

JAMMU AND KASHMIR · GANDERBAL · HIMALAYA

Kashmir Great Lakes Trek

7 days · 6 nights · Moderate - Difficult · summit at 4,206 m

₹19,500

per person + 5% GST · EMI available at checkout · Free microspikes & gaiters

DURATION

7 days

GRADE

Moderate - Difficult

HIGHEST POINT

4,206 m 13,800 ft

TREK DISTANCE

67 km

ABOUT THE TREK

Kashmir Great Lakes **at a glance**

Trek fee per person

₹19,500

+ 5% GST ₹975

₹20,475 all-in

EMI available at checkout

Book at

trekkaro.com/trek/kashmir-great-lakes-trek

Free microspikes & gaiters

Free microspikes and gaiters on this trek, no deposit and no charge. Bring your own trekking shoes, warm jacket and poles. Tents and sleeping bags are provided on camping nights.

WHY TREK WITH TREKKARO

- ✓ World's only Free Trekking Gear company, since 2018
- ✓ Groups capped at 20 · one leader or guide for every 8
- ✓ Certified trek leaders, oximeter checks, first-aid kit
- ✓ Hot, fresh meals cooked at camp
- ✓ 4.7 on Google · 4.9 on Facebook
- ✓ Free rescheduling up to 8 days before

There are treks in India that are beautiful. And then there is the Kashmir Great Lakes – a route that stops experienced trekkers mid-stride. Seven high-altitude alpine lakes strung across a single valley, each one a different shade of blue, green, and turquoise. Meadows that feel engineered rather than natural. Mountain walls so close the scale stops making sense.

The Kashmir Great Lakes trek is the most visually spectacular trek in India. Vishansar and Krishansar – twin lakes at about 13,400 feet. Gadsar at the foot of the highest pass on the circuit. Satsar, a chain of seven connected lakes unlike anything else in the Himalayas. And Gangabal with Nundkol beneath the south face of Harmukh Peak – what many experienced trekkers consider the finest campsite in the country. In seven days, Trekkaro takes you through all of it, from Shitkadi...

TEMPERATURE IN THE SEASONS THIS TREK RUNS

Early Jul

Day 8°C to 18°C, Night -5°C to -2°C

Mid Jul-Aug

Day 14°C to 22°C, Night 2°C to 8°C

Late Aug-mid Sep

Day 10°C to 18°C, Night -1°C to 4°C

The itinerary

1 DAY 1

Arrival at Shitkadi (2,600 m / 8,530 ft)

85 km drive from Srinagar, 3 hrs

Day 1 of the Kashmir Great Lakes circuit is an arrival day.

2 DAY 2

Shitkadi (2,600 m / 8,530 ft) to Nichnai (3,510 m / 11,500 ft)

10 km, 4-5 hrs

Day 2 is the circuit's first true walking day, and it establishes the rhythm and character of what follows.

3 DAY 3

Nichnai (3,510 m / 11,500 ft) to Vishansar Lake (4,080 m / 13,386 ft) via Nichnai Pass (3,990 m / 13,100 ft)

12 km, 6-7 hrs

Day 3 delivers the Kashmir Great Lakes circuit's first defining visual moment.

4 DAY 4

Vishansar Lake (4,080 m / 13,386 ft) to Gadsar Lake (3,600 m / 11,800 ft) via Gadsar Pass (4,206 m / 13,800 ft)

14 km, 7-8 hrs

Day 4 is the hardest day of the circuit and the most rewarding.

5 DAY 5

Gadsar Lake (3,600 m / 11,800 ft) to Satsar Lake (3,780 m / 12,400 ft)

10 km, 5-6 hrs

After the enormous physical and psychological investment of Day 4, Day 5 offers the circuit's most measured and meditative stage.

6 DAY 6

Satsar Lake (3,780 m / 12,400 ft) to Gangabal Lake (3,501 m / 11,486 ft) via Zaj Pass

10 km, 5-6 hrs

Day 6 delivers the circuit's emotional and visual climax.

7 DAY 7

Gangabal Lake (3,501 m / 11,486 ft) to Naranag (2,190 m / 7,200 ft), drive to Srinagar

11 km trek, 5-6 hrs; 55 km drive, 2 hrs

The morning after Gangabal has a quality different from every other morning on the circuit.

8 DAY 8

Buffer Day

Why Keep a Buffer Day on the Kashmir Great Lakes Trek?

