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## Kashmir Tour

**Duration:** 08N/09D

**Key Sights:** Delhi - Srinagar - Sonmarg - Gulmarg - Pahalgam - Srinagar

Day	Program	Mode
Day 1	Arrived Delhi	By Flight
Day 2	Delhi	
Day 3	Delhi – Srinagar	By Flight
Day 4	Srinagar	
Day 5	Srinagar – Sonmarg – Srinagar	By Surface
Day 6	Srinagar – Gulmarg	By Surface
Day 7	Gulmarg	
Day 8	Gulmarg – Pahalgam	By Surface
Day 9	Pahalgam – Srinagar	By Surface
	Srinagar – Delhi	By Flight
Day 10	Departure Delhi	By Flight



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**Day 1**

**Arrived Delhi**

**By Flight**

Upon arrival in India you will be greeted and assisted by our airport representative to your hotel. Check in at hotel, overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 2**

**Delhi**

Breakfast at hotel; later proceed for the full day city tour of Old and New Delhi. Old Delhi in earlier times known as Shahjahanabad has impressive monuments built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, visit the Red Fort for a photo stop - 17th century imposing fortress built of red sandstone, the Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque where more than 20,000 people can kneel in prayer at a time, visit Chandni Chowk, the bustling and colourful market of the old city with a cycle-rickshaw ride and Raj Ghat - Mahatma Gandhi's Memorial.

Later visit New Delhi designed and built by the British in the 1920's it's a city of wide boulevards impressive Government buildings, green parks and gardens. First drive past Connaught Place, the heart and main shopping district of the capital, then drive to Rajpath (King's Way), India Gate - the 42m high stone "Arch of Triumph", erected in the memory of Indian soldiers who died in First World War. Drive past Rashtrapati Bhawan (President Palace) and Parliament House. Later visit the Qutab Minar 12th century minaret built by Qutub-ud-din Aibek of the Slave Dynasty - this building complex dates back to the onset of Muslim rule in India and is fine example of Afghan architecture which is graceful and well sculptured and stands 75 meters. Also visit the Bahai Temple - Lotus shaped structure; it is made of marble, cement, dolomite and sand. It is open to all faiths and is an ideal place for meditation and obtaining peace and tranquillity.

Return to hotel for overnight stay.

**Day 3**

**Delhi – Srinagar**

**By Flight**

Breakfast at hotel and later check-out. In time transfer to domestic airport to board flight for Srinagar.

Upon arrival transfer assistance from airport to hotel / Deluxe Houseboats.

Late afternoon Shikara ride on Dal Lake visiting floating Flower and Vegetable markets etc.

Also witness Walnut woodcarving and Papier Machie making demonstration.

Overnight stay at deluxe houseboat.

**Day 4**

**Srinagar**

Breakfast at hotel. This morning proceed for the full day sightseeing and visit important sights of Srinagar City. Visit Shankaracharya Temple - This Temple, known to be built by Jaluka, the son of Emperor Ashoka around 200 BC, is an ancient shrine located on the Takht-e-Suleiman hill. This sacred site, situated at a height of about 1100 ft on the south-east of the city, offers splendid views of the valley and the snow clad mountains of the Pir Panjal range. Local folks tell a story that saint Shankaracharya spent some of his time at this site during his visit to Kashmir to revitalize Sanatan Dharma. It is constructed on an elevated



octagonal plane, can be reached through a flight of steps bounded by side-walls. The inner sanctum adorns a modern ceiling & several Persian inscriptions.

Visit Hazratbal Mosque - Also known as Dargah Sharif, Assar-e-Sharif and Madinat-Us-Sani, this Mosque on the western banks of the majestic Dal Lake is considered to be one of the most important shrines for Muslims. With the impressive Nishat Bagh in the vicinity, this enchanting white marble mosque offers great views of the Lake in the back drop of the majestic Himalayas. The Mosque is a combination of Kashmiri and Mughal styles of architecture, with historical significance dating back to the 17th century. The distinctiveness of the Hazratbal Mosque is that it enshrines the 'Moi-e-Muqaddas' (the sacred hair) of the prophet Mohammed, which is shown to public only on special occasions.

Visit Khanqah of Shah Hamadan, also known as Khanqah Mosque, Shah Hamadan Masjid, Khanqah-e-Moula and so on, is one of the oldest Muslim Shrines in Kashmir. It is ideally situated on right bank of the River Jhelum. This mosque was built in 1395 by Shah Sikandar in the memory of Mir Sayyid Ali Hamdani, a preacher from City of Hamdan in Persia. The shrine bears aesthetically designed wooden structure with surprising carved roofs, rich interiors carved with ancient religious sermons and historical inscriptions, with antique chandelier and carved hanging bells. This shrine was gutted in a devastating fire twice in year 1480 and in 1731 and was reconstructed by ruler Sultan Hassan Shah and by Abul Barkat Khan respectively.

Later visit the famous Mughal gardens –

Nishat Bagh (Garden of Pleasure) - The largest Mughal garden situated on the banks of world famous Dal-Lake in the backdrop of Zabarwan hills encircles the Dal Lake. Empress Noor Jahan's brother Asif Khan laid the Garden in 1633 AD. Nishat has seven terraces with a beautiful central water course flowing right in the middle. These terraces rise dramatically off the mountains from the eastern part of the lake.

