



LUXURY SELF-DRIVE EXPEDITION TO ZANSKAR & LEH

Embark on an extraordinary expedition through the remote valleys of Zaskar and the high-altitude beauty of Leh, where dramatic landscapes, ancient monasteries, and untouched Himalayan culture await. This self-drive adventure takes you through rugged mountain passes, serene riversides, and timeless villages that few have explored.

6TH TO 18TH SEPT. 2025

ABOUT ZANSKAR & LEH

This expedition takes you deep into the untouched heart of Zaskar and the vibrant highlands of Leh, blending raw adventure with cultural immersion. Starting from the lush valleys of Kullu and Manali, the route winds through the otherworldly landscapes of Lahaul and Sissu, gradually transitioning into the stark, majestic beauty of Zaskar.

The journey through Jispa to Purne introduces you to a wilder side of the Himalayas—crossing rivers, winding past cliffs, and reaching remote villages like Purne and Padum, the cultural capital of Zaskar. Here, you'll experience Ladakh's ancient way of life, untouched monasteries, and the profound silence of the mountains.

From Padum, traverse dramatic high-altitude terrain to reach Leh, where Tibetan culture and peaceful stupas await. The adventure then pushes further into the high-altitude frontier with a drive to Hanle via Pangong Lake, one of the most surreal landscapes on Earth.



TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- **Gonbo Rangjon Viewpoint** – Witness the sacred freestanding peak, revered in Zanskari mythology and set amidst surreal Himalayan backdrops.
- **Riverside Lunch in Purne and Padum** – Relish a peaceful, open-air lunch by the river, surrounded by dramatic mountain views.
- **View of Drang Drung Glacier** – Marvel at this towering glacier near Pensi La, a visual highlight of the Zaskar region.
- **Exploration of Leh** – Dive into Ladakh's spiritual core with visits to monasteries, markets, and cultural landmarks.
- **Drive Along Pangong Lake** – Experience the stunning blues of Pangong Tso, with ever-changing hues and endless views.
- **Demchok** – Journey to one of Ladakh's most remote and geopolitically significant frontiers, located near the Indo-China border.
- **Umling La Pass** – Conquer the legendary Umling La (19,024 ft), one of the highest motorable roads on Earth.
- **High Mountain Crossings** – Navigate thrilling passes including Shinkula, Pensi La, and Changla, each with stunning Himalayan vistas.
- **Tso Moriri Bliss** – Soak in the serenity of Tso Moriri, a pristine high-altitude lake set against barren mountains and home to rare wildlife and migratory birds.



EXPEDITION ITINERARY



DAY 01

Arrival in Chandigarh

THE JOURNEY BEGINS

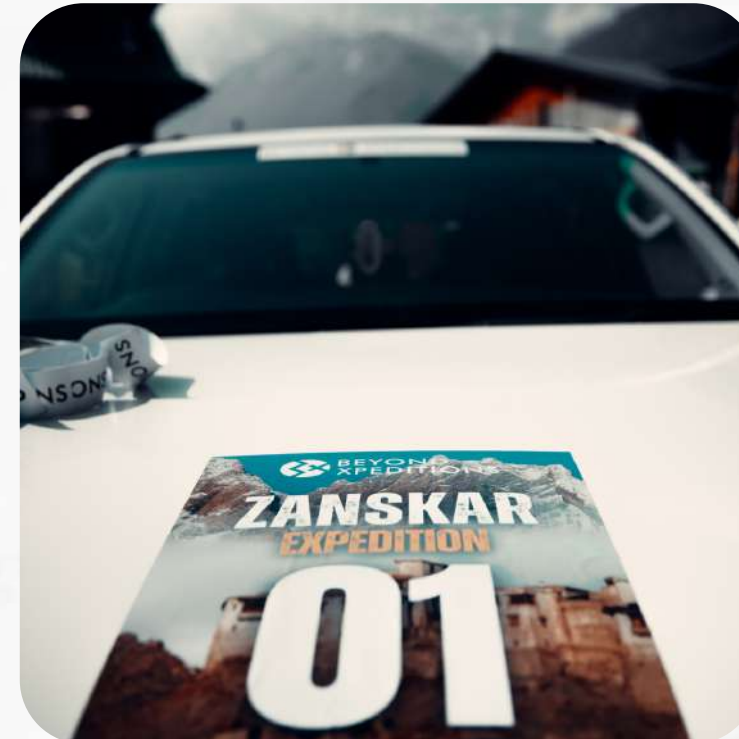
Your adventure kicks off in the vibrant city of Chandigarh. As our convoy assembles, participants meet fellow travellers and the Beyond Xpeditons crew over a short briefing and vehicle handover.

After check-ins and a relaxed evening, we gear up for the road ahead. This day is all about arrivals, introductions, prepping for the journey, and soaking in the excitement of what's to come.

