

Land of High Passes

An adventure with Sudhakar Selwyn

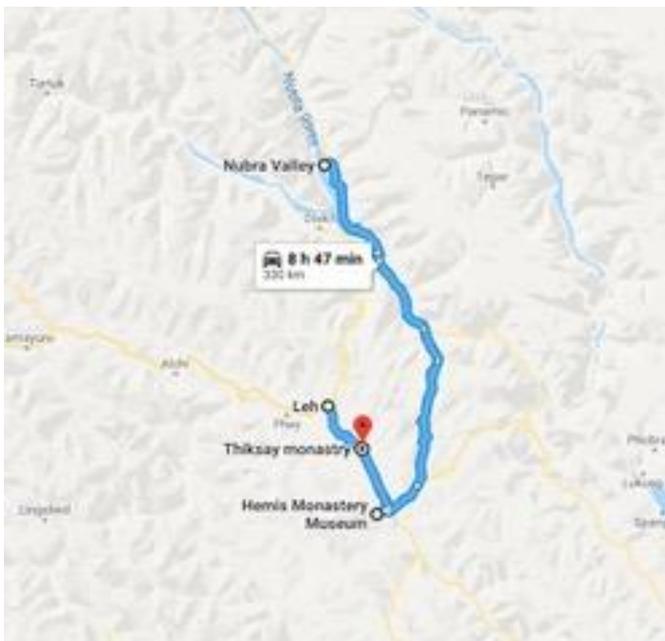
July 2020

Destinations



- | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-------------------|
| ➤ Delhi | 2Nights | Post Trip |
| ➤ Leh | 4 Nights | ○ Jaipur 3 nights |
| ➤ Nubra | 2 Nights | ○ Agra 2 nights |
| ➤ Leh | 2 Night | ○ Delhi 1 night |
| ➤ Thiksey Monastery | 1 Night | |
| ➤ Delhi | 1 Night | |

Route Map (Click below to view the larger map)



Unique Features of this Adventure

1. No Single Supplement
2. Overnight stay and experience the life of the monks in the Monastery in Ladakh
3. Participate Hemis Tsechu Monastery Annual Festival
4. Travel in SUVs (Three persons in a Car)
5. Hike to the Diskit Monastery

Itinerary

Day 1
25 June
Thursday
Delhi

International Arrival in Delhi and later transfer to Hotel
Hotel JP Palace or similar Check in 1200 Noon
The rest of the day is free to get acclimatized

Day 2
26 June,
Friday
Delhi
OLD DELHI

After relaxed breakfast, we meet to explore the old Delhi and its neighborhood. We also explore the old Delhi market and have lunch on our own
In the evening, we all have dinner together in a local restaurant.
Overnight at Hotel JP Palace or similar
B, D

Day 3
27 June,
Saturday
Delhi
LEH

Morning Transfer to Delhi Airport for flight to Leh
Rest of the day free at the Hotel for acclimatization
Overnight at Hotel Kaal. <http://www.hotelkaalladakh.com/>

District Leh is situated at a height ranging from 2300 mtrs to 5000 mtrs above sea level. District Leh with an area of 45100 Sq. Kms. makes it one of the largest District in the country. The District is bounded by Pakistan occupied Kashmir in the west and China in the North and eastern part and Lahul Spiti of Himachal Pradesh in the south east. It is at a distance of 434 Kms from State capital (Summer) Srinagar and 474 Kms from Manali(HP). Topographically, the whole of the district is mountainous with three parallel ranges of the Himalayas, the Zaskar, the Ladakh and the Karakoram. Between these ranges, the Shayok, Indus and Zaskar rivers flow and most of the population lives in valleys of these rivers. <http://leh.gov.in/>

B, L, D

Day 4
28 June,
Sunday
LEH

After Breakfast, we drive to Stok Palace and visit the Museum. Later we drive back to Leh and have lunch.

Evening Free time in Leh Bazar and Dinner

B, L, D

Day 5
29 June,
Monday
Leh

After Breakfast, we explore, Leh Palace and the Old town of Leh, walking Afternoon walk we explore Shanthi Stupa for sunset.

B, L, D



Day 6
30 June
Tuesday

Leh
Hemis Tsechu

Morning Breakfast at Hotel

We drive to Hemis

We get ready to explore the Hemis Monastery neighbourhood and the festival of the Monastery will be starting this morning. We participate for a while in the ceremonies and also explore the monastery.

This expansive, 17th-century monastery is the spiritual centre of Ladakh's Drukpa Buddhists. While the rectilinear exterior lacks the vertically stacked perfection of Chemrey or Thiksey, the setting, in a sharp valley behind curtains of craggy red rocks, is atmospheric, especially on misty mornings. The complex's fine central courtyard has colourfully detailed timbers, the main prayer hall has wobbly three-storey pillars, and the Guru Lakhang's garish, 8m-high Padmasambhava statue has hypnotic eyes.

Documents supposedly found in the Hemis treasury were used to support [the theory that Jesus Christ visited Kashmir](#). They have since disappeared, but the monastery's extensive [museum](#) retains some other very precious religious treasures mixed in with tiger skins, skull vessels, swords and a stuffed 'vulture pup'. Avoid crowds by arriving early and exploring the atmospheric upper, rear shrines like the Tsom Lakhang.

We will spend the whole day in the Monastery participating in the various rituals.

Afternoon, we return to our Hotel in Leh

B, D



Day 7
01 July
Wednesday

Leh
NUBRA
Valley

Today after our breakfast, we set out for an adventurous ride to reach the more fertile Nubra Valley. If the weather does not permit us to drive via Shyok valley, we may have to deviation to drive and reach Nubra Valley.

