



11 Tips on Mobile Phone Connectivity in Leh - Ladakh

Thousands of people make a trip to Ladakh by road or by flying directly to Leh. Most of them are worried about connecting with the family back home when traveling to such a remote place. So, Leh - Ladakh isn't an exception when it comes to limited mobile phone connectivity or Internet access. Hence, knowing about network connectivity up there will help you on your trip to Ladakh.



Only post-paid mobile connections work in Leh - Ladakh

Ladakh falls under the jurisdiction of Jammu & Kashmir. Hence, only post-paid connections of other states work in the Ladakh region. Therefore, you must carry a post-paid SIM card from your home or else your phone is going to be useless in the whole Ladakh trip for making any calls or accessing the Internet.



Only a few routes/places have phone connectivity in Leh - Ladakh

You will mostly be out of phone network coverage when you travel to Ladakh. Mainly mobile phone connectivity is present around Leh and local areas around Leh. As you go from Leh to Nubra Valley or Pangong, the phone signal starts to decrease. You might find enough connectivity to make calls in Pangong and Hanle.



Intermittent phone connectivity on routes to Leh - Ladakh

When traveling to Leh Ladakh by road from Manali Leh Highway and Srinagar Leh Highway, you will not find much phone connectivity on most stretches. Manali to Keylong and beyond Upshi after Taglang Las is where you'll find the signal on Manali-Leh highway. Srinagar-Sonamarg and Dras-Kargil are where you'll find the network on the Srinagar-Leh highway.



Well inform your family and friends

On most of the routes to sightseeing places in Leh - Ladakh you will not get any mobile connectivity in Leh Ladakh. Hence, you should call at home or inform your loved ones whenever there is a connection available or before venturing out for sightseeing or reaching another place on that day.



Use satellite phones only in an emergency

Some remote villages in Ladakh do have satellite phones available at Rs 2/minute for STD/ISD to make a call in case of emergency. Use judiciously. Avoid using for personal use.



BSNL mobile phone services have the most extensive coverage followed by Airtel

BSNL mobile phone services have the broadest coverage of mobile phone connectivity in Leh Ladakh. BSNL follows Airtel in terms of mobile phone services in Leh - Ladakh, with Reliance Jio potentially making significant inroads.



Data connectivity or Internet in Leh - Ladakh

Data connectivity in Ladakh is mostly limited to 2G/GPRS that too in major city areas. 3G connectivity depends on your luck mostly, but Jio seems to be disrupting that now. You can use (slow) WIFI available in hotels or cyber cafes or guesthouses. Whatsapp messages are the most effective in such a case.



Plan for no connectivity in Ladakh

You should not plan a trip to Ladakh and rely on mobile connectivity. Be it office calls or to plan the next day or to get connected with the hotel or taxi guy. If you have something important, then complete that work before the trip to Ladakh.



Be proactive and disciplined

Be ready to be active & disciplined because, at times, in remote places, the mobile connectivity tower will work just in the morning working hours and or when there is light. So, make the best use of connectivity you get any time in the day at any remote place to connect with your family and friends.



Have patience

Have patience in yourself and consider you are back in an era of landlines with poor connections. Hence, tell your family and friends not to worry before leaving for a Ladakh trip because they may also face the same issues. Be ready to have some missed call alert messages once you return.



Always carry a couple of power banks to charge your mobile

Electricity in Ladakh may be erratic, and power banks may come in handy. Not just to keep the phone on, but to enable them to take more pictures and videos too. It is always wise to carry a quality power bank of 20000 mAH or more.



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