

‘SARYU’ THE EASTERN GEM - Signature Trip

The Saryu River was pioneered by Himalayan River Runners in the fall of 2008. This river with its emerald green clear water drains through some of the most breathtakingly unspoiled vistas in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand. This little known river is a tributary of the mighty Kali River which forms the border between India and Nepal. The Saryu offers fantastic white water, beautiful canyon sections, and excellent camping beaches with a real wilderness feel. Self-supported ‘alpine’ style technical rafting on the Saryu combined with ‘Himalayan’ big volume style of rafting on the lower Kali offers an all-round white-water expedition experience. So why not join us on one of our fixed departure dates and be one of the first to experience this ‘gem’ of a river.



TRIP ITINERARY



DAY 00: Board the overnight Ranikhet Express at 940 pm from Old Delhi railway station.

DAY 01: Arrive Kathgodam at 06.30 am. Transfer by Taxi/Coach to Bhimtal for breakfast and freshening up. Continue on a picturesque drive through the Kumaon Himalaya to the Saryu River beyond Almora to arrive at our river campsite for a late lunch. Settle into camp and enjoy a relaxed campfire dinner.

DAY 02: After breakfast we raft the first 25km section of the Saryu down to our wonderful beach camp in the middle of the gorge. This section offers excellent continuous pool drop style rafting on class II, III and IV rapids with names like ‘Emotional rollercoaster’ ‘Hybrid Fervour’ ‘Temple Rock and Roll’ and ‘Squeezer’. We stop at our designated camp for a well deserved lunch and rest on a beautiful sandy beach within the upper gorge. Set camp; either relax or explore the surrounding wilderness.



DAY 3: After breakfast and packing we continue to raft the lower Saryu gorge on yet another day of non stop white water action. It starts straight away with ‘Wake up Call’ then continues as we navigate the canyon section with consistent class III, IV pool drop rapids like ‘Emotional Turmoil’ ‘Pinball’ and ‘Bhaisaabs Beat Down’ amongst numerous others - which you could get to name ! We reach camp late afternoon on a quiet river beach past the confluence with the East Ram Ganga.

DAY 4: After breakfast and packing , a relaxed start to the rafting as we drift down the last bit of the Saryu to the confluence at Pancheswar with the mighty Kali River . The river volume more than doubles and from here on we enjoy the ‘big water ‘sensation of the rapids below. By mid afternoon we camp on a large secluded beach, and we get a chance to crossover to ‘Nepal’ for a walk on that side.



Day 5: A well deserved layover day ! Just chill out in these beautiful secluded surroundings, or take a half day hike to a remote Kumaoni or Nepali village for some local interaction. Return to camp and enjoy another great campfire cookout.

Day 6: We continue on downriver with the forests getting thicker lending a tropical character to the surroundings with a good chance to spot some wildlife. We reach the mighty ‘Chuka rapids’ a big volume Class 4 , which we negotiate and enjoy lunch at our campsite on a pretty beach below the rapid .The surrounding forests were once home to the infamous man-eating tigers of Thak and Chuka , (two villages above our campsite) shot by the legendary Jim Corbett in the 1930’s.



DAY 7: Our final river day and the best big volume rafting on the Kali! After breakfast we start off with plenty of rapids interspersed with calm stretches to take in the beautiful undulating countryside. Great rafting for three hours to finish at Boom, just where the Kali enters the plains of India. After lunch, we drive on to Kathgodam to