This valley is popularly known as Ldumra or the valley of orchard/flowers. It is situated in the North of Ladakh, between Karakoram and Ladakh ranges of Himalayas. Nubra lies at average altitude about 10,000 feet above sea level. The climate, of the areas being soft, soil is much fertile and the vegetation of the area is comparatively thicker than those of the other areas of Ladakh. Shrubs, bushes and trees grow in abundance wherever there is any source of water. Due to this reason Nubra has acquired its right name- Ldumra. Shayok and Siachan rivers forms fairly large drain in Nubra. Nubra is a broad valley with lofty mountains on its all sides. Valley assumes greater attractions at the site where both the rivers meet. The formation of Central part of Nubra also takes place there. Diskit is the Sub-Division HQ. of Nubra. Diskit Gonpa is also situated at a height of about 200 mtrs. Major village via Kardong, Khalsar, Tirit, Sumoor, Tegar Pinchemik, Tirisha and Panamik all fall along the traditional silk route. The caravans travelling Central Asia and Kashmir through Nubra valley used to stay at those villages.

Overnight at Hunder Resort <http://www.hunderresortnubra.com/>, or similar

B, L, D

Day 8
02 July,
Thursday

Hunder
Diskit

Directly above Old Diskit, a 2km spaghetti of hairpins winds up to this fabulous monastery complex, much of which dates to between the 14th and 17th centuries. It's a brilliant jumble of Tibetan-style box buildings piled higgledy-piggledy up a steep, rocky peak that ends in a toe-curlingly vertical chasm.

The entry fee includes access to a gigantic (32m) full-colour Chamba statue on an intermediate hill, formally inaugurated by the Dalai Lama in July 2010. At the point where the two access lanes bifurcate, a monastery restaurant serves up a fair selection of meals.

Hunder lies on the ancient silk route, once an important international trade route. Today it is one of the most strategic points located close as it is to the Siachan Glacier, the world highest battle ground between India and Pakistan.

Hunder is most popular for the camel rides in the high altitude cold desert. The camel safaris are done on Bactrian Double-humped Camels which are reminder the bygone era of Silk Route trade.

B, L, D



Day 9
03 July Friday
Kardung LA
LEH



A trip to Leh from Hunder requires the visitors to cross the Khardung La, which according to the claim of Indian Army plaque at the top, is "World's Highest Motorable Pass" however modern readings using GPS devices refute the claim.

B, D Check in at Hotel Kaal

Day 10
04 July
Saturday
LEH
Thiksey

Today We check into the Thiksey Monastery for learning about the life of the Monks living in the Thiksey Monastery. We spend the whole day with monks and eat with them. They provide simple space for us to sleep.
B, L, D

Day 11
05 July
Sunday
LEH

This morning we participate in the early morning rituals of the monastery and then join the monks for Breakfast.
After we check out and return to our Hotel in Leh.
Rest of the day is free for own activities.
In the evening we have farewell Dinner.
B, D

Day 12
06 July
Monday
DELHI

This morning after breakfast, we connect flight to Delhi.
Later we check into Hotel JP Place or similar.
Afternoon, you have opportunity for shopping in Delhi. Those who would like to visit the Qutub Minar monument, an optional trip will be arranged with the Guide.
B, L

Day 13
07 July
Tuesday

Departure Transfers
B

Post Trip to Jaipur and Agra

Day 1
07 July
Tuesday
Jaipur

After Breakfast, we drive to Jaipur.
The journey sets you in through some of the fascinating sites on the highway.
Enroute we stop at local truckers Place for lunch
On arrival we check in to Hotel Radisson or similar
B, L, D

Day 2
08 July
Wednesday
Jaipur

We Explore the Amber Fort this morning
Lunch in a Haveli.
Afternoon on your own time for Shopping and markets especially for colorful textiles. Dinner on your own at Jaipur
B, L

Day 3
09 July
Thursday
Jaipur

We explore the City Palace and Jantar Mantar
Lunch at Local Restaurant
After noon we visit a Jewellery factory to learn about the precious stones.
B, L, D

Day 4
10 July
Friday
Agra

Drive to Agra
Enroute we stop at F' Sikri for learning about the Old ruin town built by Mughal Emperor, Akbar the Great.
Overnight at Hotel JP Palace or similar
B, L, D

Day 5
11 July
Saturday
Agra

We explore, Taj Mahal this morning and explore the sites around it.
After Lunch we have opportunity to learn about the marble artefact manufacturers.
We explore the Red Fort of Agra in the afternoon.
Later Dinner on your own, enabling you to visit the local restaurants of Agra.
B, L,

Day 6
12 July
Sunday
Delhi

In the morning after Breakfast, we have opportunity to further explore Agra and then We drive to Delhi, on reaching Delhi, we check in at the Hotel Hotel JP Palace or similar

B, L, D
Departure transfers

Day 7

13 July

Monday

For Quote and Booking : please write to sudhakar@indiabeckons.in

Inclusions

1. Twin Bedded room with Breakfast in the hotels mentioned or similar
2. One night stay in the Thiksey Monastery or similar
3. Domestic air tickets From Delhi to Leh and back
4. All entrance fees for the monuments
5. All the local Guide Fees
6. Services of Tour Leader (Indian English, Speaking)
7. All Airport transfers
8. Air conditioned SUV (Toyota) or mini Bus as per the program
9. All breakfast in the hotel and other meals as mentioned in the program

Not included

1. International Air Travel and trip insurance
2. Meals which are not mentioned in the program
3. All Gratuities / Tips
4. Camera Fees in the monuments
5. Any other expenses of personal nature

www.indiabeckons.in

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