sikkimdaily.com

June 2024

## Sikkim Is Now Hot and Happening Place For Indian Tourism!!



Sikkim has gained popularity among Indian tourists due to its stunning natural beauty, including the majestic Kanchenjunga and serene lakes like Tsomgo and Gurudongmar. Adventure activities such as trekking, river rafting, and paragliding attract thrill-seekers. The state's rich cultural heritage, with prominent Buddhist monasteries like Rumtek and Pemayangtse, appeals to those interested n spirituality and history. Sikkim's commitment to eco-tourism and its status as India's first fully organic state attract environmentally conscious travelers.

Known for its peaceful environment and friendly locals, Sikkim offers a safe tranquil vacation and spot. **Improved** infrastructure and better connectivity have made it accessible. Additionally, cultural festivals and events, such as the Losar Festival and International **Flower** Festival, showcase Sikkim's vibrant traditions and biodiversity. **These** factors. coupled with effective marketing, have significantly boosted Sikkim's appeal among Indian tourists.





#### **Interesting Fact**

In 2016, Sikkim became India's first fully organic state, eliminating chemical fertilizers and pesticides. This sustainable farming approach promotes soil health, biodiversity, and ecofriendly tourism, setting a pioneering example nationwide.

#### The Origin and History of Sikkim



Originally inhabited by the Lepchas, Sikkim saw the rise of the Namgyal dynasty in the 17th century, establishing rule over the region. In the 19th century, it became a British protectorate, maintaining its autonomy.

Following India's independence in 1947, Sikkim retained its special status as a protectorate until 1975 when, through a referendum, it merged with India, becoming its 22nd state. This historic integration ended the Chogyal monarchy and marked Sikkim's transition into an integral part of India, with its diverse culture and strategic location in the Himalayas contributing to its significance.

#### The Unforgettable Gurkhas

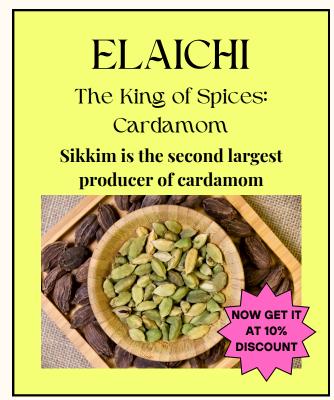


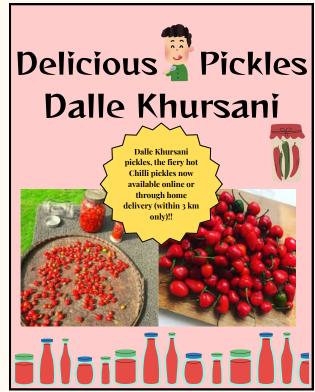
The Gurkhas have significant a historical presence in Sikkim. **Originating** from Nepal, thev migrated to Sikkim in the 18th century. Known for their bravery and military prowess, they played a crucial role in shaping Sikkim's The Gurkhas history. gradually established themselves in various parts of Sikkim, contributing to its defense and administration. Their allegiance shifted between different powers, including the Chogyal monarchy and the British East India Company.

After the Anglo-Sikkimese War of 1814, Sikkim ceded territories to the British, leading to the recruitment of Gurkhas into the British Indian Army. Today, the Gurkha community remains an integral part of Sikkim's social fabric, with their cultural heritage and martial traditions deeply intertwined with the state's identity.

Sikkim Daily

June 2024

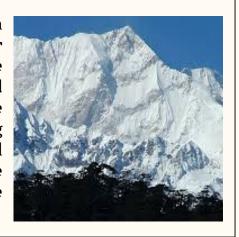






#### The Glaciers of Sikkim

The glaciers of Sikkim, located in the Eastern Himalayas, are crucial for the region's water resources, with prominent ones including the Zemu and Rathong glaciers. These glaciers feed vital rivers like the Teesta. However, they are rapidly retreating due to climate change, posing risks such as reduced water supply and glacial lake outburst floods. Conservation efforts are essential to protect these important ice reserves.



