# Manali to Chandratal Lake Package

Manali - Kaza - Tabo - Chandrataal - Manali

Tour PackagesCustomised

## Tour Basics •

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| **Duration:** 05 Days 04 Nights | **Route:** Manali - Kaza - Tabo - Chandrataal - Manali |

Manali — 5D 4N

## About This Trip •

A **Manali to Chandratal Lake Package** is one of the most exciting adventures in the Himalayas, offering travellers a blend of natural beauty, adventure, and cultural experiences. Starting from the lush green valleys of Manali, this journey takes you through some of the most scenic and rugged landscapes of Himachal Pradesh before reaching the mystical **Chandratal Lake**—the famous “Moon Lake” of Spiti.

The drive from **Manali to Chandratal Lake** passes through the iconic **Rohtang Pass** and the dramatic terrains of **Batal** and **Chhatru**, with the Chandra River accompanying the route. As you ascend higher, the lush valleys give way to barren mountains, rocky trails, and breathtaking Himalayan vistas.

_____ Camping near the lake under a blanket of a million stars is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Adventure lovers can also enjoy short hikes, photography, and serene walks around the lake.

**Highlights of the Package:**

- Scenic drive from Manali via Rohtang Pass and Spiti roads
- Camping near the turquoise **Chandratal Lake**
- Stargazing in one of the clearest night skies in India
- Exploring rugged Himalayan villages and landscapes
- Adventure-filled road trip through Spiti’s raw terrains

**Best Time to Visit:** June to September, when the roads are open and the lake is accessible.

**Travel Tips:** Carry warm clothing, comfortable shoes, and stay hydrated. Due to the high altitude, proper acclimatisation is essential.

**Places to visit during the Manali to Chandratal Lake package**

**1. Atal Tunnel**

- Your journey kicks off with a drive through the famous Atal Tunnel, one of the highest road tunnels in the world. This marvel of engineering drastically reduces travel time and provides a dramatic entrance into the cold desert landscapes of Lahaul Valley.

**2. Chhatru & Batal**

- As you continue your ascent, you'll pass through remote hamlets like Chhatru and Batal. These scenic villages are nestled amidst rugged terrain and offer awe-inspiring views. Batal is also the last major halt before the final stretch to Chandratal, making it an ideal place for rest and refreshments.

**3. Kunzum Pass**

- Kunzum La is among the highest drivable passes in the region, offering a blend of spiritual significance and breathtaking beauty. At its summit, travellers often visit the Kunzum Mata Temple to seek blessings for a safe journey, before taking in the sweeping views of Spiti's glaciers and towering peaks.

**4. Losar Village**

- Located before Kunzum Pass (if you're returning via Kaza), Losar is a peaceful village known for its traditional mud houses, friendly locals, and scenic surroundings. It's the first inhabited village encountered when entering Spiti from the Manali side, offering a glimpse into the region's culture.

**5. Spiti River Valley Views**

- Throughout your drive, you'll be treated to stunning views of the Spiti River Valley, with its deep gorges, barren landscapes, and dramatic skies. This route offers numerous photography stops and moments of quiet reflection as you witness nature in its most raw form.

6. Chandratal

- The Manali to Chandratal Lake trek is a scenic, high-altitude journey that takes you through rugged Himalayan terrain to the stunning, crescent-shaped Chandratal Lake, a true gem of Himachal Pradesh. Known for its crescent shape and pristine blue waters, the lake rests at 4,250 meters, encircled by snow-capped peaks and lush alpine meadows. The Manali to Chandratal Lake trek offers a thrilling mix of rugged terrain, river crossings, and panoramic

views. Perfect for trekkers and nature lovers, this route showcases the raw beauty of Spiti. Camping under the stars near the lake is a surreal experience. For adventure seekers, the Manali to Chandratal Lake trek is an unforgettable experience.

