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### 1. Geographical location

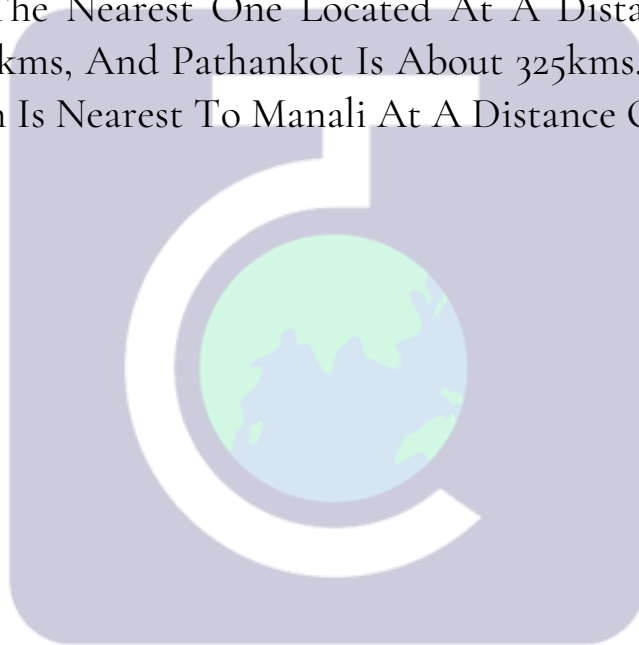
Manali is generally the attractive town in Kullu valley of the Himachal Pradesh, near the northern end of the Kullu valley at an elevation of 2050 m (6730 ft.) in Baas River. The town is located precisely between 32.27 N, and 77.17 E around 40 km north of Kullu borough and about 250km from Shimla the capital of Himachal Pradesh. There are two sections in Manali the old Manali have an elevation range of 1798m (5900 ft.) to 2011.68 m (6600 ft.). The total area it covers it is around 3,287,263 sq. kilometres and it was the biggest tourist place of Himachal Pradesh.



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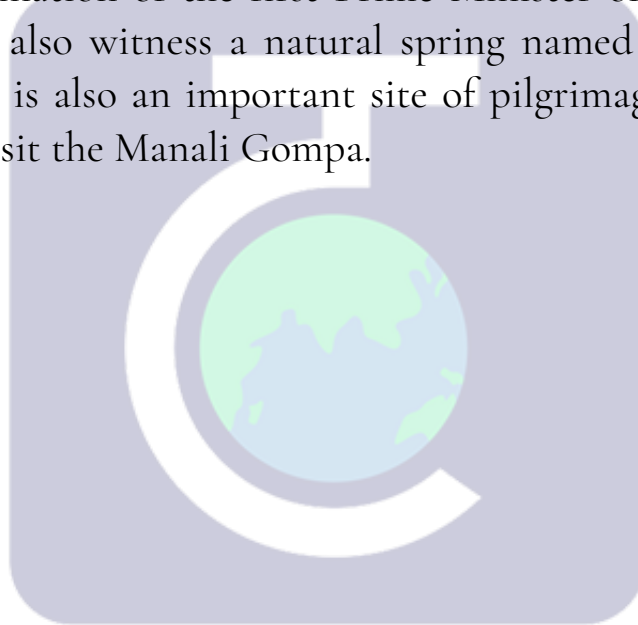
### 2. Neighbouring cities/countries

The Nearest Cities To Manali Are Kullu (42 Km), Jogindarnagar (162), Banjar (91), Tira Sujanpur (215.5), Sundarnagar (131.2), Daulatpur (270.7), Jawala Mukhi (230.2), Yol (247), Palampur (199.3) And Pandoh (87.80). Manali As A Small Town Has Many Facilities And The Airport Is Located At On Around 50km Near The South Of The City Called Bhuntar Airport Or Kullu Airport. The Chandigarh Railway Station Is The Nearest One Located At A Distance Of 275kms And Kalka Station At 310kms, And Pathankot Is About 325kms. Shimla, The Capital Of Himachal Pradesh Is Nearest To Manali At A Distance Of 249kms Away.



### 3. Significance

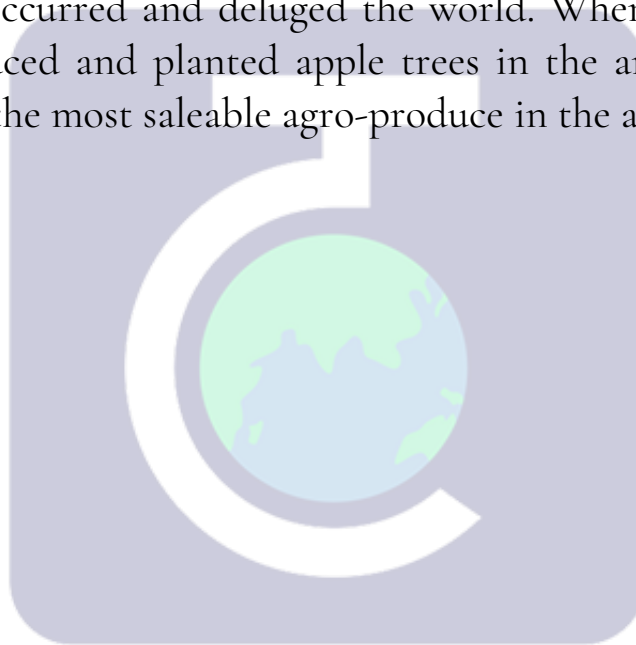
Historically, Manali has been the starting point of the ancient trade route to Ladakh which extended across to the Tarim Basin in China. Today, the city is a popular tourist destination frequented by domestic and international tourists alike in the summer season. Manali also serves as the gateway to Leh. Before tourism started and the city became an international destination, it was the favorite holiday destination of the first Prime Minister of India Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, and you can also witness a natural spring named after him called the Nehru Kund. Manali is also an important site of pilgrimage for Buddhists who come to the city to visit the Manali Gompa.



