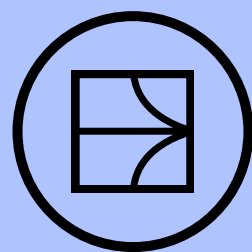


Permit Guide for Foreign Tourists in Sikkim



Restricted Area Permit (RAP) – For Entry into Sikkim

- Mandatory for all foreigners to enter Sikkim.
- Must be obtained on arrival before traveling further.
- Valid for 30 days (extendable up to 60 days).
- Foreigners are required to register within 24 hours of arrival.

Where to Get RAP (Free of Cost)

- Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
- Indian Missions Abroad.
- Tourist Information Center, SNT Complex, Siliguri.
- Sikkim Tourism Offices (Gangtok, Melli, Rangpo, etc.).
- Sikkim House (New Delhi, Kolkata, etc.).
- Tourist Information Centres.

Protected Area Permit (PAP) – For Restricted Zones in Sikkim

- Must be applied through registered Sikkim travel agencies.
- Foreigners must travel in a group of at least 2 people.
- A registered guide must accompany the group at all times.



East District

- Tsomgo Lake – Permit from Tourism Dept (day trip only).
- Nathula Pass – Not allowed for foreigners. ✘
- Vehicle permit from the Police Check Post.
- All permits are to be obtained via registered agencies.

West District

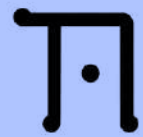
- Dzongri Trek – Permit from Tourist Information Centre, Pelling /Gangtok.
- Singalila Trek – Requires clearances from Home, Forest, and Army.
- All permits are to be obtained via registered agencies.

North District

- Yumthang, Dzongu, Yumesamdong,
- Thangu & Chopta Valley – Permit from Tourism Dept, vehicle permit from Police.
- Gurudongmar Lake – Not allowed beyond Thangu. ✗
- Only in a group of minimum 2 foreigners + registered guide.
- Green Lake Trek – Permit from Tourism Adventure Cell after clearances.
- All permits are to be obtained via registered agencies.

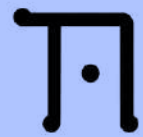
South District

- Maenam Trek – Permit from Tourist Information Centre Pelling/Gangtok with clearances.
- Alpine Mountaineering Expeditions – Permit from Tourism Dept + clearance for specific peaks.
- Wildlife/National Parks – Entry permits issued by Forest Department, Gangtok.
- All permits are to be obtained via registered agencies.



Motorbike Permits

- Bike Registration Certificate.
- Driving License / International Driving Permit.
- Pollution & Insurance certificates.
- Passport-size photos (2).
- Passport & Visa of rider and co-rider.



Documents Required

- Valid Passport & Indian Visa.
- Passport-size photos.
- Original Passport & Visa + ILP.
- For treks: Fitness certificate from govt doctor.

Validity & Extensions

- RAP validity: 30 days, extendable to 60 days total.
- PAP for North Sikkim: 3–5 days only, under guide supervision.
- Apply 2 days before expiry for extensions.

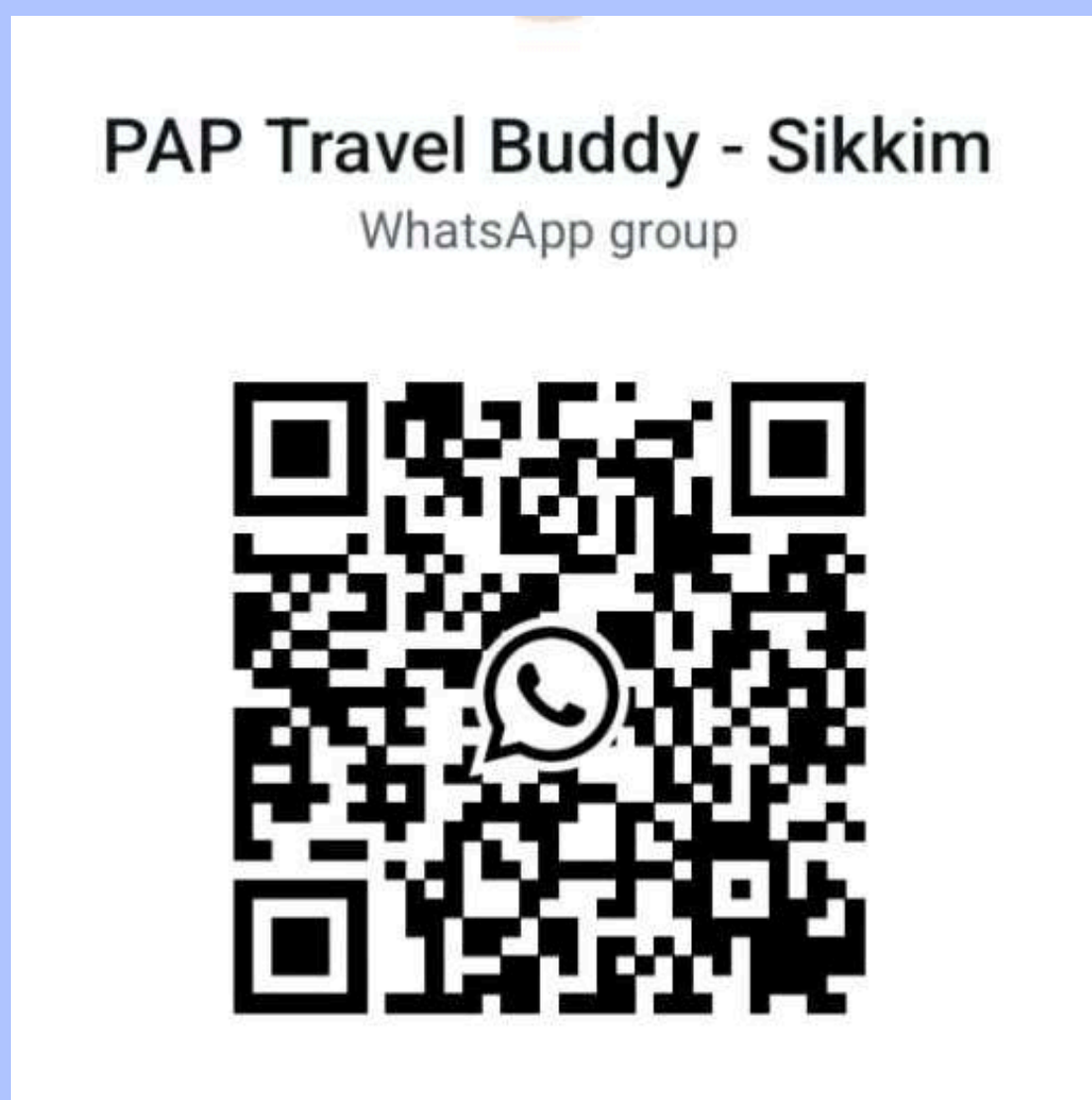
Apart from the mentioned places, travelling with just RAP is possible in Sikkim. Some areas in high-altitude spots or trekking routes could require special permissions. These are usually given to groups of two or more, and you'll need to be with a registered guide. Make sure to get the paperwork sorted before your trip so everything goes smoothly. Wishing you an amazing time in the mountains!



Only For Foreign Nationals



A WhatsApp group for solo foreign nationals to connect and find travel buddies to jointly apply for a Protected Area Permit (PAP) when visiting restricted regions



Share and join the group
Only for foreign nationals.

