

Nali, Serona and Sulphur Springs By Gordon Waldock (*Ophrysia*)

Rating: Easy

Best time to go: Year round

Length: Varies

Distance: Varies

Description:

Nali is a pleasant and easily accessible spot (24 km) that is set in a pine forest. At Nali there is a Dak bungalow and a Forest Rest House. If the pipe from the spring is hooked up, there is plenty of water. Otherwise it is obtained from the *chowkidar* or from the spring, which is two furlongs away.

To get there, you have to go to Suakholi on the road to Tehri. About 2 1/2 km after Suakholi there is another little village, Jhalki, made up of old and ruined houses. Shortly after Jhalki and after the 26/5 furlong post, there is a path which goes down the left side of a ridge jutting out from the corner. This road goes down to a stream and then up to a ridge on the other side. If another road is desired, then just keep on the Tehri road until the next large corner after the first turn off and then take the old, somewhat washed-out, road that goes down the ridge to meet the other path.

In order to get to Nali from there, you take the left road that goes down the side of the ridge. This part of the trip is rather dry and uninteresting and after about two miles you will come to another fork. They both go to Nali but the left one is short and drab whereas the right path is mainly a forest of pine with some oak and rhododendron. After another few kilometres the road joins and then you must take the path going to the right, because the path to the left goes down into the valley. From this point you will be in an oak and rhododendron forest which tapers into pine forest. This is a longer stretch than the other path but it is fairly level and more beautiful. In this last stretch there is an abundance of wildlife, mostly birds with some other small animals running about. After walking along this path for a few kilometres you will find yourself at Nali.

5 km beyond Nali there is a village called Serona. It is a clean and well spread out village that is nice to visit. To get there just follow the Nali path which soon becomes quite dry and barren again. When you have gone down for quite a ways and the road almost meets the ridge, just climb over the top to the other side and you will be at Serona.

From Serona the road continues to wind down another 9 km to the Sulphur Springs, which is another tourist attraction. From there the road goes down another 9 km to the motor able road, which in turn leads to Rajpur.