

# Chandratal Lake with Spiti Valley

Delhi - Shimla - Sangla - Kalpa - Tabo - Kaza - Chandratal - Manali - Delhi

Group Packages Group Tour

## Tour Basics •

**Duration:** 08 Days 07 Nights

**Route:** Delhi - Shimla - Sangla - Kalpa - Tabo - Kaza - Chandratal - Manali - Delhi

Delhi — 8D 7N Shimla — 7D 6N

## About This Trip •

The trip to **Spiti Valley** offers an adventurous escape into the remote landscapes of the Trans-Himalayas. From quaint villages like Kaza and Kibber to monasteries such as Key Monastery, the valley combines natural beauty, culture, and spirituality. Travellers can witness the stark, barren beauty of the cold desert, high-altitude trekking trails, and the local Himalayan lifestyle.

A **Chandratal Lake trip with the Spiti Valley** is perfect for adventure seekers and peace lovers alike. Whether you are camping under the stars by the lake, trekking across rugged terrains, or exploring charming villages, the experience promises breathtaking views and unforgettable memories.

**Best Time to Visit:** June to September – when roads are accessible, and the lake is thawed, offering clear, mesmerising reflections.

**Activities:** Camping at Chandratal, high-altitude trekking, photography, nature walks, exploring monasteries, and experiencing local culture.

**Travel Tips:** Carry warm clothes, high-energy snacks, and sun protection. Acclimatise properly to avoid altitude sickness.

Experience the magic of the **Spiti Valley** and the serene beauty of **Chandratal Lake** on a trip that blends adventure, nature, and tranquillity.

- Chandratal Lake:

The Chandratal Lake trek is a breathtaking journey to one of Himachal Pradesh's most stunning

high-altitude lakes, situated at an elevation of 4,250 meters in the Lahaul and Spiti region. Renowned as the 'Moon Lake' due to its distinctive crescent shape, Chandratal offers crystal-clear waters surrounded by rugged mountains and alpine meadows. The trek usually begins from Batal or Kunzum Pass and takes you through dramatic landscapes and glacial streams. Ideal from late June to early October, the Chandratal Lake trek is perfect for adventure lovers and nature enthusiasts. Camping under starry skies makes the Chandratal Lake trek a truly unforgettable Himalayan experience.

- **Key monastery:**

Key Monastery, also known as Kye or Ki, is perched on a hilltop at an elevation of 4,166 meters. The monastery commands breathtaking views, making it the largest and most prominent monastery in the Spiti Valley. Overlooking the serene Spiti River in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul and Spiti district, it belongs to the Gelugpa (Yellow Hat) tradition of Tibetan Buddhism. This historic monastery serves as both a spiritual centre and a learning institute for young lamas. Inside, visitors can explore ancient murals, sacred texts, and finely crafted Buddha statues. The lower level features a beautifully decorated Assembly Hall and simple living quarters for monks. With its fortress-like design and deep-rooted spiritual essence, Key Monastery stands as a powerful testament to Buddhist faith and endurance amidst the rugged Himalayan terrain.

- **Kunzum Pass:**

A favourite among motorbiking adventurers, Kunzum Pass (Kunzum La) serves as a dramatic entrance into the Lahaul and Spiti Valleys of Himachal Pradesh. Standing at one of the highest motorable altitudes in India, this mountain pass offers a thrilling and scenic ride that attracts bikers from across the country. It is not just a route, but an experience; riders often stop to circumambulate the temple of the Goddess Durga, a tradition believed to ensure a safe passage. Many also use Kunzum Pass as a gateway to the enchanting Chandratal Lake, making it a must-stop for spiritual seekers and adventure lovers alike.

