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FROM THE ROOFTOPS OF THE WORLD

As the summer heat sizzles through the subcontinent, we retreat to our favourite hideaway – The Himalayas. What better place to remove ourselves to, than Ladakh?

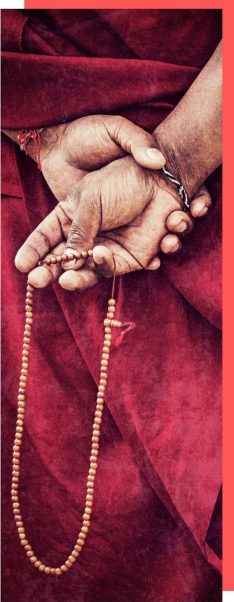
As we scale the lofty heights and make our way to the rooftops of the world, we continue to be awed by the breathtaking majesty of this region. This is a place that touches our hearts, speaks to our soul, and raises our spirit.

In this newsletter we dedicate ourselves to all the things we love about this mountain region. From its stunning countryside to its wildlife, the people, the culture and the cuisine.

We delve into its hidden valleys, explore the shores of its glacial lakes, and clamber up to its steep mountain passes for an eagle eye view on the world.

From exhilarating adventure to zen meditation, vivid culture to serene monasteries, Ladakh is a land of many contrasts. Allow Orange DMC to take you into some of the most beautiful parts of this stark landscape, and discover its depths this summer. A trip we are sure that you will never forget. Ask us now to learn more.

Best Regards,  
Manan Mahajan



EXPLORER'S CORNER: SPITI

Spiti means "the middle land" and this sliver of a valley is all that lies between India and Tibet. Life in the valley revolves around the Spiti River that rushes through. In July and August, Spiti springs to life with vibrant festivals. This remote valley offers a terrific blend of deep spirituality and outdoor adventure. Discover ancient Buddhist traditions among its many monasteries, as you trek along its rugged mountain paths. The trek through Parang La, takes you along the Tso-Moriri Lake and Changthang Plateau on an old trade route, before entering Ladakh. For those who enjoy exploring uncharted territory, Spiti offers you a glimpse of one of the last frontiers in the Himalayas. Ask us today to plan an awe inspiring adventure into this magnificent zone.



GLAMPING IN ZANSKAR

TARA MOUNTAIN SARAI

AS YOU NAVIGATE THE TWISTS AND TURNS OF LADAKH'S BREATHTAKING SCENERY, YOU'LL SUDDENLY COME TO ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL AND DELIGHTFUL PLACES TO STAY IN ZANSKAR. TARA MOUNTAIN SARAI IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO BASE YOURSELF AND EXPLORE THE REGION. VISIT CENTURIES-OLD MONASTERIES, DISCOVER LOCAL CULTURE AND OBSERVE AN ARRAY OF WILDLIFE. COME HOME TO DELICIOUS FARM TO TABLE CUISINE AND WARM LADAKHI HOSPITALITY!

FARM TO TABLE CUISINE  
LOCAL INGREDIENTS, BEAUTIFULLY PREPARED, THE FOOD IS WHOLESOME AND TASTY, AND LEAVES YOU FEELING REPLETE.

NATURAL BEAUTY  
STUNNING BIRDS AND WILD FLOWERS DOT THE SCENIC VALLEY, SURROUNDED BY SOARING MOUNTAINS.

FRIENDLY FOLK  
THE CHARM OF ZANSKAR LIES IN ITS WARM, EARTHY, FRIENDLY PEOPLE. INTERACT WITH THE LOCALS DURING YOUR STAY!



Alchi Kitchen


Savour ethnic cuisine on the road to Alchi...

Alchi has always been famous for its magnificent monastery that is hundreds of years old, but now there's a different kind of pilgrim treading along its path... the foodie!

Nilza Wangmo is a determined and talented chef who decided to bring the food of her roots to wayward tourists. From opipicots and sea buckthorn to momos and dumplings, Nilza creates delicious, mouthwatering dishes that she serves up with pride in her Ladakhi heritage.

Today, Alchi Kitchen is almost a destination unto itself and Nilza has worked tirelessly to take the flavours of Ladakh beyond Alchi to different corners of the subcontinent as well. But she's happiest at home in her kitchen, serving up the food that is so near to her heart.

72 HOURS IN LEH



01. Buddhism

Leh and it's surroundings are full of ancient monasteries that revolve around Tibetan Buddhism. From Thiksey to Diskit, explore their ancient murals, texts and engage with the monks to learn about their spiritual teachings.

02. Tsechu

Colourful and vibrant, Leh's Tsechus are terrific displays of culture, myth and folklore. From dramatic processions to musical performances and elaborate dances, Leh's festivals offer superb insight into local customs and traditions.



### Wildlife03.

You don't even have to leave the city limits to see stunning wildlife. You can observe several species of high altitude birds, as they fly overhead and feed at the lakes surrounding the city.





### Architecture04.

Leh is full of traditional architecture. From serene stupas to ancient palaces, quaint homes, and traditional monasteries, those who have an eye for architecture will enjoy exploring this city.

### 05. Landscapes

The landscape surrounding Leh is simply breathtaking. Head out to Stok Kangri with its soaring mountains and confluence of the Indus and Zaskar rivers, or to glacial and ethereal Pangong Tso, for utter tranquility.





### LEH STAYS

## ROYAL TOUCH

THE CITY OF LEH IS THE CAPITAL OF THE KINGDOM OF LADAKH. LIKE ANY OTHER KINGDOM, IT COMES WITH ITS VERY OWN ROYAL HERITAGE.

