Winter Ladakh

Leh - Nubra - Pangong Tso - Leh

Group PackagesGroup Tour

Tour Basics •

Duration: 6 Days 5 Nights	**Route:** Leh - Nubra - Pangong Tso - Leh

Leh — 6D 5N

About This Trip •

A winter trip to Ladakh offers a unique experience, with snow-covered landscapes, frozen lakes, and a peaceful, crowd-free atmosphere.

As compared to the summer months, as snow blankets the mountains, rivers freeze, and temperatures drop well below zero, Ladakh transforms into a serene, almost mystical winter wonderland. For travellers who seek solitude, adventure, and raw natural beauty, this is an unforgettable journey.

Why Visit Ladakh in Winter?

- Snow-Covered Landscapes: The mountains, valleys, and monasteries are wrapped in a thick layer of snow, creating postcard-perfect scenes.
- Less Crowded: Unlike the bustling summer season, winter brings fewer tourists, allowing you to explore in peace.
- Unique Experiences: Witness frozen rivers, snowbound villages, and rare wildlife, such as the snow leopard (if you're lucky).
- Cultural Insight: Experience the authentic Ladakhi lifestyle as locals celebrate winter festivals and endure extreme cold in traditional ways.

Highlights of a Winter Ladakh Trip

1. Leh in Winter
   Leh remains the central hub even in winter. You can explore Leh Palace, Shanti Stupa, Thiksey Monastery, and Shey Palace, all under a cover of snow. The markets stay open, selling local handicrafts, winter wear, and warm Ladakhi food.

2. Frozen Pangong Lake
   In winter, Pangong Tso freezes completely, creating a surreal frozen landscape. Walking on the solid ice of this high-altitude lake is a rare and thrilling experience.

3. Nubra Valley in Snow
   Visiting Nubra Valley in winter offers snowy dunes and dramatic views of the Karakoram Range. The double-humped Bactrian camels still roam the cold desert of Hunder, though fewer rides are available.

4. Winter Festivals
   Ladakh’s winter festivals, like Dosmoche and Spituk Gustor, offer a glimpse into local traditions, complete with mask dances, rituals, and cultural celebrations.

Travel tips for Winter Ladakh

- Extreme Cold: Temperatures can drop to -20°C or lower, especially at night. Bring high-quality winter clothing, including thermal layers, gloves, and snow boots.
- Limited Accessibility: Some passes, such as Khardung La and Chang La, may be temporarily closed due to heavy snowfall. Flights are the only reliable way to reach Leh in winter.
- Acclimatisation: Proper acclimatisation is essential due to Ladakh’s high altitude, even in winter.
- Health Precautions: Be prepared for dry air, chapped skin, and possible altitude sickness.
- Stay Options: Many hotels close during winter, but homestays and select guesthouses remain open, often with traditional heating like Bukhari stoves.

Departure Dates •

NOV: 28

DEC: 24, 26, 28

Stay Categories & Options •

Double Sharing	Persons: 2	INR 22,999.00	~~INR 25,999.00~~	Save INR 3,000.00
Triple Sharing	Persons: 3	INR 21,499.00	~~INR 24,999.00~~	Save INR 3,500.00

Itinerary •

Day 1: Pick up from Leh Airport | Dist: 10 km to 12 km | Altitude: 3300 m to 2600 m

- After reaching Leh, our representative will pick you up and take you by cab from Leh Airport to your hotel.
- After checking in and relaxing, you can visit Leh Palace, Shanti Stupa, and Leh Market.
- Enjoy exploring these local attractions.

Meals: Dinner

Night: Stay at the hotel in Leh

Day 2: Leh Local Sightseeing | Dist: 70 km to 90 km | Altitude: 3300 m to 2600 m

- After having breakfast, you'll head out for a day of local sightseeing.
- Visit the Hall of Fame, the peaceful Spituk Monastery, Gurudwara Pathar Sahib, and Magnetic Hill.

- Then, proceed to Sangam, where the Indus and Zanskar Rivers meet, creating a stunning natural spectacle.
- After a fulfilling day, return to your hotel to relax and unwind.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the hotel in Leh

Day 3: Leh to Nubra via Khardung La | Dist: 160 km | Altitude: 3500 m to 5354 m

- Today, you will travel to Nubra Valley via Khardung La, which has the second-highest motorable pass.
- After reaching Nubra, you will visit Diskit Monastery, Hunder Village, Sand Dunes, and the Camel Ride Point.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at a hotel/homestay in Nubra Valley

Day 4: Nubra Valley to Pangong | Dist: 200 km | Altitude: 3100 m to 4814 m

- Wake up to breathtaking views of the Karakoram ranges, then set off towards Pangong Tso, a high-altitude saline lake.
- Your journey will take you through the scenic villages of Shayok, Durbuk, and Tangste.
- Spend the night near the tranquil Pangong Lake.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at a homestay in Pangong Tso