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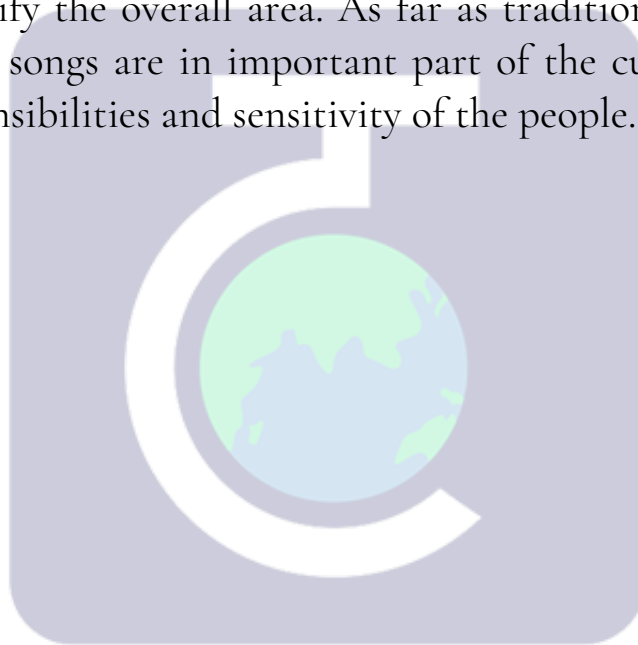
### 4. History

Ranked as one of the key tourist destinations of Himachal Pradesh, Manali is a valley housed in the mountains of Himachal Pradesh. The name 'Manali' is derived from the name 'Manu-Alaya' which exactly means 'the abode of Manu'. Manu is the name of the Sanatan Hindu lawgiver. Legend has it that Manu disembarked from his ark in Manali to reestablish human life after a massive flooding event had occurred and deluged the world. When the British came to Manali, they introduced and planted apple trees in the area. Till date, apples, plums and pears are the most saleable agro-produce in the area.



**Index****5. Cultural identity**

The culture of Manali is represented by populace which is mainly hardworking and believes in leading a frugal life which is abounded by minimalism and perseverance. The customs and rituals performed by the people, even the lifestyle, of Manali are very close to nature. The people of Manali believe in and worship deities which are mentioned in the ancient Hindus scriptures. There are many temples which beautify the overall area. As far as traditions are concerned, the folk dances and folk songs are in important part of the culture of Manali, and they all depict the sensibilities and sensitivity of the people.



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### 6. Natural resources

Manali has endowed with major deposits of Limestone, Gypsum, Iron Ore, Graphite, Copper and Zinc. The industries for the manufacturing of the Lubricants oil, Petrochemicals, Switches, Cables, Wires, and Lamps etc. are found. Out of its total geographic area 86% is mountainous and that of 65% is covered with the vegetation and forest. The trees and flora vegetation is coniferous type as the area has a snow cover throughout the year. The large varieties of fauna and flora are found in the area.





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**7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)****7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Great Himalayan National Park Forest Complex**

Address : SaiRopa, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh 175123

Zipcode : 175123

Location : 31.641060399999999, 77.3859036

Contact : 01902 265 320

Website : <http://www.greathimalayannationalpark.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : Sidhwan Bus Station

Entry Fee : Indian Nationals - INR 50 Foreign Nationals - INR 200 Indian Students - INR 30 Foreign Students - INR 100 Non - commercial video camera- Indian - INR 150 Non - commercial video camera- Foreign nationals - INR 300

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

**7.1.2. Museum of Himachal Culture & Folk Art**

Address : Utopia Complex, near Hadimba Devi Temple, Manali, Distt. Kullu, Himachal Pradesh - 175131

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2462111, 77.180575099999994

Contact : +91-1902253846

Website : <http://www.himachalmuseum.com/>

Entry Fee : INR 10

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-16:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

## Index

**7.2. Free****7.2.1. Hadimba Devi Temple**

Address : Hadimba devi temple, circuit house road, manali- 175131, himachal pradesh, India

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2482323, 77.18061799999998

Nearest Public Transport : Manali Bus Depot (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Daily 05:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

**7.2.2. Pandoh dam**

Address : Pandoh Dam, NH 21, Uba, Himachal Pradesh - 175004

Zipcode : 175004

Location : 31.6720768, 77.06616020000001

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

**7.2.3. Van Vihar**

Address : Hadimba Temple Rd, Old Manali, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2409446, 77.18974930000002

Contact : +91-9937373263

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

**7.2.4. Vashisht Spring**

Address : Vashisht Spring, Manali, Himachal Pradesh, 175131  
Zipcode : 175131  
Location : 32.26684160000001, 77.18753319999996  
Nearest Public Transport : Bashisht Bus Stop  
Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:00hrs-21:00hrs  
Time Required : 1.5  
Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.5. Vashishtha Temple

Address : Vashisht Temple, Vashisht Village, Manali - 175131  
Zipcode : 175131  
Location : 32.2656705, 77.18786  
Nearest Public Transport : Bashisht Bus Stop  
Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:00hrs-21:00hrs  
Time Required : 1  
Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.6. Manu Temple

Address : Old Manali, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131  
Zipcode : 175131  
Location : 32.2569822, 77.17615049999995  
Open & Close Timing : Daily 05:00hrs-21:00hrs  
Time Required : 1  
Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.7. Jagatsukh

Address : MDR29, Jagatsukh, Himachal Pradesh 175143  
Zipcode : 175143  
Location : 32.2018066, 77.20458669999994  
Nearest Public Transport : Jagatsukh Bus Stop  
Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.8. Rahala Waterfalls

Address : Leh Manali Hwy, Himachal Pradesh 175103

Zipcode : 175103

Location : 32.3363464, 77.21835390000001

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.9. Rozy Falls

Address : NH21, Simsa Village, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2312445, 77.1877098

Nearest Public Transport : Manali Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.10. Manu Market

Address : The Mall, Siyal, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2451553, 77.19039190000001

Nearest Public Transport : Manali Bus depot

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.11. Mall Road

Address : Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2401494, 77.1886733

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.12. Tibetan Market

Address : Siyal Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Zipcode : 175131

Location : 32.2429046, 77.18895029999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.13. Old Manali market

Zipcode : 0

Location : 32.25418430000001, 77.1770722

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No



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## 8. Key sites sports & adventure

Manali is a beautiful city and ever flocking with tourists. This is because there is pretty much for the tourists to do in this city. Some of the adventure sports in this city include rafting, skiing, paragliding, trekking, rock climbing, kayaking, mountaineering, mountain biking, hiking, zorbing, jeep safari, and camping.

