

# Highland Explorer: Sonamarg to Zoji La Scenic Adventure (7 Nights)

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination  
**Kashmir**



Duration  
**7 Nights 8 Days**



Starting from  
**Rs. 25,600 / person**

## ITINERARY ROUTE

↙ Srinagar · 1N

↙ Gulmarg · 1N

↙ Srinagar · 1N

↙ Pahalgam · 2N

↙ Sonamarg · 1N

↙ Srinagar · 1N

## Overview

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A carefully curated Kashmir tour package that blends scenic drives, alpine meadows, and moderate adventure activities. Ideal as a Kashmir Adventure tour package for travelers seeking both relaxation on the iconic Dal Lake and adrenaline on high mountain meadows. This Kashmir Adventure package covers classic Srinagar highlights, Gulmarg Gondola rides, the lush valleys of Pahalgam, and a memorable scenic traverse from Sonamarg across Zoji La with Drass viewpoints. Perfect for those searching for a 7 and 8 Kashmir Adventure tour package experience condensed into 8 days.

### Highlights:

- Scenic drive across Zoji La Pass with panoramic Himalayan views
- Shikara ride on Dal Lake and stay on a traditional houseboat
- Gondola ride in Gulmarg to Apharwat Peak (adventure optional)
- Exploring Betaab Valley, Aru & Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam
- Thajiwas Glacier visit in Sonamarg
- Local Kashmiri cuisine and saffron-field stop in Pampore

Note: This itinerary is suitable for travelers with moderate fitness. Altitude during Zoji La is high; acclimatize and follow guide advice.

### ✓ What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation for 7 nights (as per itinerary) in hotels/houseboat with breakfast
- ✓ All transfers and sightseeing by private vehicle (as per itinerary)
- ✓ Local English-speaking driver/guide for transfers
- ✓ Entrance fees to monuments & standard parking charges
- ✓ Permitted activities mentioned (Gondola tickets / pony rides / shikara rides) where specified (subject to availability)
- ✓ 24/7 emergency support and assistance
- ✓ This package is promoted as a Kashmir tour package and includes core adventure experiences.

### ✗ Not Included

- ✗ Airfare to/from Srinagar
- ✗ Meals other than breakfast unless specified
- ✗ Personal expenses, tips, and portage
- ✗ Travel insurance and emergency evacuation costs
- ✗ Winter gear rental, specialized adventure equipment unless pre-arranged
- ✗ Any item not mentioned in inclusions
- ✗ Note: Additional adventure activities (river rafting, skiing) are optional and charged extra.

## Day-by-Day Itinerary

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Day

1

### **Arrival in Srinagar & Houseboat Experience**

Arrive at Srinagar Airport. Meet & greet, transfer to a traditional houseboat on Dal Lake. Afternoon Shikara ride through floating gardens and local life. Evening visit to Nishat Bagh and Shalimar Bagh for sunset views. Tip: Carry a light jacket for the cool lakeside breeze.

Day

2

### **Srinagar to Gulmarg — Gondola & Meadows**

Drive to Gulmarg (approx. 2–3 hours). Check-in and take the famous Gulmarg Gondola up to Apharwat Peak for panoramic Himalayan vistas. Options include short treks, pony rides or skiing (seasonal). Evening at leisure in Gulmarg meadows. Important: Gondola operates weather-dependent; book early for high season.

Day

3

### **Gulmarg Adventure & Return to Srinagar**

Morning nature walk or optional snow activity (winter). After breakfast, enjoy leisure time in Gulmarg before returning to Srinagar. Evening free for local markets—explore Lal Chowk and try Kashmiri specialties like Rogan Josh and Kahwa. Tip: Bargain gently at local markets for handicrafts.

Day

4

### **Srinagar to Pahalgam — En Route Saffron Fields**

Depart to Pahalgam (approx. 2.5–3.5 hours). En route visit Pampore saffron fields and historic ruins at Avantipur. Arrive Pahalgam and check-in. Evening walk by the Lidder River. Note: Pahalgam is the base for many short treks; pack sturdy shoes.

Day

5

### **Explore Pahalgam — Betaab, Aru & Baisaran**

Full day exploring Betaab Valley, Aru Valley, and Baisaran (Mini Switzerland). Options for pony rides, short treks or river-side picnics. Adventure seekers can choose river rafting (seasonal). Return to hotel for dinner and relax. Tip: Carry water and warm layers for higher meadows.

Day

6

### **Pahalgam to Sonamarg — Thajiwas Glacier Visit**

Drive from Pahalgam to Sonamarg via Srinagar (scenic transit). Afternoon visit to Thajiwas Glacier — short hike or pony ride to the glacier front. Evening at leisure in Sonamarg, enjoying alpine meadows and river valleys. Note: Glacier access may vary seasonally.

Day

7

## Sonamarg to Zoji La Scenic Drive & Drass Viewpoints

Today's highlight: a scenic drive across Zoji La Pass. Stop for panoramic views of the Himalayan range and short photo halts. Visit Drass (one of the coldest inhabited places) and the Kargil War Memorial (time-permitting). Return via Sonamarg to Srinagar for the final night. Important: Prepare for cold winds near Zoji La; keep windproof layers ready.

Day

8

## Departure from Srinagar

Morning at leisure for last-minute shopping or a short Dal Lake stroll. Transfer to Srinagar Airport for onward journey. Tip: Confirm flight times and allow extra buffer for mountain traffic.

## ? Frequently Asked Questions

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### ? 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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