LADAKH EXPEDITION
(VIA SRINAGAR)
SEASON 7

8th Jun - 22nd Jun 2022
An oasis of gleaming blue and pristine white, enclosed by spectacular mountains and festooned with colourful prayer flags fluttering in the wind - Ladakh is pure magic. A road trip through this enchanted land will have you cruising upon some of the highest motorable passes in the world while basking in the warm tranquillity of postcard-pretty Tibetan Buddhist monasteries that cast a shadow upon a landscape that displays only the best that nature has to offer and promises to be nothing short of being unbelievably exhilarating. The Himalayas in all their glory, Nubra Valley, Khardung La and numerous other daunting mountain passes, Thiksey Monastery, Pangong Lake, Tiger Hill and Golden Temple amidst others – the list of attractions on offer here seems endless. Add the signature spunk of Adventures Overland and what you have is the prospect of a journey so exceptional and stimulating, it will leave you truly awe-struck.
Welcome to the ‘City Beautiful’, Chandigarh, a rare epitome of modernization co-existing with nature’s preservation. We will all assemble at JW Marriot Hotel. Check-in at the hotel and rest awhile before you gear up for all the adventures in store. The upcoming days are going to be challenging as we make our way past numerous mountain tops that promise a vision of unparalleled beauty. At night, we have planned a dinner where you get a chance to know your fellow participants who will be akin to your family for the coming 15 days as you wine & dine together!

Overnight in Chandigarh
The day has finally arrived when we flag-off one of our most adventurous expeditions! We will start driving early morning from Chandigarh to reach Amritsar by late afternoon. Amritsar holds one of the holiest of Sikh ethos at its heart - Golden Temple. Any trip around this region would be considered incomplete without a visit to the divinely beautiful Golden Temple. Covered in 400 kg of gold and surrounded by a serene pond, one is immediately swamped by the humbling sight of the glistening structure. After paying our respects at this holy site, we head to the hotel to spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Amritsar
Post breakfast, we get ready to drive to Patnitop today. This will be your first night in the lap of plush emerald mountains, so make it count! Breathe in the crisply fresh air, and admire the vastness and magnificence of the great Himalayas. Surrounded by the majestic, snow-clad mountains of the Pir Panjal range, Patnitop sits atop a plateau in the Shivalik belt and remains shrouded by a thick canopy of green pines and dense woods. Cut by the pristine Chenab River, it has mesmerising natural charms that will leave you in awe of it. The hill station is also home to three freshwater springs whose cold water is believed to harbour medicinal properties. We subsequently reach Patnitop and retire for the night after a lip-smacking dinner.

Overnight in Patnitop
We leave for Srinagar on this morning after breakfast. Situated amid clear lakes and lofty forested mountains, Srinagar has long had a considerable tourist economy. Along its course through the city, the Jhelum River is spanned by several wooden bridges, and numerous adjacent canals and waterways. Srinagar’s industries include carpet and silk mills, silverware and copperware manufacture, leatherworking, and wood carving. Upon arrival to the capital of Jammu & Kashmir, spend the rest of your day at leisure.

Overnight in Srinagar

Day 4
Patnitop - Srinagar (200 km)
Day 5
Srinagar (Rest Day)

Today you are free to spend the day as per your liking. Surrounded by mountain peaks, lush green valleys, glistening lakes, temples and spectacular Mughal-era gardens, the city has inspired poets through centuries. The summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar, is situated in the heart of the Kashmir Valley with the Nagin and the Dal Lake adding to its beauty. Indulge in a Shikara ride at the celebrated Dal Lake or visit the exquisitely romantic Shalimar Bagh Mughal Garden. Originally named ‘Farah Baksh’, Shalimar Bagh was built in the year 1619 by Emperor Jehangir for his cherished Queen Nur Jehan. Apart from sightseeing, don’t forget to sample the charms of flavourful Kashmiri cuisine, apples, and walnuts that this city has to offer.