FROM THE QUEEN'S OWN QUARTERS TO MUSEUM-ESQUE PUBLIC AREAS, CUISINE FROM THE ROYAL KITCHENS AND MAGNIFICENT APRICOT GROVES, THERE'S A STATELY ELEGANCE AND GRANDEUR THAT ACCOMPANIES EVERY FACET OF YOUR STAY.

STOK PALACE HERITAGE PERCHED ON A CLIFF, WITH STUNNING VIEWS, THIS SIX SUITE HOTEL EVOKES AN ANCIENT ROYAL LINEAGE — THE NAMGYAL DYNASTY WHICH TRACES ITS ROOTS BACK TO THE 10TH CENTURY!

CHULI BAGH THREE CHIC VILLAS IN THE MIDST OF AN ANCIENT APRICOT ORCHARD. SERENE, TRANQUIL, THE PERFECT PLACE TO RELAX AND SOAK UP THE CHARMS OF THE MOUNTAIN ATMOSPHERE.



### STOK STAYS

## LADAKH SARAI

SITUATED IN STOK, LADAKH SARAI IS SURROUNDED BY TOWERING MOUNTAINS. IT OFFERS AN ARRAY OF ACCOMMODATION RANGING FROM AN ETHNIC "MUD HOME" TO A BEAUTIFUL "HERITAGE SUITE". EXPERIENCE THE RICH DIVERSITY OF CULTURE AND CUISINE WHEN YOU STAY HERE. FROM YOGA SESSIONS ON THE LAWN TO AL-FRESCO DINING TO NATURE WALKS, THERE IS AN ARRAY OF ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES THAT ALLOW YOU TO SOAK UP THE BEAUTY OF LADAKH.

HOME-GROWN LADAKH SARAI GROWS OVER THIRTY DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF VEGETABLES, HERBS AND FRUIT ON ITS GROUNDS!

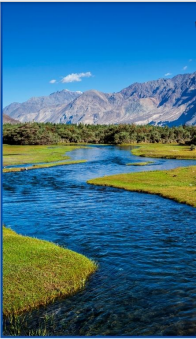
ETHNIC INTERIORS THE ROOMS AND SUITES ECHO THE CULTURE AND TRADITIONAL STYLE OF LADAKH.

WELLBEING BREATHE IN THE COOL MOUNTAIN AIR AS YOU UNWIND WITH YOGA AND MEDITATION ON THE SCENIC GROUNDS OF THE PROPERTY.

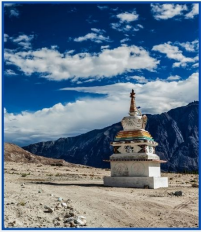


# EXOTIC NUBRA

As you cut through the mountains and reach the top of Khardung-La Pass, the drive down the winding Himalayan roads takes you deep into the Nubra Valley — arguably one of the most stunning regions in Ladakh. Where the Shyok meets the Nubra river, and the Hunder sand dunes give way to rolling orchards, where the mountain slopes glimmer with a rainbow of hue and the wild flowers burst into a riot of colour, Nubra is simply magical. From hikes and treks, to bird watching, mountain biking to motorcycling, or even riding down the sand dunes on an ATV — or camel back! There aren't a lot of places on the planet like this!



MYSTICAL. MAGICAL.



## ECO-CONSCIOUS LUXURY



## LCHANG-NANG RETREAT

A strong focus on sustainability is the driving force behind this gorgeous little retreat, tucked away amid the orchards. Situated on the banks of the Nubra River, this area was once one of the last sarai, or rest stops, on the fabled Silk Road. Lchang Nang is focussed on a sustainable lifestyle. From locally sourced food to traditional wellness therapies, to picnics beneath the Elms and stargazing, it's sheer heaven.



## EXPERIENTIAL ELEGANCE



## CHAMBA CAMP

If you're looking for an elegant camping experience that immerses you in the Ladakhi landscape, then Chamba Camp in Diskit is ideal. Operated by The Ultimate Travelling Camp company, each tented suite is beautifully appointed, has its own hot and cold running water, sophisticated interiors and delicious cuisine. Dine beneath the stars and wake up to birdsong as you soak up stunning vistas in Nubra,



HIGH ON LIFE



HUNDER SARAI

A rugged retreat in the heart of the Nubra Valley, Hunder Sarai is a delightful camp, walking distance from the banks of the River Shyok and the striking Hunder sand dunes. The camp is ideally situated in the village of Hunder, which allows you to explore the charms of Nubra without going too far away. From hiking to birdwatching, mountain biking to visiting the Gompa at Diskit, Hunder Sarai is the ideal base from which to experience the best of Nubra!



FIVE UNUSUAL SPECIES

- SNOW LEOPARD
- TIBETAN GREY WOLF
- HIMALAYAN BROWN BEAR
- URIAL
- LYNX

The Trans-Himalayan region is a stark, and place, where only the toughest animals survive. But surprisingly, there are a vast number of unusual species that thrive in this region. For those who love wildlife, there is plenty to see year round.

The Snow Leopard makes its appearance in the cold winter months when it comes down to lower altitudes, while the brown bear season is in the summer, when there's plenty of food. Don't miss the stealthy yet graceful movements of the Tibetan Grey Wolf, and the curving horns of the Urial, an unusual ungulate that is native to these parts. A smaller feline, the Lynx is a beautiful, if elusive creature, and to glimpse one in the wild is a rare treat. Explore Ladakh's wildlife and observe these endangered species in their natural habitat.

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