

## **Overview**

### **About Spiti Valley**

Spiti valley, also known as the "Middle Land" is a Trans-Himalayan terrain bordering with Tibet at an average altitude of 4000 meters. Spiti valley is home to some of the oldest monasteries in the Himalayan region like Tabo monastery, Dhankar monastery, Sherkhang monastery and Kye monastery, strong hold of Buchen Lamas in Pin Valley, famous for Tibetan medicine system and Amchis, fossils of Langza village, highest motorable villages and passes, scenic lakes, a 1000-year-old culture, tough life, beautiful villages and people and out of this world landscape. Come and explore with us as we travel to a civilization frozen in time. Spiti Fixed Departures have been planned in a way that you explore Spiti like a local and at a pace that helps you acclimatize and enjoy at the same time.

### Highlights of the trip

- Visit the region where the scenery throughout the trip is drop-dead gorgeous and calls for a life-changing experience
- Experience the traditional blend of Buddhism and Tibetan culture and interact with the locals of Himalayan villages
- Relive your adventurous side by taking a drive through one of the World's Most Dangerous Roads
- Send a postcard from 'Highest Post Office' in the World to your loved ones and make them proud

- Lean on to the edge of Asia's highest suspensed bridge Chicham Bridge, to capture the sight of a truck that appears ant like
- Drive to the 'World's Highest Motorable Village' Komic and feel like you are on top of the world
- Capture a timelapse of the changing colours of Kinner Kailash mountain peaks as painted by the sunrays
- Travel to the Last Village of India at Chitkul and plan your lunch at 'Hindustan ka Aakhri Dhaba'

### **Spiti Valley Tour Fixed Departure Dates**

#### Chandigarh to Chandigarh

- 12th April to 19th April
- 21st April to 28th April
- 30th April to 07th May
- 10th May to 17th May
- 31st May to 07th June

#### By Train From Mumbai Pune Surat Vadodara

- 11th April to 20th April
- 20th April to 29th April
- 29th April to 08th May
- 09th May to 18th May
- 30th May to 08th June

### **Cost for Spiti Valley Tour**

- Chandigarh to Chandigarh: ₹16,499/- per person
- Delhi to Delhi: ₹17,999/- per person
- Mumbai to Mumbai: ₹20,499/- per person
- Pune to Pune: ₹21,499/- per person
- Surat to Surat: ₹20,499/- per person
- Vadodara to Vadodara: ₹20,499/- per person

## **Spiti Valley Trip Itinerary**

#### Day 1: Mumbai-Pune-Surat-Vadodara to Chandigarh

- Assemble at the station and board Paschim Express 12925 to Chandigarh.
- Enjoy games and interactive sessions during the train journey.
- Overnight train journey.

#### Day 2: Chandigarh to Narkhanda (Approx. 4 hrs | 144 Km)

- Arrive in Chandigarh and board our private tempo traveller by 4:00 PM.
- Begin the scenic journey to Narkhanda "The Queen of Hills".
- Enjoy views, games, and music en route.
- Check-in at hotel in Narkhanda (Triple Sharing).
- Dinner: Unlimited Meals.
- Overnight stay in Narkhanda.

#### Day 3: Narkhanda to Chitkul (Via Sangla)

- Wake up in the mountains and depart for Chitkul, the last village of India.
- Scenic journey via Sangla Valley with 360° mountain views.
- Explore the village, Chitkul Temple, and enjoy local beauty.
- Check-in at hotel in Chitkul (Triple Sharing).
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (Unlimited).
- Overnight stay in Chitkul.

#### Day 4: Chitkul to Nako (Via Sangla)

- Visit 'Hindustan ka Aakhri Dhaba' before leaving Chitkul.
- Journey towards Nako, stopping at Khab, the confluence of Sutlej & Spiti Rivers.
- Reach Nako and visit the Nako Lake & Monastery.
- Relax at your cozy homestay.
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (Unlimited).
- Overnight stay in Nako (Triple Sharing).

#### Day 5: Nako to Kaza (Approx. 107 Km)

- Post breakfast, depart for Kaza.
- En route visit:
  - Tabo Monastery the oldest in the Himalayas.
  - Dhankar Monastery the second-highest monastery in the world.
- Arrive in Kaza and check-in.
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (Unlimited).
- Overnight stay in Kaza (Triple Sharing).

#### Day 6: Spiti Valley Sightseeing (Komic, Hikkim, Langza, Key, Chicham)

- Explore the best of Spiti Valley:
  - Hikkim world's highest post office.

- Komic enjoy Maggi at the highest restaurant.
- Langza known for its majestic Buddha statue.
- Return to Kaza for a cozy evening.
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (Unlimited).
- Overnight stay in Kaza (Triple Sharing).

#### Day 7: Kaza to Kalpa (Via Nako)

- Morning visit to Kaza Market & Monasteries for souvenirs.
- Depart for Kalpa, a beautiful village in Kinnaur Valley.
- Enjoy stunning mountain vistas along the route.
- Check-in at hotel in Kalpa (Triple Sharing).
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (Unlimited).
- Overnight stay in Kalpa.

