

**ARRIVAL DATE IN DELHI:****GROUP 01: 28 July - 2014****GROUP 02: 03 August - 2014****GROUP 03: 11 August – 2014****LADAKH - 2014****DETAILED ITINERARY****Day 01                    ARRIVAL DELHI****BY INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT AT HRS**

Arrive Delhi by International flight. Distant Frontiers representative will meet you and transfer you to the Hotel.

Overnight at the hotel

**Day 02                    DELHI – CHANDIGARH  
CHANDIGARH – MANDI****BY: SHATABDI EXPRESS / DEP AT 0740 HRS / ARR AT 1100 HRS  
BY: SURFACE 190 Kms 06 hrs**

You will be transferred in time to the railway station to board your train for **Chandigarh**. On arrival at Chandigarh you will be received and assisted to your vehicle, from where you will be driven to Mandi. Cross one of the very few planned cities of India – Chandigarh to reach the foothills and it will not be long before you hit the narrower highways running parallel to a river. Crossing some hamlets, local temples and road side eateries locally called Dhabas, you reach your resort for the night in Mandi.

Dinner and Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 03                    MANDI – MANALI****BY: SURFACE 110 Kms 04 hrs**

Morning start drive for Manali. Afternoon proceed for a half day sightseeing tour of Manali.

Manali literally means the '**Home of Manu**'. **Manu** is the mythological character that is supposed to have survived when the world was drowned in Flood. He then came to Manali and recreated human life.

Visit the Hadimba Temple in Manali, which is one of the most important temples in the region. This four-story wooden temple is located in the middle of a forest called the Dhungiri Van Vihar. Also visit Old Manali located some 3-km from the present day Manali town. Old Manali is covered with guesthouses, which look ancient now, and orchards where the livestock move at will. Then visit the Temple of Manu. Slippery stone paths lead through the old village houses up to the temple of Manu.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel.



#### Day 04      MANALI – KEYLONG

BY SURFACE / 120 KM / 6 – 7 HRS

After an early breakfast you commence your journey on the trans-Himalayan route. Leaving Manali you ascend the Rohtang Pass (3978 m). Descending from Rohtang Pass you reach **Gramphu**, the bifurcation point on the road to Spiti, from where you get superb views of the glaciated valley of the Chandra River. You next reach **Keylong**, the District Headquarters of Lahaul-Spiti, located on the confluence of the Chandra and Bhaga rivers. It has the distinction of having a small satellite exchange from which you can dial anywhere in the world with sparkling clarity. From here you continue your drive along the Bhaga River for your night halt at Keylong.

Dinner and overnight in a Hotel.

#### Day 05      KEYLONG – SARCHU (4253 M)

BY SURFACE / 103 KM / 5 - 6 HRS

From Keylong the road climbs to Patseo, minutes zigzag climb through rocky outcrop, and then you go over the formidable Baralacha La, (4,830 m). Baralacha La means ‘the pass with the crossroads on the summit’ and here meets the path from Zaskar, Ladakh, Spiti and Lahaul. This is also the watershed for the Chandra, Bhaga and Yunam rivers. It is 8 km long. Just below the Baralacha La at an altitude of 4800 m, Suraj tal is the source of Bhaga River.

Overnight in a fixed camp.

#### Day 06      SARCHU – LEH (3,500 M)

BY SURFACE 251 Kms/ 9 HRS

You have an early morning start for a long drive into Ladakh. Enroute stop for packed lunch at Pang.

After a 15 minutes ascent from Pang, you find yourself in the vast expanse of the **Morri Plains**, which appears immediately on getting to the top of the climb. The view of the vastness of the plains with mountains in the background is breathtaking. Along the Morri Plains the road curves gently to the right and you descend into a valley. A huge dry lake with a yellow sandy bed is on the right. About 27 km short of **Taklang La** there is a prominent dirt track to the right of the road, which is marked for **Tso Kar**.

Further on your journey takes you over the second highest motorable pass in the world - **Taklang La** (5,336 m /). By late evening you arrive at for your overnight stay.

