



Tour Name: Kashmir Relaxed Exquisite

Tour Code: KRXQ01

Duration: 7 Nights and 8 Days

One-line Intro: Embrace the tranquil landscapes and cultural elegance of Kashmir with a leisurely journey designed for ultimate relaxation and luxurious experiences.

Cost: XXXX (Minimum 2 Pax traveling together)

Description

Experience the serene beauty and timeless luxury of Kashmir on a relaxed journey through its most iconic landscapes. From tranquil Shikara rides on Dal Lake to the lush valleys of Pahalgam and the alpine elegance of Gulmarg, this itinerary offers a perfect blend of relaxation and exploration. Conclude with a scenic day trip to Sonamarg and a visit to the historic Shankaracharya Temple, making this a truly unforgettable escape into Kashmir's natural and cultural wonders.

Highlights

- Serene Shikara ride on Dal Lake, framed by Kashmir's breathtaking mountains
- Discover Srinagar's iconic sites, Cheshma Shahi and Pari Mahal, in tranquil luxury
- Enjoy a leisurely escape to Pahalgam with riverside walks and scenic treks
- Relaxed stay in Gulmarg, with an optional gondola ride to Agharwat Peak
- Day trip to Sonamarg, with an optional pony ride to Thajiwas Glacier
- Conclude with a visit to the historic Shankaracharya Temple

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Srinagar – A Day of Discovery in the City of 'Sri'

Upon your arrival at Srinagar Airport, a Kashmirinluxury™ representative will warmly welcome you and ensure a seamless transfer to your luxurious accommodations in Srinagar. Known as the "City of Sri," Srinagar derives its name from the Sanskrit words *Sri* (symbolising wealth and prosperity) and *Nagar* (meaning city), reflecting a legacy of cultural and natural beauty. Nestled amid majestic mountains, verdant valleys, and shimmering lakes, Srinagar's scenic vistas have long captivated poets and explorers alike.

After a leisurely lunch, embark on a journey through Srinagar's iconic landmarks. Begin with Cheshma Shahi, the 'Royal Spring,' a delightful garden established in 1632 CE. This terraced marvel, surrounded by lush greenery, offers an insight into the architectural splendor of the past. Continue to Pari Mahal, or the 'Palace of Fairies,' an enchanting seven-terraced garden crafted by Mughal prince Dara Shikoh. Set on the Zabarwan mountain range, this spot provides sweeping views of the valley below.

As evening draws near, bask in the serene ambiance at Pari Mahal, watching as the golden hues of the setting sun transform the landscape. Conclude your day by returning to your hotel or houseboat

in Srinagar, where a lavish dinner awaits, allowing you to relax and rejuvenate for the days of discovery ahead.

Day 2: Journey to Pahalgam – The Valley of Shepherds

After a leisurely breakfast, set out on a serene journey to Pahalgam, a destination celebrated for its pristine beauty and tranquil ambiance. Known as the 'Valley of Shepherds,' Pahalgam is a paradise where the gushing Lidder River meanders through lush meadows and verdant forests, creating a scene so picturesque that it has inspired countless filmmakers and poets. According to ancient lore, this village was once called *Belgav*, named after Nandi, whom Bhagwan Shiva left behind on his journey to reveal the truth of life to Parvati ji—a tale that adds a rich spiritual layer to this enchanting place. As you arrive, take in the breathtaking vistas of snow-capped peaks and pine-clad hills that characterise Pahalgam. Wander through the village, where the simplicity of local life enriches the surreal surroundings. For a touch of adventure, trek to Baisaran, often referred to as 'Mini Switzerland' for its expansive meadows, encircled by dense woods and towering mountains. Alternatively, enjoy a peaceful pony ride or unwind by the Lidder River, where the soothing sounds of the flowing water provide a natural meditative retreat.

As evening falls, return to your hotel for a delicious dinner and a comfortable overnight stay in Pahalgam, reflecting on a day immersed in captivating beauty and cultural heritage.

Day 3: Day spent in Pahalgam – Adventure and Scenic Wonders

Begin your day with a delightful breakfast before setting out to explore the breathtaking natural beauty of Pahalgam. Start with a thrilling pony ride to the enchanting Aru Valley, a serene spot where lush meadows stretch across the horizon, offering panoramic views that are nothing short of mesmerising. For those with a taste for adventure, there are various trekking options in the surrounding hills, perfect for immersing yourself in the pristine landscapes and invigorating mountain air.

