



# LAHAUL & SPITI

*Drive*

23<sup>RD</sup> JUN - 30<sup>TH</sup> JUN 2024

6<sup>TH</sup> JUL - 13<sup>TH</sup> JUL 2024



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## About THE DRIVE

World-famous author Rudyard Kipling described Lahaul and Spiti as “a world within a world”. Fringed by the stately Himalayas and boasting of landscapes that awe and inspire with their unbelievable beauty, a self-drive road trip through this region is something that will be hard to describe in words. We will drive in a convoy on treacherous roads, marvel at stunning valleys of Kinnaur and Sangla; explore the picture-perfect hamlets of Tabo and Chitkul amidst others; enjoy a spiritual retreat at Tabo, Dhankar and Key monasteries and even visit a post office at Hikkim that’s highest in the world!

The Lahaul & Spiti Drive will ensure that you come back home feeling enriched and refreshed. Roads will be as unpredictable, inspiring and challenging as life itself, but one thing is for sure, you will end up making memories and friends for life.



# Why travel WITH AO ?



A brainchild of Sanjay Madan and Tushar Agarwal, Adventures Overland was established in the year 2012 and is today universally recognized as the end word in the realm of self-drive expeditions within India, as well as across the world. Our promise of a luxurious experience, which is safely executed and is unique in its implementation, has withstood the test of time and earned us a dedicated clientele who have undertaken multiple journeys with us, and keep coming back for more.

Our customized and truly bespoke itineraries speak for themselves, as we firmly believe in the idea of countryside sightseeing, and discovering off-beat paths. The aim is to not only visit popular tourist places, but explore and absorb the very essence of a destination.

Adventures Overland prides itself on having set the benchmark for excellence in the field of Around the World Drives, not once but numerous times. AO holds Tri-Nation Expertise (India, Nepal & Bhutan), and along with 15 Limca Book of Records under our belt, we also enjoy the distinction of being a Guinness Record Holder in Travel.

We have been felicitated with numerous awards and distinctions which include - India's Leading Tour Operator at World Travel Awards 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, Best Niche Tour Operator at Satte Awards (2020), Honoured by the Government of UAE at the Dubai Travellers Festival for special contribution towards adventure travel globally, Represented India at the 2nd ASEAN-India Car Rally, Zee Business Travel Award for Best Adventure Travel Experience Partner, and the Times Power Icons Award in Adventure and Expedition Category.

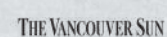
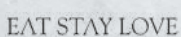
## Awards & Media



Adventure and Expedition



Best Adventure Travel Experience Partner



## Our Ratings





# Route Map LAHAUL & SPITI



Total Driving Distance: 1000 Km

# Major HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 An Off-roading expedition through the most treacherous Himalayan Trails.
- 2 Conquer some of thrilling in the country including the notorious Hindustan Tibet Highway.
- 3 Send postcards to loved ones from the World's Highest Post Office in Hikkim.
- 4 Indulge in scrumptious meals at some of the most iconic spots including the World's Highest Restaurant in Komic.
- 5 Tick off driving your 4x4 on Asia's Highest Bridge at Chicham from your bucket list.
- 6 Traverse one of India's highest motorable passes at an altitude of 14,931ft, the iconic Kunzum Pass.
- 7 Enjoy stargazing and spot the shooting stars in Tabo & Kaza.







DAY 01

Chandigarh - Narkanda

180 Km

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 and start driving towards Narkanda, a town sprawled over with apple orchards and undulating forests of oaks and cedar. En route, we will make a stop at Sterling Kufri for Lunch. Here, we will have a quick team briefing and introduced to your fellow travellers. After lunch, we continue driving towards Narkanda. We plan to reach Narkanda before sunset, where you will get to know your fellow participants even better over a welcome dinner with an ample serving of stories about the rich history of the region. Also, you get to stay amidst apple orchards.





## DAY 02

Narkanda - Sangla

175 Km

Today, we start driving towards Sarahan, a pretty hamlet in the gorgeous Kinnaur Valley. En route Sangla, we will drive under the iconic rocks protruding out of the mountains and covering the highway like a rooftop. Chances are that you have seen these rocks in movies but to witness them, in reality, is a stimulating experience. After taking enough pictures at the rocks, we will set out towards Banjara Camps, a luxurious glamping experience, our not-so-humble [and we say it with utmost delight!] abode for the next two nights. At the height of 2700 m, it is surrounded by towering forest-clad mountains on all sides and is set in an apple orchard on the banks of Baspa River that surges through the valley.





## DAY 03 Explore Sangla/Chitkul

Enjoy the beauty and adventure of Sangla Valley to the full on this day. Around noon, we drive to Chitkul which enjoys the distinction of being India's last village on the ancient Hindustan - Tibet route. And if this is not heavenly enough, a picnic lunch beside a rippling stream will make sure even the most unyielding amongst us will be charmed by the grace of unspoilt nature. Those looking for soft adventure can join the Raksham walk that takes you along rivers, through meadows and forests and over glaciers. And for the hardier lot, there is the challenging meadows walk that will have you seek a masseuse at the end of the day. Also, visit the pretty villages around and enjoy sitting along the Baspa River.





