

Passes of the Western Himalayas

Jammu and Kashmir

NAME	SIGNIFICANCE (CONNECTS)	NOTES
Mintaka Pass	Kashmir and China	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trijunction of India-China and Afghanistan border
Parpik Pass	Kashmir and China	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• East of Mintaka pass on the Indo-China border
Khunjerab Pass	Kashmir and China	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indo-China border
Aghil Pass	Ladakh region of India with the Xinjiang (Sinkiang) Province of China	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5000 m above sea level.• north of K2 Peak (the highest peak in India and the second highest peak in the world)
Banihal Pass	Jammu and Srinagar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2832 m• across the Pir-Panjal Range• remains snow covered during winter season
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The road from Jammu to Srinagar transversed Banihal Pass until 1956 when Jawahar Tunnel was constructed under the pass. The road now passes through the tunnel and the Banihal Pass is no longer used for road transport.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another 11 km long tunnel provides railway link between Banihal and Kazigund. It was thrown open to railway transport in July, 2013
Chang-La	Ladakh with Tibet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> altitude of 5360 m This has a temple dedicated to Chang-La Baba after whom the temple has been named
Khardung La	near Leh in the Ladakh range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5602 m <p>The world's highest motorable road passes through this pass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> remains closed in winter due to heavy snowfall
Lanak La	India and China (Akasai-Chin area of Jammu and Kashmir)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> this pass provides passage between Ladak and Lhasa. A road to connect Xinjiang Province with Tibet has been constructed by the Chinese
Pir-Panjal pass	across the Pir Panjal range	<p>provides the shortest and the easiest metal road between Jammu and Kashmir Valley. But this route had to be closed down as a result of partition of the subcontinent</p>
Qara Tag La	Indo-China borer across the Karakoram Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> located at an elevation of over six thousand metres
Imis La	Ladakh region of India and Tibet in China	
Pensi La	vital link between the Kashmir Valley and Kargil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> remains closed to traffic from November to mid-May due to heavy snowfall

Zoji La	important road link between Srinagar on one side and Kargil and Leh on the other side	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The road passing through this pass has been designated as the National Highway (NH-1D) Border Road Organisation (BRO) is responsible for maintaining the road and cleaning it off snow during winter. In spite of all these efforts, the road through this pass remains closed from December to mid-May
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Himachal Pradesh

Bara Lacha La	Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elevation: 4,890 m National highway connecting Mandi in Himachal Pradesh with Leh in Jammu and Kashmir passes through this pass. Being situated at high altitude, it remains snow covered in winter and is not used as a transport route.
Debsa Pass	link between Kullu and Spiti districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> elevation of 5270 m above sea level It offers a much easier and shorter alternative route to traditional Pin-Parbati Pass route between Kullu and Spiti
Rohtang Pass	road link between Kullu, Lahul and Spiti Valleys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elevation: 3979 m Border Road Organisation (BRO) is responsible for constructing and maintaining roads in this area. Rohtang pass is a great tourist attraction and <u>traffic jams</u> are very common because this route is widely used by military, public and private vehicles.

Shipki La	Himachal Pradesh and Tibet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevation: 6000 m • Remains closed in winter season (Nov – Apr)
Uttarakhand		
Lipu Lekh	trijunction of Uttarakhand (India), Tibet (China) and Nepal borders	This pass is used by pilgrims to Kailash-Mansarowar.
Mana Pass	Uttarakhand with Tibet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elevation of 5610 • Situated a little north of the holy place of Badhrinath • Remains closed in winter season (Nov – Apr)
Mangsha Dhura	Uttarakhand with Tibet	It is used by pilgrims going to Kailash-Mansarowar
Niti Pass	Uttarakhand with Tibet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remains closed in winter season (Nov – Apr)
Muling La	Uttarakhand and Tibet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • situated in the north of Gangotri • at an elevation of 5669 m in the Great Himalayas