

Manali - Leh Motorbike Safari

The Manali - Leh highway is the arterial road connecting Ladakh to the rest of India. It is safer, albeit longer than the Srinagar - Leh highway and its high, rocky terrain and truly fantastic scenery makes for an amazing driving experience. It is one of the world's highest roads with four passes and one of the most electrifying and exhilarating aspects of this trail has to be the road steeping its way up and down these high mountain passes.

<p>Area: Himachal Pradesh to Ladakh in Jammu & Kashmir Duration: 14 Days Grade: Moderate to Strenuous Maximum Altitude: 5540 m /18380 ft Season: Jun to mid Sep (Subject to opening of Leh-Manali highway, NH21) Cost</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Budget:</i> Rs.6000 per person per day, for a minimum of 6 persons • <i>Luxury:</i> Rs.9500 per person per day, for a minimum of 6 persons 	
DAY	ITINERARY
Day 1	<p>Manali On arrival in Manali, you check into a hotel and meet the team. You will be introduced to your motorbike which you can get familiar while enjoying the local attractions and shopping at the Mall, Old Manali and nearby temples including Manu Rishi, Hadimba Devi and Vashishta Temple.</p>
Day 2	<p>Manali to Keylong 110 km We start early the next day and follow the Beas river up the valley to Rohtang Pass, 51 km from Manali and the first major landmark along the way. The Rohtang Pass marks a natural border between the Kullu Valley and the harsh high-altitude desert of Lahaul-Spiti and is a fantastic ride. Crossing the Pass, the road descends into Lahaul and you get a preview of the landscape of Ladakh with its barren mountains, tiny villages and Buddhist monasteries. Keylong, the main town of the Lahaul subdivision lies 59 km ahead of Rohtang Pass. Spend the night in a hotel or in luxury tents in Keylong.</p>
Day 3	<p>Keylong to Sarchu 106 km The trail's second pass, Baralacha La (4830m) lies some 73 kms beyond Keylong. Another 33 kms of relatively rougher road bring you to the busy little hamlet of Sarchu which marks the border between the states of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. We camp and rest under the stars for the night, in preparation for the next day's ride to Tso Kar.</p>
Day 4	<p>Sarchu to Tso Kar 145 km From Sarchu, the road flattens into a good straight stretch of 25km known as the Lingti Plains and then climbs through a 10 km stretch of amazingly circuitous hairpin bends known as the Gatta Loops which number all of 21. The road eventually reached the Nakee-La Pass (4800 m) with a fantastic view. Just downhill from this pass is the Whiskey Nallah, beyond which the road begins to climb to the Lachalang la Pass, 54 km from Sarchu, with a panoramic view of snow-clad peaks. Crossing the vast expanse of flat area called the Moray Plains which are a part of the Tibetan Plateau and stretch for almost 40 km, you take the diversion to the salt water lake of Tso Kar, which lies 22 km away. Camp under the stars at Tso Kar.</p>
Day 5	<p>Tso Kar to Tso Moriri 71 km Wake up in the morning to the spectacular landscape around Tso Kar or 'White Lake', so called because of the deposits of salt which encrust its shores. The area is known for its herds of Tibetan Wild Asses or kiangs. Laze for a while before starting the ride to Tso Moriri, a distance of about 71 kms. Tso Moriri, at an altitude of about 4500 m, is a sapphire-blue lake with a length of about 27 km and 8 km at its widest. The lake is pretty and the entire setting of mountains and shimmering waters amidst them is worth at least half a dozen photographs. The area around Tso Moriri is the best place in the entire region to see Ladakh's wildlife which</p>

