

Hidden Himalayas (M-ID: 3092)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/3092-hidden-himalayas>



from \$2,585.00

Dates and duration (days)

On request

11 days

06/09/2022 - 06/19/2022 11 days

05/27/2023 - 06/06/2023 11 days

06/10/2023 - 06/20/2023 11 days

This Himalayan motorbike tour will take you through one of the most stunning parts of the planet – the Spiti Valley. On your trusty Royal Enfield, you will ride along epic roads, scything through the incredible landscape of the lower Himalayas.

The Spiti Valley sits beautifully surrounded by an enormous collection of mountain ranges that cover Kinnaur, Kullu, Lahaul, and Tibet.

Traveling over some of the highest roads on the planet, this Himalayan motorbike tour will take in everything from riding incredible valleys where the roads and rivers often share the same routes, to the bustling streets of Manali and camping in the ancient village of Nako.

If you want a truly jaw-dropping adventure – this is the one for you!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Outstanding natural beauty everywhere we go.

The World's highest motorable village & post office – ride up to Komic village at 4,587m and send your family a postcard from the world's highest post office!

Glamping – stay in an amazing hillside campsite with stunning views over an ancient village.

Tackle rough roads that double up like rivers.

Hundreds of hairpin mountains turn – everyone knows they're good fun!

Visit the oldest monastery in India, over 1,000 years old.

Stroll the Tibetan-style markets at Kaza to pick up some souvenirs.

Visit Shimla - the old summer capital of British India.

Try a spot of paragliding or white water river rafting at the end of the trip (weather permitting).

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TOUR ITINERARY:

DAY 1: Arrive in Delhi - Welcome to India!
Accommodation: 4* hotel.
Included meals: Dinner.

The first day of our tour gets everyone together in the vast and utterly unique city of Delhi. If you've never been to India before, the sights and sounds from the moment you leave the airport are a true assault on the senses. It's frantic, noisy, fragrant, colorful, and chaotic all at the same time and we love it!

After checking into the hotel it's a chance to meet your fellow riders and for your tour leader to give you a full briefing of the adventure ahead. After that, we'll head out for a welcome dinner at an excellent restaurant.

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DAY 2: Delhi - Shimla transfer 360km
Accommodation: Hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

After breakfast at the hotel, we will board our private coach/minivan and head for the hills! The journey to Shimla is a comfortable 9-10 hour trip on good roads. Sit back and

enjoy the views as we begin the climb into the Himalayas.

Shimla is simply a beautiful and fascinating town that was the old summer capital of British India. We'll arrive at the hotel mid-afternoon where our support team will be waiting with welcome drinks on the front lawn.

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DAY 3: Shimla – Sarahan 165km
Accommodation: Hillside hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

The first day of riding on this Himalayan motorcycle tour and boy, is it a good one! We leave the chaos of Shimla behind and quickly find ourselves on beautifully paved winding roads that are simply a joy to ride! We descend 1300m to a river valley for a delicious lunch in an air-conditioned restaurant (it will be hot down in the valley!).

We follow the river upstream towards Sarahan, the gateway to the Kinnaur region. The road hugs the side of the enormous cliffs, with massive overhangs and tunnels through the rock. With a deep valley to the left of the twisting road, this is one of the roads you see on YouTube and wonder whether you would ever ride such a stunning road – and now you are right there!

Before dinner, there's time to chill out, visit the intricately carved Bhimakali Temple, do a bit of shopping in the packed and fascinating village shops, or even go for the local barbers/head & face massage experience!

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DAY 4: Sarahan - Kalpa 170km
Accommodation: Hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Dropping back down into the valley, we follow the crashing river all the way to the vast hydroelectric dam at Karcham. Leaving the main road, we cross the river here for a truly awesome climb up the side of the valley towards our lunch stop at Sangla. After a delicious lunch of Tibetan mo-mo's and noodles, we retrace our steps back down the hairpins in the afternoon, dropping down to the valley floor to follow the Sutlej River towards Kalpa.

