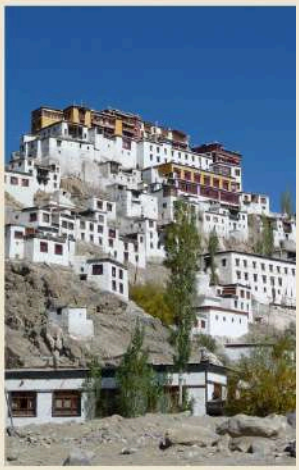




LADAKH
TOP OF THE WORLD











ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This journey has been curated with a deep understanding of both the cultural fabric and spiritual rhythm of North India and Ladakh. It begins in Delhi with a gentle introduction to the country's contrasts, the lived energy of Old Delhi experienced by rickshaw, and the quiet discipline of a Sikh temple, where daily prayer and service are part of everyday life.

In Ladakh, the pace naturally slows. Time in Leh and Stok is centred around meaningful encounters, including a private prayer ceremony at Stok Palace and visits to key sites such as Leh Palace and Shanti Stupa, chosen not just for their history but for the perspective they offer on the region. Experiences in Stok village and Nubra Valley provide insight into traditional Ladakhi life, from monastery rituals to a private dinner in a 400-year-old family home.

The route through Alchi and Lamayuru covers some of Ladakh's oldest monastic sites and striking landscapes, before returning to Leh for visits to Shey, Hemis, and Thiksey monasteries, each reflecting a different aspect of Buddhist practice in the region. The program concludes in Delhi, offering a well-balanced journey that feels immersive, considered, and true to the place.

Itinerary at a Glance



Day 01 -02: Delhi

- Arrival & Welcome
- Jama Masjid and Rickshaw Ride in Old Delhi
- Central Vista
- Qutub Minar



Day 03 - 05: Leh & Stok

- Flight from Delhi to Leh
- Private prayer Ceremony Stok Palace
- Leh Palace and Shanti Stupa
- Stok Village experience



Dec 06 - 07: Nubra Valley

- Diksit Monastery
- Prayer Ceremony at Samstanling Monastery
- Private Dinner experience in a 400 year old House.



