

Hasan Mahmood Khokon, one of the Directors of Guide Tours, joined us at our table where we were snacking on tea and French fries. We came to know that this resort started its operations during the end of the year 2000. "We started off with one or two huts and a few simple meals and later on expanded on that," says Khokon. There are a lot of package programmes available and the guests select what they want out of their stay in Bandarban. We have a security check-post right by the entrance, continues Khokon. "One thing about visitors who are of foreign descent is that we have to inform the D.C. about their presence. The foreigners have to get clearance from their embassies and they are charged Tk 100 for processing their papers."

At present the resort can accommodate about 50 people but with increase in demand, the resort can build more cottages. The water that is available in the resort is spring water so, an added benefit is that while there is a water shortage around that area during the dry seasons, the resort always has water. Many people think that during the off seasons, Bandarban is not as pretty, says Diyan. "That is a misconception because during off seasons, the scene changes and one can witness a different sort of scenery." We also give a 20 % discount on accommodations during the off season (June to August), Khokon informs.

At night four fire performers from the group Agni Shikha performed some fire stunts for the guests. Though Milonchhori does not have their own entertainment systems, guests often bring along their guitars and strum tunes and sing. The ambience around the restaurant is very cozy, but one must be aware that it is in the middle of the jungle and so one has to be careful not to disturb the natural setting of the place.

By 11 p.m. we were in our cottages, ready for bed. It was then that I heard the sound of dogs barking. I came to know that Milonchhori has six trained German Sheppards in the compound. They are released from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. They have specially been trained to leave visitors (namely people who walk on the hand made routes) alone and they scare away any unwanted people who may be wandering elsewhere.

MODERN COTTAGES

Munia 1

This room is half of a cottage made of concrete, bamboo and wood. The walls are elegantly decorated with bamboo sticks such that one can get a natural feel of the surrounding, while availing modern amenities such as hot running water.

Single Occupancy - Tk. 1000/-
Double Occupancy - Tk. 1250/-
Triple Occupancy - Tk. 1500/-
Extra Bed - Tk. 250/-

Tuntuni 1, 2, Munia 2, Moyna 1, 2, 3 and 4

The rooms in these cottages are a combination of bamboo and wood. Each has its distinctive interior. Some of these cottages are lavishly furnished and even have air conditioning.

Single Occupancy - Tk. 750/-
Double Occupancy - Tk. 1000/-
Triple Occupancy - Tk. 1200/-
Full Cottage - Tk. 2200/- (Max. 6 Persons)
Extra Bed - Tk. 200/-

TRIBAL STYLE BAMBOO HUTS

Bawm 1

This is an independent bamboo hut made only out of bamboo. As this hut is a little further from the restaurant and the main entrance, it allows its resident a quiet and relaxing stroll to and from the compound.

Single Occupancy - Tk. 400/-
Double Occupancy - Tk. 700/-
Triple Occupancy - Tk. 850/-

Marma 1A and 1B

This too is a room made of bamboo and is part of a tribal house. Living in one of these will give the guests a taste of how the Marma people live.

Single Occupancy - Tk. 400/-
Double Occupancy - Tk. 600/-

There is also a Dormitory to accommodate drivers and maids at a very cheap cost.

