The History & Mystery of Utttrapath

The Northern Way
28 kms from Jammu

About the cover page

Traditional Essence from the Archs of Mubarak Mandi

The mystery of Harappan, Buddhist Civilizations and Utttrapath unfold themselves creating a spine-budding ambience in the historic town of Akhnoor Raja Virat Nagra mythological monoliths, situated on the right bank of Chandra-Bhaga River, on 17th June, 1822 at JIA POTA a Ghair Mahraja Ranjit Singh administered a Unique Raj Tith to the Bawa Gulab Singh crowning him as the Raja of the region.

The Mubarak Mandi Complex, Amar Mahal, Peer Kho and Peer Peer overlooking Suryaputla Tawo River from the right bank complimented SIRORA GOLF COURSE, Mahamaya City Resort/Temple, Keshawar, Ramcharan Dhon, Bahu Fort/Carden on its left bank.
Preface

There are various sources which collectively might be perceived to constitute a suitable body of literature. The selection of the literature for this guide has been made largely on the basis of relative accessibility and interest. The places covered in this guide are within the radius of 20 Kilometers and around jamoa City so that a high comfort level for the users of this initiative promoting jamoa beyond the limited area off public transportation is maintained. A poetic description still restores the faith that it shall definitely be possible and not pedagogic that shall emerge as a deciding factor and the underlying and underpinning of dis-institutionalized tourism shall be recognized and accepted as an instrumental component for utilizing cross-border political conflicts which shall prove instrumental in sustainability of peace tourism in the longer run. It is a form of specific cultural innovations and it is that long historical journey begins. It is the legacy of civilization and still makes the strong presence felt almost all the promotional exercises and efforts of track one agencies for revitalizing tourism in politically sensitive but otherwise destinations of very high tourist potential globally. The deep muttering essence of the poetic expression, KUCH DIN TOH AWARA HOK KAY DEKHI LIYA AAYAY by baha Sethi invokes the strength of inspiration for the tourists to be a form and beneficiary of natural synergy, by exploring the places of interest mentioned in the travel guide to the optimum by adopting a simple method of LET GO and FOOTLOOSE. The tourist is another version on page 9 in this travel guide relives the cultural heritage and grandeur of the Mughal Mardan making one fact that at least the names are cut through and clearly the events that have happened at the places in the past with the same magnitude and the name, the silence of monuments that become too, AIJ in denuding. After all it is an3 a storage song from a bollywood movie affirms that JEEVAN MAIN JAANAY JAAN KI BAAR HAI HOTA PYAR. RECOMMENDATIONS, ABOUT WHERE TO STAY AND WHAT TO DO are again amplified and almost all the places mentioned in this travel guide have well-managed boarding and lodging units of JEEVAN (Jamoa Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation) in addition to Private Hotels, Guest Houses and Restaurants. In order to get the best available it is highly recommended that before finalizing the tour, one may get in touch with the officials of JK Tourism at any of the offices located in all major cities of India and at the Directorate of Tourism Jamoa at Tourist Reception Centre Srinagar Road Jammu and get the required details of Do's & Don'ts along with the various other options available in terms of accommodation, food and transportation needed. I shall be laying in every step of the way to express my appreciation to my dear Director Tourism Jamoa Mrs. Swati Sehgal (KAS) for her wise advice. She was prompt to correct and putting things in correct perspective of knowledgeable wisdom, so

that the best comes out. During the compilation of this guide I also came across the sad and worst aspects of behavior from some people both officials and non officials, which in the end restored my faith in an old saying: THAT WHAT MOST PEOPLE FIND RATIONAL GROUNDS FOR THEIR BELIEFS ARE OFTEN EXTREMELY IRRATIONAL ATTEMPTS TO JUSTIFY THEIR INSTINCTS AND EGO AS THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE ONE WHO DARES NOTHING NEEDS NO FOR NOTHING. GREAT ABILITY WITHOUT DISCRETION IS ALMOST INVARIABLY COMES TO A TRAGE. Find, I faut not the least a selective view of thesis for Jaike Shokat Sh. Mitha (KAS) Joint Director Tourism, Dr. Uzair Sh. Zaw (KAS) Assistant Director Tourism, Dr. Priyadarshani Sharma and Neeraj Gupta who assisted me in this endeavor and for all those also who just promised to do so. Meanwhile may the culture this mode of life elaborated in the below published poem to make it a companion to your EXPLORE AMAZING JAMOA PEACEFULLY TOURS.
JAMMU CITY in its own has BALIDAN STAMBH, BAGH-E-BAHU, BAHU FORT, KARISHWAR DHAM, MUBARAK MANDI, MANDA DEER PARK & WALK WAY, PEERHOO, RANBRUSHWAR TEMPLE, RAGHUNATH TEMPLE AND BAZAAR, SHRINE OF PEER RUSUAN SITRI WALL and numerous TEMPLES, SHRINES and MEMORIALS studded with folklores, standing testimony to CULTURAL HISTORY AND COMMUNAL HARMONY. ALL THIS WITHIN THE BARRIERS OF 15 Kilometers requires a minimum of 1 night 2 days stay at JAMMU also famous for ETHNIC CULINARY MARVELS, FAIRS and FESTIVALS.