#### Day 8: Kalpa to Chandigarh

- Morning visit to:
  - Suicide Point view of the Kailash Ranges.
  - 3000-year-old Kalpa Monastery.
- Begin return journey to Chandigarh.
- Check-in at hotel in Chandigarh (Triple Sharing).
- Meals: Breakfast & Dinner (Unlimited).

• Overnight stay in Chandigarh.

#### Day 9: Departure Day

- Enjoy your final breakfast together.
- Check-out from the hotel.
- Board train/flight to your respective cities.
- End of Winter Spiti Road Trip.

#### Day 10: Arrival in Mumbai-Pune-Surat-Vadodara

- Reach your city with unforgettable memories.
- Trip Ends Hugs & Goodbyes!

Note: There is no single occupancy available for this trip. Rooming will be on double occupancy in hotels or double/ triple occupancy as per the layout of the homestay.

#### **Additional Information**

**Travel Timing Recommendations:** 

- For travelers coming from outside Chandigarh, please book trains or flights that arrive in Chandigarh no later than 2:00 PM on the trip start date.
- On the return, please ensure that your departure from Chandigarh is after 10:00 AM on the trip end date.

#### Itinerary Flexibility Notice:

- Itinerary changes may occur due to weather conditions, roadblocks, the physical ability of participants, or other unforeseen circumstances.
- We reserve the right to modify the itinerary in the best interest of safety, comfort, and overall experience.

#### Age Group Policy:

- Our group departures are ideal for travelers aged 16 to 42 years due to the energetic nature of the itinerary.
- We're happy to customize trips for travelers outside this age range—just let us know!

### **IRCTC Rules & Train Ticket Policy**

- Train tickets are booked through IRCTC-certified agents.
- We use AI-based tools like ConfirmTicket to predict the likelihood of ticket confirmation. However, this does not guarantee confirmation for Waitlisted or RAC (Reservation Against Cancellation) tickets.
- Bhatakna is not responsible for ticket confirmation status.
- In case a train is cancelled or rerouted, alternate arrangements will be offered at an additional cost.

#### Important Ticket Booking Advice:

- We strongly recommend booking your trip at least 30 days in advance to improve the chances of confirmed train tickets.
- Our team will assist you in exploring alternative train options with better confirmation chances. Please note:
  - These may involve a monetary difference in ticket fare, payable by the participant upon confirmation.

- If, despite predictions, your ticket remains RAC or Waitlisted, Bhatakna will not be held responsible.
- If you choose to cancel your train ticket and opt for a flight instead, standard cancellation charges will apply.

## **Inclusions**

- Train travel from Mumbai to Mumbai and other cities (as per your booked package)
- Entire trip from Chandigarh via Tempo Traveller
- Accommodation for 7 nights: 1 Night at Narkhanda, 1 Night at Kalpa, 1 Night at Nako, 2 Nights at Kaza, 1 Night at Chitkul, 1 Night at Chandigarh
- Meals: 14 meals in total (7 breakfasts and 7 dinners)
- Experienced Trip Lead available throughout the tour
- 24x7 availability of oxygen in case of emergency
- All applicable tolls, parking fees, and driver charges
- All required inner line permits

## **Exclusions**

- 5% GST
- Early check-in (before 1:00 PM) and late check-out (after 11:00 AM) at hotels
- Any additional expenses of personal nature
- Additional accommodation or food costs due to travel delays
- Any lunch or meals not mentioned in the package inclusions
- Any airfare or other transportation not included under "Inclusions"
- Parking fees and monument entry tickets during sightseeing
- Additional costs due to flight cancellations, landslides, roadblocks, or other natural calamities
- Any other services not specifically mentioned in the inclusions

## **Highlights**

- 2/3-liter water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Goggles
- Basic hiking/ training shoes
- Lip balm
- Toilet paper
- Moisturizer
- Extra camera batteries
- Identity proof
- Day Backpack (20–30 Ltrs): For daily use during sightseeing carry only essentials, leave the big bag at the hotel.
- Floaters or Sandals: Perfect for leisure time and short walks.
- 1 Warm Jacket / Down Jacket: Keeps you warm in the cold; essential for layering.
- 1 Pair of Thermals: Helps retain body heat in cold weather.
- Outdoor Shoes: Lightweight and sturdy shoes for walks and mountain travel.
- 3 Quick-Dry T-Shirts: Easy to wash and reuse; helps maintain hygiene.
- 3 Pairs of Cotton Socks: Comfortable and breathable; change them if they get moist.
- 1 Pair of Woolen Socks: Great for sleeping in cold weather; keeps your feet warm.
- 1 Poncho or Raincoat: Protects both you and your backpack from rain.
- Quick-Dry Towel: Hygienic and fast-drying a must for travel.

