

DRUK EXPEDITIONS

Open Heart Open Road Motor bike adventure in the Indian Himalayas 25th August - 8th September 2023 14 nights/15 days ex Delhi

Friday 25/8/2023 Day 1 Delhi

On your arrival at Delhi International Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel for rest in preparation for the long drive to Manali tomorrow. Overnight stay at the Metropolitan hotel near city centre. As flights arrive at all different times no meals are provided on this day. Breakfast on 26th is included.

Saturday 26/8/2023 Day 2 Manali

Depart after early breakfast for your 10-12 hr drive to Manali. Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Lunch en route is at your own expense while if you arrive in time for dinner it will be included at the resort. Otherwise at own expense.

Sunday 27/8/2023 Day 3 Manali

Rest and explore Manali town - afternoon or evening walk to Vashisht , a small sacred village with 3 temples each blessing the local hot springs. A popular local village for tourists. Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Breakfast and dinner at the resort. Lunch included.

Monday 28/8/2023 Day 4 Manali

Today we are fitted and briefed with our bikes and other necessary items. Our first practice drive will be to Solong Valley a popular, ski, paragliding and sports valley around 14 Km north of Manali. Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Breakfast and dinner at the resort. Lunch included

Tuesday 29/8/2023 Day 5 Manali

Day trip to Manikarran, an important pilgrimage site for Hindus and Sikhs in the area south of Manali. It is possible that en route we could stop for rafting. Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Breakfast and dinner at the resort. Lunch included

Wednesday 30/8/2023 Day 6 Manali

Today we recheck our driving skills with a longer drive, all the way up to Rothang Pass (approx 13,000ft) . We go via Lahoul on way up and return via the Spiti road - Manali to Sissu. Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Breakfast and dinner at the resort. Lunch included

Thursday 31/8/2023 Day 7 Gonpo Rangjung stopover

Today we begin our main drive into the remote Himalayan region of Zaskar. You will notice the land is more like a moonscape and high above the tree line. The

road is beautiful and rough and we will take our time getting there with 2 nights stopovers before we reach our destination of Padam, the main town of Zanskar. First night will be in the overnight camp in a remote area near beautiful Shingo-la Pass (16,600ft) Breakfast lunch and dinner all included en route.

Friday 1/9/2023 Day 8 camp near Phuktal monastery

Gonpo Ragjung to Phuktal Monastery. Phuktal is built around an ancient meditation cave used by sages for some 2500 years. The monastery was constructed in the 15th century and is in active use to this day.

Overnight at local camp. Breakfast lunch and dinner all included en route.

Saturday 2/9/2023 Day 9 Zanskar

Today we reach Zanskar's main township of Padum. It has a population of around 2000 and sits at an average height of 12000ft. Remote, unique and majestic is this mountainous valley. It is filled with sacred sites like one of the eight most holy chanel grounds in the world.

Overnight stay at Padam Guesthouse. Breakfast lunch and dinner all included

Sunday 3/9/2023 Day 10 Zanskar

Today we will explore the local community and some of the sacred sites and ancient monasteries that dot this landscape.

Overnight stay at Padam Guesthouse. Breakfast lunch and dinner all included

Thursday 4/9/2023 Day 11 Lahoul

After breakfast we leave Padum for the return drive over amazing remote mountain roads to the tiny village of Jispa in Lahoul. Lahoul is back under the tree line and so is green and lush in comparison. Much of the peas and potatoes of India come from this beautiful part of the Himalayas (around 10,000ft)

Overnight stay in Jispa Camp. Breakfast lunch and dinner all included

Friday 5/9/2023 Day 12 Manali

Leave early morning and drive approx 3 hrs back to Manali. As you will reach Manali before lunch there will be time on this day to clean up, return bikes and relax in your beautiful hotel overlooking the Himalayas where you have just been.

Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Breakfast lunch and dinner all included

Saturday 6/9/2023 Day 13 Manali

Free day for last minute shopping etc. On this day it is optional to take a helicopter ride over the beautiful Himalayas

Overnight stay at Aloka Resort. Breakfast and dinner at the resort. Lunch included.

Sunday 7/9/2023 Day 14 Delhi

Today we leave early for the 10 hour drive back to Delhi. You will have time to rest at Delhi hotel overnight or do some last minute sightseeing or shopping next day.

Overnight stay at Delhi hotel. Food en-route is at your own expense as is dinner that evening.

Monday 8/09/2023

Day 15

Homeward bound

Checkout from Hotel by 10am unless you want a late checkout before you board your International flight home. You may alternately enjoy a full day sightseeing. We will arrange your transfer to International Airport Terminal, T-3. Breakfast only is included on this day.

Take your happy memories home with you!

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Your Guide - Jigme Dorje

Born into the renowned family meditation lineage of Togden Shakya Shri, Jigme Dorje now resides in Perth Western Australia, with his daughter Yeshe. Sey Jigme was birthed in the holy site of Gotsang, above the ancient Hemis Gompa, in Leh, Ladakh. During his childhood, his late father, Apho Rinpoche moved the family to Manali, where Sey Jigme grew up as part of a deeply revered spiritual family while riding motorbikes in these high Himalayan ranges! He loves the vast sky and huge snow mountains as well as sharing the culture and traditions of his own land and people.

Costs and Inclusions - Exact price is to be advised shortly. It will be for the 15 days ex Delhi. Based on twin sharing accommodation in 4 star hotels where available. During your journey north of Manali the accommodation is only available at a basic standard and sometimes at a campsite. These areas are remote and this is an adventure ride! All transport and meals are included as stated in the itinerary. Note: motor bike hire is included and you will bring your own helmet and other bike clothes and shoes. It is possible to buy or hire on arrival but we need pre-plan this. 2 bottles of water per day will be provided. You will need bring your own helmet and clothes for bike riding unless previously arranged. Bikes are provided.

Exclusions:

International (and any domestic flights) and all transport not specified in itinerary

Any monument /temple entry fee

Any pujas or tsog offerings

Any item of personal requirement not mentioned in the itinerary

Any medical or evacuation expenses (travel insurance suggested)

Accidental damage to motor-bike (insurance suggested for this if wanted)

Any unforeseen circumstance or item not mentioned

**Please note that itinerary may be subject to change
(weather conditions can affect travel in these remote areas)**