- **Pin Valley National Park:**

Tucked away in the stark, high-altitude terrain of Spiti Valley in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul and Spiti district, Pin Valley National Park is among India's loftiest wildlife sanctuaries. Surrounded by rugged mountains and fed by the pristine Pin River, this cold desert sanctuary is a haven for rare Himalayan wildlife and hardy alpine flora, making it a must-visit for nature lovers and solitude seekers.. Named after the beautiful Pin River, this protected area lies within the stark and dramatic landscapes of the Spiti region. Established to conserve the rare and fragile ecosystem of this high-altitude desert, the park is Home to rare flora and fauna adapted to harsh, extreme conditions. It

also serves as a natural link between the Lahaul and Spiti valleys, offering a blend of breathtaking scenery, biodiversity, and solitude. The park's isolation makes it a hidden gem for nature enthusiasts, trekkers, and wildlife lovers alike.

- **Dhankar Monastery:**

Dhankar Gompa (also spelt Dankhar, Drangkhar, or Dhangkar) is both a Buddhist monastery and a traditional village perched dramatically on a cliffside in the Lahaul and Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh. Strategically located between Kaza and Tabo, this ancient monastery overlooks the confluence of the Spiti and Pin rivers, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the valley below. Built at a high altitude, Dhankar served as a fort-monastery in ancient times and is a significant spiritual site on any Spiti Valley expedition. Its unique setting and historical importance make it a must-visit for travellers exploring the region.

- **Tabo Monastery:**

Located in the tranquil village of Tabo, Tabo Monastery in Spiti Valley, stands as one of the oldest continuously operating Buddhist monasteries in the Himalayas. Established in 996 AD, it is often referred to as the "Ajanta of the Himalayas" for its ancient murals, scriptures, and intricate stucco art. Built with thick earthen walls, the complex has endured centuries of harsh weather. At dawn, lamas gather for prayers in the newer temple buildings, keeping alive age-old traditions. The monastery is also the heart of several vibrant festivals celebrated throughout the year, making it a spiritual and cultural gem that's essential on any journey through Spiti.

- **Dhankar Lake:**

Dhankar Lake lies tucked away in the heart of the Spiti Valley, offering a serene and unforgettable escape for travellers. Set above the ancient Dhankar Monastery, this high-altitude lake is known for its tranquil beauty and surreal landscapes. The crystal-clear blue waters shimmer under the sun, creating a picture-perfect reflection of the surrounding mountains. Reaching the lake involves a short hike, but the views and peaceful atmosphere make it well worth the effort. A visit here is not just scenic, it's soulful, and the memory of this hidden gem will stay with you for a lifetime. Nature has truly blessed this remote corner of the Himalayas.

- **Kibber:**

Nestled high in the Spiti Valley, Kibber, also known as Kibber Khas or Khyipur, is one of the highest inhabited villages in the world, reachable by motorable roads. This time-worn village is home to an

ancient monastery. It serves as the gateway to the renowned Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary, a protected area recognised for its elusive snow leopards and other rare Himalayan fauna. Historically, Kibber was a vital point on the old trade routes connecting Tibet, Ladakh, Chamba, and Kullu, where merchants bartered goods and shared cultures. During the short summer season, Kibber's farmers cultivate crops suited to the region's alpine climate, creating a unique blend of survival and self-sufficiency amidst the dramatic Himalayan landscapes.

- **City Shopping:**

The Kaza market is the shopping hub of Spiti Valley, offering a variety of Tibetan and Buddhist handicrafts. Popular items include:

- Prayer flags, bowls, and wheels
- Buddha statues and Thangka paintings
- Locally made woollens and Spiti-themed t-shirts
- Traditional woodwork, semi-precious stones, and jewellery

These handmade treasures beautifully reflect Spiti's deep-rooted spiritual traditions and rich cultural heritage. Be prepared to be surprised by the diversity of local craftsmanship available in this high-altitude desert.

- **Tayul Monastery:**

Located near Keylong in the Bhaga Valley, Tayul Monastery (also known as Tayul Gompa) is one of the oldest Buddhist monasteries in northern India, situated at an elevation of 3,900 meters. This peaceful retreat is reached via a steep trail from Satingri village and offers spectacular mountain views.

