



Dal Lake & Pahalgam - Sumbal trek - 9 days

Amritsar to Kalka via the Spiti Valley

Tour JAN-KT02: Srinagar - Pahalgam – Sonamous Pass - Sumbal - Srinagar



The trek over Sonamous Pas is harder, but for most, also more rewarding than the trek up to the Kolahoi Glacier. It is probably the best medium level trek you can do in Kashmir. It leads through lush green valleys with grazing animals, and Gujar settlements, but also through deep, majestic forests, and along glacial lakes, and great views of Himalayan glaciers.

Itinerary

Day 01: Arrival Srinagar.

On arrival at Srinagar, you will be met by our representative at the airport and transferred to Houseboat Ambassador.

In the afternoon, we make a *shikara* tour on Dal lake. A shikara is small Kashmiri wooden boat that is rowed by a *shikari* with a heart-shaped peddle. Overnight at Houseboat.

Day 02: Srinagar – Pahalgam; treks starts (4 hrs drive; 3 hrs walk)

The drive from Srinagar to Pahalgam takes about 4 hours. On the way you'll cross the Kashmiri country side with rice fields, fruit orchards and saffron fields.

In Pahalgam, the pack horses will be waiting. While they are being packed, you'll have your lunch.

Day 03 - 05: Trekking through Lidder Valley (3-4 hrs walk per day)



The first four days of the trek, you'll be traversing the charming and green Lidder Valley. This valley is visually stunning as it is filled with pine forests, mountain streams and meadows of flowering plants. This part of the route is identical to the one of the trek from Pahalgam to Kolahai glacier and Tar Sar (see itinerary JAN-KT01).

Camp on day 5 is at Seikiwas (3430 m).

As an alternative to climbing to the Kolahoi Glacier on day 5, we can ascend to Tar Sar Lake at 3800m. This is a 6-7 hrs walk from Lidderwat. The campsite at Tar Sar is one of the most beautiful in Kashmir both due to its location right on the bank of a stunning 3km long glacial lake, as well as for the views of its surroundings.

Day 06: Seikiwas – Sonamous Pass – Sonamous (5 hrs walking)

On this day, the trek diverts from Seikiwas to Sonamous pass (3960m). This day will be more tiring as you will have to walk for around 5 hours, as compared to 3 to 4 hours only on the days before. On the pass, we get very good views of the Himalayas. Descent to the campsite at Sonamous (3340 m).

Day 07: Sonamous – Sumbal; drive to Srinagar (3-4 hrs walking, 3-4 hrs drive)

Steep descent through dense forest to Sumbal which is surrounded by pleasant greenery. From here, the drive to Srinagar takes 3 to 4 hours. The rest of evening, you can relax. Dinner and overnight stay at the houseboat.

Day 08: Mughal Gardens & Srinagar

Today we'll spend a full day seeing the sights of Srinagar. We'll visit the famous Mughal Gardens and a number of other heritages places: Cheshmashahi Garden (built by Shah Jehan in 1632 AD.), Pari Mahal (built by Dara Shikoh), Nishat Garden (built by Asif Khan in 1633 AD.), Shalimar garden (built by Shah Jehangir in 1616 AD.) and Hazratbal Mosque. After seeing the old city of Srinagar, we'll return by mid afternoon to the houseboat for rest and a relaxed farewell-dinner. Overnight stay at the houseboat.

Day 09: Departure and transfer to airport, bus or railway station for onward destination

After breakfast, our *shikara* will take you to the shore, where the taxi for the airport, bus or railway station will be waiting.



Tour Price

P.M.

Price includes: Accommodation on twin share basis; MAP in Srinagar (breakfast, dinner and stay); shikara crossings, all transfers and sightseeing as per itinerary; all meals while trekking, accommodation in 2-person trekkers tents on the trek; local guide/assistance throughout the tour.

Not included: Air fare; tips; drinks; laundry; telephone calls; travel/ personal insurance; expenses of personal nature.