Highlights:

- Meet & Greet with the crew and participants
- Expedition briefing and vehicle orientation
- Rest and overnight stay in Chandigarh

HOTEL: HYATT OR SIMILAR



DAY 02

Chandigarh to Jispa

INTO THE HIMALAYAS

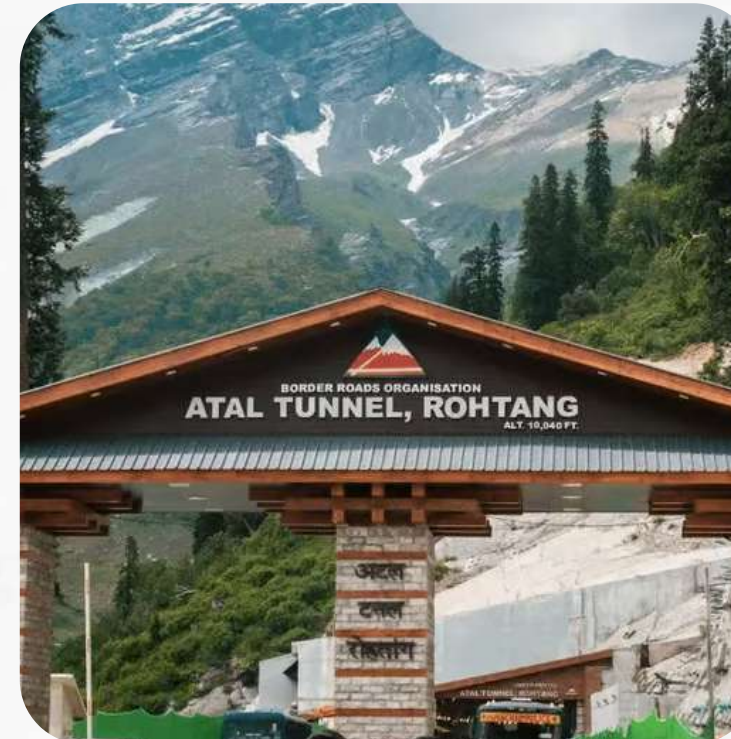
We begin our drive early, leaving the city behind as the landscape shifts dramatically from plains to mountains. The convoy cruises through winding roads, pine forests, and riverside stretches as we ascend into Himachal Pradesh.

By late afternoon, we reach the tranquil village of Jispa, nestled along the Bhaga River—our first real taste of Himalayan altitude and raw beauty.

Highlights:

- Scenic drive through Mandi, Kullu, and Keylong valleys
- First taste of mountain driving and changing terrain
- Arrival and acclimatization in Jispa (10,500 ft)

HOTEL: PADMA LODGE OR SIMILAR



DAY 03

Jispa to Purne

INTO THE HEART OF ZANSKAR

The expedition truly begins today as we leave Jispa and head deeper into the mountains. After an early start, we ascend the formidable Shinku La Pass (16,580 ft), a gateway into Zanskar's raw and untouched wilderness.

Along the way, we make a special stop at the awe-inspiring Gonbo Rangjon, a sacred monolith rising alone in the valley, steeped in Zanskari legend and set against a cinematic Himalayan backdrop.

Midway, we break for a riverside lunch like no other. Expect a curated live station serving wood-fired pizzas and gourmet burgers, all prepared fresh in the wild, an indulgent pause amidst stark mountain grandeur.

Post lunch, the convoy navigates off-road trails and river crossings before reaching Purne, where we settle in for the night under the stars.

Highlights:

- Cross the dramatic Shinku La Pass
- Spiritual & scenic stop at Gonbo Rangjon
- Riverside lunch with wood-fired pizzas and burgers
- Remote stay in Purne, beside the river

HOTEL: THE GRAND PURNE HOMESTAY AND CAMPS



DAY 04

Purne

THE HIDDEN TRAILS OF ZANSKAR

Today is a day of slow exploration and high rewards. We stay parked at Purne, using the day to soak in the silence and surreal beauty of Zanskar's deep interior.

