



itineraries

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## Ladakh Trans Himalayan Jeep Safari

From	To
2011	
Available on request – minimum 2 persons	
Best times to visit – mid June to October	

**Grade:** Moderate  
Max elevation 5325m  
Best time to visit  
Mid June to October



**Duration:** 13 Days

**Land only price per person (join in Delhi). Includes four star hotel in Delhi, local hotels and fixed camps**

Group Size	2-6	7-12
4 star hotel in Delhi, local hotels and fixed camps in Ladakh	£1395	£1195
Flight Price Leh to Delhi	From £195 per person economy one way subject to change & availability	
Flight price UK to Delhi	From £300 economy return	
Single hotel/camp supplement	£625	

### Introduction:

Ladakh the remote borderland at the end of the Western Himalayas and cut off for the road communication for seven months of the year is now accessible from Manali in Himachal Pradesh through the highest mountain passes in the world. This overland safari begins in the green, verdant valleys of Kullu-Manali, skirts around the mysterious valleys of Lahoul and Spiti, climbs over high passes as high as Tanglang (5112m) and Baralacha (4891m) to the awesome vistas of the tableland of "Little Tibet". During this journey you'll drive across three major mountain ranges of-the Greater Himalayas, Zaskar and Ladakh-to the foothills of the highest mountain mass of the world, the Karakoram or Mustagh, encompassing the world's second highest peak, K2 (8611 m.). In between high passes and grotesque gorges you'll traverse extensive, stark moonscapes, the legendary Moore plains and the surrealistic steppes of Sarchu. The valley heights range between 1700m to 4600m where cold, wild, winds scrape the rubble and whistle past a lonesome Chorten or a Mani (prayer) stone wall. Atop high passes you'll come face-to face with a maze of



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snow-capped mountain tops and serrated craggy ridges which hide some of the world's largest glaciers outside the polar region. Nubra Valley is popularly known as Ldorma or the Valley of Flowers and is situated to the North of Ladakh between the Karakoram & Ladakh ranges of the Himalayas.

This both stunning and daunting terrain has not deterred the lone wayfarer or the trade caravans of old who traveled back and forth on this route on foot, camel and yak, carrying spices, brocades and jewels and whose ancient travelers carried cross currents of culture and ethnic variations, transferring this Trans-Himalayan land into a rich repository of myriad cultural and religious influences from mainland India, Tibet and Central Asia.

### **Day 01: Arrive Delhi**

Welcome to Delhi, a fascinating city amid the wonder of India. You'll be met and assisted at the airport by our local representatives who will arrange the transfer and check in to your hotel for a good night's rest.

### **Day 02: Delhi to Chandigarh by Shatabdi Express train & transfer to Nalagarh**

This morning you'll be transferred to the railway station to board your train for Chandigarh. On arrival you'll be met for the transfer drive (around 2 hours) on to Nalagarh where we'll rest overnight at Nalagarh Fort.

### **Day 03: Nalagarh to Manali, 250km, 7-8 hrs**

After breakfast today we'll begin the drive to Manali at the northern end of the Kullu valley. A picturesque little town bustling with activity, Manali is the most popular place in Himachal Pradesh during the summer season. Around Manali, nature has lavished the region with forests, waterfalls, green slopes, rivulets and soaring snow covered mountain peaks. Manali also boasts a Mountaineering Institute, which provides training in mountaineering, skiing and other adventure activities. It's a long but scenic drive today. On arrival we'll rest overnight at a local hotel.

### **Day 04: Manali to Jespa – 147km, 6-7 hrs**

After an early breakfast we'll drive to Jespa a small village in the Lahaul region. En route we'll cross Rohtang Pass (3980m) and pay a visit to Keylong village. The lofty Shingri Glacier is seen in all its grandeur today with its high passes standing between them and the civilized world. The people of these valleys have an intense love for their home culture rich in song and dance whilst Spiti Valley is famous for Yaks and Choru. Rest overnight in our local hotel.

### **Day 05: Jespa to Sarchu, 98km, 5-6 hrs**

Beyond Jespa, the region's main town, the road follows the Bhaga River up towards its source. It hairpins up to the Baralacha-La (4892m), a pass that is perhaps unique in its being a tri-junction, with a trail from Spiti coming in from the southeast. We'll rest overnight at our tented camp tonight.

