

HOW TO REACH MANALI

Himachal Pradesh, India | Best time: October to June

Manali sits high in the Kullu Valley beside the Beas River. Road travel is the most practical way to arrive because the hill town has no railway station and Bhuntar airport has limited schedules. Overnight Volvo buses from Delhi and Chandigarh are popular, while travellers flying or taking a train complete the final mountain leg by taxi. Allow extra time in winter and during monsoon roadworks.

BY AIR

Kullu-Manali Airport (Bhuntar) | 50 km | 1.5-2 hours

Transfers: Prepaid taxi, private cab or hotel transfer. Taxi: Rs 1,800-Rs 2,800.

BY TRAIN

Chandigarh Railway Station | 300 km | 8-10 hours by road

Transfers: Volvo bus or private taxi from Chandigarh

ROAD ROUTES

Delhi: 500 km, 11-13 hours. Frequent overnight Volvo buses. Route:

Delhi-Chandigarh-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kullu

Chandigarh: 270 km, 7-9 hours. Frequent HRTC and private buses. Route:

Chandigarh-Bilaspur-Mandi-Kullu

Amritsar: 400 km, 10-12 hours. Limited direct buses; change at Chandigarh. Route:

Amritsar-Jalandhar-Chandigarh-Mandi

Jaipur: 780 km, 15-17 hours. Overnight services via Delhi. Route:

Jaipur-Delhi-Chandigarh-Mandi

TRAVEL TIPS

1. Start the hill drive before sunrise to avoid Mandi and Kullu traffic.
2. Check the Chandigarh-Manali highway status after heavy rain or snowfall.
3. Carry motion-sickness medicine for the winding mountain section.
4. Pack a warm layer even in summer; evenings cool quickly.
5. Pre-book Volvo seats and winter taxis during weekends and holidays.

BEST OPTION

For most travellers, an overnight Volvo bus from Delhi or Chandigarh offers the best balance of price, comfort and door-to-town convenience.