**7. Langza (The Fossil Village)**

- Begin your journey in Langza, one of the most picturesque villages in the Spiti Valley. Located at approximately 14,500 feet, Langza is renowned for its massive Buddha statue, which overlooks the snow-capped peaks and serene valley below. The statue, facing the east, is said to protect the region and its people. Langza is often referred to as the Fossil Village due to the ancient marine fossils found in its rocks. Millions of years ago, this area was submerged under the Tethys Sea, and traces of that time are preserved in the form of ammonite fossils embedded in the land. Many locals even keep fossils as part of their household collections. Walking through the village, you'll see traditional mud-brick homes and terraced fields. The peaceful atmosphere of Langza makes it an ideal destination for slow travel and photography.

**8. Hikkim ( World's Highest Post Office)**

- A short drive from Langza leads you to Hikkim, which is home to the world’s highest functioning post office, sitting at an altitude of 4,400 meters. Despite the extreme conditions, this small post office has been operating since the 1980s, serving as a lifeline between this remote region and the outside world. Travellers love sending postcards from here; it’s a nostalgic and unique experience. Locals also rely on the post office for communication and banking services. The postmaster often becomes a local guide, sharing stories of living at one of the world's highest human settlements. Hikkim is a peaceful village with only a handful of houses. The surrounding views of the Himalayas, combined with the experience of posting a letter from such a remote place, make this stop unforgettable.

**9. Komic (The World’s Highest Motorable Village)**

- From Hikkim, the road climbs further to Komic, which proudly claims the title of the world’s highest motorable village, at around 15,500 feet. The word "Komic" means "eye of a snowcock" in the local language, and the town indeed offers a bird’s-eye view of the Spiti region. Komic is home to the ancient Tangyud Monastery, which was built over 500 years ago and remains active to this day. The monastery’s unique architecture and the monks' warm hospitality offer a peaceful retreat in the midst of the mountains. Due to its high altitude, the village experiences frigid winters, and accessibility becomes limited. However, in the summer, Komic becomes a dream-like place to enjoy clear skies, stargazing, and a peaceful way of life.

**10. Kibber ( Wildlife and Warmth)**

- After Komic, descend back toward Kibber, another picturesque village located at 14,200 feet. Once considered the highest motorable village, Kibber is known for its stone houses, traditional culture, and its proximity to the Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary. Kibber is the starting point for snow leopard expeditions during the winter months. Wildlife photographers and researchers visit from across the globe to track the elusive big cat, along with Himalayan blue sheep, red foxes, and ibex. Even in summer, Kibber is rich in charm. Its scenic setting among mountains and fields, combined with warm-hearted locals, makes it a must-visit on your Spiti route.

**11. Chicham Bridge (An Engineering Wonder)**

- Lastly, head to the Chicham Bridge, the highest suspension bridge in Asia, connecting Kibber to Chicham village. It spans a deep gorge once crossed by locals using a manual pulley. The bridge now stands as a modern marvel against Spiti’s raw landscape. Walking or driving across it is a thrill, especially when you look down into the abyss below.

**12. Key Monastery (A Living Monastic Fortress)**

- Soaring at 13,668 feet, Key Monastery stands as Spiti Valley’s largest and most iconic monastery. Built over 1,000 years ago, it clings to a conical hilltop above the Spiti River and resembles a fortress from afar. Home to over 250 monks, Key Monastery is an active learning centre of the Gelugpa sect of Tibetan Buddhism. Visitors are welcome to walk through its narrow passages, prayer halls, libraries, and even have tea with the resident monks. The rooftop offers panoramic views of the valley, particularly mesmerising during sunrise or snowfall. Whether you're spiritually inclined or simply a lover of heritage, Key is a must-visit.

**13. Pin Valley (The Hidden Spiritual Wilderness)**

- Located off the primary Spiti circuit, Pin Valley National Park is a serene side trip known for its dramatic landscapes and spiritual sanctuaries. Tucked away beyond the village of Attargo, the valley is dotted with small monasteries, such as Kungri Gompa, which dates back to the 14th century and is a centre of the Nyingma sect, the oldest school of Tibetan Buddhism. Pin Valley’s peaceful terrain and sparse settlements make it a perfect setting for introspection. The valley is also home to endangered Himalayan wildlife, including snow leopards and ibex, which adds to its mystical aura.