Day 08: Alchi

- Alchi Monastery
- Moon Landscape
- Lamayuru Monastery



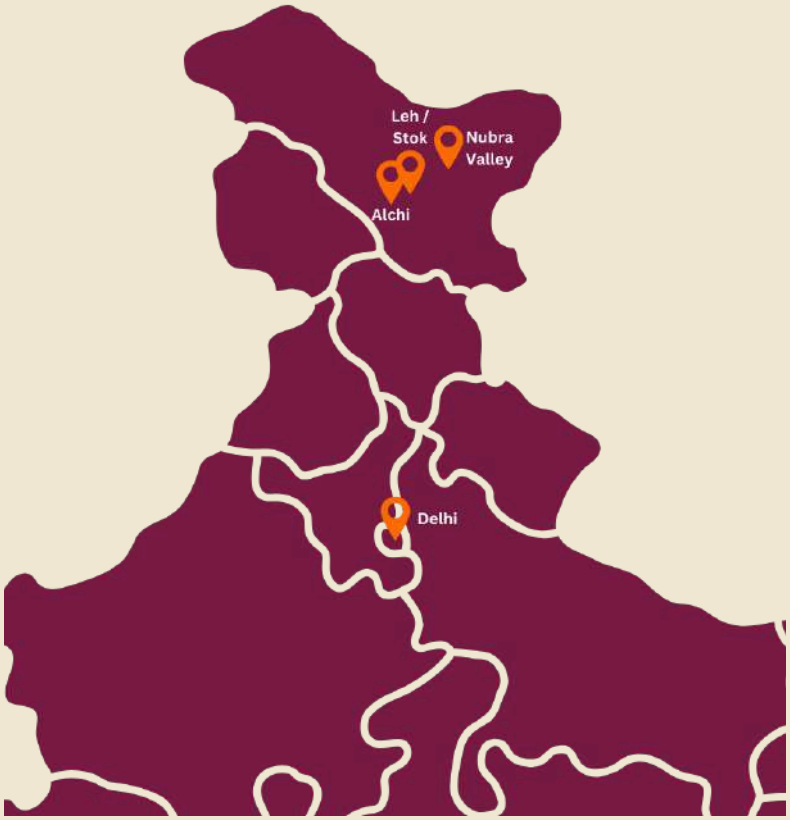
Day 09 - 10: Leh

- Shey Monastery
- Hemis Monastery
- Thiksey Monastery



Day 11-12: Delhi

- Flight from Leh to Delhi
- Departure from Delhi


Leh /
Stok
Nubra
Valley
Alchi
Delhi

Day 1 - Delhi

Arrive at Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL), Delhi, where you will be met by our representative as you exit the Aircraft. The representative would assist you with completion of Immigration formalities and baggage collection. Transfer to your Hotel. .

Delhi, India's capital, is a city of contrasts and conquests, where ancient forts, Mughal tombs, and colonial landmarks coexist with a vibrant modern skyline. From the bustling streets of Old Delhi to the grandeur of Lutyens' Delhi, it has remained the heart of India's culture and power for over a thousand years.





Hotel: You will be staying at The Imperial or similar

Day 2 - Delhi

After breakfast, dive straight into the vibrant chaos of **Old Delhi**, *where history blends seamlessly with the hustle of everyday life. Begin at the grand Jama Masjid, a stunning example of Mughal architecture, its serene presence contrasting with the bustling streets. Next, hop on a cycle rickshaw to wander through spice, textile, and jewelry markets, each brimming with activity and rich aromas. The sizzling street food adds an extra layer to the experience, making Old Delhi an unforgettable journey for all your senses.*



After Lunch, we transition to **Central Vista**, *symbolizing Delhi's modern power as the capital of the world's largest democracy. Drive past iconic landmarks like India Gate, Rashtrapati Bhavan (President House) and the Parliament House, collectively representing the heart of India's governance.*



We conclude the day with a visit to the **Qutub Minar**: *Standing at 73 meters, Qutub Minar is the tallest brick minaret in the world. Built in the 12th century by Qutb-ud-Din Aibak, it marked the arrival of Islam in India. The structure incorporates remains of 27 Hindu and Jain temples that were destroyed, reflecting India's cultural fusion and complex historical transitions. The UNESCO World Heritage Site also features the iron 'rust-resistant' pillar, an ancient marvel dating back to the 4th century.*

Come evening, you may choose to shop from top designerwear studios nearby, or enjoy dinner at one of the award-winning roof-top restaurants near Qutub Minar.

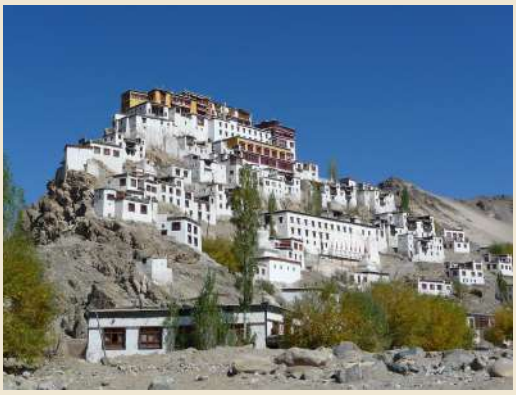
Overnight at The Imperial or a similar hotel in Delhi.

Day 3 - Delhi / Leh / Stok

Transfer in time for your flight from Delhi to Leh by AI813 (Delhi 0720 - 0850 Leh). Upon arrival you will meet your driver, and be transferred to Stok Village. (10 mi; ~ 30 mins drive).

Set at over 11,500 feet, Leh, the capital of Ladakh, is a high-desert city surrounded by the Himalayan and Karakoram mountain ranges. Known for its Tibetan Buddhist culture, ancient monasteries, and stunning other-worldly landscapes, Leh offers a unique blend of natural beauty and cultural richness. The city serves as a gateway to the breathtaking Ladakh region, featuring medieval palaces, colorful monasteries, and a distinctive high-altitude desert ecosystem.





