



# 5 Reasons to choose Srinagar – Leh Road over Manali – Leh Road

Every year in May – June, the heavenly place called Ladakh opens its doors, and lots of adventure travel freaks hit the highways from various parts of India to live the adventure of their lives. The views, the travel time, accessibility, and even the type of traveler you are are factors to choose between the Srinagar-Leh highway and the Manali-Leh highway. Let's look at some of these factors.

## 1

### Better Acclimatization, Less Health Trouble

If you start your Ladakh trip via Manali-Leh Highway, then most of the terrain runs over 4000 Mtrs. You hit above 5000 Mtrs on the second day itself. When you travel to Ladakh via Srinagar Leh Highway, the altitude increases in a gradual manner and this gradual increase in altitude means that your body gets more time to get acclimatized for the high altitude of Leh and you feel much better plus relaxed upon reaching there, hence reducing the chances of AMS hitting.



## 2

### Better Enjoyment of Views on Manali Leh Highway

With higher chances of hitting AMS and mechanical failures of the vehicles, the Manali-Leh highway, although it boasts slightly better views, is a bit of a risk. The Srinagar-Leh highway also provides grand views and hence makes it a trade-off between the risks involved and the rewards of views. When you travel to Ladakh from Srinagar-Leh Highway, your body gets very much acclimatized to the high altitude of Manali-Leh Highway.



## 3

### Evenly Balanced Travel Distance and Time on Manali – Leh Highway

Most of the times while traveling on the Manali-Leh highway, travelers tweak the itinerary and stay at Keylong/Jispa and leave for Leh the next day. It means you will have less time to thoroughly enjoy the views on Manali Leh Highway as you are covering the distance of Keylong to Leh in about 10-12 hrs. However, if you take the other route and return on this highway halting at Sarchu, would means you divide the overall journey of Manali Leh Highway much evenly between the two days.



## 4

### Better Placement of Tso Moriri Lake in the Itinerary

As suggested and followed by many other travelers and me, if you travel towards Manali from Leh then you can better place Tso Moriri lake in your itinerary and save the day for you. You should not visit Tso Moriri while coming from Manali side because; first, you will not have any permits and secondly, even if you get the permits somehow your body will not be acclimatized to sleep at a very high altitude of Tso Moriri lake.

## 5

### No worries of Manali – Rohtang Pass Permits for Non-HP Vehicles

You have to go through the hassles of getting the Rohtang Pass permit to visit Rohtang Pass from Manali. If you plan to rent a bike, this will mean a delayed start from Manali as it required you to provide vehicle RC number to apply for beyond Rohtang Pass permit. Funnily enough, if you are coming from Leh Ladakh towards Manali or Spiti Valley to Manali, you do not need any permit to cross Rohtang Pass. Hence, returning on the Leh-Manali highway makes more sense.



#### 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