



Banjara Camps & Retreats

Drives of Lifetime : Srinagar-Ladakh-Manali | 10 Nights & 11 Days



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Day 1 | Arrive Srinagar Alt 1585 M

Reach Srinagar and get transferred to your pre-booked hotel relax and take a short walk around the area. Also, enjoy **Shikara ride in Nigeen Lake**. Stay overnight at hotel.



Day 2 | Srinagar-Kargil Alt 2676M | 202kms 6-7hrs

Post breakfast, drive on to Kargil via Sonamarg. You could stop here for a while to explore the area. Enroute have lunch on your own. Later resume the drive and move into starkly contrasting mountain desert terrain as you cross the formidable Zoji La (3529 M) and reach Drass where you may stop to have lunch & see some landscape features made famous courtesy the Kargil conflict with Pakistan in 1999- Tolo- ling, Mushkoo Valley & Tiger Hill. Carry on and reach Kargil by late afternoon/evening. Check into rooms at the hotel. Evening free to relax.





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Day 3 | Kargil – Lamayuru – Leh | 3505 M | 210 km (6-7hrs)

Leave after breakfast on a drive over Fotu La (4107 M) & Namika La (3780 M) to reach the moon-scapes of Lamayuru. Walk up to the ancient gompa and have your lunch at a quaint cafeteria next to the gompa. After lunch get driven to Leh. On the way visit **Nimmu – confluence point of Indus & Zaskar River, Patthar Sahib Gurudwara , Magnetic point and Hall of Fame**. Reach Leh and check into your hotel and stay overnight. Reach Leh and check into your pre-booked hotel. Stay overnight at the hotel.



Day 4 | Leh Sightseeing

Post breakfast at hotel enjoy sightseeing of Leh including **Thiksey and Shey Monastery**. Drive to **Stok Village** and enjoy a **traditional Ladakhi meal** in a village home, later see **Stok Palace & Museum**. Spend **sunset at Shanti Stupa** for unforgettable views of Leh Valley & town. Stay overnight at the hotel.





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Day 5 | Leh– Nubra Valley 3048 M Deskit | 116kms (5hrs)

Have breakfast and leave by 0800- 0830 hrs on a stunning drive over the mighty **Khardung La (5602 M)** into the verdant **Nubra Valley**. Reach the base of the valley at Khalsar. Here the road forks & the broad valley get divided into two distinct parts by the Shyok & Nubra Rivers. The RHS branch goes all the way to **Siachen Glacier**. We move on the other branch and reach **Deskit Village** in the afternoon. Check into your hotel rooms and have hot lunch. Relax for a while and early evening we drive about 10 minutes to reach the dunes of Hunder, here those interested can enjoy a ride on the **Double Humped Camels**. Be back in Deskit by 1630 hrs and reach the vantage point with a huge outdoor statue of the **Sakhyamuni Buddha** near **Deskit Gompa** to enjoy great sunset views. Stay overnight in the hotel.



Day 6 | Deskit– Leh

Leave after a leisurely breakfast, and drive back via Khalsar & over Khardung La to reach Leh in the afternoon. On arrival check into the hotel and later have a sumptuous hot meal. Reach Leh by late afternoon. Rest a while and leave for the bazaar to shop for Thangkhas, Chunky antique Silver Jewelry with Turquoise embellishments, mementos, Apricots & apricot based beauty products. Stay overnight at hotel.





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Day 7 | Leh-Pangong Tso (4260 M / 14000 ft) | 150kms / 5 hrs each way

Leave after a leisurely breakfast get driven to Pangong. At the foot of the **Chang La pass** on the other side we reach **Tangse**. Stop to enjoy your **lunch in the Ladakhi style dining** area of a local home-cum- guest house. Later carry on your drive and reach Pangong by early evening. Check into a Deluxe Tents bang on the lake shore at a campsite. Enjoy spectacular views of the mountains of the Changchenmo range to the north, their reflection shimmering in the ever changing blues and greens of the lakes brackish water. Stay overnight at the tent.



Day 8 | Pangong Tso- Hemis- Leh 165kms 5-6hrs

Enjoy your early morning cuppa & a spectacular sunrise by the lake shore. On the drive back to Leh, take a detour at Karu to see the glorious **Hemis Gompa** atop a hill in the periphery of the Hemis National Park. Reach Leh by late afternoon. Rest for a while and leave for the bazaar to shop for **Thangkas, Chunky antique Silver Jewelry with Turquoise embellishments, mementos, Apricots & apricot based beauty products**. Spend **sunset at Shanti Stupa** for unforgettable views of Leh Valley & town Return back to your hotel for the overnight stay.





