



सत्यमेव जयते

THE ADMINISTRATION OF
UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

Events & Festivals

Calendar 2025-2026

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S. No.	Name	Location	Dates	Brief
1.	Stakrimo Gustor	Stakrimo Monastery, Padum	27th-28th January 2025	Stakrimo Gustor is a monastic festival held at the Stakrimo Monastery located at a distance of nearly two kilometres from Padum, Zaskar. The festival features the unveiling of a gold-gilded miniature statue of Palden Lhamo. The festival culminates with the offering of a large effigy made from sacramental barley cake to dispel harmful spirits, marking an important religious ritual in the region.
2.	Spituk Gustor	Spituk Monastery	27th-28th January 2025	The Festival is a vibrant two-day event held annually at Spituk Monastery. It is celebrated on the 28th and 29th of the first Tibetan month, just 8 kilometres from Leh, the monastery becomes a hub of festivity, showcasing elaborate dances by monks in ornate robes representing deities like Mahakala and Palden Lhamo. The dance sequences, including Serskam and Hashang Hatuk, are believed to bring peace and prosperity. As the festival concludes, locals anticipate a shift to warmer, more pleasant weather and a prosperous year ahead.
3.	Dosmochey	Leh, Likir, Diskit	26th-27th February 2025	Dosmochey is Ladakh's unique religious festival that unites nearly all its monasteries in a grand celebration at Leh Palace. Annually, on a rotational basis, different monasteries perform sacred mask dances and offer ritual cakes to the deities on the first day. The monks craft an effigy, known as 'dho,' to capture evil spirits and construct a colorful, thread-adorned wooden pillar called 'Dosmo.' On the festival's second day, these symbols are burned in a ceremonial act to dispel negativity. Celebrated on the 28th and 29th of the twelfth Tibetan month, Dosmochey ushers in the Tibetan New Year and is also observed at Likir and Diskit monasteries.
4.	Phuktal Gustor	Phuktal Monastery	26th-27th February 2025	Phuktal Gustor is an annual festival celebrated at the Phuktal Monastery, which is known for its remote and rugged mountain location in Zaskar. The journey to the monastery is a spiritual trek through beautiful landscapes, involving bridge crossings and navigating the Zaskar River. The festival features masked dances, religious ceremonies, and attracts monks and devotees, adding to the rich cultural heritage of the region.
5.	Shey Dool lo (Rul lo)	Shey	29th March 2025	Shey-du-lo, or SheyRul lo, marks the beginning of the sowing season in Ladakh with monks performing rituals at the EsheyGonbo shrine. The festival brings villagers together in celebration and anticipation of the planting ahead.
6.	YargonTungshak	Nubra	3rd-4th March 2025	The Yargon-Tungshak Festival is celebrated with the Cham Dance, featuring spiritual dances in bright costumes and masks. The event is filled with lively drumming and chanting, drawing people together for a festive experience.
7.	Stok Guru Tsechu	Stok Palace	9th-10th March 2025	Stok Guru Tsechu is a vibrant festival held at Stok Royal Palace, approx. 16 km from Leh, on the 9th and 10th of the first Tibetan month. Attendees witness the spectacle of oracles entering trances to perform ancient rituals and offer prophetic advice. This spiritual event draws crowds seeking insights and blessings.
8.	Mangtho Nagrang	Mangtho Monastery	13th-14th March 2025	MangthoNagrang is the only major establishment in Ladakh dedicated to the Sakya lineage of Tibetan Buddhism. Matho Nagrang, annual spiritual festival of the monastery, is famed across the Himalayan region and beyond. Celebrated on 14th and 15th of the first month of Tibetan lunar calendar, the festival attracts locals, tourists and researchers in hordes. Alike Stok Guru Tsechu, it's famed for a pair of oracles popularly known as Rongtsans.

