

CHADAR; FROZEN ZANSKAR RIVER TREK

Jan 16- Jan 25, 2014

9 nights 10 days



For a few weeks every year, the Zaskar river freezes on the surface and the people of the remote Zaskar valley are able to make their way to Leh by walking on the river. The word "Chadar" means "sheet or blanket" and that's what it appears like when you walk over the white frozen Zaskar River. This is truly one of the world's greatest journeys. The trek is a demanding one and gives you all the thrills of a great adventure. Temperatures can plummet to as low as -30° and even though you walk through amazing landscape you have to be prepared for a really cold experience kept a little warm by glowing fires

which we light up each evening at camp. The trek begins daily at around 9 am. By then the sun's up and blue skies bring cheer despite the cold temperatures. The trek goes along the Zaskar River in the region of Lingshed and constitutes a walk of around 15 days with 3850m / 12,628ft being the highest altitude reached but we will do a shorter version of the trail wherein we walk for about 6 days on the spectacular Chadar. Many of these spots cannot be accessed during the summer months as they go through spectacular deep canyons and gorges.

Itinerary:

Day 01: Jan 16: Delhi- Leh (3500 M) - Reach Leh and transfer to hotel. Rest of the day free to acclimatize.

Day 02: Jan 17: Leh- Visit a few monasteries close by. You could also do shopping in the afternoon if you wish to.

Day 03: Jan 18: Leh- Tilat Sumdo- Bakula Bawo (3350M): 2 hrs drive and 6 hrs walk

Day 04: Jan 19: Bakula Bawo- Tipyak Bawo (3350M): 6-7 hrs walk

Day 05: Jan 20: Tipyak Bawo- Neyrak (3400M): 6-7 hrs

Day 06: Jan 21: Neyrak- Tipyak Bawo

Day 07: Jan 22: Tipyak Bawo- Bakula Bawo

Day 08: Jan 23: Bakula Bawo- Tilat Sumdo- Leh

Day 09: Jan 24: Leh- Pangong Tso (5360M) - Leh- 4-5 hrs drive one way- We shall have lunch over frozen Pangong lake.

Day 10: Jan 25: Fly back

COST PER PERSON: INR 53000 PER PERSON

Cost includes:

1. Accommodation in standard room / tent on twin/ triple share at :
 - 04 nights stay at Oriental guest house or similar in Leh.
 - 05 nights stay in High altitude trekking tents with separate common bath & WC.
2. All meals starting from lunch on arrival day at Leh till breakfast on final departure from Leh. Meals will be buffet breakfast and dinner at hotels/ camp and lunches while on sightseeing, trek and drives will be picnic style (Packed).
3. Transportation by non heated Qualis or Scorpio for arrival / departure transfers, sightseeing as per the itinerary and pick up / drop to and from the trek starting / end point.
4. Services of a guide for local sightseeing and trek.
5. Camping and kitchen arrangements include two person tents, dining tents with folding chairs, toilet tents, staff tents, camping furniture, sleeping mats, kitchen equipment.
6. Trekking support team including 01 cook & 01 helper, porters to carry the provisions and luggage during trekking.
7. Miscellaneous entrance fee and charges including Ladakh Royalty Fee, inner-line permits for Pangong Lake.
8. All applicable luxury/ road taxes.

Cost does not include:

- Airfare.
- Clothing of personal nature like trekking shoes, backpacks, sleeping bags, jackets and other clothing..
- Medical expenses (apart from basic first aid) and insurance of any kind.
- Laundry, liquors, wines, mineral water, telephone charges and items of personal nature.
- All the arrangements for trekking as pre-planned and pre-paid. In case of not completion of the trek due to any reason whatsoever there will not be any refund for any unutilized services. Any extra expense due to the same has to be paid extra.

- Any expenses arising out of unforeseen circumstances like flight delay / cancellation / hike in fare, strike or any other natural calamities or any emergency evacuation expenses.
- Any other costs not mentioned under cost include.

