

Bara Mangwa Orange Villa – Darjeeling

“A workshop Travel Plan for Orange lovers”

Have you ever thought of staining your hands with the cascaded mud spreading its aroma with the gush of cold breeze sweeping down from the almighty Himalayas shadowing the beauty of Darjeeling? At Bada Mangwa Orange Villa, an orange orchard of Darjeeling decorated around 4.5 acres of beautiful hilly terrains of Darjeeling, you get a cozy stay spiced up with the warmth of cultural hospitality of the Gardener’s Family. It’s a place where you can fulfill your desire to surround your conscience with the true essence of nature where even you can play your role as a true Decorator of Nature becoming a part of the Orange Grower’s Family in their daily activities that have turned the rough terrains of Hills into one of the best Orange Orchards of Darjeeling.



Workshop Venue:

Orange Villa, Bara Mangwa, Darjeeling, (West Bengal – India)

About Orange Villa:

A beautiful orange orchard that covers the area of 4.5 acres, and is the only left healthy orange garden of District Darjeeling. The place has now become a centre for research for the local government departments set up for the development of Horticulture, agriculture and floriculture. Owned by a lovely family, the garden also serves as a cozy accommodation run by the host family in form of a lovely homestay for such volunteers and researchers. Apart from the beautiful orange orchard the place also offer picturesque view of Darjeeling, Teesta river, Sikkim and Kalimpong. The place is also best for artists and writers where they can truly enjoy the solitude of the place.

Length of Workshop:

32 days

You can choose any given months depending on the kind of work you would like to get involved in as an Orange Grower. You can also customize your workshop time into 32, 45 and 62 days, where you can get the opportunity to research on the whole harvesting cycle of Orange Orchard.

Objectives of the workshop:



The Mandarin Oranges cultivation in North Bengal has been historically serving as a backbone for the economic development of the rural areas of North Bengal. North Bengal being a renowned destination famous for tea companies, timber and tourism, has seldom facilitated the true economic condition of the people of North Bengal, because none of the industries are run directly by the people but instead by companies.

As a result many social agitations like low wages for tea garden workers; the ramp down of tea companies has hindered the economic condition of the rural people of North Bengal. In this context there are only few farming products that support directly to the people of North Bengal. In the list of such products, Mandarin orange cultivation plays an important role among all other products like Black Cardamom, Ginger and Broomstick, because all of them are mostly owned individually by the people. Unfortunately, following the production level of last decade there has been a huge downfall in all the production of all the agricultural products that are more practices by the people and not by companies.

As because this concern only impacts the low marginal farmers, there has been no such agencies set up by the governments who can really do research activities on this issue of Orange, Black Cardamom and ginger. The farmers now have reached a situation where they have abandoned the orange farms, black cardamom farms and are compelled to leave the place in search of jobs to support their livelihood. So, this project will aim on asking for support from the expertise on respective areas where they can come to the only left healthy orange garden and conduct the research to share their knowledge that can bring back the golden days of those farmers who have lost their hope in agriculture.

Workshop Activities and Periods:

| DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY | BEST PERIOD OF THE YEAR | MAKE YOUR CHOICE OF WORK |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| En-filling and Replanting | June- July | Digging and replacing the dead plants by planting new plants. |
| Manuring and Mulching | February- March | Weeding and giving manure to the plant along with bush Mulching |
| Harvesting | December - January | Plucking the fruit and segregating the fruits into different sizes |
| Processing/ Packaging/ selling | January- February | Negotiating with the buyers, packing and selling. Processing the unsold fruits. |

Price:

The price will include all the expenses incurred for accommodation, food and pick and drop from the nearest airport. It will not include flight charges from the respective countries till the local airport of Bagdogra in North Bengal. The volunteers will have to bare any expenses apart from the pick and drop transportation, food and accommodation in [Orange Villa homestay](#).

| No of days | Price |
|------------|--------|
| 30 | \$500 |
| 45 | \$800 |
| 60 | \$1000 |
| 75 | \$1300 |
| 90 | \$1500 |

Whom to contact for applying :

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