### **Day 06: Sarchu to Leh, 253km 8-9hrs**

After breakfast this morning we begin our drive to Leh, crossing the Zaskar Range and 2 high passes, the La Chung-La (5059m) and the Tanglang La (5325m). Leh is rapidly spreading in all directions from its original position beneath the long abandoned Namgyal Palace. While the town has come a long way



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from the days when polo was played on its main street, Leh still remains a pleasant, traditional Himalayan town. Rest and relax overnight in a local hotel.

### **Day 07: Leh**

After breakfast today enjoy a full day guided sightseeing focusing on the massive Tibetan Buddhist Gompas & monasteries of Hemis, Shey and Thiksey. A few kilometers up the Indus is Shey, the ancient capital, with its palaces, temples, and vibrantly coloured murals, cleaned and restored in the mid 1980's. Hemis was founded under the direct patronage of members of the ruling Namgyal dynasty.

Hemis Monastery is the largest in Ladakh, established in 1672 by the then King. There are a number of shrines and temples of considerable interest here and the gumpa itself stands out from the mountainside in traditional Tibetan style. This is also the home of Sakyamuni, a statue of Lord Buddha made of precious metals. The library houses a rare collection of valuable manuscripts and thangkas (paintings on cloth) including the world's largest created in 1630. In July a colourful festival is held here when the monks perform colourful traditional masked dances in honour of Guru Padmasambhava and lamas travel from afar, dressed in their traditional national costumes to join the celebrations.

Around 17km from Leh and en route from Hemis Monastery, Thiksey Monastery provides a great panoramic view of the Indus Valley from its vantage point atop a hill. There are several important temples and wall paintings of Lord Buddha in this 800 year old monastery as well as many precious silver and gold statues. Close by is the summer palace of the old Raja of Leh. We'll also have a chance to visit Shey Monastery on our drive back to Leh. Here, is the largest copper statue of Lord Buddha, plated with gold and standing 7.5 m high and well worth seeing. Later today we'll head back to Leh where we can relax over dinner at our hotel with the rest of the evening free.

### **Day 08: Leh to Sumoor (4350m) & over Khardong La pass (5260m)**

This morning we'll leave Leh and drive on to Sumoor village, around 120 kms and 5-6 hours drive over the high Khardong La pass the highest motorable road pass in the world. The view from the top of this pass is amazing and weather permitting we'll be able to see all the way south over the Indus Valley to the seemingly endless peaks and ridges of the Zaskar range, and north to the giants of the Saser massif. After crossing the pass, we'll drive another 80 kms, around 2-3 hrs across the river Shyok to reach Sumoor village. Overnight at Sumoor Camp.

### **Day 09: Sumoor to Disket (4600m) to Hundar (4150m) to Sumoor**

Camel safaris are famous in Ladakh, mainly in the Nubra Valley from Hundar to Disket where we'll be visiting today and where camels remain the chief mode of transport in the cold deserts of Ladakh as they were in ancient times. The double hump Bactrian camels are also called 'Real Camels' and 'Ships of the Desert' and are the descendants of the camels used for riding and transportation of goods along the famed 'Silk Route' in the 18th and 19th centuries. A camel safari as well as being a memorable experience is also a great way to explore the rugged mountain terrain and experience a taste of the lifestyle of the remote villages of the Nubra Valley where the landscape varies from lush green apricot orchards to frozen deserts and snow-capped peaks. Enjoy a morning Bactrian camel safari today (subject to availability, main season July to September) either at Disket or Hundar before we head off on the drive to Hundar stopping en route to visit Disket Monastery that perches on a rock overhanging a stream, used as the source of energy by the mills of the monastery. The monastery is full of Thangkas



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(silk paintings), magnificent giant statues of the Buddha and ancient mural paintings. Returning to Sumoor we'll rest overnight at Sumoor camp.

### Day 10: Sumoor to Leh

Today we'll drive back to Leh over the Khardung La. This afternoon is at leisure to rest and relax or perhaps take a stroll around the local area and visit the local market. Rest overnight at a local guesthouse or hotel.