**14. Tabo Monastery**

- Established in 996 AD, Tabo Monastery is among the oldest living Buddhist monasteries in India, rich in ancient art and heritage. Often referred to as the "Ajanta of the Himalayas" because of its beautiful wall frescoes, ancient thangkas, and sculptures, Tabo is not only a place of worship but also a cultural treasure. The monastery complex features nine temples,

numerous stupas, and a community of monks. Recognised by UNESCO, Tabo continues to be a spiritual, academic, and cultural centre for the region. With its calm, grounded atmosphere, it offers a refreshing contrast to the dramatic hilltop gompas,  an experience you'll remember for its authenticity.

**15. Dhankar Monastery (Cliffside Majesty)**

- Perched on a rocky cliff where the Spiti and Pin rivers meet, Dhankar Monastery is a breathtaking feat of architecture. Once the capital of the Spiti kings, this 1,000-year-old monastery was built as a fortress to guard against invaders and now houses rare Buddhist scriptures and centuries-old murals. Dhankar also offers one of the most dramatic views in the region. A short trek from the monastery leads to Dhankar Lake, a serene alpine lake with the mountains reflected in its still waters. The monastery is slowly deteriorating due to age and natural forces, making your visit even more special, a glimpse into a fading yet resilient past.

## Stay Categories & Options •

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| **Basic** | Persons: 2 | INR 24,999.00 | ~~INR 27,999.00~~ | Save INR 3,000.00 |
| **Basic** | Persons: 3 | INR 19,999.00 | ~~INR 23,999.00~~ | Save INR 4,000.00 |
| **Basic** | Persons: 4 | INR 15,999.00 | ~~INR 19,999.00~~ | Save INR 4,000.00 |
| **Basic** | Persons: 6 | INR 14,999.00 | ~~INR 18,999.00~~ | Save INR 4,000.00 |

## Itinerary •

Day 1: Manali to Kaza | Distance: 222 km | Time: 08–10 hours | Altitude: 2,050 m to 3,800 m

- Start early from Manali for a full day of scenic mountain driving.
- Drive through the Atal Tunnel, one of the world's highest road tunnels.
- Pass through Gramphu, Chhatru, and Batal, with breathtaking landscapes along the way.
- Cross the high-altitude Kunzum Pass (4,500 meters),  gateway to Spiti Valley.
- Detour to visit the iconic Chicham Bridge, Asia's highest suspension bridge, perched over a deep gorge.

- Continue your descent into the Spiti Valley’s cold desert terrain.
- Reach Kaza by evening and check in for a relaxing night’s stay.

Meals: Dinner

Night Stay: Homestay/Hotel in Kaza

## Day 2: Kaza Sightseeing | Morning 09:00 am

- After breakfast, set out to explore some of Spiti’s most iconic landmarks. Begin with the ancient village of Langza, known for its fossil-rich terrain and timeless charm. Marvel at the towering Buddha statue, gazing serenely over the valley
- Travel to Hikkim, home to the world’s highest post office, and send a postcard from the roof of the world. Ascend further to Komic, a remote mountain village nestled in the clouds, proudly standing as one of the highest motorable settlements on Earth..
- On the way back, stop at the serene and historic Key Monastery, perched high on a hilltop with sweeping views of the Spiti Valley.
- Return to Kaza by evening.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Night Stay: Homestay in Kaza

## Day 3: Kaza to Tabo via Dhankar | Distance: 63 km | Time: 02–03 hours | Altitude: 3,800 m to 3,280 m

- Begin your day with a short drive to Dhankar Monastery, perched dramatically on a cliff.
- Continue to Tabo, home to the over 1,000-year-old Tabo Monastery, often called the ‘Ajanta of the Himalayas.
- Explore the village and its ancient murals.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner
Night Stay: Homestay in Tabo

## Day 4: Tabo to Chandratal Lake | Distance: 159 km | Time: 06–08 hours | Altitude: 3280 m to 4,250 m

- Depart early for Chandratal Lake, crossing back over Kunzum Pass.
- Reach the stunning Moon Lake by afternoon.
- Spend the evening soaking in the surreal beauty of the turquoise lake surrounded by mighty peaks.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night Stay: Campsite near Chandratal Lake

## Day 5: Chandratal to Manali (Drop) | Distance: 110 km | Time: 07–09 hours | Altitude: 4,250 m to 2,050 m

- After breakfast, drive back to Manali via Batal, Chhatru, Gramphu, and through the Atal Tunnel.
- Reach Manali by evening.

