



## **Pin Parvati Trek! Price £995 not including airfare**

A Once in a lifetime opportunity to trek one of the most beautiful passes in the Himalayas

Leave for Delhi Monday 18th September 2017, then fly on to Bhuntar

Tour Route: Delhi - Bhuntar Airport - Manali – Pin Parvati Trek – Kaza – Spiti Valley – Kunzum Pass – Rohtang Pass - Manali – Delhi.

Main places: Manali, Kullu, Manikaran hot spring, Khirganga, Mantalai Lake, Pin Pass, Mud Village, Key Monastery, Dhankar Monastery, Tabo Monastery, Kunzum La, Rohtang Pass,

Highlights: High Himalayan pass, Old Monasteries, high altitude Villages, dry cold desert of Spiti valley, Himalayan wildlife, rare species of birds, Himalayan Flowers.

Duration of Tour: 12 Nights / 13 days Tour Manali to Manali.  
Duration of Trek: 08 Nights & 09 Days Trek + 3 Day Jeep Safari.  
Maximum Elevation: Pin Parvati 5319m. ( Ben Nevis is 1345m)

Trek Gradient: Challenging.

Total Trek Distance: Approx 100 Kms.

Weather: Temperatures at the pass and at nights/morning are cold. Days are pleasant during the season.

Region: Parvati Valley, Kullu Valley to Pin Valley, Spiti Valley (Himanchal Pradesh).

Trek Starting Point: Barsheni Village Kullu Valley/ Mud Village Spiti Valley.

A trek that takes us from the Parvati Valley in Kullu to the Pin Valley in Spiti across the 5319 meter high Pin Parvati Pass, from the temperate forests of the former to the barren, cold desert landscapes later. One need to be extremely fit and very well prepared for this trek as there is absolutely no habitation along its entire length.

The Pin Parvati Pass which lies in the Great Himalayan Range into the Spiti valley. Sir Louis Dane first discovered this pass in August 1884 as entry point to Spiti from Kullu. It's a very difficult pass not only because it lies very high and remains under heavy snow for most of the year but also because it involves very long journey beyond habitation. This pass links Parvati valley in Kullu with Pin valley of Spiti. Hence it derives the name Pin Parvati pass. Perhaps this is the only important pass in Himachal that was not discovered by enterprising local shepherds. After the trek we take a break around in Spiti valley exploring some old monasteries.

18th - Arrival Bhuntar Airport – Manali 50 Kms (1 Hours 30 Minute Drive).

19th :- Manali to Barsheni (2400 m) 4 hours drive 100 km/ Trek to Khir Ganga (2960 m) – 4 to 5 hours Trek.

Today we have an early start from Manali to Barsheni by car. Our 3 to 4 hour trek starts from here. First we have a long gradual walk; the last stretch involves a long ascent through a pine forest and we will see a gorgeous water fall. Our camp site is near the hot spring, so you can have a dip in hot sulfur water.

20th :- Khir Ganga to Tundabhuji (3285m) - 5 to 6 hours trek.

Our trail goes through fields of wild flowers. The campsite is very picturesque, with lovely waterfalls and beautiful gorges on one side, huge cliffs and the flowing stream on other side.

21st:- Tundabhuji to Thakurkuan (3560m) - 5 to 6 hours trek.

The trail is difficult at two points and leads us through an abundance of wild flowers including iris, buttercups, poppies and several other varieties. As you gain altitude, the scenery gets even better.

22nd :- Thakurkuan to Pandu Bridge (3700m) - 5 hours trek.

Beyond Thakurkuan the trail passes several Gaddi (Shepherd) camps. Before crossing the river side by a natural Bridge, we set up our camp.

23 :- Pandu Bridge to Mantalai (4116m) - 5 to 6 hours trek.

After breakfast we will cross the Pandu Bridge, which consists of two huge rocks over the river. Many shepherds with their sheep are encountered on the route. We will have a gradual walk upstream on the left bank side of the Parvati River. Mantalai is a big meadow with a lake and glacier, which is the source of the Parvati River. Just about one hour before we reach Mantalai, the walk gets fairly difficult over boulders and ice. The entire stretch to the Pass is in the Great Himalayan National Park, which provides a haven for many rare species- snow leopard, Spiti Wolf, ibex and ghural.

24:- Mantalai to Camp 1 (4700m) - 7 hours trek.

After leaving the beautiful campsite, we will cross two streams. After a one-hour walk on boulders and ice, we start climbing into a steep side valley. This is a very long, steep ascend of around 1600 feet. The final walk to the campsite is gradual, and is set up in the open valley surrounded by massive mountains.

25 :- Camp 1 to Camp 2 (4750m) over Pin Parvati Pass (5319 m) - 7 hours trek.

It's a long day, so an early start is advised. The gradual walk is mostly on boulders, later on the glacier until the top of the pass. After crossing the pass we enter in the Pin Valley. The trail descends over snow and ice fields and covered crevasses (hidden crevasses) and then again over loose rocks and boulders. There is no trail visible, so you have to be very carefully. The campsite is situated in the center of three valleys.

26:- Camp 2 to Chinapatta Maidan (3900m) - 5 hours trek.

Again the trail is not well defined, but you should stay on the left bank of the Pin River. Shepherds from Kinnaur and Rampur can be seen. Chinnapatta Maidan is a big ground field with nice views.

27:- Chinapatta Maidan to Mud (3600 m) - 6 to 7 hours trek.

The Pin valley at its best: The trail gets better, but you have to cross streams. Edelweiss and other flowers can be seen in plenty. The Changing colour of the mountains is unique and in the evening sunlight makes the surrounding even more beautiful. We reach the small picturesque village of Mud, which is the last village of that Valley. A Gompa is set on the hill. This is the end of our trek. Here we will spend our last night before it either goes back to Manali by car or we do a Jeep safari through the remote area of Spiti Valley with its awesome nature, many old Buddhist monasteries and picturesque small villages.

28:- Mud - Danker – Tabo – Kaza (3600m).

The day is for excursion. After breakfast drive to Dhankar Monastery, the former capital of Spiti, high above the confluence of the Pin and Spiti rivers. Then continue towards Tabo Gompa, one of the greatest artistic treasures in the Himalayan region, to view its paintings and sculptures, some of which are over 1,000 years old. Overnight stay in Hotel.

29:- Kaza – Key Monastery - Manali (200 km.) – 10 Hours Drive.

After Breakfast we will drive to visit the Key Monastery on the way. Then continue drive to Manali, Having a nice view of magnificent Himalayan Peaks, we drive through the Chandra Valley, then uphill over the Rohtang pass (3950m), the gate way of Lahoul, Spiti and Kullu. In the afternoon we reach Manali. Overnight stay in hotel.

30:- Departure from Manali - Delhi.

Early morning, After Breakfast, we will drive to Bhuntar Airport, flying back to Delhi or to Dehradun for those joining the Rishikesh retreat.

This Trek will be limited to 10 people, if you are interested please contact Leon Deith 07808 060232 email [Leondeith@aol.com](mailto:Leondeith@aol.com)