### Day 11: Leh

Enjoy a full day tour of Leh and surrounds today including a visit to Shankar Monastery. A relatively modern monastery, Shankar is closely associated with the Spituk monastery and serves as the residence of the head priest Kushak ba kula. A number of gold icons are to be found here. 8km from Leh, Spituk monastery stands prominently on the top of a hillock commanding panoramic view of the Indus Valley for miles. Many icons of Buddha and fine thankas are to be found in this 15<sup>th</sup> century gumpa. The gumpa also houses a collection of ancient masks, antique arms, and an awe-inspiring image of Mahakli. Today we'll also visit Phyang Monastery which is 17kms from the Leh-Kargil road, built by Tashi Namgyal in the later half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century AD. It belongs to the Red Cap Sect of Buddhism and hundreds of icons of Buddha and other gods are kept on wooden shelves here. Later today we'll return to the hotel where the rest of your evening is at leisure.

### Day 12: Leh to Delhi – by air

This morning we'll transfer to the local airport in time to connect to our flight back to Delhi. On arrival we'll transfer to our hotel and check in with the remainder of your day at leisure to relax at the hotel or perhaps do some last minute shopping nearby. Overnight Delhi.

### Day 13: Depart Delhi

Today your time is free to relax until departure or to commence any additional optional trips or activities you may have booked. If departing, you'll be transferred to the International airport in time for your return flight home.

### Extending your holiday

There are many choices and options if you'd like to extend your holiday before or after your main booking. Here are just a few suggestions of extensions available for this trip:

- See the wonder of the Taj Mahal and enjoy relaxed sightseeing around Agra & Delhi
- Visit the neighbours – take a trip to nearby Nepal, Bhutan or even Tibet
- Enjoy the adrenaline rush of white water rafting
- Relax and cruise the waterways of Kerala on a traditional houseboat
- Soak up the beachlife in Goa or cruise along peaceful waterways of Kerala
- Relax and be pampered at a luxury spa resort

Please contact our UK office if you'd like to extend your stay by booking one of the above options, if you would like ideas or advice on how best to spend your time and budget or if you would like help with arranging any special celebrations during your trip.



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### Useful Information

The following information is aimed at helping you to decide whether this trip is right for you. Additional information can be found on our website and in our brochure. If you have any questions or would like advice on any aspect of this trip please contact us and we'll be happy to go through everything with you.

### Day to Day Itinerary

It must be realized that with adventure travel changes to an itinerary may occur, for example due to unexpected weather conditions. The day to day itinerary is provided as a general guideline and is intended to give you a general sense of what to expect, including places visited and activities during the trip to help with your decision regards which trip is the best one for you. Activities and timings may vary slightly from those outlined Your guide will make any changes necessary and all arrangements during the trip, including explaining reasons for any changes to the itinerary that may occur.

### Trip Duration and Grading

This trip is 13 days with Day 1 beginning in Delhi and ending on Day 13 with departure from Delhi. The trip has been graded moderate with some higher elevations when crossing high passes as part of your overland jeep safari. There will be some day walks as part of your guided sightseeing, for example when visiting temples and monasteries, usually a maximum of a few hours walking each day. A reasonable to good level of fitness is required for this trek.

### Group Size

The maximum number of persons on this trip will be 12 and the minimum number 2 persons. By keeping group sizes small it means we can provide a more personal service to you.

### Local Representatives and Guides

You will be met at the airport on arrival by our local representatives who will always be available to help with your arrival, departure and any queries or requirements during your trip. The group will be accompanied by a local English speaking guide throughout the trip. Once you have confirmed your booking we will send you details of how you will be met on arrival and you will meet your guide just after you arrive.

### Accommodation

During this trip you will spend 02 nights at a good 4 star hotel such as Le Meridien or similar in Delhi. You'll spend 01 night at Nalagarh Fort at Nalagarh and 01 night at the River Country Resort in Manali. You'll also spend 01 night at the Hotel Ibex in Jespa and 01 night at Fixed Camp in Sarchu. In Leh you'll spend 04 nights at a local A category hotel and 02 nights at Fixed Camp at Summor.

