



BESPOKE  
RALLIES

# HIMALAYA *Adventure*

EPIC HIMALAYA & HEART OF INDIA RALLY



A JOURNEY THROUGH TIMELESS CULTURE,  
WILD LANDSCAPES & LEGENDARY ROADS

30TH SEPTEMBER - 31ST OCTOBER 2027 | 32 DAY CLASSIC CAR TOURING RALLY







# HIMALAYA *Adventure*

FROM COLONIAL GRANDEUR TO HIMALAYAN HORIZONS, SACRED VALLEYS TO JUNGLE WILDERNESS, THIS EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY TRACES A REMARKABLE ROUTE ACROSS INDIA, BHUTAN, AND NEPAL. OVER 30 UNFORGETTABLE DAYS, YOU'LL TRAVEL THROUGH CULTURES, LANDSCAPES, AND HISTORIES THAT SHIFT DRAMATICALLY WITH EVERY MILE—YET CONNECT THROUGH A SHARED SPIRIT OF COLOUR, WARMTH, AND TIMELESS TRADITION.

This is not simply a journey from point to point, but a grand overland passage across cultures, climates, and centuries. From the colonial avenues of Kolkata to the silent monasteries of Bhutan, from Nepal's sacred valleys to India's tiger forests and Himalayan foothills, each day unfolds as a distinct chapter. The roads themselves are the experience — fast plains, twisting mountain ascents, forest corridors, and remote borderlands — each chosen for drama, beauty, and rhythm.



# Our Itinerary

Day	Date	Town from/to	To	Kms	Notes	Hotels
1	Sept 30	Kolkatta	Kolkatta		Arrive	Oberoi Grand
2	Oct 1	Kolkatta	Kolkatta	0	Collect Cars	Oberoi Grand
3	Oct 2	Kolkatta	Kolkatta	0	Sightseeing	Oberoi Grand
4	Oct 3	Kolkatta	Malda	335		MB Grand
5	Oct 4	Malda	Siliguri	232		Marriott
6	Oct 5	Siliguri	Darjeeling	70		Mayfair
7	Oct 6	Darjeeling	Rest Day	0	Tea/Railway	Mayfair
8	Oct 7	Darjeeling	Phuntsholing	231	Bhutan Border	Druk
9	Oct 8	Phuntsholing	Paro	142		Taj Paro
10	Oct 9	Paro	Rest Day	0	Eagles Nest	Taj Paro
11	Oct 10	Paro	Thimphu	50		Taj Selection
12	Oct 11	Thimphu	Rest Day	0	Thimphu Festiva	Taj Selection
13	Oct 12	Thimphu	Punakha	73		Lobess Boutique Hotel
14	Oct 13	Punakha	Trongsa	134		Willing Resort
15	Oct 14	Trongsa	Rest Day	0	Trongsa Dzong	Willing Resort
16	Oct 15	Trongsa	Gelephu	186	India Border	TBA
17	Oct 16	Gelephu	Siliguri	315		Marriott
18	Oct 17	Siliguri	Itahari	122	Nepal Border	Soaltee
19	Oct 18	Itahari	Kathmandu	354		Soaltee/Terraces
20	Oct 19	Kathmandu	Rest Day	0		Soaltee/Terraces
21	Oct 20	Kathmandu	Rest Day	0		Soatee/Terraces
22	Oct 21	Kathmandu	Pokhara	200		Fishtail Lodge
23	Oct 22	Pokhara	Lumbini	203	Birthplace of Buddha	TBA
24	Oct 23	Lumbini	Royal Bardia	277		Tiger Top
25	Oct 24	Royal Bardia	Rest Day	0	Safari Day	Tiger Top
26	Oct 25	Bardia	Nainital	286	India Border	Nani Retreat
27	Oct 26	Nainital	Jim Corbett NP	141		Jim Jungle Retreat
28	Oct 27	Jim Corbett NP	Rest Day	0	Safari Day	Jim Jungle Retreat
29	Oct 28	Jim Corbett NP	Rishikesh	215		Ananda
30	Oct 29	Rishikesh	Rest Day	0	The Beatles	Ananda
31	Oct 30	Rishikesh	Delhi	246		Imperial
32	Oct 31	Delhi	Rest Day	0		Imperial
33	Nov 1	Depart/Agra				