The monastery houses an impressive library with 101 Buddhist scriptures (Kangyur) and colourful Thangka paintings that illustrate the life of the Buddha. Tayul is a hidden gem for those seeking spiritual solitude and timeless Himalayan art.

- **Gue:**

The village of Gue, near the Indo-Tibetan border, holds one of Spiti's most intriguing secrets, a 500-year-old naturally preserved mummy of the Buddhist monk Sangha Tenzin, seated in a meditative pose with skin and hair still intact.

Located 40 km from Tabo Monastery, this remarkable relic draws curious travellers and spiritual seekers alike. While currently controlled by India, the region lies close to contested borders and offers a unique cultural and historical experience rarely seen elsewhere in the world.

- **Kungri Monastery:**

Nestled in the serene landscapes of Pin Valley, Kungri Monastery stands as the second-oldest monastery in Spiti. It holds the unique distinction of being the region's only monastery affiliated with the Nyingma tradition of Tibetan Buddhism. Built around 1330 AD, the monastery complex comprises three east-facing blocks, and its remote setting exudes peace and spiritual energy. A visit to Kungri offers a glimpse into ancient Buddhist traditions, rarely found in such authentic settings elsewhere.

- **Tibetan Shops:**

Spiti Valley, particularly the Kaza marketplace, is dotted with Tibetan-run shops offering a wide range of cultural souvenirs:

- Tibetan jewellery and semi-precious stones
- Local woollen garments and woven shawls
- Intricately carved wooden items and paintings
- Ceramic utensils, singing bowls, and prayer wheels

These items reflect the deep Buddhist roots and centuries-old Himalayan craftsmanship that have been passed down through generations. Shopping here not only supports the local community but also allows travellers to carry a piece of Spiti's soul back home.

### Activities To Do In Spiti Valley

- **Camping in Spiti & Kinnaur**

For those who love the outdoors, camping in Spiti Valley or Kinnaur offers a raw, immersive experience in nature. There are numerous scenic spots across both regions where you can pitch a tent under the starry sky. Not only does camping bring you closer to the landscape, but it also

allows you to save on accommodation costs while experiencing the serene remoteness of the Himalayas.

- **Stay at Local Homestays**

Homestays in Spiti and Kinnaur offer travellers a warm, authentic, and affordable stay unlike traditional hotels. Staying with a local family allows you to experience the region's culture firsthand, from home-cooked meals to daily traditions. It's more than just a place to stay; it's an opportunity to connect with locals and experience the culture from within. Whether you're a solo traveller or with a group, homestays offer comfort, community, and a sense of belonging in an otherwise remote destination.

- **Trek to Dhankar Lake**

Hidden above the ancient Dhankar Monastery lies the peaceful Dhankar Lake, a pristine high-altitude body of water set against rugged backdrops. The short yet rewarding trek to the lake is an ideal destination for those who love nature and cherish solitude. With crisp mountain air, panoramic views, and the tranquil sound of the wind brushing past, this serene spot offers a soul-refreshing experience far removed from urban life.

- **Stargazing in Spiti**

Spiti Valley is one of the best stargazing destinations in India, thanks to its high altitude, clear skies, and minimal light pollution. Villages such as Komic, Kibber, Dhankar, Tabo, and Losar provide stunning night skies, offering clear provides breathtaking sights of the Milky Way and innumerable constellations, making them perfect spots for stargazing. Whether you're with a telescope or just lying back on a sleeping bag, gazing at the infinite Himalayan night sky is an unforgettable experience, especially when shared with someone special.

- **Fossil Hunting in Langza & Hikkim**

Spiti Valley was once part of the Tethys Sea, and today, fossil hunting around Langza and Hikkim offers a fascinating glimpse into that prehistoric past. It's a rare and exciting adventure, especially for history buffs and geology enthusiasts. While the activity isn't overly commercialised yet, chances of spotting ammonite and marine fossil imprints are high and deeply rewarding.