All accommodation is based on twin share. If you are traveling on your own and are happy to share with someone, we will arrange for you to share a room with someone of the same sex, at no extra charge. If you request a single room the single room supplement charge for this trip will apply. It is usually possible to arrange single room accommodation but please contact our office to confirm this.



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### Meals

In Delhi meals on bed and breakfast basis are included. At Nalagarh and at Manali meals on half board (breakfast and either lunch or dinner) are included. During the rest of your overland tour meals on full board (breakfast, lunch, dinner tea and coffee) are included, including some days when packed lunches will be provided during the day. Snacks, bottled drinks including mineral water and alcohol are not included.

### Flight Inclusive Price and International Flights

The flight inclusive price is based on best available price (at the time of producing our current brochure) of economy return flights from the UK added to the 'land only' price. Flight prices are subject to change and do vary throughout the year. We use a variety of airlines and scheduled flights on our trips including British Airways, Air India, Gulf Air, Qatar Air etc. Our ATOL licence is T7199 and we work with other ATOL holders to issue flight tickets. For exact air fares and flight classes available at the time you wish to travel please contact us.

### Land Only Option

Our trips are based on 'land only' as well as flight inclusive options to allow you the flexibility to choose to make your own arrangements for flights or perhaps to arrive a few days earlier or leave a few days later than the trip or to join the trip from anywhere in the world. If you choose the land only option we will provide full details of how and when to meet the rest of your group, details of your hotel and local contacts upon confirmation of your booking. All accommodation during your trip is included in the price although additional days before or after the start and end dates of your trip are not included. We are happy to book additional accommodation or optional activities, based on your requirements and budget, on request.

Please note that whilst at all times we aim to run our trip even with just a few persons, on some of the longer treks or trips, should the group size be less than our minimum operating level we may cancel the trip up to 6 weeks before departure. In the rare event that this happens, we will offer alternative dates or trips or refunds as appropriate and agreed with you. If you are arranging your own flights and accommodation prior to the start date of a group trip we recommend that you book fully flexible and refundable accommodation and transport if booking more than 6 weeks in advance, as should we need to cancel the trip compensation will not be paid for any arrangements that have been made independently.

### Climate and Weather

Depending on where you want to go and what you want to do, it is possible to visit India throughout the year. The coolest weather is from November to mid March when there are cool fresh mornings and evenings with dry sunny days. Between April and June the weather can be very hot and dry. Generally June to October is the best time to visit Ladakh.

### Clothing and Equipment

Generally lightweight to medium weight clothing in natural fabrics from March to October with something warmer for the evenings and warm clothing for winter. We also suggest you take comfortable walking shoes and a small day pack or shoulder bag. In the mountains and at high altitude the weather can change rapidly so it is important to have appropriate clothing and equipment. On fully provisioned



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camping style treks we provide twin share dome or A frame sleeping tents, kitchen tent, mess tent, toilet tent, tables, chairs, stools, lanterns/candles, thin sleeping mattresses, all crockery and cutlery and a fully equipped kitchen set up. Upon booking with us we will send you a suggested clothing and equipment list appropriate to your trip including details of any must have items or items that can be hired (if required).

### **Baggage Allowance**

We request that you aim for a maximum weight of 15 to 20 kg for your main baggage including clothing and personal equipment. Many of our trips involve porters and/or local flights and 15kg is the maximum safe weight allowance for porters and permitted on local flights. International flights will usually permit up to 20kg maximum weight. If trekking, some additional baggage can usually be stored until you return from your trek. Remember you may also want to leave some weight allowance for any items you have bought during your trip! The Himalayan Adventure Company and our local partners are not responsible for excess baggage charges.

### **Complimentary Himalayan Adventure Company Travel Gift**

On confirmation of booking we will provide a complimentary Himalayan Adventure Company travel gift. In the past, gifts have included items such as trek bags and shirts and vary each season, and we aim to provide useful gifts which can be used and enjoyed during your trip with us and afterwards.

### **Passport and Visa Requirements**

A full valid passport and a current visa are required for all trips and treks in India. Passports must have at least 6 months validity after the completion date of your trip. To secure your booking and avoid any additional charges, please ensure that the information (eg spelling of your name) provided to us on your booking form matches exactly the details as shown in your passport.