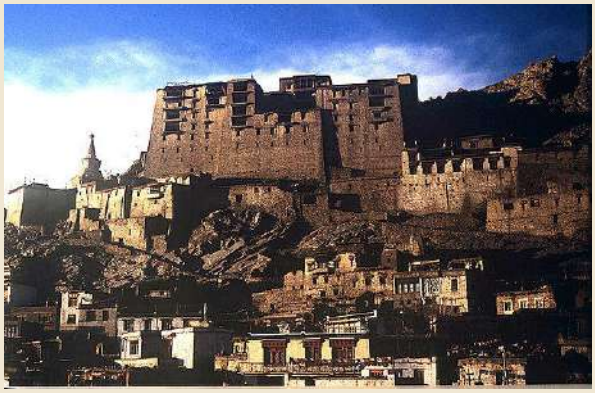
The rest of the day is free for you to rest and acclimatize yourself to the high altitude and less Oxygen in Leh.

You will be staying at Stok Palace Heritage Hotel or similar

Day 4 - Leh

After Breakfast, visit Leh City.

Start at **Leh Palace**, an old royal house in Ladakh built in the 1600s. It's a huge, nine-story building made of stone and mud, sitting on a hill overlooking the town. The palace looks like a smaller version of Tibet's famous Potala Palace, with thick walls, tiny windows, and wooden balconies. It was home to the Namgyal kings and shows off traditional Ladakhi building styles that help survive the cold mountain weather. Today, it's a museum where visitors can explore royal history and enjoy amazing mountain views.





Next, head to **Shanti Stupa**, a serene landmark that blends stunning architecture, spiritual significance, and panoramic views. Built in 1991 by the Japanese Buddhist organization, the stupa's large white dome represents peace and enlightenment. The golden spire at the top symbolizes the connection between the earthly and the divine, while the surrounding intricate carvings and prayer wheels invite reflection. Inside, vibrant murals tell the story of Buddha's life, adding to the peaceful ambiance. Located on a hilltop, it offers spectacular views of Leh and the majestic mountains, making it an ideal spot for both spiritual contemplation and nature appreciation.

In the afternoon visit the Local Market. **Leh Local Market** is a lively hub where visitors can experience the heart of Ladakhi culture. Stalls offer a variety of goods, including handmade woolen shawls, pashmina scarves, Tibetan jewelry, and traditional crafts. It's also a great spot to try local snacks like momos and Ladakhi bread. The market's vibrant atmosphere and unique offerings make it a perfect place to explore and shop for souvenirs.

Day 5 - Stok

This morning you will be a part of a **prayer ceremony** at the Palace itself. The Stok Palace has a buddhist temple on the upper-most floor of the palace. As a guest staying at the Stok Palace Heritage Hotel you have privileged access to the **Lhakchung Temple**. The resident monk here performs daily prayers and rituals as part of his duties. You are welcome to be quiet observers to the enchanting routine.

After breakfast you will visit the **Stok Monastery**. Nestled near Stok village, this 14th-century monastery is a lesser-known gem preserving Ladakhi Buddhism. It features vibrant frescoes, ancient scriptures, and a gilded statue of Avalokiteshvara.





In the afternoon, enjoy the **Village walk in Stok**. A walk through the village reveals the locals' quiet efficiency and near self-sufficiency, showcasing a sustainable way of life worth emulating. Strolling past whitewashed Chortens, mud-brick homes, and barley fields adorned with fluttering prayer flags, one feels the timeless charm. If you feel comfortable, we can arrange a visit to a local home for butter tea or Chhaang (Barley Beer).
Rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 6 - Leh / Nubra Valley

After breakfast, check-out and depart for Nubra Valley (80 mi away; ~3.30 hour drive).

Nubra Valley in Ladakh sits at the confluence of the Shyok and Siachen rivers, offering dramatic contrasts of sand dunes against snow-capped peaks. This high-altitude desert landscape features ancient monasteries and rare double-humped Bactrian camels. It exemplifies Himalayan border ecology and highlights the resilience of mountain communities amid stark, breathtaking beauty.





Our first stop in the valley is **Diksit**, the quaint capital of Nubra. Visit **Diksit Gompa**, perched on a rocky spur, site of a 106- feet high statue of Maitreya Buddha, the Buddha of the future.

