

Explore Zaskar Expedition

Field Report — September 2025

DEPARTURE

13-18 September 2025

ROUTE

Manali → Jispa → Shinku La → Padum → Zangla → Pensi La → Kargil

EXPEDITION DATA

Distance	720 km
Driving hours	34
Highest point	Shinku La — 5,091 m
Passes crossed	2
Participants	9 guests / 3 vehicles / 2 crew

WEATHER SUMMARY

- Day +8 to +18 C, night -6 to +2 C
- Hard frost at Padum on three of five mornings
- Zero precipitation across six days
- Gorge wind funnelling from mid-afternoon

RECOVERY LOG

Day 02 — Shinku La descent

Rockfall across track — manual clearance, 3.5 m reopened (50 min)

Day 04 — Zangla river bank

Soft sand — 16 psi, self-recovered (20 min)

GUIDE NOTES

- September is the quiet window — under twenty vehicles seen in two days.
- Kargil to Padum and back is the longest dry fuel stretch we run.
- Pensi La goes slick with the first snow; after early October, replan.
- Satellite communicator rides in the lead vehicle throughout.