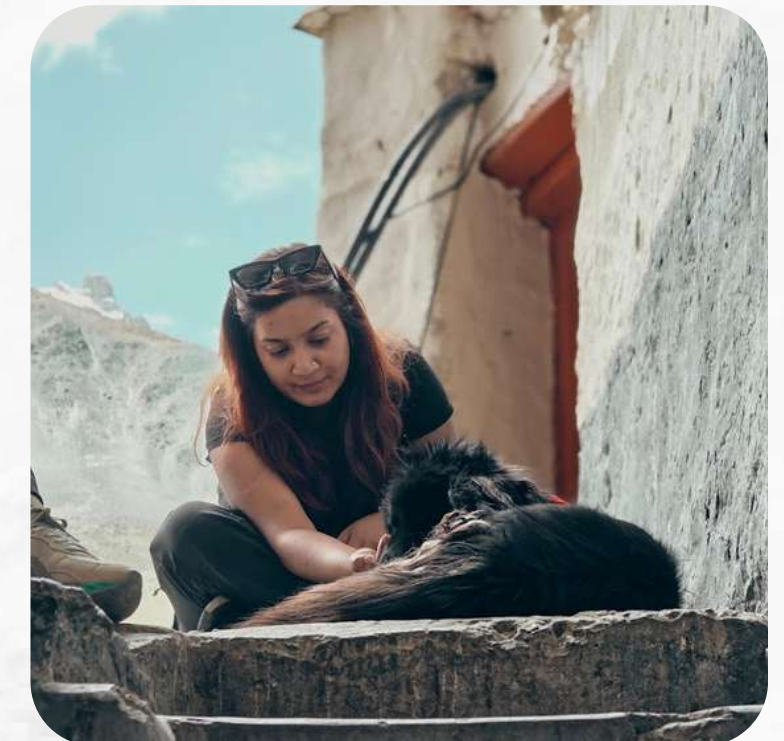
Adventurous participants can embark on an optional hike to Phugtal Monastery, one of the most visually striking and remote monastic complexes in the world, built dramatically into a cliffside cave.

Those who choose to stay back can enjoy a relaxed day by the river, with light walks, warm local hospitality, and the luxury of doing nothing, surrounded by absolute wilderness.

As the sun sets behind the valley walls, we gather by the riverside for a quiet evening under the stars.

Highlights:

- Optional hike to Phugtal Monastery (approx. 4–5 hours round-trip)
- Day of rest and reflection amidst Zanskar's silence
- Conversations over tea with locals and fellow travellers
- Campfire evening by the river (weather permitting)
- Overnight in Purne



DAY 05

Purne to Padum

INTO ZANSKAR'S CULTURAL HEART

Today's journey takes us deeper into Zaskar as we drive from Purne to Padum, the region's cultural and administrative hub. The route offers a medley of dramatic landscapes, ancient villages, and quiet chortens that whisper tales of a forgotten world.

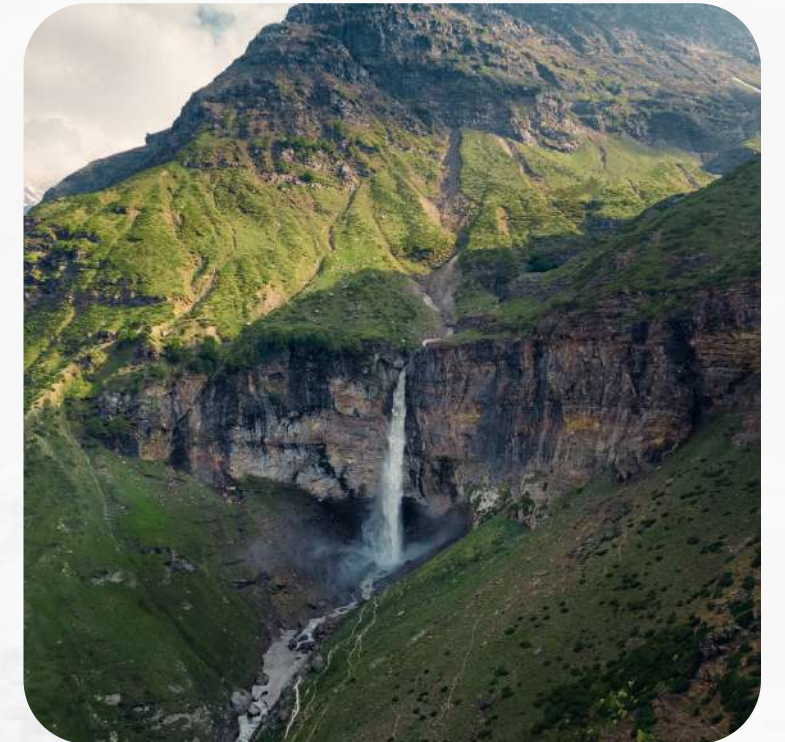
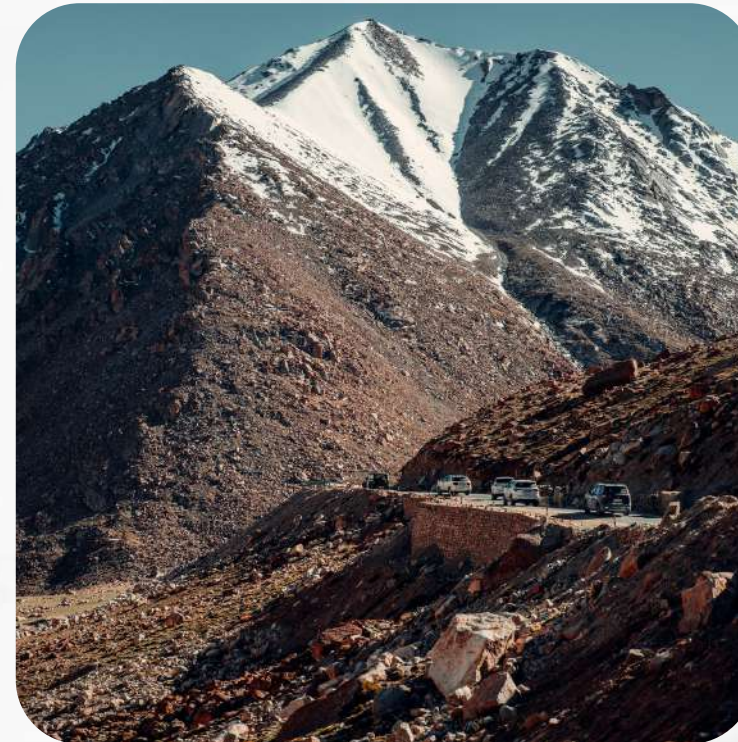
En route, we stop for a comforting lunch featuring freshly made pizzas, prepared hot in the middle of the mountains, a slice of comfort in the wild.