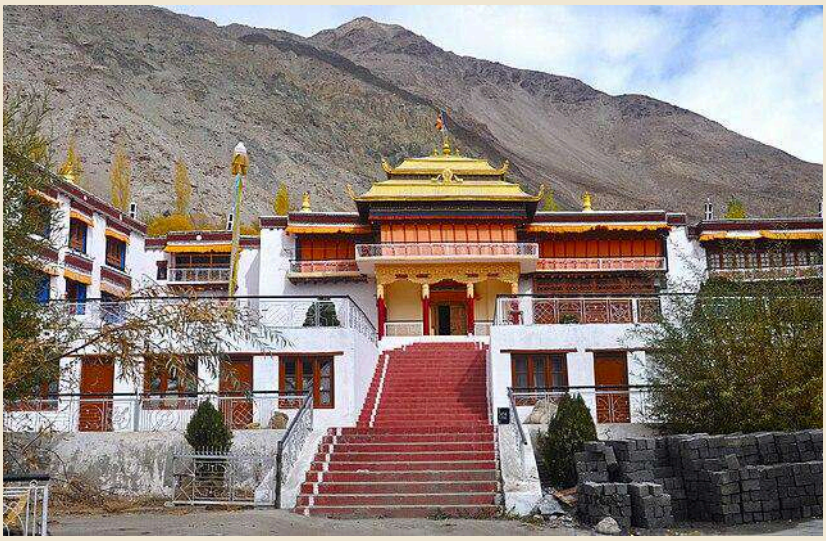
Continuing our journey through a landscape of sand dunes we reach **Hunder** where we have the opportunity of riding **Bactrian camels**, once indispensable on the Central Asian Trade routes

You will be staying at The Kyagar or similar.

Day 7 - Nubra Valley

Today's day is spent exploring the Nubra Valley. Crossing over the Shyok River we delve deeper into the valley to explore some of its remote sites, including the **Samstanling and Ensa Monasteries**.

We will time our visit to the former for when the 50-monk body begins one of their **daily prayer chanting sessions**. Ensa on the other hand is almost a private retreat with just one monk caretaker. We then continue to, and hike along the shore of the Holy Yarab Tso Lake, locally referred to as the 'Wishful Lake.'



Later, return to the Hotel.

In the evening, we dine at **The Kangyokspa House**, a 400-year-old heritage home that has long served as a gathering place for the local community. This open pavilion once hosted everything from village meetings to wedding celebrations.





Experience a night of dance, food, and cultural immersion that connects you to the legacy of this land.

Day 8 - Nubra Valley / Alchi

After breakfast, check-out and depart for Alchi (115 mi away; ~4.40 hour drive).

Alchi village, located along the serene banks of the Indus River, is a tranquil gem in Ladakh. Known for its traditional mud-brick houses and narrow lanes, the village exudes a rustic charm. Surrounded by lush apricot orchards, it offers a peaceful atmosphere, making it an ideal retreat for relaxation and cultural exploration.





Afternoon: Visit **Alchi Monastery**, located in the peaceful village of Alchi, truly one of a kind in Ladakh. Built in the 11th century, it is famous for its beautiful paintings, intricate wood carvings, and sculptures, which show a unique mix of Tibetan and Kashmiri art. Unlike other monasteries in the region, it's situated on flat land near the Indus River, making it easier to visit. The monastery's calm atmosphere and historical art make it a special place for anyone interested in culture and history. It's a hidden gem that showcases Ladakh's rich spiritual and artistic heritage.

You will be staying at Ule Ethnic Resort or similar.

Day 9 - Alchi / Leh

After breakfast, head further west from Alchi on the Leh-Srinager Highway to visit **Lamayuru Monastery** (9,700 feet), belonging to the Ka-gyu¨-pa order. This is a 10th/11th century monastery and has always been very active and powerful. In the 13th century, it was the main contender against the Sakya Monastery for acknowledged supremacy throughout Tibet.





After a picnic lunch with views of the dramatic mountain scape of Lamayuru's location, we head back on the Leh highway.

