



Diphlu River Lodge

Kaziranga National Park, India

Diphlu River Lodge

At Kaziranga National Park, Assam, India

The Diphlu River Lodge is set amidst a lush green jungle environment, right at the border of Kaziranga National Park.

Amongst verdant farmland, patches of bird-rich forest and slow meandering streams, the ambience of the Diphlu River Lodge makes it a retreat in the true sense of the word. The luxurious, but rustic and eco-friendly lodge was built to adapt to the existing foliage and terrain. The cottages are built on stilts and their thatch-covered roofs are supported by thick bamboo pillars. Diphlu River Lodge is separated from the Kaziranga National Park by the river Diphlu, giving the cottages a - sometimes scarily - close view of the wildlife-stocked jungle beyond it. You are asked to keep your lights and sounds low for the wildlife that comes to drink there. The grounds of the lodge include a lotus pond, barbecue and dancing area, and an observation hut. The spacious main building, called Machan, has a library, a restaurant with high thatched ceilings, sitting areas and a large verandah with gorgeous views of the park

you witness in and around our lodge and on jeep drives and walks in the park.

Flora and Fauna

The park's unique selling point is the 2000-plus population of Indian rhinos, which constitutes about 80% of its entire population in Asia. The Park is home to another 35 major mammals, including wild elephants, a small population of the Hoolock gibbon, capped langur, hog badger, otter, leopard, wild boar, sambar, swamp deer, hog deer, muntjac (barking deer) wild buffalo and gaur. Though elusive and only occasionally seen, the tigers of the park have recently been found to show the highest density of any tiger park in India, possibly in the whole of Asia.

Among the rich birdlife are the rare greater adjutant stork, Bengal florican, black-necked stork, lesser adjutant stork, Pallas's fish eagle, swamp partridge, grey peacock-pheasant, great pied hornbill, green imperial pigeon and babblers. Thousands of migratory birds are seasonally attracted to the various water areas of the park from as far away as Siberia.



beyond the river. Well-trained naturalists assist you in identifying and understanding the private lives of the creatures that you encounter around the lodge or in the park.

Kaziranga National Park

The National Park covers about 850 sq. km. bordered on the north by the Brahmaputra River and on the south by the Karbi Anglong hills. Recently part of the river was included, bringing the total area to 1000 sq. km.

Kaziranga boasts of large wetlands as well as areas of mixed deciduous and subtropical semi-evergreen forest. The extensive grasslands with tall elephant grass remind one of the African savannas. Thanks to the soil-enriching deposits of the Brahmaputra and the diversity of habitats, it is home to a wide variety and high densities of animals and birds. The open vistas make it relatively easy to see many species of them in a day.

Diphlu River Lodge has its own team of trained naturalists who accompany you on visits to the park. They are a valuable source of in-depth information on the ecological aspect of all wild life that

The Diphlu Experience

During the season we take you daily on elephant rides and jeep safaris inside the park (included in the tariff). Our very experienced guides will add a great deal to your experience. We also take you to tribal villages close to the lodge, belonging to three different tribes: Mising, Bodo and Karbi. They all are unique because of their dialect, tradition and attire.

Apart from these activities, Diphlu River Lodge has enough to keep you busy for a week or more.

Just Relax

An ideal place to just sit and read would be the delightful terrace near the lotus pond in the rice field. Or alternatively, the enthusiastic bird watcher can just take off to the strategically located observation hut on the river bank to marvel at the sight of rare birds. Take a short river bank walk in the afternoon along with our naturalist. He will point out rare birds, Indian otters and with luck rhinos, deer and water buffalos just across the river.





The Konyak Shop

We have an in-house production unit of local weavers who demonstrate their skilled workmanship with indigenous materials on site. These exquisite handmade products along with artifacts bought from remote northeastern tribal areas are displayed for sale in our own shop in the Machan, as well as other handicrafts and books on the North East India.

Tribal dances, Bonfire & Barbeque

As the sun sets, a spectacular experience awaits you at the Hill Top (an elevated barbecue place), as exuberant ethnic tribal dances are performed by the local tribal community around a bonfire (organised for groups only).

Rubber Plantation walk

We have developed a number of interpretative walks (from a few hours to full day hikes) in the area near the lodge, both inside and outside the park. Most of them can be done year-round. For instance, a leisurely walk of two to three hours takes you to a small-scale local rubber production unit, and through rubber tree forests to a viewpoint overlooking Kaziranga National Park.

and close to Brahmaputra river. This is a good area for watching bird, including Hornbills, Hoolock Gibbons (the only ape found in India), otters and more.

Monsoon magic

Most of the above mentioned activities can be done year round, as they are outside the park. Therefore you are most welcome to visit us between May and September at reduced rates. You'll experience the true meaning of 'lush green'. Assam is never as beautiful as during this time! The rain comes only in showers, which bring a welcome coolness to the air, and you'll enjoy many hours of crystal blue skies and unimpeded views of the snow-clad Himalayas.

Responsible tourism

Diphlu River Lodge adheres to the principle of good ecotourism practice. The lodge employs only local tribal people, it grows its own organic rice, mustard oil and vegetables, and leads and educates natives by example about conservation and preservation



Dolphin Boat Safari

You can also make a boat trip on the Brahmaputra to come up-close to the rare Ganges dolphin. Experienced boatmen and your naturalist guide will accompany. After sailing upstream to a 11th century Durga temple located at Hatimura hill top we'll look for the Gangetic Dolphins. Sometimes they literally jump around you! After a short sightseeing or shopping in Tezpur you'll return to the lodge. The Dolphin boat safaris operate from October till end of June.

Tea Plantation visit

Assam is known for tea. A visit to nearby tea plantation is possible. Walk through tea bushes, see tea picking, get to know how tea is manufactured. Manufacturing of tea stops from mid December till mid March every year.

Walk inside the park

Generally walking inside Kaziranga National Park is not allowed. However, this can be arranged by us subject to Forest department approval. The 2-3 hour walk takes you through wooded forest, hills

of their natural habitat and legacy. We have a dimmed light, low noise policy, grey water is recycled and all garbage is properly disposed of, separated and recycled if possible.

Getting there

Diphlu River Lodge is situated 220 kms east of Guwahati, on the National Highway 37. It is ideally placed for easy access to the park: only 3 km from the Baguri Forest range office and elephant ride point.

Guwahati is approximately 5 hours driving time, Jorhat 2½ hours and Tezpur 1 hour. Arrangements can be made to collect guests from the airport at extra charge. There are scheduled flights from Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai and Bangkok into Guwahati airport, and from Kolkata into Tezpur and Jorhat airports.

Our Bansbari Lodge at Manas National Park on the Bhutan border is 7 hrs drive away. It is also possible to reach Kaziranga from Guwahati or Dibrugarh on one of Assam Bengal Navigation's Brahmaputra cruises (www.assambengalnavigation.com).

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Member