## DAY 1 — ARRIVAL IN KOLKATA

Overnight: Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

Arrive into Kolkata, once the capital of British India and still one of the subcontinent's most characterful cities. A private transfer delivers you to the Oberoi Grand, a grande dame hotel whose colonnades and chandeliers echo a bygone era. The day is intentionally unstructured, allowing guests to recover from long-haul travel and ease gently into the journey.

### Things to Do:

- Unwind with a spa treatment or swim beneath the hotel's colonial arches
- Optional evening heritage walk through Dalhousie Square
- Private dining or rooftop cocktails overlooking the city lights

**Drive Character:** Airport transfer only — a soft landing before the adventure begins

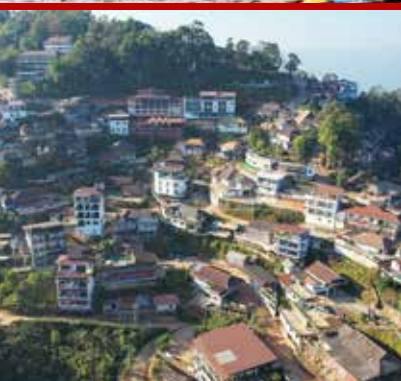
## DAY 2 & 3 — KOLKATA | VEHICLE COLLECTION/SIGHTSEEING

Overnight: Oberoi Grand, Kolkata

The journey formally begins today. Vehicles are unveiled and handed over, documentation is completed, and a detailed route and safety briefing sets the tone for the days ahead. A short orientation drive through Kolkata introduces local driving patterns — vibrant, energetic, and uniquely Indian.

### Things to Do:

- Visit Victoria Memorial and its gardens
- Explore Park Street and New Market
- Welcome dinner celebrating the start of the expedition



#### DAY 4 – KOLKATA to MALDA

Distance: 335 km | Drive Time: ~6 hours

Overnight: MB Grand, Malda

Leaving the metropolis behind, the road stretches north into the vast agricultural heartland of West Bengal. Smooth highways carry you through a constantly shifting tableau of villages, temples, rivers, and fields of rice and jute. Life unfolds at the roadside — markets, cattle carts, roadside chai stalls — offering a deeply immersive introduction to rural India.

#### Things to Do:

- Lunch stop en route near Baharampur
- Evening stroll through Malda's old town

**Drive Character:** Fast, flat highways with expansive horizons and cultural immersion

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#### DAY 5 – MALDA to SILIGURI

Distance: 232 km | Drive Time: ~4.5 hours

Overnight: Marriott, Siliguri

Today the land begins to rise almost imperceptibly. The air cools, greenery deepens, and tea estates begin to appear as you approach the Himalayan foothills. Siliguri sits at a strategic crossroads — the narrow corridor linking mainland India to the northeast.

#### Things to Do:

- Relax at the hotel after the drive
- Optional visit to local markets or tea lounges

**Drive Character:** Flowing highways with a growing sense of anticipation

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#### DAY 6 – SILIGURI to DARJEELING

Distance: 70 km | Drive Time: ~2.5 hours

Overnight: Mayfair Darjeeling

A short distance, but one of the most evocative drives of the journey. The road coils skyward through emerald tea gardens and mist-draped forests, climbing steadily via Kurseong. Hairpin bends reveal sweeping valley views, while toy trains occasionally appear alongside the road.