Overnight in Srinagar
We leave for Kargil on this morning after breakfast, crossing the famed Zoji La (11,575 ft). We will pass Dras, situated at the height of 10,990 ft above sea level and the 2nd coldest inhabited village in the world. Popularly known as 'The Gateway to Ladakh', its stark beauty is mysteriously alluring. Intensely beautiful, challenging and numbingly cold, this Himalayan getaway is like none other. Relish the superb views of the renowned Tololing Heights, Tiger Hill, and Point 4875 (Batra Top) from the Kargil War Memorial, where we halt to pay our humble homage to the martyrs who sacrificed themselves for our safety. Upon arrival in Kargil, spend the rest of your day at leisure.

Overnight in Kargil
Day 7
Kargil - Leh (230 km)

Tuck in a splendid breakfast and get ready to leave for Leh today. We will make a stop to visit the Hall of Fame - a museum built and run by the Indian Army. We will also visit Pathar Sahib Gurudwara which dates back to 1517, and marks the visit of Shree Guru Nanak Dev to Ladakh. Next up is the mysterious Magnetic Hill, where one can switch off the ignition and still move uphill. While driving in the region, we will bear witness to unearthly looking landscape and the extraordinary site of Sangam, where the different coloured waters of Zanskar and Indus Rivers congregate, is unmissable. We halt for lunch and settle into our comfy hotel upon finally reaching Leh.

Overnight in Leh
A well-deserved break is what awaits you, as we use this day to explore Leh and immerse ourselves in the local culture. Kickstart your day by visiting Leh Palace. Also known as ‘Lhachen Palkhar’, it was built by King Sengge Namgyal during the 1500s and completed by the 17th century. Its facade resembles that of the Potala Palace in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. Leh Palace’s roof offers amazing views of the Ladakh region and the Stok Kangri. We will also visit Shanti Stupa, a chorten situated on a hilltop which affords remarkable bird’s eye view of the Leh town. Post the sightseeing, feel free to take a stroll through the local market and experience the vibe of this lively city.

Overnight in Leh
Day 9
Leh to Nubra via Khardung La
(130 km)

A new day offers new scope for adventure! Start your day driving towards Nubra Valley situated to the north of Leh. This deep-cut marvel of nature abounds with incredible views as far as the eye can see. We would be driving across one of the World's Highest Motorable Passes, Khardung La. Not for the faint-hearted, this pass is situated approximately at an elevation of 18300 ft above sea level. After crossing the pass, we will reach the Khardung Village, followed by a lunch halt at Khalser. Further ahead, we cross Diskit and reach Hunder Village which lies on the ancient Silk Route and is famous for its sweeping sand dunes and double-humped Bactrian Camels. Spend the rest of the day at leisure and allow the stunning setting to captivate your senses.

Overnight in Nubra Valley
Day 10
Nubra (Rest Day)

Today is the day to let yourself be overwhelmed by the beauty of unspoilt nature. An oasis of green, surrounded by mighty mountains that sport every shade of brown, the deep Nubra Valley is nature's dramatic encore. Go ahead and explore the valley through a safari on the double-humped Bactrian Camels, or a thrilling ATV ride. Lying about 150 km from the town of Leh, the valley is perched at the confluence of Shyok and Siachen Rivers. The valley is also home to the famous pashmina goat. Post lunch, we head back to the campsite to spend the rest of the day at leisure. A delectable dinner will be then followed by a night of rest amidst the fabulous backdrop that will revitalise you completely.