- **Yak Safari**

Among the most unique experiences in Spiti is a yak safari. These gentle giants are integral to local life, providing transportation and dairy to remote villages. Riding a yak through the rugged mountain terrain, past monasteries and glacial rivers, is a slow, meditative journey through one of India's most remote landscapes. It's both culturally authentic and unforgettable.

- **Explore the World's Highest Post Office – Hikkim**

Situated at a staggering altitude of 14,567 feet, Hikkim is home to the world's highest post office, an iconic destination where travellers can send postcards from the top of the world. Sending a postcard from here is more than just a novelty; it's a chance to share a piece of your Himalayan journey with loved ones back home. Designed to resemble an oversized red letterbox, the post office has become an iconic landmark for travellers, a charming symbol of Spiti's remote beauty and high-altitude uniqueness.

## Departure Dates •

**JUL:** 04, 11, 18, 25

**AUG:** 01, 08, 15, 22

**SEP:** 05, 12, 19, 26

**JUN:** 20, 27

**MAY:** 23

## Stay Categories & Options •

<b>Double Sharing</b>	Persons: 2	INR 20,499.00	<del>INR 22,499.00</del>	Save INR 2,000.00
<b>Triple Sharing</b>	Persons: 3	INR 19,499.00	<del>INR 21,499.00</del>	Save INR 2,000.00
<b>Double Sharing</b>	Persons: 2	INR 17,999.00	<del>INR 19,999.00</del>	Save INR 2,000.00
<b>Triple Sharing</b>	Persons: 3	INR 15,999.00	<del>INR 17,999.00</del>	Save INR 2,000.00

## Itinerary •

Day 1: Delhi to Shimla | Dist: 342 km | Time: 07 to 08 hr | Altitude: 239 m to 2270 m

- Tonight, your adventure begins as you leave Delhi aboard a cosy Volvo bus.
- Setting off on an overnight journey to the charming hill town of Shimla.

Meals: Nil

Night: Overnight Journey by Volvo Bus

Day 2: Shimla to Sangla | Dist: 221km | Time: 7 to 8 hr | Altitude: 2270 m to 2630 m

- Arrive in Shimla and proceed towards Sangla.
- Check into a cosy homestay or hotel upon arrival.
- In the evening, you will explore the local market on your own.

Meals: Dinner

Night: Stay at the hotel in Sangla

Day 3: Sangla to Kalpa | Dist: 50 km | Time: 01 to 02 hr | Altitude 2630m to 2960m

- Begin your day with an early breakfast, and we will explore Chitkul, the last Indian village near the Indo-Tibet border.
- Visit the famous 'Hindustan ka Akhiri Dhaba', a popular roadside eatery in Chitkul.
- Later, depart for Kalpa, a scenic village in Kinnaur, famed for its breathtaking views of the majestic Kinner Kailash range.
- As evening falls, take in the striking landscape from the famed Suicide Point, a viewpoint wrapped in dramatic beauty.
- Later, immerse yourself in local life with a visit to the vibrant Reckong Peo Market, where

culture and tradition come alive.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the Hotel in Kalpa

Day 4: Kalpa to Tabo | Dist: 161 km | 05-06 hours | Altitude 2960m to 3280m

- Begin your day with a hearty breakfast, then hit the road toward Tabo.
- En route, pause at the serene, frozen Nako Lake and soak in its charm.
- Relish a warm and cosy lunch in the village of Nako before heading to the ancient Gompa Monastery.
- As the journey continues through the stark beauty of the cold desert, arrive in the peaceful village of Tabo by evening.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the homestay in Tabo

