## LADAKH & SRINAGAR

Ladakh is a region located in the northernmost part of India, bordered by the Himalayas to the south and the Karakoram Range to the north. It is a high-altitude desert region, with an average elevation of over 11,000 feet (3,353 meters) above sea level.

Ladakh is known for its stunning natural beauty, with its rugged mountain landscapes, clear blue skies, and crystal-clear lakes. The region is also rich in cultural heritage, with a history that dates back thousands of years.

The people of Ladakh are primarily of Tibetan descent, and they have a unique culture that is closely tied to their religion, which is a form of Tibetan Buddhism. The region is home to many ancient monasteries, which are an important part of the local culture and attract visitors from all over the world.

The climate in Ladakh is harsh, with cold temperatures and low precipitation. The winter months can be particularly challenging, with temperatures dropping well below freezing and many roads and passes becoming impassable due to snow and ice.

Despite its remote location and challenging climate, Ladakh has become a popular destination for adventure travelers, who come to trek, climb, and explore the region's rugged terrain. The area is also known for its unique wildlife, including snow leopards, ibex, and Tibetan wild asses.

## OVERVIEW

Difficulty Level:	Moderate
Best season:	May to September (October to April too Cold)
Region:	North India
Total distance:	Approx 3000 kms by road and by road and air
Temperature:	10 degrees to 20 degrees
Altitude:	3350 meters

LADAKH & SRINAGAR AIR & ROAD TRIP

SHORT ITINERARY 11N / 12D (AIR AND ROAD JOURNEY)

Day 1: Pick up from Delhi Airport. Overnight stay at hotel. Day 2: From Delhi to Leh by Air (1000 kms 1.5 hrs flight). Overnight stay at hotel in Leh. Day 3: Sightseeing in Leh. Overnight stay at hotel Day 4: From Leh to Nubra Valley (160 kms 5 hrs drive). Sightseeing and overnight stay at hotel. Day 5: From Nubra Valley to Leh (160 kms 5 hrs drive). Overnight stay at hotel. Day 6: From Leh to Pangong Lake (225 kms 6 hrs drive). Overnight stay in hotel Day 7: From Pangong Lake to Leh (225 kms 6 hrs drive). Overnight stay at Hotel Day 8: From Leh to Srinagar by Air (425 kms 45 mins flight). Sightseeing in Srinagar. Overnight stay at hotel

Day 9: Sightseeing in Srinagar. Overnight stay at houseboat.

Day 10: Sightseeing in Srinagar. Overnight stay at houseboat.

Day 11: From Srinagar to Delhi by Air (750 kms 1.25 hrs flight). Overnight stay at Hotel.

Day 12: Flight from Delhi for onward journey.

LADAKH ROAD TRIP VIA MANALI & SRINAGAR

SHORT ITINERARY 16N / 17D (ROAD JOURNEY)

Day 1: Pick up from Delhi Airport. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 2: From Delhi to Manali by road (600 kms 12 hrs). Overnight stay at hotel in Manali.

Day 3: Sightseeing in Manali. Overnight stay at Manali.

Day 4: From Manali to Jispa (100 Km 2.5 hrs drive). Overnight stay at hotel

Day 5: From Jispa to Sarchu via Baralacha Pass and Suraj Tal lake (83 kms 4 hrs). Overnight stay at Sarchu

Day 6: From Sarchu to Leh (260 kms 8 hrs drive). Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 7: Sightseeing in Leh. Overnight stay at hotel

Day 8: From Leh to Nubra Valley (160 kms 5 hrs drive). Sightseeing and overnight stay at hotel.

Day 9: From Nubra Valley to Leh (160 kms 5 hrs drive). Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 10: From Leh to Pangong Lake (225 kms 6 hrs drive). Overnight stay in hotel

Day 11: From Pangong Lake to Leh (225 kms 6 hrs drive). Overnight stay at Hotel

Day 12: From Leh to Kargil (220 kms 5 hrs drive) Sightseeing in Kargil.

Day 13: From Kargil to Srinagar (200 kms 5 hrs drive) Sightseeing in Srinagar.

Day 14: Sightseeing in Srinagar. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 15: From Srinagar to Jammu (250 kms 7 hrs). Sightseeing and Overnight stay at Hotel.

Day 16: From Jammu to Delhi (600 kms 10.5 hrs). Overnight stay at Hotel. Day 17: Flight from Delhi for onward journey.

## DETAILED ITERINARY

**MANALI,** is a popular hill station located in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh. It is situated at an altitude of approximately 2,050 meters (6,726 feet) above sea level, in the Beas River Valley.

Manali is surrounded by towering mountains and is famous for its stunning natural beauty, lush green forests, and picturesque landscapes. The town is a popular tourist destination and attracts visitors from all over the world, especially during the summer months when the weather is pleasant and cool.

Manali offers a wide range of activities for visitors to enjoy, including trekking, mountaineering, skiing, paragliding, and river rafting. The town is also known for its ancient temples, such as the Hidimba Devi Temple and the Manu Temple, which are important pilgrimage sites for Hindus.

Overall, Manali is a must-visit destination for anyone looking to experience the natural beauty and adventure of the Himalayas.



**JISPA** is a small village located in the Lahaul and Spiti district of the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh. It is situated on the banks of the Bhaga River, a tributary of the Chenab River, at an altitude of around 3,200 meters above sea level.

Jispa is a popular destination among adventure enthusiasts and nature lovers. The village is surrounded by scenic beauty and offers a great view of the snow-capped Himalayan mountains. There are several trekking routes around Jispa, including the popular trek to the nearby Baralacha La pass.