Overnight in Nubra Valley
Day 11
Nubra - Leh (130 km)

Start your date with sumptuous breakfast and then get ready to drive back to Leh via Khardung La once again. We will halt to visit the Diskit Monastery. Belonging to the 14th century, the monastery is considered to be the largest and oldest monastery in Nubra Valley. Also known as Diskit Gompa, the monastery’s most prominent attraction is the huge Maitreya Buddha statue atop it which was inaugurated by HH Dalai Lama. From the base of the statue, one can get a gorgeous panoramic view of the Nubra valley. Further ahead, we will cross North Pullu and South Pullu to finally reach Leh. Upon arrival at the hotel, give your body a much-needed break and spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Leh
Day 12
Leh - Pangong - Leh (320 km)

The day is finally upon us when we get the opportunity to visit the memorable site where an unbelievably pristine body of water lies unperturbed in stark contrast to surrounding mountains. Situated roughly at 14270 ft, Pangong Tso is a sight to behold! This charming, endorheic lake is approximately 135 km long and extends from India to Tibet. Post a hearty breakfast, we drive to Pangong Lake crossing Chang La, the second highest mountain pass in the world. En route, we also visit one of the largest and the most famous monasteries in Ladakh which resembles Tibet’s Patola Palace - Thiksey Monastery. Further on, we continue driving towards the lake and after spending a while appreciating this marvel of nature, get ready to drive back to Leh.

Overnight in Leh
The sun rises on what promises to be one of the most exciting days of the journey so far. Today, we would be ticking quite a bit off our bucket list. We leave for Jispa early morning and drive through Zingzingbar to reach Baralacha La, situated at 16040 ft above sea level. Take in the rugged gorgeousness of the Himalayas as the road leads you towards Sarchu - the border area connecting Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh region. We drive and cross the daunting Gata Loops which is a site famous for its 21 hairpin bends. The topography is rocky, the air is crisp, and the locals here are friendly and simple folk. The long and exciting day draws to a close as we reach Jispa by late evening.

Overnight in Jispa
Day 14
Jispa - Manali (100 km)

After a long and exhausting drive the previous day, wake up at leisure in the lap of nature and enjoy breakfast and lunch in the hotel. We will start the drive and head towards Manali. En route, we will cross the world famous Atal Tunnel, at a length of 9.02 km, it is the longest tunnel above 10,000 feet in the world. On the way, stopover at Keylong Village from where you can view the awe-inspiring Bara-Shigri Glacier in all its splendour and continue our onward journey to Manali, after a quick stop for refuelling at Tandi. Upon arrival, spend the rest of the day at leisure, followed by a farewell dinner.

Overnight in Manali
“Travel! As much as you can, as far as you can, as long as you can. Life’s not meant to be lived in one place.” The last day of the expedition is here, and it’s time to head back to Delhi or your chosen destination. We are certain you cannot fathom how swiftly the past two weeks went by. All good things are destined to come to an end, and so is this journey. Bid adieu to the team and your mates with whom you have now created some great memories, full of thrill and adventure. But not all farewells have to be lasting, and we promise to lend our hand again when you seek to explore another fascinating part of this world.
Cost: INR 1,75,000/- Per Person

Inclusions

● Accommodation: All Hotels And Camps On Twin Sharing
● Meal - Breakfast, Lunch, Tea And Dinner
● Activities To Make The Experience Truly Memorable
● Back Up Team With A Crew Vehicle, Oxygen Cylinders, Emergency Food Supplies And First Aid Kit
● Vehicle Branding, Road Book, Map, Wireless Radio Set
● Route Planning
● Local Guidance From Experts
● All Inner Line Permits For Restricted Areas
● Limited Stock Of Chocolates, Snacks, Water And Soft Beverages For Every Vehicle
● Entry Fee For Monasteries

Exclusions

● Vehicle, Fuel Or Any Fuel Additives
● Your Domestic/International Flight Ticket
● Meals And Drinks Not Mentioned
● Lunch on Day 5
● Alcoholic Beverages (Consumption Not Recommended)
● Insurance And Documentation Cost Such As Travel Insurance, Visa Applications Etc.
● Vehicle Servicing, Repairs, Toll Taxes, Traffic Fines
● Any Cost Arising Out Of Unforeseen Circumstances Like Ill-health, Vehicle Breakdown Or Repairs, Damage Accruing From Land Blocks, Bad Weather, Snowfall Etc.
● Additional Accommodation Charges Due To Unforeseen Delays In The Journey
● Any Charges For Carrying Video Camera Or Still Camera
● Any Hotel, Subsistence Or Other Cost Incurred Prior To Official Start Date Of The Expedition And After Official End Date Of The Expedition
● 5% GST
HIGH ALTITUDE MOUNTAIN PASSES