- **Multisports at Solang Valley -**

Address : Solang Valley road, Burwa, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.3131064,77.163535

Website : <http://www.manalishimlaexpert.com/manali/adventure-sports-manali.html>

Entry Fees : INR300-INR800

Time Required : 8

- **Hiking and Trekking at Rohtang Pass -**

Address : Leh- Manali Highway, Himalayas 175131

Location : 32.3716426,77.24662209999999

Contact No : +177-2860601

Entry Fees : INR400-INR500

Time Required : 6.00

- **Boating at Beas River -**

Address : Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 31.7582812,76.0827202

Time Required : 2.00

- **Hiking at Rani Nallah -**

Address : Leh Manali Hwy, Burwa, Himachal Pradesh 175103

Location : 32.3627068,77.23451699999999

Time Required : 4.00

- **Hiking at Van Vihar -**

Address : NH21, Dhungri Village, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.2409446,77.1897493

Nearest Public Transport : IOC Bus Stop

Entry Fees : INR 5; Boating – INR 30

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 3.00



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### 9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

The local sports in this city include basketball and cricket.





## 10. Spas and relaxation

- **Span Resort and Spa:**

Address : Kullu - Manali Highway, Katrain, Himachal Pradesh 175129

Location : 32.129851,77.15642200000002

Contact No : 098160 92413

Website : <http://www.spanresorts.com/>

- **Sandhya Resort & Spa:**

Address : Kanyal Road, Rangri, Near Himkund Cottage, Simsa Village, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.22173540000001,77.18920449999996

Contact No : 092185 25695

Website : <http://www.sandhyahotels.in/>

- **ManuAllaya Resortspa:**

Address : Sunny Side, Chadiyari, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.254841,77.19274900000005

Contact No : 01902 252 235

Website : <http://manuallaya.com/>

- **The Himalayan:**

Address : Hadimba Road, Kullu Valley, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.244539,77.18229700000006

Contact No : 01902 250 999

Website : <http://www.thehimalayan.com/>



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## 11. Events calendar

## Month

## Events

**GSR Tuffman Manali Snow Ultra 80 @ Camp Excotica Manali, India**

**This event invites all people to enjoy activities such as snow skiing, sledding and lots of fun at Camp Excotica.**

**Psycedalic lock break @ Manali, India**

**This event entails a campaign against drug and substance abuse.**

**Triund -Curvy Hikes @ Fireballs Adventures, Vill-Shuru,Manali, Manali, India**

**Be part of the trek that ends up in Triund Top where you will spend the evening with soups, Bonn fires and veg dinner and camp for the night**

**Yoga Trek to Chanderkhani(14000) @ Himalayan Brothers Adventure, v.p.o Naggar, Manali, India**

**This trek takes you through the village of Manala whose**

**inhabitants are descendants of Alexander the Great, dress differently and speak a different dialect.**

**3rd Himalayan Mountain Bike Festival 20 @ Manali, India**

**This festival features biking event such as XC/BMX/DH, mountain bike races, workshops, demos, live concerts and bike expo.**

**Chandra Tal Trek @ Manali India**

**This trek links the Kully Valley to Lahau Spiti Valley where huge mountains of the Pir Panjal dominate the entire landscape.**  
**Chandra Tal Trek @ Manali India**

**Enjoy spectacular scene of the mountainous landscape as you trek through Lahau Spiti Valley**  
**LAHAUL & SPITI BIKE EXPEDITION @ Manali, India**

**This event will be attended by famous bikers and it features bike races and expos.**

**Chandertal The Moon Lake @ Hamptan Home, Vill-Shuru, Manali, India**

**Enjoy panoramic sight-seeing**

**and lots of fun activities at the moon lake.**

**Shilt Hut Trek - The Great Himalayan National Park @ Old Manali, Manali, India**

**Be part of the trek that takes you the grassland and dense forest of the National park while exposing you to exceptional sight of mighty Himalayas.**

**Wellness, Meditation & Breath Work Retreat @ Rising in Yoga, Mansari - Village, Near petrol pump, Naggar Manali road, Manali, India**

**This event feature wellness activities such as therapeutic yoga and Flow yoga, Tibetan pulse healing, Hara massage, Chakra sound meditation, nature walks, and Advance pranayama among others.**

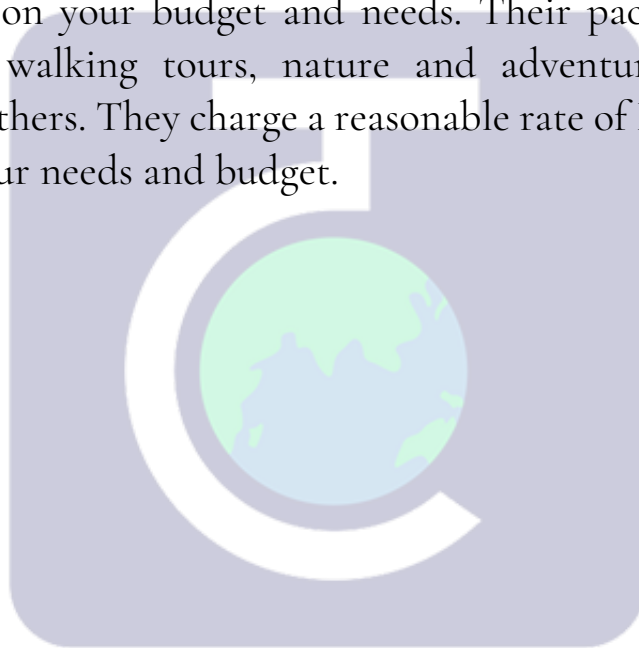
**MANALI TE BANGALI @ Shimla Manali trip, kanyal road, near jacika, Manali, India**

**Enjoy a 3-night stay at Manali of great sight-seeing and winter activities such as skiing.**

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## 12. Key local guides and tours

