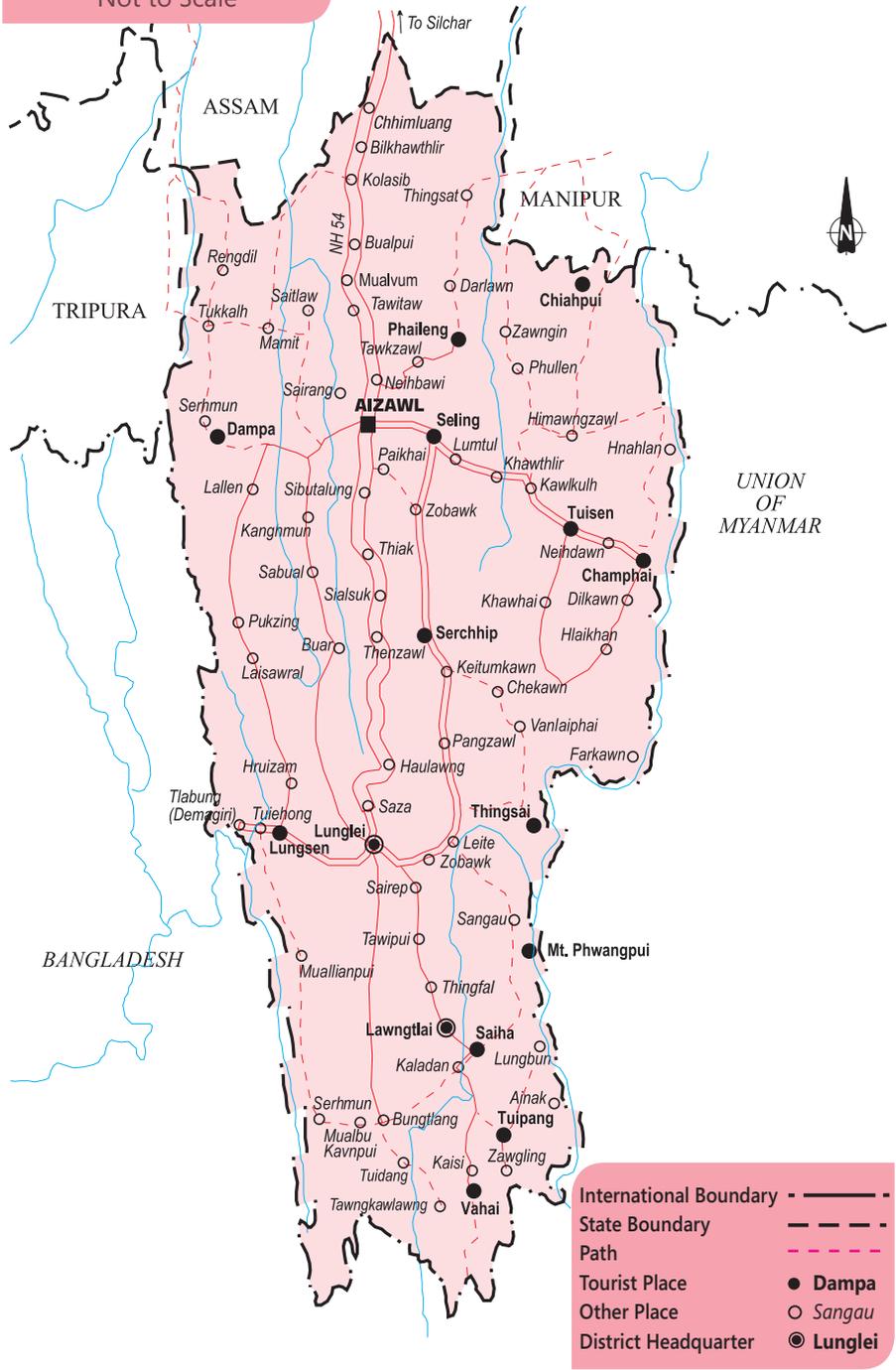
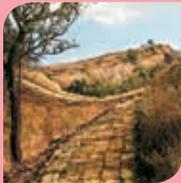


