



Mystic Kingdoms

28TH AUGUST TO 2ND OCTOBER 2026



EMBARK ON A LIFE-CHANGING HIMALAYAN ADVENTURE



WELCOME TO THE MYSTIC KINGDOMS

This is the definitive thirty-six-day Grand Tour, a sweeping, bespoke driving expedition into the very heart of the Himalayas, reserved for a maximum of twenty discerning crews. Following in the footsteps of history, you will journey along ancient trading routes across India, Bhutan, Nepal and Tibet, gaining privileged access to landscapes, cultures and spiritual worlds that few travellers ever experience.

Mystic Kingdoms revives the golden tradition of the original Grand Tour, elevating the classic and vintage motoring experience into a true art form. This is where serious adventure meets effortless, curated hospitality, a rare balance of challenging high-altitude motoring, compelling cultural discovery and evenings defined by warmth, comfort and elegance. Along the way, you will encounter astonishing scenery, remarkable heritage and exquisite local cuisine, each enriching your journey in ways both intimate and unforgettable.

Designed exclusively for couples and close friends, this Grand Tour promises a sophisticated and welcoming social atmosphere. Your accommodations are thoughtfully chosen to reflect the spirit of the journey, a blend of refined boutique stays and authentic, remote lodges that offer unrivalled access to the most awe-inspiring corners of the Himalayas. In certain regions, where options are naturally limited, we embrace the best available properties for their sense of place, cultural richness and extraordinary locations, making these nights some of the most memorable and atmospheric of the entire tour.

This is your opportunity to write a magnificent new chapter in your motoring story, one that will stay with you long after the final mile is complete.



EXPLORE | THE MYSTIC KINGDOMS

DAY 1 & 2: FRIDAY 28TH TO SATURDAY
29TH AUGUST

KOLKATA: OUR JOURNEY BEGINS

Starting from the port city of Kolkata, we will spend the first day of our challenge completing scrutineering and documentation checks before gathering for an afternoon of sightseeing and delightful Bengali cuisine. Day two serves as a well-deserved rest day, giving our crews the chance to acclimatize after their travels while we delve into the vibrant culture of Kolkata.

Our guided tour begins at the iconic Victoria Memorial Hall, an architectural gem that reflects the grandeur of the British Raj. We will then experience the bustling energy of the city from the famous Howrah Bridge before immersing ourselves in the colour and fragrance of the Mullick Ghat Flower Market, one of the largest and oldest in India.

In the artisan quarter of Kumartuli, we will witness skilled craftsmen shaping divine figures from clay, an age-old tradition rooted in Bengal's festival heritage. The day concludes with a visit to the breathtaking Sheetalnathji Jain Temple, adorned with shimmering mirrors, intricate mosaics, and stunning marble carvings. This immersive experience offers a captivating introduction to Kolkata's rich history, artistry, and spiritual allure.



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DAY 3: SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST

KOLKATA TO MALDA

After an early start on Day Three, we travel north, skirting the border with Bangladesh as we pass through Silbaria and Ulasi before stopping for lunch in Krishnanagar. From there, we continue along asphalt roads and highways, crossing the mighty Ganges via the Farakka Barrage bridge. Before reaching Malda, we detour to explore the fascinating ruins of Gour, once the thriving ancient capital of the Pala, Sena and Mughal empires and a centre of Islamic architecture and learning. After immersing ourselves in its evocative history and crumbling grandeur, we head to our overnight stop in Malda, famed for its high-quality Murshidabad silk and the distinctive Fazli mango.



DAY 4: MONDAY 31ST AUGUST

MALDA TO CHALSA

The fourth day of our challenge will begin with a drive through the West Bengali countryside towards Dalkhola, passing through rural towns and farming villages towards Kishanganj. After a leisurely lunch in Kishanganj, we will start a steady climb towards the foothills of the Himalayas, passing through green tea gardens and mountain villages before stopping on the edge of the Gorumara National Park in Chalsa.

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**DAYS 5 & 6: TUESDAY 1ST TO WEDNESDAY 2ND
SEPTEMBER**