PICK YOUR DATES

Upcoming departures

JUL 2027 3 – 9 Sat to Fri · 7 days	JUL 2027 4 – 10 Sun to Sat · 7 days	JUL 2027 10 – 16 Sat to Fri · 7 days	JUL 2027 11 – 17 Sun to Sat · 7 days
JUL 2027 17 – 23 Sat to Fri · 7 days	JUL 2027 18 – 24 Sun to Sat · 7 days	JUL 2027 24 – 30 Sat to Fri · 7 days	JUL 2027 25 – 31 Sun to Sat · 7 days
JUL 2027 31 – 6 Aug Sat to Fri · 7 days	AUG 2027 1 – 7 Sun to Sat · 7 days	AUG 2027 7 – 13 Sat to Fri · 7 days	AUG 2027 8 – 14 Sun to Sat · 7 days
AUG 2027 14 – 20 Sat to Fri · 7 days	AUG 2027 15 – 21 Sun to Sat · 7 days	AUG 2027 21 – 27 Sat to Fri · 7 days	AUG 2027 22 – 28 Sun to Sat · 7 days
AUG 2027 28 – 3 Sep Sat to Fri · 7 days	AUG 2027 29 – 4 Sep Sun to Sat · 7 days	SEP 2027 4 – 10 Sat to Fri · 7 days	SEP 2027 5 – 11 Sun to Sat · 7 days
SEP 2027 11 – 17 Sat to Fri · 7 days	SEP 2027 12 – 18 Sun to Sat · 7 days		

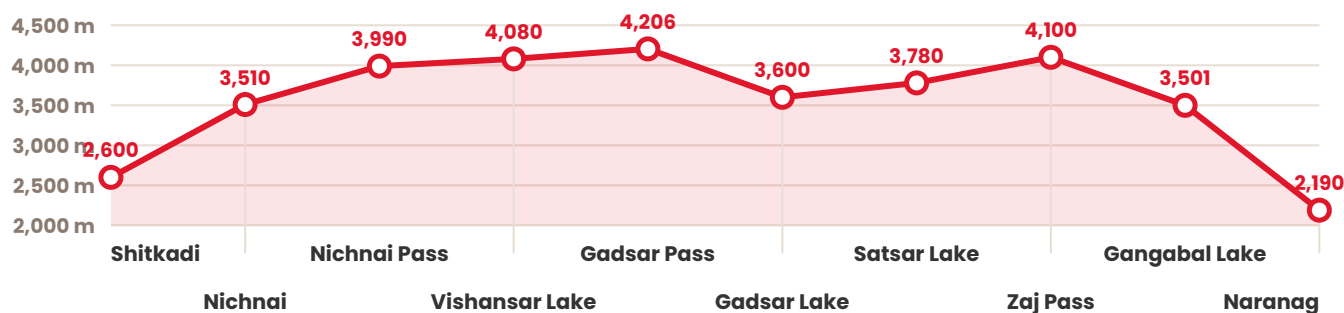
live seats and booking: trekkaro.com/trek/kashmir-great-lakes-trek · booking closes at 5 PM the day before departure ·
groups capped at 20 with one leader or guide for every 8 trekkers.

The route



Satellite view with the camps and the summit marked; the trek page has the same map with the trail walked day by day.

ALTITUDE PROFILE



ROUTE, STOP BY STOP

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Shitkadi 2,600 m</p> <p>Day 1 · Base · Camp near Sonamarg</p> | <p>6 Gadsar Lake 3,600 m</p> <p>Day 4 · Lake · Camp below the lake</p> |
| <p>2 Nichnai 3,510 m</p> <p>Day 2 · Camp · Meadow camp</p> | <p>7 Satsar Lake 3,780 m</p> <p>Day 5 · Lake · Seven-lake camp</p> |
| <p>3 Nichnai Pass 3,990 m</p> <p>Day 3 · Pass · First pass</p> | <p>8 Zaj Pass 4,100 m</p> <p>Day 6 · Pass · Last pass</p> |
| <p>4 Vishansar Lake 4,080 m</p> <p>Day 3 · Lake · Twin-lake camp</p> | <p>9 Gangabal Lake 3,501 m</p> <p>Day 6 · Lake · Camp under Harmukh</p> |
| <p>5 Gadsar Pass 4,206 m</p> <p>Day 4 · Pass · Highest point of the trek</p> | <p>10 Naranag (trek end) 2,190 m</p> <p>Day 7 · Base</p> |

FEE COVERS

What is included

✓ Accommodation	Day 1 to Day 6: camping at the designated campsites (6 nights), on a triple-sharing basis.
✓ Meals	All meals from Day 1 dinner to Day 7 breakfast: breakfast, lunch, evening snacks and dinner.
✓ Permits & Camping Fees	Forest permits and all Kashmir Great Lakes route entry fees.
✓ Camping & Safety Equipment	Double-wall, rain-rated tents and -20°C sleeping bags at every campsite. Trekking mattresses or sleeping pads at every campsite. Free microspikes and gaiters (no deposit, no charge). Daily SpO2, pulse and blood-pressure checks at every campsite. Portable oxygen cylinder and emergency stretcher on every batch.
✓ Trek Team	Certified trek leader and guide for all 7 days. Mountain kitchen staff, camp helpers, and a local horse and mule support team. Trek completion certificate when you complete the full circuit to Naranag.