#### Day 07      IN LEH - VISIT TO LEH PALACE & SHANKAR GOMPA

The morning is at leisure to acclimatize to the rarefied air. You may choose to stroll along the main bazaar - observing the varied crowds. Looking into curio shops is an engaging experience. A particularly attractive sight is



the line of women from nearby villages sitting along the edge of the footpath with baskets of fresh vegetables brought for sale. Behind the main bazaar, Chang Gali is less bustling but has interesting little shops selling curios and jewellery. Further on are the labyrinthine alleyways and piled-up houses of the old town, clustering around the foot of the Palace Hill. In the other direction, down the bazaar, are the Tibetan markets where one can bargain for pearls, turquoise, coral, lapis lazuli and many other kinds of semi-precious stones and jewellery, as well as carved yak-horn boxes, quaint brass locks, china or metal bowls, or any of a whole array of curios. When tired of strolling, one can step into any of the several restaurants; some of them located in gardens or on the sidewalks and serve local Tibetan, Indian and Continental cuisine.

Also walk to the **Leh Palace & Shankar Gompa**, which belongs to Gelukspa school of Tibetan Buddhism. This small Gompa is a branch of Spituk Gompa, founded by the first incarnation of Skyabje Bakula (head monk of Spituk monastery).

Dinner and overnight in a Hotel.

#### **Day 08                    IN LEH – VISIT TO THIKSE (3,230 M) – HEMIS GOMPA (3,450 M)**

You begin the day by visiting **Thiksey Monastery**, which is one of the most vibrant and active monasteries in the region. It dates back to the 16th century and is part of the Gelug-pa Sect. It is headed by successive reincarnations of the Khanpo Rimpoche.

Continue your drive on a well metttled broad road traveling upstream along the Indus River to **Hemis Gompa**, crossing over the Indus at the village of Karu. The most famous of Ladakh's monasteries, Hemis or Changchub Samstanling (The love palace of the compassionate person), dates back to the 17th century and was built over a period of 40 years (1602 – 1642 A.D.). After visiting Hemis you drive to Leh.

#### **Day 09    LEH - NUBRA OVER Khardung La (5602 M) - (NUBRA VALLEY) – BY SURFACE / 126 KMS APPROX 5 HRS**

The road journey from Leh to Nubra Valley passes over Khardung La (the highest motorable road in the world) at 5602 M, around 39 km from Leh. From the pass, one can see all the way south over the Indus valley to seemingly endless peaks and ridges of the Zaskar range, and north to the giants of the Saser massif. It is situated in the north of Ladakh between the Karakoram and Ladakh ranges of the Himalayas. The road after crosses Khalsar Bridge at Shyok River & enters Nubra

You proceed along the Nubra Valley. River to arrive in the afternoon at your fixed Camp.

In the evening you visit **Samstanling Gompa** in Sumoor founded by Lama Tsultims Nima. The Gompa has some strict rules and regulations like not allowing women in the monastery after sunset and before sunrise, no smoking etc.

Dinner and overnight at the Fixed Camp.



### Day 10 IN NUBRA VALLEY – VISIT HUNDER (3,000 M) – DISKIT - PANAMIK

In the morning you drive to **Hunder** where you have opportunity to ride on a bactrian camel (double humped) amidst the sand dunes of this high altitude desert with snowcapped mountains on the horizon. On the return stop at **Diskit** which is the headquarter town of Nubra Valley. Diskit is famous for 515 years old Buddhist Monastery, lying magnificently situated on a hilltop, facing the entire Valley. After your visit to the monastery and shortly after leaving Diskit you will come across sand dunes on the right of the road. Seen in isolation you could well be amongst the sand dunes of the Thar Desert in Rajasthan. It is indeed strange sights since immediately on the left of the road are Rocky Mountains that characterize the Ladakhi landscape and in the distance can be seen snow-capped mountains.

In the afternoon visit **Panamik**, this is famous for Hot Springs. Return to your Fixed Camp for dinner and overnight stay. Evening take a **village walk** to Tirith through the surrounding countryside.

Dinner and overnight at the Fixed Camp.

### Day 11 NUBRA VALLEY - LEH

**BY SURFACE 126 / APPROX 5 HRS**

After breakfast drive to Leh over Khardung La. You will be carrying your packed lunch for today. On arrival at Leh you will check in to Hotel. In the afternoon you can rest and relax.

