

CHARDHAM BY HELICOPTER: 5N/6D Heli-Tour

Dehradun - Yamunotri - Gangotri - Kedarnath - Badrinath

Warm greetings from STPL!

Flying with expertise, care & love since 1998, we take immense pride in saying that we have touched the hearts of thousands of pilgrims by our hospitality & helicopter services since the past two decades. And after years of dedicated services, we are touted as **India's leading helicopter company in pilgrimage tourism.**

The Chardham yatra - Comprising four abodes: Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath & Badrinath, is certainly an extensive pilgrimage but needless to say, it's worth it. For both your soul and eyes.

Understanding the importance of this yatra, we offer a specially curated, safe and mesmerising Heli-Tour. With us - Your itinerary, safety and privacy are all sorted out.

OUR PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

- Helicopter flying from Dehradun to the Chardham shrines, & back.
- **Accommodation @ Dehradun on the Arrival Day**, just to unwind & get ready for your Chardham Yatra. Only Dinner & breakfast included on the first night.
- Accommodation for 5 nights: Accommodation at Dehradun on MAP Basis, and 01 night at each Dham with all meals included.
Vegetarian Jain food is available at the hotels.
- Local Sight Seeing with Heli Company guides at all four destinations.
- VIP Darshans.
- Airport & hotel transfers at Dehradun.
- Palki or Pony at Yamunotri - subject to availability.
- Shri Kedarnath ji helicopter shuttle services: *Sersi - Kedar - Sersi.*
- Local transportation at all the Dhams.
- Taxes & other government levy.

In short - We have included every little detail, comfort & charge that you will encounter on your Chardham yatra. Therefore, by taking a one-time wholesome charge, you enrol yourself on this journey of a lifetime.

ADD-ON SERVICES:

Our team can arrange any extra inclusion that you may want on your tour, such as:

Air tickets, Haridwar or Rishikesh visit, hotel bookings for extra night halt, Special pujas, etc.

CONFIRMATION AGAINST THE ADD-ON SERVICES MUST BE GIVEN IN ADVANCE.

TOUR GUIDELINES:

- **VIP Darshans are subject to the orders issued by the temple authorities and State government.**
- In view of our helicopters' weight-carrying capacity, **Heli Company reserves the right to shuffle passengers between helicopters to manage the right weight for safe flying in the hills.** Therefore, passengers travelling together may not be accommodated in the same helicopter flight.
- **FIXED FLIGHT TIMINGS:** This is a **Daily Fixed Departure Helicopter tour**, and departure timings of each destination is fixed. Therefore, passengers must ensure they report as per the scheduled ETDs. However, Heli Company reserves the right to change/postpone the timings of flying one day prior, subject to weather/force majeure reasons.
- Passengers must **submit their correct weights at the time of booking.** Submitting incorrect weights may lead to passengers being debarred from boarding without any refunds..

- **BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE:**

Only one baggage weighing a maximum of 5 kgs is allowed per passenger. It is not permitted to carry suitcases or big travel bags in the helicopter; therefore, duffle bags will be provided by our team to all passengers on the day of arrival. The 5 kg baggage limit must be maintained throughout the journey, and luggage weight would be checked at all the Dhams. In case of excess baggage weight, a penalty of INR 500 per kg will be applied, and baggage will only be loaded subject to the aircraft's weight carrying capacity.

If the excess baggage exceeds permissible limits, it will be offloaded and not transported further.

Passengers are advised to pack thoughtfully to avoid any inconvenience.

- **Kedarnath shuttle service:** Passengers will be ferried to Kedarnath ji in a shuttle services flight. And it is likely that passengers travelling together may not be accommodated on the same flight.

