

Floating Paradise

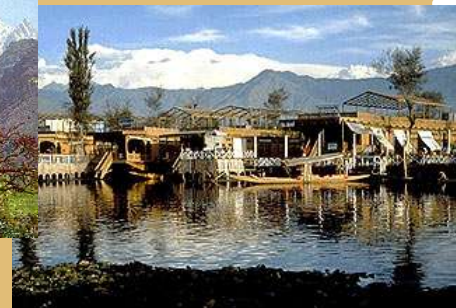
KASHMIR



Stay in complete comfort on houseboats!



Kashmir has been often described as the "the one paradise on earth"



Enjoy the romance of houseboats



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Day 1 ARRIVE DELHI

Arrive Delhi and transfer to hotel. Traditional welcome and check in at hotel. Overnight at hotel.

Day 2 DELHI - SRINAGAR

Breakfast and early morning depart for domestic airport for onward flight to Srinagar. Arrival Srinagar and transfer to houseboat.

The city has long been a centre of the arts and learning - it has had a university or for hundreds of years and is a centre of Sanskrit study. 'Sri' means beauty or wealth of knowledge and 'Nagar' means city. The city was originally founded by the great Buddhist emperor Ashoka - his old city is marked by the present village of Pandrethan. The present city was founded by Pravarasena II (79-139 AD) who named it "Praparapura" and built it practically contiguous with the old capital, which was called "Srinagari".

Praparapura is recorded in Chinese annals by Hiuan Tsang who visited the city in about 630 AD and described it as extending about 4-km from north to south and about 2-km from east to west along the right bank of the Jhelum. King Ananta was the first to transfer his royal residence to the left bank of the river. Legend has it that when Pravarasena decided to build himself a new capital, to choose the location he started walking at midnight and was confronted by a demon on the other side of the Mahasarani River. The demon spread his bent leg across the stream and dared the king to cross over it to the other side. The king cut off the leg with one stroke of his sword and calmly crossed. The demon was delighted with the king's boldness and told him to build the city where he would find the beginnings of a plan laid out for him. The next morning the king found the boundary lines drawn at the foot of Hari Parbat and built his city there. To this day the waters of the Dal Lake are separated from the Tsont-i-Kul by a Sathu or Bund that is shaped like a bent leg.

After Lunch combined visit to Mughal Gardens and Shankaracharya Temple. Overnight on houseboat.

Day 3 GULMARG

Full day excursion of Gulmarg. Return to Srinagar in the evening and overnight on houseboat.

Day 4 SRINAGAR

Morning Shikara cruise on Dal Lake. Afternoon free for independent activities / leisure. Overnight on houseboat.

Day 5 PAHALGAM

Full day excursion of Pahalgam. Return to Srinagar in the evening and overnight at houseboat.

Day 6 SRINAGAR - DELHI

Morning free for personal activities. Afternoon depart for Srinagar airport to board flight for Delhi. On arrival at Delhi, check in at hotel.

City tour - Lotus temple, India Gate and on to Connaught Place for shopping for Indian Handicrafts. Overnight at hotel.

Day 7 DELHI ONWARD

At time of flight depart for airport to board flight for onward journey.

YOUR NOTES:

Please get in touch with us for tour rates.

The border on the right has been derived from a traditional Kashmiri shawl embroidery motif.

