

Can I hike during the monsoon season?

“📄 **Quick Summary:** While the trail is technically accessible year-round, hiking during the heavy monsoons (May-June and September-December) is challenging due to rain, thick mist, and leeches.

? Detailed Guidance

If you plan to walk during wet weather, be prepared for the following:

- **Rapid Weather Changes:** Temperatures drop dramatically in the highlands during heavy rain. Visibility can decrease to near-zero within minutes due to heavy mist.
- **Leeches:** High dampness increases the presence of forest and tea estate leeches. They are harmless but require careful removal (slide a fingernail under their base to unstick them).

?? Critical Alerts & Requirements

- **Early Finishes:** High rainfall means it gets dark much faster. Plan to complete your stage by **2:00 PM** to avoid being stranded in the dark.
- **Essential Gear:** Carry heavy-duty wet weather gear, a backup power bank, a personal first-aid kit, and short gaiters to block leeches.

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