Day 5: Tabo to Kaza | Dist: 48 km | Time: 02-03 hours | Altitude 3280m to 3800m

- After enjoying breakfast, begin your journey toward Kaza.
- En route, we will visit the Dhankar Monastery, perched on a cliff.
- Explore the serene beauty of Pin Valley, a protected wildlife area.
- Stop by the quaint village of Mudh, known for its peaceful atmosphere and scenic views.
- Witness the charm of Lingti Waterfall, tucked away in the rugged terrain.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the Homestay in Kaza

## Day 6: Local Sightseeing

- After breakfast, begin your day with a visit to the peaceful Buddha statue in Langza, where sweeping views of the valley offer a moment of tranquillity.
- Journey onward to Komic, one of the world's highest and most remote villages, nestled in the heart of Spiti.
- Wrap up your adventure with a stop at Hikkim, home to the world's highest post office, a perfect spot to send a postcard from the roof of the world.
- Later in the evening, you will visit the Key monastery.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the homestay in Kaza

## Day 7: Kaza to Chandratal Lake | Dist: 111km | Time: 06 to 07 hr | Altitude: 3800 m to 4250 m

- Leave Kaza behind as you set out toward the magical Chandratal Lake.
- Along the way, cross the awe-inspiring Chicham Bridge, Asia's second-highest suspension bridge, suspended above dramatic gorges.
- Continue your journey over the towering Kunzum Pass at 4,500 metres, where panoramic views of snow-capped peaks and rugged terrain leave you spellbound.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the camps in Chandratal

## Day 8: Chandratal to Manali and Depart | Dist: 111km | Time: 08 to 10 hr | Altitude: 4250 m to 2050 m

- Begin your descent from Spiti, heading towards Manali through dramatic mountain landscapes.

- Travel through the remote and scenic villages of Batal, Chhatru, and Koksar.
- Drive through the remarkable Atal Tunnel, an engineering feat and one of the longest high-altitude tunnels in the world, seamlessly connecting you to the stunning landscapes beyond.
- Arrive in Manali by evening and board your Volvo bus or cab for the overnight journey back to Delhi.

Meals: Breakfast

Night: Overnight Journey by Volvo Bus

## Inclusions •

Stay will be provided on a double or triple sharing basis as per the hotel/homestay plan

Daily breakfast and dinner are included, as outlined in the itinerary.

All tours, sightseeing stops, and excursions will follow the planned schedule.

Costs for the driver, tolls, and parking are covered.

All necessary travel permits are included in the package.

Delhi to Shimla and Manali to Delhi by AC Volvo Semi Sleeper bus and Shimla to Manali by Tempo Traveller (Innova in Private tours).

## Exclusions •

Lunch is not included in the package.

5% GST will be applicable.

Oxygen cylinders are not part of the package.

Entry fees for monasteries in Spiti are not covered.

No refunds will be provided if the trip is cut short voluntarily.

Personal expenses such as laundry, phone usage, tips, etc., are excluded.

Additional costs due to unforeseen events like landslides or road closures are not included.

Anything not mentioned under "Inclusions" is considered an exclusion.

Room heaters will be chargeable separately.

Travel insurance is not provided.

Breakfast on the first day is not part of the package.

## FAQs •

**Q:** Why is Spiti Valley famous?

**A:** Spiti Valley is renowned for its surreal landscapes, ancient monasteries, and unique Tibetan Buddhist culture. It attracts nature lovers, photographers, and adventure seekers due to its remote beauty and spiritual atmosphere.

**Q:** Does Spiti Valley receive snowfall?

**A:** Yes, heavy snowfall occurs in January, February, and March, turning the valley into a winter wonderland.

**Q:** How many days should you plan for a trip to Spiti Valley?

**A:** A 7-8 day itinerary is recommended, with entry via Kinnaur and exit through Manali. This allows time to explore key locations such as Pin Valley, Langza, Hikkim, Komic, Ki, and Kibber.