It's another climb to get to the Kinner Villa Hotel but again the views are worth it. After dinner, the hotel will light up the altar fire on the terrace – perfect!

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DAY 5: Kalpa Rest Day
Accommodation: Hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, dinner.

With such a scenic backdrop, Kalpa is a good place to spend a rest day. We also need to take a trip down into the town to get our permits sorted for entering the Spiti Valley region ahead of us, so it's a chance to shop and try out the local restaurants while we wait for the wheels of Indian bureaucracy to turn. They turn, but sometimes they turn quite slowly!

The views across the valley from the hotel are breathtaking, with the sacred peak of Kinnaur Kailash piercing the skyline

at 4,650m. A walk around the hills surrounding the hotel is a rewarding way to spend your time before resuming the riding the following day.

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DAY 6: Kalpa – Nako 100km
Accommodation: Safari-style tents.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Refreshed and bushy-tailed, we'll be on the bikes nice and early for the next stage of our journey. Following the river for a good while, it's through the border check for those important permits before we then start to climb, and we don't stop until we reach a staggering 3,600m above sea level, where the air is thin and pure, providing you are not behind an Indian truck!

The ever-present roaming cows that will have been a common part of your journey up to this point have now been replaced by wandering donkeys and goats, so it's best to look well ahead as you take in the scenery. Our destination is the incredible village of Nako, a green jewel in a barren landscape and a place that feels locked in another time. Narrow streets are lined with ancient houses where the livestock live below the family dwellings and bright-faced children play in the tiny lanes that dissect the village.

We're staying in big safari-style tents and after dinner in the cozy clubhouse, we'll sit around the fire pit under a vast star-filled sky.

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DAY 7: Nako – Kaza 115km
Accommodation: Town hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

We guarantee you won't want to leave this beautiful village, but as it's not far to ride until our next stop we'll allow a bit more time in the morning for more exploring and photographs.

Once back on the bikes, the road climbs for an hour or so before plummeting down a set of hairpin bends to the valley floor again.

With beehives lining both sides of the roads, we head west through more epic scenery heading for a lunch stop at Tabo. The village has the oldest recorded monastery in India at over 1000 years old and it's an incredible building that you will want to visit.

We follow the river as it opens to an enormous wide flood plain, the water nearly half a mile wide at times. We're heading for Kaza at 3700m, another village that gets snowed under in the winter. Our hotel overlooks the busy village around a peaceful garden, so it's time to relax as we stay here for two nights.

The main street is just below the hotel so there's a chance to buy some essentials, souvenirs and maybe get those bike boots polished for 150 rupees – bargain!

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DAY 8: Kaza – Komic – Kaza 60km
Accommodation: Town hotel.

Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

While not quite a rest day, it's a relaxed schedule today. After breakfast and a bit of chill time, we'll fire up the bikes at around eleven o'clock.

The route is a loop up to Komic – the highest motorable village in the world and a chance to post a letter from the highest Post Office too. The climb is incredible as we scythe up the valley walls before the terrain opens up to high plains scattered with tiny houses with their traditional buckthorn stacked roofs. The area is also littered with fantastic fossils, so don't be surprised if the enterprising children are ready to sell you souvenirs! For a few rupees and those winning smiles – it's hard to resist.

We'll lunch at Komic, officially the highest motorable village on the planet, and then drop down again taking a different route that will take us past a huge Buddha statue that overlooks the valley. Selfie Time obviously...

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DAY 9: Kaza – Keylong 190km
Accommodation: Town hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Without a doubt, this will be one of the most epic days of riding you will have ever experienced. We leave Kaza nice and early, cross the Spiti river and start heading west for the money shot of the trip. After passing through a tiny checkpoint, we start an incredible climb through a truly beautiful valley. As the altitude increases, the temperature drops, but the scenery keeps getting better.