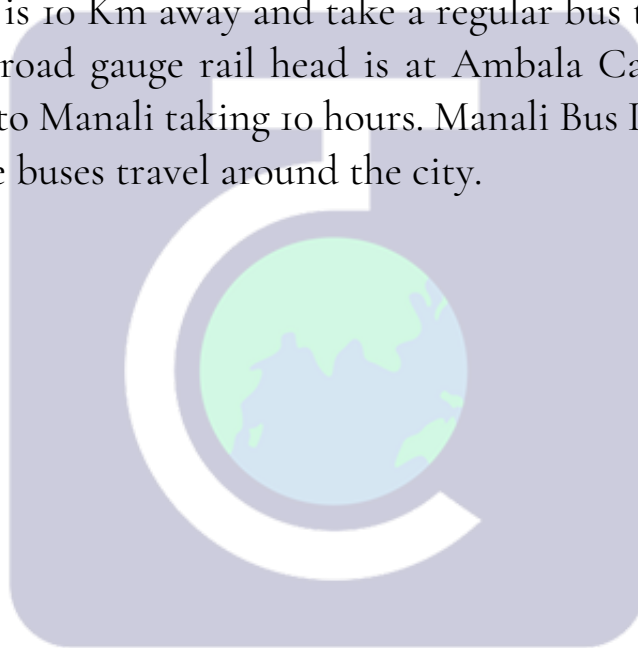
Manali is a beautiful city that has evolved recently and has tourists from all over the world visiting. It has quite a number of adventure sports and I bet you cannot do some on your own. You will require tour guides. When hiring these tour guides, look for the certified ones. You can hire them for a day or more depending on where you want to explore. These guides offer different site for packages depending on your budget and needs. Their packages include family tours, youth tours, walking tours, nature and adventure tours, sightseeing packages and many others. They charge a reasonable rate of Rs.1500 per day but it will all depend on your needs and budget.



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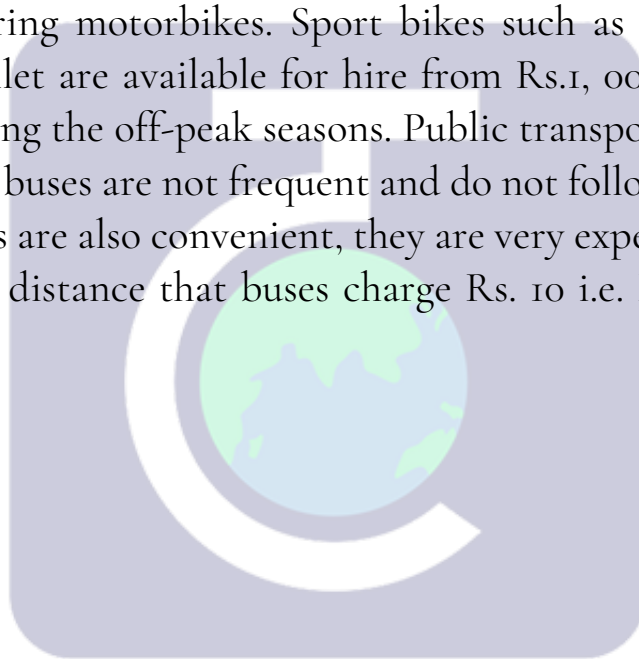
### 13. Transportation hubs

The nearest airport to Manali is Bhuntar (Kullu- Manali) airport which is approximately 50 KM i.e. 1 hour 20 minutes away from Manali city center. From the airport, the most convenient option to reach Manali is via pre-paid taxis which are readily available near the airport and charge Rs 1000-1,500. The taxis stand is located only 100 meters from the airports exit. Alternatively you can go to Kullu town which is 10 Km away and take a regular bus to Manali that charge Rs 35. The nearest broad gauge rail head is at Ambala Cantt which is 200 km away with a bus ride to Manali taking 10 hours. Manali Bus Depot is the hub from where majority of the buses travel around the city.



## 14. Transportation cost

Getting around Manali is quite easy as there are various means of transport available. The most convenient method is hiring a taxi which costs Rs 1,800 per day or slightly over Rs 3,000 for 3 days. The taxi takes you to all site seeing places and anywhere else within Manali which is relatively cheap and comfortable than using public means. The other preferred option (mostly by tourists) of getting around Manali is hiring motorbikes. Sport bikes such as Honda, Yamaha and cruiser bikes like Bullet are available for hire from Rs.1, 000-1,500 per day or at discounted rates during the off-peak seasons. Public transport in Manali is not so good considering the buses are not frequent and do not follow a defined schedule. While auto-rickshaws are also convenient, they are very expensive and would cost Rs. 200 for the same distance that buses charge Rs. 10 i.e. Manali Mall Road to Solang Valley.





**Index****15. Baggage allowance**

Trains to Manali have enough luggage space and do not charge extra fare for those with extra bags. However, most public buses only allow a luggage of up to 15Kg with extra weight being charged accordingly. Auto rickshaws charge Rs. 50 for luggage exceeding 10 Kg. Taxis are the most convenient means for those travelling with extra bags. Most of the taxi companies offer a baggage transporter for customers with excess luggage at very affordable rates. There is an extensive network of couriers and home delivery services in Manali that offer delivery of luggage, parcels, food, groceries etc. Visitors can also leave luggage at cloak rooms or locker rooms that are located within town



## 16. Restaurant & Nightlife

Siyal and Chahal are the foremost and the most prominent places to enjoy the amazing array of restaurants.

### Food -

Siyal and Chahal are the foremost and the most prominent places to enjoy the amazing array of restaurants.

