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Ladakh and Shimla Holiday Tour

(Best time to do this programme June to September)

Day 01 Arrive Delhi

Upon arrival in Delhi airport you are met and transferred to your pre booked hotel.
 Afternoon Visit the Famous Askardham Temple.
 Evening Welcome Dinner at Local restaurant.
 Overnight at the hotel



Day 02 Delhi – Leh (by flight)

Today you are transferred to Delhi airport to board flight for Leh. Upon arrival in Leh airport you are met and transferred to your pre booked hotel.
 Rest of the day at leisure for acclimatization. Leh is the Headquarter of Leh District and the largest Town in Ladakh region.
 Overnight at the hotel

Day 03 Leh

Morning Visit Sankar, Shanti Stupa, Leh Palace. These are a couple of kms away from Leh. Sankar Monastery belongs to the Gelukpa School of Tibetan Buddhism and is a branch of Spituk Monastery. Shanti Stupa at the Hilltop was built by the Japanese for World peace, and was inaugurated by the Dalai Lama in 1985. Leh Palace was built by King Singey Namgyal in the beginning of 17 century AD. The nine-storey Palace is now deserted and has been taken over by ASI.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 04 Hemis, Thakthok, Chemday.

HEMIS MONASTERY : Hemis is situated 47 Kms from Leh on the west bank of the Indus, the monastery belongs to Dugpa Order, built on a green hillside surrounded by spectacular mountain scenery, is hidden in a gorge. It is the biggest and wealthiest monastery in Ladakh and is a must for visitors.

CHEMDAY MONASTERY : Chemday monastery is situated 40 Kms east of Leh. The monastery is situated there on the mountain side and was founded 365 years ago by Lama Tagsang Raschen with the Dharmaraja Singey Namgyal acting as patron. There is a sacred image of Padmasambhava to be seen there, one storey in height.

TAKTHOK MONASTERY : The monastery of Takthok is situated in the village of Sakti at a distance of 46 Kms from Leh. Before the monastery was founded there was a meditation cave of a Mahaadiddha called Kunga Phuntsog.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 05 Leh - Shey, Thiksey & Stok palace.

Morning visit Thiksey, Shey & Stok Palace. Thiksey Monastery was built in 1630 and is one of the most famous, largest and richest monasteries in Ladakh. Shey 03 Km from Thiksey and 18 kms South of Leh and was the seat of power of the first King of Ladakh who constructed the hilltop Fortress. The ruin Fort can be seen above the present Shey Palace. Stok Palace, is located 14 km Southeast of Leh and 8km from Shey on the other side of river Indus, where the present day royal family resides. The King Tsespal Tondup Namgyal built Stok palace & Museum in the year 1825, after Zorawar Singh's annexation of Ladakh. Visit the Palace and museum and drive back to Leh.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 06 Leh -Likir – Lamayuru - Leh via Alchi

Morning drive to Likir Likir lies at a distance of 62 Kms west of Leh. During the time of Lhachen Gyalpo, the fifth king of Ladakh, a religious estate and the land on which to build the monastery was offered to Lama Duwang Chosje, a great champion of meditation. The monastery was brought into the order of the great Lama Tsongkhapa and up till present times the ritual and observances of the three basic Pratimoksa disciplines, which from the basic of Buddhist teachings, are preserved. There are many blessed shrines in this monastery and there resides a protective deity wearing golden armour and of stern command. The successive reincarnations of Naris Rinpoche act as the incumbents of the monastery. Visit the monastery further drive to Lamayuru.

LAMAYURU MONASTERY : Lamayuru Monastery is situated 127 Kms west of Leh and 60 kms. In the 11th century the Mahasiddha Naropa came to this place and the cave where he resided and meditated is still to be seen today. Then Rinchen Zangpo, the Translator came to build many temples and Stupas and so the teaching of the Kadampa School came to flourish greatly there. The rituals and observances of the Digung Kargyud School were introduced and the monastery received the name of Yungdrung Tharpaling. The successive reincarnation of Skyabsje Toldan Rinpoche acts as the incumbents of the monastery. Visit the monastery Visit Alchi. **ALCHI MONASTERY** Although there are a great many temples, caves and stupas built in Ladakh by Rinchen Zangpo, Translator, Alchi Choskor is the large and most famous of all of them. Alchi is situated at a distance of 67 Kms west of Leh, founded by Rinchen Zangpo, Translator, in 1000 AD. The sacred temples, to be seen there include the