By late afternoon, we arrive in Padum and check in. In the evening, we gather for a traditional cultural performance by local artists, offering a rare glimpse into Zaskari music, dance, and storytelling, celebrated under the stars.

Highlights:

- Remote drive through pristine Zaskar terrain
- Lunch with freshly made pizzas en route
- Explore Padum's monastery, market, or simply unwind
- Evening cultural performance with local music and dance
- Overnight stay in Padum

HOTEL: ZANSKAR COURTYARD OR SIMILAR



DAY 06

Drang Drung Glacier

ICY GIANTS & OPEN SKIES

Today, set out on a spectacular drive from Padum to the iconic Drang Drung Glacier, one of the largest and most stunning glaciers in Ladakh.

The route takes you over the majestic Pensi La Pass (14,500 ft), a high-altitude gateway that offers panoramic views of snow-draped peaks and the awe-inspiring glacier snaking through the valley below. Take time to soak in the raw, glacial beauty and capture unforgettable photographs.

After spending time at the glacier viewpoint, return to Padum by afternoon. The rest of the day is at leisure—relax, explore the village, or enjoy a quiet evening surrounded by the dramatic Zaskari landscape.

Overnight stay in Padum.



DAY 07

Padum to Leh

THE GREAT TRANS-HIMALAYAN DRIVE

Today marks one of the longest and most scenic drives of the expedition as we journey from Padum to Leh, crossing vast valleys, winding gorges, and high mountain passes. This route offers a front-row seat to the ever-changing moods of the Himalayas—from raw Zanskari wilderness to the spiritual highlands of Ladakh.

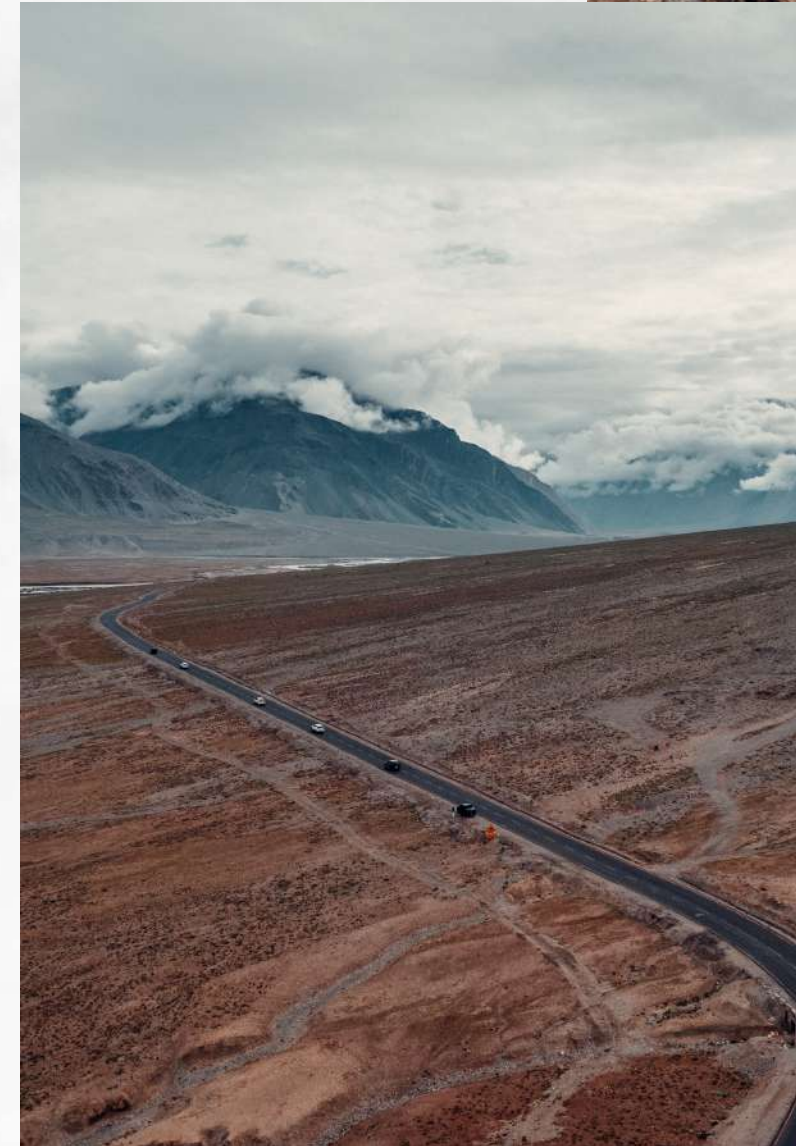
The convoy moves through remote villages and barren landscapes, with breaks for lunch, fuel, and photos along the way. As we approach Leh, prayer flags fluttering in the wind and distant monasteries begin to dot the horizon—signs that we're entering Ladakh's cultural capital.