DAY 04

Sangla - Tabo

200 Km

Today is tailor-made for the driving enthusiast. We start pre-dawn to catch the early morning serenity of Kalpa, the only place in India where pine nuts (chilkozas) grow. And, you cannot but feel awestruck with the Kinnaur Kailash peak looking upon you. Get ready for a drive that you will remember for the rest of your life! You are going to drive on the World's Most Treacherous Road today as we proceed towards Tabo, a small town on the banks of Spiti River, reaching in the evening for a much-deserved rest. This seemingly quaint village of mud huts holds beautiful attractions. It is situated in a bowl-shaped flat valley with the Tabo Monastery lying at the bottom of the valley, unlike other monasteries which are usually perched atop hills.





DAY 05

## Tabo - Kaza via Dhankar Monastery

70 Km

Check out Tabo with its impressive mud monastery dating back to 996 A.D., the oldest in the country and also the largest monastic complex in Spiti Valley. It boasts of nine temples, 23 chortens, and chambers for monks and nuns and is second to Tibet's Tholing Monastery in terms of its religious sanctity. Our next stop will be at Dhankar Monastery. Strategically built at the highest point in Spiti Valley at an elevation of 3700 m above sea level, the Monastery is perched atop a 1000 ft-high spur overlooking the point where the Spiti and Pin Rivers converge. After visiting the Monastery, we continue driving towards Kaza, but before reaching our beautiful hotel, we make a quick stop for refuelling at the highest petrol pump in the world!





## DAY 06

### Exploring Kaza - Visit, high altitude villages of Langza, Hikkim and Komic

The villages around Kaza are believed to be the highest in the world, mostly caught in their time warp. Amongst other main attractions, we will also pay a visit to the Key Monastery; prettily sitting atop a cliff overlooking the spectacular valley below. Another highlight of today will be visiting the Buddha statue at Langza, which is a relatively new addition to the landscape. It feels as if the Buddha has been made to sit there to keep an eye on the pristine valley. Make sure to send postcards back home to your family & friends from Hikkim, the highest post office in the world before visiting Komic, the highest village in the world connected by a motorable road.





DAY 07

Kaza - Manali

190 Km

The seventh day will prove to be another one to clock for the driving aficionados. You will leave post breakfast for Manali with 190 km of momentous terrain to conquer. The route from Kaza to Manali will have you crossing the famed Kunzum Pass. Situated at a height of 4590 m, Kunzum Pass rests on the eastern Kunzum Range of the Himalayas. After crossing the Kunzum pass, head towards the world famous Atal Tunnel, at a length of 9.02 km, it is the longest tunnel above 10,000 feet in the world. Gliding across rivers, glaciers and undulating tracks, this will be the best and the most fascinating [not to mention challenging!] drive of your journey. The changing hues of the landscape will make for a captivating backdrop to our adventure.





# DAY 08

## Departure

Spiti - Are you Serene or Sanguine? At once, you are massive, brown, intimidating, silent, sombre, still and serene. Lost in myself, I turn around and see - You are green, vibrant and dynamic. Streams gushing, rocks rolling, rivers flowing, flowers blooming – blue, red, and yellow And all other hues? I take a little of you, leave a little of me, realize, we are a bit of both. Stupefying and splendid!” These lines encapsulate, in the most lyrical way possible, the absolutely thrilling and otherworldly quality of this experience. Challenging, unpredictable and intensely stimulating, this is one journey that will have you manoeuvring through the complexities of life itself. It’s time to head back to Delhi or your chosen destination. We part ways in Manali with a promise to meet again!



# COST

**INR 95,000/- Per Person**

## Trip INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation-all hotels and camps
- Meal-breakfast, lunch, tea and dinner
- Entry fees for monasteries
- Route planning
- Activities to make the experience truly memorable
- Back up team with a crew vehicle equipped with GPS, oxygen cylinders, emergency food supplies and first aid kit
- Road Books, Maps, Wireless Radio Sets & Vehicle Branding
- Local guidance from experts
- All inner line permits for restricted areas
- Limited stock of chocolates, snacks, water and soft beverages for every vehicle
- Adventures Overland merchandise
- Vehicle branding

## Trip EXCLUSIONS

- Breakfast on Day 1
- Your Domestic and International flights
- Meals and drinks not mentioned
- Alcoholic beverages
- Vehicle, fuel or any fuel additives
- Airfare/train fare
- 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 the official start date of an expedition and after the official end date of the expedition
- 5% GST



## ACCOMMODATION



Tethys Ski Resort, Narkanda



Baikunth Hotel, Manali



Banjara Camps, Sangla



## EXPERIENCES



Tabo Monastery



Langza



Kunzum Pass



Dhankar Monastery



# GLIMPSES OF PAST LAHAUL & SPITI EXPEDITIONS



Middle of nowhere



The Spiti Squad



Convoy



Hikkim



Key Monastery



Chitkul





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