

Spiti to Ladakh Trekking

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If one has come to the Himalaya to hike across high passes and vast tree-covered mountainsides, one will be spoiled for choice in Lahaul and Spiti region of Himachal Pradesh. The old trade route to Ladakh and Tibet may have been tarmacked, but most of this remote and spectacular region is still only accessible on foot. Its trails, though well frequented in high season, are long, hard and high, punctuated by few settlements, so be ready for this unending exploration journey.

This is one of the most remote and challenging treks, crossing passes as high as 18,300 ft. We follow ancient trade routes still used by the nomadic herdsmen of Changtang. Spiti has only been open to foreigners since 1993, Travel with the experts.

Itinerary

Day 01: Delhi

Arrive Delhi, on arrival meet and transfer in a hotel for overnight stay.

Day 02: Delhi-Manali

Express Train to Chandigarh and drive down to Manali.

Day 03: Manali

Day at Leisure. Stay overnight at a hotel.

Day 04: Manali-Spiti

Travel by jeep over 3,978 Rohtang pass, gateway to Lahaul, then continue by jeep over 4,358 metre Kunzum la to Losar, the first village in the Spiti valley.

Day 05: Spiti-Kaza

Continue by jeep to Kaza, the modern capital of Spiti.

Day 06: Kaza

Travel by jeep to Dhankar fort, the former capital of Spiti, high above the confluence of the Pin and Spiti rivers. Then continue towards Tabo Gumpa, one of the greatest artistic treasures in the Himalayan region, to view its paintings and sculptures, some of which are over 1,000 years old.

Day 07: Kaza-kibber

Travel by jeep to Kyi Gumpa, the largest in Spiti, and Kibber, famed as the world's highest village with electricity and daily bus service. Overnight stay at Kibber.

Day 08: Kibber

Local walk around Kibber: to Gete and Tashigang, two villages among the highest permanent settlements on earth. Return to Kibber for the night.

Day 09: Kibber

Begin trekking with a short but steep climb to the grazing pastures above Kibber.

Day 10: Kibber-Pangrochen

Trek to Pangrochen, the last camp before Parang la. Only a small spring sustains life at this high, rocky campsite.

Day 11: Pangrochen-Parang La

Trek over 5,577 metre Parang la and descend the dazzling Parang glacier to the lovely oasis of Kharsa Gongma.

Day 12: Parang La-Pare Chu

Trek down the valley of the Pare Chu (river) to Tarang Yogma.

Day 13: Pare Chu-Norbu Sumdo

Continue down the Pare Chu, cross the river and camp at the broad oasis of Norbu Sumdo.

Day 14: Norbu Sumdo-TSO moriri

Trek to Kiangdam, on the southern shore of TSO Moriri, the "Mountain Lake".

Day 15: TSO moriri-Kiangdam

Rest day in the incredible setting of Kiangdam.

Day 16: Kiangdam-Korzok

Trek to Korzok, the village and Gompa at the northern shore of the lake.

Day 17: Korzok-Gyama

Trek past many large nomadic encampments over Gyamsharma La to Gyama.

Day 18: Gyama-Rajung Karu

Cross the Kyamamuri La to Rajung Karu.

Day 19: Rajung Karu-Nuruchan

Trek over the low ridge of Harlem Konka to the small village and Gompa of Nuruchan.

Day 20: Nuruchan-Tso Kar

Trek to Tso Kar, another of the remarkable lakes of the Changtang plains.

Day 21: Tso Kar-Taglang La

Travel by jeep to over the 5,328-metre Taglang la to Leh.

Day 22: Taglang La-Leh

Exploration of Leh.

Day 23: Leh-Delhi

Morning flight to Delhi from Leh. Check into a hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 24: Departure Transfer

Depart- Delhi and transfer to airport for catching a flight to onward journe