR SHOTS TO TELL A STORY, FOCUSING ON DETAILS LIKE TATTOOS, TRADITIONAL ATTIRE, AND FACIAL EXPRESSIONS.

CONNECTION: LEARN TO BUILD RAPPORT WITH YOUR SUBJECTS TO CAPTURE AUTHENTIC EMOTIONS.

3. EXPLORE LONGWA VILLAGE:

LONGWA IS A FASCINATING VILLAGE WHERE THE CHIEF'S HOUSE LIES ON THE INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER, AND VILLAGERS FREELY MOVE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

WHAT TO CAPTURE:

THE CHIEF'S HOUSE AND ITS UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE.

DAILY LIFE ACTIVITIES LIKE WEAVING, FARMING, AND COOKING.

THE BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES OF ROLLING HILLS AND LUSH GREENERY.

4. MEET THE HEADHUNTERS:

THE KONYAK TRIBE WAS ONCE KNOWN FOR THEIR HEADHUNTING PRACTICES. WHILE THIS TRADITION NO LONGER EXISTS, THE ELDER HEADHUNTERS ARE REVERED AND CARRY FASCINATING STORIES.

WHAT TO CAPTURE:

PORTRAITS OF THE HEADHUNTERS, FOCUSING ON THEIR TATTOOS AND EXPRESSIONS.

THEIR TRADITIONAL WEAPONS AND ARTIFACTS.

5. PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS:

THESE TWO DAYS WILL ALSO INCLUDE HANDS-ON PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS TO ENHANCE YOUR SKILLS.

TOPICS COVERED:

PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNIQUES.

USING NATURAL LIGHT EFFECTIVELY.

COMPOSITION AND STORYTELLING THROUGH IMAGES.

WHY THESE TWO DAYS ARE SPECIAL:

CULTURAL IMMERSION: YOU'LL WITNESS AND DOCUMENT THE UNIQUE TRADITIONS OF THE KONYAK TRIBE.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT: LEARN AND PRACTICE PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY, LIGHTING, AND COMPOSITION IN REAL-WORLD SCENARIOS.

UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS: FROM THE VIBRANT AOLEANG FESTIVAL TO THE SERENE LANDSCAPES OF LONGWA, EVERY MOMENT IS A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY.

BY THE END OF DAY 4, YOU'LL HAVE A PORTFOLIO FILLED WITH STUNNING IMAGES AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE KONYAK CULTURE. THESE TWO DAYS WILL BE A PERFECT BLEND OF LEARNING, EXPLORATION, AND CREATIVITY.

🌟 GET READY TO CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF LONGWA VILLAGE AND THE KONYAK TRIBE THROUGH YOUR LENS!



DAY 5: LONGWA TO SIVASAGAR

MORNING: BREAKFAST

DEPARTURE FROM LONGWA: BID FAREWELL TO THE CAPTIVATING BORDER VILLAGE OF LONGWA.

SCENIC DRIVE: AS WE HIT THE ROAD, KEEP YOUR CAMERAS READY FOR THE LUSH GREEN HILLS, WINDING ROADS, AND GLIMPSES OF RURAL ASSAM.



An ancient mound-burial system in Assam, the Charideo Maidams, has gained the prestigious spot on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The mention is made in the cultural property category. Here's everything you need to know about the 700-year-old system

3:30 PM – ARRIVAL AT CHARAIDEO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

CHARAIDEO MAIDAMS: CHARAIDEO MAIDAM IN ASSAM WAS INCLUDED IN THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE LIST IN THE CULTURAL CATEGORY, BECOMING THE FIRST CULTURAL SITE FROM NORTHEAST INDIA TO BE LISTED. OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "PYRAMIDS OF ASSAM," THESE ANCIENT BURIAL MOUNDS OF THE AHOM KINGS AND QUEENS ARE A PHOTOGRAPHER'S DELIGHT. SPEND TIME EXPLORING THE SERENE LANDSCAPE DOTTED WITH THESE HEMISPHERICAL STRUCTURES.

PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS:

- > USE A WIDE-ANGLE LENS TO CAPTURE THE VASTNESS OF THE MAIDAM COMPLEX.
- > FOCUS ON THE INTRICATE DETAILS OF THE SMALLER MAIDAMS AND THE SURROUNDING FLORA.
- > EXPERIMENT WITH PERSPECTIVES BY SHOOTING FROM DIFFERENT ANGLES TO HIGHLIGHT THE SYMMETRY AND GRANDEUR.

6:00 PM – DEPARTURE TO SIVASAGAR AND OVERNIGHT STAY

HEAD TO SIVASAGAR WITH YOUR CAMERA FILLED WITH STUNNING SHOTS OF CHARAIDEO'S HISTORICAL AND NATURAL BEAUTY.



DAY 6: EXPLORING SIVASAGAR – A JOURNEY THROUGH THE AHOM LEGACY

START YOUR DAY AT THE ICONIC **RANG GHAR**, THE OLDEST AMPHITHEATER IN ASIA, CAPTURING ITS RED-BRICK GRANDEUR AND INTRICATE CARVINGS IN THE SOFT MORNING LIGHT.

NEXT, HEAD TO THE **TOWERING SHIVA DOUL**, THE TALLEST SHIVA TEMPLE IN NORTHEAST INDIA, AND PHOTOGRAPH ITS REFLECTION IN THE SERENE SIVASAGAR TANK. DON'T MISS THE DETAILED SCULPTURES AND THE TEMPLE'S MAJESTIC HEIGHT.

A SHORT DRIVE TAKES YOU TO **KAREN GHAR**, THE SEVEN-STORIED ROYAL PALACE IN GARHGAON, WHERE YOU CAN FOCUS ON ITS UNIQUE BLEND OF AHOM AND MUGHAL ARCHITECTURE, ARCHED WINDOWS, AND PANORAMIC VIEWS.

AFTER A TRADITIONAL ASSAMESE LUNCH, VISIT THE **TALATAL GHAR**, A SPRAWLING PALACE COMPLEX WITH UNDERGROUND TUNNELS. CAPTURE ITS SYMMETRY, INTRICATE BRICKWORK, AND THE SCALE OF ITS RUINS.

END YOUR DAY AT THE TRANQUIL **SIVASAGAR TANK**.

PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS: USE A WIDE-ANGLE LENS FOR CAPTURING THE GRANDEUR OF RANG GHAR AND TALATAL GHAR, AND A TELEPHOTO LENS FOR HIGHLIGHTING DETAILS LIKE SHIVA DOUL'S HEIGHT AND KAREN GHAR'S ARCHES. FOR REFLECTIONS AT SIVASAGAR TANK, USE A POLARIZING FILTER. DURING LOW-LIGHT EVENING SHOTS AT THE TEMPLES, USE A TRIPOD AND EXPERIMENT WITH LONG EXPOSURES FOR STUNNING NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY. FOCUS ON SYMMETRY, TEXTURES, AND NATURAL LIGHT TO BRING OUT THE BEAUTY OF THESE HISTORIC SITES.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY:

- THE GRANDEUR OF RANG GHAR AND ITS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE.
- THE TOWERING SHIVA DOUL AND ITS SERENE SURROUNDINGS.
- THE MAJESTIC KAREN GHAR AND ITS UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE.
- THE SPRAWLING RUINS AND SECRETS OF TALATAL GHAR.
- THE TRANQUIL BEAUTY OF SIVASAGAR TANK AND ITS TEMPLES.

