

NEWSLETTER

Kokrajhar Tourism

Dear Reader,

This month we usher in the festive spirit with a focus on the vibrant New Year celebrations and the traditional Domsai Festival. These events highlight the rich cultural heritage and community spirit of the Bodo community. Join us in embracing the festivities that mark a season of joy, togetherness, and cultural pride.

**-Smt. Masanda M. Pertin, IAS, District Commissioner, Kokrajhar & Chairman -
Destination Management Committee-Kokrajhar**

NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS IN KOKRAJHAR

As December approaches, the festive spirit kicks in and the countdown to the New Year begins in Kokrajhar with the picnic season starting off and continuing into January. Dheer Beel, Diplai Beel, Mwsa Hokdao, Lahoti, Saralpara, Pagli Gathwn (nearby the Raimona National Park) and other scenic spots along the Gaurang come alive with picnics, providing a serene atmosphere amidst picturesque landscapes. The tranquil surroundings, surrounded by lush greenery, streams and majestic river views offer a perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of city life, allowing you to relax and rejuvenate.



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Traditional Bodo music and dance performances and folk music are part of these celebrations adding to the festive atmosphere. All these combine to offer a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage of the region. Celebrations continue till midnight with camping, bonfires and music performances. As the clock strikes midnight, the sky is filled with fireworks and the air is filled with celebrations marking the beginning of a new year.



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DOMASI FESTIVAL: HARVESTING HAPPINESS, CULTIVATING TRADITIONS



The festive spirit of "Domasi", also known as "Magh Bahu" in Assamese, fills the air in Kokrajhar as the Bodo community comes together to celebrate the harvest season. Held on the 1st day of the Magh month in the Bodo calendar, which falls in mid-January, festivities begin with the traditional Bodo delicacies like Fitha, Enthao, Laru (Laddu) and Maibra (Sticky rice) including rice beer prepared by Bodo women. The air is filled with the aroma of these traditional dishes.

As the day progresses, the celebrations become more vibrant with traditional Bodo music and dance performances. The festivities also include traditional sports and games like Durung Bwlainai (rope pulling) among women where two teams of women engage in a friendly tug-of-war, showcasing their strength and teamwork. Another exciting event is the Daola Swlainai (Cock style fight) among men. The community also organize football matches with prizes for the winners.

The community takes to the traditional beverage - Rice beer.



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