

SEASONS & WHAT REMAINS

Khankar Khet changes richly with the mountain year. In **late spring and early summer**, the slopes soften into fresh alpine growth and flowering woodland. Through the **monsoon**, the meadow deepens into lush green. **Autumn** brings the clearest long-range views, while **winter** settles heavily over the higher reaches in snow.

Yet beyond the seasons, what endures is the essential mood of the place: open grasslands, quiet movement, and a rare sense of Himalayan pause. The grazing grounds, the shepherd shelters, and the continuing relationship between village life and upland pasture give Khankar Khet an atmosphere that feels less like a route through wilderness and more like an encounter with an older mountain rhythm still alive in the landscape.



WHEN TO VISIT

As the seasons turn

May to June

Fresh meadow growth, clearer weather, and comfortable trekking conditions make this one of the finest times to experience Khankar Khet.

September to October

After the rains, the slopes are vivid, the air turns crisp, and the long Himalayan views are at their clearest.

Winter

Heavy snowfall transforms the upper reaches and gives the landscape a strikingly different, more demanding character.

HOW TO REACH

By Air - The nearest airport for reaching the Chamoli region is Jolly Grant Airport, Dehradun.

By Rail - The nearest major railhead is Rishikesh.

By Road - Khankar Khet is reached by road through Chamoli district, with onward access toward Rei Village for the traditional route and toward the Khainoli / Khenoli side for the shorter approach. Tharali serves as the nearest town for onward local access and public transport.

TRAVEL NOTE

Trekkers should make sure to register with the local Forest Department or the concerned local authorities before setting out, so route movement can be tracked and safety kept in view on this remote mountain trail.



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Uttarakhand

Simply Heaven!

Khankar Khet

A Journey Through Solitude and Sky

Open meadows, quiet forests, and distant Himalayan horizons

A QUIET VALLEY Unfolding

Set high in Chamoli district at around **3,300 metres**, **Khankar Khet** opens out as a landscape of alpine meadows, forested ridgelines, and deep mountain stillness. Away from the more travelled circuits, it carries the rare feeling of a place that reveals itself slowly-through silence, distance, and light.



The ascent is marked by magnificent views across the **Garhwal Himalaya**, with a sweeping skyline that includes peaks such as **Jaonli, the Gangotri group, Thalay Sagar, Bhartekuntha, Kedarnath, Kedardong, Satopanth, Chaukhamba, Neelkanth, Hathi-Ghodi, Ronti, Nanda Ghunti, Trishul, and Panchachuli**. The grandeur of Khankar Khet lies not in a single dramatic reveal, but in the way the mountains gather around the meadow, broadening the sense of space with every step.



THE NATURE OF The Walk

Khankar Khet is not a trek of haste. It is a mountain journey shaped by rhythm-village edge, forest trail, open slope, and finally the widening calm of the bugyal. The traditional approach begins from **Rei Village**, while a shorter access is also taken from the **Khainoli / Khenoli side**, allowing the trek to be experienced in a more compact format.

What gives the walk its deeper character is the presence of an older mountain life along the way. The pastures here were, and in places still are, used by villagers as **summer grazing grounds for cattle**. Seasonal shepherd shelters-built with stone, timber, and practical mountain resourcefulness-remain part of the landscape, reminding the traveller that Khankar Khet is not only a scenic meadow, but also a lived highland shaped by tradition as much as by terrain.



ROUTE OVERVIEW

 Duration: 4N / 5D

 Start point: Shorter Route (via Khainoli)



Khankar Khet is approached by two routes.

Traditional Rei Route

The **traditional Rei route** is the longer and more gradual approach, carrying the fuller progression of the trek-from settlement to forest to open meadow. The road journey from **Rishikesh to Rei Village** is about **224 km**, after which the trail rises through forest stretches and halting points such as **Bhanaar Bon** before opening into the Khankar Khet meadow zone. This route is generally experienced over **4 Nights / 5 Days**.

Shorter Route via Khainoli / Khenoli

The **shorter route via Khainoli / Khenoli**, linked with the **Tharali-Harmani side**, offers a more direct approach to the meadows and is typically completed in about **3-4 days**, excluding travel. Though shorter in duration, it leads into the same high pastoral landscape of open grassland, forest silence, shepherd traces, and long Himalayan views.