

### **Dzokou Valley, Nagaland:**

Following wildlife books and reading about those thrilling adventures won't suffice if one doesn't go to such places. It was the month of July '18 where my genes were jumping and the jump was enough to plan a trip to Nagaland, a place many would avoid but at the same time more than many would want to go to see the real nature. I booked my flights to Guwahati and called my friend Abdul who is based at Guwahati if he wants to accompany. Abdul is a guy who thinks about the company before places and it took him no time to accept the offer. All I had in my mind is Dzokou Valley, Dzokou Valley and Dzokou Valley. Dzokou Valley in Nagaland which harbours richest biodiversity with varieties of angiosperms, Pteridophytes, Mosses, and Lichens is the place that takes your breath away. We travelled to Kohima from Guwahati via Dimapur and reached Zakhama village from where the trek to valley starts. All you see around are dense forests, tall trees, water bodies a never ending way and few people coming down. We decided to take this challenge, ignited our muscles to collaborate, fueled our zeal to survive the fear of getting lost and smiled at each other with every step we walked and felt tiresome. Eight hours of trekking to the highest peak was making us restless and we felt that we are pretty much vulnerable to predators if spotted (we didn't spot any though). Everyone getting down while our way up was smiling, wishing us safe trek and making us feel how negative one thinks for North East (my love for the place and people augmented even more). Climbers may help you in climbing, hormonal rush in your body allows you to not to look back, people walking down cheer your exuberance to walk up and up. Reaching the rest house up on the hills after trekking for 8 hours will give you the feeling of not less than being in heaven. Hot as hell before you start and it rains cats and dogs once you are trekking, and finally the thunders you get the time you reach there finally are like all seasons to be felt on the same day. We shared almost every bit of our BTEch time while climbing, make sure you've many stories to mesmerize on your way up. Trek when your heart says yes, Dzokou valley will take your heart away.