## The Cultural Beauty of Sikkim

Sikkim's culture is a vibrant tapestry woven from its diverse communities, including the Lepchas, Bhutias, and Nepalese. This small Himalayan state boasts heritage reflected in its festivals, music, dance, and traditional attire. Festivals like Losar, Losoong, and Dasain are celebrated with great enthusiasm. showcasing harmonious blend of Buddhist and Hindu traditions.

The state's music and dance forms, such as the soulful Lepcha songs and the energetic Nepali Tamang Selo dance, are integral to its cultural expression. Handicrafts like Thangka paintings, carpets, and Sikkimese woven fabrics highlight the region's artistic skills.



Cuisine in Sikkim is equally diverse, with dishes like momos, gundruk, and thukpa, which highlight the state's culinary fusion. Additionally, Sikkim is known for its strong community bonds and environmental consciousness, influenced by its Buddhist ethos. This unique cultural mosaic makes Sikkim a distinctive and harmonious region in India.

After the Anglo-Sikkimese War of 1814, Sikkim ceded territories to the British, leading to the recruitment of Gurkhas into the British Indian Army. Today, the Gurkha community remains an integral part of Sikkim's social fabric, with their cultural heritage and martial traditions deeply intertwined with the state's identity.



## Major Achievement of Sikkim: Open Defecation Free



Sikkim, a small Himalayan state in India, has achieved remarkable progress in becoming the first Indian state to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) in 2016. This milestone was part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), launched by the Indian government to eliminate open defecation and improve sanitation nationwide. The success in Sikkim was driven by a comprehensive approach involving community participation, government initiatives, and sustained efforts at the grassroots level.

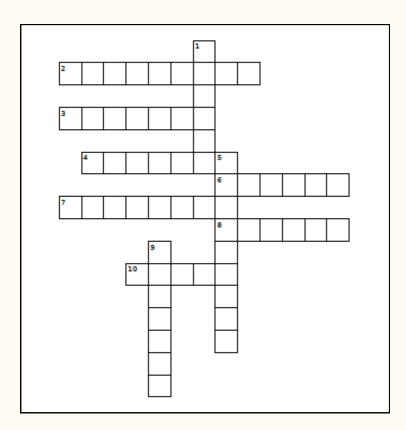
Key Sikkim's to achievement was the construction of adequate sanitation facilities across urban and The rural areas. state government provided financial and logistical for support toilets, building ensuring every household had access to proper sanitation.



Additionally, extensive awareness campaigns were conducted to educate people about the health hazards associated with open defecation, emphasizing the importance of hygiene and sanitation.

## Activity

#### **Crossword Puzzle - Cities of Sikkim**

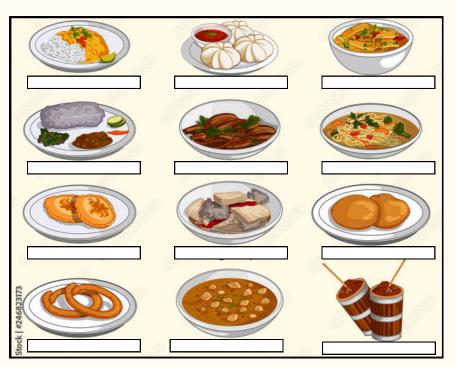


#### Across:

- A commercial hub located along the banks of the Rangeet River.
- Known for its stunning waterfalls, Yumthang Valley, and rhododendron sanctuaries.
- A popular tourist destination with breathtaking views of Mount Kanchenjunga.
- The first capital of Sikkim, famous for its historical significance and trekking routes.
- Known for the Buddha Park and its serene, picturesque environment.
- A quaint town serving as a base for exploring Gurudongmar Lake and Chopta Valley.
- Famous for the towering statue of Guru Padmasambhava and scenic beauty.

#### Down:

- The gateway to North Sikkim, known for its natural beauty and cultural festivals.
- Home to the Pemayangtse Monastery and rich historical sites.
- The vibrant capital city, known for its stunning views and Buddhist monasteries.





# Identify the Sikkimese Dishes