Midday, enjoy a picnic lunch amidst the stunning scenery, allowing the fresh air and serene surroundings to rejuvenate your spirit. Afterward, head to Betaab Valley, a locale made famous by the Bollywood classic featuring Sunny Deol and Amrita Singh. The valley's idyllic beauty, with its verdant meadows, clear blue skies, and gushing streams, transports you to a cinematic landscape that perfectly captures the allure of Kashmir.

As the day winds down, return to your accommodations for a sumptuous dinner. Reflect on a day filled with discovery and adventure as you settle in for another peaceful night in Pahalgam, enveloped by the valley's tranquil charm.

Day 4: Return to Srinagar – Evening Serenity on Dal Lake

After a leisurely breakfast, bid farewell to the tranquil beauty of Pahalgam as you make your way back to Srinagar. The drive offers another chance to take in Kashmir's picturesque landscapes, where verdant meadows and forested hills create a stunning backdrop.



Upon arrival in Srinagar, settle into your accommodations and unwind. As the evening approaches, embark on a serene Shikara ride on Dal Lake, a quintessential Kashmiri experience. Glide along the calm waters, passing by houseboats and vibrant floating gardens, while the surrounding mountains reflect on the lake's mirror-like surface. This peaceful ride immerses you in the timeless beauty of Srinagar, offering a moment of tranquility to connect with nature.

As dusk sets in, the gentle sway of the Shikara and the cool lake breeze provide a perfect setting for reflection. Afterward, return to your hotel or houseboat for an exquisite dinner, capping off the day with a touch of luxury and relaxation. Prepare to rest well, rejuvenated by the serene ambiance of Srinagar and the soothing journey on the Iconic Dal Lake.

Day 5: Journey to Gulmarg – Alpine Elegance in the Meadow of Flowers

After a delightful breakfast, make your way to Gulmarg, known historically as Gaurimarg, in honor of Goddess Parvati. This high-altitude destination, celebrated as the “Meadow of Flowers,” is a true alpine paradise with year-round allure. Gulmarg's beauty changes with each season, offering unique experiences no matter when you visit.

In spring, the meadows burst into a riot of colour as wildflowers bloom, carpeting the landscape in hues of purple, yellow, and white. During this season, Gulmarg becomes a botanical haven, perfect for those who relish serene walks through nature's vibrant display. Golf enthusiasts will find themselves in awe of Gulmarg's 18-hole golf course, which, as the highest golf course in the world, lets you play against the majestic backdrop of the Himalayas.

When winter arrives, Gulmarg transforms into a winter wonderland, drawing visitors from around the world for its top-tier skiing. Recognised as Asia's best ski resort, Gulmarg offers pristine slopes and powdery snow that attract adventurers and professional skiers alike. For a spectacular view of the surrounding mountains and valleys, take an optional gondola ride to Apharwat Peak, where the landscape unfolds in breathtaking, snow-clad vistas.

Gulmarg's multifaceted beauty provides a perfect blend of tranquility and adventure, with activities tailored to each season's unique charm. As evening descends, unwind over a delicious dinner at your accommodation, letting the peaceful mountain atmosphere set the stage for a restful night in this extraordinary setting.

Day 6: Full Day in Gulmarg – Immersed in Alpine Beauty and Adventure

Begin your day with a hearty breakfast as you prepare for a leisurely day in Gulmarg, a destination that beckons with its natural beauty and endless opportunities for adventure. Whether you're visiting during the lush bloom of spring or the snowy depths of winter, Gulmarg promises an unforgettable experience.

For those seeking a touch of adventure, the gondola ride to Apharwat Peak is a must. As you ascend, the panoramic views reveal a stunning expanse of valleys and peaks, with the snow-dusted landscape creating a breathtaking scene during the winter months. At the peak, you can witness the pristine alpine scenery up close, making it a favourite for photographers and nature lovers.

In warmer months, Gulmarg's vast meadows offer the perfect setting for peaceful walks or horseback rides. Stroll through the fragrant fields of wildflowers, or explore the paths that wind



through pine forests, each step offering a chance to take in the fresh mountain air. For golf enthusiasts, the Gulmarg Golf Course provides a rare opportunity to play at the highest golf course in the world, where the game is enjoyed amid spectacular views that span as far as the eye can see.