After check-in, the evening is yours to relax, take in the comfort of a warm bed after the epic day's journey.

Highlights:

- Full-day scenic drive across changing terrains
- Cross remote mountain passes and high-altitude plateaus
- Arrive in Leh by evening

HOTEL: LADAKH SARAI OR SIMILAR



DAY 08

Free Day in Leh

MONASTERIES, MARKETS & MOUNTAIN AIR

We begin our day with a drive up to Shanti Stupa, offering sweeping views of the Leh valley. From there, we visit the historic Leh Palace, a 17th-century royal residence that echoes Ladakh's regal past. Late morning is spent exploring Leh's colorful market, perfect for picking up local crafts, spices, and souvenirs.

After lunch at The Tibetan Kitchen, we set out to explore two of Ladakh's most revered monasteries—Hemis, known for its rich history and vibrant murals, and Thiksey, perched dramatically on a hill and home to a towering statue of Maitreya Buddha.

The evening is free to revisit the Leh bazaar, sip tea at a café, or simply relax at the hotel.

Highlights:

- Morning visits to Shanti Stupa and Leh Palace
- Walk through Leh Market & lunch in town
- Explore Hemis and Thiksey Monasteries
- Free time in the evening to shop or unwind

HOTEL: LADAKH SARAI

DAY 09

Leh to Hanle

INTO THE HIGH-ALTITUDE FRONTIER

We depart Leh and head toward Hanle, one of Ladakh's most isolated and extraordinary settlements, nestled deep in the Changthang plateau near the Indo-China border. The drive is surreal—wide-open landscapes, stark high-altitude deserts, and glimpses of wild yak herds and nomadic life.

By late afternoon, we arrive in Hanle, a village unlike any other. After settling in, we visit the Indian Astronomical Observatory, one of the highest observatories on the planet, known for its crystal-clear night skies and cutting-edge space research.

As night falls, prepare for a stargazing experience like no other—the Milky Way, planets, and constellations stretching endlessly above.

Highlights:

- Full-day Trans-Himalayan drive across the Changthang plateau
- Arrive in Hanle, at 14,764 ft above sea level
- Visit to the Hanle Astronomical Observatory
- Remote stay under some of the clearest skies on Earth
- Evening stargazing (weather permitting)

HOTEL: ROYAL HOUSE OR SIMILAR



DAY 10

Umling La & Demchok

TOUCHING THE EDGE

Today is one of the most powerful and unforgettable days of the expedition. We set out early from Hanle for a high-altitude adventure to Umling La Pass (19,024 ft), the highest motorable pass in the world. The drive is stark and otherworldly, cutting across windswept plains and frozen silence, as the convoy slowly climbs toward the summit.

After spending time at Umling La for photos and celebrations, we continue onward to Demchok, a geopolitically sensitive border village located right at the edge of India, along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with Tibet (China). Few civilians are ever permitted to reach here, making this stretch one of the most restricted and remote in the entire Himalayan region.

We return to Hanle by evening, carrying the weight of altitude, silence, and a rare glimpse into a world few ever see.

Highlights:

- Drive to Umling La (19,024 ft)
- Continue to Demchok, a remote frontier settlement along the Indo-China border
- Unmatched high-altitude terrain and raw wilderness
- Group photo and celebration at Umling La
- Return to Hanle for the night



DAY 11

Hanle to Tso Moriri

THE SACRED LAKE OF THE CHANGTHANG

After two unforgettable nights in Hanle, we begin our journey towards the breathtaking Tso Moriri Lake, one of Ladakh's most serene and spiritually charged high-altitude lakes. The route takes us through the heart of the Changthang plateau, a landscape of endless openness, grazing kiangs (wild asses), and dramatic mountain backdrops.

