

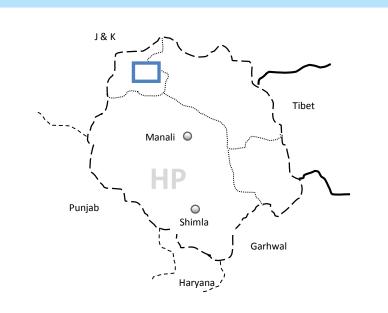
A CWH GROUP TRIP TO EXPLORE THE REMOTE PANGI VALLEY IN LAHAUL BY ROAD. 9 -16 SEP 2017



LAHAUL WANDERINGS - PANGI VALLEY

Let's redefine 'remote'. When officials of the Raja of Chamba used to go to Pangi valley in Lahaul for collecting taxes, they were given a 'special funeral allowance'. So remote and so unknown was this area. And not much have changed since. Locked between the Pir Panjal range to its south and Zanskar range to its north, the valley can only be reached by crossing over high passes. Getting there itself is an adventure and once there, we will explore the exquisite sub-valleys and the remotest of villages. The trip is open for anyone who has ever felt the urge to know what lies beyond.





A BRIEF OVERVIEW



The valleys in Pangi

What is there to do in Pangi? Well, for starters, there are its exotic valleys of Sural, Hudan and Saichu to explore. (See Map). We will go to the head of all these valleys to the Buddhist settlements where they have been living oblivious to the rest of the world since ages. High altitude lakes, waterfalls, glacial streams, snow covered peaks, wildlife abound in these valleys. The natives, who in the absence of any means of moving out of the valley developed a unique lifestyle and culture, have only very recently been exposed to roads, phone, education, electricity- things we take for granted. Of course in the sub-valleys even these necessities are non-existent.



Getting in and out

Not that we have much choice here, but we will take the Sach Pass (4200M) road from Chamba to get into Pangi valley. This route is the favorite of local shepherds, which also means it's the safest. Of course in relative terms only. (The free spirited bikers currently swarming the Manali-Leh road and Spiti trails will be raving about this new 'discovery' in 2-3 years.) Getting out, we will take that pride of Border Roads organization- SKT road from Killar to Keylong and then over Rohtang pass and Manali. Helicopter pickups from Pangi valley are more of a routine than emergency. So we will be all right.



ITINERARY:

8 DAY TRIP, 5 DAYS OFF WORK (2 WEEKENDS)



9 SEP

Fly into Amritsar in the morning and then drive to Dalhousie/ Chamba. ~ 4 hours.

You can also take a train to Amritsar. Make sure you reach latest by 1 pm either by flight or train. We break our long drive to Lahaul in Dalhousie/Chamba.

10 SEP

Drive to Killar in Pangi valley over the Sach pass (4390M). No time estimation here.

A drive to remember for a long long time. That's the only guarantee. Weather, road-blocks, car breakdowns are the variables.

11-13 SEP

The exploration-

There are 3 valleys in Pangi – the sural, hudan and saichu. We will devote a day to each of them and explore them by road and on foot once the road ends.

We are in uncharted territory from now on and will explore via road and foot wherever required. The three valleys are next to each other but different in many ways. There are hidden lakes, remote villages, high mountains and much more.

| 4-15 SEP

Drive across Lahaul and cross over the Rohtang pass and into the Beas valley. Overnight at Naggar. ~ 12 hours

Long long day but the setting of 'Hotel castle' at Naggar will surely alleviate all the pains of the journey. To make it better, we spend a full day here to rest, recover and discover the wonders of Kullu Himalaya.

16 SEP

Drive back to Chandigarh (\sim 8 hours) to catch the flight back. OR can catch the flight from Kullu also in the morning.

Better roads, easier journey. We leave early to catch the later afternoon flight from Chandigarh.

Note – This is an extremely remote region and the itinerary is indicative at best and will depend on prevailing weather and road conditions.



COST FOR THE TRIP:

Stay and food

At guesthouses throughout (twin

sharing). Sometime basic, sometime

with more comforts. All meals included

except when in transit.

Exploration We will have local guides to explore

the valleys in Pangi.

Transportation Throughout the trip in SUVs with max 4

per car.

The cost of the trip = Rs 41000/- per person including all taxes.

Note: The group size will be limited to 10. Bookings are done on first come first serve basis and hence no deadlines. Confirm your place by making the full payment in advance. Read our <u>cancellation policy</u> and fill the release document.

Click here for PAYMENTS

WHAT TO GET ALONG?

Sep is a good time to travel In Lahaul. But the remoteness of this valley and the unpredictability of weather off late, makes it necessary to be prepared for all possibilities. Temp can vary from 0 to 20 degrees. Good all-weather backpack, jacket and boots are a must. Woolen sweater, cap, gloves and socks will be handy. Ration and other provisions will be purchased locally. Will send a detailed checklist on signing up.

MAKING A CONTRIBUTION:

There is always a way of giving back to the place and people where we go for our holidays. The biggest way we can make a contribution in this trip is by traveling responsibly while we are in Pangi valley. This means making an effort to blend in and respecting the local sensibilities, understanding their culture and practice the leave-no-trace method of trekking. In addition, we are using only the local staff for this trip (wherever possible) and we can support local handicraft weavers by purchasing some of our woolens from them.

GET CONNECTED:

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GIFT THIS TRIP

You can chose from gift vouchers starting from Rs 5000. Write to us with the name of the receiver and the denomination of the voucher.

