

Wildlife & Wilderness: Dachigam, Aru & Local Wildlife Watching

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Kashmir



Duration
6 Nights 7 Days



Starting from
Rs. 21,450 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

✓ **Srinagar - 4N**

✓ **Aru Valley - 2N**

Overview

6 nights / 7 days. Explore the best of Kashmir's wildlife and highland meadows on this family-friendly Kashmir tour package designed for nature lovers and gentle adventure. Based from Srinagar with an extended stay in the scenic Aru Valley, this Kashmir Family tour package combines early-morning wildlife drives in Dachigam National Park, guided meadow walks in Aru, serene Dal Lake experiences and gentle local wildlife watching suitable for families.

Highlights:

- Dachigam National Park wildlife drive (chance to spot Hangul/deer and Himalayan birds)
- Aru Valley meadows, guided nature walks and optional horseback rides
- Shikara ride on Dal Lake and visits to Mughal Gardens in Srinagar
- Family-friendly wildlife watching and short, easy walks suitable for children and seniors
- Comfortable base stays in Srinagar and Aru with local expert naturalist guides

This itinerary is tailored as a calm, family-oriented 6 and 7 Kashmir Family tour package — ideal for multi-generational travelers seeking wildlife, scenic meadows and relaxed cultural experiences.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ 6 nights accommodation (4 nights in Srinagar, 2 nights in Aru Valley) in twin/double rooms or family suites
- ✓ Daily breakfast (other meals as specified or for family meal plans on request)
- ✓ Airport pick-up and drop
- ✓ All road transfers and sightseeing by private vehicle as per itinerary
- ✓ Guided wildlife drives and walks with local naturalist in Dachigam National Park and Aru
- ✓ Shikara ride on Dal Lake (one session)
- ✓ Park permits and local guiding fees (where required)
- ✓ Applicable taxes
- ✓ This Kashmir tour package and Kashmir Family Retreat package includes family-friendly guiding and wildlife-focused activities tailored for multi-generational groups.

✗ Not Included

- ✗ International / domestic flights to/from Srinagar
- ✗ Lunches and dinners unless specified in a custom family meal plan
- ✗ Personal expenses (tips, phone bills, laundry)
- ✗ Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- ✗ Entry fees or activities not mentioned in inclusions (optional horseback rides, special guided treks beyond listed itinerary)
- ✗ Peak season surcharge (if applicable)
- ✗ Note: The 6 and 7 Kashmir Family Retreat tour package may be adjusted for seasonal park closures and wildlife permit restrictions; confirm dates in advance.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival & Relaxing Start on Dal Lake

Arrive at Srinagar Airport and transfer to your hotel or traditional houseboat on Dal Lake. After check-in, enjoy a gentle shikara ride to take in floating gardens and the serene backwaters. Evening briefing with your naturalist guide about wildlife etiquette and the days ahead. Rest early to prepare for an early morning in Dachigam.

Day

2

Dachigam National Park: Early Wildlife Drive

Pre-dawn transfer to Dachigam National Park for an early wildlife drive with a park naturalist. Search for the rare Hangul (Kashmir stag), Himalayan musk deer, and resident birdlife. Return to Srinagar in the afternoon for a relaxed visit to Mughal Gardens (Shalimar and Nishat). Wear layered clothing – mornings can be chilly.

Day

3

Drive to Aru Valley – Meadows & Village Walk

After breakfast, drive to Aru Valley (approx. 2–3 hours). Check-in to your lodge. Afternoon guided village walk and short meadow trek – ideal for wildlife watching and birding. Evening campfire and a talk from the guide about local ecology. Aru is a high-altitude meadow – easy walks only for family comfort.

Day

4

Full Day in Aru: Meadows, Wildlife Watching & Optional Horseback Ride

Full day exploring Aru Valley: guided meadow walks to spot Himalayan marmots, marmots, pheasants and high-altitude birds, plus optional horseback ride to nearby ridgelines. Picnic lunch in the meadow. Evening wildlife talk and stargazing (clear nights are common). Children-friendly routes are available; discuss options with your guide.