- **Chopsticks Restaurant:**

Address : Model Town, Siyal, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.2437615,77.189164699

Contact No : 01902 252 639

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:30hrs-22:00hrs

- **The Lazy Dog Lounge:**

Address : Manu Temple Road , Old Manali, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.253122,77.176754000

Contact No : 01902 254 277

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-01:00hrs

- **Mayur Restaurant:**

Address : The Mall, Model Town, Siyal, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.2446033,77.189257099

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-22:00hrs

- **La Plage Manali:**

Address : Kullu, Himachal Pradesh 175101

Location : 32.2596941,77.183420000

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Khyber:**

Address : Siyal, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.245678,77.189581999

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Shiva Garden Cafe:**

Address : Chahal, Himachal Pradesh

Location : 32.008269,77.295057999

Open / Close Time : Daily 07:30hrs-22:30hrs

- **Hangout Pub:**

Address : Old Manali, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.2546076,77.177167400

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-00:00hrs; Friday 17:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **The Johnsons cafe and hotel:**

Address : Circuit House Road, Siyal, Kullu, Manali, Himachal Pradesh 175131

Location : 32.2475075,77.187398700

Contact No : 01902 253 023

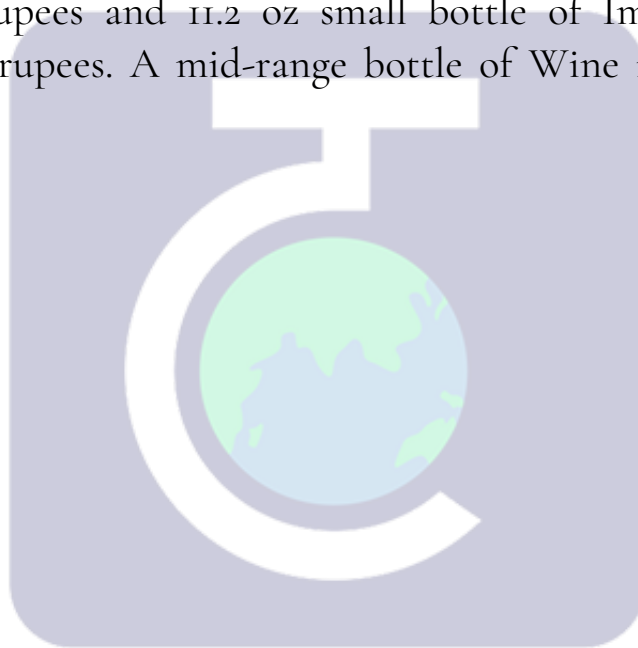
Website : <http://www.johnsonhotel.in/>



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### 17. Average meal cost

If you need a normal meal in an inexpensive restaurant then it will cost you 200.00 rupees and that of three-course meal at a mid-range restaurant for two people will cost 475.00 rupees. A combo meal at McDonald's can be purchased at 250.00 rupees. You can have a fresh cappuccino at 84.62 rupees 11.2 oz small bottle of water can be purchased at 14.40 rupees. 1 pint draught of Domestic Beer is available at 90.00 rupees and 11.2 oz small bottle of Imported Beer can be purchased at 120.00 rupees. A mid-range bottle of Wine is available at 450.00 rupees.



## 18. Shopping

Manali has scenic views alright; it has shopping delights in abundance too. In fact, shopping in Manali is one of the most pleasurable experiences. The small city may not have a mall-culture, but the stretches of markets it has are just as good and enjoyable. Mall Road : Renowned as the most popular destination for shopping in Manali, the long road stretch is a buzz zone of sorts. The street is dotted with many hotels, bars, restaurants as well it got ample of shops and outlets where tourists can indulge in shopping. There are emporiums and shops selling wooden furniture, books, jewelry, shawls, rugs and lots more! Tibetan Bazaar and Tibetan Carpet centre : These places are run by the refugee community. Here one can shop for Buddhist paintings, bamboo souvenirs, thangkas, rugs, local tweeds, Chinese-made goods, jewelry made of silver and turquoise. Old Manali market : Pick up to-quality hippie and junkie stuff from here. Also, if you love locally-made jams and pickles, this is the place!

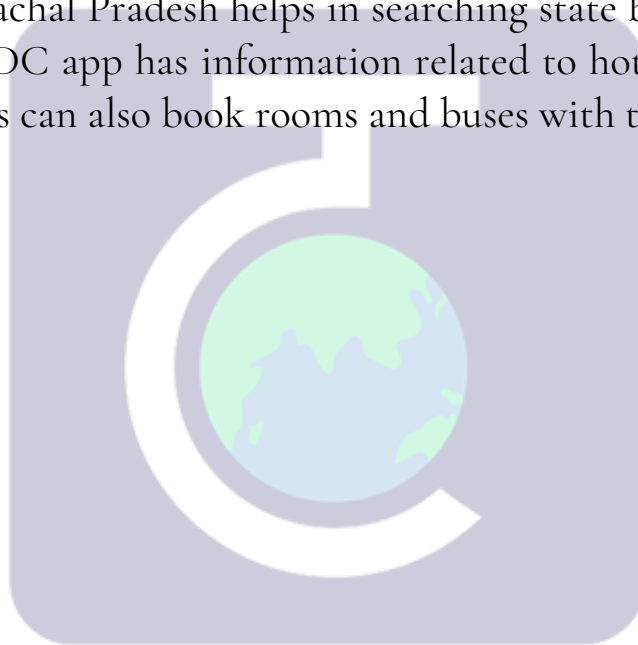
## 19. Tourist benefits

Currently, there are no tax refunds for tourists in Manali. Only registered foreign companies can receive tax refunds but not individuals. However, new proposals are being formulated to enable foreign travelers claim VAT refunds for goods bought in Manali. This policy change by the Indian government is aimed at making India a competitive retail destination that offers favorable benefits to its customers just like other European Union Countries. Alternatively, tourists have the option of purchasing goods at duty free shops that are strategically situated in airports and border entry points.