CHALSA TO PARO

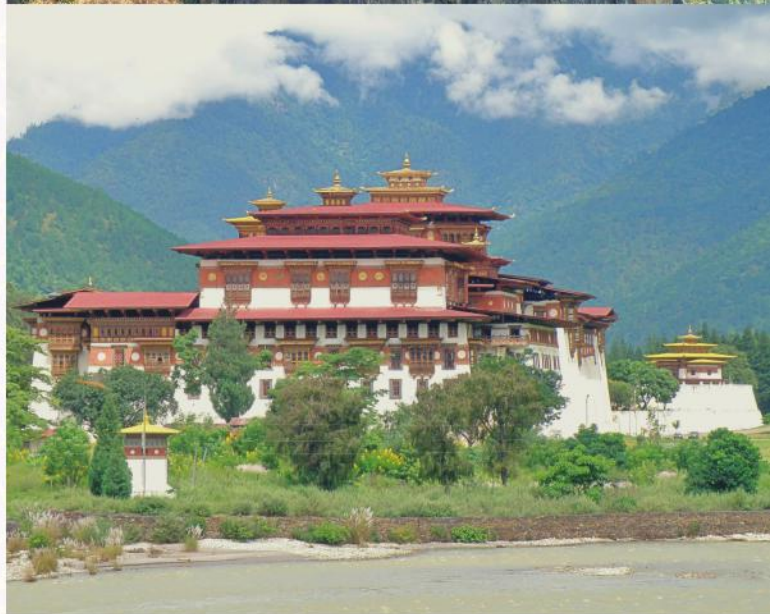
From Chalsa, we will head north towards Phuentsholing, the Bhutanese border crossing, on our way towards the historic Bhutanese town of Paro. We will have a rest day on day six to explore Paro, including a hike to the iconic Taksang Lhakhang (also known as the Tiger's Nest).



DAY 7: THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER

PARO TO PUNAKHA

On day seven, we will head east via the forested mountain roads of central Bhutan to Punakha. This ancient town was the capital of Bhutan between 1637 and 1907 is dominated by the white-washed Punakha Dzong, a 17th-century fortress that overlooks the juncture between the Pho Chhu and Mo Chhu rivers.



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DAY 8: FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

PUNAKHA TO PHOBJIKHA

From Punakha we will head southeast along serpentine valley roads towards the glacial Phobjikha Valley. We will travel deeper into the valley via gravel roads to embrace the spectacular views of the vast Bhutanese marshlands, framed by the Black Mountains and dotted with Ancient Buddhist monasteries, before heading to our hotel for a well-deserved evening of relaxation.



DAY 9: SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

PHOBJIKHA TO THIMPHU

Day nine will begin with a journey east through the picturesque Black Mountains towards Trongsa. The road from Phobjikha Valley to Trongsa is one of the prettiest in Bhutan, passing roadside waterfalls, alpine streams, and tranquil villages before climbing the Pelela Pass into the Trongsa Valley. We will stop for lunch in Trongsa before completing a mazy run west towards our Thimphu, Bhutan's capital and our stop for the night.

DAY 10: SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

THIMPHU TO PHUENTSHOLING

The day begins in Thimphu with a visit to the magnificent Buddha Dordenma, a gleaming golden statue that gazes serenely across the valley. From its lofty hilltop perch, the views stretch over the capital and the surrounding pine-clad slopes—an inspiring sight in the clear Himalayan morning light. We then wander through the bustling Centenary Farmers' Market, where local farmers and artisans trade in a kaleidoscope of fresh produce, handmade crafts, and aromatic spices. The air hums with conversation, the scent of red rice and dried chillies mingling with the sweet perfume of mountain flowers.

Before departing the city, we enjoy a traditional Bhutanese lunch—perhaps a warming bowl of ema datshi (chilli and cheese stew), fragrant red rice, and tender dumplings filled with local vegetables—served in a welcoming family-run restaurant overlooking the valley.

In the early afternoon, we leave Thimphu along the Phuentsholing-Thimphu Highway, tracing the Thimphu Chu River south. We stop once more for coffee or tea overlooking the spectacular mountain valleys near Chapcha, before continuing through monastery-strewn valleys and across the Most Excellent High Bridge towards Phuentsholing, our rest point for the evening.



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DAY 11: MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

PHUENTSHOLING TO ITAHARI

On day eleven, we will leave Bhutan and travel across the Darjeeling Hills to Biratnagar, Nepal. Our adventure will take us west across the Jaldhaka River at Nagrakata and through the lush greenery of the Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary, one of the oldest forests in West Bengal and home to Asian elephants, rhinos, and leopards. Lunch will be in the beautiful Haihai Pathar Tea Garden before we journey through hillside towns and tea estates around the Tessa River towards the border crossing into Nepal at Panitanki. From Panitanki, we will head across Southern Nepal to our overnight stop at Itahari.