- Any sudden increase in taxes/levy by the State Government or the temple authorities, will be borne by the passengers.
- If online yatra registration will be compulsory, then passengers will have to do the same on their own prior to travel. In cases where the booking is made through a travel agency, the agency will be responsible for completing the online registration on behalf of the passengers.
- Comfortable clothing such as tracksuits or Kurtas are advised on the tour. As for shoes, one should carry sports or trekking shoes.
- Heli Company has its own crew at all the Dhams. For assistance, they will be with the passengers always.
- Infants below 2 years (Max 12 kg weight) are accommodated free of charge. For verification of age the child, ID proof/birth certificate of the child will be checked.
- In case an infant is on board, the weight of the infant will reduce the total permissible weight of that respective group.
- Any donations, tips, pitthu, extra porter charges shall be borne by the passengers.
- Airport transfer shall be provided on the arrival day or maximum one day prior to the arrival day, and the same would be applicable for the drop at Dehradun Airport. Only 01 transfer would be provided for each side. It could be Airport to hotel or Hotel to Hotel transfer.
- Network connectivity at Harsil & Badrinath is very poor. BSNL, Airtel & Jio are the main telecom services, that work in these regions mostly.
- **TEMPLE TIMINGS:** The opening and closing timings of the Dhams often change every season. Our team carefully plans and schedules the flights for each group in accordance with the temple timings to ensure a smooth and well-coordinated pilgrimage experience.
- All temples in Chardham sector are located at a high altitude, therefore passengers are advised to **carry medication after consulting their doctor before travelling**. Also, they are advised to carry warm clothing with them, because during evenings & nights, the temperature can drop drastically.
- For the senior citizens and people with medical issues are hereby advised to kindly consult a doctor and get medical check-up done before commencing the yatra. Medical check-up is mainly required if a passenger has any medical ailment.

CHARDHAM ITINERARY

DAY 01: DEHRADUN

- Day 01: This is the reporting day at Dehradun, which is our main base (starting & ending point) for the Heli-tour.
- Heli Company arranges this extra night halt for the passengers, which is inclusive of dinner and breakfast, to wind down and be fully ready for the journey ahead.
- Passengers will be picked up from Dehradun Airport/railway station/bus stand according to their arrival timings.
- In the evening, there will be a **Tour Briefing (mandatory to attend) by our Dehradun team**, which will be conducted at **around 1900 Hrs**. Duffel bags will be provided during the tour briefing, in which necessary luggage will have to be packed by the passengers – Maximum 5 kg/person will be permitted.
Please note: Our staff will be taking the body weight of each pilgrim during the tour briefing; hence kindly ensure you attend the same.

DAY 02: YAMUNOTRI DHAM

Sahastradhara to Yamunotri

0630 Hrs	Check out from Dehradun hotel
0730 Hrs	ETD from Sahastradhara Helidrome
0800 Hrs	ETA at Kharsali Helipad

- This is the starting day of the Chardham yatra. Passengers will check-out from the hotel at 06:30 am, after an early morning breakfast. They will be picked-up from the Hotel by our team & taken to Sahastradhara Helidrome.
- **Heli Company has its own Heli-base in Kharsali**, where our ground staff would welcome the passengers. The staff will then get the passengers settled in the hotel, which is at a walking distance from the helipad.
- After reaching the hotel, the passengers will be taken for darshan as soon as possible, to avoid the yatra rush.
- **Approximate time taken for Yamunotri Temple Darshan:** Approximately 05hrs 30mins (round-trip). Yamunotri trek is 06 km one-way.
- **Sightseeing at Kharsali:** Hot Spring at Yamunotri Temple, Yamuna Mata Temple, and Shani Temple.

Please Note: Since, Kharsali village is the least developed destination among the Chardhams. Hotel accommodation will be basic.

DAY 03: GANGOTRI DHAM

Yamunotri to Gangotri

0800 Hrs	ETD from Kharsali HeliPad
0830 Hrs	ETA at Harsil/Jhalla HeliPad

- After breakfast, passengers will check-out by 0730 hrs.
- Arrival at Jhalla helipad will at 0830 Hrs.
- **Jhalla – Heli Company's second own Heli-base** in the Chardham sector. After landing at Jhalla, passengers will be taken to Harsil village & checked-in the hotel.
- **Harsil** – The second destination of our tour, also known for the abundant apple orchards there, is the most scenic and beautiful destination of this tour.
- Passengers will be taken for Gangotri Dham darshan before or after lunch – Depending on rush.
- **Approximate Time taken for Gangotri Temple Darshan:** 3hrs 30 mins (round-trip). The road distance to Gangotri temple is approx. 25 km, which is roughly a 50-minute drive.
- **Sightseeing at Harsil:** Bagodi Village / Ancient Laxmi Narayan Temple in Harsil. Other than this, Harsil also has many nearby nature-walks to explore.