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9.	Navroz Festival	Leh & Kargil	21st March 2025	Navroz in Ladakh is the Persian New Year celebrated by the local Shia Muslim community. It is a festive day of renewal with home decorations, special meals, and new clothes, showcasing Ladakh's cultural diversity and communal harmony.
10.	Celebration of Apricot Blossom Festival	Leh / Kargil (various places)	1st to 3rd Week of April 2025	The Apricot Blossom Festival marks the arrival of summer with the bloom of apricot flowers. The festival takes place in various regions of both Leh and Kargil District. It highlights the 'Raktsey Karpo' apricot, which has a GI tag for its unique qualities. The festival includes cultural performances, local product displays, handicrafts, and food exhibitions, celebrating the apricot's role in Ladakh's culture and economy.
11.	FAM Tour of leading tour operators	Kargil	15th - 22nd April 2025	The FAM Tour Kargil is an initiative to showcase the district's tourism potential. Tour operators, media influencers, vloggers, and YouTubers from across India are invited to explore and promote Kargil's attractions.
12.	Celebration of Kargil Ladakh Festival & Wild Tulip Festival & FAM tour	Drass/Suru/ Aryan Valley	2nd to 3rd Week of May 2025	The Wild Tulip Festival is celebrated in April/May during the wild tulip bloom in Kargil's Suru, Drass, and Aryan Valley, it celebrates the region's natural beauty and cultural heritage. The festival features folk dances, traditional music, local cuisine, handicrafts, and various adventure sports, emphasizing rural and eco-tourism.
13.	Ladakh Astro Festival	Hanley	3rd Week of May 2025	The Ladakh Astro Festival leverages the region's clear skies and high altitude for stargazing and astronomical observation. It brings together astronomy enthusiasts, scientists, and photographers to celebrate astronomy, space exploration, and the natural beauty of Ladakh as a prime location for astrophotography.
14.	Buddha Purnima /Jayanti	Duzin Photang, Leh	12th May 2025	Buddha Purnima, also known as Buddha Jayanti, is observed on the 15th day of the third Tibetan month. It commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and Maha Parinirvana of Lord Buddha, with various spiritual activities and rituals.
15.	Barden Gyetsa/ Zongkhul Skuchot	Barden/ Zongkhul	10th - 11th June 2025	Barden Gyetsa is a monastic festival at Barden Monastery, featuring mask dances and cultural folk performances. It is celebrated on the 14th and 15th days of the fourth Tibetan month. Zongkhul Monastery, associated with the great Maha Siddha Naropa, also celebrates Zongkhul Skuchot, honoring the sage's meditation in the Zongkongma cave.
16.	Celebration of Purig-e-rGaston Festival	Chiktan	13th June 2025	Purig-e-rGaston, famously known as the Purig Festival, is a major event organized to showcase the local culture and heritage of the Kargil district.
17.	Celebration of International Yoga Day	Leh & Kargil	21st June 2025	International Yoga Day is celebrated on June 21 every year to celebrate the physical and spiritual prowess that yoga has brought to the world.

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18.	Yuru Kabgyat	LamaYuru	22nd-23rd June 2025	Yuru Kabgyat, takes place on the 18th and 19th of the fifth month of the Tibetan lunar calendar at the Lamayuru Monastery, honoring the Buddhist lord of death and Guru Padmasambhava. The festival offers not only cultural festivities but also stunning views of the white limestone mountains.
19.	Hemis Tsechu	Hemis Monestary	5th-6th July 2025	HemisTsechu is a must-see festival in Ladakh, celebrating Guru Padmasambhava's birth on the 10th of the fifth Tibetan month. Witness Hemis Monastery's monks perform the Cham dance in colorful brocades, accompanied by traditional music, and the grand display of a 22-foot silk thangka.
20.	Muharram Procession (Ashura & Arbaeen)	Kargil	6th July 2025 & 14th August 2025	Observed during one of the four sacred months in Islam Muharram, particularly the day of Ashura, is a period of mourning and remembrance in Islam. It commemorates the martyrdom of Imam Husain (a.s) and the liberation of Prophet Musa and the Children of Israel from the Pharaoh and his army.
21.	Ladakh Sham Festival	Sham Region	1st Week of July 2025	The Sham festival is celebrated in the sham valley of Ladakh, known for its picturesque landscapes, fertile soil and warmer region relatively. The Ladakh Sham Valley Festival draws attention to the valley's unique blend of natural beauty, ancient traditions, and the way of life of its people. This festival is promoted as a sustainable, off-the-beaten-path destination while fostering local pride and cultural preservation.
22.	Shachukul Kabgyat	Shachukul Monastery	12th-13th July 2025	ShachukulKabgyat is a festival held at Shachukul Monastery, approx.125 km east of Leh and approx. 45 km from Pangong Lake. Celebrated on the 17th and 18th of the fifth Tibetan month, it features the Cham dance, showcasing Buddhas and Drikung Kagyu protectors like Achi Chokyi Dolma and Mahakala.
23.	Stongday Gustor	Zanskar (Stongday)	13th - 14th July 2025	Stongday Gustor is a two-day monastic festival held at Stongday Monastery, located approx.13 km from Padum. The festival, takes place on the 18th and 19th of the fifth Tibetan month, features mask dances by the monks, which is the main attraction of the festival.
24.	Karsha Gustor	Zanskar (Karsha)	22nd -23rd July 2025	Karsha Monastery, approximately 8 km from Padum, celebrates Karsha Gustor on the 28th and 29th day of the fifth Tibetan month. The festival is known for its mask and Black Hat dances performed by monks, as well as folk dances by local residents.
25.	Phyang Tsedup	Phyang Monastery	22nd -23rd July	PhyangTsedup is a festival at Phyang Monastery, aligned with the Drikung Kagyu lineage of Tibetan Buddhism. Celebrating SkyobaJigsten Gombo, the founder of the Drikungpa, it takes place on the 2nd and 3rd of the sixth Tibetan month. The festival embodies the triumph of good over evil, featuring ritual offerings, effigy burning, and the traditional Cham dance by the monks.
26.	Nomadic Festival	Changthang Region	July 2025	The Nomadic Festival is an exhibition of the lifestyle of the Changpas, the pastoral nomads of the Changthang area. It showcases their sustainable living practices, herding of yaks, horses, sheep, and particularly pashmina goats, which are central to their livelihood due to the valuable pashmina wool.