**Q:** Is there a mobile network in the Spiti Valley?

**A:** Only BSNL and MTNL work in the region. Networks like Jio, Airtel, and Vodafone do not function here.

**Q:** Can you drive to the Spiti Valley?

**A:** Yes, you can drive to Spiti via Shimla or Manali. A reliable, high-clearance vehicle is recommended for navigating the challenging mountain roads.

**Q:** Distance from Shimla to Spiti Valley

**A:** Approx. 414 km, taking around 11-12 hours by road.

**Q:** Which route is better: Shimla or Manali?

**A:** Both are scenic. The Shimla to Kaza route remains open throughout the year, whereas the Manali to Kaza route is only accessible during the summer months.

**Q:** Can we go to Spiti via the Atal Tunnel?

**A:** Yes, the Atal Tunnel links Manali to Keylong, providing a crucial all-weather route into the Lahaul-Spiti region and improving accessibility, especially during winter when traditional passes like Rohtang are snowbound.

**Q:** What areas are part of Spiti?

**A:** Significant highlights of the region include Tabo, Kaza, Kibber, and the picturesque Chandratat Lake.

**Q:** Is there a risk of breathing issues in Spiti?

**A:** Yes, due to the high altitude and low oxygen levels. Staying hydrated helps.

**Q:** Can asthma patients visit Spiti?

**A:** Yes, with precautions. Always consult a doctor before travelling.

**Q:** Altitude of Lahaul-Spiti:

**A:** Around 4,270 m (14,009 ft).

**Q:** Why is Spiti called the Middle Land?

**A:** "Spiti" means "The Middle Land", symbolising its location between India and Tibet.

**Q:** Which river flows in the Spiti Valley?

**A:** The Spiti River is fed by several tributaries, with the Pin River being one of its most significant contributors..

**Q:** Why is Kalpa famous?

**A:** Kalpa is known for apple orchards, historic temples, and stunning views of Kinnaur Kailash.

**Q:** Why is Chitkul special?

**A:** Chitkul, the last inhabited settlement near the Indo-Tibetan border, is renowned for its stunning landscapes and the vibrant Phulaich Fair, a cultural celebration organised by the local residents.

**Q:** Can you stay at Key Monastery?

**A:** Yes, basic accommodations are available for a minimal fee.

**Q:** What is the road condition from Manali to Chandratal Lake?

**A:** Challenging but scenic. Roads like Chhatru-Batal-Chandratal Lake require careful driving.

**Q:** Why is Langza famous?

**A:** Nicknamed the Fossil Village due to its rich deposits of prehistoric marine fossils

**Q:** Age of the Buddha statue in Langza:

**A:** Believed to be around 1,000 years old.

**Q:** Location of Pin Valley:

**A:** In Spiti's cold desert region, home to Pin Valley National Park.

**Q:** River in Pin Valley:

**A:** Pin River flows through the valley.

**Q:** Why is Nako Lake important?

**A:** Surrounded by monasteries and caves, linked to Padmasambhava and fairy legends.

**Q:** Is Nako part of Spiti?

**A:** No, it's in Kinnaur district, but it is often included in Spiti itineraries.

**Q:** How can I reach Manali from Chandratat Lake?

**A:** Chandratat can be accessed from Manali by taking the route through Batal, or from Kaza by crossing Kunzum Pass.. The final 14 km stretch from Batal is a rough dirt track, accessible only by high-clearance vehicles or on foot.

**Q:** Manali to Chandratat Lake distance?

**A:** Chandratat Lake is located about 125 kilometres from Manali, accessible via the Manali–Rohtang Pass–Gramphu–Batal route.

**Q:** How to reach Spiti from Delhi by train?

**A:** No direct route. Travel involves a mix of trains, buses, and taxis.

**Q:** How long does it take from Delhi to Spiti?

**A:** 2 days via the Manali-Kaza route.

**Q:** Is the Manali-Spiti route safe?

**A:** Yes, with a suitable vehicle like a 4x4 or SUV.

**Q:** Is the road from Manali to Chandratat open all year round?

**A:** No. The road is open only from June to mid-October. It remains closed throughout the winter because of significant snowfall at Rohtang Pass and Kunzum Pass.

