

# 2014 Nagaland Hornbill Festival Guide



By Sharell Cook  
India Travel Expert

Share this



Ads [Travel In](#) [Tours Turkey](#) [Turkey Istanbul Travel](#) [Travel Travel](#) [India Travel](#)



Angami tribe, Hornbill festival, Nagaland, India. Peter Adams/Getty Images.

The unique Hornbill Festival, named after the bird, is one of the largest celebrations of the indigenous warrior tribes of Nagaland, in India's far north east region. The hornbill is particularly revered by the Nagas and is reflected in tribal folklore, dances and songs.

## When is the Hornbill Festival?

The festival is usually on every year from December 1-7. However, in 2013 it was extended for a few extra days.

## Where is it Held?

The festival takes place at [Kisama Heritage Village](#), around 10 kilometers from Kohima (the capital of Nagaland). Performances begin by 9 a.m. each day.

### Ads

#### Italy All Inclusive Tours

[www.perillotours.com](http://www.perillotours.com)

Come See Italy in A Whole New Way. Book Your Next Tour with Perillo.

#### CroisiEurope Cruises

[croisieurope.rivercruises.com](http://croisieurope.rivercruises.com)

Europe's Largest River Cruise Line. Book An All-Inclusive Cruise Now!

#### NYC Social Sports Leagues

[www.zogsports.com/Volleyball](http://www.zogsports.com/Volleyball)

Love Sports, Beer & Charity? Join A Corporate Volleyball League!

- [Nagaland](#)
- [Holi Festival](#)
- [Travel Guide](#)
- [Travel Brochures](#)
- [India Tour](#)

You can easily book a taxi to get there, but do ensure that the vehicle has a pass to park at the venue.

## How is the Hornbill Festival Celebrated?

The Festival is attended by all of Nagaland's major tribes. It features traditional arts, dances, folk songs, and games. All this takes place amidst immaculate replicas of tribal hutments, complete with wood carvings and hollow log drum instruments, which are beat in haunting symphony at the end of the day. There are plenty of handicraft stalls, food stalls, and heady rice beer to indulge in as well.

In the evenings after sundown, the main attraction is the Hornbill National Rock Concert. Bands from all over the country come to compete. This is followed by a night

market in town. However, the hottest event (literally!) at the festival is undoubtedly the Naga chilli eating competition!

## Tours to the Festival

Kipepeo is running a [7 night fixed departure tour](#) to the 2014 Hornbill Festival. It also includes a visit to the famous [Kaziranga National Park](#) in Assam, home to the endangered one-horned rhinoceros. Indiomania Cultural Tours offers a special [10 day trip to the Hornbill Festival](#) as well.

### Ads

#### [Heathman Hotel](#)

[www.heathmanhotel.com](http://www.heathmanhotel.com)

Charming Downtown Portland Hotel Book Online Now for Special Rates!

#### [Repositioning Cruises](#)

[repositioningcruise.com](http://repositioningcruise.com)

Huge savings on repositioning cruises. Up to 75% off!

Geringer Global Travel, based in the US, includes the Hornbill Festival in their upcoming 19 day [Northeast India tour](#). Guests who book by September 15, 2014 will save \$500 per person on this special itinerary for travel from November 24 to December 12, 2014.

### Travel Tips

- The Hornbill Festival is one of the top tourist draws in Nagaland, so if you're planning to attend, do book accommodations well in advance.
- There's a very handy Information Center next to the festival venue, which provides brochures listing the events at the festival and other attractions in Nagaland.
- Make sure you bargain at the souvenir shops.
- [Entry permits are no longer necessary](#) for foreigners visiting Nagaland. However, foreigners will need to register themselves with the Foreigner's Registration Office (District Superintendent of Police) within 24 hours of entry into the state. Indian tourists need an Inner Line Permit. This is available from any Nagaland House, or Government of Nagaland office. [Download application form.](#)
- Kohima doesn't have an airport. The nearest one is in Dimapur, with flights to and from [Kolkata](#) and Guwahati. From Dimapur it's a two hour drive to Kohima. Or, if you're in a hurry, a 30 minute helicopter ride.
- The best place to stay in Kohima is the [Hotel Japfu](#), Government Tourism hotel. Rooms cost upwards of 2,500 rupees per night for a single and 3,000 rupees for a double. Advance bookings are imperative. Email: [hoteljapfu@yahoo.co.in](mailto:hoteljapfu@yahoo.co.in)