

TRACK THE ELUSIVE SNOW LEOPARDS



All Photographs © Aishwarya Maheshwari

Gear up for February, 2016

For further details and to book this expedition, please contact Mr. Aishwarya Maheshwari at +919868241112 / aishwaryamaheshwari@gmail.com

Julley! (Ladakhi Hello)

We are pleased that you will be joining us in the Snow leopard trek in Hemis National Park, Leh, Ladakh! Here is some information you may find helpful as you plan your visit to Ladakh..

Date: February, 2016

Cost: INR 70,000 (The cost of the trip is inclusive of everything Leh to Leh)

① 1 Day - Reach Leh and stay at hotel for acclimatisation.

② 2 Day - Acclimatisation.

③ *Leh is at an altitude of over 3500m above sea level. One needs to acclimatise to the high altitude and less oxygen in the air for the first two days before starting our onward journey.*

④ 3 Day - Leave for the base camp at Hemis National Park

We will drive down to Zingchen, just before our base camp at Husing, and from there it should be approximately a 1 hour walk to base camp. The base camp is close to the Rumbak valley, where the sightings of the Snow Leopard are quite common.

⑤ 4, 5, 6, 7 Day - Stay at the base camp and go trekking and looking for the snow leopard. *We will leave early morning post breakfast and start walking towards vantage points in different directions from the camps. The guides there will be on the lookout for the big cat, and if any movement or sighting happens, they will inform all of us who are in close proximity and point out to the snow leopard's whereabouts. In case we end up spending a lot of time in a particular region during the day, our cooks and porters will get us our breakfast/lunch and tea, to the vantage point that we are at. During these treks, you will come across the other fauna of the region. Blue sheep, chukar, red fox, great tit, magpie, robin accentor, golden eagle and snow leopard.*

⑥ 8 Day - We pack our bags after the morning lookout, and leave for Leh and stay in Leh for the night.

⑦ 9 Day - Airport transfer.



Last dates for registrations - based on 50% payment 30 Nov. 15

Don't forget to carry the following's...

Field/ Snow pants/ trousers

Wind-stopper gloves

Windproof jacket

Down vest

Woolen cap

Sunglasses - preferably polarised

Water bottle (1 liter)

Backpack (ca 30 liter)

Binoculars

Spotting scope

Additional batteries for camera

Thicker socks (wool)

Towel

Multi-tool or pocket knife Headlamp

Sleeping bags

Sunscreen and Skin lotion (skin dries out fast)

Lip balm

First aid kit (small, personal– band-aids, antibiotic ointment, anti-diarrheal, ibuprofen etc.)

Personal medication (if needed)

Notebook and pen/pencil (for personal use)

Trekking Shoes Power bars, candy, dry fruits, chocolates



Terms and Conditions

1. The Participant has read the programme and understands and accepts the details relevant to the programme in the calendar.
2. During multiple accommodation facilities at the camp site, Participant must adjust to the facilities provided and no separate accommodation will be provided. Mr. Aishwarya Maheshwari (organizer) will decide the allotments and sharing arrangements, if any, and no alterations will be allowed.
3. The Participant shall do no act, which directly or indirectly causes irritation, injury or harm to any wild animal, bird or its habitat.
4. The Participant accepts that the programme is subject to change and organizer has the sole right to change the programme. organizer will inform the Participant of such change(s) as soon as its feasible for organizer to intimate the participants. The organizer reserves the right to cancel or abort any program due to lack of Participants or Force Majeure i.e. war, threat of war, riot, civil strife, political events, terrorist activity, health epidemics, natural or nuclear disaster, adverse weather, fire, flight cancellations/ programme changes, bus or train cancellation/ schedule changes, road blocks, landslides, vehicle breakdowns, including, but not limited to any reasons beyond the reasonable control of the organizer. If an alternative tour is not possible, programme fee which the Participant has paid will be refunded after deducting cancellation charges as per cancellation policy in clause 15 below. Any and all loss or liabilities incurred due to such cancellation by the Participant shall be to his/ her own account and organizer shall not be held responsible or liable for the same.
5. The Participant is solely responsible for his/ her luggage and belongings and the organizer shall not be held liable for the loss or damage of such luggage and belongings.
6. A Participant applying for an Indian visa is solely responsible for the application and any cost or damages arising out of a refusal of visa by the Indian Embassy/ Consulate shall be borne by the Participant.
7. The Participant shall not carry, consume or possess in any manner whatsoever alcohol, drugs or intoxicants of any kind during the programme.
8. The Participant shall not carry any inflammable item or music system, walkman etc. or wear bright or fluorescent colour in the forest area.
9. The Participant is required to carry his/ her own comfortable walking shoes, water bottles, cap, torch, and mosquito repellents.
10. Every group shall have a group leader and the Participant shall strictly follow the instructions given to him/her by such group leader.
11. The Participant agrees to abide by all rules and regulations of the camp in which the Participant is placed.
12. If at any time the Participant is in breach of these Terms and Conditions or is found misbehaving or causing harm to another Participant, he/ she will be required to leave camp immediately, shall forfeit programme fee and will be responsible for his/ her own costs and for any costs/ liability incurred by the organizer.
13. This arrangement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of India and the courts in New Delhi shall have exclusive jurisdiction.
14. The Participant indemnifies and undertakes to keep the organizer indemnified from and against all expenses, damages, loss, legal fee and expenses and proceedings, incurred and/or suffered by the organizer and arising out of any dispute relating to booking, payment or travel or otherwise, arising out of this agreement.

Cancellation Policy

15. All cancellations after registration must be communicated to the organizers in writing by the Participant immediately. Cancellation charges will be levied and deducted at source from program fee paid as follows: a) Upto 31 days before departure -10% b) 16 – 30 days before departure - 25% c) 15 – 7 days before departure - 60% d) Upto 3 days before departure - 100%

The Client/ Participant hereby agrees to abide by all terms and condition of the expedition contained herein.

Client/ Participant Signature:

Name:

Date:



Aishwarya Maheshwari

An enthusiastic trained wildlife biologist exploring the Himalayas seeking long term conservation of snow leopard and high altitude wildlife from previous 8 years.

He had led the Snow Leopard Conservation Project of WWF-India where his work was focused on identification of potential habitats and gathering base-line information on snow leopards, associated species and large carnivore-human conflict across the Himalayas in India. He also led the Snow Leopard Illegal Trade Project with TRAFFIC (a joint programme of IUCN and WWF) in Central and South Asia. His long term interests are to develop realistic management strategies for snow leopard-human conflict in India. He is also finalizing his PhD on snow leopards. He is also a member of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group.