DAY 04: KEDARNATH DHAM

Gangotri to Sersi

0830 Hrs	ETD from Harsil/Jhalla HeliPad
0900 Hrs	ETA at Sersi Heli-Base

- After breakfast, passengers will check-out by 0730 hrs.
- Arrival at Sersi Heli-base will be at 0900 Hrs.
- **Sersi – Heli Company's third, and the oldest, own Heli-base** in the Chardham sector. We operate the shuttle services for Kedarnath ji shrine from here.
- **Passengers will be ferried to Kedarnath Dham for darshan in a shuttle services flight.**
- **Approximate time taken for Kedarnath Temple Darshan:** 02 hours. The shuttle services flight Sersi to Kedarnath is apporx. 07 minutes long.
- Passengers might be ferried in different shuttle services flights, in view of the maximum weight carrying capacity of the aircraft at a high-altitude destination such as Kedarnath.
- **Sightseeing at Sersi:** Triyuginarayan Temple – It is the venue of the celestial marriage of Lord Shiva & Goddess Parvati. **(Subject to weather and road traffic conditions).**

DAY 05: BADRINATH DHAM

Sersi to Badrinath

0600 Hrs	ETD from Sersi Heli-Base
0630 Hrs	ETA at Badrinath Helipad

- Passengers will check-out by 0500/0530 Hrs.
- Arrival at Badrinath will be 0630 hrs.
- Passeneger will first check-in to the hotel and have breakfast. Darshan and sight-seeing will be done after breakfast or lunch – Depending on rush.
- **Approximate time taken for Badrinath Temple Darshan:** Approx. 01-1.5 Hrs. Passengers will be taken from hotel to the temple by car.
- **Sightseeing at Badrinath:** Mana Village – Known as the 'First village of India', due to its proximity to the China border.
- Aarti / special pooja at Badrinath Temple – Swaran/Chandi Aarti (on an additional direct payment basis at Badrinath), with extra vehicle charges.**

DAY 06: RETURN TO DEHRADUN

Badrinath to Sahastradhara

0630 Hrs	ETD from Badrinath Helipad
0730 Hrs	ETA at Sahastradhara Helidrome

- Passengers will check-out by 0530/0545 Hrs.
- On arrival, our team will receive the passengers.
- Then passengers will be taken to the Dehradun hotel to collect their luggage from cloak rooms, and then have breakfast.
- Later they'll be dropped at the airport/railway station, where we bid farewell to the passengers.

This is the end of the Chardham yatra.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- **COVID TRAVEL GUIDELINES**

COVID protocols must be adhered to by the passengers as per the effective mandate of the government. Without adhering to the government guidelines, boarding shall be denied to the passengers without a refund.

- **SEATING CAPACITY**

The seating capacity of our helicopter is 06 passengers.

- **HELICOPTER WEIGHT LIMITATION**

The maximum weight capacity of the helicopter is **450 kg** (excluding baggage weight). Passengers are taken on board depending on the load and temperature conditions, and the pilot's call will be final. Hence, passengers are required to provide us with their exact body weights at the time of booking.

Exceedance of helicopter weight carrying capacity will result in passengers getting deboarded and cancelled for the Heli-tour without any refund.

- **OVERWEIGHT CHARGES**

Overweight charges are applicable @ INR 2,500/kg. This will be chargeable to passengers weighing above 75 kg. But excess weight will only be calculated on the total excess weight above the total permissible weight of all the group members combined, i.e., permissible weight = 75 Kg x (No. of pax).

PENALTY ON SUBMISSION OF INCORRECT WEIGHT

If a discrepancy is found in a passenger's declared weight at the time of weighing, a penalty of INR 20,000 will be imposed, along with overweight charges as per the overweight criteria. Passengers will be accepted onboard, subject to the aircraft's permissible weight carrying capacity.

Passengers are strictly advised to provide accurate weight details to avoid this penalty.

Please Note: While submitting the body weights, please keep in view that you submit your final weight on the higher side, after adding extra weight of your clothes and shoes.

- **ARRIVAL DATE**

Our Chardham 5N/6D **Heli-tours are booked flying-date-wise (Day 2 of the tour)**. Passengers must **report to Dehradun one day prior to the flying date**.

- **BAD WEATHER & FORCE MAJEURE DISCLAIMER**

Flying in hills is subject to bad weather, and many Force Majeure factors like delayed Air Traffic Clearances/Permissions, VVIP movements, valley flying by Indian Air Force (NOTAM), sudden occurrence of technical snag in aircraft, illness of flying crew or late reporting of the passengers at the helipads, among others.

Therefore, passengers must be prepared to face any eventuality and inconvenience in case of such scenarios.