All foreigners (adults and children) who plan to visit India are required to obtain a valid Visa in their home country before arrival to India. Tourists wishing to visit India are usually granted short-term tourist visas, effective from the date of issue and valid for 6 months or up to 1 year depending on the type of visa issued. These tourist visas are non-extendible and non-convertible.

If you are planning to visit restricted or protected areas you will need an additional special permit and should contact the VF Services Ltd or the High Commission of India, London to check whether the places you intend to travel to are categorised as restricted/protected areas. For example if you plan to visit Sikkim or Ladakh you will need to mention this when applying for your Visa to ensure you are issued with the appropriate permits for your travel.

**No Visas are issued upon arrival in India – you must have a valid visa prior to arrival in India. If you are simply transiting in India and will not be going through immigration but immediately taking an onward flight you may not require a visa. Please check with us for information & guidance.**

The procedure for applying for a visa has now changed with effect from June 2008 aimed at improving Visa services. The visa application process has now been outsourced to VF Services (UK) Limited to whom all visa applications must now be made. The main way to apply for your India visa is online where you will also be able to track the progress of your visa application. In addition to the online application form a number of Indian Visa Application Centres (IVACs) in London and Birmingham will provide visa processing services.



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To apply for your India visa you will need to submit your visa application to either of the VF Services (UK) Ltd. offices in person or by post or use the main online process where you can apply and find more information at <http://in.vfsglobal.co.uk>. This link is also available from the Useful Links page of our website at [www.thehimalayanadventurecompany.com](http://www.thehimalayanadventurecompany.com) or [www.greathimal.com](http://www.greathimal.com)

The new system is very much based around an online application process and you are advised to complete the Indian visa application form and pay the fees [online](#). After doing this you will then be able to make an appointment to drop your application and passport at the Visa Application Centre or send it by post and to plan your trip to the [India Visa Application Centre](#) and avoid unnecessary queues and delays. You will also still be able to walk into an India Visa Application Centre (IVAC) and wait in the queue to submit your application if you prefer.

Processing times vary from application to application at the sole discretion of the High Commission of India and its Consulates in the UK, and some applications may take longer than others to get processed. However general guidelines are that applications submitted in London and Birmingham will take a minimum 2 to 3 working days to be processed. Postal applications need approximately 15 working days to be processed. This does not include the period they are in transit to and from the High Commission or the Consulate General.

For more information or guidance please contact VF Services Ltd can be contacted via their website at <http://in.vfsglobal.co.uk/index.aspx>, by post at 142-148 Goswell Road, London EC1V 7DU, email [info.inuk@vfshelpline.com](mailto:info.inuk@vfshelpline.com), by telephone (answered between 0830hrs to 1600hrs) +44 207 8287369 or by fax on +44 207 8284979

If you'd like guidance and more information we will also be happy to help and you can contact us at [info@greathimal.com](mailto:info@greathimal.com), by phoning 0845 094 0273 or by visiting our website at [www.greathimal.com](http://www.greathimal.com)

You are responsible for ensuring you have a valid passport and visa prior to departure. Where appropriate, we will arrange any special permits or visas required to visit specific restricted areas included as part of the itinerary whilst you are in the country and may request information from you to allow us to do this.

### Permits

To enter certain areas e.g. National Parks or other trekking or protected areas, you may require a permit. All our trip prices include the cost of relevant permits and entrance fees. Where this is not the case, for example you have booked a tailor made private trip, we will inform you of any required permit fees before you make a booking with us.

### Health and Medical Information

It is your responsibility to ensure you are well and fit enough to join the trip. If you are unsure of this please contact our office to talk it through with one of our experienced staff members. We also recommend you speak to your GP if you are in any way unsure of your fitness level required to join the trip. We also suggest you have a thorough medical and dental check up before you travel. You may need specific vaccinations appropriate to the country or area you will visit. You must tell us if you have an existing medical condition or disability that might affect your holiday before you make a booking with



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us. If, in our reasonable opinion, your chosen holiday is not suitable for your medical condition, disability or level of fitness, we reserve the right to cancel the contract or to suggest more appropriate alternative options for you. A group medical kit will be carried on each trip or trek but we also recommend that individuals carry their own basic first aid kit and we will send a suggested list of items for this when you make a booking.