Time permitting, we may stop along the way to explore sites or just to enjoy and photograph the mountains and deep river valleys.

You will be staying at The Grand Dragon or similar.

Day 10 - Leh

After Breakfast we visit the 3 key Monasteries of Leh.

We begin with **Shey Monastery**. Once the summer capital of Ladakh, Shey Monastery houses a grand 39-ft gilded copper statue of Shakyamuni Buddha. Built in the 17th century, it overlooks the Indus Valley, offering stunning views. The monastery is known for its ancient murals, butter lamp offerings, and sacred festivals, preserving Ladakh's spiritual heritage amid its serene, rocky landscape.





Continue on to **Thiksey**, Perched on a hilltop, Thiksey Monastery is a striking 12-story complex resembling Tibet's Potala Palace. It houses a magnificent Maitreya Buddha statue, sacred scriptures, and vibrant murals. Monks perform daily prayers and mystical rituals, drawing visitors into Ladakh's Buddhist traditions. At sunrise, the monastery's chants and panoramic views create an unforgettable spiritual experience.





In the afternoon, we visit the **Hemis Monastery** - the wealthiest and largest monastery in Ladakh, Hemis is famed for its annual masked dance festival. Established in 1672, it houses a colossal Guru Padmasambhava statue, rare thangkas, and sacred relics. Hidden in a scenic valley, Hemis exudes mysticism, drawing pilgrims and travelers alike to its vibrant rituals and centuries-old spiritual legacy.

Day 11 - Leh/Delhi

Transfer in time for your flight to Delhi from Leh by AI 834 (Leh 1235 - 1355 Delhi). Upon arrival at Delhi Airport you will meet your driver, and be transferred to the Airport Hotel.

Arrive and Check in at your hotel.

You will be staying in Roseate House or a similar hotel.

Day 12 - Delhi

Departure from Delhi with unforgettable memories of the trip.

Pricing and Inclusions

Package cost:

Based on 02 adults (Rooming configuration: 01 Double room)

US $3508 per person on twin sharing basis

Single room Supplement- **US$ 1400 per room per night**

Planned Hotels:

City	No. of Nights	Hotel Name	Room Type
Delhi	2	The Imperial	Imperial room
Stok	3	Stok Palace Heritage	Standard Suite
Nubra	2	The Kyagar	Luxury room
Alchi	1	Ule Ethnic Resort	Standard Hut
Leh	2	The Grand Dragon	Premier Heritage
Delhi	1	Roseate House	Deluxe room

Package Inclusions

- 11 nights of accommodation on twin sharing basis in suggested hotels or similar (standard check-in 14:00/ check-out 11:00), subject to availability at the time of confirmation.
- Meal plan:
  - Daily Breakfast in Delhi.
  - Breakfast, lunch and Dinner at all places in Ladakh as per itinerary
  - A special dinner at the Kangyokspa House in The Kyagar.
- Ground transportation in A/C Innova Crysta as per itinerary program with chauffeur, and all expenses related to the vehicle
- All activities, sightseeing, and associated entrance fees as per the itinerary.
- **Domestic flights** from Delhi to Leh on Day 03 and Leh to Delhi on Day 11.
- Knowledgeable English Speaking **local guides** during sightseeing in Delhi and English Speaking **accompanying guide** for the sightseeings in Ladakh as per the itinerary.
- Local Assistance on arrival/departure in Delhi for International and domestic flights.
- Complimentary 500ml X 02 Mineral Water Bottles – per person per day.
- Inclusive of currently applicable taxes.

Exclusions

- International Flights
- Supplements if any
- Visa
- Insurance
- Meals, unless otherwise mentioned as included

- Gratuities to drivers, guides, porters and any other service staff
- Any kind of personal expenses
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions or itinerary

Payment and Cancellation Policy

- A minimum deposit of **25% of the total trip cost** is required to confirm the booking. The full balance payment must be completed at least 90 days prior to the trip start date.
- Cancellation Charges:
    - 90-60 days prior to trip start: 50% of the total trip cost
    - Less than 60 days prior to trip start: 100% of the total trip cost

Thank you

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