



Top 5 Reasons to avoid Manali-Leh highway in October

Everyone loves traveling on Manali-Leh Highway and why not, it offers you the most mesmerizing views. It is the shortest path to travel to Ladakh by road and of course, offers the adventure of its own extreme adventure. However, as the Ladakh season comes to an end in October, you should definitely think at least once before venturing the journey on Manali Leh Highway in October. Here are thoughts/risks that you must consider before starting this journey in October.

1

Being Stranded & Likely Snowfall

By late September winter season starts to set in Trans Himalayas and all high passes in the Himalayas start receiving snowfall at frequent intervals. Although the BRO tries to maintain and keep the Manali Leh road open up to end of October, you can surely get stuck or delayed for a day or two or maybe more due snowfall. So, it depends upon weather altogether and if lucky you may get through without any single blockage.

2

Lack of Accommodation or Stay options

The tented accommodation options and dhabhas start to pack up from late September onward at places like Zingzing Bar, Sarchu, Pang, etc. This leaves you with a very limited choice of options to stay on Manali Leh Highway in October. These are some strategic places where you may be required to stop in case there is a sudden snowfall on some adjoining mountain passes or other reasons for the road closure. Be ready to camp if necessary.

3

Buses on Manali Leh Highway Stops in October

Public transport on Manali Leh Highway in October gets limited to local shared taxis or jeeps only. Both HRTC and HPTDC stops the bus services on Manali Leh Highway by the third week of September. The shared taxis usually ply from Manali to Leh continuously and this might be dangerous too.

4

Motor Rallies

October (generally first or second week) is when the Raid De Himalayas rally is carried out in the Himalayas. Mostly, Manali Leh Highway is one of the section, due to which you may find various road sections to be closed for their smooth run. This reduces the accommodation options on this route since they are pre-booked for the participants.

5

Cold Conditions

You will need to bear some really cold conditions when traveling on Manali Leh Highway in October. At nights and mornings, the temperatures will be sub-zero temperatures as almost 250+ KMs (beyond Darcha) section of Manali Leh Highway runs above 4000 Mtrs in altitude. So, travel to Ladakh with proper clothing and be prepared with proper biking or travel gear to beat the cold conditions when traveling Manali Leh in October.

? Can I make a trip to Leh from Manali in October?

Finally, I will suggest that you should consider traveling to Manali Leh Highway in October or late September only if:

- I. You have two or buffer days in case of snowfall or road closure in on Manali Leh October
- II. You can manage the cold conditions and carrying proper clothing/gear on your trip to fight with cold.

Himalayan Travel Tips

- Have Buffer Days
- Stay Warm & Hydrated
- Avoid Alcohol
- Carry Required Clothing, Food & Water
- Drive with Caution & Care
- Start Early, Sleep Early



#SaveOurHimalayas

- Spread Smiles Not Plastic
- Stop Littering
- Bring Back Your Own Trash
- Avoid Plastic Water Bottles