# **Discover Ladakh**

9 Days/8 Nights | May to September







Ladakh. Perched at 10,000 feet and above over sea level, this land guarantees the most unique travel experience you will ever have.

Whether it is the rawness of nature that you brush against... or the depth of browns, blues and whites that you reflect upon... or the sheer magnificence of the Himalayas that reveals your real stature in this universe... you will definitely leave Ladakh with a different perspective on life. Welcome to it!

#### DAY1-Leh

You will land at Leh airport and it is strongly recommended to do nothing on your first day at 11,500 feet. Your body needs to acclimatize with the altitude and rarified air, and any exertion (even walking) on your part can have dangerous repercussions. You will be checked into a hotel with a terrace that presents Leh's most scenic 360-degree panoramic view and that's just the place to huddle up with your family and friends, enjoy board games and relish nice hot chocolate! In the evening we shall present a special Ladakhi cultural festival in your midst followed by a special Ladakhi dinner (only for groups of 20 members and above).

## DAY2-Leh

Today is for local sightseeing. Your hotel, being walking distance from the main bazaar, will allow you a headstart at window shopping, leisurely strolling (no vehicles on the main bazaar street), and getting familiar with the rich garments and handicrafts of the region. By noon we shall head out to see the Leh Palace, a 17<sup>th</sup> century rock and mud structure which housed the powerful Namgyal dynasty. After lunch we'll visit the Shey Palace of the 14<sup>th</sup> century and the Thiksay monastery, which was established at the same time but carries special energy to this day.

## DAY3-Leh

You cannot drive 5 minutes around Ladakh without running into a Buddhist stupa. We will introduce their concept to you with a visit to the largest one, Shanti Stupa and follow it with a beautiful drive to Hemis, the abode of a national reserve and a grand monastery and museum. The evening is free to explore the shops and perhaps pick up apricots & dry fruits for the oncoming drives!



#### DAY4-Leh-Nubra (Hunder)

Can you imagine driving up the world's highest motorable mountain pass? At 18,300 feet, that is the Khardongla pass for you. And when you descend on the other side, you will be in a cold desert. Without a sound. Without a bird. Simply towering mountains, white sand and You. Of course, there will be double humped camels (!) And we will organize a ride on their back and allow you to explore around Hunder, a beautiful stream-side mountain town where we'll spend 2 nights.

#### DAY5-Hunder-Turtuk-Hunder

Having come all this way up north, how about we check out the last village on the Indian border? That's Turtuk. Part of PoK before 1971, Turtuk and a few villages near it form the current limit of the LoC on the Indian side. This bubbly little hamlet is home to 500 families, a scenic gompa, a cute restaurant, a famous blacksmith, an erstwhile-palace museum, and lots more. If you are keen to climb a bit, a mere 2 kilometre walk will take you to a point from where you can see the world's 2<sup>nd</sup> highest peak, K2.





#### *DAY6* – *Nubra-Pangdong-T'gang* From the western neighbour to the Eastern side, today we drive

right across to the Pangdong lake which is 35% in India and 65% in China. The road to get there is exciting, to say the least. There are places where there is no road at all! And when you pass by yellow mountains that shine like gold, see sheep that look like angels, and finally meet water that looks like a 7shaded blue rainbow, you create the most unforgettable day of your life. The movie 3 Idiots was shot here and we lunch at the Rancho Café (!)

# DAY7-T'gang-Alchi-Likir-T'gang

T'gang, or Tingmosgang, is a sleepy little camping town on the road to Srinagar. It has the most beautiful place to stay – in tents or in the hotel – nestled amidst ancient monasteries and temples that we would visit... and have typical Ladakhi meals too!

# DAY8 – T'gang-Lamayuru-T'gang

This would be another never-before experience. Lamayuru is a moon surface. The land is like gigantic anthills. Enough said (!) Experience it!

# DAY9 – T'gang-Airport

Flights take off before 11 am due to the rarified air. And we end a trip to remember forever!





#### The service includes:

Transportation in an Innova with 4-5 people. Price/person will increase with less than 4 people
Informed chauffer as an Escort
4-star or equivalent hotels on twin-sharing basis . Fares will increase with single occupancy
All breakfasts, dinners and 2 special lunches (Days 1 and 7)
Services to obtain inner line permits for all locations
Hotel / Restaurant taxes

#### Does not include:

- Air tickets to and from Leh
- Medical/Travel Insurance
- Minibar / Personal services in
- Hotels and tips (suggested 5%)
- Monument / Temple fees
- (typically Rs 30 or so per head)
- Lunches except as special-
- mentioned
- Service Taxes at applicable Govt rates



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