Overnight stay at hotel.

### Day 12 LEH – DELHI

**BY DOMESTIC FLIGHT– G8 - 194 Dep 1020 hrs / 1140 hrs**

In time transfer to the Leh airport to board your flight back to Delhi. Upon arrival in Delhi you will be met by a Distant Frontiers Representative, who will transfer you to your hotel.

Afternoon is at leisure.

Transfer to the airport to board your flight (on Day 12<sup>th</sup> or Day 13<sup>th</sup>)

Rooms envisaged till 1200 Noon of Day 13<sup>th</sup>.

## End of the Tour





## Cost Proposal - 2014

COST OF LAND ARRANGEMENTS: AUD 1450 per person Sharing Twin

Single room supplement: **AUD 545** per Single

Airfare supplement for sector Leh / Delhi: **AUD 290** per person (subject to change)

City	Hotel	Room Category	Nights
Delhi	ITC Welcome, Dwarka	Superior	01
Mandi	Vasco Resort	Deluxe	01
Manali	Manali Resort	Deluxe	01
Keylong	Tashi Delek	Superior	01
Sarchu	Adventure Camp	Superior	01
Leh	Khang la chen / Lhairmo/Namgyal Palace or similar	Superior	03
Nubra	Desert Himalayan Resort / Tirith camp or similar	Superior	02
Leh	Khang la chen / Lhairmo/Namgyal Palace or similar	Superior	01
Delhi	ITC Welcome, Dwarka	Superior	01
			<b>12 Nights</b>

### INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation for 12 Nights at hotels mentioned above on Room Plus breakfast basis in Delhi, Half board in Mandi and Manali and Full board in rest of the places (sometimes, packed lunches will be provided).
- Transportation using Air-conditioned vehicle
- English speaking accompanied guide from Chandigarh to Leh.
- Entrances fees (one time entry only) at the monuments as listed in the itinerary.
- Service of a Representative for all Airport Transfers.
- All currently applicable taxes.

### RATES DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Anything not mentioned in inclusions above
- Any Tips / Gratuities
- Any Additional meals other than specified in Inclusions column
- Any additional taxes that might get added up after the date of sending the proposal



## SRINAGAR EXTENSION

### Day 11 NUBRA - IN LEH - ALCHI (3,250 m)

BY SURFACE / APPROX 196 KM / 08 HRS

The road journey from Nubra to Leh over Khardung La. On arrival Alchi Visit the **Alchi Gompa**. The complex of temples located within the village is the most celebrated of Ladakh's monasteries and dates back to the 11th century. The complex consists of a group of five temples as well as a number of chortens scattered around the complex. The Dukhang and the three-tiered Sumstek are the most significant. It is the seat of the Ngri Rimpoche, an incarnation at present embodied in the younger brother of the Dalai Lama. Alchi Gompa is the only monastery, built on flat ground. It is very famous for its paintings and architecture, which has an Indian and Kashmiri influence in them.

Overnight stay at Alchi Resort.

### Day 12 ALCHI – LAMAYURU (3,460 M), KARGIL

BY SURFACE / 150 KM / 05 HRS

After breakfast proceed Lamayuru to the 11th century Lamayuru Monastery which is spectacularly located along the valley plain and surrounded by mountains on all sides. According to legend, the arhat Madhyantika, a disciple of Buddha offered "torma" (sacred food) and water to the spirits inhabiting the site to satisfy them. A handful of rain spilled on the soil which caused barley plants to sprout in the shape of Yung-drung (swastika), hence its name Yung-Drung. The great yogi Naropa meditated in a cave, which today forms part of the monastery. The monastery has gradually expanded over the years and newer structures have been built around a large courtyard. The antiquity of this site is evident from the large number of chortens, similar to those at Alchi. After visit Lamayuru Continue your drive for Kargil where on arrival you check in to your hotel.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