Shalimar Bagh - It was planted by Mughal Emperor Jehangir for Empress Noor Jahan in 1619 and later extended in 1727 by Shah Jahan. Shaded by magnificent Chinar trees, the Shalimar is a series of stone pavilions and flowing water with paint box bright flower beds. The Garden blooms with innumerable varieties of flowers in spring and autumn.

Chashme Shahi Garden, founded in 1632, is a small beautiful garden, the smallest among the famous Mughal gardens it is also known as Royal Spring, by road. The garden is established in three sections with an aqueduct with fountains and waterfalls located along the middle. Different varieties of beautiful fragrant flowers and manicured lawns are the main attractions in this garden. It is believed that the fresh water spring in the garden has medicinal value.

Overnight stay at deluxe houseboat.

**Day 5**

**Srinagar – Sonmarg – Srinagar**

**By Surface**

Breakfast and check-out from houseboat. Check-in to a hotel in Srinagar city, later in the morning drive for a full day excursion trip to Sonmarg. Sonmarg (Meadow of Gold) - It is a place of enthralling beauty, lies in Sindh Valley, streamed with flowers, surrounded by snow clad mountains and perched at an altitude of 2690 mt. It is a quiet alpine retreat surrounded with Sycamore, Silver birch, Fir and Pine trees. It is also the base for some interesting treks to the high altitude of Himalayan Lakes.



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Visit Nichnai Pass is the commanding point to have bird's eye view of breathtakingly beautiful lakes of Vishansar, Krishansar and Gangabal.

Visit Nilagrad river, located at a distance of about 6 km from Sonamarg, it is a confluence of a mountain river and Indus river, the water of this river is red in colour, it is believed that the reddish water of this river bears medicinal properties. Local inhabitants often take a bath in this water.

OPTIONAL - Enjoy horse / pony ride upto Thajiwas glacier - a wonderful place where nature blooms at its best and sledge riding on snow. Later in the evening drive back to Srinagar, for overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 6**

**Srinagar – Gulmarg**

**By Surface**

Breakfast and check-out from hotel, afterwards drive to Gulmarg, upon arrival proceed to hotel for check-in.

Later proceed for the sightseeing of Gulmarg. Enjoy a ride on Gondola Lift, a cable car system, popular among tourists for the aerial breathtaking view it offers. Gulmarg boasts Asia's highest and longest cable car project, situated at the height of 13500 ft above sea level, this lift covers a distance of 5 km in 2 stretches from Gulmarg to Kungdoori and from Kungdoori to Apparwath. The second stage of the gondola ride is exhilarating.

Visit Khilanmarg, It remains carpeted with beautiful flowers in the spring and offers a spectacular view of the Great Himalayan range and the Kashmir Valley.

Overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 7**

**Gulmarg**

Breakfast at hotel. Visit Baba Reshi Shrine (Ziarat) built and dedicated to the famous Muslim Scholar & Sage - Baba Reshi who breathed his last in Gulmarg in 1480. He was a prominent member of the court of Zain-ul-Abidin - a Kashmiri King of the early 15th century. This shrine was built amidst a luxuriant garden and is a major tourist attraction apart from the visits from its devotees. Remaining day at leisure for independent activities. Overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 8**

**Gulmarg – Pahalgam**

**By Surface**

After early breakfast check-out from hotel. This morning drive to Pahalgam (Valley of Shepherds). Arrive and check-in at hotel. Afterwards proceed for the sightseeing and visit following places in and around:-

Baisaran is situated at an altitude of 2438 m above sea level, at a distance of a mere 5 km from Pahalgam. Magnificent snow covered mountains, dense pine forests, and sprawling unspoilt meadows attract tourists from far-flung places. The top of the hill allows for a mesmerizing view of the Lidder River Valley and Pahalgam Valley. The place is considered similar to European resorts and serves as a picnic and camp site for tourists.

Visit, Aru Valley which is a small yet self-sufficient scenic village located 15 km from Pahalgam. The drive up to the village is alluring too. The location of the village among the



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grasslands, make this place a tourist delight. It is reachable by walking along a mountain path. The village also serves as the start point for trekking to Kolahoi glacier.

Later visit Hajan valley also known as Betaab valley, because of its scenic location few movies have been shot here. Overnight stay at hotel.

<b>Day 9</b>	<b>Pahalgam – Srinagar Srinagar – Delhi</b>	<b>By Surface By Flight</b>
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After breakfast, check-out from hotel. Drive from Pahalgam to Srinagar en-route visit at Saffron fields of Pampora, see the beautiful countryside, lots of rice fields and Awantipura ruins on the way, Awantipura Ruins (1100 years Old Temple) - Built in 09th century AD by King Avantivarman and dedicated to Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva, the temple ruins at Awantipura represent some of the finest examples of architecture of this region. Later continue your drive through the pine forest, the confluence of the streams flowing from the river Lidder & Sheshnag Lake which are famous for their scenic beauty. Arrive in Srinagar, in-time transfer to airport to take flight for Delhi, upon arrival transfer to a local restaurant for Farewell Dinner. After dinner transfer to international airport to board flight for return journey.

<b>Day 10</b>	<b>Departure Delhi</b>	<b>By Flight</b>
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Departure from Delhi early in the morning, by an international flight.