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS

Backpack Offloading	₹3,000 + 5% GST for the whole trek (max 9 kg)
Single Tent Occupancy	₹2,000 + 5% GST for the whole trek

What is not included

✗ Transport	Not included: Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), Srinagar, to the Shitkadi base camp via Sonamarg, and Naranag back to Srinagar. Trekkaro arranges a shared cab at an additional cost of about ₹ 8,500 per 5–6 seat vehicle for the round trip, paid directly to the driver and split among the trekkers in it. Travel to and from Srinagar (flights, trains or buses), arranged by you.
✗ Food During Transit	Meals on the drives from Srinagar to Shitkadi and from Naranag back to Srinagar.
✗ Backpack Offloading (optional)	₹3,000 + 5% GST for the entire trek. Maximum weight: 9 kg; no suitcases, trolleys or duffel bags. Charges may be higher for last-minute requests made at Shitkadi.
✗ Single Tent Occupancy (optional)	₹2,000 + 5% GST per tent for the entire trek.
✗ Personal Equipment	Your clothing, backpack, sunglasses and other personal gear. Trekking shoes, jacket and trekking poles: bring your own (microspikes and gaiters are provided free).
✗ Trek Insurance	Travel insurance is mandatory and not included. It must cover high-altitude trekking and helicopter evacuation.
✗ Anything Not Mentioned Under Inclusions	Accommodation in Srinagar before or after the trek. Personal expenses such as tips, calls, laundry and extra snacks. Costs from an early exit, evacuation, or an itinerary change due to weather or medical reasons.

Things to carry

Basic Gears

The Great Lakes route crosses two high passes and many streams over 7 days in July–August, so bring well-tested gear of your own.

- **Trekking shoes (bring your own)** – waterproof, with ankle support and good grip, broken in before the trek; 7 days of rocky, wet and sometimes snowy trail are hard on new shoes.
- **Trekking poles (bring your own)** – a pair, for stream crossings, the Gadsar Pass descent and the long last-day descent to Naranag.
- **Microspikes and gaiters** – provided free (no deposit, no charge); for snow patches on the pass approaches and loose ground on the descents.
- **Backpack (50–60 L)** – with a rain cover; line the inside with a plastic bag as well.
- **Day pack (20–30 L)** – needed if you offload your main backpack; carries water, rain jacket and snacks on pass days.
- **Two water bottles (1 L each)** – one of them insulated for the cold early starts.
- **Headlamp** – with spare batteries, for the 5:30 AM start on Gadsar Pass day and for camp at night.
- **Lunch box** – reusable and leak-proof, for packed lunch on the long days.

Clothes

July–August brings rain showers on the trail and cold nights at the high lake camps, so plan on 3 warm layers plus full rain protection.

- **Padded or down jacket (bring your own)** – your main warm layer for Gadsar Pass (13,800 ft) and the evenings at Satsar and Gangabal.
- **Thermal inners** – top and bottom, 2 sets, synthetic or merino; avoid cotton at altitude.
- **Fleece jacket** – a 200–300 gsm mid layer for rest stops and cold mornings.
- **Rain jacket and rain pants (or a poncho)** – essential in July–August, for rain on the approach, the pass crossings and early departures.
- **Trek pants x2** – quick-dry, no jeans; add warm fleece-lined trousers for camp.
- **Quick-dry collared T-shirts x3** – full sleeves protect from sun and wind.
- **Socks x4 pairs** – synthetic or woollen trekking socks, plus a woollen pair kept dry for the night; waterproof socks help at stream crossings.

Accessories

Sun and wind are strong on the passes and around the lakes, and rain can arrive quickly, so keep these within easy reach.

- **Sun cap** – wide brim or neck flap.
- **Woollen cap** – covering the ears; needed above 12,000 ft and on Gadsar Pass.
- **Buff or neck gaiter** – wind protection on the exposed pass ridges.
- **Gloves** – fleece liners plus a waterproof outer pair; you need both on Gadsar Pass day.
- **UV sunglasses** – category 3–4, against glare from snow patches and the high-altitude sun.
- **Sunscreen SPF 50+ and lip balm** – reapply every 2 hours on all 7 days.
- **Quick-dry towel and toiletries** – biodegradable soap, toothbrush and paste; no wet wipes, as they are not biodegradable.
- **Plastic or ziploc bags** – 4–5, for wet clothes, electronics and your waste.

Others

There is no charging on the trail for 7 days and cards do not work in the mountains, so sort these out in Srinagar.