Principal one of the Rinchen Lhakhang, at Lotsa Lhakhang, the Jamyang Lhakhang (Manjusri temple) and the sumtsag Lhakhang. The main image is that of Vairocana but there can also be seen the five Buddha Families together with their attendant deities, The paintings are not like the Tibetan style but rather they are executive according to the Indian tradition. Other temples built by Rinchen Zangpo, Translator are to be found at Mangu and Sumda each containing a sacred image of Vaironica, various most beautiful images of the Buddhas and Bodhisatvas and many kinds of lovely paintings. They are also included among the 108 temples built by Rinchen Zangpo, the Translator, within the province of Naris Skorsum. Drive further towards Leh.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 07 Leh

Morning visit Stakna Matho, Evening visit Phyang and Spituk.

STAKNA MONASTERY: The Stakna monastery lies at a distance of 25 Kms from Leh on the Right Bank of the River Indus. The monastery formed part of the one of the many religious estates offered to the great scholar saint of Bhutan called Chosje Jamyang Palkar in about 1580 AD by the Dharmaraja Jamyang Namgial who had invited his to Ladakh.

MATHO MONASTERY : Matho is situated at a distance of 26 kms Southeast of Leh and 5 kms from Stakna on the opposite bank of the River Indus. There is a monastery, which belongs to the Sasyka Order. A Lama Dugpa Dorje founded it about five hundred years ago. Shrines and also a sacred temple dedicated to the guardian deities are to be seen there.

SPITUK MONASTERY : 8 Kms from Leh, the monastery standing on a conical hill with 3 chapels was founded in the 11th century by Od-de the elder brother of Lha Lama Changchub Od, when he come to Maryul.He introduced a monastic community.

PHYANG MONASTERY : Phyang is situated 17 kms west of Leh and 10 kms from Spituk.. The site for the monastery there formed part of one of the many monastic estates Offered to Chosje Damma Kunga from Digung during the time of Dharmaraja Jamyang Namgial, who had invited the former to Ladakh.

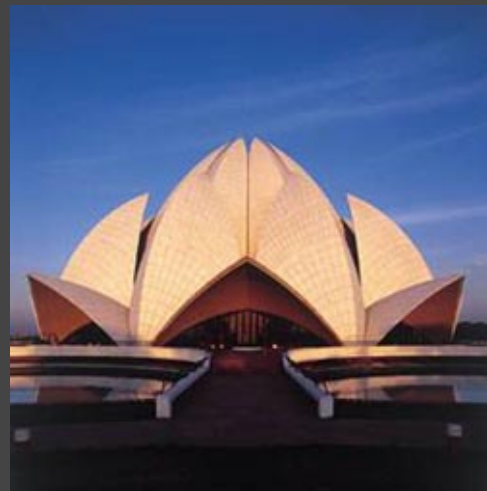
Overnight at the hotel

Day 08 Leh – Delhi (By Flight)

Today you are transferred to Leh airport to board flight for Delhi. Upon arrival in Delhi airport you are met and transferred to your pre booked hotel.

Afternoon visit the Lotus Temple or Relax

Overnight at the hotel



Day 09 Delhi – Kalka (by Train Departure 0740 hrs Arrival 1200 hrs) Kalka – Shimla (by train Departure 1210 hrs Arrival 1720 hrs)

Morning you are transferred to Delhi Railway station to board train Departure 0740 hrs for Kalka.

Upon arrival in Kalka at 1200 hrs you connect the toy train for Shimla. Upon arrival in Shimla you are met and transferred to your pre booked Hotel.

Overnight at the hotel

Day10 Shimla

Day free
Overnight at the hotel

Day 11 Shimla

Day free
Overnight at the hotel

Day 12 Shimla

Day free
Overnight at the hotel

Day 13 Shimla

Day free
Overnight at the hotel

Day 14 Shimla – Delhi (By Surface)

After a relaxed breakfast we start our drive for Delhi. Upon arrival check into your pre booked hotel.
Overnight at the hotel

Day 15 Leave Delhi (Check out at 12 noon)

After breakfast check out and then you are transferred to the airport to board flight for onward Journey.



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