the experience

	include kiangs, Tibetan blue sheep, marmots, red foxes and a variety of birds. Camp overnight at Tso Moriri.
Day 6	Tso Moriri to Chumathang 70 km A bumpy but scenic ride takes you over a distance of 48 km from Tso Moriri to the village of Sumdo. The highlights along the way are the spectacular mountain pass of Namshang La (4800 m) and the village of Puga. Beyond Sumdo, you cross from the southern bank of the Indus to the northern bank, across the Mahe Bridge. You ride another 22 km to the village of Chumathang, famed for its hot sulphur springs. Camp overnight at Chumathang.
Day 7	Chumathang to Leh 141 km Ride 90 km along the River Indus from Chumathang to Upshi, a checkpoint for tolls and permit checks. Be prepared for a halt of at least 15 minutes depending on how long the queue is. The road from Chumathang to Upshi curves its way between the towering mountains and gorges of the Ladakh and Zaskar Ranges. From Upshi, you ride a distance of 51 km north along the River Indus to reach Leh.
Day 8	Leh to Nubra Valley via Khardung La Pass 138 km Today we take a day to ride into the Nubra Valley. The route from Leh to the Nubra Valley is one of the most scenic in Ladakh making its way over the world's highest motorable pass, the Khardung-La (5540m /18380ft), and into the picturesque Nubra Valley. Where the rest of Ladakh is arid and barren, Nubra blooms and blossoms in many colours. It is a small stretch of land between 3 and 5 km wide in the northern part of Ladakh nestled at the foot of the Karakoram ranges. Overnight in tents in Nubra Valley.
Day 9	Nubra Valley to Leh 138 km Return to Leh by evening and shop in the Main Bazar in Leh, a fairly compact area, selling everything from papier-mache and pashmina to silverware and semi-precious stones. Bargaining is important – in most cases begin by quoting a price which is a third of what the shopkeeper has quoted. Overnight in hotel at Leh.
Day 10	Leh to Pangong Tso 164 km Start early to keep time to see the sights like Shey Palace and Thikse gompa along the way. The road climbs steeply up to Chang La the third highest pass in Ladakh where permits are checked. The other main places along the way are the villages of Darbuk and Tangtse. Beyond Tangtse a scenic though bumpy ride takes you to PangongTso, The lake is nothing short of being utterly celestial. Nearly three-fourths of it lies in China and is surrounded by barren snow capped mountains. Asia largest salt water lake, Pangong's beauty is undeniable. This lake is over 130 km long and between 6 and 7 km wide. Overnight in tents at PangongTso.
Day 11	Pangong Tso to Leh 164 km The next day's journey is basically a retracing of the route to Pangong Tso although it begins with a quick detour to the village of Spangmik, a distance of 8km and the last point upto which tourists are permitted. Spangmik and its surrounding villages are a home to a small population of nomadic Chang-pa, a race endemic to South East Ladakh and Tibet. Overnight in hotel at Leh.
Day 12	Leh to Ule Tokpo This is a relatively easy stretch with good plain terrain and smooth riding. Along the way Nimmu boasts of a Sikh shrine known as Gurudwara Patthar Sahib. The Alchi gompa, over ten centuries old and with splendid Tibetan style murals, is worthy of a detour. En route, you can also take a short detour and visit the Likir gompa. The Basgo ruins are along the trail and are worth a short halt. Overnight in huts/tents at Ule Tokpo.
Day 13	Ule Tokpo to Dah 80 km Along this trail lies Khaltsi, a military check point beyond which things become exciting. A series of riverine gorges brings one to the land of the Drokpas. The trail makes its way through a series of small villages, the last of which is Dah, upto which visitors are allowed to travel. The roadside between Khaltsi and Dah is increasingly verdant with flat roofed houses, fields and orchards of apricots, walnuts and apples. Spend the rest of the day wandering through

the experience

	the Drokpa villages. Camp for the night at Dah.
Day 14	Dah to Leh 163 km Return along the same route to Leh with a short detour to Lamayuru, the oldest monastery in Ladakh. One the way you will also witness a spectacle like none other, a piece of land called Moonland by hundreds of travelers. The ground here is beige, completely devoid of vegetation and twisted into strangely lumpy shapes like something out of Star Wars. Overnight in hotel at Leh.

- The quoted cost includes motorbikes including oil and maintenance, English speaking guide and support crew, support vehicle for luggage, gear and passengers as required, all meals and hotel/tent accommodation.
- Permits, wherever required are arranged by us but are not included in the above quoted cost.
- There is an additional cost of Rs.7000 per person for making the motor bikes available in Leh as against riding the same up from Manali.

Please contact us on info@be-outdoors.com or +91-9810019268 for more details.