Meals: Breakfast
**Stay:** Nil

## Inclusions •

Stay will be provided in comfortable homestays or hotels 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 Manali and Manali to Delhi by AC Semi sleeper volvo bus.

## Exclusions •

Lunch is not included in the package.

5% GST will be applicable.

Chandrataal Fees (INR150 for Indian Citizens) & (INR500 for Foreign Citizens).

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:** What is the duration of the Manali to Chandratal Lake trip?

**A:** The complete trip spans 07 Days and 06 Nights, starting and ending in Delhi.

**Q:** What are the significant places covered in this package?

**A:** The itinerary includes: Shimla, Sangla, Kalp, Tabo, Kaza, Langza, Hikkim, Komic, Dhankar Monastery, Pin Valle, Key Monastery, Kibber & Chicham Bridge, Chandratal Lake, Manali

**Q:** What is the highest altitude reached during the trip?

**A:** The altitude ranges from 216 m (Delhi) to approximately 5,000 meters, including Chandratal Lake and villages like Komic and Hikkim.

**Q:** What kind of accommodation is provided?

**A:** Accommodation is on a double or triple sharing basis in hotels, homestays, and camps near Chandratal Lake. Expect basic but comfortable stays with eco-friendly setups in remote regions.

**Q:** What meals are included?

**A:** Daily breakfast and dinner are included as per the itinerary. Lunch is not included. Breakfast on Day 1 is not part of the package.

**Q:** What are the inclusions in this package?

**A:** Stay and meals as mentioned. All sightseeing and local excursions Driver, tolls, and parking charges All necessary in-line travel permits

**Q:** What are the significant exclusions?

**A:** Lunch 5% GST Entry fees to monasteries Travel insurance Oxygen cylinders Room heaters (chargeable) Expenses from unforeseen circumstances (e.g., landslides, roadblocks)

**Q:** Is this trip suitable for everyone?

**A:** This trip involves high-altitude travel, challenging road conditions, and basic facilities. It is recommended for physically fit and mentally prepared travellers, preferably aged 18–60.

**Q:** Is travel insurance mandatory?

**A:** It is not included but strongly recommended, especially one that covers high-altitude sickness, evacuation, and trip

cancellations.

**Q:** What vehicle options are available?

**A:** Vehicle type depends on group size: 1–3 persons: Sedan 4–7 persons: SUV 8+ persons: Tempo Traveller (Non-AC)

**Q:** Can I customise the itinerary?

**A:** Customisations may be available for private groups or off-season bookings. For fixed departures, the itinerary is fixed to ensure group logistics and safety.

**Q:** What are the major attractions or highlights?

**A:** Chandratal Lake (Moon Lake) Key, Tabo, and Dhankar Monasteries Langza, Komic, Hikkim, Kibber Pin Valley & Kunzum Pass Chicham Bridge and Spiti River Valley views

**Q:** Is this a group or private trip?

**A:** It can be either. Fixed departure groups have a single pickup/drop point in Manali or Delhi. For private tours, customisation is possible.

**Q:** Are room heaters and hot water available everywhere?

**A:** Due to limited infrastructure, hot water and room heaters may not be consistently available. They may also be chargeable at certain places.

**Q:** Will there be a mobile network or internet access?

**A:** Network availability is limited, especially in Kaza, Tabo, and Chandratal. Only BSNL or Jio may work in patches. Be prepared for a digital detox.

**Q:** Are there any trek or hike options included?

**A:** While it's a road trip, short walks are involved, like reaching Dhankar Lake or your campsite near Chandratal. Walking to some homestays may also be required.

**Q:** How challenging are the road conditions?

**A:** The route from Batal to Chandratal is especially challenging, featuring rugged terrain, multiple water streams cutting across the road, and narrow, unpaved tracks that require slow and careful driving. Flexibility, patience, and caution are essential.

**Q:** What is the best time to visit Chandratal Lake?

**A:** The best time is late June to early October, as the lake and roads remain inaccessible during winter due to heavy snow.

## Get in Touch •

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