**Index****20. Essential local apps**

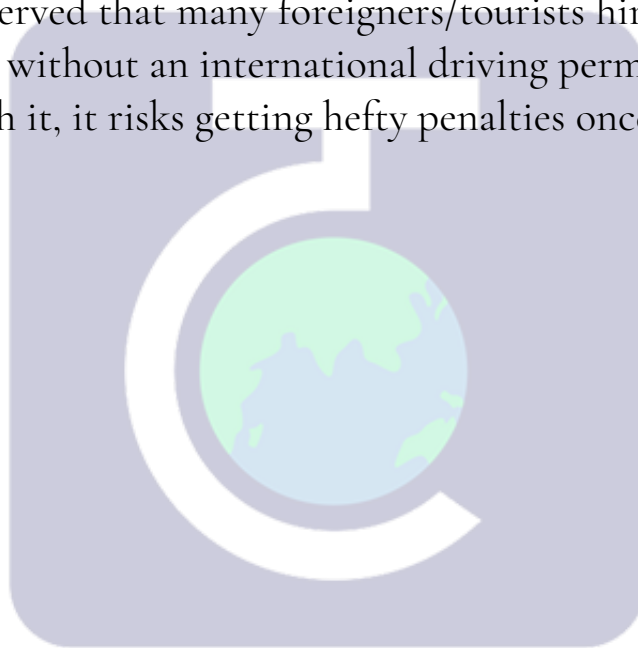
The sights and attractions in Manali can be explored and enjoyed on your own if you have some handy travel and local apps. IRCTC Connect is an Indian Railway app to get detailed information about the trains, routes, schedules, etc. and helps in booking trains and other facilities at railway stations. Indian Railway Offline Map is useful for getting timetables for a day or week, live routes, PNR status, etc. HRTC Bus Himachal Pradesh helps in searching state buses and viewing the bus time table. HPTDC app has information related to hotels like rooms, tariff, availability, etc. Users can also book rooms and buses with this app.





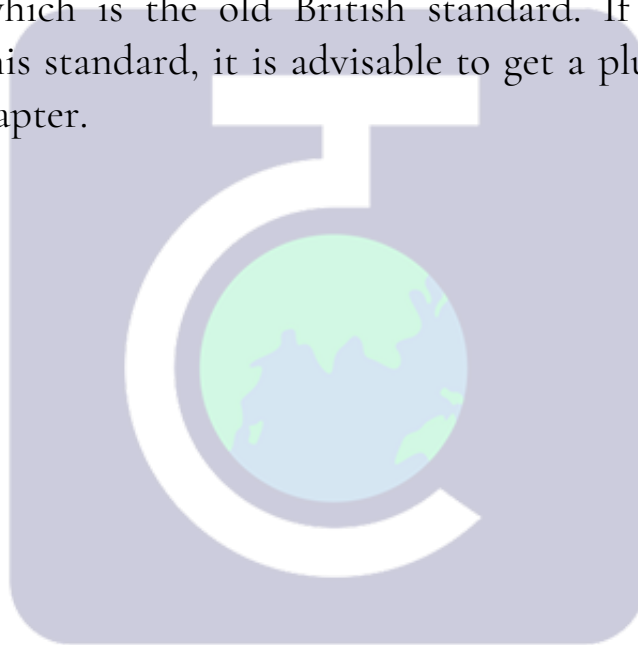
## 21. Driving

Foreigners are only allowed to drive or ride bikes in Manali if they have international driving permit. This permit can be acquired at the country of your origin or at the country where you go your license. For those intending to tour the city for a long term period, it may be more desirable to get a local driving license which is acquired after passing a theory and practical test. In the recent years, it has been observed that many foreigners/tourists hire bike and ride along the Manali Leh route without an international driving permit. Even though some of them get away with it, it risks getting hefty penalties once arrested.



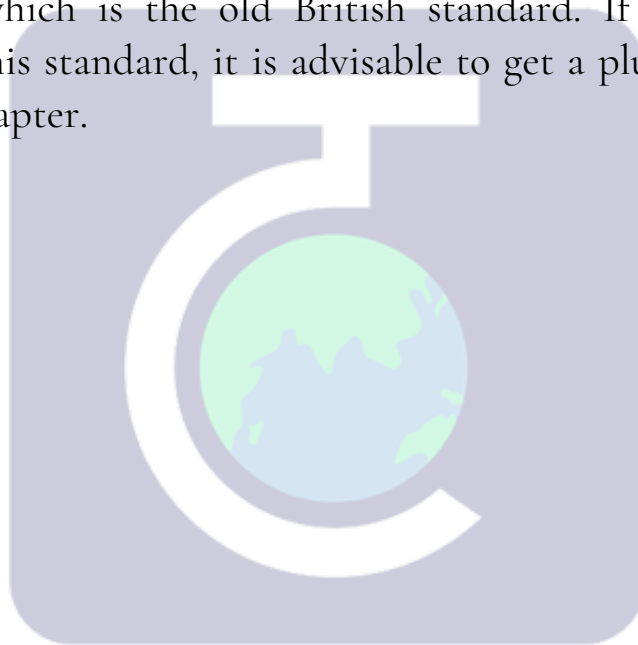
## 22. Travel essentials

Manali has a standard voltage of 220-240 Volts with a frequency of 50 Hz. This standard is similar to that of many countries in Europe, UK and Australia. Visitors from these places do not require a voltage converter for their devices. However those from areas with a standard of 110-120 Volts may need a step down transformer to prevent damage to their appliances. The standard socket in Manali is type D which is the old British standard. If your device plug is incompatible with this standard, it is advisable to get a plug adapter preferably the universal plug adapter.



## 23. Essential clothes

Manali has a standard voltage of 220-240 Volts with a frequency of 50 Hz. This standard is similar to that of many countries in Europe, UK and Australia. Visitors from these places do not require a voltage converter for their devices. However those from areas with a standard of 110-120 Volts may need a step down transformer to prevent damage to their appliances. The standard socket in Manali is type D which is the old British standard. If your device plug is incompatible with this standard, it is advisable to get a plug adapter preferably the universal plug adapter.



**Index****24. Local currency**

The local currency of Manali is Indian Rupee. It is denoted as INR. 1 USD = 66.88 INR.