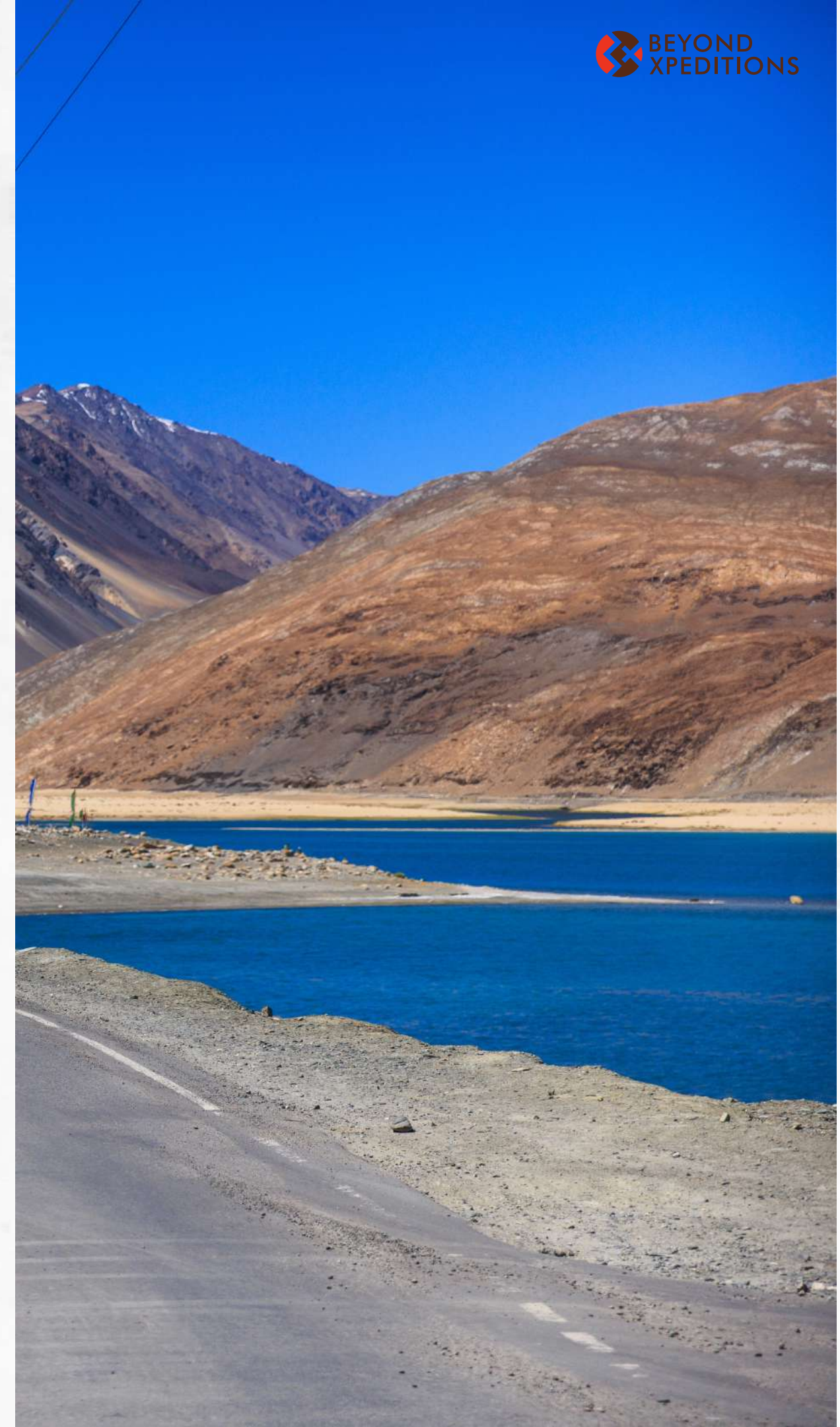
By late afternoon, we arrive at Tso Moriri (14,836 ft), its deep blue waters framed by snow-capped peaks and golden grasslands. The lake is not only a visual marvel but also an ecological sanctuary, home to migratory birds and rare Himalayan wildlife.

We settle into our stay near the lake, with the evening free to walk by the shore, breathe in the silence, and reflect on the magnitude of the journey so far.

Highlights:

- Scenic drive through the Changthang wilderness
- Arrive at the stunning Tso Moriri Lake
- Wildlife sightings en route (kiangs, marmots, migratory birds)
- Sunset by the lake with open skies and silence
- Overnight stay near Tso Moriri

HOTEL: GRAND DOLPHIN OR SIMILAR



DAY 12

Tso Moriri to Manali

THE GRAND DESCENT

Today, we begin the long and scenic descent from the high-altitude wilderness of Ladakh back into the lush valleys of Himachal. The drive from Tso Moriri to Manali is nothing short of epic, crossing multiple dramatic landscapes, high mountain passes like Tanglang La and Baralacha La, and witnessing the terrain gradually shift from barren plateaus to pine-covered slopes.