At the very top of the pass there is a vast Buddhist shrine and, if we are lucky, Yaks for those selfies! The road drops swiftly down to the valley floor and a hearty lunch at a tiny stone café. But don't be thinking the superlatives are over because in the afternoon we'll be following an amazing route alongside the river, through water splashes, boulder fields and actual rivers are part of the road. Climbing again through a valley that could be straight out of Lord of the Rings' Middle earth, by the time we reach the main road again you'll know you've ridden something special.

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DAY 10: Keylong to Manali 115km
Accommodation: 5* hotel.
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

After such an epic day, it's hard to imagine more to come, but the road back to Manali over the famous Rohtang Pass is pretty special. The route climbs to nearly 4,000m over roads that vary between smooth tarmac and Dakar rally terrain as it heads to the top of the pass, with massive Himalayan vultures soaring alongside.

After lunch on the pass, the road slices down through the cool forests towards Manali before following the River Beas the final stretch to the hotel.

Now that's an adventure!

A final farewell dinner is in order at an excellent restaurant, followed by a garden campfire where we can share stories of the epic ride we've all completed!

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DAY 11: Departure - Transfer to the Airport
Accommodation: Not included.
Included Meals: Breakfast.

We will take an early morning taxi to Kullu airport (airport code: KUU) where you can fly back to Delhi (airport code: DEL) or other major domestic airports.

The Kullu-Delhi route is operated by Air India. Flight costs vary from £40 – £190 depending on when you book... earlier is of course better! Flights depart at 10h30 and the duration is approximately 1hr.

Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Combo On-/Offroad
Vehicle	your own motorcycle motorcycle rent optional
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar 4 star hotel 5 star hotel
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	no, not incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	yes
Level of difficulty	easy medium
Customer payment protection	yes
Countries	India
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

Pricing

per rider in shared twin/double room (with rental motorcycle Royal Enfield 410cc Himalayan)	\$2,828.00
per rider in shared twin/double room (with own motorcycle)	\$2,585.00
per pillion passenger in shared twin/double room	\$2,315.00
per person single room (surcharge) - (surcharge, only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	\$412.00
Motorcycle Damage Protection Plan (surcharge)	\$216.00

Included

Royal Enfield 410cc Himalayan
Twin-share accommodation as per itinerary
Airport Pickup / Drop-off
Coach/minivan transfer from Delhi - Shimla.
Entrance Fees / Permits
Expedition Leader
Financial Protection
All fuel

GPS Tracking
Local Guide
Meals
Mechanic
Medical Support
Part Profits Donated to Charity/Rainforest & Wildlife Conservation
Support Vehicle
Welcome Pack

Not included

Everything not listed as included

Flights

Motorcycle Damages

Other Expenses: Alcohol; Laundry; Souvenirs; Any meals that are not mentioned in the itinerary; Recovery, oil, spare parts, labor or other indirect costs resulting from the damage or repair of your motorcycle; Emergency transportation; Any other item, optional excursion, activity or entrance fee that is not specifically mentioned as being included.

Personal Travel Insurance

Riding Kit

More details

Max Group Size: 12 Riders

Terrain: 30% unpaved

Difficulty: Average

Support: Local guide | Trip manager / 1st response medic | Support vehicle | Consulting doctor | Mechanic

Comfort: 3/5

Average Daily Ride Hours: 5-6

Total Distance km: 915

Pillion Friendly?: Yes

Accommodation:

Twin-share accommodation as per itinerary is included as standard on this tour. Please see 'Optional Extras' for the single room supplement option. Please see the daily itinerary details for more info on each night's accommodation.

Airport Pickup/Drop-off:

You'll be collected from Delhi international airport (DEL) on the morning of the first day. At the end of the trip we will arrange transfers to the airport in Kullu Valley (KUU).

Expedition Leader:

Your tour will be led and managed by a highly experienced member of our team (trained as a wilderness first response medic).

Financial Protection:

We are committed to customer satisfaction and consumer financial protection. At no extra cost to you, all our passengers are fully insured, and subsequently the balance of monies paid as detailed in your booking confirmation form. The policy also includes repatriation if required, arising from the cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to insolvency. During the COVID-19 crisis, every rider that requested a refund was issued a cash refund.

