Kedarkantha Trek

Dehradun - Sankri - Juda Ka Talab - Kedarkantha Base - Kedarkantha Peak - Hargaon - Sankri - Dehradun

TreksGroup Trek

Tour Basics •

Duration: 05 Days 04 Nights	**Route:** Dehradun - Sankri - Juda Ka Talab - Kedarkantha Base - Kedarkantha Peak - Hargaon - Sankri - Dehradun

Dehradun — 5D 4NSankri — 5D 4N

About This Trip •

Kedarkantha, not to be confused with the famed Kedarnath Temple, takes you deep into the heart of Uttarakhand's **Govind Pashu Vihar National Park**. This trek is among the most iconic in India, loved equally by seasoned adventurers and first-time trekkers. But what truly makes Kedarkantha stand out? A few unforgettable experiences, the summit climb being the crown jewel.

Reaching the summit is a challenging yet deeply rewarding feat. The trail starts in the early hours of the morning, climbing steeply and steadily towards the peak. As you ascend, you're enveloped by the grandeur of the upper Himalayas, which stay with you every step of the way. The final stretch to the summit is tough, but the 360-degree view from the top and the feeling of achievement more than make up for it. This is what makes Kedarkantha an ideal introductory summit climb for beginners.

But the trek is more than just the summit.

Clearings that Tell Stories

Another unique feature of Kedarkantha is its scenic forest clearings. Few treks in the Himalayas offer such beautifully spaced open patches along the trail. These clearings not only serve as perfect rest stops and campsites but also open up panoramic views at just the right moments, adding magic to your journey.

Forests that Enchant

Kedarkantha is also renowned for its dense, diverse forests. Each trail winds through stunning wooded sections that shift in character and colour as you climb higher. Don’t be surprised if you find yourself completely immersed and perhaps a little lost in the captivating beauty of these woods (in the best way possible).

Best Time to Visit Kedarkantha

One of the few Himalayan treks accessible almost year-round, Kedarkantha is open 10 months of the year, barring July and August (peak monsoon). Each season brings its charm, challenges, and character:

Winter (December to February)

- Fresh snowfall and snow-covered landscapes
- Majestic frozen forests and meadows
- A tough but unforgettable summit push
- Cold mornings and freezing evenings

Spring (March and April)

- Lingering snow with blooming forests
- Vibrant green meadows and clear skies
- Pleasant mornings, chilly nights

Summer (May and June)

- No snow, but plenty of natural beauty
- Golden meadows and lush forests
- Hot days, cool nights
- Light rain towards late May

Autumn (Mid-September to November)

- Clear skies and crisp views
- Colourful foliage and fresh mountain air
- Mild days, freezing nights
- Occasional rain until late September

Connectivity: Off the Grid

The trek begins in Sankri, a remote yet charming village located within Govind National Park. Once you enter the park, mobile signals start to fade, and by the time you reach Sankri, consider yourself officially unplugged.

While some landline connections may exist in local shops, don't count on them. Networks like BSNL, Airtel, Idea, and even Jio are essentially non-functional here. The last reliable mobile coverage is in Dehradun or Mussoorie, so make your calls before reaching Sankri.

ATM Availability: Withdraw Early

There are no ATMs in Sankri or anywhere along the Kedarkantha route. The final ATM stop is Purola, so be sure to withdraw sufficient cash before proceeding. Having cash on hand is essential for making basic purchases, addressing emergencies, and ensuring smooth logistics for trekking.

Things to Do on the Kedarkantha Trek

- Cross your first re-entrant (natural water channel between hill spurs)
- Pitch a tent beside the enchanting Juda Ka Talab
- Trek through snow using microspikes
- Begin your Summit Day at dawn for the most magical views
- Slide down snowy slopes
- Build a snowman (because why not?)

- Immerse yourself in local culture at Sankri.

Stay Categories & Options •

Twin Sharing	Persons: 2	INR 5,500.00	~~INR 6,500.00~~	Save INR 1,000.00
Triple Sharing	Persons: 3	INR 5,500.00	~~INR 6,500.00~~	Save INR 1,000.00
Twin Sharing	Persons: 2	INR 4,500.00	~~INR 5,500.00~~	Save INR 1,000.00
Triple Sharing	Persons: 3	INR 4,500.00	~~INR 5,500.00~~	Save INR 1,000.00

Itinerary •

Day 1: Dehradun to Sankri | Dist: 190 km | Time: 7 to 8 hr | Altitude: 640 m to 1900m

- We’ll pick you up from Dehradun early in the morning and begin the scenic drive towards Sankri.
- The journey lasts around 5 hours, meandering through scenic mountain roads and quaint villages.
- By evening, you’ll arrive in Sankri, a quaint village nestled in the Himalayas.
- Settle into your lodge accommodation and relax for the night, preparing for the adventures ahead.