Mizoram

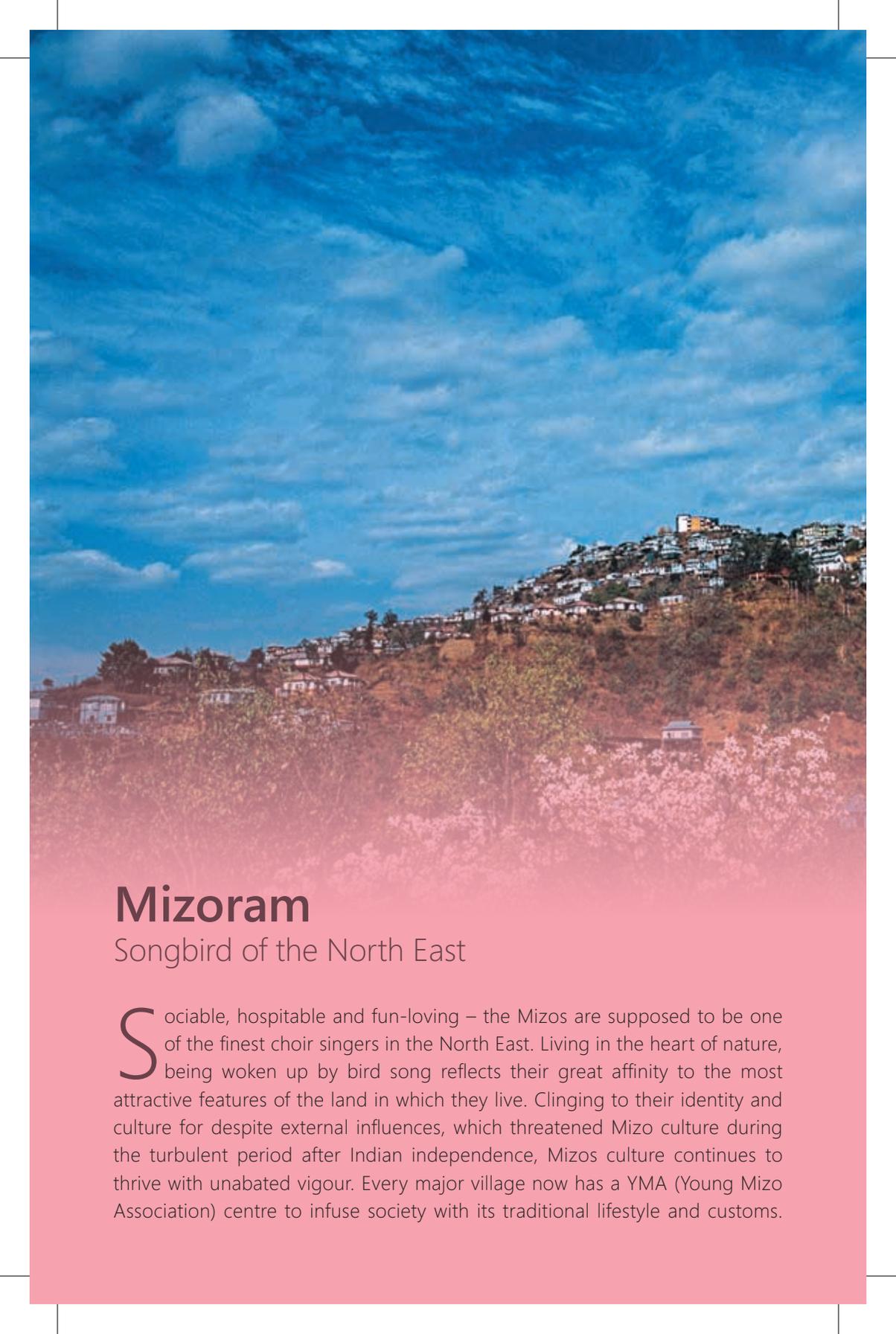
TOURIST MAP

Not to Scale





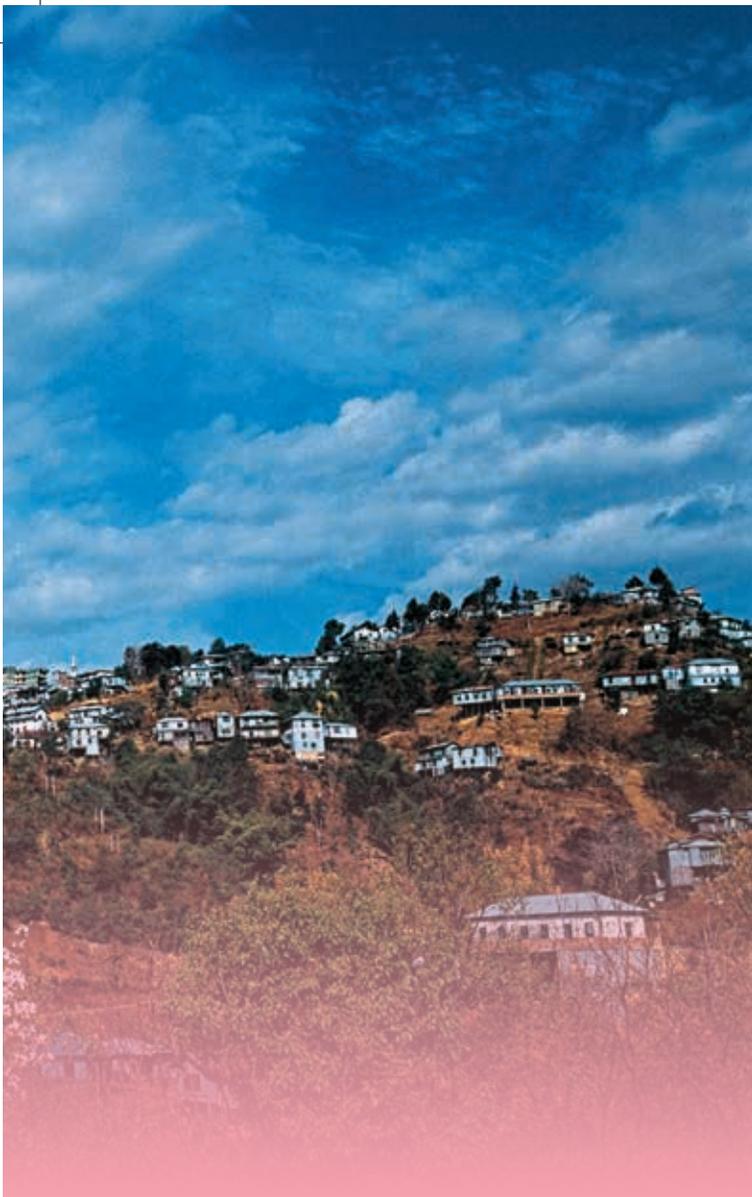
Mizoram



Mizoram

Songbird of the North East

Sociable, hospitable and fun-loving – the Mizos are supposed to be one of the finest choir singers in the North East. Living in the heart of nature, being woken up by bird song reflects their great affinity to the most attractive features of the land in which they live. Clinging to their identity and culture for despite external influences, which threatened Mizo culture during the turbulent period after Indian independence, Mizos culture continues to thrive with unabated vigour. Every major village now has a YMA (Young Mizo Association) centre to infuse society with its traditional lifestyle and customs.



Mizo in traditional dress

Some of the most colourful aspects of this revival is witnessed amongst the folk and community dances that have been handed down from one generation to the next. It is reflected in the important harvest festivals that are an intrinsic part of Mizo culture.

Tlawmngaihna is the code of ethics that guide the Mizos - it means everyone should be unselfish, hospitable and

helpful to each other. The joyous movements of their dances and the spirited songs are a deep reflection of their passion for this cultural heritage. It is evident in the rich variety of their colourful costumes. Its crafts such as those in bamboo and cane are ingeniously varied to meet modern needs - but remain rooted to its tradition.

