**Panpatia Col Trek**

Forming a bridge between two most important Hindu pilgrimage sites, Kedarnath and Badrinath, at an elevation of 4,200 meters, the Panpatia Col is one of the high altitude mountain passes that gets across the Panpatia Glacier. It is surrounded by several major peaks of the Garhwal Himalayan region. From the group of 6thousanders, the Nilkantha at an elevation of 6,596 meters is the most prominent one. Nonetheless, the peaks of Balakun at 6,108 meters, Kunaling at 6,471 meters, Januhut at 6,495 meters, Shri Parbat at 6,175 meters and Chaukhamba group and several other 5thousanders are visible throughout the trail from Badrinath to Ransi. The Panpatia Col trek that further traverses through two other high altitude mountain passes, several moraines, gushing streams and narrow cliffs is one of the toughest treks in the Garhwal Himalayan region. It was once the mythological route on which pilgrims used to trek from Kedarnath to Badrinath in 1 day. The route was lost in time but few demented explorers re-discovered the route and led it in the trekking map of the Garhwal Himalaya. The journey is further enriched with several picturesque campsites along the pristine water of several lakes that encircles rich alpine meadows dotted with varied species of Himalayan flowers. The Panpatia Col Trek requires some serious acclimatization at certain altitude and is recommended only to trekkers who have prior high altitude trekking experience. The journey involves use of on best-of-the-breed mountaineering equipments. Nonetheless, the trek is one such adventure in the Garhwal Himalayan region that turns out to be a grapevine who has covered the journey.

The trek to Panpatia Col commences from Badrinath and heads to Dumkal Kharak and thereafter turns to Nilkanth Khal, which is at an altitude of 4,650 meters. The journey thereafter turns to the snout of Panpatia Glacier and later winds to the glaciated track to further climb towards Panpatia plateau. Thereafter crossing Panpatia Col, the trail leads to Maidagala Tal. The downhill trek continues to Madmaheswar and thence leads off at Ransi. The Panpatia Col trekking tour later wheels to Rishikesh. The best time to hit the trekking tracks to Panpatia Col is during the summer and autumn seasons.

**Itinerary:**

**Day 1)** Delhi - Rishikesh

**Day 2)** Rishikesh - Badrinath

**Day 3)**   Badrinath - Dumkal Kharak, camp

**Day 4)**Nilkanth Khal / Holds worth's Pass-4650m Crossing

**Day 5)** Trek to snout of Panpatia Glacier

**Day 6)**Trek to moraine camp of Panpatia glacier (4450m) camp

**Day 7)** Trek to Panpatia plateau (4950m) camp

**Day 8)**Across Panpatia Col (5260m), camp at Maidagala Tal

**Day 9)**Maidagala Tal to Madmaheswar

**Day 10)**   Madmaheswar - Ransi

**Day 11)**    Ransi - Rishikesh

**Day 12)**    Rishikesh - Delhi