Meals: Dinner

Night: Lodge at Sankri

Day 2: Sankri to Juda ka Talab | Dist: 4.5 km | Time: 4 to 5 hr | Altitude: 1900 m to 2700 m

- After enjoying breakfast in Sankri, you'll begin your trek towards Juda Ka Talab.

- The trail covers approximately 4.5 km and typically takes 4 to 5 hours, offering a mix of gentle climbs and scenic forest paths.
- Upon reaching the campsite, settle into your tents and take in the peaceful surroundings.
- Spend the evening unwinding beneath the open sky before retiring for the night in your tents.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Night: Stay in the tent at Juda ka Talab.

Day 3: Juda Ka Talab to Kedarkantha Base | Dist: 2.5 km | Time: 2 to 3 hr | Altitude: 2700 m to 3429 m

- After breakfast, begin your ascent towards the Kedarkantha Base, located at an altitude of 11,250 feet.
- The trek takes approximately 3 hours and offers stunning views as you navigate through snow-covered trails and dense forests.
- Once you arrive at the base camp, settle into your tents and enjoy the breathtaking mountain landscape.
- Spend the evening enjoying the tranquil surroundings before settling in for a night under the stars.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Night: Stay at Camp in Kedarkantha base.

Day 4: Kedarkantha Summit | Dist: 3 km | Time: 3 to 4 hr | Altitude: 3429 m to 3800 m

- Today is the much-anticipated summit day. We'll embark on the final stretch of the trek, a 3 km journey that takes approximately 3 hours, leading us to the Kedarkantha summit.
- The trail includes a mix of uphill climbs and flat sections, gradually revealing panoramic

views as you ascend.

- Upon reaching the summit, take in the breathtaking 360-degree vistas of the surrounding Himalayan peaks, a truly rewarding moment.
- After spending time at the top, begin your descent and make your way back to Juda Ka Talab or Hargaon for the night.
- Rest and reflect on the incredible achievement as you settle into your tents for the evening.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Night: Stay at Camp in Hargaon

Day 5: Hargaon to Sankri and Depart | Dist: 197 km | Time: 10 to 12 hr | Altitude: 3800 m to 640 m

- On the final day of your trek, descend from Hargaon to Sankri, taking in the last peaceful views of the Himalayas.
- Upon reaching Sankri, you'll start your drive back to Dehradun, marking the end of your mountain journey.
- As the journey comes to a close, carry with you unforgettable memories, stunning landscapes, and the profound sense of achievement that comes from completing this remarkable adventure.

Meals: Breakfast

Night: Nil

Inclusions •

Accommodation: Hotel/ Guesthouse/ Tents.

Trek Guide.

Meals as per the itinerary.

Forest entry charges, permits & camping fees (if any).

Gears: Crampons and Gaiters.

Necessary Permit

Exclusions •

Porter/Mule charges for carrying personal luggage.

Any costs arising from unforeseen circumstances like landslides, roadblocks, or wrongs. Weather, etc.

Travel Insurance.

GST 5%.

Trekking Gears.

FAQs •

Q: How difficult is the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

Kedarkantha Trek is a moderate-level trek. The summit is steep, and snow and cold weather make it more challenging. Yes, it's essential to follow a strict fitness regimen and prepare your body before attempting this trek.

Q: How long is the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

The Kedarkantha Trek spans approximately 10 km from Sankri to Kedarkantha Peak and typically takes around 4 days to complete the round trip.

Q: Are Kedarnath and Kedarkantha the same?

A:

No, Kedarkantha and Kedarnath are different. Kedarkantha Peak lies within Uttarakhand's Govind Wildlife Sanctuary, whereas Kedarnath Temple is a Hindu shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva, located in the Garhwal Himalayan Range of Uttarakhand.

Q: Will there be snow in Kedarkantha in April?

A:

April marks the beginning of the snowmelt, so you may or may not encounter snow if you visit during this month. After April, snowfall typically ceases. So, if you plan to do it in April, you are advised to check the weather forecast or ask our team about the current situation.

Q: Is Kedarkantha Trek safe in December?

A:

Yes, the trek is safe as long as you have the proper gear and follow the planned itinerary. Most trekkers attempt the summit in December, when temperatures can range from -5°C to 3°C, so be sure to wear suitable clothing to stay protected from the cold.

Q: Is trekking banned in Uttarakhand?

A:

Occasionally, tourism activities may be restricted by the government due to heavy rainfall, landslides, or snowfall. To learn if trekking is open or banned right now, contact us at thewanderyak@gmail.com

Q: Is there a network inKedarkantha?

A:

The network in Kedarkantha could be more reliable; the Last point where you might get a signal is Sankri. It is advised that if you want to inform anyone, you should do it in Dehradun itself.

Q: How far is Kedarnath from Kedarkantha?

A:

The distance is about 400 km.

Q: How can I reach Kedarkantha from Dehradun?

