

LADAKH: EXPLORE THE UNEXPLORED



Ladakh is a land brimming with magic and mystery - a land of snowcapped mountains, vast barren plateaus and deep turquoise lakes. Remote, ancient and relatively untouched, a visit to Ladakh will leave you exhilarated and will stay with you forever. On our experience, explore some of the much-loved and some lesser-known destinations, taking in the best of it all. This is a land like no other.

Day 1: 16 July – Arrival in Leh

On arrival, you will be met at the airport and the transfer to the hotel will be arranged for you. Land and soak in the landscape.

Depending on the arrival of your flight, the morning will be at leisure Early check in will be on request.

Lunch today will be amidst an apricot orchard.

Post lunch, enjoy a brief introduction on Tibetan Buddhism from a scholar.

In the evening, we will enjoy a walk up to the Stok Palace for prayers at the Royal temple, where we will visit the museum & walk through the royal palace.



Subject to the availability of the king, we will have dinner with him and enjoy some history of the Namgyal dynasty

Overnight Stay: **Chulli Bagh or similar**

Day 2: 17 July - Medieval monasteries and chams dance

This morning, enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel.

Post breakfast, you will have the opportunity to visit a pashmina weaving unit to get an understanding of the process of pashm to shawl.

The classic Ladakhi shawl is among the most exquisite textile, ever woven, the product of consummate skill and artistry applied to one of the world's delicate fibres.

From here, we will drive Alchi Choskor, a 11th century temple, widely believed as the very first Buddhist temple in Leh Ladakh. Every inch of wall surface of this monastery is occupied by benign images of the Buddha and royal scenes. Artists and craftsmen decorated these paintings and images under the supervision of Lostava Rinchen Sangpo. It is the only monastery that has preserved 10th century Buddhism arts and crafts.



Lunch will at Alchi Kitchen or similar.

Post lunch drive back towards the Stok. Enroute we will stop at the confluence of the Indus and Zaskar Rivers and Hall of Fame to commemorate the soldiers of the Kargil war.

Dinner & bonfire at the hotel.

Overnight Stay: **Chulli Bagh or similar**

Day 3: 18 July - Tracing the erstwhile silk roads

This morning, we rise with the sun & attend morning prayers at Thiksey monastery

Less than 20km from Leh town, Thiksey Monastery built in 1430 AD belongs to the Gelukpa Order of Buddhism. Lakhang Nyerma a Temple dedicated to Goddess Dorje Chenmo is within the Thiksey monastery.

You will then enjoy a Local Ladakhi farm breakfast

After breakfast, we will drive to Nubra valley over Khardung la pass (apprx 5 hours).



This afternoon, experience a **farm to table lunch** with an enterprising agriculturist.

Post lunch, we will go on a guided nature walk to understand the flora of this region

In Nubra, lush rolling fields, twisty trails, riverside walks and valleys full of extraordinarily trees, there's something to enthral everyone.

Enjoy a special dinner under a star studded sky with stargazing through a telescope

Overnight at **Lchang Nang Retreat, House of Trees**

Day 4: 19 July – A look at erstwhile Baltistan

We rise early this morning for an optional Yoga session in the hills

After an early breakfast we make our way towards the village Turtuk and take a short drive to the last frontier of the Indo-Pak border

Turtuk is a tiny village sandwiched between the Himalayan and Karakoram mountains.

Enjoy a very special Balti lunch at the unique Barn to Table restaurant in Turtuk



Post lunch, we will explore the village of Yul or Ferol

Geographically, the village is divided in two parts: Ayul(Yul) and Farol(Ferol), on either side of a wooden bridge. Farol is perched on top of the hill while Ayul sits on the lower side of village and both together belong to the Balti people of Tibetan descent. Different Muslim communities call this paradise home, with most of its residents being Noorbakshis along with few Sunnis and Shias.

We will then drive back to Sumyur.

Dinner & bonfire under star studded sky (*optional- enjoy a relaxing massage)

Overnight at **Lchang Nang Retreat, House of Trees**

Day 5: 20 July – Mystical Lakes & Tapestry of Stars – on to Pangong Tso

After an early breakfast this morning, we will be driven towards Pangong Tso via Shyok.