#### Things to Do:

- Afternoon tea overlooking the hills
- Stroll along Mall Road

**Drive Character:** Technical mountain ascent with tight bends and dramatic views

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#### DAY 7 – DARJEELING | TEA PLANTATIONS

Overnight: Mayfair Darjeeling

A day to slow the pace and absorb Darjeeling's genteel charm. Visit a historic tea plantation



to walk among the bushes, learn the art of production, and sample some of the world's finest teas.

**Things to Do:**

- Tea estate visit and tasting
- Optional sunrise at Tiger Hill
- Ride the Himalayan Railway

**Drive Character:** Short scenic local drives

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**DAY 8 – DARJEELING to PHUNTSHOLING (BHUTAN)**

**Distance: 231 km |**

**Drive Time: ~5.5 hours + border**

**Overnight: Hotel Druk, Phuntsholing**

The road descends dramatically from cool Himalayan air to subtropical plains. Lush forests give way to wide rivers and bustling border towns before the formal crossing into Bhutan. Almost immediately, the pace slows and order replaces chaos — Bhutan announces itself quietly but unmistakably.

**Things to Do:**

- Bhutan border formalities and welcome
- Evening walk through Phuntsholing

**Drive Character:** Long descent, mixed terrain, cultural transition

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**DAY 9 – PHUNTSHOLING to PARO**

**Distance: 142 km | Drive Time: ~4.5 hours**

**Overnight: Taj Paro**

Arguably one of the most beautiful driving days of the expedition. Immaculate roads trace turquoise rivers through pine forests and deep valleys. Prayer flags flutter overhead, traffic is sparse, and the drive feels meditative.

**Things to Do:**

- Visit Paro Dzong
- Evening at leisure at the Taj Paro

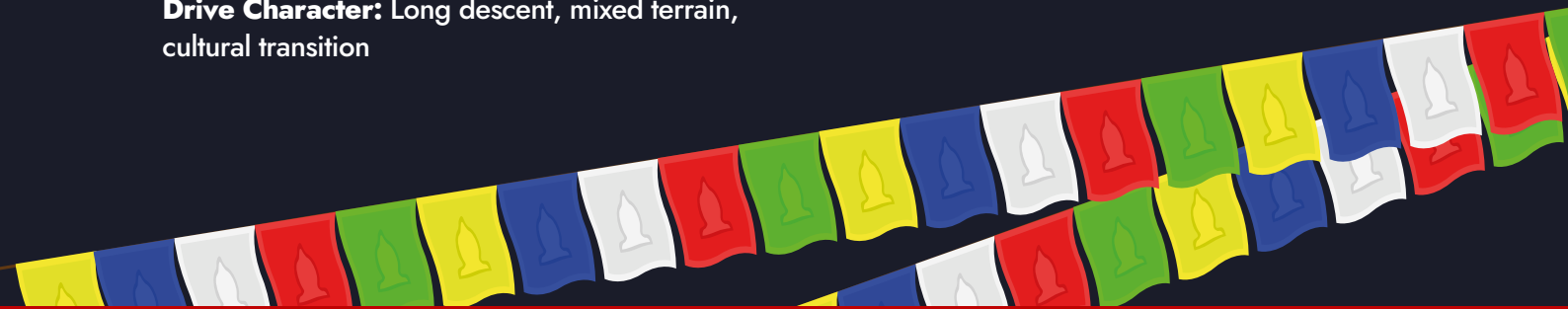
**Drive Character:** Flowing mountain roads, serene and unhurried

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**DAY 10 – PARO | EAGLES NEST/ REST DAY**

**Overnight: Taj Paro**

A flexible day for exploration and acclimatisation. Guests may tackle the legendary hike to Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) Monastery, clinging impossibly to a cliff face, or opt for a high-altitude drive to Chele La Pass for panoramic Himalayan views.



### DAY 11 – PARO to THIMPHU

Distance: 50 km | Drive Time: ~1.5 hours

Overnight: Taj Selection, Thimphu

Following the Paro Chhu River, the road gently leads to Thimphu — a capital city unlike any other, where traffic lights are absent and tradition remains central to daily life.

