



5-DAY ITINERARY

THE MANIPUR CIRCUIT

 **Imphal • Loktak Lake • Keibul Lamjao • Ukhrul**

BEST FOR

Culture Enthusiasts | Nature Lovers | Offbeat Explorers

[**www.indianholiday.com**](http://www.indianholiday.com)

Quick Snapshot

Best Time To Visit: October – April

Weather: Clear skies, 12°C – 26°C


Arrival Options

 **Airport:** Imphal Airport

 **Railway:** Dimapur Railway Station

 **Inner Line Permit (ILP) required** - obtain online before travel

DAY 1: IMPHAL ARRIVAL

	Morning:	Arrive at Imphal International Airport . Check-in and freshen up. Lunch at local eatery, try Manipuri thali.
	Afternoon:	Visit Kangla Fort , historic seat of Manipur's kingdom . Explore the palace ruins, temples, museums, and the sacred Kangla Sha.
	Evening:	Sunset at Shaheed Minar (Red Hill) –a war memorial with panoramic city views. Then explore the Khwairamband Bazaar area. Dinner & overnight stay.




LOCAL EXPERIENCE

Kangla Fort is not just ruins—it's the spiritual and political heart of Manipur. Visit during late afternoon for best light and fewer crowds.

SKIP/AVOID

Don't attempt too much on Day 1 after travel. Skip distant sites like Loktak today—save energy.

DAY 2: LOKTAK LAKE

	Morning:	Depart 6:30 AM for Loktak Lake . Board a boat for Loktak exploration, cruise through the world's only floating national park.
	Afternoon:	Enter Keibul Lamjao National Park by boat —world's only floating national park and last refuge of the endangered Sangai deer.
	Evening:	Return to Imphal by 5 PM. Evening free—relax at hotel, explore local cafes, or visit Manipur State Museum if open (closes at 4:30 PM usually). Dinner featuring Manipuri dishes.

LOCAL EXPERIENCE

Loktak's phumdis are a unique ecosystem found nowhere else. Local fishermen build huts on these floating islands.

SKIP/AVOID

Don't expect guaranteed Sangai deer sighting—they're extremely shy and elusive. The real magic is the floating forest ecosystem.

DAY 3: UKHRUL DAY TRIP

- **Morning:** Depart 5:30 AM for Ukhrul. Stop for breakfast en route at Kamjong or roadside dhaba. **Arrive Ukhrul, a charming Naga tribal hill town** at 1,662m altitude.
- **Afternoon:** Lunch at Ukhrul town and try Naga cuisine. **Visit Ukhrul Market**—a small but authentic hill station market with local produce and tribal textiles.
- **Evening:** **Drive back to Imphal** (leave by 2:30-3 PM). Arrive Imphal by 6:30 PM. This is a long drive day. Dinner and rest at hotel.

LOCAL EXPERIENCE

Ukhrul is predominantly Tangkhul Naga territory—one of Manipur's major tribal communities. The town has a distinct identity separate from valley-based Meitei culture.

SKIP/AVOID

Roads to Ukhrul are scenic but challenging—not recommended during heavy monsoon (June-August).

DAY 4: IMPHAL CULTURAL TOUR

- **Morning:** **Visit Ima Keithel** (Mother's Market)—world's largest all-women run market with 5,000+ vendors. Spend 2-3 hours. This is the highlight of Imphal's cultural experience.
- **Afternoon:** **Visit INA Memorial Museum** or Khonghampat Orchidarium—100+ orchid species native to Manipur.
- **Evening:** **Attend a Manipuri classical dance performance.** Manipuri is one of India's eight classical dance forms. Dinner at a restaurant featuring Manipuri cuisine.

LOCAL EXPERIENCE

These 'Imas' (mothers) have historically led political movements and social change. Respect their space, buy directly from them and hear their stories if they're willing to share.

SKIP/AVOID

Don't haggle aggressively at Ima Keithel—it's disrespectful. Prices are already fair. Don't photograph vendors without permission.

DAY 5: DEPARTURE

- **Morning:** **Visit Waithou Lake**, a serene lake surrounded by hills, 17 km from the city. Return by 11 AM for lunch and airport transfer.
- **Afternoon:** **Enroute, shop at Paona Bazaar** for last-minute souvenirs—Manipuri shawls, black pottery, bamboo products, Kauna reed crafts.
- **Evening:** **Leave Manipur with memories** of its unique floating lakes, vibrant matriarchal culture, Naga tribal heritage, and the warmth of the 'Jewel of India'.

LOCAL EXPERIENCE

Buy/Shop directly from artisans supports their livelihoods and keeps traditions alive.

SKIP/AVOID

Don't book very early morning flights on Day 5 if you want to see anything. Roads are generally good but keep time buffers.

**Get Your Customized
Manipur Itinerary**

Why Choose Indian Holiday?

The itinerary is easy. The stress comes from delays, check-ins, and last-minute changes. This table shows who actually handles that vs who leaves it to you.

★ WHAT CUSTOMERS CARE ABOUT	TYPICAL OTA/LOCAL AGENT	👑 IndianHoliday (IHPL)
Land late? Pickup still happens smoothly. Flight tracked → pickup aligned to actual landing time.	✗	✓
No “pay here/pay there” on vacation. One consolidated bill for the trip.	✗	✓
Stops that feel real, not rushed. Local guidance where it matters (tea garden/village experiences).	✗	✓
Hotel timing clashes handled. Priority early check-in/late check-out requests (subject to availability)	✗	✓
Plans change mid-trip? Fixed fast. Reroutes, rebookings without chaos (Trip Manager)	✗	✓
Want something special today? Same-day add-ons arranged (dinners/cruises/experiences).	✗	✓
One person accountable. Single point of contact with one thread, fewer misses.	✗	✓

Built around your pace, not a template. Family / seniors / honeymoon as per budget, timing, and interests.



Fewer vendors to chase. Hotels + transport + rail/air + rentals coordinated together.



Hard trips need strong operations. Wildlife/pilgrimage/luxury trains where timing & logistics matter.



A stable network (not a new setup). Vendor relationships built over decades (since 1990)



Verifiable business, real support setup. Affiliations, offices and defined hours (not "one person online").



Real Google Reviews from Real Travelers

Verified Google reviews from guests who planned Manipur and Northeast trips with **Indian Holiday.**



abhijit kanungo
11 reviews



★★★★★ 7 months ago

My experience with IHPL was awesome. I booked my North east trip through them & everything was perfectly arranged. Special thanks to Mr **Chandan** for his guidance.



Valliammal Shanmugam
Local Guide · 19 reviews · 1 photo



★★★★★ a year ago

Our recent family trip to Northeast through IHPL Private Limited was a good experience, largely thanks to the organization of the tour. **Chandan**, in particular, made the visit memorable with his exceptional service. We truly appreciate the effort put into making our visit so good.

Want this itinerary tailored to your dates, pace, and hotel category?

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