- **Personal medical kit** – your regular medicines, blister plasters, pain relief and ORS; consult your doctor before the trek, including about Diamox.
- **Snacks and electrolytes** – nuts, dry fruit, energy bars, dark chocolate and electrolyte sachets, especially for Gadsar Pass day.
- **Power bank** – enough capacity for 7 days without charging.
- **Cash** – in small notes; ATMs are very few in the hills and cards are not accepted in the mountains, so withdraw in Srinagar and keep your share of the cab fare ready.
- **Camp slippers or sandals** – light, for camp and inside the tent.
- **Waste bag** – Trekkaro follows a zero-waste policy; carry all your packaging back out in the Swachh Bharat bag.
- **Earplugs** – optional, useful in shared tents.

Mandatory Documents

- **Government photo ID** – original and a photocopy (Aadhaar card, passport, voter ID or driving licence).
- **Passport** – for international trekkers, needed for forest entry permits and any medical evacuation.
- **Medical fitness certificate** – signed by a doctor (strongly recommended).
- **Travel insurance** – policy document with emergency evacuation cover (mandatory).
- **Disclaimer form** – signed, with your emergency contact details filled in.
- **Trekkaro booking confirmation** – e-ticket / tax invoice.

How to reach

BY AIR

Nearest airport: Srinagar International Airport (SXR), with direct flights from Delhi (about 1 hr 20 min) and other metros. Fly in at least a day before the trek, so a delayed flight does not make you miss the 12:00 PM departure from the TRC.

From Srinagar to Shitkadi: 85 km, about 3 hrs by road. Transportation is arranged from the Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), Srinagar, at 12:00 PM; the cab costs ₹8,500 per vehicle (round trip), paid directly to the driver and shared among the trekkers in the same vehicle (5–6 seats).

Return: On the last day you trek 11 km (5–6 hrs) from Gangabal Lake down to Naranag, then drive 55 km (about 2 hrs) to Srinagar, so expect to reach Srinagar by evening. Book your flight home for the next day.

BY TRAIN

Nearest railway station: Srinagar. Since June 2025, Vande Bharat trains run between Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra and Srinagar (about 3 hrs), so you can now come all the way by rail: reach Katra (or Jammu Tawi) by train from Delhi, then continue to Srinagar. Plan to arrive in Srinagar the day before the trek.

Delhi → Katra or Jammu Tawi – trains from New Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin, including overnight trains; check current timings.

Katra → Srinagar – Vande Bharat, about 3 hrs; check current timings and book ahead.

From Srinagar to Shitkadi: 85 km, about 3 hrs by road. Transportation is arranged from the Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), Srinagar, at 12:00 PM; the cab costs ₹8,500 per vehicle (round trip), paid directly to the driver and shared among the trekkers in the same vehicle (5–6 seats).

Return: On the last day you trek 11 km (5–6 hrs) from Gangabal Lake down to Naranag, then drive 55 km (about 2 hrs) to Srinagar, so expect to reach Srinagar by evening. Book your train home for the next day.

BY BUS OR ROAD

By road: Delhi to Srinagar is about 876 km on NH44 via Pathankot, Jammu, Udhampur and the Banihal tunnel – a long 2-day journey, not a single overnight drive. The practical way is Delhi to Jammu overnight by bus or train, then on to Srinagar the next day by cab or by the Katra–Srinagar train. Weather can close the highway, so confirm the road status before you leave.

From Srinagar to Shitkadi: 85 km, about 3 hrs by road. Transportation is arranged from the Tourist Reception Centre (TRC), Srinagar, at 12:00 PM; the cab costs ₹8,500 per vehicle (round trip), paid directly to the driver and shared among the trekkers in the same vehicle (5–6 seats).

Return: On the last day you trek 11 km (5–6 hrs) from Gangabal Lake down to Naranag, then drive 55 km (about 2 hrs) to Srinagar, so expect to reach Srinagar by evening. Book onward travel from Srinagar for the next day.

PLANS CHANGE — WE GET IT

Cancellation and **rescheduling**

UP TO 8 DAYS BEFORE

Free reschedule

Move to another batch once, transfer the booking, or take a 100% TrekCash voucher valid for one year.

CANCELLING

70% · 50%

70% refund 30 or more days before departure; 50% refund 15–29 days before.

8 TO 14 DAYS BEFORE

TrekCash

No cash refund, but a voucher for the full amount. Within 7 days: no refund. Full policy at trekkaro.com/terms#cancellation

OMI

Still have questions? Ask OMI anything

OMI is Trekkaro's AI trek advisor — fitness, weather, what to pack, dates, how to reach — in English, Hindi or your own language, any time of day. Tap anywhere on this box, or open trekkaro.com/trek/kashmir-great-lakes-trek#omi, and the chat opens on the trek page.

ON THE TRAIL



BOOK OR ASK US ANYTHING

+91 80576 54321 call

+91 75056 26675 WhatsApp · OMI answers 24×7

WhatsApp or call · 10 AM to 7 PM, Sunday off · info@trekkaro.com

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