Enjoy the Festivals of Shimla by Jenny Mathew

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Festivals are an important part of every culture and they show us how people of a particular region celebrate their identity and tradition. Shimla tours offer tourists the option of enjoying the atmosphere of fun, frolic and spirituality during the festivals in the city. Decorations, wearing colorful traditional clothing and cooking delicious food are an integral part of the celebrations. While on your Shimla tour, you too can wear traditional clothes, sing with the native population, and enjoy the mouth-watering delicacies prepared for the festivity.

Festivals and Fairs of Shimla region

Lohri- This is a rather romantic festival that involves the lighting of a bonfire in January and people singing songs while seated around it. Lohri signifies the ending of winter and begining of spring. Lohri is a truly beautiful festival, especially loved by couples who are on their Shimla honeymoon tour.

Basant Panchami- This festival is a harbinger of spring. This festival is celebrated with kites flying in the sky, maneuvered by hordes of youngsters. Basant Panchami is also marked by dances and local folk songs.

Gochi - This festival is celebrated at the houses where newly born babies have made their entrance into the world. It is celebrated by drinking a special kind of wine called Chang. A spinster carries a lit torch, accompanied by two men who carry pine branches wrapped in sheepskin. They make a procession to the local temple with a plate of sweets made from flour.

Baisakhi- This festival is celebrated in mid April and is one of the most important festivals of Shimla. It is celebrated with music, dance and lots of sweets.

Summer festival of Shimla- Celebrated every summer in Shimla it is a wonderful experience for people who wish to see the culture and tradition of Shimla. Skilled artistes from all over Himachal Pradesh get together to make a spectacular show for tourists who are there at the time. Shimla tour packages are often in demand during the summer festival of Shimla.

Bhoj Fair- It is celebrated during three days and attracts huge crowds thatwatch the colorful dances and musical shows that are prepared for this occasion.

The International Himalayan Festival- Celebrated in December on a large scale, the festival promotes peace and friendliness among the people of the valley. It is celebrated by performing cultural shows, vibrant dances, musicals and dramas by local artistes, dancers and school children.

During the festival season, book your Shimla tour in advance. You can enjoy some good food and vibrant ambience at any good local restaurants. If you like local food, we recommend that you try Ashiana and Goofa- twin restaurants that offer local cuisine.

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Jenny Mathew - About Author:

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