Upon reaching, you can rest a bit.

Spend the evening taking a walk by the lake as we try and identify high altitude Avian species.

Post dinner, if you can brave the cold, we will drive to the village of Mann where a young girl takes you on an astronomical journey through the night sky

Overnight stay at **Natures Nest Pangong**



Day 6: 21 July – High Passes & Monastries

Rise early with the sun for a walk by the lake.

Post Breakfast, we will drive to the village of Sakti over the Chang la pass. (Apprx 4 ½ hours)

Lunch at the hotel. In the evening, we will take a walk to Chemdray Monastery

Tonight we will have dinner and a bonfire.

Overnight stay at **Fana Resort Sakti**

Day 7: 22 July - Nomadic road trip across the roof of the world

This morning we head on a fantastic nomadic experience across Ladakh.

After an early breakfast, we drive to Changthang to camp with the nomads.



Arrive for lunch at the camp

We will spend the evening watching the nomads working with wool shearing, weaving & spinning. We will learn about the instruments used and techniques deployed in creating Rabyos, shawls and carpets. And, we will watch the herds as they return at sunset creating a golden hue against the setting sun as they inch towards camp

Dinner under a starlit sky at camp

Overnight at the camp.

Day 8: 23 July - Nomadic road-trip across the roof of the world – Back to Leh

Rise at the break of Dawn to see the Nomads getting ready to find greener pastures.

We spend half a day in the life of a Nomad.

We will then have brunch at the camp, before we drive on to Saboo for lunch. Continue to the hotel for an evening of leisure and overnight stay.

Stay: **Ladakh Sarai** or similar

Day 9: 24 July - Leh: A walk through history

After a leisurely breakfast this morning, we will take a walk through the old fortified city of Leh, that was once bustling with life to hear the bygone stories of an era.

Post our walking tour, we will have lunch at the Namza Café.



The rest of the afternoon will be free for you to explore Leh market on your own and enjoy some last minute shopping.

A farewell dinner will be specially curated dinner experience by a local chef

Stay: **Ladakh Sarai** or similar

Day 10: 25 July - Departure from Leh

This morning, the transfer to the airport will be arranged for you for your flight back home.

***** Return home with wonderful memories *****

Price per person on a twin sharing basis: Rs 1,33,500
Single room supplement: Rs 36,300

Inclusions

- Accommodation in the hotels mentioned in this itinerary for 9 nights
- Assistance on arrival and departure
- Transport in a non-AC vehicle
- Yoga session as mentioned in the itinerary.
- All meals from Brunch on Day 1 to Breakfast on Day 10
- Oxygen cylinders in cars
- English speaking guide
- Services of a tour escort
- Monastery Entrance fees
- Heritage walk as mentioned in the itinerary
- Visit to a Pashmina weaving center
- Entry fees at Alchi Monastery
- Inner Line Permit for Restricted area

- Camping equipment and team as mentioned in itinerary

Exclusions

- Airfare to Leh & back
- Tips to the driver / guide
- Any alcoholic / non alcoholic drinks
- Optional Massages
- Personal expenses
- Expenses arising from unexpected fuel hikes, and any costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances such as bad weather, landslides, road conditions and any other circumstances beyond our control.
- Medical or Travel Insurance
- Costs towards evacuation of customers for medical or any other reason
- 5% GST

Please note

- All guests will be required to submit a Covid Negative test report 72 hours prior to the start of the tour
- We need a minimum of 8 guests to operate the tour
- Accommodation at the camps will be tented accommodation, simple and clean. There will be 3 bathrooms to be shared by all and a shower will not be possible during your stay here. We aim to respect their nomadic lifestyle while we stay with them.
- Your well being is of utmost importance. We therefore may need to change, alter or cancel a trip due to any reason which might not be in the best interest of your safety, like dangerous water levels, landslides and extreme weather conditions etc.



Odyssey
Tours and Travels

Crafting Memorable Experiences

For bookings, please contact us on E: aparna@uniglobeodysseytravel.com | T: 020 66442929