A:

From Dehradun, you can take a bus to Sankri. Only a few local buses operate, usually departing early at 6 a.m. or 7 a.m. from Prince Chowk in Dehradun. The journey takes approximately 10 hours.

Q: What is the altitude or height of the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

Kedarkantha Peak is at an altitude of 12,500 ft or 3810 m.

Q: What should I bring to Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

Kedarkantha is a winter Trek. Therefore, you must protect yourself from extreme cold. Try to bring Thermals, Jackets, a Warm cap, and Gloves. You'll also need appropriate gear for trekking on snow, including waterproof trekking shoes, gaiters, crampons, sunglasses, and trekking poles. Carry a headlamp for adequate visibility in low light and other toiletries as required.

Q: What is the best season for the Kedarkantha trek?

A:

From December to April, the winter season is the best time for the Kheer Edarkantha Trek.During this time, Kedarkantha is completely blanketed in snow, making it the perfect season to experience the peak's true beauty and the surrounding valley.

Q: Is a guide necessary for the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

Yes, Kedarkantha is a long trek and requires a knowledgeable guide familiar with the region. Local guides are ideal, as they know the terrain thoroughly. If you book a trek package, a guide is typically included.

Q: Does it snow on the Kedarkantha trek by the middle of December?

A:

Yes, Kedarkantha starts receiving rainfall by December.

Q: Where can I rent trekking equipment for the Kedarkantha Trek in Sankri?

A:

Many options are available at Base Camp Sankri, where you can rent trekking gear. We cannot mention the exact price as we do not manage it. Wherever you rent gear, ensure it is in good condition before starting the trek. You won't have any option to replace or rent new gear on the way.

Q: What is the meaning of Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

Kedarkantha means "Throat of Lord Shiva". According to Indian Mythology, Lord Shiva meditated here, and the droplets falling from Shiva's hair formed the water body known as "Juda ka Talab".

Q: Is the Kedarkantha trek easy?

A:

Yes, the trek is accessible initially and moderate in the end. However, as mentioned, ensure you have proper gear and equipment; otherwise, you will have difficulty doing this trek.

Q: How to reach Sankri?

A:

You can reach Sankri from Dehradun by bus or by hiring a cab, with the journey taking approximately 10 hours. Ensure you catch the buses early (between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m.). After that, it will be challenging to get any bus.

Q: Is Kedarkantha Trek safe for Couples?

A:

Yes, the trek is safe for couples. Many couples have already completed it, and the tour guide will accompany the group, taking care of all arrangements.

Q: What kind of fitness is required for the Kedarkantha trek?

A:

You must follow a strict fitness routine for one month before going to the Kedarkantha Trek. Make sure you jog and walk regularly and do some basic stretching exercises. Also, perform squats and climb up and down a flight of stairs daily.

Q: How many days are required to complete the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

The Trek will take 4 days to complete from Sankri and 6 Days to complete from Dehradun.

Q: What is the total distance of the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

The Kedarkantha Trek spans a total distance of around 20 to 23 km.

Q: Is a homestay available at Base Camp Sankri?

A:

Yes, there are many options for booking homestays at Sankri. Make sure you book them beforehand. A stay at Sankri is already included in our package.

Q: Is Kedarkantha Trek safe for female travellers?

A:

Yes, it is safe for female travellers. If you join the group, you will find other females in the same or any other group going along.

Q: What is the starting point of the Kedarkantha Trek?

A:

Sankri is the base village from where the Kedarkantha Trek begins.

Q: Kedarkantha temperature of the Weather?

A:

The temperature at Kedarkantha stays between -5°C and 17°C throughout the year.

Q: What is Juda ka Talab?

A:

Juda Ka Talab serves as a campsite for trekkers undertaking the Kedarkantha Trek.

Q: Can I do the Kedarkantha Trek on my own?

A:

Attempt any trek in the Himalayas only when you are fully confident and prepared. Don't rely solely on blogs or videos to gauge your readiness. Gathering information is helpful, but actually reaching the destination and navigating the trail are entirely different challenges.

Q: What is the History and Mystery of Kedarkantha?

A:

According to Hindu mythology, after the Kurukshetra war, the Pandavas sought Lord Shiva in Varanasi to atone for their sins. However, Shiva, angered by the war and its deceit, refused to meet them and disguised himself as a bull (Nandi), fleeing to the Garhwal Himalayas. Unable to find him in Varanasi, the Pandavas pursued him to the mountains, where Bheema recognized the bull as Lord Shiva. Grasping it, he would not let go, and in the ensuing struggle, the bull broke into five parts. These became the five sacred sites known as Panch Kedar: Kedarnath (Lord Shiva's back), Tungnath (arms), Rudranath (face), Madhyamaheshwar (navel), and Kalpeshwar (hair). Today, a small temple dedicated to Lord Shiva stands at the summit.

Get in Touch •

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