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27.	Border Tourism/ Kargil Vijay Diwas	Singge Namgyal Chowk, Leh/ Drass, Kargil	26th July 2025	Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed to honor the victory of India over Pakistan in the 1999 Kargil War. The day is marked by tribute ceremonies at the War Memorial Stupa, Skyatsags (near petrol pump) in Leh and at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass, where wreaths are laid in memory of the martyrs.
28.	Zanskar Tourism Festival	Padum	27th-28th July 2025	The Zanskar Festival is a two-day cultural event organized by the Tourism and Cultural department to promote tourism in Zanskar. The festival includes various cultural programs that display the traditions and arts of the region.
29.	Ladakh Polo Festival	Chuchot	July 2025	The Ladakh Polo Festival celebrates the region's long-standing tradition of polo, a sport introduced in the 15th century. The festival is a weeklong festival and takes place at the historic Shagaran Polo Ground in Chuchot Gongma, Leh, a series of Exciting Polo Matches, dynamic cultural performances and engaging exhibitions.
30.	Adventure Fest Kargil	Kargil	July last week 2025	Adventure Fest Kargil is an event that features a variety of adventure sports, including river rafting, rock climbing, paragliding, and cycling. It attracts adventure seekers and sports enthusiasts from around the world, providing them with an opportunity to engage in thrilling activities.
31.	Korzok Gustor	Korzok Monastery	27th-28th July 2025	Korzok Gustor is a festival at Korzok Monastery by Tso Moriri Lake, 4,530m up in the Changthang region of Ladakh. On the 3rd and 4th days of the sixth Tibetan month, Changpa nomads gather for prayers and the Black Hat dance, celebrating their culture and history.
32.	TakthokTsechu	Takthok Monastery	4th-5th August 2025	TakthokTsechu, at Ladakh's only Nyingma monastery in Takthok village, features the 'Guru Tsengyat Cham' dance on the 10th and 11th of the sixth Tibetan month, showcasing the eight forms of Guru Padmasambhava in a vibrant display of tradition and masks.
33.	Ladakh rPal-rGam Tuston/ UT Ladakh Declaration Day	Leh/ Kargil	5th August 2025	The UT Declaration Day of Ladakh, observed on August 5th, commemorates the establishment of Ladakh as a Union Territory. The day is celebrated with various activities that reflect the pride of the Ladakhi people in their cultural identity.
34.	Sani Nesjal	Sani, Zanskar	8th-9th August 2025	Sani Nesjal takes place at Sani Kanikar, one of the oldest monasteries in Zanskar, known for being built on flat ground. The festival, occurs on the 14th and 15th days of the sixth Tibetan month, features mask dances representing Guru Padmasambhava's eight manifestations and unveils the statue of Mahasiddha Naropa.
35.	Ladakh Aero Festival	Sakti	3rd Week of August 2025	The Ladakh Aero Festival is an event that combines the thrill of aviation with the celebration of Ladakh's culture and geography. It includes exhibitions and activities related to aviation and adventure sports, showcasing the region's potential for such activities.
36.	Ladakh River Festival	Sangam Point, Leh	30th-31st August 2025	The Ladakh River Festival is an event that focuses on the region's rivers - Indus, Zanskar, Nubra, and Shyok. It aims to promote eco-tourism and adventure sports like rafting and kayaking, while also emphasizing the cultural significance and the need for preservation of these vital river ecosystems.

