



NORTH INDIA & LADAKH

The foothills of North India offer stunning scenery as well as religious shrines and ancient monuments. The Himalayas form a dramatic backdrop to green hills and valleys, meadows full of flowers, rushing streams, waterfalls and forests.

The starkly beautiful desert landscape of Ladakh is dotted with monasteries, fluttering prayer flags and high peaks. This mysterious land has only been open to tourism since 1974, and retains strong Buddhist cultural links with Tibet.

The Golden Temple © Shutterstock

HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

9 days/8 nights

From \$2546 per person twin share

Departs daily ex Delhi

Price per person from*: Cat A \$3217 Cat B \$2886 Cat C \$2546

*Based on two people sharing, singles on request.

INCLUSIONS

Transfers to and from train stations, train fare Delhi/Amritsar and Shimla/Kalka/Delhi in an A/C chair car, city tours and excursions in private air-conditioned Innova vehicle or similar with English speaking driver, local guides, entrance fees, accommodation on a bed & breakfast basis and lunch where mentioned, 1 bottle of water per person per day for all surface travel, standard still camera fees.

- A** Taj Swarna (Dlx Rm)/Rakkh Resort (Hill Cottage)/ShivAadya Resort (Royal Rm)/The Cecil (Dlx Rm)
- B** Hyatt (Std Rm)/Eagle Nest (Suite)/ShivAadya Resort (Luxury Rm)/The Clarks (Superior Rm)
- C** Ranjit Svaasa (Svaasa Suite)/Surya Resort (Dlx Rm)/Banon Resort (Deluxe Rm)/Woodville Palace (Std Rm)

This tour combines the holy Sikh city of Amritsar with the emerald valleys of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. Explore McLeod Ganj, the present home of the Dalai Lama and experience the peaceful atmosphere of Tibetan Buddhism. Visit Shimla, once the summer capital of the British, before you take the Toy Train to Kalka and return to Delhi.

Day 1 Amritsar

Early morning departure by air-conditioned train to Amritsar. Transfer to your hotel. Evening visit to the Golden Temple to witness holy worship.



Day 2 Amritsar

Morning city tour of Amritsar. Afternoon drive to the Indo-Pakistan border at Wagah (35km) to see the changing of the guard (subject to change). B

Days 3/4 McLeod Ganj

Drive to McLeod Ganj (5 hrs), headquarters of the Tibetan government in exile and seat of his Holiness the Dalai Lama. On Day 4 enjoy sightseeing in McLeod Ganj, including the Institute of Tibetan Arts and Namgyal Monastery. BL/B

Days 5/6 Manali

Morning drive to the hill station of Manali (7 hrs). Afternoon at leisure. On Day 6 tour the 16th century Hadimba Temple and the village of Vashisht, renowned for its hot springs and temples. BL/B

Days 7/8 Shimla

Drive to Shimla (8 hrs), situated at an altitude of 2,213 metres. This former summer capital of the British is also known as the "Queen of Hills" in India. On Day 8 enjoy a morning sightseeing tour including the Viceregal Lodge, Jakhoo Hill and Himachal State Museum. Afternoon at leisure. BL/B

Day 9 Tour ends Delhi

Transfer to railway station to board the Toy Train "Himalayan Queen" for Kalka, change trains and board the "Shatabdi Express" bound for Delhi. Transfer to airport or hotel. Tour ends. B



Monks enjoying morning tea in McLeod Ganj © Jean Maxwell



The Cecil, Shimla © Oberoi Hotels & Resorts



Buddhist temples in McLeod Ganj © Shutterstock

HIMALAYAN WONDERLAND

8 days/7 nights

From \$3021 per person twin share*

Departs daily ex Leh

The stunning region of Ladakh is blessed with some of the world's mightiest mountain ranges and spectacular desert landscapes. The ancient monasteries that adorn the hillsides are cared for and maintained by resident monks. On this tour you will visit many of these 'gompas' for insight into local Tibetan Buddhist culture, explore the breathtaking, dramatic surroundings, and experience the traditional lifestyle of the warm, friendly Ladakhi people.

*Based on two people sharing, singles on request.

INCLUSIONS

Transfers, city tours and excursions in private vehicle with English speaking driver, local guides, entrance fees, accommodation on a full board basis, 1 bottle of water per person per day for all surface travel, standard still camera fees.

EXCLUSIONS

Airfare Delhi/Leh/Delhi.

Days 1-3 Stok

Arrive Leh and transfer to Stok (45 mins). The remainder of the day is free to acclimatise. On Days 2/3 explore the highlights of this area including Shey Palace with its two storey-high gilded statue of Buddha, the 600-year old Thiksey Monastery, Leh Palace and Stupa. Also enjoy walks through beautiful landscapes, and a traditional family lunch. Overnight at Stok Palace. LD/BLD

Day 4 Uleytokpo

A scenic drive over winding roads past small villages leads to the Alchi Monastery and the 14th century Likir Gumpa with its priceless paintings. Continue on to Uleytokpo, exploring the Rizong Monastery in the afternoon. Overnight at Ule Ethnic Resort or the Apricot Tree Hotel. BLD



Remote mountain monastery, Ladakh © Shutterstock

Days 5/6 Nimmu

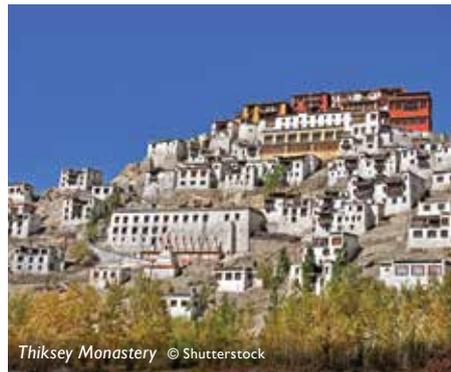
Morning at leisure before enjoying a hike to Basgo Gumpa and Fort ruins located on a hilltop. Continue on to Nimmu, a traditional farming settlement featuring two monasteries. On Day 6 explore the village and its surrounds. Overnight at Nimmu House. BLD

Day 7 Leh

Today you have the option of rafting on the Zaskar River in the Indus Valley or exploring the mountainous Chilling area before a transfer to Leh for overnight at Grand Dragon Hotel. BLD

Day 8 Tour ends Leh

Early transfer to the airport. Tour ends. B



Thiksey Monastery © Shutterstock



Stunning Ladakhi scenery © Shutterstock

OBEROI WILDFLOWER HALL - SHIMLA

4 days/3 nights

From \$2346 per person twin share*

Departs daily ex Delhi

*Based on two people sharing, singles on request.

INCLUSIONS

Transfers to and from train stations in private air-conditioned vehicle, train fare Delhi/Kalka and Chandigarh/Delhi in an A/C chair car and from Kalka/Shimla in a non A/C chair car, accommodation on a B&B basis, 1 bottle of water per person per day for all surface travel, standard still camera fees.

Experience Oberoi's 5-star Wildflower Hall, located at 2,500m in Shimla amongst magnificent Himalayan scenery. Nestled amid 23 acres of thick cedar forest, this luxury resort recreates the grand style of colonial summer retreats. 85 bright, spacious guest rooms branch off plush carpeted corridors, with huge windows to appreciate the spectacular surroundings. Dedicated butlers are at your disposal 24 hours a day, while a team of therapists are on hand for yoga, meditation or Ayurvedic treatments at bespoke locations around the hotel. Meals are served in a chic indoor dining room, in the light-filled conservatory or on the outdoor terrace. Activities at this property include picnics in breathtaking settings, guided nature walks, white water rafting and cycling. There is also a heated indoor pool and an outdoor hot tub.

