

# **Kala Tours & Travels**

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## **Amarnath Yatra 2N / 3D Package**

### **Day 1: Srinagar – Sonmarg 99 Kms**

On arrival at Srinagar airport you will be met by our representative and three hours drive will take you to Sonmarg. Dinner and Overnight at Hotel

### **Day 02 : Sonmarg – Baltal 15 Kms drive and Amarnath 24 Kms return**

Leave very early in the morning round about 4AM and short drive to Baltal from here it will take 10 minutes Helicopter side to Amarnath Cave within two hours time you will reach back to Baltal. From here three hours drive will take you to Srinagar. Dinner and overnight at Houseboat.

### **Day 03 : Srinagar**

After breakfast Shikara ride on Dal Lake visiting interesting places around the lake and transfer in time to the airport to connect onwards destination flight.

Tour includes:

- AirFares Round Trip,Hotel, Car/Coach,Driver,Sightseeing,All other Taxes.
- Transfers and transportation as per the program vehicle at disposal
- Helicopter ticket from Baltal/Amarnath/Baltal
- 01 Night at Super Deluxe Houseboat on MAP basis
- 01 Night at Hotel Sonmarg Glacier view on MAP basis

### **Price Details HYDERABAD - DELHI – MUMBAI :**

Single Occupancy Rs. 39,999 / Rs. 26,999 / Rs. 44,999

Twin Sharing Rs. 36,999 / Rs. 24,999 / Rs. 42,999

Extra Adult Rs. 33,999 / Rs. 22,999 / Rs. 39,999

Child with Bed Rs. 17,999 / Rs. 21,999 / Rs. 31,999

Child without Bed Rs. 29,999 / Rs. 32,999

One of the holy trinity, Shiva is a living God. The most sacred and most ancient book of India, the Rig-Veda evokes his presence in its hymns. Vedic myths, ritual and even astronomy testify to his existence from the dawn of time. But Shiva, the destroyer, the mendicant, is un-definable. He is the great yogi, the guardian of the absolute. His actions are the themes of the myths in which his nature unfolds.

Legend has it that Shiva recounted to Parvati the secret of creation in a cave in Amarnath. Unknown to them, a pair of mating doves eavesdropped on this conversation and having learned the secret, are reborn again and again, and have made the cave their eternal abode. Many **pilgrims** report seeing the devespair when they tread the arduous route to pay obeisance before the ice-lingam (the Phallic symbol of Shiva).

The trek to Amarnath, in the month of Shravan (July-August) has the devout flock to this incredible shrine, where the image of Shiva, in the form of a lingam, is formed naturally of an ice-stalagmite, and which waxes and wanes with the Moon. By its side are, fascinatingly, two more ice-lingams, that of Parvati, and of their son, Ganesha.

According to an ancient tale, there was once a Muslim shepherd named Buta Malik who was given a sack of coal by a Sadhu. Upon reaching home he discovered that the sack, in fact, contained gold. Overjoyed and overcome, Buta Malik rushed back to look for the sadhu and thank him, but on the spot of their meeting discovered a cave, and eventually this became a place of **pilgrimage** for all believers. To date, a percentage of the donations made by pilgrims are given to the descendants of Malik, and the remaining to the trust which manages the shrine.

Yet another legend has it that when Kashyap Reshi drained the Kashmir Valley of water (it was believed to have been a vast lake), the cave and the lingam were discovered by Bregish Reshi who was travelling the Himalayas. When people heard of the lingam, Amarnath for them became Shiva's abode and a centre of pilgrimage.

Situated in a narrow gorge at the farther end of Lidder Valley, Amarnath stands at 3,888 m. and is 46 Km. from Pahalgam and 141 Km. from Srinagar. Though the original pilgrimages subscribe that the yatra be undertaken from Srinagar, the more common practice is to begin journey at Chandanwari, and cover the distance to Amarnath and back in five days. Pahalgam is 96 Km. Srinagar.

The trek from Chandanwari to Amarnath Cave is only on an ancient peregrine route. The 30 Km. distance is covered in two days, with night halts at Sheshnagh (Wawjan) and Panchtarni. The distance from Pahalgam to Chandanwari (16 Km.) now be covered by vehicular transport, and the trail runs along the Lidder river. Pilgrims camp at Pahalgam or Chandanwari on the first night out.

The first day's trek of 12 Km. from Chandanwari is through spectacular, a mountain which derives its name from its seven peaks, resembling the heads of a mythical snake. The journey to Sheshnag follows steep inclines up the right bank of a cascading stream and wild scenery untouched by civilisation. The second night's camp at Wawjan overlooks the deep blue waters of Sheshnag lake, and glaciers beyond it.

The second day's 12 Km. trek steadily gains height, wining up across Mahagunas Pass at 4,600m and then descending to the meadow-lands of Panchtarni, the last camp enroute to the Holy Cave.

From Panchtarni to Amarnath is only 6 Km. but an early morning's start is recommended for there is a long queue awaiting entry to the cave. The same day, following darshan, devotees entry to the cave. The same day, following darshan, devotees and return to Panchtarni in time for lunch, and continue to Sheshnag to spend the third night out. The devotees sing bhajans, chant incantations, and priests perform arti and puja, invoking the blessings of Shiva, the divine, the pure, the absolute. For those who journey with faith, it is a rewarding experience, this simple visitation to a cave-shrine, the home of the Himalayan mendicant who is both destroyer and healer, the greatest of the Hindus gods.