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37.	Climate Cup Football Tournament	Leh	1st-8th September 2025	The Climate Cup is an environmentally conscious football tournament that advocates for climate change awareness. It emphasizes sustainability through the use of recycled materials, electric buses, minimal waste policies, and the promotion of local sustainable products.
38.	Ladakh Marathon	Leh	September 2025	The Ladakh Marathon is recognized as one of the highest and toughest marathons, featuring ultra-races like the 72 km Khardung La Challenge(5370m) and the 122 km Silk Route Ultra challenge. It is a member of AIMS (Association of International Marathons and Distance Racers) and offers participants the chance to run through the stunning landscapes of Ladakh alongside local residents.
39.	Nubra Sports and Adventure Festival	Nubra	September 2025	This festival emphasizes the development of a healthy society by providing platforms for youth in sports and adventure. It encourages participation, especially among women, in activities such as rock climbing, cycling, and archery.
40.	Aryan Festival	Darchik / Garkon	20th September 2025	The Aryan Festival celebrates the unique cultural and traditional identity of the Aryan Valley. It aims to promote and preserve the distinct heritage of this region.
41.	Ladakh Festival	Leh	21st-24th September 2025	The Ladakh Festival is a grand event in Leh town, features a procession with cultural troupes from across Ladakh. The four-day festival includes traditional music, dancing, sports like archery and polo, and musical concerts, attracting visitors from around the world.
42.	New/ Existing Trekking routes	Kargil	In the month July-September 2025	Surveying and Exploration of new and existing trekking routes.
43.	Celebration of World Tourism Day	Leh & Kargil	27th September 2025	World Tourism Day is observed to promote tourism and highlight its importance. The day addresses global tourism challenges and discusses potential solutions.
44.	Balti Festival	Turtuk	4th week of September 2025	The Balti Festival is a celebration of the cultural heritage of the Balti people. It showcases Balti music, dance, cuisine, and handicrafts, promoting cultural exchange and supporting local economic growth through cultural tourism in Ladakh.
45.	Celebration of Ladakh Festival Drass	Drass	4th Week of September 2025	The Drass Festival promotes tourism and the rich culture of the Drass Valley. It features cultural programs, folk dances, traditional music, local cuisine, handicrafts, archery, and polo, offering insights into the culture and lifestyle of the region.
46.	Buckwheat Festival	Sham Valley	September 2025	The Buckwheat Festival celebrates the cultivation and medical benefits of buckwheat, a traditional crop in Ladakh. It showcases the different types of buckwheat grown in the region and highlights its historical significance as a staple food.

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47.	Ladakh Bird Festival	Tsokar	5th-7th October 2025	The Ladakh Bird Festival is dedicated to the region's avifauna, which includes over 430 species, representing about 31% of bird species found in India. The festival is a significant festival initiated for wildlife tourism and conservation efforts, especially for high-altitude birds like the Black-necked Crane, which is the state bird of UT Ladakh.
48.	Autumn Kargil Festival	Kargil	2nd to 4th week of October 2025	The Autumn Kargil Festival celebrates the season's transformation, as the landscape bursts into vibrant colors. It's an ideal time for tourists to explore the valleys and enjoy outdoor activities in the pleasant weather.
49.	Padum Skurim	Padum	19th-20th October 2025	Padum Skurim is a religious festival involving the Drukpa and Gelug Buddhist orders. Monks from Bardan, Stagrimo, and Karsha monasteries participate, culminating with the offering of a sacramental cake to ward off malignant forces. It coincides with the revival of the Zangla Skurim festival by the youth of Zangla village.
50.	Diskit Gustor	Diskit Monastery, Nubra	19th-20th October 2025	DiskitGustor is the annual festival of Diskit Monastery in Nubra Valley, known for its towering Maitreya Buddha statue. Affiliated with the Gelug lineage, the festival takes place on the 28th and 29th of the ninth Tibetan month, featuring the traditional Cham dance performed by the resident monks.
51.	UT Ladakh Foundation Day	Leh/ Kargil	31st October 2025	UT Foundation Day marks the establishment of Ladakh as a Union Territory on October 31, 2019, following the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act.
52.	Zangla Skurim	Padum	8th-9th November 2025	Zangla Skurim is a religious festival that concludes with the offering of a sacramental cake. Zangla, located near Padum, celebrates this festival on the 18th and 19th days of the ninth Tibetan month.
53.	Thiksey Gustor	Thiksey Monastery	8th-9th November 2025	ThikseyGustor, celebrated on the 18th and 19th of the ninth Tibetan month at the Thiksey Monastery near Leh, features the Cham dance, effigy dispelling rituals, and the Black Hat dance, all set against the backdrop of the 'Mini Potala.' This festival is a profound display of the Gelugpa order's rich traditions.
54.	Chemrey Wangchok	Chemrey Monastery	17th-18th November 2025	ChemreyWangchok is a festival celebrated annually at the historic Chemrey Monastery in the Chemrey Villagewhere the monastery once stood as a royal fortress.It is observed on the 28th and 29th of the ninth Tibetan month. Featuring mask dances and spiritual offerings.
55.	Celebration of International Mountain Day	Suru Valley/ Padum	11th December 2025	International Mountain Day is observed on December 11 to raise awareness about the importance of mountains for biodiversity, ecosystems, and the environment.
56.	Galdan Namchot	Across Ladakh	14th December 2025	GaldanNamchot, the 'festival of lights' in Ladakh, is observed on the 25th of the tenth Tibetan month to honor Je Tsongkhapa, founder of the Gelug order. Monasteries and homes glow with butter lamps and candles, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and heralding the New Year celebrations.

