

EXPLORE, LEH & KASHMIR

11 NIGHTS / 12 DAYS



★ Anglo IndiGo Travels (P) Limited ★

DELHI – LEH – SHEY – HEMIS – THIKSEY – LEH – NUBRA – KARGIL – SONAMARG – SRINAGAR – PAHALGAM – GULMARG – SRINAGAR – DEPART

TOUR PROGRAMME:

Day 01 ARRIVE DELHI

Arrive at Delhi International airport. Upon arrival, you will be met by your car with chauffeur for the short transfer to your hotel for night stay. Rest of the day free. Night in Delhi

Day 02: Fly to Leh (via Flight) (11562 i.e. 3524 mts)

After breakfast, in time fly to Leh. On arrival you will be met our representative and drive towards the hotel. Welcome drink on arrival. We recommend you completely relax for the rest of the day to enable yourselves to acclimatize to the rarefied air at the high altitude. Dinner and night stay at Hotel in Leh.

Day 03: Leh to Shey/Hemis/ Thiksey – Leh (70 Km. (3-4 hours Approx.))

After breakfast visit Shey, Hemis, & Thiksey Monastery. **Hemis** – which is dedicated to Padmasambhava, what a visitor can observe a series of scenes in which the lamas, robed in gowns of rich, brightly colored brocade and sporting masks sometimes bizarrely hideous, parade in solemn dance and mime around the huge flag pole in the center of the courtyard to the plaintive melody of the Shawa. **Thiksey** – is one of the largest and most impressive Gompas. There are several temples in this Gompa containing images, stupas and exquisite wall paintings. It also houses a two - storied statue of Buddha which has the main prayer hall around its shoulder. **Shey** – it was the ancient capital of Ladakh and even after Singe Namgyal built the more imposing palace at Leh, the kings continued to regard Shey, as their real home. The importance which was attached to Shey - the seat of Ladakh's heartland - is attested by the enormous number of Chorten about the village, particularly around the palace complex and barren plain to the north of the road. Dinner and Night stay at Hotel in Leh.

Day 04: Leh – Nubra (via Khardung la Pass) (160 Km. (05 Hours' Drive))

Morning drive for Nubra Valley by surface passing thru Horzey & Gangles Village. The road then rises to reach **Khardungla** (5602 Mts.) the world's highest Motorable road. Enjoy the landscape & the beautiful bird's eye view of the Leh town. Another 35 Kms drive takes to Khalsar at Shyok Valley, where the scenery is all around. The road after crossing Khalsar Bridge at Shyok River enters to the Nubra Valley & then proceeds along with the Nubra River also you can stop at **Sumur** to visit **Samastaling Monastery**. Dinner and Overnight at Camp in Nubra.

Day 05: Nubra – Leh (via Khardung la Pass) (160 Km. (05 Hours' Drive))

After breakfast return Leh on the same route you came in Nubra. Dinner and night stay in Hotel at Leh.



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Day 06: Leh to Kargil. (234 Kms (7 Hrs drive Approx.)

After breakfast Drive for Kargil enroute visiting the **Alchi Monastery**, it was founded in the 11th century by RinchenZangpo the Great Translator; it was richly decorated by artist from Kashmir and Tibet. Paintings of the Mandala's which have deep Tantric significances are particularly fine; some decorations are reminiscent of Byzantine art. The monastery is maintained by monks from Likir and is no longer a place for active worship. En route visit **Basgo Monastery**, is a Buddhist monastery located in Basgo in Leh District approximately 40 km from Leh. Although the monastery was built for the Namgyal rulers in 1680, Basgo itself was embedded in the early days of Ladakh and is frequently mentioned in the Ladakhi Chronicles when it was a political and cultural center. In the 15th century, a palace was built in Basgo. The monastery is situated on top of the hill towering over the ruins of the ancient town and is noted for its Buddha statue and murals. The complex comprises the Chamchung, ChambaLakhang, and Serzang temples, dedicated to the Maitreya Buddha **Lamayuru**, the 11th century Lamayuru Monastery, one of the earliest seats of lamaistic learning and most picturesque monastery in Ladakh. The Lamayuru "Yungdrung" Gompa is remarkably built on a rock, around 125kms. The history of the monastery begins with the visit of Arahat Nimagung to this place, when there was merely a lake here. It is said that Arahat made a prophecy that "a monastery will come up at this spot" and he made offerings (prayer with grains of corn) to the Nag serpent spirits. The corns mixed with the earth and formed in the shape of Swastika (Yungdrung), later it came to be known as Yungdrung Monastery. If you wish you can visit Monastery of **Mulbekh**, famous for 1st century Statue of Maitrya Buddha, carved out of a huge rock. Overnight stay at Hotel in Kargil.

