

# Himachal Pradesh Itinerary (9 Nights / 8 Days)

**Style:** Scenic | Spiritual | Adventure | Culture

**Start:** Chandigarh/Shimla | **End:** Dharamshala/Chandigarh

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## Day 1: Arrival in Shimla – The Queen of Hills

- **Arrive** in Shimla (by train/bus/cab from Chandigarh).
- **Explore:**
  - **Mall Road, The Ridge, and Scandal Point**
  - **Jakhoo Temple** (Hanuman temple on hilltop) – reach via ropeway
  - **Christ Church, Lakkar Bazaar** – souvenir shopping

**Stay:** Shimla (mall road or view room)

**Tip:** Evenings are cold – carry a sweater or light jacket.

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## Day 2: Kufri Excursion + Shimla Heritage Walk

- **Morning Drive to Kufri** (16 km) –
  - Snow activities in winter (skiing, sledging, yak rides)
  - Horse ride to **Mahasu Peak**
- **Afternoon:**
  - Visit **Viceregal Lodge (Indian Institute of Advanced Study)**
  - Shop at **Himachal Emporium**
  - Sunset walk at **Annandale or Chadwick Falls**

**Stay:** Shimla

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## Day 3: Shimla to Manali via Kullu (250 km | 7–8 hrs)

- Scenic mountain drive along Beas River.
- **En route:**
  - **Kullu Shawl Factories**
  - Stop for river rafting (seasonal) or visit **Pandoh Dam**
- **Evening:** Arrive at Manali. Leisure by the river or café hopping at Old Manali.

**Stay:** Manali (Old Manali or Log Huts area)

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## Day 4: Manali Local Sightseeing

- ☐ **Hidimba Devi Temple** – forest-surrounded ancient temple

- **Vashisht Hot Springs** – natural thermal bath
- Tibetan Monastery & Mall Road
- **Van Vihar, Jogini Waterfall Hike** (optional)

**Stay:** Manali

**Food Tip:** Try momos, trout fish, Himachali dham.

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## Day 5: Solang Valley or Rohtang Pass Adventure Day

- Choose based on season:
  - **Rohtang Pass** (Open May–Oct with permit): snow views, sledging
  - **Solang Valley:** paragliding, ATV rides, ziplining
  - Optional: **Atal Tunnel** drive to **Sissu** for snowy landscapes

**Stay:** Manali

**Tip:** Wear waterproof shoes, thermals; carry sunscreen.

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## Day 6: Manali to Kasol via Manikaran (75 km | 3 hrs)

- Drive to **Kasol**, a scenic hamlet by Parvati River.
- **On the way:**
  - Visit **Manikaran Sahib Gurudwara** – hot springs + spiritual calm
  - Explore **Tosh** or **Chalal village** by short hikes
- Evening: Chill at cafés by the river.

**Stay:** Kasol (riverside guesthouse or cottage)

**Vibe:** Peaceful, hippie, solo-travel friendly.

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## Day 7: Kasol to Dharamshala (210 km | 7 hrs)

- Long but scenic drive to **Dharamshala/McLeod Ganj**
- **Evening:** Explore **McLeod Ganj local market**, **St. John in the Wilderness Church**
- Café recommendations: Jimmy's Italian, Illiterati

**Stay:** McLeod Ganj or Dharamkot (peaceful homestays)

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## Day 8: Dharamshala & McLeod Ganj Exploration

- Visit:
  - **Dalai Lama Temple (Tsuglagkhang)**
  - **Bhagsunag Waterfall and Temple**

- **Tibetan Museum, Namgyal Monastery**
- Optional Hike: **Triund Trek** (easy-medium 1-day hike; starts early morning)

**Stay:** McLeod Ganj

**Souvenirs:** Prayer flags, Tibetan jewelry, woollens

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## Day 9: Departure from Dharamshala to Chandigarh (240 km | 6–7 hrs)

- Drive to **Chandigarh** or take a **flight/train** from Dharamshala (Gaggal Airport)
- Optionally stop at **Palampur** or **Kangra Fort** on the way.

**Trip Ends**

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## Travel Essentials

Item	Details
Best Time	March–June (spring/summer) or Oct–Feb (snow season)
Ideal Route	Chandigarh – Shimla – Manali – Kasol – Dharamshala – Chandigarh