Mizoram has 10 important dances that celebrate life in all its richness with a delightful joie de vivre that is so integral to the Mizo ethos. Amongst them are Cheraw, Chai Lam, Solakia, Sarlamkai, Khullam, Chawnglaizawn, Zangtalam and Tlanglam. Its most important festivals, inspired by its agricultural activities, are Chapchar Kut, Anthurium Festival and Thalfavang Kut. These are accompanied by a rich repertoire of singing and dancing amidst lavish feasts. Christmas and New Year are celebrated here with great vigour.

With its galaxy of festivals and dances, natural beauty and ancient traditions, Mizoram is a kaleidoscopic 'pleasure trove' for the discerning visitor.



*Celebrating
Anthurium Festival*

Recommended Tourist Circuits

Aizawl and excursions in the surrounding regions

ACCESS

Aizawl, the capital is easily accessible from Kolkata, Guwahati, Silchar and Imphal which are connected by air. Silchar is also the nearest railhead. Aizawl is connected by road via Silchar to Guwahati, Imphal, Kohima, Shillong and Agartala.

TEMPERATURE

In summer ranges from 18°C to 29°C and in winter, from 11°C to 24°C.

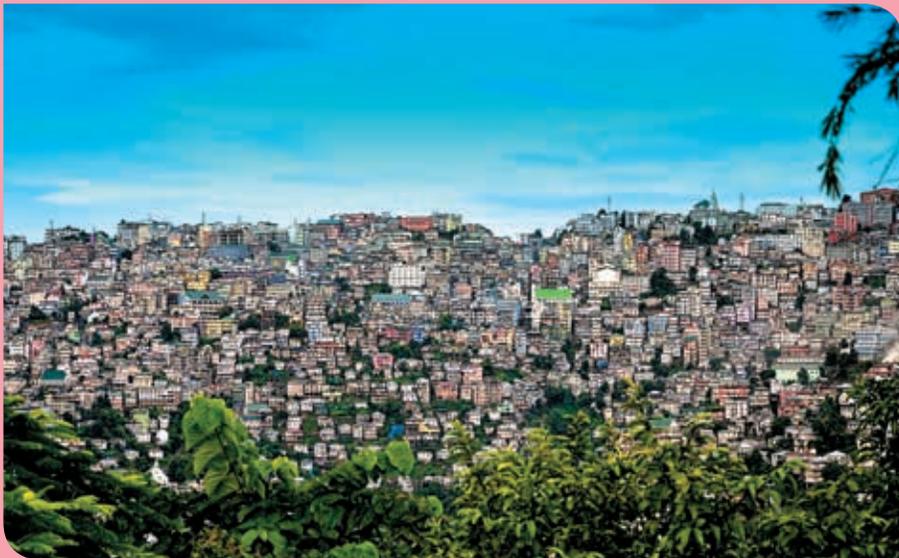
BEST TIME TO VISIT

October to March

Shawl Pattern



Aizawl



Panorama, Aizawl

Not many people are even aware that the Tropic of Cancer passes through Aizawl. It gives this first city of Mizoram, an exotic twist. Citadel-like it stands upon its lofty perch (4000 ft) on a ridge overlooking the lush Tlawng River valley. To its north lie the rugged hills of **Durtlang**, the gateway to Aizawl. An interesting **Zoological Garden** showcasing native wildlife, located on the way to Lengpui Airport, is worth a visit.

Do take out time to explore the **State Museum**, which stocks an interesting collection of costumes, artifacts and historical relics that are an important window to Mizo culture. Shop for traditional crafts and woven textiles such as *puan* with its intricate weave in many colours, at Bara Bazaar, the main market. It also stocks an inventive range of baskets and cane and bamboo items.

Tel: 0389-2340936

Timings: Weekdays 10:00 am – 4:30 pm; Sunday closed

Aizawl is also a great base to explore the enchanting offerings of the abode of the highlanders.



