



5 Reasons to Avoid Manali Kaza Road in October

Spiti Valley has become very popular among tourists and travelers these days. People are traveling to Spiti Valley from Shimla Kaza road as well as Manali Kaza road. Once the snowfall starts, the Manali - Kaza closes down and Shimla - Kaza road is the only route that connects Spiti Valley in winters. As the season end approaches, so does the questions on making a trip to Spiti Valley from Manali Kaza road in October or later.

1

Being Stranded & Likely Snowfall on Manali Kaza Road

Firstly, by late September winter season starts to set in the trans-Himalayas and all high passes in the Himalayas start receiving snowfall at frequent intervals. The chances of road closure temporarily also increase, however, the snow in late September or October does not last much longer. Although the BRO tries to maintain the Manali Kaza road open by end of October you can surely get stuck or delayed for a day or two or maybe more due snowfall.

2

Lack of Accommodation or Stay options

There are very limited stay options between Manali and Kaza road. There are PWD Guest houses at Khoksar, Chatru & Batal and there is a Dorje uncle Chandra Dhabha at Batal too with another one. However, these make shifts dhabhas and availability of caretaker at Batal PWD rest house will be difficult especially after mid-October. The point is the risk of running out of the limited accommodation options.

3

Buses on Manali Kaza Road

The HRTC bus running between Kaza and Manali/Kullu also stops in October as the risk of being stranded increases. I guess they stop the bus service as soon as the black ice starts forming on the roads after the third week of September or mid-October and it becomes risky to drive or ride on the Himalayan roads. Even shared taxis frequency decreases a lot.

4

Cold and Slippery Road Conditions

In the month of October, you will need to bear some cold conditions especially at night, late evening or early morning. In the day time, it can be warmer than expected though but strong cold winds will always leave you numb in shades especially when biking it is really tough. So, go prepared with proper gears and clothing. Another thing to be careful about is the ice on the roads that makes slippery road conditions.

5

Motor Rallies

Last but not the least, October is the month when the popular rally, Raid De Himalaya, is carried out nowadays over the roads in Spiti Valley, Ladakh, and Manali Leh Highway. When this rally event taking place, you may find various road sections to be closed for their smooth run. Hence, it is an inconvenience for you as it may delay or toss up your plans or leave you stranded without accommodation option.

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