#### Things to Do:

- Buddha Dordenma statue
- Thimphu Dzong
- Handicraft markets

**Drive Character:** Relaxed valley driving

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### DAY 12 – THIMPHU | REST DAY

Overnight: Taj Selection, Thimphu

Experience the incredible Thimphu Festival

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### DAY 13 – THIMPHU to PUNAKHA

Distance: 73 km | Drive Time: ~2.5 hours

Overnight: Lobess Boutique Hotel

The drive climbs steadily to Dochula Pass, often crowned with snow and offering sweeping Himalayan views, before descending into the warmer, subtropical Punakha Valley where rivers converge beneath a magnificent dzong.

**Drive Character:** High mountain pass, shifting climates

### DAY 14 – PUNAKHA to TRONGSA

Distance: 134 km | Drive Time: ~6 hours

Overnight: Willing Resort

A true driver's day. The road winds through deep gorges, dense forests, and remote ridgelines. Narrow sections and dramatic drops demand focus, but reward with extraordinary scenery and a sense of true remoteness.

**Drive Character:** Technical, demanding mountain driving

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### DAY 15 – TRONGSA | REST DAY

Overnight: Willing Resort

A pause to explore Trongsa Dzong — once the seat of Bhutanese power — and to absorb the quiet of central Bhutan.

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### DAY 16 – TRONGSA to GELEPHU

Distance: 186 km | Drive Time: ~3 hours

Overnight: Hotel TBA

The road drops rapidly from alpine heights into Bhutan's southern plains. Forests thicken, temperatures rise, and the landscape transforms dramatically over just a few hours.

**Drive Character:** Long downhill stretches, warmer climate



**DAY 17 – GELEPHU to SILIGURI**

**Distance: 315 km | Drive Time: ~5.5 hours + border**

Overnight: Marriott, Siliguri

Cross back into India and return to the bustling gateway of Siliguri. A day of contrasts as Bhutan's serenity gives way to India's vibrant energy.

**Drive Character:** Border crossing, mixed highway conditions

**DAY 18 – SILIGURI to ITAHARI (NEPAL)**

**Distance: 122 km | Drive Time: ~4 hours + border**

Overnight: Soaltee, Itahari

Enter Nepal and travel across the fertile Terai plains, passing farms, villages, and slow-moving local traffic.

**Drive Character:** Flat rural roads

**DAY 19 – ITAHARI to KATHMANDU**

**Distance: 354 km | Drive Time: ~8 hours**

Overnight: Soaltee / The Terraces, Kathmandu

A long, adventurous ascent into the heart of Nepal. The road hugs river valleys before

climbing relentlessly toward the Kathmandu Valley, offering a true sense of achievement on arrival.

**Drive Character:** Long day, continuous climb

**DAY 20 & 21 – KATHMANDU | REST DAYS**

Overnight: Soaltee / The Terraces

Two days to explore Nepal's cultural capital and visit Everest Base Camp

**Things to Do:**

- Durbar Square
- Boudhanath Stupa
- Patan old town

**DAY 22 – KATHMANDU to POKHARA**

**Distance: 200 km | Drive Time: ~6 hours**

Overnight: Fishtail Lodge

Follow rivers west through valleys and gorges, with the Annapurna range gradually emerging on the horizon. Pokhara offers a tranquil lakeside setting beneath towering peaks.

**Drive Character:** Scenic valley roads



**DAY 23 – POKHARA to LUMBINI**

**Distance: 203 km | Drive Time: ~6 hours**

Overnight: Hotel TBA

Descend from the mountains into the plains, arriving at one of Buddhism's most sacred sites.

**Drive Character:** Gradual descent to flat terrain

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**DAY 24 – LUMBINI to ROYAL BARDIA**

**Distance: 277 km | Drive Time: ~6.5 hours**

Overnight: Tiger Tops

Travel west through rural Nepal toward the jungles of Bardia, where wildlife replaces mountain scenery.