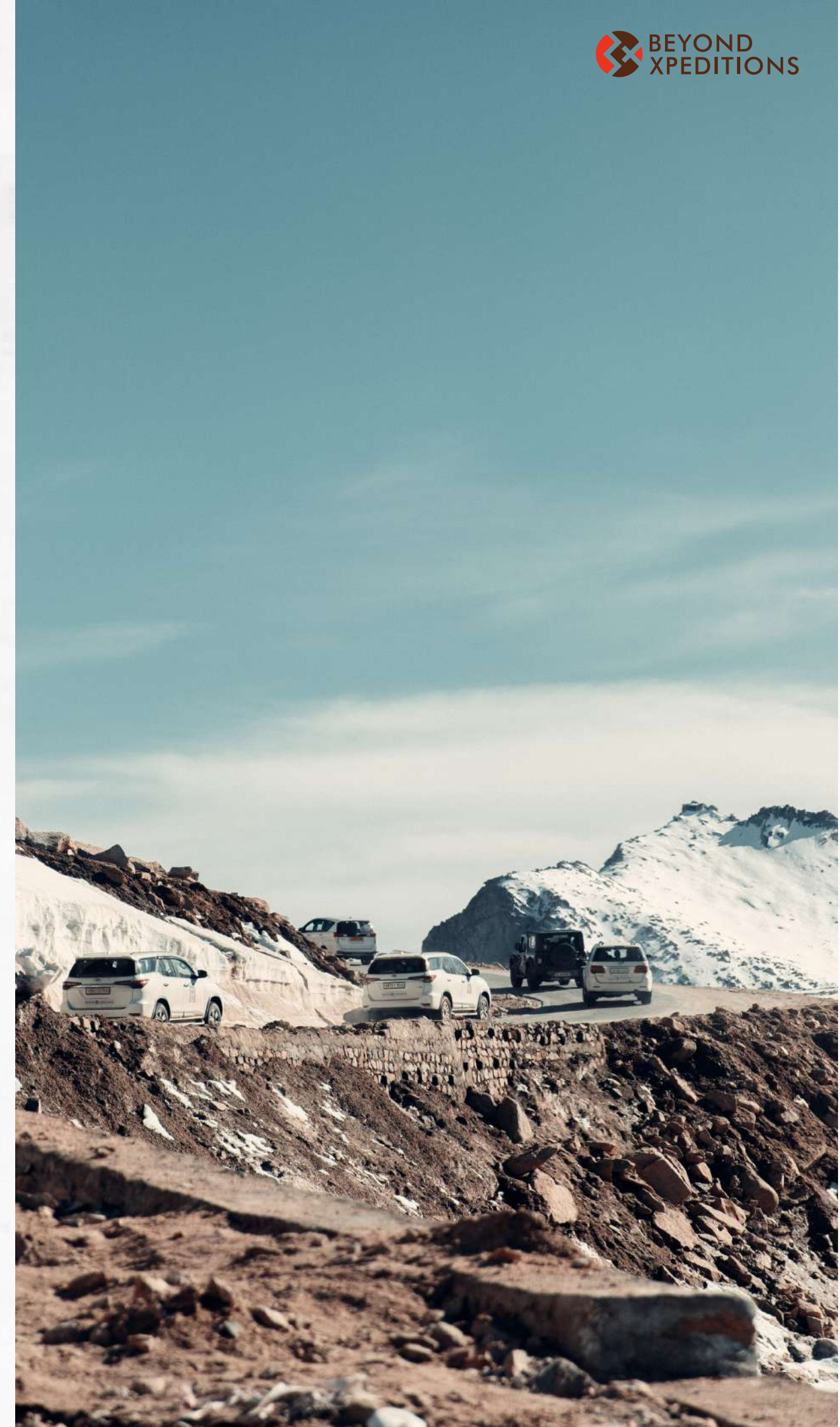
It's a day of quiet reflection and shifting perspectives—both literally and metaphorically, as we retrace parts of our journey with new eyes. En route, we break for meals and short stops before reaching Manali by evening.

After the raw remoteness of the last few days, Manali's warmth, energy, and tree-lined streets feel like a welcome return to civilization.

Highlights:

- Long but rewarding drive through ever-changing Himalayan landscapes
- Cross high-altitude passes like Tanglang La, Lachung La, and Baralacha La
- Transition from Ladakh's moonscapes to Manali's alpine charm
- Comfortable stay in Manali with a hot shower and hearty dinner
- Overnight stay in Manali

HOTEL: SOLANG VALLEY RESORT



DAY 13

Manali to Chandigarh

CLOSING THE LOOP

Our final drive takes us from the alpine charm of Manali back to where it all began—Chandigarh. As we wind through the scenic Kullu Valley and descend into the plains, the landscapes change, but the memories remain vivid.