Spend the day at your own pace, allowing Gulmarg's tranquil ambiance and natural splendor to rejuvenate your spirit. As the day draws to a close, return to your cozy accommodations for a delightful dinner, capping off another day enveloped by the unmatched beauty of Gulmarg.

Day 7: Day Trip to Sonamarg – The Enchanting Meadow of Gold

After an early breakfast, set out for a scenic day trip to Sonamarg, the “Meadow of Gold.” Nestled at an altitude of 2,740 meters, Sonamarg is known for its breathtaking views of snow-capped peaks, rolling meadows, and the serene Sindh River winding through the valley. The journey itself is a visual delight, with vistas of majestic mountains and lush green landscapes that make Sonamarg a true gem of Kashmir.

Upon arrival, take some time to explore this alpine paradise at your leisure. You may choose to wander along the riverbanks, breathing in the crisp mountain air, or enjoy a picnic lunch surrounded by the natural splendor of the valley. For a touch of adventure, there's an option to take a pony ride to the Thajiwas Glacier, where you can experience the cool beauty of the glacier's shimmering ice and the contrasting green of the valley below.

In the late afternoon, return to Srinagar for an evening of independent dining and shopping. Srinagar's vibrant markets offer a feast for the senses, brimming with locally crafted Pashmina shawls, intricate handicrafts, and unique souvenirs that capture the essence of Kashmiri artistry. Savor an independent dinner at one of the city's charming eateries, where you can indulge in the flavours of Kashmiri cuisine, or simply enjoy a quiet meal at a café with views of the lake.

Conclude your day with a stroll through the bustling bazaars, soaking in the sights and sounds of Srinagar as it winds down for the night. This evening of leisure and discovery provides the perfect capstone to your journey through Kashmir's unforgettable landscapes. Overnight at your luxurious hotel or houseboat in Srinagar.

Day 8: Fond Farewell with a Visit to Shankaracharya Temple

After an early breakfast, start your final day with a visit to the Shankaracharya Temple, perched atop Gopadhari Hill. This ancient temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, is believed to date back to 200 BCE and holds significant spiritual and cultural importance in Kashmir. As you ascend the hill, you'll be rewarded with sweeping panoramic views of Srinagar and Dal Lake, a serene and reflective way to end your journey through Kashmir.

Take some time to soak in the tranquil ambiance of the temple and the awe-inspiring vistas that stretch across the valley below. It's a moment of peace and contemplation, providing a perfect farewell to the enchanting landscapes that have marked your stay.

Afterward, a Kashmirinluxury™ representative will assist with your transfer to Srinagar Airport. If time permits, enjoy a quick stop at a local market for any last-minute shopping. Depart with



cherished memories of the timeless beauty, spirituality, and serene charm that have defined your luxurious journey through Kashmir.

Accommodations

- 3 Nights at Deluxe Rooms on Half Board (Breakfast and Dinner) and 1 Night on CP (Breakfast only) meal plan at Lalit Grand Palace or WelcomHeritage Gurkha Houseboats or similar in Srinagar, India.
- 2 Nights at Deluxe Room's on Half Board (Breakfast and Dinner) meal plan at Hotel Highlands Park Gulmarg or similar in Gulmarg, India
- 2 Nights at Deluxe Room's on Half Board (Breakfast and Dinner) meal plan at Hotel Welcomhotel Pine N Peak Pahalgam or similar in Pahalgam, India

Inclusions

- One-hour Shikara ride on Dal Lake
- Accommodation with meals in deluxe double/twin-occupancy rooms
- Meals as specified in the itinerary and accommodations section
- All relevant sightseeing, parking, tolls, and driver allowances as per itinerary.
- End-to-end luxurious transfers and sightseeing by private, chauffeur-driven Toyota Innova, as per itinerary.

Exclusions

- Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- Professional guide services
- Professional camera fees
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Any airfare or train fare
- Entrance fees to monuments and museums
- Gondola tickets, pony rides, sliding or skiing in Gulmarg
- Personal expenses not explicitly mentioned in the itinerary
- Local taxi service costs in Pahalgam and Sonamarg due to local union norms
- Local taxi service in Gulmarg due to local union norms
- Optional experiences and services available at an additional charge
- All personal expenditures, including tips, laundry etc.