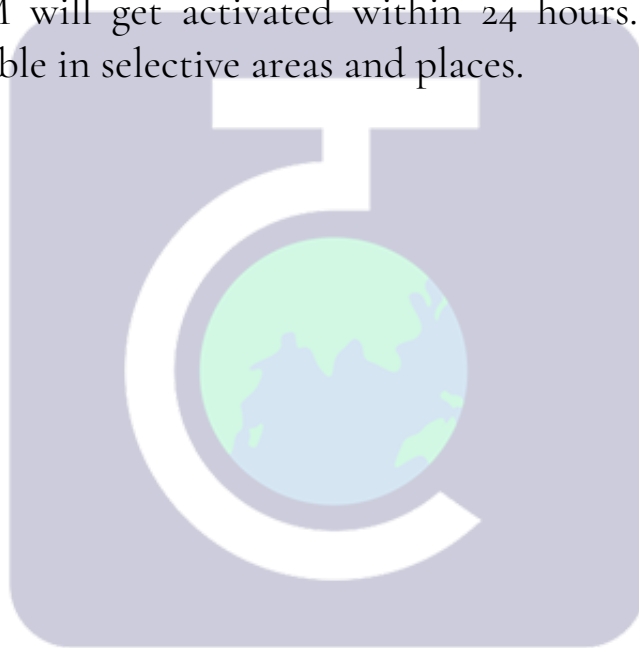
**Index****25. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

Before travelling, it is good to consult with your bank and ask if your card can be used overseas and the amount they will probably charge for the foreign transactions. Banks will charge differently for the foreign transactions. Most visa, master card and plus cards are widely acceptable in Manali. Look for an ATM with plus, visa or master card logo. Most ATMs will not charge a transaction fee for the transactions. Banks charge 1.5% as fee for each transaction. However, such ATMs should ask for your confirmation before completing the transaction. There are also many exchange counters but you should be careful as some are not genuine. Ask for encashment certificate at these counters. You shall even exchange your currency with change vendors that take around 3% as their commission.



## 26. Staying connected

As Manali is nestled amongst the hills, it is best-advised that tourist opt to purchase and carry postpaid mobile connections. SIM cards are easily available and gettable. Reliable telecom networks in Manali are: Airtel, Aircel, Idea, BSNL, Vodafone, Reliance and Tata Docomo. In order to purchase a postpaid SIM card in Manali, one needs to carry their ID-documents with them. Upon successful verification, the SIM will get activated within 24 hours. Internet and Wi-Fi connectivity is available in selective areas and places.



## 27. Time Zone

Manali follows Indian Standard Time Zone with UTC + 05:30 hours.



## 28. Languages

Hindi is the main language spoken here. However, you shall even find people speaking Western Pahari.





**Index****29. Political Scenario**

The local Municipal Corporation of Manali is in-charge of overseeing its infrastructure and overall development. As the hilly town of Manali is more or less considered as a holiday destination of international stature, the local governing bodies along with the state government are working in tandem to ensure maintenance of Manali's natural beauty as well as the progress of various projects to boost employment and tourism in the city of Manali.



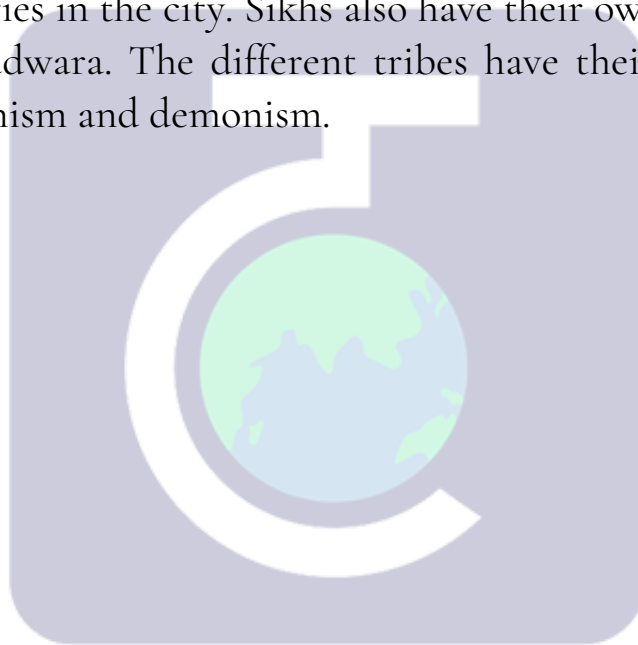
### 30. Economic Scenario

The economy of Manali is strongly supported by horticulture and tourism. Thanks to the British introduction of pears, apples, orange, the economy has really thrived due to the exports of fruits. The region's soil and climate work in tandem to produce fruits in large quantities. The product supports the needs of Manali and many other parts of India. And tourism generates maximum revenue. The natural richness and value of the region has generated good economic gains as well as boost local employment too. The city also has a good mix of medium and small-scale industries which produce a range of goods.



**Index****31. Religious belief**

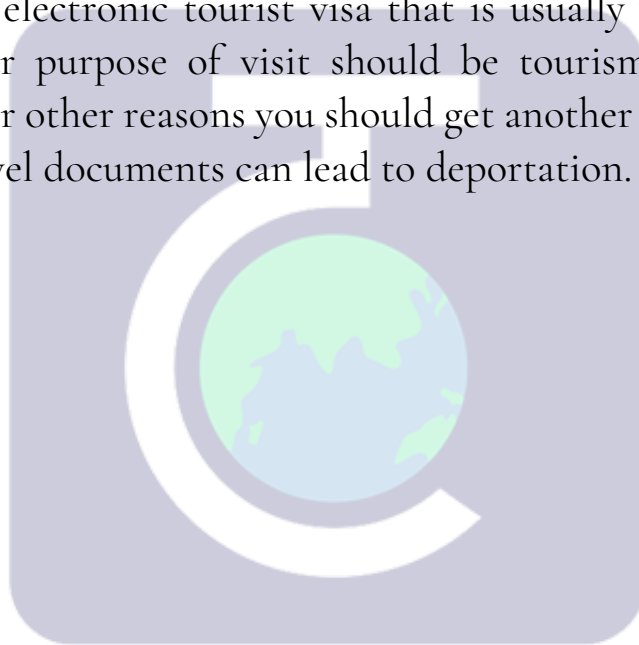
The Kullu Valley in which Manali is located is often called the 'Valley of the Gods' as it is believed that it was the abode of Manu, the sage and lawgiver in Sanatan Hindu belief system. There is an ancient temple in Old Manali dedicated to Manu from whom the name Manali was derived. Hinduism and Buddhism are the most prominent religions. There are many Hindu temples and Buddhist shrines and monasteries in the city. Sikhs also have their own place of worship in the Manikaran Gurudwara. The different tribes have their own belief systems mostly based on animism and demonism.