## **Must Carry**

- Authentic Government ID Card
- Comfortable warm clothing like woolen socks, cap, fleece jackets or warmers, down
  jacket, toiletries.
- Sunscreen & lip balm, Good U/V protection sunglasses
- Personal Medicines (if any)

### **Cancellation Policy**

In case you need to cancel your plans for the trip due to avoidable/unavoidable reasons, please do notify us via email.

The cancellation charges will be as follows:

- Booking amount is non refundable Rs. 3000/-
- If cancellations are made 30 days before the start date of the trip, 50% of the trip cost will be charged as cancellation fees.
- If cancellations are made 15-30 days before the start date of the trip, 75% of the trip cost will be charged as cancellation fees.
- If cancellations are made within 0-15 days before the start date of the trip, 100% of the trip cost will be charged as cancellation fees.
- In the case of unforeseen weather conditions or government restrictions, certain activities may be cancelled and in such cases, the operator will try his best to provide an alternate feasible activity. However, no refund will be provided for the same.

## **Itinerary**

#### Which is the best time to visit Spiti Valley?

Spiti Valley is best from mid-May to mid-October. Clear skies, mild days, and cold nights define this season. From mid-July to mid-September, monsoons can cause landslides and blockages, making travel difficult. Snowfall closes several routes and passes in the winter. If you want a winter adventure, visit between November and February to see the stunning snow-covered landscapes. But harsh temperatures and road restrictions make travel difficult.

#### Distance from Kinnaur to Spiti Valley

There are many ways to get from Kinnaur to Spiti Valley, so the distance between the two places varies depending on which route you take. The most common way to get from Reckong Peo, the main town in Kinnaur, to Kaza, the main town in Spiti Valley, is to take the NH-5 and NH-505 highways. This route is about 200 to 220 kilometers long and takes about 7 to 9 hours to drive, depending on how the roads are and how much traffic there is.

The Hindustan-Tibet Road is another popular route. It goes from Shimla to Kinnaur and then to Spiti Valley. This route is longer, but the views of the Himalayas and the Sutlej river valley are breathtaking. Shimla and Kaza are about 450–500 kilometers apart. The trip can take anywhere from 2–3 days, depending on how many stops are made and what kind of transportation is used.

#### Is Spiti Valley safe?

Spiti Valley is generally considered a safe destination for travelers. The local people are friendly and welcoming, and the region has a low crime rate. However, it is always recommended to take necessary precautions to ensure your safety while traveling.

One of the main safety concerns in Spiti Valley is the terrain and altitude. The region is located at an average altitude of 4,000 meters above sea level, and the lack of oxygen can cause altitude sickness, which can be life-threatening in severe cases. It is advisable to acclimatize properly before engaging in any physical activity or undertaking treks.

#### What are the major tourist attractions in Kinnaur - Spiti Valley?

Kinnaur and Spiti Valley have several noteworthy tourist attractions. Popular ones are:

- Tabo Monastery: This 1000-year-old UNESCO World Heritage Site located in Tabo. Its murals and old treasures are famous.
- Key Monastery: The oldest and greatest monastery in the region is in Kaza. Its architecture and mountain views are famous.
- Kalpa: Kinnaur's apple orchards and Kinner Kailash mountain views make Kalpa a lovely settlement.
- Nako Lake: Surrounded by snow-capped mountains, this tranquil lake in Nako is a popular picnic and trekking location.
- Pin Valley National Park, a wildlife sanctuary in Spiti Valley, is home to various rare and endangered species, including the snow leopard.

# What are the different modes of transportation available for traveling to Kinnaur and Spiti Valley?

Road: The most common way to get to Kinnaur-Spiti Valley is by road. There are a lot of roads in the area, but they can be hard to drive on because of the high altitude and rough terrain. From Shimla and Manali, you can take a bus to Reckong Peo and Kaza, respectively. There are also taxis and shared Jeeps that you can hire.

Air: The closest airport to Kinnaur-Spiti Valley is in Bhuntar, which is close to Kullu. Major cities in India have flights to Bhuntar, but from there, you have to take the road to get to Kinnaur-Spiti Valley.

Train: Shimla is the closest train station to Kinnaur-Spiti Valley. India's big cities have trains that go to Shimla, but from there, you have to take the road to get to Kinnaur-Spiti Valley.

#### Why doesn't Spiti Valley have any trees?

Since the area is in a rain shadow, it doesn't rain much, so the mountains don't have any plants. The climate has sharp changes in temperature, high-speed winds, an atmosphere at a high altitude, and low humidity. All of these things make the soil dry and almost completely devoid of organic matter.

#### Does Spiti Valley have an oxygen problem?

Spiti Valley is at a high altitude. At this altitude, the air is thin, which can make it hard for some people to breathe because there isn't enough oxygen. Most people, though, can get used to the altitude over time, and altitude sickness can be avoided by getting used to the altitude slowly and drinking lots of water to stay hydrated.

It's important to remember that some people may be more likely to get altitude sickness, like those who have problems with their lungs or hearts. Before going to Spiti Valley or any other high altitude place, people in these situations should talk to a doctor.

## **Reviews**

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