

Trek to Chandratat Lake : Kunzum La - Chandratat Lake - Batal

Location: Spiti, Himachal Pradesh

Duration: 8 Days

Grading: Moderate

Webpage:

http://www.team4adventure.com/trips/trek_chandratat_08d/index.php



Overview: Chandratat lake is a spectacular sweet water lake, located in the midst of dry arid landscape of Spiti. The lake is bean shaped and has a circumference of about 2.8 kms.

The lake is situated at an altitude of about 4200 Mtrs. The water is crystal clear, and it boasts of different shades of blue as the day progresses. A small meadow at either side of the lake makes it a perfect camping location to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of this jewel of Spiti.

Our trek would start from Kunzum Pass situated at an altitude of 4550 Mtrs. From here it is largely an easy downhill walk. Magnificent views of high Himalayan peaks of the CB range are in the vicinity all around. Chandratat lake is the source of Chandra river, which later conflues with Bhaga to form Chandra Bhaga and is later called the Chenab as it continues its journey into Pakistan.

This tour is a combination of an overland Himalayan jeep safari experience and high altitude trekking in the Indian Himalayas.

Itinerary:

Day 0: Depart from Delhi in evening by AC Volvo bus. The drive is approximately 14-16 hours.

Day 1: Arrive in Manali in morning. Meet representative from TEAM 4 ADVENTURE at the bus stand, and get escorted to the hotel. After some rest/refreshment and revival a short orientation program about the tour, and then a town visit to explore the markets of Manali and any last minute shopping. Overnight Hotel.

Day 2: After breakfast, depart for an acclimatization hike like the Jogin Waterfall near Vashisth. After the hike, return back to hotel for a group meeting, preparation and packing for the journey and then dinner. Overnight Hotel.

Day 3: Early morning departure. Breakfast at Marhi (3250 Mtrs), proceed further to Rohtang pass (3960 Mtrs) and cross into a geography which would transform from the lush green to dry and arid. This is the beginning of Lahaul and Spiti. We would drive along the Chandra River towards its source. The road from Rohtang onwards is

largely unmetalled. We would camp besides the road at a nice grassy patch at Dadarphu 8 kms ahead of Chatru. Excellent views of glaciers and towering mountains and a stream flows through the camp site. Overnight stay is in dome tents with sleeping bag and ground mat arrangement. Overnight camp.

Day 4: Wind up camp, and proceed towards Kunzum Pass (4550 Mtrs). Trek towards Chandratat lake. Largely downhill trek. Would take about 3-4 hours. Camp is set about 4-5 kms before Chandratat lake. Overnight camp.

Day 5: Trek further to Chandratat lake. Camp besides the lake on grassy meadow. Overnight camp.

Day 6: Departure early morning from Chandratat. Trek to the road head at Batal, where our vehicles await us. From here we would drive back to Manali. Overnight hotel.

Day 7: Rest day at Manali, shop for souvenirs, explore the eateries of this cheerful hill station. Overnight hotel.

Day 8: Departure in evening from Manali for Delhi.

Travel Advisory

Packing List

Personal torch, small daypack/backpack to hold the day walk necessities, all clothing/luggage in rucksack/soft bags suitable to be carried by porters or ponies, warm clothing, inner fleece body warmer lining, comfortable shoes suitable for hikes/treks, windproof jacket, warm headgear/balaclava, gloves, trekking pole, cameras, personal medication (first aid would be provided), sun glasses, sun protection and moisturizing cream etc

General Notifications:

- This tour explores some remote destinations in Spiti which are at considerably high altitude, with no or limited communication possibility and/or medical facilities nearby.
- Participants should be prepared for quite cold conditions with extremely strong winds and high wind chill factor.
- Trekking programs in the Himalayas not necessarily would always run exactly as scheduled. Allow for unplanned long days or early camps due to weather disruptions or similar causes.
- Any additional expenses which might occur due to delays, weather disruptions, medical evacuation etc. would need to be borne by the participants as per actual. All overstay due to weather disruption, road blocks and similar which are not under our control would be charged on pro-rata based as per tour cost for planned days.
- All participants are recommended to have a travel insurance that covers trekking and wilderness travel.