

Winter Spiti Expedition

Field Report — February 2026

DEPARTURE

7-15 February 2026

ROUTE

Shimla → Kalpa → Nako → Tabo → Kaza → Langza → Hikkim → Key → Shimla

EXPEDITION DATA

Distance	980 km
Driving hours	48
Highest point	Langza — 4,400 m
Coldest night	-27 C at Langza
Participants	14 guests / 5 vehicles / 4 crew

WEATHER SUMMARY

- Day -6 to +2 C, night -27 to -14 C
- Fresh 20 cm snowfall at Tabo on Day 4
- Black ice on the Nako shadow section until 10:30
- Clear windless nights — excellent astrophotography

RECOVERY LOG

Day 03 — Nako shadow section

Black ice slip — chains fitted, spacing doubled (45 min)

Day 05 — Kaza-Langza climb

Snow over ice — winch-assisted pull to crest (55 min)

Day 06 — Kaza

Battery at 11.2 V after -25 C night — spare fitted (30 min)

GUIDE NOTES

- All driving stops at 16:00. Refrozen surfaces after dark are the biggest avoidable risk.
- Diesel additive dosed at Reckong Peo and again at Kaza.
- Homestays run on bukhari heat — bring a -20 C bag.
- Bottled water freezes inside the vehicle overnight.