

Pallas Cat Expedition in Ladakh 2024-25

07 Night / 8 Days

Overview

Pallas's Cat (*Otocolobus manul*) or Manul called Ribilik / Tak Shan or Sukthung locally is one of the very rare small wild cats found in Ladakh, India. Of the three wild cats found in Ladakh, Manul is the smallest and most difficult to spot. Their numbers are unknown and no much data about their habitats and numbers are available. The other two wild cats of Ladakh are Eurasian Lynx (*lynx lynx*) and Snow Leopard (*Uncia Panthera*).

Wildlife Photographers visit Ladakh, specially Hanley/ Hanle or Anley Basin Wildlife Reserve in eastern Ladakh to try their luck. Wildlife Tourism in Ladakh is on the rise and very soon, Ladakh will be one of the hot destinations for wildlife of the Himalayas like Tibetan Wolf/ Himalayan Wolf, Tibetan Sand Fox, Himalayan Red Fox, Eurasian Lynx, etc. Ladakh, especially Hanley in eastern Ladakh / Changthang, is becoming a great destination for Pallas's Cat photographers and wildlife documentary filmmakers.

Itinerary @ Glance

Day	Location/Route	Overnight	Hotel/Camp
01	Arrive Leh. Complete rest day to acclimatize your body.	Leh	Mountain Vibes/ Lakrook Boutique & Similar
02	Full day Monastery tour	Leh	Mountain Vibes / Lakrook Boutique & Similar
03	Leh - Hanle	Hanle	Village Homestay
04	Wildlife Viewing	Hanle	Village Homestay
05	Wildlife Viewing	Hanle	Village Homestay
06	Wildlife Viewing	Hanle	Village Homestay
07	Hanle to Leh	Leh	Mountain Vibes/ Lakrook Boutique & Similar
08	Leh to Delhi		

Detailed Itinerary:

Day 01: Arrive at Leh Airport and transfer to Hotel at Leh. Full day at leisure to for acclimatization. Evening easy walk to the Leh Main Market. Hotel, Leh. It is mandatory for every traveler to Ladakh to spend 2 nights in and around Leh for better acclimatization to Ladakh's high altitude. Complete day for rest required.

Day02: Around Leh - Monastery Tour of Shey, Thiksay and Spituk and Leh Market. Hotel, Leh. Another easy day for acclimatization. Pre-expedition briefing on Pallas's Cats, their habitat, and conservation efforts.

Day03: Drive (270 km / 7 hrs) to Hanle (4250 m / 14000 ft). The drive along the Indus river in itself is a great experience. Lunch on the way at Nyoma, Block HQ of Changthang region. This is an important day as one travels the length of Eastern Ladakh/ Chanthang dissecting through Rong Valley, along the Indus. There is no high passes on the way. Beautiful drive along the Indus till Loma where, the road crosses Indus and enters Hanley basin. Many Mammals and Bird of the Changthang landscape can be sighted. The popular Black-necked Crane, the State Bird of Union Territory of Ladakh can heighten the experience, besides sighting of Tibetan Wolf, Blue sheep, Asiatic Ibex, Red Fox, Kiang and Tibetan Sand Foxes... etc..

Day04 - 06 Wildlife Expedition drive and walk around Hanley basin for Pallas's Cat / Manul/ Irbis and other rare wildlife of there region. The Hanley basin is a heaven for wildlife lovers. Hanley is home to many species of rare birds and mammals of Ladakh. High altitude birds of Ladakh pass through Hanley basin. It is one of the most popular hotspots for birds of Ladakh in eBird.

Day07- Drive back to Leh. Hotel at Leh

Day08 Transfer to Leh airport and flight back home.

Tour Ends

Tour Cost per person in INR

1 Pax	2 Pax	3 Pax	4 Pax	5 pax	6 Pax	Single Supplement
128760	82728	70,609	66,778	62,697	53,780	18600

Above Cost Includes:

- Accommodation on Twin Sharing basis with all meals and heating facility
- All meals in Homestays, Guest House and Lodge.
- All transportation by Innova, Scorpio & Tempo Traveler
- Nature Guide services throughout the tour in Ladakh
- Spotters throughout the tour.
- National Park entrance fees
- Homestay charges and village environmental Fees.
- LAHDC Environmental Fees.
- Spotting Scope and walkie-talkie during the trek.

What is not included in the above cost?

- Flight tickets from Delhi-Leh-Delhi
- Sleeping Bags, trekking shoes and clothing.
- Any Kind of Personal Expenses, Personal binocular or Optional Tours / Extra Meals Ordered
- Anything not specifically mentioned under the head "Prices Included".
- Tips, Insurance, Laundry, Phone Calls.
- Any Kind of Drinks (Alcoholic, Mineral, Aerated)
- Cost incidental to any change in the itinerary/ stay on account of flight cancellation due to bad weather, ill health, roadblocks and/or any factors beyond control.

Terms & Conditions:

- Prices valid from 01 January 2025 to 31 March 2025.
- 10% cancellation charges if the trekking is cancelled within 30 days before the tour.
- 20% cancellation charges if the tour and trek is cancelled within one week before the tour.
- No refund if the trek or tour is cancelled after starting or in the middle of the trek or tour.

Dos and Don'ts

- On arrival please rest for 24 hrs, as you are traveling to high Altitude from Low, due to low oxygen.
- Have plenty of drinking water or any kind of liquid (except alcohol)
- Please cooperate with the localities, potters, guide, cook and driver as they are more helpful during the trek.
- Transits between two destinations depend upon weather and road conditions.
- Ladakh is a polythene-free region; make sure not to use any polythene when not necessary.
- Do not contaminate the area by not disposing the waste properly.
- Leave your denims behind – these are ill suited for treks. Snacks, colas, alcohol and personal food – No need to overburden yourself with food
- Don't get any equipment. We would carry Alpine tents and other equipment required for such treks.
- Medicines of all kinds are usually available in local pharmacies with no prescription necessary. Check expiration dates.

Things you must carry:

- Clothing (Heavy Warm Feather Jacket, Warm philes jacket, woolen and windproof gloves,
- Warm hat, woolen Socks, Warm Windproof Trouser, Sweaters etc.)
- Trekking shoes (Water proof).
- Sun glass with UV Protection
- Torch with extra batteries.
- Sun Screen lotion and cold cream.
- Sleeping bag for – 25.
- Light towel (should be thin, quick drying kind).
- Chapstick or lip balm
- Water bottles. The insulated water bottles are good but even normal water bottles will suffice.
- Camera, memory-cards, batteries etc. (carry enough spare batteries. Electricity is not available on the slopes)
- Personal toiletries/windcheater/Tissue rolls.
- If available then a Pair of walking sticks.
- An identification card (like Passport, driving license, voters ID card etc.), along with a photocopy.

Medicines:

- Avomine-Vomiting
- D cold-Illness/combiflam-Body ache
- Vicks balm
- Diamox (250mg) – for high altitude/high pressure.
- Saridon - Headache.
- Personal Medicines.
- Glucon D/ Electral powder and camphor.
- Also consult your local doctor for any other medicines.

Avoid Acute Mountain Sickness

Acute mountain sickness can occur to anyone at an altitude above 10,000 feet from the sea level. The most common symptoms of the acute mountain sickness are headache disturbed sleep, loss of appetite, nausea, coughing, irregular breathing, breathlessness, lassitude and lack of concentration, Since Leh town is situated at an attitude of 11,500ft. above sea level, it is advisable to take the following precaution, so as to acclimatise your body properly.