

DELHI - KANATAL - RISHIKESH

Distance to Kanatal : 325 kms. (7 to 8 hrs drive) - Route : Delhi - Meerut - Muzaffarnagar - Roorkee - Haridwar - Rishikesh - Narendra Nagar - Chamba - Kanatal (On Chamba - Mussorie Road)

USP of Kanatal - At 8500 ft above sea level, secluded, Awesome view of Himalayas. Clear view of Trishul, Chaukhamba and Bandarpooch. Lots of trekking options in Kodia Jungle. Pine and Oak forest.

Places to See - Kodia Jungle, Tehri Dam, Dhanolti - Surkanda devi temple, ECO Park.

Road Condition - Road after Muzaffarnagar to Roorkee is bad. High traffic in Haridwar and Roorkee.

Midway Break - Namaste Midway has MCD, Haldiram, Costa, Baskin and Robins is about 5 kms before Muzaffarnagar and an ideal stop over. Of course Cheetal Grand is also another option which is 12 km before Midway.

Stay - 3 nights at Kanatal Club Mahindra. 1 night stay at Rishikesh GMVN Rishilok Tourist Rest House.

The Journey

We started by 5.30 Am. By 7.30 am we reached MCD. 10 am we were in Haridwar and by 1 pm reached Kanatal.

Day - 1

Check in was smooth and post lunch we lazed around for the day...

The resort is on the main Chamba - Dhanaulti road. Medium sized resort with about 35 rooms. All rooms are valley facing. Well appointed rooms with good insulation and room heating . Evenings and early morning are cold and some times windy too. The hotel is just in front of Kodia eco park. Food is pricey but members have discount and fun dining option. Monkey menace a problem.

Day-2

We planned to trek Kodia Jungle. Morning trek was about 7 kms. As still early morning was very cold, we went by 7 am and were back by 11 am. Again post lunch went for another trek. Rest enjoy the photographs. Kodia jungle has many trek tracks overlooking the mighty Himalayas. Lots of birds. Chances to sight Himalayan Monal.

Day - 3

Today we planned for Surkanda Devi temple visit and Eco park, Dhanaulti. The day started lazily. Started by 11.30 am.

The temple is at an altitude of 9800 ft. My watch was showing 10200 ft. Its a tough 1.6 km trek. We took 1 hr and 20 min . The new temple has not yet opened. Work has been completed and will open October. Our next place was Eco park, Dhanaulti. Its a beautiful park for a day out. Ideal birding location. Lots of walking tracks.

Day - 4

Checked out from CM Kanatal by 10 am. Our next destination was Rishikesh. We usually stay at GMVN Rishilok. Its very near to Ram Jhula. We reached by 11.30 am.

Plan for the day was to have lunch at Chotiwalla, Walk around, Witness Ganga aarti. I was surprised to see 2 CCD's one each at Ram and Laxman Jhula and lots of German Cafes have come up near Luxman Jhula market. As usual Chotiwalla's Thali was simply awesome....

Day - 5

We left of Delhi early morning. 9.30 Am we were at Midway. By 1 pm we were in Delhi. Total Distance Travelled : 700 kms. No fuel refilling required.

Basic facts of Kanatal

Kanatal is a small village in Uttarakhand around 80 kms from Dehradun(capital city). This is a small place not much commercialized like the nearby Mussourie hill station. Tehri dam visit, Kodia jungle trek, camping, and climb to Surkhanda devi temple apart from Mussourie and Dhanaulti can be some of the places to visit nearby.

The nearest airport is at Dehradun (80 plus kms)

The nearest Rail is available from Haridwar or Dehradun

The climate is relaxing throughout the year, but the monsoon month of July can be avoided. Winters require heavy woolens.

Distance (approx)

Dhanaulti - 15kms

Mussoorie - 40kms

Chamba - 15kms

Rishikesh - 80kms

Tehri dam - 30kms