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Day 9 | Leh-Sarchu Alt 4290 M | 260 km (8-9hrs)

Post breakfast drive to Serchu. Drive through some amazingly stark terrain to reach the second highest motorable pass; Tanglang La. Carry on & reach Serchu in the evening. Check into tents on arrival. Photo ops: a series of 21 switchbacks called the Gata Loops just after the Sarchu Police Post; the moonscapes after Pang; at Tanglang La.

Day 10 | Sarchu –Manali Alt 2050 M | 225kms (8hrs)

After an early breakfast get driven to Manali by 0730 hrs (to avoid traffic jams at Rohtang) drive across **Rohtang La** and see the landscape changes drastically from barren landscapes of Ladakh and Lahaul to lush greenery of Manali. Reach Manali in the afternoon. Check into your pre-booked accommodation. Stay over night.

Day 11 | Depart Manali

Have breakfast and get transfer to Manali bus stop for Volvo Bus or transfer to Bhuntar or Chandigarh. Tour ends with lots of ever lasting memories of Leh & Ladakh.





About Nubra Valley

In the days of yore, the fertile **Valley of Nubra** formed a part of the overland route between **Tibet** and **Turkestan**. Once dotted with garlands of camel and yak caravans, this **Silk Route** glen is also known as the '**Valley of Flowers**' of Ladakh, and is amongst the greenest valleys in the region – ideal for your holiday break. One can understand why anyone would envy the flowering glen of Nubra valley. During early summer, Nubra is clad in endless bushes of yellow and pink wild roses, and once the valley is through with the season of roses around August, a carpet of wild lavender lies gently on it. Nubra is also a relatively warmer valley in Ladakh, and the comparatively benign climate helps yield better crops and fruits, making Nubra the 'Ldumra', or orchard of Ladakh. The romance of the Silk Route still hangs in the air as you cross the formidable **Khardung La** – The **highest 'motorable' pass** on the planet- which connects Leh and the Nubra Valley. The road from Leh rises steeply to meet Khardung La and then dramatically plunges into a whirlpool of bends and turns to gradually unfold itself along the rushing Shyok and the Nubra Rivers. Visit the Deskit and **Hunder villages**. The road connecting **Deskit** with the quaint little Hunder Village winds through a gorgeous stretch of **sand dunes**. You could spend a pleasant evening around these natural marvels that border a stream, and have snow-capped peaks for a backdrop. Keep your eyes open for the **double-humped camels** and Seabuck-thorn forest! The more adventurous ones could take a camel ride from Hunder to Deskit. We recommend on way to Nubra and in Nubra valley:

- * **Enjoy a hot cup of tea at army check post just after Khardung La.**
- * **Enjoy a Bactrian camel ride at Hunder (no fear of falling as these are two humped camels!).**

Please note : Prepaid number doesn't work in Leh & Ladakh. Also, not all postpaid numbers work in the region, as only BSNL postpaid number works in the Nubra valley (Deskit-Hunder-Turtuk). However, in Turtuk and Pangong , one will have to get to certain place in order to get the network.

◆ Also, Nubra Valley and Pangong gets limited electricity due to its complex location (at times hot water buckets is provided for shower)



Important Note:

Food & Hygiene:

◆ Food is a mix range of vegetarian/ non- vegetarian with a choice of Indian, Continental & Chinese food. All meals are buffet meals. There is no room service at most places.

Fitness:

◆ You should be in good health if you wish to hike. Please take your doctor's advise if you are a heart patient, asthmatic, pregnant or suffer from epilepsy.

Altitude Sickness:

◆ Acclimatization to altitude above 3000 meters takes time. The body undergoes a number of physiological changes some of which are immediate like increased pulse rate & respiratory rate. These changes plus the effect of intense sunlight, walking & dehydration may cause loss of appetite, fatigue, headache, nausea, dizziness, sleeplessness, mild shortness of breath etc.

◆ The best treatment is prevention! Avoid rapid ascents; take acclimatization symptoms seriously using rest days/Diamox tablets. If symptoms are severe, DESCEND IMMEDIATELY.

Medicine:

◆ We keep a first aid kit. Please bring your personal medicine.

Tipping:

◆ Tipping amount is at your discretion.

Photography:

.. Please ask your guide before taking photographs inside any monastery. If you plan to photograph locals, please take their permission before doing so.