DAY 12: TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

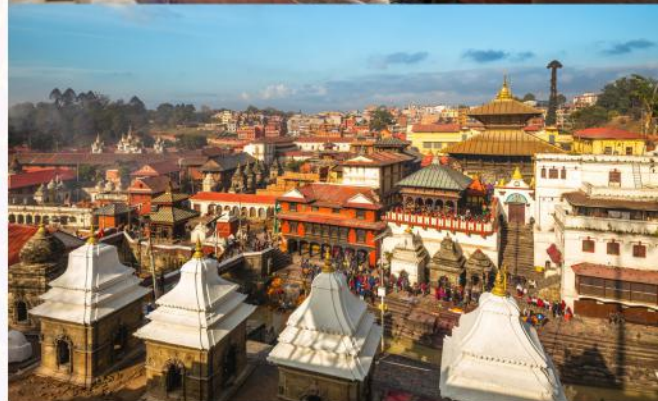
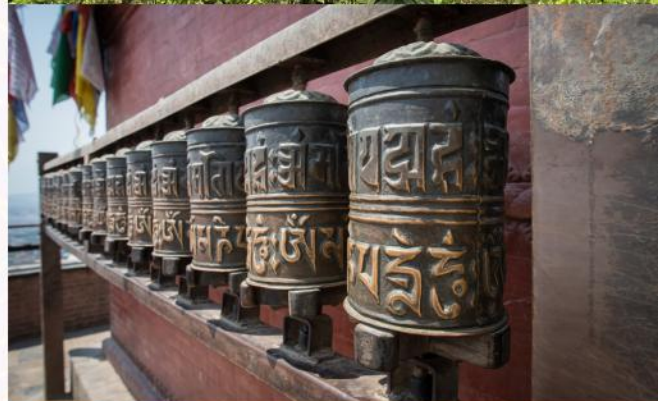
ITAHARI TO KATHMANDU

From Itahari, we will head northwest, following an astonishing winding route through the foothills and lower valleys of the Himalayas. We will stop for lunch in the mountain city of Kamalamai before continuing our journey along a mix of gravel and asphalt roads to Kathmandu. This ancient city was founded in the 2nd century AD, making it one of the oldest continuously inhabited places in the world and a perfect place to pause for day twelve.

**DAY 13, 14 & 15: WEDNESDAY 9TH TO FRIDAY
11TH SEPTEMBER**

KATHMANDU

Days thirteen through fifteen will be designated as rest days to allow all crews to complete the necessary visas and permits required for entry into Tibet. All visitors entering Tibet from Nepal must apply for a Group Visa and a mandatory Tibet entry permit through the Chinese Embassy in Nepal. Normally, it takes four working days to process this documentation (Monday to Friday). However, we will use the VIP service to expedite this to 2-3 working days. We will use the downtime in Kathmandu to explore the many historical sites, including the historic plazas of Durbar Square, the Pashupatina temple, and the Bouddha Stupa, which is said to be the burial place of Kassapa Buddha.



EXPLORE | THE ANCIENT SPICE TRAIL



**DAYS 16 & 17: SATURDAY 12TH TO SUNDAY 13TH
SEPTEMBER**

KATHMANDU, TIMURE & SAGA

We will start the day driving on the mountain roads on the outskirts of Kathmandu before heading north along the Pasang Lhamu Highway towards the border town of Timure. On the morning of day seventeen, we will cross the border into Tibet via the Sino-Nepal Friendship Bridge at Gyirong. From Gyirong, we will head north across the vast Tibetan plateau, passing under the shadow of Mount Langbo Kangri and along the shores of Lake Peikucuo before stopping for the night in Saga.

**DAYS 18 & 19: MONDAY 14TH TO TUESDAY 15TH
SEPTEMBER**

SAGA TO DARCHEN

Day eighteen will start with an exhilarating drive west across the untamed wilderness toward the mystical ruins of the lost Kingdom of Guge. Amidst this breathtaking backdrop, we will pause for an alfresco lunch, savouring the delights of Tibetan cuisine under the vast open sky. With spirits soaring, we will set our course eastward towards Darchen. Here, beneath the majestic peaks of the sacred Mount Kailash, we will pitch our tents for two unforgettable nights of camping.

DAYS 20: WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

DARCHEN TO YAGRA

On day twenty, we will awaken on the northern shores of Lake Mapang Yongcuo before journeying east along the banks of the Maquan River. The beauty of the Tibetan landscape unfolds as we travel across the plateau toward our overnight stop in Yagra, our spectacular route framed by the towering peaks of the Himalayas.



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DAY 21: THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

YAGRA TO SAGA

From Yagra, we will follow the Yarlung Zangbo River southeast towards Saga. This fantastic drive across the Tibetan plateau will offer our crews breathtaking views of tranquil marshlands and wild Tibetan animals framed by the glorious mountain peaks of the Himalayas. We will finish at lunchtime on day twenty-one to enjoy an evening of Tibetan hospitality.

DAY 22: FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

SAGA TO SHIGATSE

We will head east from Saga along a route decorated with colourful Tibetan prayer flags and ancient monasteries. We will stop for lunch in the township of Sangsang before passing along the shores of Lakes Angrenjin and Lang Tso towards our overnight stop in Shigatse. This former seat of the Panchen Lama is famous for its striking buildings, including the Maitreya Chapel, dominated by a 26-meter statue of the Future Buddha.