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### 32. Visa requirements

All visitors and tourists travelling to Manali should have a visa and a valid passport. You should get this visa before travelling to India. However there are some countries that have made arrangements with India so that their nationals get their visa on arrival. You should check if you are eligible for this before travelling. Nationals from USA, U.K, New Zealand, Canada and Australia can apply online for the electronic tourist visa that is usually valid for 30 days. To qualify for this, your purpose of visit should be tourism and not any other purpose. If visiting for other reasons you should get another different type of visa. Not having these travel documents can lead to deportation.



### 33. Essential vaccination

Before travelling to Manali a number of vaccines are required. These vaccines include Hepatitis A and B, Tetanus and Diptheria, Typhoid, Japanese Encephalitis, Hepatitis B, Varicella, Mumps and Routine vaccines.



**Index****34. Theft and Safety**

Petty crimes like thieving and pick-pocketing are common in tourist spots. Beware of scammers who offer cheap tours and guidance. Solo women travelers should be careful to dress modestly and never accept offers or lifts from strangers, whether local or foreign.



**Index****35. Embassy/Consulate**

There are no foreign embassies and consulates in Manali. You can have more information at <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/india>.



## **36. Accessibility**

There are many hotels and resorts in Manali that are wheelchair friendly. However, access to popular tourist spots is difficult as most of them do not have ramps or other disabled friendly facilities.





**Index****37. Emergencies**

In case of emergencies you can call 100 for Police, 101 for Fire and that of Ambulance, you can call at 102. Apart from this, you can call 1099 for Traffic Police. You are provided with top-notch medical services and facilities even if you are a tourist. The hospital that helps accepting travel insurance is Lady Willingdons Mission Hospital.



**Index****38. Do's and Don'ts**

As with any Indian city, Manali also has strict rules and regulations regarding foreign travelers. Do's • Always carry passport and other travel documents • Avoid carrying too much cash • Hire only licensed guides • Minimize the use of plastic Don'ts • Do not drink and drive • It is mandatory to safeguard yourself with helmets on bikes and seatbelts in cars while traveling. • Do not drink or smoke near temples and monasteries • Do not accept offers and favors from strangers • Do not litter



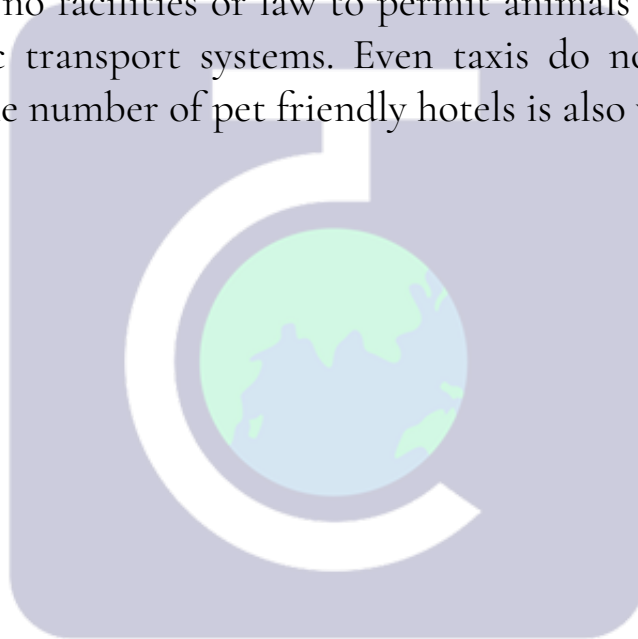
**Index****39.Tipping basics**

Tipping is expected by most involved in tourism in Himachal Pradesh. In hotels, service charges are included in bills. Hence, tipping is not mandatory. However, about 10% - 15% of bill amount is acceptable for tipping. If one is travelling with a group, tipping can be reduced to 5% of total bill. Porters expect a tip 20 rupees per baggage and in case of a group, 10 rupees per baggage. Tour guides, drivers and escorts expect about 60 rupees to 160 rupees (about \$ 1 to \$ 2) per day per person.



**Index****40.Pet info**

International tourists are not allowed to bring their pets with them into the country. The law gives exemption to only those who are returning to India after two years of continuous stay in a foreign country. They can bring two pets as baggage. The aim of this rule is to stop the illegal trafficking of foreign breeds through people posing as tourists. Within India, travelling with pets can be quite difficult as there are no facilities or law to permit animals travelling along with passengers on public transport systems. Even taxis do not usually allow pets inside the vehicle. The number of pet friendly hotels is also very few.



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### Conclusion – Why to select this destination

*Why choose Manali ? The land of natural beauty, adventure, and favorite destination of honeymooners, Manali is the most visited resort town in the Himalayan valley. Mountain adventures are the lifeline of tourism in this hill station. Every corner of this Himalayan valley has some unique thrill to offer. Trekking, mountaineering, canyoning, mountain biking, paragliding, white water rafting, skiing, rock climbing, zorbing, snow scootering, river crossing – Manali has got it all. It is not just adventure that these extreme sports offer; they also provide an opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the endless wonders of nature that this lovely city is blessed with. A walk through the snow itself is a magical adventure. Manali is also a famous Buddhist pilgrimage center. The monasteries with Buddha temples are frequented by followers of Buddhism from all around the world. The Himalayan Nyinmapa Buddhist Temple has a two-storey Buddha statue and beautiful wall paintings. Many Hindu temples also dot the valley. There are many waterfalls in the city with amazing views. Some even have trekking facilities to reach the top of the fall. The hot water springs with public and private bath areas offer the best spa experiences for the travel weary body. And, if clicking photos with the Himalayas and the Beas River in the background is not enough, the rabbits and yaks of this city are quite willing to pose for a photo or two with you for a small price to their keepers. Being a popular tourist destination, the food in Manali is a mix of regional and global cuisines. From street food to international dishes, the city has a wide array of tasty treats.*

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