- Baralacha La (15,912 ft)
- Nakee La (15,547 ft)
- Lachung La (16,616 ft)
- Taglang La (17,582 ft)
- Khardung La (18,380 ft)
- Chang La (17,586 ft)
- Fotu La (13,479 ft)
- Namika La (12,198 ft)
- Zoji La (11,575 ft)
This mother-son duo went on a 50 day road-trip to watch the cricket world cup
June 23rd 2019

Drive through 18 countries in 49 days with Sanjay Madan and Tushar Agarwal of Adventures Overland as they take you on the most epic journey of your life—a road trip from India to London
January 22nd 2019

This 49 day road trip starts in Imphal, ends in London
April 13th 2017

Call of the open road
March 26th 2017

Bros on roads: the boys who drove across 50 countries
November 4th 2015

Adventure on The Great Indian World Trip
August 1st 2014

Subscribers: 131,000
Views: 10 Million +

Followers: 231,685
Likes: 230,410

Followers: 25,000
ACHIEVEMENTS

- Winner in India’s Leading Tour Operator Category at World Travel Awards 2020
- Satte Award 2020 - Recognized as the ‘Best Niche Tour Operator’ in India at South Asia’s leading B2B travelland tourism trade exhibition
- Former Guinness World Record Holders for the longest journey in a foreign country: Sanjay and Tushar travelled 17,107 km in Australia alone in 28 days from November 25 - December 22, 2013
- Represented India at the 2nd ASEAN-India Car Rally 2012, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Featured in a 10 episode riveting series on a record breaking road trip - The Great Indian World Trip aired on TLC and Discovery Science & Turbo. The series is streaming now on Discovery Plus
- Honoured by the Government of UAE at the Dubai Travellers Festival for special contribution towards adventure travel around the world

LIMCA BOOK OF RECORDS

- The longest drive across most countries: Covered 90,151 km across 50 countries in six continents in 453 days
- The longest journey in South America: Covered 16,159 km across six countries in 75 days
- The longest journey in North America: Passed through nine Central and North American countries, covering 25,621 km
- The South-North drive across the America continents: Drove 27,382 km from the world’s southernmost city, Ushuaia in Argentina to the northernmost city, Deadhorse in Alaska, USA
- The most European countries covered: Covered 11,197 km across 22 European countries in 21 days
- The longest journey in a single country: Covered 17,107 km in 28 days, driving in Australia
- First indian driving expedition to Icelandic glacier by a 25 member team which covered 1,302 km in seven days
- The longest Asian countries tour: Covered 8,209 km across five Asian countries in 26 days
- The West-East-West India round trip: First team to drive 7,566 km non-stop for seven days through seven states of India in a record time of 155 hours 50 minutes
- The fastest West-East India expedition: Drove 3,703 km from Koteshwar, Gujarat to Tezu, Arunachal Pradesh in a record time of 73 hours and 55 minutes
- Drive to the highest motorable road: First civilians to drive to the Mana Pass at 18,399 feet
- The fastest trans Himalayan challenge: Driven 5,500 km non-stop for 9 days 6 hours 15 minutes covering the entire Himalayan range in India, Bhutan & Nepal
- The Tata Nano Himalayan expedition: Successfully made it to the world’s highest motorable road at Khardung La (5,602 m) in a 626 cc Tata Nano
- Delhi-Kailash Mansarovar expedition: Driving from Delhi to Mansarovar and Mt. Kailash through Nepal, Tibet/China in eight days
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