Fuel:

All fuel for your motorcycle is provided by us and we carry spare fuel in our support vehicle for the sections of the route where fuel stations are scarce.

GPS Tracking:

This motorcycle tour is accompanied by a GPS tracker that displays our live location and track history on an online map. We will provide you with the link and login details which you can then share with your family at home so they can track your progress throughout the trip.

Meals:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner is provided on most days. Please see the daily itinerary to see what meals are included on each day.

Medical Support:

At least one member of the support team will have been trained as a Wilderness First Response medic. An extensive medical kit including a defibrillator (AED) & stretcher is carried in the support vehicle. We also have consulting doctors on call, 24/7, who are always ready to assist in the case of an emergency. Our doctors are fully briefed on all riders medical info prior to the tour, they know what we do, where we are riding, exactly what we have in our medical kit and what training our medics have. Tours are accompanied by GPS trackers and a satellite messenger device so our doctor and office can see exactly where we are and can maintain communication.

Motorcycle Hire (if selected):

If you have your own suitable & reliable motorcycle at the start point, you are quite welcome to use that for this trip. If not, we will provide a rental motorcycle for you... Please see the Dates & Prices section for available bikes. The cost of shipping your motorcycle to the start destination is also included.

Part Profits Donated to Charity

Part profits from every motorcycle tour are donated to M'Lop Tapang – a local Cambodian charity dedicated to bettering the lives of young children & their families. Playing our part in rainforest & wildlife conservation and in an effort to off-set our carbon emissions, we donate part profits to World Land Trust.

Support Vehicle:

Our Himalayan motorcycle tours are accompanied by at least one support vehicle. There will always be space for any of the riders to sit inside should they need a rest at any point throughout the tour. These backup vehicles will also carry all of your luggage, spare parts, tools, extensive medical kit (in addition to the kit carried by the tour medic), defibrillator (AED) & stretcher. Our support vans will usually be no more than 5-15 minutes behind us on the bikes & meet with us at the rest/ drink stops & lunch. The drivers will hand out water, fruit juice, chocolate bars & fruit etc at each of the rest stops. The truck will follow behind us all the way to our accommodation where the driver will have your bags sent to your rooms.

Welcome Pack:

We'll welcome you with a bag of goodies which will include a T-shirt, Baseball cap, Map, Stickers, Mug, Keyring, Neck tube.

Flights:

You'll need to book a flight to arrive at Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi (airport code: DEL) on or before the morning of Day 1 of this trip. You will then fly out of Kullu-Manali airport (KUU) on the last day of the trip. From here you can fly back to Delhi airport (DEL) or other major domestic airports. The Kullu-Delhi route is operated by Air India. Flight costs vary from £40 – £190 depending on when you book... earlier is of course better! Flights depart at 10h30 and the duration is approximately 1hr. It is important you either:

Book a flexible flight ticket that allows you to make amendments or cancel without penalty;

Have travel insurance that will reimburse you for out of pocket expenses incurred by a canceled trip;

Do not book your flights until we have notified you that this departure is guaranteed.

Motorcycle Damages:

Please be aware that you are liable for all damages caused to the motorcycle. If you don't want the potential hassle of being charged for motorcycle damage at the end of the ride, we offer our own damage protection plan. Please see the 'optional extras' section for more information.

Personal Travel Insurance:

It is a condition of booking that you obtain appropriate travel insurance that covers you for riding the same capacity motorcycle that you'll be riding on this motorcycle tour. The insurance must cover emergency evacuation, medical bills, repatriation etc.

Riding Kit:

Road / adventure style kit is the way to go on this motorcycle tour, rather than off-road or enduro gear. So that means a good helmet, protective riding jacket and trousers, ideally with CE or equivalent approved armour on the pointy bits – elbows, knees and shoulders. You are also going to need good leather gloves, a neck tube, thermal base layers and a sturdy pair of motorcycle boots. Please bring waterproofs if your kit doesn't keep out the wet stuff.