

Unforgettable Ladakh

📅 6 Nights / 7 Days

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Overview

Ladakh, a land of breathtaking landscapes, rich history, and cultural heritage, welcomes you with its majestic monasteries, high mountain passes, and serene lakes. Embark on this 7-day journey through Leh, Nubra Valley, Pangong Lake, and Sham Valley, and immerse yourself in the unique heritage and beauty of the region. This tour combines historical monuments, spiritual sanctuaries, and natural wonders, offering an unforgettable Ladakhi experience.

Highlights

- 🏰 Explore Leh's majestic monasteries, including Shey Palace, Thiksey, and Hemis
- 🛣️ Drive through the highest motorable road in the world, Khardungla Pass
- 🐫 Camel safari in the sand dunes of Nubra Valley
- 🌊 Visit the stunning Pangong Lake and capture its mesmerizing beauty
- 🏞️ Scenic drive to Turtuk, a village with a unique Balti culture
- 🗿 Visit the iconic Shanti Stupa and Leh Palace
- 🧲 Capture the magnetic illusion at Magnetic Hill
- 🎬 Relive movie memories at Pangong Lake, featured in the film '3 Idiots'

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 - Arrival in Leh and Acclimatization

Your journey begins with your arrival at Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport in Leh, situated at an altitude of 3,505 meters above sea level. As you step out of the plane, you'll be greeted by the crisp, fresh air and the rugged beauty of the Ladakhi landscape. A representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel where you can check-in and unwind. Due to the high altitude, it's important to take the day to acclimatize to the thin air. Leh offers a stunning setting, with snow-capped peaks surrounding you on all sides.
After some rest, you can visit the Shanti Stupa, perched on a hilltop with breathtaking views of the valley below. The stupa, built in 1991 by Japanese Buddhist Bhikshu Gyomo Nakamura, promotes world peace and serves as a symbol of the bond between Japan and Ladakh.
Next, head to the Leh Palace, a 17th-century structure that was once the royal residence of the Namgyal dynasty. You'll be fascinated by the regal architecture and the incredible vistas of the surrounding mountains and the town of Leh.
In the evening, take a leisurely walk around the Leh market, where you can explore local handicrafts, Tibetan artifacts, and enjoy the serene atmosphere of this high-altitude town.
Overnight stay at the hotel in Leh.

Day 2 - Leh to Sham Valley

After a hearty breakfast at your hotel, prepare for an exciting full-day tour to Sham Valley, located around 70 km away from Leh (approximately 3-4 hours of drive). Begin your journey by visiting the Hall of Fame, a museum constructed by the Indian Army to honor the brave soldiers who lost their lives during the Indo-Pak wars. This museum holds memorabilia and exhibits detailing the history of Ladakh's military engagement, offering insight into the region's strategic importance.
Next, visit Gurudwara Pathar Sahib, a serene and sacred site built in the memory of Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism. The Gurudwara, constructed in 1517, is a symbol of spiritual harmony, and you can observe the peaceful surroundings as you pay homage.
Proceed to Magnetic Hill, a natural phenomenon where you'll experience the illusion of vehicles moving uphill against gravity. This is a must-see sight for those who enjoy a bit of natural mystery and wonder.
The final stop for the day is Sangam, where the Indus and Zaskar rivers meet. The view of the confluence from above is an extraordinary sight, with the distinct colors of the two rivers merging in a spectacular display of nature's forces.
Return to Leh by evening for a

restful overnight stay.

Day 3 - Leh to Nubra Valley via Khardungla Pass

After an early breakfast, prepare for an exhilarating drive to Nubra Valley, situated approximately 125 km away (4-5 hours of drive). The route takes you over the Khardungla Pass, known as the highest motorable pass in the world at an altitude of 18,360 feet. The views from the pass are simply mesmerizing, offering a dramatic landscape of snow-covered mountains and barren valleys.
Once you reach Diskit Village in Nubra, you'll check into your hotel or camp for the night. After settling in, you can visit the ancient Diskit Monastery, a 515-year-old Buddhist establishment that offers panoramic views of the Nubra Valley.
In the afternoon, you will be driven to the Hunder Sand Dunes, where you can take part in a unique Camel Safari on the famous double-humped Bactrian camels. Hunder, a small village on the ancient Silk Route, is known for its stunning dunes set against a backdrop of snow-capped peaks, making it a perfect spot for a camel ride.
Overnight stay at Nubra.

Day 4 - Nubra Valley to Turtuk and Return

After a delightful breakfast at your camp or hotel, get ready for a scenic drive to Turtuk, a charming village located approximately 170 km away from Nubra (6-7 hours of drive). Turtuk is one of the least explored gems in Ladakh and was only opened to tourists in 2010. This beautiful village offers a distinctive cultural experience, as it is part of the Baltistan region, where you can witness the rich Balti culture.
Visit the local gompas and the royal house, and immerse yourself in the picturesque landscape, with the majestic Shyok River flowing beside. Turtuk is different from the rest of Nubra Valley due to its lush greenery, fruit orchards, and unique Balti architecture.
After spending some time exploring this beautiful village, drive back to Nubra for an overnight stay.

Day 5 - Nubra Valley to Pangong Lake via Shayok

Today, after breakfast, embark on a scenic drive to Pangong Lake via the new Shayok Route. The drive covers a distance of about 150 km (approximately 4-5 hours). The Shayok route is becoming increasingly popular due to its dramatic landscapes and serene views.
Upon reaching Pangong Lake, you will be amazed by the beauty of this pristine

saltwater lake, which stretches over 120 km and is known for its captivating hues of blue. The lake is bisected by the international border between India and China, and the surrounding mountains reflect beautifully in the still waters. This location also gained fame for being featured in the movie “3 Idiots”.
Spend some time enjoying the tranquility of the lake, strolling along its shores, and taking in the breathtaking views.
Overnight stay by Pangong Lake in a camp.

Day 6 - Pangong Lake to Leh

Wake up early in the morning to capture the stunning sunrise at Pangong Lake. After breakfast, drive back to Leh through the scenic Changla Pass. On your return journey, stop at Shey Palace, an ancient Buddhist palace perched on a hilltop, offering a panoramic view of the valley below.
You will also visit the Thiksey Monastery, one of the most impressive monasteries in Ladakh, known for its resemblance to the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet. Afterward, proceed to Hemis Monastery, another significant Buddhist site in the region, known for its vibrant festivals and ancient teachings.
Arrive in Leh by the evening and check into your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 7 - Departure from Leh

After breakfast, enjoy your final moments in the enchanting town of Leh before your transfer to the airport. Bid farewell to Ladakh as you take your flight back home, filled with memories of a truly unique and unforgettable journey.

Accommodation Used