### Day 13 KARGIL – SRINAGAR

BY SURFACE / 205 KM / APPROX 6 HRS

Today you commence on an unforgettable road journey from Kargil to Srinagar first passing through the villages of Channigund and Kharbu. In the summer, the sun beats down mercilessly – the rocks are like cinders and the sand sparks of fire. The road zigzags, meanders, ascends and descends, winding up and down hundreds of spurs. This brings you to the town of Drass. Drass, an important stopover on the route to Srinagar, is a capital which stands in the broad opening of the valley. At the entrance to the town are three stone figures – king and two women carved on pillars; the women wear Kashmiri ornaments, the inscription on both pillars is in the old Brahmi script. The stony roads winds endlessly across the Drass Valley through a maze of mountains looming over the rugged



landscape. Ahead of Drass you come to Matayan – which shares with Drass the honor of being the coldest town in Asia. – though, during the day, the sun is unbearably hot. Your journey then takes you across the Zoji La (3,507 m / 11,578 ft). The road ascends to the pass with awesome snow-covered mountains that tower above. Terrifying gorges descend almost vertically to snake-like rivers, thousands of feet below. There are hardly any trees, just stunted willows and the mountains have a bleak beauty relieved by occasional flashes of startling greenery wherever there is water – at the foot of a glacier or in a river valley. Here one is likely to find Ladakh’s famous apricot orchards or one of nature’s wonders p giant radishes, one alone can weigh 12 lbs. After the pass you get to the lovely valley of Sonamarg, or meadow of Gold, at a height of 2,743 m / 9,052 ft. Finally you arrive at Srinagar – lovely valley with its rich rolling downs, clear springs and meadow of lovely wild flowers.

On arrival at Srinagar. You will be assisted on arrival and transferred to you check into your houseboat for your overnight stay. Srinagar – lovely valley with its rich rolling downs, clear springs and meadow of lovely wild flowers.

Overnight stay at House Boat, Srinagar.

#### **Day 14** SRINAGAR

In the afternoon sightseeing trip to **Mughal Gardens** visiting **Nishat Bagh** (Abode of pleasure) built by Asif Khan brother in law of Jehangir in 1632 AD. And **Shalimar Bagh** (Abode of love) built by Jehangir for his wife Empress Noor Jehan. All the gardens are situated on the bank of **Dal Lake** with the Zabarwan Mountains in the background.

Visit old & new section of Srinagar city view the famous **Jamia Mosque**, **Shah-e-Hamdani Mosque** and walk through the old bazaars of Srinagar city. Return to your hotel for dinner and overnight...Evening at leisure and retire for the night in cozy comfort.

Overnight stay at House Boat, Srinagar.

#### **Day 15** SRINAGAR - DELHI

#### **FLY OUT**

In time transfer to the Srinagar airport to board your flight back to Delhi. Upon arrival in Delhi you will be met by a Distant Frontiers Representative, who will transfer you to your hotel.

Afternoon is at leisure.

Transfer to the airport to board your flight (on Day 15<sup>th</sup> or Day 16<sup>th</sup>)

Rooms envisaged till 1200 Noon of Day 16<sup>th</sup>.



END OF SERVICES

Cost Proposal Srinagar Extension – 2014

COST OF LAND ARRANGEMENTS

02 Pax: **EURO 370** or **USD 507** per person

03 - 06 Pax: **EURO 310** or **USD 425** per person

Single room supplement: **EURO 110** or **USD 151** per Single

Airfare supplement for sector Srinagar / Delhi: **EURO 168** or **USD 230** per person (subject to change)

City	Hotel	Room Category	Nights
Alchi	Uletokpo Camps	Standard Hut	01
Kargil	D zojila	Standard	01
Srinagar	Deluxe house boat	Deluxe	02
Delhi	ITC Welcom Dwarka (cost included in main tour)	Standard	01
			<b>05 Nights</b>

INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation for 05 Nights at hotels mentioned above on Full board basis for Kashmir portion and Half board basis in Delhi.
- Transportation using multi utility vehicle
- English speaking accompany guide as per the tour itinerary till drop at Srinagar Airport.
- Entrances fees (one time entry only) at the monuments as listed in the itinerary.
- Service of a Distant Frontiers Representative for all Airport Transfers.
- All currently applicable taxes.

### RATES DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Anything not mentioned in inclusions above
- Any Tips / Gratuities
- Any Additional meals other than specified in Inclusions column
- Any additional taxes that might get added up after the date of sending the proposal