Reiek Peak

Reiek

Set at an elevation of 1584 m, Reiek mountain is a paradise of natural beauty. Lush verdure covers this mountain popular for its scenic views with trekkers and driving enthusiasts. The Tourist Resort Reiek is located at the foot of this picturesque site, about 30 km from Aizawl.

Hmuifang

The scenic village of Hmuifang, about 70 km from Aizawl, is perched atop the Hmuifang mountain (5445ft). Blessed with gorgeous vistas and unspoilt natural beauty, it is ideal for picnics, trekking adventures or a simple leisure holiday.

Hmuifang





Tamdil Lake

EXCURSIONS

Tamdil

Tamdil Lake (Tam Lake), a natural water body lies 85 km from Aizawl. Famed for its fish and prawns, Tamdil is a popular picnic place where you can go for a boat ride and even opt to take a drive into the nearby jungles, which are home to some wildlife. The resort village of **Saitual** is just 10 km away.

Vantawng

Close to **Thenzawl** hill station lie Mizoram's highest waterfall **Vantawng** (750 ft high), a 152 km drive from Aizawl. It is beautifully set amongst dense bamboo groves and tropical forests.



Vantawng falls



Champhai

Champhai

From the fertile plains of **Champhai**, 204 km from Aizawl, you'll get stunning views of the Myanmar hills.

Phawngpui

A trekker's paradise, Mizoram's highest peak (2157 m) **Phawngpui** is just 300 km, from Aizawl and close to the Myanmar border. Often referred to it as Blue Mountain, Phawngpui is richly endowed with medicinal herbs and its famous species of orchids and rhododendrons, are part of the state government's conservation programme. Entry strictly for eco-friendly trekkers.

Saiha

Saiha, on the Chintuipui River, which is rich in fish, is an angler's delight. It is 378 km from Aizawl. Just 45 km further away is the popular **Palakdil** (Lake Palak) famed for its varieties of wild duck, crabs and fish of massive proportions. The forests around the lake are home to tiger, bear, deer and wild pig.

All these are accessible by car, except Phawngpui, which requires a jeep or Sumo.

Pit faisa tlanlai



Wildlife

Dampa

Just 133 km from Aizawl, the **Dampa Wildlife Sanctuary** straddles the borders of Mizoram, Tripura and Bangladesh. Established in 1976, it is inhabited by tiger, bison, elephant, bear, and a vast number of avian species.

Fairs and Festivals



Khullam Festival

The traditional repertoire of festival and folk and community dances offer visitors a delightful insight into the tribal heritage of Mizo culture in all its richness and variety. Surprisingly, some of the most popular dances - the Cheraw (bamboo dance), Khuallam, Solakia and Chheih Lam were never created for stage - rather they evolved out a spontaneous community spirit and participation.

CHAPCHAR KUT

The festival is usually held on the first Friday of March. This is when visitors get to see the local people in their rich ceremonial costumes. The traditional dresses, the jewellery, the exotic headgears and weapons worn by the representatives of all tribes of Mizoram showcases the most colourful aspects of Mizo culture in their finest tradition. The most important dance on the programme is the famous Cheraw or Bamboo dance.



Chwnglaizawn Festival

ANTHURIUM FESTIVAL

The 3-day Anthurium Festival has become one of the most important and famous festivals of Mizoram. It is celebrated in the last week of September when harvesting of the cut flowers is at its peak. Celebrated at Reiek, this festival of flowers reflects the rich heritage of the Mizos and progress of present day Mizoram.

THALFANG KUT

The State celebrates the festival of Thalfang Kut every November. This festival is celebrated to mark the completion of the weeding of the land in preparation of the forthcoming harvest. This period of leisure and free time from agrarian duties is a much awaited time for celebration and relaxation.

The festival also showcases the cultural heritage and many traditional games of the Mizos. The festival offers the community a time to renew old bonds and celebrate together.

