

## ITINERARY: 07 Nights / 08 Days

### Day 01: Arrival Leh.

Arrival Leh, driver com representative will meet, greet, assist and transfer you to Hotel in Leh. Rest of the day free to acclimatize to the high altitude of Ladakh. Dinner & Overnight stay.

### Day 02: Leh – Lamayuru – Kargil

Today after an early breakfast, check-out and drive to Kargil. En-route visiting Magnetic Hill, Gurudwara Patthar Sahib, Confluence of Zaskar and Indus river, Lamayuru monastery. Time free for leisure and relaxation. Dinner and overnight at the hotel / Camp.

**MAGNETIC HILL:** Defying the Law of gravity. This place is close to the Gurudwara Shri Patthar Sahib. It has been noticed that when a vehicle is parked on neutral gear on this metallic road the vehicle slides up-hill that's the Believe it or not of Ladakh!

**GURDWARA SHRI PATTHAR SAHIB:** The Shrine known as Gurudwara Patthar sahib is situated about 25 kms. Short of Leh town on the Leh-Srinagar road. Built in the everlasting memory of Shri Guru Nanak Deve Ji the great prophet who sanctified the place by his sacred visit during the year 1517 while on his second missionary tour (2nd Udassi 1515-1518). The boulder having imprint of the Guru's back is lying in the Gurudwara to his day.

**CONFLUENCE OF THE ZANSKAR & INDUS :** On way to Sham Valley before Nimu village one can have this magnificent view of two rivers in wed-lock! In seasons they have different colors and flow and wildness.

**ALCHI GOMPA:** 70 Kms from Leh, on the banks of the Indus, is the Alchi Gompa dating a thousand years back. One of its walls features thousands of miniature sized pictures of the Buddha. Three large sized images made of clay and painted brightly are its focal attractions. No longer an active religious center, it is looked after by monks from the Liker monastery. This is the only monastery amongst 34 monasteries, which is not located on a hilltop.

**LAMAYURU GOMPA:** The oldest holy site in Ladakh, it was a bon shrine prior to the advent of Buddhism. Also known as Yung Drung (Swastika) it is sited on a high promontory overlooking the village and valley. For sheer spectacle value no other Gompa can match Lamayuru.

### Day 03:-Kargil – Leh

Today after breakfast , check-out and drive to Leh. Sightseeing of War Memorial, Ladakh Hall of Fame. Evening check-in and relax. Dinner & Overnight stay.

**DRASS:** It is the first major village on the route Kashmir to Kargil, inhabited by a population of mixed Kashmiri and Dard origins, has the local reputation of being the second coldest permanently inhabited spot in the world. But in summer when the pass is open and the tourist are going through, the standing crops and clumps of willow give it a gentle, smiling look.

**MULBEKH GOMPA:** Precariously perched a top of a 200 Mts. high crag, it has an imposing rock-carving of Chamba, the future Buddha. On the other end of the valley is a large vertical phallus shaped rock with a monastery at its base.

**WAR MEMORIAL:-** Kargil War Memorial, is a war memorial built by the Indian Army, located in Dras, in the foothills of the Tololing Hill. The memorial is located about 5 km from the city centre across the Tiger Hill.

**LADAKH HALL OF FAME :** The Hall of Fame is a glorious museum constructed by the Indian Army. It is worth a visit for every citizen. You can see the memorabilia, eminent defense personalities with biographies, images and weapons used during the Kargil and other key strategic battles fought in Ladakh. And belongings of the enemy soldiers found at war site. All the martyr and the gallantry awards...  
“Here’s something that you will be proud of our defense personnel who sacrificed themselves so that we could live in peace.”

#### **Day 04: Leh - Nubra via Khardungla Pass**

Early morning proceed to Nubra Valley via the World Highest Motorable road (5602 Mts) Khardungla pass. Arrive Nubra and proceed for a visit to the White Sand Dunes at Hunder. You can enjoy the camel ride (**at your own**). Later if time permits visit Hunder and Deskit monasteries and check in at Deluxe Camp/Hotel. Evening at leisure. Overnight Dinner & Stay.

**KHARDUNGLA PASS:** The road journey to Nubra valley leads through Khardung La pass (The highest Motorable road in the world) 18,390 ft. around 39 Kms. Away from Leh. There are two checkpoints on the both sides of the pass. Khardong is the first village of Nubra valley at higher altitude than Deskit and other villages.