**Q:** Is Chandratat Lake accessible year-round?

**A:** No, Chandratat Lake is not reachable during the winter months as the access roads are blocked by heavy snowfall. The ideal time to visit is between late June and early October, when the roads are open and the weather is favourable.

**Q:** When is the ideal time to explore Chandratat Lake?

**A:** Mid-June to mid-October is the ideal window. July and August are particularly scenic, with blooming flowers and clear skies.

**Q:** Speciality of Spiti Valley:

**A:** Known for its monasteries, murals, stupas, and natural beauty.

**Q:** Is camping allowed at Chandratat Lake?

**A:** Camping is not permitted directly adjacent to the lake to protect its fragile ecosystem. However, designated campsites are available 2–3 km before the lake, usually in the Batal-Chandratat stretch.

**Q:** Why is Spiti dry?

**A:** As a cold desert region, Spiti Valley gets minimal rainfall throughout the year.

**Q:** How to visit Spiti in December?

**A:** Via private vehicle through the Shimla-Kinnaur side; roads from Manali are mostly closed.

**Q:** Is January travel to Spiti possible?

**A:** Yes, but only from the Shimla route. Expect extreme cold and snow.

**Q:** Is Spiti safe for solo female travellers?

**A:** Spiti Valley is considered one of the safest travel destinations in India for women, whether you're travelling solo or in an all-women group. The local communities are warm, respectful, and welcoming, making it a secure environment for female travellers.

**Q:** What to pack for Spiti in July?

**A:** Thermals, fleece, windproof jackets, trekking boots, woollen socks, and warm layers.

**Q:** Is alcohol allowed in Spiti?

**A:** Some villages, notably Khurik, have banned the sale of alcohol. Respect local customs.

**Q:** Can a small car like the Alto go to Spiti?

**A:** Not advisable. A high-clearance vehicle is safer for the terrain.

**Q:** Why is Mud Village popular?

**A:** It's the base for Pin Parvati and Bhaba Pass treks, and the gateway to Pin Valley National Park.

**Q:** Is Pin Valley worth visiting?

**A:** Yes. Ideal for a slow and peaceful experience.

**Q:** When is the ideal time to explore Chandratal Lake?

**A:** Mid-June to mid-October is the ideal window. July and August are particularly scenic, with blooming flowers and clear skies.

**Q:** Why is it called "Chandratal"?

**A:** The name Chandratal means "Moon Lake" — derived from its crescent (half-moon) shape.

**Q:** What are the road conditions to Chandratal?

**A:** The route from Batal to Chandratal is a rough, narrow dirt track, marked by challenging terrain and frequent water crossings..

**Q:** Is a permit required to visit Chandratal?

**A:** Yes, INR150 for Indian nationals to visit Chandratal. INR500 for Foreign nationals.

**Q:** What are the stay options near Chandratal Lake?

**A:** Stay options include campsites 2 km before Chandratat Lake. There are no hotels or permanent structures near the lake itself.

**Q:** Is there any mobile network at Chandratat Lake?

**A:** No, mobile networks do not work at Chandratat.

**Q:** How to reach Chandratat Lake from Manali?

**A:**

To reach Chandratat Lake from Manali, travel via **Rohtang Pass – Kunzum Pass**. From Kunzum, a motorable road leads to the Chandratat parking point followed by a short trek.

**Q:** What is the best time to visit Chandratat Lake in Spiti Valley?

**A:**

The best time to visit Chandratat Lake is from **June to September**, when roads from Manali to Spiti Valley are open and weather conditions are favorable.

## Get in Touch •

WhatsApp: [Chat](#) Email: [julley@thewanderyak.com](mailto:julley@thewanderyak.com) Website: <https://thewanderyak.com>