Cheraw Bamboo Dance



Handlooms and Handicrafts

Taking home a water-proof Mizo hat (*khumbeu*) made with bamboo and leaves, as a souvenir of Mizoram is a must. You'll find a good selection of traditional handloom shawls, bags and bamboo handicrafts in Bara Bazaar in Aizawl. If you are looking for variety and better quality crafts, the State Government Emporium is a good place to start your shopping spree. Some of the other markets you can explore are New Market, Ritz Market, Bazaar Bungkawn, Thakthing Bazaar, Burma Lane, Solomon Cave and Millenium Shopping Centre.



Handicraft

Local Handicraft



Weaving



Aizawl STD Code: 0389

Getting there

BY AIR

Lengpui Airport, 1 hr drive from Aizawl is well connected by Air to Kolkata, Guwahati and Imphal.

Air India-Daily Flight to Kolkata and Guwahati from Aizawl are available everyday.

Aizawl to Imphal is available on alternate days

Enquiries at Lengpui Airport

Air India: 0389-2573355

BY RAIL

Nearest railhead Nearest Railhead is Silchar in Assam which is about 6 hrs drive from Aizawl. Maxi Cabs are available from Zarkawt and Aizawl.

BY ROAD

NH 54 connects Aizawl to Silchar.

Accommodation

STATE GUEST HOUSE

Bawngkawn

Tel: 0389-2340132, 2349979

Fax: 2340132

HOTEL CHIEF

Zarkawt, Aizawl

Tel: 2346418, 2341097

HOTEL RITZ

Bara Bazar, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2326247, 2323587

Email: info@ritz aizawl.com

HOTEL AHIMSA

Zarkawt, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2341133, 2346920

HOTEL ORCHID

Dawrpui, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2316565

Rooms: 12 **Tariff:** ₹ 400 - ₹ 850

HOTEL CLOVER

Chanmari, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2305736

Email: hoteltclover@hotmail.com

HOTEL SEROW

Near State Guest House

Chaltlang lily veng, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2340874

TOURIST LODGES

Tourist Lodge, Chaltlang, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2341083, 2349421

Fax: 2346422

Rooms: 44 Single

Tariff: ₹ 400 - ₹ 1,000

Facilities: Double, suites and deluxe guest rooms

TOURIST COMPLEX

Berawtlang

Tel: 0389-2352067

TOURIST LODGES

Kolasib

Tel: 03837-220067

Champhai

Tel: 03831-235866

Lunglei

Tel: 0372-2342013

Saiha

Tel: 03835-222591

STATE MUSEUM

MC Donald Hill, Aizawl

Tel: 0389-2340936

Visiting Hours

10:00 AM-4:30 PM Closed on Sunday

ZOO

(Botanical Garden) , PTC Lungverh

Tel: 0389-2336679

Visiting Hours

10:00 AM-4:00 PM Closed on Monday

Information Offices

Directorate of Tourism

Government of Mizoram,

Bawngkawn, Aizawl - 796001

Tel: 0389-2333475, 2335677,
2333476, 2333473 • **Fax:** 2335465

Email: mizoram.tourism@gmail.com

Resident Commissioner

Government of Mizoram

Lt. Ribhu Saxena Marg

Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

Tel: 011-26153563, 26145405
26153561, 26153562, 26145401

Fax: 011-26153564

Liaison Officer

Government of Mizoram

24-Old Ballygunje Road

Kolkata-700019

Tel: 033-24615034, 24615887
23350917 • **Fax:** 033-24756430

Liaison Officer

Government of Mizoram

Christian Basti, G.S Road

Guwahati-781005

Tel: 0361-2529441, 2529626

Fax: 0361-2529448

Liaison Officer

Government of Mizoram

Sonai Road, Silchar-788006

Telefax: 3842-226166, 225655
225419

Tour Operators / Travel Agencies

Serow Tower

Tel: 0389-2301509, 0936150484

Omega Travel

Tel: 09612951288

Quality Tours & Travel

Tel: 09436153566

Three Dimension

Tel: 09089288794

Alpha Travels

Tel: 09436196016

ROAD DISTANCES FROM AIZAWL

Guwahati	-	506 km
Imphal	-	374 km
Kohima	-	479 km
Shillong	-	450 km
Agartala	-	443 km

Mizoram



Traveller's Companion