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57.	Losar	Leh / Zanskar	20th December 2025	Losar, the Ladakhi New Year, is a deeply cherished festival, traditionally it is a 15-day new year celebration according to the Tibetan lunar calendar. The Buddhist community in Ladakh observes this time with special fervour, particularly during the first three days, which are filled with prayers to the Three Jewels—Buddha, Dharma, Sangha—at various religious sites. These days are also a time for joyful gatherings and visits among friends and family, celebrating the start of the 11th month in the Tibetan calendar.
58.	Losar	Wakha / Mulbekh	26th December 2025	The Losar Festival is the Ladakhi New Year, celebrated over a week throughout Ladakh. It marks the start of the Tibetan Lunar calendar and is a time for promoting and preserving traditional culture.
59.	Chadar Trek	Zanskar River	January 2026	The Chadar Trek or Zanskar Gorge is the famous winter trail in Ladakh, traditionally the only means of travel in the area during winter. It has gained popularity as an adventure tourism destination.
60.	Mamani (Ethnic Food Festival)	Kargil	20th January 2026	Mamani is an ethnic food festival observed in January, signaling the end of winter. Families prepare traditional cuisines and serve them to villagers, with offerings also made to ancestors.
61.	Winter Carnival Festival	Zanskar/ Drass	22nd-28th January 2026 / 21st -28th February 2026	The Winter Carnival is a week-long festival organized by the Tourism Department to promote tourism. It features a multi-cultural program, ethnic food festival, and sports events like snow skiing and ice hockey.
62.	Celebration of National Tourism Day	Leh & Kargil	25th January 2026	Celebrated on January 25, National Tourism Day focuses on the importance of tourism and its impact on society. It highlights tourism's social, political, financial, and cultural significance and value globally.
63.	Ladakh Ice Climbing Festival	Leh	1st-2nd February 2026	The Ladakh Ice Climbing Festival showcases the region's potential as a premier destination for ice climbing and winter adventure sports. The festival promotes sustainable tourism and economic development while preserving local traditions.
64.	Ladakh Winter Snow Leopard Festival	Hemis National Park, Rumbak	11th-13th February 2026	With the highest number of snow leopards in India, Ladakh hosts the Winter Snow Leopard Festival to celebrate and raise awareness about this endangered species. The festival also aims to promote eco-tourism and wildlife conservation.
65.	Travel Trade Show	Delhi/ Mumbai/ Gujarat	February 2026	The event is organized during travel tradeshows such as TTF and OTM in cities like Delhi, Mumbai, and Gujarat to promote tourism in UT Ladakh.
66.	Local Archery Festival	Zanskar	3rd-6th March 2026	The Local Archery Festival aims to revive traditional archery practices in Zanskar, which have declined with the introduction of modern equipment. The festival encourages the use of traditional bamboo arrow shafts and bows.
67.	Brown Bear Day	Kargil	23rd March 2026	This day is observed to raise awareness about the endangered Himalayan brown bear in Ladakh, promoting coexistence and habitat preservation to reduce conflicts



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