Day 5: Pangong to Leh via Chang La Pass | Dist: 150 km | Altitude: 3215 m to 5362 m

- After having breakfast, begin your journey back to Leh, travelling through the scenic Changla Pass, one of the world’s highest mountain passes.
- Along the route, you’ll stop at the beautiful Thiksey Monastery, Rancho School, made famous by the film *3 Idiots*, and explore the historic Shey Palace.
- By evening, you’ll arrive in Leh and check into your hotel for a well-deserved rest.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner

Night: Stay at the hotel in Leh

Day 6: Depart | Morning 10:00 am

- Say goodbye to this fantastic Winter Ladakh Tour. You'll travel to Leh Airport with many great memories.
- Enjoy your breakfast before you leave. Safe travels, and cherish the unforgettable experiences from this trip.

Meals: Breakfast

Night: Nil

Inclusions •

Meals as per the itinerary.

Stay on dual/triple sharing.

Vehicle for sightseeing & excursions as per the itinerary.

Pick-up and drop-off services from the Leh Airport.

Entire travel from Leh to Leh by Cab.

Driver Charges, Toll Tax, Parking Charges, etc.

Inner Line Permits (ILPs) for visiting restricted areas.

Ladakh environment fee and applicable taxes.

Oxygen cylinder.

Exclusions •

Room Heater cost and Bonfire.

GST 5%.

Fees for any adventure activity.

Dedicated Tour Guide.

Any entrance fee to the monastery and monuments.

Any kind of personal expenses.

Any additional use of vehicles beyond the planned itinerary will incur extra charges.

Any kind of drink (alcoholic, mineral water, aerated).

In the Ladakh region, AC will not be operational in the cab.

Additional costs due to itinerary or stay changes caused by flight cancellations, bad weather, health issues, roadblocks, or other uncontrollable factors.

Anything not mentioned under the head.

FAQs •

Q: Is Ladakh open for tourists in winter?

A:

Yes, Ladakh remains open to tourists in winter, but only by air, as most roads are closed due to snow.

Q: What is the best time to visit Ladakh in winter?

A:

The best time to visit Ladakh in winter is from December to February, when the region is covered in snow, lakes are frozen solid, and traditional winter festivals bring the local culture to life.

Q: How cold does Ladakh get in winter?

A:

Temperatures in Ladakh during winter range from -5°C to -25°C, especially in January and February.

Q: Can I visit Pangong Lake in winter?

A:

Yes, Pangong Lake freezes completely in winter, offering a rare chance to walk on the frozen surface.

Q: Is Nubra Valley accessible in winter?

A:

Nubra Valley is usually accessible in winter via Khardung La Pass, but heavy snowfall may cause temporary closures.

Q: Are flights to Leh available in winter?

A:

Yes, Leh flights operate throughout the winter, mostly from Delhi, with daily departures depending on the weather conditions.

Q: What should I pack for a winter Ladakh trip?

A:

Pack thermal wear, heavy woollens, snow boots, gloves, a down jacket, sunglasses, and sunscreen for extreme cold.

Q: Will I need permits for Ladakh in winter?

A:

Yes, Inner Line Permits (ILP) are required to visit areas like Nubra Valley, Pangong Lake, and Tso Moriri even in winter.

Q: Can I rent winter bikes in Ladakh?

A:

While bike rental in Leh is available year-round, winter biking is not recommended due to the risk of snow, ice, and sub-zero temperatures.

Q: Are hotels open in Ladakh during winter?

A:

Many hotels close in winter, but homestays, guesthouses, and select hotels with heating remain open.

Q: What are the top things to do in Ladakh in winter?

A:

Popular activities include visiting the frozen Pangong Lake, exploring Leh's monasteries, embarking on the Chadar Trek, and attending the winter festivals.

Q: Is there snowfall in Leh during winter?

A:

Yes, Leh and the surrounding areas get snowfall, especially from late December to February.

Q: How to stay warm during a Ladakh winter trip?

A:

Use multi-layered clothing, hot water bags, Bukhari heaters, and proper winter accessories to stay warm.

Q: Can families travel to Ladakh in winter?

A:

Yes, you can take a Ladakh winter trip with your family, but it requires careful planning due to the harsh cold and limited accommodation and medical facilities during this season.

Q: Is altitude sickness common in winter in Ladakh?

A:

Yes, AMS (Acute Mountain Sickness) is a concern in winter due to cold-induced stress. Proper acclimatisation is crucial.

Q: Are oxygen cylinders required for winter travel in Ladakh?

A:

For travellers with respiratory issues or visiting high altitudes, portable oxygen cylinders are recommended.

Q: Are the Manali to Leh or Srinagar to Leh roads open in winter?

A:

No, both the Manali-Leh Highway and the Srinagar-Leh Road remain closed from November to May due to snow.

Q: Is Ladakh safe to visit in winter?

A:

Yes, Ladakh is safe in winter, provided you are prepared for the weather and follow local guidelines.

Get in Touch •

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