- **AADHAR Card** copies are to be shared by all Indian passengers, & passports in case of foreign nationals.
- **HOTELS:**
 - **DEHRADUN** : Fairfield by Marriott, or similar (MAP basis – Dinner & Breakfast).
 - **KHARSALI** : Hotel Holy Yamuna, or similar (AP basis - all meals)
 - **HARSIL** : Harsil Retreat, or similar (AP basis - all meals)
 - **SERSI** : Ghughuti Resort, or similar (AP basis - all meals)
 - **BADRINATH** : Hotel Vijay Lords, or similar (AP basis - all meals)
 - Hotels are subject to sudden change.
 - Rooms are booked on a double or triple-sharing basis only.
 - For a separate **single occupancy room**, it will be extra chargeable @ **INR 45,000/person (tax inclusive)**.
 - Hotels at all the Dhams are non-star category. However, we have carefully selected the most comfortable properties for our Heli-tours.
- We advise our passengers to **keep one additional day at hand at the end of the tour**, over & above the 5N/6D period, to avoid missing their return flights in case they get stuck at any of the destinations due to bad weather or force majeure reasons.
- **ADD-ON SERVICES**

Additional services which are not mentioned in our inclusions will be extra chargeable, and the same must be confirmed to us at the time of booking.
- **Accommodation at Kedarnath Top:** Accommodation at Kedarnath Top can be booked for the pilgrims **on extra cost**. However, Heli Company do not advise pilgrims to stay overnight at Kedarnath Top, due to high altitude sickness and lack of basic facilities such as Hot water, Heater & and medical assistance.
Price & availability - On Request
- **MEDICAL EMERGENCIES**

Heli Company will not be liable for any medical emergency on the ground to the passengers. Therefore, in your own interest, passengers are hereby advised to kindly consult a doctor and get a medical check-up done before commencing the yatra. A medical check-up is mainly required if a passenger has any medical ailment or condition.

If Medical evacuation by Helicopter is needed, it will be chargeable @ INR 1,30,000/Hr + UCADA royalty & landing charges + GST.

- **CARRIAGE BY AIR ACT, 1972**

The carriage is subject to Heli Company Services regulations relating to the conditions of Non-International Carriage (Passenger and Baggage) framed in accordance with The Carriage by Air Act, 1972 and Notification regarding the application of the carriage which is non-international. The liability of the company for damage sustained in the event of the death or wounding of a passenger or any other bodily injury suffered by the passenger or by his registered baggage during the course of carriage by air will be governed by the provisions of sections 4,5,6 and the rules contained in the Second Schedule of Carriage by Air Act 1972 with certain exceptions, adaptations, modifications, etc as notified in the Govt. of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation Notification and as amended from time to time.

- Heli Company reserves the right to cancel passengers, who are unruly, abusive, intoxicated, sick, mentally unfit or anyone else whom we deem to be unsafe to fly. No refund shall be done to such passenger(s).

- **Our Heli-Tours are not available for the following VIP's:**

- Speaker Lok Sabha
- Dy. Chairperson Rajya Sabha
- Central Ministers of Cabinet Rank
- CJ I Supreme Court
- Governors of State
- Chief Ministers of State
- State Ministers of Cabinet Rank
- SPG Protectees – Z category only.

- **RESCHEDULING OF BOOKING**

Rescheduling your booking to any future or prior travel date will be done subject to availability and on payment of 10% of the total tour cost. This will be permitted only if informed at least 28 days before the arrival date.

In case rescheduling is requested less than 28 days prior to the travel date, then the booking would be treated as cancelled, & and a fresh booking will be given subject to availability, after the levy of applicable cancellation charges.

- **PAYMENT TERMS:**

- We accept payments via bank transfers, cheques, cash, UPI and card machine.

- The booking is to be done in advance with a deposit of 50% of the total amount. Balance payment will be taken **28 days prior** to the date of arrival at Dehradun.
- Passengers will not be permitted to board or commence the tour unless full & and final payment of the tour has been made.
- Payments via credit/debit card machine will incur 3.5% extra charge.
- Payment via American Express / Foreign cards will incur 4.5% extra charge.

- **CANCELLATIONS POLICY:**

If passengers cancel their booking, the following cancellation charges will be applicable -

- More than **28 days prior** to travel date: 30% of total tour cost.
- Between 15 to **28 days prior** to travel date: 50% of total tour cost.
- 14 - 08 days prior to travel date: 75% of total tour cost.
- 07 Days or less prior to travel date: No Refund
- No show: No Refund.
- After commencement of the tour: No Refund.

- **FORCE MAJEURE & BAD WEATHER REFUNDS:**

Basis of Refund:

- Tour Cost: The refundable amount of each uncovered Dham will be as mentioned below:

- Kharsali/Yamunotri: **20%** tour cost minus INR 30,000 towards Flight preparation & service charges, and utilized services (if any).
- Jhalla/Gangotri: **20%** tour cost minus INR 30,000 towards Flight preparation & service charges, and utilized services (if any).
- Sersi/Kedarnath: **30%** tour cost minus INR 30,000 towards Flight preparation & service charges, and utilized services (if any).
- Badrinath: **30%** tour cost minus INR 30,000 towards Flight preparation & service charges, and utilized services (if any).
- Full tour cancellation: Full refund minus INR 30,000 towards flight preparation & service charges, hotel retention charges and utilized services (if any).