Day 07: Kargil– Sonamarg- Srinagar (205 Km. (7 Hours' Drive)

After Breakfast drive to Srinagar enroute Stop at Drass, the 2nd coldest inhabitant place in the World for & enjoy cup of tea and then proceed and passing over Zojila Pass Zojila is 9 km (5.6 mi) from Sonamarg and provides a vital link between Ladakh and Kashmir Valley. It runs at an elevation of approximately 3,528 meters (11,575 ft), and is the second highest pass after FotuLa on the Srinagar-Leh National Highway. Sonamarg (2740 mts) also known as 'The Meadow of Gold' or "The Gateway of Ladakh' Sonamarg is 84 Kms from Srinagar and is surrounded by colorful mountains and thick Pine forests. Slopes and meadows are sparkled with the loveliest of alpine flowers, while the rich forests of fir, sycamore and birch at their lush green beauty to the scene. Sonamarg is an excellent takeoff point for treks into the mountains and is an ideal camping ground where glaciers pour down from the Himalayas. Sonamarg is also the entry point for the famous Amarnath Cave, a holy site for Hindus via Baltal Valley. Later drive to Srinagar. Overnight stay at Hotel in Srinagar.

Day 08 Srinagar - Local Sightseeing (50 Km. (Including Sightseeing)

After Breakfast visit Jamia Masjid. **Jamia Masjid** is a mosque in old Srinagar. The Jamia Masjid of Srinagar is situated at Nowhatta, in the middle of the old city. It was built by Sultan Sikandar Shah Kashmiri in 1394 AD Under the order of Mir Mohammad Hamdani son of Sayyid-ul-Auliyasayyid Ali Hamadani. later, enjoy to famous **Mughal Garden, Nishat Garden** known as 'Garden of pleasure' built in 16th century (1633) by Mughal King Asif Khan. Nishat Bagh is a terraced Mughal garden built on the eastern side of the Dal Lake, it is the second largest Mughal garden in the Kashmir Valley. The largest in size is the Shalimar Bagh, which is also located on the bank of the Dal Lake. 'Nishat Bagh' is Urdu, which means "Garden of Joy," "Garden of Gladness" and "Garden of Delight. Then visit to **Shalimar Garden** known as 'Garden of love' built in 16th century (1619) by Mughal King Jahangir for his beloved wife Noor Jahan or (Mehr-un-Nissa). The garden is considered the high point of Mughal horticulture. It is now a public park. Overnight stay at Hotel in Srinagar.



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Day 09: Srinagar – Pahalgam – Srinagar (92 Km. (3 Hours' Drive) (One Way)

After breakfast full day excursion to Pahalgam. Pahalgam (2133 mts) also known as 'The valley of Shepherds or Trekker's Paradise. Pahalgam is the most famous place for Indian Film Industry. On the way visit, Saffron fields One of the most beautiful places on earth, and local Dry fruit shops, the town of Pahalgam offers breath-taking views. One can just enjoy the town of Pahalgam trek to some of the most beautiful places on earth. One can visit Aru, Betaab valley, Chandanwari **(By Local Taxies) OR. Visit Pahalgam Valley, Kanimarg, Dabyvan, Baisaran. (On Ponies) On Direct payment basis.** Pahalgam is also the entry point for the famous Amarnath Cave, a holy site for Hindus. Overnight stay at Hotel in Srinagar.

Day 10: Srinagar – Gulmarg (56 Km. (2 Hours' Drive)

After breakfast drive from Srinagar to Gulmarg 2652 mts) known as 'Meadow of flowers Discovered by the Kashmiri romantic poet in the 16th century who was inspired with its grassy slopes covered with wildflowers. It is one of the India's premier Hill resorts. Gulmarg today is not merely a mountain resort of exceptional beauty – It also turns into India's premier Ski resort in winter. The Gondola Cable Car offers rides to the upland meadows of Kongdori and beyond to the top of Agharwat range to a height of 14000 ft for viewing the Himalayan Peaks in summer and for downhill skiing in winter. After reaching at Gulmarg Rest day free for leisure or else can go out for a walk or Hire Pony/ At cars/ Cable Car Ride I & II Phase etc. **(Direct cost basis)** Overnight stay at Hotel in Gulmarg.

Day 11: In Gulmarg

After breakfast free day at leisure at Gulmarg or Explore the natural surroundings in Gulmarg on your own. Overnight stay at Hotel in Gulmarg.

Day 12: Gulmarg – Srinagar Departure (65 Km. (2 hrs Drive)

After breakfast transfer to Srinagar to airport to catch the flight for your onward journey...

End of Service

Note:

1. This tour can be modified as per your requirements.
2. If you wish you can include Agra / Jaipur or both as per number of days available.
3. The routing is subject to change due to climatic condition or any other forced situations.
4. **YOU MUST CARRY OVERSEAS TRAVEL & MEDICAL INSURANCE WHICH COVERS ALL YOUR MEDICAL EXPENSES, ESPECIALLY THE EMERGENCY RESCUE.**