

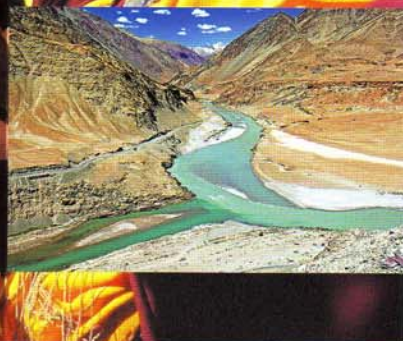
A new travel series that helps expats plan and visit the must-see sights of India

DISCOVER

INDIA

LADAKH

THIS one-week trip takes the traveller to Ladakh, a vast magical-moonlike highland desert, situated at an elevation of 3,500m, between the Karakoram and Himalayan ranges across the Chinese border. The best time to visit this region is from June to September. Travel to Ladakh needs some acclimatisation due to the high elevation and rarified air. Here is a suggested itinerary to help you plan your holiday.



Day 1: Fly Chennai to Delhi the previous evening and take the morning flight to Leh. Transfer to your Ladakhi camp, situated in a beautiful grove and offering stunning views of the Zaskar Range.

Day 2: Take a full-day visit to Leh, a labyrinth of winding streets and quaint bazaars with colourfully dressed Ladakhi men and women. Visit the 16th century Leh Palace followed by a trip to the Sankar Gompa.

Day 3: Take a picnic lunch and explore some of Ladakh's ancient gompas. Visit Shey Palace, a summer residence of the kings of Ladakh, then Thikse Gompa, a monastery perched on hill, overlooking the mighty Indus River. Finally visit Hemis Gompa, Ladakh's wealthiest and most important monastery, built in 1620.

Day 4: After breakfast, drive-up the Indus valley to begin an easy river rafting trip. Enjoy the stark and awe-inspiring backdrop of mountains, your steady companion through this trip.

Day 5 & 6: Spend the days visiting Stok Palace, home to probably the best thangka (painted or embroidered Buddhist banner) collection in the world. Relax and enjoy your camp and its pastoral surroundings or explore more of Leh's cafés, shopping and street life. Fly to Chennai the following day via Delhi.

Milesworth specialises in independent tailor-made travel. We combine our knowledge and experience with your own ideas to create the perfect travel program. This means that you travel by yourself without joining a group, the departure date is of your own choice, and the trip is arranged and operated just for you – the essence of our holidays.



This is an advertiser's feature by Ashish Gupta, who runs his own travel company, Milesworth Holidays, an American Express Travel office in Chennai. He offers customised holiday travel planning in India with a specialisation in Southern India.

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