**DESKIT GOMPA:** Deskit Gompa was founded by Lama Sherab Zangpo of Stod in about 1420 AD during the reign of King Dragspa. About 100 monks are residing in the Gompa, which is a branch of Thikse Monastery. The monastic festival called Gustor takes place on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> days of the 12<sup>th</sup> month of Tibetan calendar.

Deskit is the main village of headquarter of Nubra valley, which has a small market consisting of a row of shops and about 500 years old Gompa on the hilltop. Spectacular view of the valley can be seen form the monastery.

**HUNDAR VILLAGE:** Hundar is a beautiful village to stay with lot of trees and you will really enjoy your stay at Hundar. It has a small monastery and ruined fort above the village. The walk or Camel Safari (Double Hump bacterian camels) from Hundar to Deskit, through sand dunes is wonderful (**at your own**).

#### **Day 05: Nubra – Pangong**

Morning after Breakfast proceed for Pangong. After reach check-in at camp. Evening relax, Dinner & Overnight at tent.

**THE PANGONG LAKE :** This route takes the visitor past the picturesque villages and turns off the Indus valley by the side valley of Chemrey and Sakti. The Ladakh range is crossed by the Chang-la (18,000 feet / 5,475 M) which despite its great elevation is one of the easier passes, remaining open for much of the year even in winter, apart from periods of actual snowfall.

The main attraction of this circuit is the Pangong Lake, situated at 14,000 feet (4,267 M). A long narrow basin of inland drainage, hardly six to seven kilometers at its widest point to which foreigners are permitted, is only some seven km along the southern shore from the head of the lake, but it affords spectacular views of the mountains of the Changchenmo range to the north, their reflection shimmering in the ever-changing blues and greens of the lakes brackish water. Above Spangmik are the glacier and snow-capped peaks of the Pangong range.

#### **Day 06: Pangong - Leh.**

After breakfast drive back to Leh via Changla Pass. On the way visit Shey, Thiksey Monastery and Rancho School. Evening relax. Dinner & Overnight stay.

**CHANGLA PASS:-** Chang La is a high mountain pass in Ladakh at an elevation of 5,391.3024 m or 17,688.000 ft in the Ladakh Range between Leh and the Shyok River valley. The Chang La, on Leh to Pangong Lake road, lies on the Leh-Karu-Sakti-Zingral-Chang La-Durbuk-Tangtse-Pagong Lake motorable road.

**SHEY GOMPA:** Situated on a hillock 15 Kms upstream from Leh, it was once the residence of the royal family. According to tradition, it was the seat of power of the pre-Tibetan kinds. A 7.5 mts high copper statue of Buddha, plated with gold and the largest of its kind, is installed here.

**THIKSEY GOMPA:** 19 Kms from Leh, spectacularly sited, Thiksey is one of the largest and architecturally most impressive Gompas. There are several temples in this Gompas, containing images, stupas and wall paintings of Buddha, which are exquisite.

**RANCHO SCHOOL:** The school was started at the request of the people of Ladakh who wanted a school that would help maintain their rich cultural traditions, based on Tibetan Buddhism, while equipping their children for a life in the 21st century. The master plan and school buildings, designed by architects and engineers from Arup Associates and Over Arup & Partners, combine local building techniques and materials with leading edge environmental design to make them effective in the extreme climate.

#### **Day 07: Local Sightseeing Leh:- (3hrs only)**

Morning Relax at Hotel, Afternoon sightseeing of Leh City. Evening free for own activities. Dinner & Overnight stay.

**SANKAR GOMPA & VILLAGE :** A relatively modern monastery, it is closely associated with the Spituk monastery and served as the residence of the late head priest-Kushak Bakula. A number of gold icons are to be found here.

**SHANTI STUPA (Japanese Peace Pagoda) :** Shanti Stupa/Japanese peace pagoda is build by a Japanese religious organization headed by Head monk Nakamura with the help from the organization and local people. It is situated at a hill top in Cahngspa village providing a bird eye view of the Leh town and the surrounding mountain peaks. Architecturally it has the Japanese touch with small clean rooms on the side for meditators and the main Japanese shrine at the entrance.

**LEH PALACE :** The Namgyal Tsemo (victory Peak) was build by King Tashi Namgyal after the reunification of upper and lower Ladakh and victory over Hor and their bodies are placed under an image of Mahakala,



the guardian deities to stop further invasion of Hor. The Leh palace known as 'Lechen Palkhar' was built by Singay Namgyal around in the beginning of 17th Century A.D. The nine-storied palace is now deserted, and the ASI (Archeological Survey Of India) has taken up the renovation work.

**Day 08: Airport Departure.**

Leave on time for Leh airport to board your flight to back home.