For useful health and general travel advice and information we suggest you visit the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website at <http://www.fco.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo> and also obtain a copy of the UK Department of Health leaflet *Advice on Health for Travellers* or speak to your local GP or practice nurse for their recommendations.

### What's Included in the Price?

Airport transfers on arrival to and departure from Delhi by air conditioned car, 02 nights hotel accommodation in Delhi at the 4 star Le Meridien Hotel or similar on twin share bed and breakfast basis, air conditioned car and driver for arrival and departure transfers in Delhi, 10 nights accommodation at local hotels, lodges and 03 nights at fixed camps on twin share half board (02 nights at Nalagarh and Manali) and 08 nights on full board basis (breakfast, lunch and dinner, tea and coffee included) as per the itinerary, non air-conditioned jeep for overland safari from Chandigarh to Leh, local Buddhist English speaking guide in Leh, local English speaking escort guide from Chandigarh to Leh, sightseeing and activities as per itinerary including monument and monastery entrance fee during sightseeing, train fare Delhi-Chandigarh by air conditioned chair car, inner line permit handling charges for access to Nubra Valley, all applicable government taxes, complimentary travel gift, complimentary Safe Seat Plan issued to all our clients confirming 100% financial protection of your booking with us at all times.

### What's Not Included in the Price?

Visa fees, international or domestic flights (available on request, subject to change and availability), personal travel insurance, vaccinations, airport departure and reentry fees, mandatory airport development fee (ADF) payable directly to the airport authorities on departure\*, additional private bus, car or jeep rental to any destination on the trek other than transport provided during the trip, bar/alcoholic beverages, bottled water, personal expenses eg for souvenirs, personal clothes, food or snacks during transfer journeys, tips for guides, porters, driver etc, alternative transportation, accommodation or other service required as a result of missed, delayed or cancelled flights, illness, weather conditions such as heavy rainfall, landslide, strikes, road blockage or other unexpected event outside our control (payable locally and directly if required), laundry, optional trips, holiday extensions and activities, excess luggage charges, additional accommodation before or after the start and end dates specified (available on request).

*\*From 01 March 2009 for the next 3 years a mandatory Airport Development Fee (ADF) will be levied on all domestic and international flights by the Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL). The charge will be INR200 (approx £2.74) for each domestic passenger departing from Delhi and INR1300 (approx £17.80) for each international passenger (including Kathmandu and Paro departures). All visitors to India from 01 March 2009 will be required to pay these new mandatory charges to the airport authorities directly at the time of departure.*

**Please note:** Accommodation will be provided in mentioned hotels or hotels of the same category, air fare Leh to Delhi is subject to change and availability



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### Our Experience

We have a love of and respect for the Himalaya. Our founders and office staff are all experienced travelers who share many years of helping other travelers achieve their ambitions. The fact that we specialise in travel to the Himalaya and that we have extensive local knowledge and experience of the area means that we can offer you a wide range of travel options and provide the best standards of service to you. Being an independent specialist travel operator means we can offer a friendly personal service and are able to be flexible and use our experience and contacts to build new and tailor made programs as well as to continue to develop new and improved services. We have a wealth of experience in helping many individuals and groups in designing and planning adventures, ranging from romantic breaks to personal challenges to school study programmes to extreme adventure expeditions, from low budget to no expense spared and we have lots of ideas, suggestions and experience to share with you. We are also delighted to say that many of our clients return again and again to travel with us and many of our new clients are through recommendations and word of mouth from happy and satisfied clients who have previously traveled with us.

### Fair Pricing

We aim to provide you with the best service at fair and competitive prices and excellent value for money. As part of this, most of our trips are priced for different group sizes with the higher price applicable for smaller groups. With larger groups the price drops so that everyone benefits from a cheaper holiday. We offer 'land only' prices, for travellers who prefer to make their own international flight and transfer arrangements but are happy to arrange flights for you on request, using a variety of international carriers from regional and national airports. Our ATOL number is T7199 and we work with other ATOL holders to issue flight tickets. Additionally, we offer special discounts for groups of 10 or over, schools and group leaders. Contact us for more information.