- Additional Services: The cost of additional services provided at any Dham during the tour will be deducted over and above the refundable Tour Cost.

- Refund against an unutilized service will not be done.

- COVID-19 Lockdowns, or any National/State Emergency:

In case passengers test COVID positive before the travel, or the Yatra gets called-off by the government, or any National or State emergency is imposed, there will be **no refunds applicable**.

However, passengers will be provided a Credit Voucher by Heli Company against the advance paid, which will be valid for one year. It can be utilised against any of our helicopter tours or charter services by the passengers or any of their friends/relatives.

- **BAD WEATHER & FORCE MAJEURE POLICIES:**

- Where bad weather, technical snags, or any force majeure reason beyond Heli Company Services' control results in the cancellation of the flight or delay, Heli Company Services will not be liable in any way for the cancelled or delayed flight. However, refund will be given to clients as per our refunds policy. Any kind of inconvenience caused because of cancellation of flights is beyond the control of the operator. No compensation or reimbursement for accommodation, transportation, meals, or any other extra travel expenses done by the passengers shall be offered in the event of cancellation of a flight.
- In case tour departure does not take place from Dehradun on Day One due to above reasons, tour will be considered as cancelled and full refund as per our policies will be made.

However, in case the passengers would like to consider taking the tour on the next available date, a fresh booking can be made for the same. Our team will propose the available options to the passengers.

The balance/unutilized amount against previous booking can be adjusted against the fresh booking. And any extra costs that would be accruing, will have to be borne by the passengers.

- In case the tour departs from Dehradun as per schedule but gets disrupted, while the tour is ongoing, our team will propose the possible revised itinerary within the scheduled package days, but without any extension of days.
- Any extension, proposed by the passengers, in the package will only be considered at an extra cost and subject to operational viability.
- In case for 05 straight days flying does not take place, full refund as per our policies will be made to the passengers.
- New Chardham passenger(s) scheduled for departure from Dehradun on any respective travel date shall be our top priority, over the back-log passenger(s) of previous days(s).
- In case of passenger get stuck at Kedarnath top due to bad weather or Force Majeure, the accommodation charges at Kedarnath will be borne by the client directly.

- **KEDARNATH BAD WEATHER DISCLAIMER:**

Bad weather stops helicopter flying at Kedarnath which is highly common in the Kedar valley. Due to this, passengers are at risk of getting stranded and spending the night at Kedarnath top.

In such conditions our team will try to arrange rooms at the guest houses available at Kedarnath top. These rooms will be booked on ad-hoc basis subject to availability, and the **accommodation charges will be borne directly by the guests.** Additionally, no refund for the pre-booked accommodation at Sersi will be applicable under such circumstances.

Also, please note that the guest houses at Kedarnath are very basic, often lacking standard amenities like hot water, clean beds, and proper hygiene. And unfortunately, due to extremely high demand of rooms, the cost of accommodation at Kedarnath tends to be unfairly high compared to the quality of services offered. Guests are advised to be prepared for such contingencies.

- Additional night halt charges will be payable by the passengers to hotels on a direct payment basis if they get stuck for additional nights due to bad weather/force majeure reasons over and above the 5N/6D period.
- If passengers require extra helicopter flying at the end of their tour, the same will be chargeable at INR **1,30,000/Hr** + UCADA royalty & landing charges + GST.
- Heli Company may not fly to Harsil/Jhalla, in case of turbulent wind conditions – which is common in the Harsil valley after 1200 Hrs.
- While the tour is ongoing, if any group demands to cancel their tour mid-way, the arrangement of transportation will be done by Heli Company, however, the cost for the same will be borne by the passengers on a direct payment basis.

- Any increase in government levies or taxes, after the confirmation of booking, will be extra chargeable to the passengers. Payment against the same will have to be done before the commencement of the tour.
- **DISPUTES**
Disputes as to the legality, interpretation, application or performance of service or any of its terms and conditions shall be governed by the laws of Delhi Jurisdiction.
- Bookings will be taken, considering there is acceptance of the above-mentioned terms & conditions by the party.

WE ASSURE YOU OF A SAFE & MEMORABLE PILGRIMAGE.