**Drive Character:** Long rural drive

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**DAY 25 – ROYAL BARDIA | SAFARI DAY**

Overnight: Tiger Tops

A full day immersed in the wilderness, tracking tigers, elephants, and rhinos by jeep and on foot.

**DAY 26 – BARDIA to NAINITAL (INDIA)**

**Distance: 286 km | Drive Time: ~7.5 hours + border**

Overnight: Nani Retreat

Cross back into India before climbing once more into the Kumaon hills. The cool mountain air and lake views of Nainital provide a welcome contrast after the plains.

**Drive Character:** Border crossing followed by sustained mountain ascent

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**DAY 27 – NAINITAL to JIM CORBETT NATIONAL PARK**

**Distance: 141 km | Drive Time: ~2.5 hours**

Overnight: Jim Jungle Retreat

A relaxed drive through forested foothills toward India's oldest national park.

**Drive Character:** Gentle descent through forest roads

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**DAY 28 – JIM CORBETT NP | REST DAY**

Overnight: Jim Jungle Retreat

Optional safari or leisure day surrounded by sal forests and riverbeds.



**DAY 29 – JIM CORBETT NP to RISHIKESH**

**Distance: 215 km | Drive Time: ~6 hours**  
Overnight: Ananda, Rishikesh

Follow the foothills south as the Ganges emerges from the mountains. Spiritual energy builds as you approach Rishikesh.

**Drive Character:** Rolling roads and river valleys

**DAY 30 – RISHIKESH | THE BEATLES ASHRAM**

Overnight: Ananda

Visit the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi Ashram where The Beatles once stayed. The remainder of the day is dedicated to yoga, wellness, and reflection.

**DAY 31 – RISHIKESH to DELHI**

**Distance: 246 km | Drive Time: ~5 hours**  
Overnight: The Imperial, Delhi

A final drive on fast highways delivers you back to the capital, marking the conclusion of an extraordinary trans-Himalayan journey.

**Drive Character:** Fast expressways

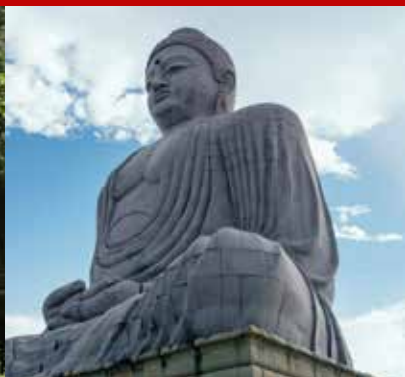
**DAY 32 – DELHI | REST DAY**

Overnight: The Imperial

Time at leisure for sightseeing, shopping, or private experiences.

**DAY 33 – DEPARTURE / OPTIONAL AGRA EXTENSION**

Private transfer to the airport or optional drive to Agra for a Taj Mahal extension — a fitting finale to an unforgettable adventure.





## WHAT'S INCLUDED

### ACCOMMODATION

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Each night you will have a luxury hotel room with en-suite. Breakfast is included each day, so are most of the evening meals. On rest days you have the chance to choose your own restaurant.

### BACK UP

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We aim to keep man and machine together so provide mechanical back-up

### VEHICLES

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We suggest you take a well prepared classic car on this tour. All roads have been recced and the route is completely open. The entire route is on tarmac.

### CLIMATE

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We are going at one of the best times of the year when the summer heat has died down providing a much more pleasant environment. Evenings are still warm, allowing

us to eat outside on many occasions. During the day there is usually a coastal breeze making open top driving a pleasure.

### HOW TO ENTER

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Contact us to discuss an entry or simply fill out an entry form which is available from our website. Strictly limited to 20 places. Please see full T&Cs including cancellation and refund policies on our website. <https://bespokerallies.com/terms-and-conditions/>

Call us to reserve your place  
Phone +44 (0)1483 271699



Correct at the time of going to print.