After days of off-roading, high passes, remote villages, and shared experiences, we arrive in Chandigarh by evening and check in for one last night together. This evening is about celebration, reflection, and laughter—over a farewell dinner with the crew and fellow adventurers who now feel like family.

Highlights:

- Scenic descent through Himachal into the plains
- Arrival in Chandigarh and check-in
- Farewell dinner with the entire team
- Overnight stay in Chandigarh

HOTEL: HYATT OR SIMILAR



DAY 14

Departure from Chandigarh

After an epic two-week journey through some of the most remote and breathtaking regions of the Himalayas, it's time to part ways. Guests disperse from Chandigarh today, carrying with them not just photographs and souvenirs, but stories, friendships, and a deep connection to the land we explored.

It's not just the end of a trip—it's the beginning of many more.

Highlights:

- Check-out and individual departures from Chandigarh
- End of expedition with memories that last a lifetime



EXPERIENCE COST

INR 1,35,000/- PER PERSON ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

INCLUSIONS

- 13 nights' accommodation on a double-sharing basis at luxury hotels
- All meals included (breakfast, lunch, and dinner)
- Daily high-teas
- Bonfires on select evenings
- Riverside lunch experiences
- Handpicked experiences mentioned in the itinerary
- Live cooking stations on select days
- On-ground logistics
- Entry fees at all applicable sites and attractions
- Professionally captured expedition photos and a post-trip cinematic film
- Two mineral water bottles per vehicle per day
- Lead crew, including expedition leader, support staff, and local liaison
- All necessary inner line permits and expedition route permissions
- Mechanical support throughout the expedition
- Wireless radio sets for each vehicle
- A detailed expedition guidebook for each vehicle

EXCLUSIONS

- Vehicle, Fuel, and Tolls
- Lunch on day 1
- Meals and drinks other than those listed in the itinerary
- Any activity not mentioned in the inclusions
- Any expense of a personal nature, portorage, tip and gratuity
- Any cost arising out of unforeseen conditions like ill health, road blocks, bad weather, etc.
- GST 5%

Please Note:

Vehicles are available on rent from BX

- Thar A/T – 6000/day
- Fortuner – 12000/day

PAYMENT TERMS

- 25% of the trip cost at the time of confirmation
- 25% of the trip cost 90 days prior to the departure date
- 50% of the trip cost 45 days prior to the departure date

CANCELLATION POLICY

- 100% refund if cancelled 90 days or more before the departure date
- 90% refund if cancelled between 89 to 60 days before departure
- 75% refund if cancelled between 59 to 45 days before departure
- 50% refund if cancelled between 44 to 30 days before departure
- No refund if cancelled within 29 days of the departure date



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Eligibility & Participation

- The person driving must be at least 18 years old and have a valid Driving license and Aadhar card.
- This expedition is designed for individuals in good physical and mental health. Participants must disclose any medical conditions beforehand.

2. Booking & Payment

- 25% of the trip cost is required to confirm your slot.
- The balance payment must be completed no later than 45 days before departure. Failure to comply may result in cancellation of participation.

3. Itinerary & Weather Flexibility

- The itinerary is subject to change based on weather conditions, local regulations, or safety concerns.
- Any major route changes will be communicated by the Expedition Leader, whose decision will be final.

4. Photography & Media

- By participating, you grant Beyond Xpeditons the right to use trip photos and videos (that may include your image) for marketing and social media purposes unless explicitly informed otherwise.

5. Conduct & Cooperation

- Participants must respect local cultures, laws, and group dynamics; any disruptive or unsafe behaviour may lead to removal from the expedition without refund.



WHY TRAVEL WITH **Beyond Xpeditons**

At Beyond Xpeditons, our commitment to excellence is reflected in our meticulous attention to detail. Every aspect of your journey is thoughtfully curated, from selecting the most captivating routes to choosing accommodations that blend luxury with local charm. We take pride in partnering with the right vendors, ensuring that every experience aligns with our ethos of quality and authenticity.

Safety is our foremost priority. Led by industry experts and 4x4 professionals, our team undergoes rigorous training to guarantee that your expedition is not only thrilling but also secure. We adhere to the highest safety standards, providing you with the confidence to explore diverse landscapes with ease.

Our expeditions are not just about the destination; they're about the journey. With Beyond Xpeditons, you're not merely a participant; you're part of an adventure meticulously crafted to exceed expectations and create memories that linger long after the expedition concludes.



EVENT PARTNERS



MENTIONS IN THE MEDIA





GET IN TOUCH

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WATCH OUR PAST EXPEDITION FILMS ON :