Day

5

Aru to Srinagar with En-route Stops

Return drive to Srinagar with photo stops and a visit to a traditional Kashmiri village or saffron fields (seasonal). Afternoon free for shopping in the Old City or leisure on your houseboat. Carry water and sun protection for short stops.

Day

6

Local Wildlife Watching & Srinagar Cultural Experience

Early morning local wildlife watching session near Srinagar wetlands/urban greens with your naturalist, focusing on waterfowl and common Himalayan birds. Afternoon leisurely visit to the Old City, local crafts and Kashmiri cuisine tasting. Evening at leisure on Dal Lake. This is the final full night of the Kashmir Family Retreat package – perfect for relaxing before departure.

Day

7

Departure from Srinagar

After breakfast, transfer to Srinagar Airport for your onward flight. If time allows, a short morning walk or last-minute shopping can be arranged. Check flight timings and allow buffer for airport transfers.

? Frequently Asked Questions

? What are the must-see tourist attractions in Kashmir?

Kashmir offers breathtaking attractions like Dal Lake for its houseboats, Pahalgam for stunning valleys, Gulmarg for skiing, and Sonamarg for breathtaking landscapes. Don't miss the Mughal Gardens in Srinagar and the ancient monasteries in Zanskar. Each location showcases the region's natural beauty and rich culture.

? How can I reach Kashmir from major cities in India?

You can reach Kashmir by air, road, or rail. The nearest airport is Srinagar, with flights from Delhi and other major cities. For train travel, Jammu is the closest railway station, followed by a scenic drive to Kashmir. Buses and taxis also connect major cities via the highway. Enjoy the breathtaking landscapes!

? Is Kashmir a safe destination for tourists?

Kashmir, renowned for its stunning landscapes and rich culture, has seen improvements in safety for tourists in recent years. While many travelers visit without issues, it's important to stay updated on local conditions and follow travel advisories. Enjoy the beauty, but prioritize your safety.

? What are the best times to visit Kashmir for tourism?

The best times to visit Kashmir are during spring (March to May) and autumn (September to November). Spring showcases blooming flowers and pleasant weather, while autumn offers stunning fall colors and crisp air. Summer can be warm, but it's a good time for trekking and adventure activities.

? What activities can I do in Kashmir during my visit?

In Kashmir, you can enjoy stunning activities like trekking in the Himalayas, houseboat stays on Dal Lake, exploring Mughal gardens, skiing in Gulmarg, and experiencing the vibrant culture through local markets and cuisine. Don't miss the breathtaking views and photography opportunities!

❓ What is the local cuisine of Kashmir and where can I try it?

Kashmir boasts a rich cuisine, with specialties like Rogan Josh, Yakhni, and Dum Aloo. You can savor these dishes at local restaurants in Srinagar, such as Ahdoos or Mughal Darbar. For an authentic experience, try traditional Wazwan meals served at local homes or heritage hotels.

❓ What accommodations are available for tourists in Kashmir?

Kashmir offers a wide range of accommodations for tourists, from luxury hotels and heritage houseboats on Dal Lake to cozy guesthouses and boutique hotels in popular areas like Pahalgam and Gulmarg. Many options provide stunning views and warm hospitality, making your stay memorable.

★ Traveller Reviews



Kapil Bhatnagar

★★★★★ 5/5

Cordial and Cheerful

Kashmir's warmth is reflected in the smiles of its people. This tour package was delightful with its activities and accommodations.



Sakshi Agarwal

★★★★★ 5/5

An Experience of a Lifetime

The entire trip was an experience of a lifetime. Every sight was a story waiting to be told. Don't miss it!



Deepesh Malik

★★★★☆ 4/5

Kashmir Unplugged

This journey let me unplug from everyday life and soak in the beauty of nature. A much-needed retreat!



Nandini Patil

★★★★★ 5/5

A Perfect Blend of Activities

From trekking to leisure walks along the lake, this package offered a perfect blend of activities to enjoy.



Suman Verma

★★★★★ 5/5

Beautiful Gardens

The Mughal gardens were stunning during our visit. Highly recommended as part of the package!

⚡ Why Choose TourGrids?

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