List of things to bring:

1. Backpack with supporting frame.
2. Sleeping bag (should be good for -20-30 degrees centigrade)
3. A small day backpack to carry water, food, jacket and camera
4. Hiking shoes- you need good traction in shoes and these should be at least water resistant. Forclaz 500 is a good. Your shoes should be well broken-in and not new.
5. 3 pairs of lowers (no jeans) with at least one of these should be quick drying pants.
6. 4-5 full sleeves T-shirts
7. A fleece jacket
8. A full sleeve thick jacket
9. Underclothing
10. 2 pairs of thermal inners
11. 3-4 pairs of sports socks. 2-3 pairs of woolen socks
12. Woolen cap/ balaclava that covers the ears
13. Woolen gloves + waterproof gloves or waterproof gloves with good fleece lining.
14. Sun glasses- ones that are 100% UV protected and cover your eyes completely. No blue colored sunglass. Sunglasses prevent snow blindness. People who wear spectacles should use contact lenses or photo- chromatic glasses.
15. A woolen head-scarf or muffler
16. Trekking pole.
17. Light towel (should be quick drying kind).
18. Lip balm
19. Cold cream and sun screen lotion (SPF 40+).
20. 2 Water bottles (1 L each). The insulated water bottles are good but even normal water bottles will suffice. Please do not carry throwaway plastics.
21. Flash light with set of cells (head lamps preferable).
22. Personal toilet kit (minimal) and toilet paper.
23. Personal medicine kit containing: diamox, crepe bandage, band aids, ORS packets and any personal medication that you might be using.
24. Small repair kit consisting of safety pins, needle, thread and string.
25. Camera, memory-cards, batteries etc (carry enough spare batteries. Electricity is not available on the slopes.
26. Water proof backpack liner else put all belongings in polythene and put in backpack.

NOTE:

- ***There is hardly any gradient except for the times when one might have to leave the main trail where the Chadar might be broken.***
- Leave your denims behind – these are ill suited for treks and add weight.
- Leave snacks, colas, alcohol and personal food – No need to overburden your- self with food.
- Do not carry disposable plastic bottles like (Bisleri, Aquafina), plastic wrapped/package items. Try not to bring any non bio-degradable material.
- After packing, weigh your gear. It should be in the range of 7-8 kg – preferably on the lighter side. Anything heavier, you will need to remove what is not essential. Carry light and what is essential. As an example, toothpaste should be bought in small size (that can last you 10 days).

CONFIRMATION:

100% advance to confirm booking.

CANCELLATION CHARGE:

Minimum : 20% of full amount.

Less than two weeks of arrival date (or tour start date) : 50% of full amount.

Less than one week of arrival date (or tour start date) : Full amount.

PAYMENT MODES & METHODS:

1. **ONLINE TRANSFER** into our **current** accounts in Axis Bank **or** Standard Chartered Bank
2. **DIRECT CHEQUE DEPOSIT** into our **current** accounts in Axis Bank **or** Standard Chartered Bank at any branch/ ATM in India
3. **DIRECT CASH DEPOSIT**, into our **current** account at any branch in India
4. By **CASH** or **CHEQUE** handed over personally (or by your rep) **AT OUR DELHI OFFICE**
5. **OUTSTATION CHEQUE** payments are acceptable **only if** they are delivered (or we get a scan of the bank deposit slip) at least 4 working days before the payment due date.
6. **OUTSTATION PAYMENTS** by a **Payable at Delhi** DD sent to our Delhi Office by courier/post.

IMP: *CHEQUE / DD to be made in **favour of** "Banjara Camps & Retreats Pvt. Ltd."*

AXIS BANK:

- A/c name : Banjara Camps & Retreats Pvt. Ltd.
- A/c no. : **015010200017806**
- Branch address : K-12; Green Park Main; New Delhi – 110016
- Branch Code : UTIB0000015 (for direct cheque deposit)
- IFSC Code : UTIB0000015 (**for online transfer**)

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK:

- A/c name : Banjara Camps & Retreats Pvt. Ltd.
- A/c no. : **525-0-509-319-3**
- Branch address : 10 Sansad Marg; New Delhi – 110 001
- Branch Code : SCBL0036027 (for direct cash/ cheque deposit)
- IFSC Code: : SCBL0036027 (**for online transfer**)

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