



# 6 Special Tips for a Winter Trip to Ladakh

When winter comes(not in GOT), the most asked question is 'How to make a winter trip to Ladakh?'. A winter trip to Ladakh is something to be carefully planned because one wrong move can leave you in a life-threatening situation amidst harsh cold conditions. Here are some tips which might help you in preparing for one. That said, please maintain cleanliness in the mountains and be a very responsible traveler in fragile Ladakh.

## 1

### It will be cold, read very cold, so go prepared well enough!!

Extra care needs to be taken in order to help your body fight & cope with extreme cold plus high altitude together in battling AMS, especially because flying to Leh is the only option available. Ensure you carry jackets, gloves, mufflers and everything that is required to keep you warm. Keep your body well hydrated.

## 2

### Carry good sleeping gear



Carry a 0 to -10 degree Celsius rated sleeping bag with you or double your summer sleeping bag with a fleece one. Ensure your hotel/guest house provides you with warm and thick quilts, and if possible a heater. Quilts and the sleeping bag together will keep you warm enough. Also, if traveling to Tsomoriri, consider staying near Chumathang, since the winter gets too harsh there.

## 3

### Prepare your budget well, expect least from stays or food and carry enough cash

Very few stay options will be open and may charge sometimes more in order to include heating facilities these hotels provide during winters, of course, that comes with a cost. A simple dal-chawal could be considered a luxury. Very few hotels in Leh and in regions around will be available. Also, carry extra cash since many of the ATMs may not be viable since lack of cash and electricity.

## 4

### Prepare a decent budget for transport as well



Taxis will mostly be available as personal taxis only. Shared taxis will be rare to spot. There will be less number of tourists and hence very less possibility to get shared tourist taxis to share such costs in winters. Prepare your budget accordingly, keeping in mind that you might need to rent a private taxi and the taxi prices like we all know are quite hefty in Leh - Ladakh.

## 5

### Plan at least a couple of buffer days in hand avoid hassles from an abrupt snowfall

Check weather forecasts before venturing over Khardung La pass or Chang La pass and make sure that there are no signs of heavy snowfall for that very day or coming days. So, take calculated risks after seeing weather conditions. It is always better to keep a couple of buffer days for such abrupt snowfall contingencies as many times it also snows in Leh resulting in the cancellation of flights.

## 6

### Enjoy the frozen vistas & book a window seat of your flight

Don't think this article is just to scare you. Since there will be not much tourists around, you can enjoy the places, monasteries along with very very hospitable people of Ladakh in a calm, peaceful and relaxed manner. Do book a window seat of the flight, if possible on the left-hand side to enjoy some of the magnificent white gold covered aerial views of Himalayas from the window.

#### 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