

Sikkim

After a long and eventful history involving the Indians, Nepalese, Chinese and even the British, Sikkim became a Protectorate of India in 1950. In 1975 it became India's 22nd State. It still enjoys special tax and other privileges mainly due to its sensitive location. Permits are required to cross its borders.

The primary route into Sikkim is via the regional airport of Bagdogra followed by a 4 hr drive up to Darjeeling (seen on this map). It is another days drive from there into Sikkim and to the trek area. The Gocha La trek route is marked on this map.

Sikkim is a real mix of cultures with a heavy influence from both Nepal and Tibet. Many Sikkimese do not regard themselves as Indian!