The village also serves as a base for several high altitude treks and expeditions in the region, including the famous Zanskar River Trek and the trek to the Shingo La pass. The nearby Bhaga River is also popular for white water rafting and kayaking.

Jispa has a few accommodations, including guest houses and camping sites, and a few restaurants that serve traditional Indian food. The best time to visit Jispa is during the summer months from May to September when the weather is pleasant and the trekking routes are open.



**SARCHU**, is a high-altitude plateau located on the border between the Indian states of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. It is situated at an altitude of around 4,290 meters (14,070 feet) above sea level and is an important stopover for travelers who are journeying between the towns of Manali and Leh.

Sarchu is known for its stunning natural beauty, with snow-capped mountains, deep valleys, and vast expanses of arid desert landscape. The region is also home to several high-altitude lakes, including the Tso Kar Lake and the Tso Moriri Lake.

Due to its high altitude and remote location, Sarchu can experience extreme weather conditions, with temperatures dropping well below freezing in the winter months. As a result, the region is only accessible to travelers during the summer months, typically between June and September.

Sarchu is a popular destination for adventure seekers and nature lovers, offering opportunities for trekking, camping, and wildlife spotting. However, visitors should be aware of the risks associated with traveling at high altitude and should take necessary precautions to avoid altitude sickness.



**LADAKH**, is a region located in the northernmost part of India, bordered by the Himalayas to the south and the Karakoram Range to the north. It is a high-altitude desert region, with an average elevation of over 11,000 feet (3,353 meters) above sea level.

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**NUBRA VALLEY,** is a high-altitude cold desert located in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir, India. It is situated at an average elevation of 10,000 feet (3048 meters) above sea level and is characterized by its stark landscape, barren hills, and sand dunes. The valley is formed by the confluence of the Shyok and Nubra rivers and is surrounded by snow-capped mountains.

Nubra Valley is known for its unique culture and hospitality of the local people, who are predominantly of Tibetan origin. The region is also famous for its ancient monasteries, including the Diskit Monastery, which houses a 32-meter-high statue of Maitreya Buddha, and the Samstanling Monastery, known for its beautiful frescoes and wall paintings.

One of the main attractions of Nubra Valley is the Bactrian camel rides on the sand dunes of Hunder. These camels have two humps and are native to Central Asia. The valley is also popular among adventure enthusiasts for trekking, camping, and mountain biking.

Due to its high altitude and extreme weather conditions, Nubra Valley is accessible only during the summer months (from May to September). The nearest airport is in Leh, which is about 150 km away. The valley can be reached via the Khardung La Pass, which is one of the highest motorable roads in the world



**PANGONG LAKE,** is a large, high-altitude lake located in the Himalayas, situated at an elevation of about 4,350 meters (14,270 feet) above sea level. It is located on the border between India and China, with two-thirds of the lake lying in Chinese-controlled territory and one-third in Indian-controlled territory.

The lake is approximately 134 kilometers (83 miles) long and extends from India to China. It is known for its crystal-clear blue waters and spectacular scenic beauty, with the surrounding snow-capped mountains and barren landscape creating a stunning contrast.

Pangong Lake is also significant for its strategic and geopolitical importance, as it lies along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China. The lake has been a

point of contention between the two countries, with several border disputes and military confrontations taking place in the region over the years.

Despite its high altitude and extreme weather conditions, Pangong Lake is a popular tourist destination, attracting visitors from all over the world who come to marvel at its natural beauty and explore the surrounding areas



**<u>KARGIL</u>**, is a town in the Kargil district of the Indian union territory of Ladakh. It is situated along the banks of the Suru River and is located approximately 205 km from Srinagar, the capital city of Jammu and Kashmir.

Kargil came to international attention in 1999 when the Indian Army fought against Pakistani troops in the Kargil War, which lasted from May to July of that year. The conflict arose when Pakistani soldiers and militants infiltrated into the Indianadministered territory of Kargil, with the aim of cutting off the vital Srinagar-Leh highway.

The Indian Army launched a major operation to evict the infiltrators from the highaltitude positions they had occupied. The conflict resulted in the loss of many lives on both sides, with the Indian Army eventually prevailing and successfully pushing back the Pakistani troops.

Today, Kargil is a bustling town with a significant population of Shia Muslims. It serves as a base for trekking expeditions to the nearby peaks, and also has several historical and cultural sites of interest, such as the Kargil War Memorial and the ancient rock carvings at Mulbekh Monastery



**SRINAGAR**, is the largest city and the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, a region in the northern part of India. It is situated in the Kashmir Valley, on the banks of the Jhelum River, and is surrounded by the Himalayas.

Srinagar is famous for its beautiful gardens, serene lakes, and stunning landscapes. The city is also known for its rich cultural heritage and history, with a mix of Hindu, Buddhist, and Islamic influences.

Some of the major attractions in Srinagar include the Dal Lake, Mughal Gardens (Nishat Bagh, Shalimar Bagh, and Chashme Shahi), Hazratbal Shrine, Shankaracharya Temple, Pari Mahal, and the Jama Masjid. The city is also a popular destination for adventure sports, such as trekking, skiing, and paragliding.

The local economy of Srinagar is primarily driven by tourism, handicrafts, and agriculture. The city is famous for its production of Pashmina shawls, carpets, and other handicrafts



JAMMU, is a city located in the northernmost part of India, in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. It is the largest city in the Jammu region and is also the winter capital of the state. Jammu is situated on the banks of the Tawi River, and it is surrounded by the Himalayas.

Jammu is known for its beautiful temples, including the famous Vaishno Devi Temple, which is a popular pilgrimage site for Hindus. The city also has several historic forts, palaces, and museums that attract tourists from all over the world