DAYS 23 & 24: SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

SHIGATSE TO LHASA

From Shigatse, we will head northeast toward the mystical city of Lhasa. Lhasa has been the centre of the Tibetan Buddhist world for over a millennium and is home to the magnificent Potala Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We will have a full day of rest on day twenty-four to explore the city's many sights including the revered Jokhang Temple and the bustling bazaar of Barkhor Street, both of essential stops on our itinerary.



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DAY 25: MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

LHASA TO SHIGATSE

The scenery at the beginning of day twenty-five is visually stunning and dramatic. We will head northeast along the banks of the Yarlung Zangbo Jiang River towards Jiangdangxiang, before heading south towards our lunch halt in Gyantse. From Gyantse we will head northwest crossing the Nianchu River the before heading along the Southern Friendship Highway to our overnight halt in Shigatse.



DAY 26: TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

SHIGATSE TO SAKYA

From Shigatse we will head south along the Sichuan-Tibet Highway towards our overnight stop in Sakya. This ancient pilgrimage route between Sakya Monastery and the holy city of Lhasa is considered to be one of the most beautiful scenic routes in Tibet full of mesmerizing views of the glacial landscape.



DAY 27: WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

SAKYA TO SHELKAR

Day twenty-seven will begin with a journey south towards Rongbuk Monastery. The world's highest monastery offers unrivaled views of Mount Everest's north face and the famous Rongbluk Glacier, the largest of all the hundreds of glaciers formed around Mount Everest. After a light lunch, we will head north to Shelkar, our stop for the night.

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DAY 28: THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

SHELKAR TO GYIRONG

An early start on day twenty-eight will see our crews travel south along the winding Sino-Nepal Friendship Highway. This fantastic road offers a tremendous driving experience as we head towards the border town of Gyirong for a final evening of Tibet hospitality.



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DAYS 29 & 30: FRIDAY 25TH TO SATURDAY 26TH
SEPTEMBER

GYIRONG TO KATHMANDU

On day twenty-nine we will spend the morning crossing the border into Nepal, before heading southwest, stopping for lunch overlooking the Sunkoshi River in the town of Khadichaur. From Khadichaur, we will head south via twisting mountain roads to the outskirts of Kathmandu, our pause for two nights of rest in 5-star luxury.



DAY 31: SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

KATHMANDU TO CHITWAN

We will leave Kathmandu and head southwest towards Chitwan National Park. This UNESCO World Heritage Site at the foot of the Himalayas is home to one of the last populations of single-horned Asiatic rhinoceros and one of Nepal's last refuges of the Bengal Tiger. Chitwan will be our stop for day thirty-one.



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DAY 32: MONDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

CHITWAN TO LUMBINI

Our day begins with a scenic loop around Chitwan National Park, where we experience the pristine wilderness in all its glory. We then cross the Seti Gandaki River via the Pulchowk Narayani Bridge and continue our adventure along winding mountain roads that offer breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding terrain. We will take a break to enjoy a delicious lunch in the charming town of Bardaghat, situated by the picturesque Binayee River. Our journey then takes us westward through enchanting landscapes, leading us to our overnight destination in the ancient city of Lumbini, the birthplace of Siddhartha Gautama, the Lord Buddha.

DAY 33: TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

LUMBINI TO LUCKNOW

From Lumbini, we will head to Sonauli and cross the border into India before heading to our lunch halt at Ayodhya on the banks of the Sarayu River. From Ayodhya, we will head to our overnight stop in Lucknow, the colorful capital city of Uttar Pradesh, famous for its stunning architecture, including the Asfi Mosque, which is part of the beautiful Bara Imambara complex.

DAY 34: WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

LUCKNOW TO AGRA

We will depart from Lucknow, taking the Agra Lucknow Expressway and driving westward to Agra, the historic capital of the Mughal Empire, our final stop on the Mystic Kingdoms challenge.



EXPLORE | THE MYSTIC KINGDOMS



DAY 35: THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER

AGRA

Our last day in Agra will be a rest day. In the morning, we will explore the narrow lanes and spice markets of the old city before visiting the UNESCO World Heritage sites at the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort and admire the magnificent architecture of India's largest mosque - the Jama Masjid. The day will end with a gala evening of cocktails and exquisite Mughlai cuisine.



DAY 36: FRIDAY 2ND OCTOBER

AGRA TO DELHI

After a leisurely breakfast, we depart for Delhi, reflecting on the journey that has brought you through mountains, valleys, rivers, and ancient cities. Every shared experience, from the wild Tibetan plateau to the sacred gardens of Lumbini, from bustling markets to serene monasteries - has woven a tapestry of adventure, romance, and connection. As you arrive in Delhi, the adventure formally concludes, but the memories of this extraordinary journey together will endure forever, a magnificent chapter in your shared story.



READY FOR AN ADVENTURE?