### Your Financial Protection

We understand how important it is that the money you spend on your holiday is securely protected. You may also have concerns about booking with an independent operator. To give you peace of mind and confidence in our service to you we have a number of ways in which we protect the money you pay for your holiday. The company is a full member of the Travel Trust Association (<http://www.traveltrust.co.uk>) membership number U3237, in compliance with the EC Directive on Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours. For flight bookings and issuing of tickets our ATOL number is T7199 and we work only with ATOL licence holders. For flight bookings the money you pay is protected under the ATOL holder's licence. For all other arrangements, your payment to us is held in a separate Trust Fund and only released to us on your return. In addition, we provide free to you, a 'Safe Seat Plan' insurance cover which means that in the unlikely case of your money not being held in the Trust Account or of our insolvency, you will be fully reimbursed for the loss of any monies paid to us, up to a limit of £11 000 per person. Therefore, for your peace of mind and confidence, all money you have paid to us is always 100% protected and available to pay for the services you have booked.



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### Insurance

Before confirming your booking we will need to see evidence of adequate travel insurance. Whilst you are able to choose your insurance from any provider, we recommend the Travel Trust Association (TTA) as providing some of the best and most competitive travel insurance on the market to our clients. Policies can be printed and given or mailed out or emailed to you. For our higher elevation treks and tours we work with Snowcard who provide excellent and very competitive insurance services for adventure and activity based travel. For no obligation quotes please follow the links on our website from the Useful Links, Make a Booking or Latest News pages where you can check quotes and cover details as well as purchase your travel insurance online. If you'd like to contact Snowcard directly they can be called on 01327 262805 or visit their website at [www.snowcard.co.uk](http://www.snowcard.co.uk). If calling or emailing please mention you are a Himalayan Adventure Company client to obtain lower rates and quotes based on our trips which are very competitive and offer great levels of cover. Contact us for more information, to request a quote, to see policy wording or to purchase your insurance.

### Responsible Tourism

We believe that tourism should benefit local communities and that responsible travel does not mean a compromise in standards. We aim to promote responsible travel that respects and benefits local cultures, communities and environments and we support Tourism Concern, are a sponsor of the International Porter Protection Group and a friend of The Sahara Group. We only work with local guides and communities in each region where we operate and we work with local partners, guides, office and support staff and ensure they have good facilities and fair wages and we work as a team to ensure you a wonderful adventure holiday.

### Suggested Reading

We recommend you learn about the places and cultures you will visit before you travel so that you can enjoy your travel even more. Below are just a few varied suggestions to get you started:

Lonely Planet India (Travel Guide), Hugh Finlay, Sarina Singh (Editor), Seasons of Splendour: Tales, Myths and Legends of India, Madhur Jaffrey, Michael Foreman (Illustrator), A Journey in Ladakh, Andrew Harvey, Ancient Futures: Learning from Ladakh, Helena Norberg-Hodge, Peter Matthiessen, HH The Dalai Lama (preface); Ladakh, Manali Zanskar.

### How to Book

Once you have chosen your trek or trip, contact our office to check availability and ask any questions you may have. We'll hold a provisional booking for 7 days. Please read our Terms and Conditions prior to making your booking. Then email, post or fax us your completed booking form (available in our brochure or downloaded from our website) along with the appropriate non refundable deposit of £250 per person and (if applicable) any payments for flight bookings. All flight fares are subject to change and availability until final confirmation and as they vary so much throughout the year, all flights must be paid in full at the time of confirmation. If you choose to phone us with your debit or credit card details, a signed and completed booking form will still be required for confirmation of booking. Bookings will only be confirmed once we receive a completed and signed booking form along with appropriate payment.

We will confirm your booking and email you a trip dossier which will include confirmation of your booking, receipt of payment/invoice, a day by day itinerary, visa and trekking permit instructions,



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vaccination and health information, a suggested first aid pack list, a suggested equipment and clothing list, a suggested reading list appropriate to your destination, a responsible travel briefing and other useful information relevant to your booking.

The final balance for your booking will be due 12 weeks (3 months) before departure. **NO REMINDER WILL BE SENT.** Your Himalayan Adventure Company travel gift will be mailed to you separately, usually a few weeks before your departure date. For clients outside the UK, a gift will be sent on payment of delivery costs only.

We wish you a wonderful Himalayan adventure!