BAHU FORT - BAGH-E-BAHU & KARESHWAR - RAMESHWAR DHAM

A majestic fort overlooking a well laid garden and standing guard in the region, houses a Temple of Mahakali. According to history and story tells the fort dates back to 3000 years BC and is documented to be constructed by Balbhandu the brother of Jambelachan who was amazed to see a Min and a goat drinking water at the same place and at the same time and thereby decided to establish a town called JAMMU the present day JAMMU. The view of Naya Patr Tawi and The Karishwar – Raimeshwar Dham add to the glory and positiveness in and around the fort.

BALIDAN STAMBH
A marvel of technology, dedication and vision pays a befitting tribute to the warriors of a great nation. Curved to emotional perfection, the spirits of heroes both sung and unsung read out a gentle and firm message to each and every citizen of this country that existences mere a fact, dying for the honour and pride of the country is an art. A must visit sojourn for a quality time.
The magnitude of historic grandeur and glorious cultural heritage as depicted in the harmonious symphony of the bulwark does not require any verbal translation. It can be felt in the context of MUBARAK MANDIR. At times the ruins appear to convey much better than the recast of words or structures. The view of sunrise & sunset from here compete with the best in the world. Tourist INFORMATION & BACK IN TIME.
RAGHUNATH TEMPLE AND BAZAR

The identity of Janak and its people. The Temple houses, all the Devi Devatas in the form of skaligures and is the hub of prayers and celebrations. This is where one Divine place. The adjoining Raghunath Bazar gives the city a distinct, modern and historical avatar and adds the element of cultural intrigue and visual legacy to this symphony of beauty.

PEER ROSHAN SHAH WALI, RANBIRESHWAR TEMPLE and PEER-KHO

The shrine of Peer Roshan Shah Wali on the left side and Ranbireshwar Temple on the right side of Shri Raghunath Ji Temple are almost located at the same distance of less than 1 Kilometer and have another common factor about being the shrines of the region. Historian affirm that it was by virtue of the blessing of the Peer that Earthquake could not attack Janakpur and the Sage \textsuperscript{2}Nuthat assembled at the Ranbireshwar Temple blessed the Dhangar Army as receptor Tibet. History speaks in such harmony feel of humanity can seldom be touched and felt as it is experienced here.

The footprints of Bhagwan Shiva, Rama and Krishna along with Raja Janmastami form the legend of this seven place known as PEER KO. If one wishes to reaffirm the existence of the supreme reality and have a connect with the un-materialistic form of the divine, it can be done here. Seeped in mystique truth this cave shrine is the ultimate example of meditation and perseverance beyond the sexed relics. The blend of the traditional and the contemporary is at times surreal.
Further a drive through RAMNAGAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY up to KOT KANDOLL via AMAR MAHAL, PANJ PEER and a detour to PATODI DUNTA, SURINSAI, SIDHRA GOLF COURSE and MAHA MAYA TEMPLE definitely reiterates the opinion about the values of PILGRIMAGE, LEISURE, ADVENTURE, MICE and GOLF TOURISM. To explore this corridor of natural and manmade marvels one requires another 2 nights 3 days stay at Jammu and around 150 KILOMETERS.

The Amar Mahal Palace Museum was once the residence of Raja Amar Singh. This palace made of red sandstone, designed by a French Chateau is at a great location between the Shilathik and Tawi River. The palace has magnificent throne made of gold placed in a hexagonal room. The palace now converted into the museum also has an art gallery and a heritage hotel adjacent to it. This is one of the largest palaces to visit as it is all a great picture of what the life of our ancestors was. The Rajas, Maharajahs, their historic beliefs and lifestyle can be seen at one place. This is an asset to the city of Jammu where people can have a feel of Royalty, Art and Scriptures, which depicts the glorious history.
मुरुण मनोकामना यात्रा
अहंकार चरण उन तीर्थ पर
जहा मू मू हो तरारु हुई है
लिए ग्राम सह कह कह का पल
वी नहीं अहंकार हूआ है
इस मार्ग में फल के पुत्र की
श्रेयताल सेतो
Very rarely nature comes so near to mankind the way it does enroute and at a place called BABA PAIRD. The legend is about a competition between two NAGA brothers PRINCE KAHI and PRINCE PAIRD to bring the assigned rivers to a particular place of the region, for the welfare of the people, in order to qualify to rule over that place, as aspired by their father VASUKINAG the then head of the clan. PRINCE PAIRD succeeded in diverting SURYA PUTRA TAWI towards the designated place to become the KING OF PRESENT DAY JAMMU.
A stimulating day trip or an overnight camping/homestay has the unique form of an institution around vertical of SPIRITUAL, ROMANTIC TOURISM in the setting just 23 Kilometers from JAMMU out of which 19 Kilometers are motorable and the remaining distance also has the options of a camel and a boat ride for those who do not wish to trek. The views of LEISURE, NATURE, HISTORIC, SOFT TREKKING, ADVENTURE, RIVER, MOUNTAIN AND PILGRIMAGE TOURISM come...
24 Kilometers from Janaula the enchanting lake of Surinam has in its perimeter thick mangroves, pine trees, beautiful hills and a war temple dedicated to NAKSINGHAT TAR. An island situated in the middle of this lake is home to various species of flora and fauna. As per Hindu mythology, origin of Surinam Lake dates back to the time of Mahabharat. It is said that the brave Pandava warrior Arjuna, who got killed in a battle with his own son Bhishma, was brought to life by the water of holy Manasarovar which Bahubaliyan succeeded to bring, by shooting an arrow at the present day Mansar lake. The arrow then emerged far away at this place, creating Surinam.

During the visit to this beautiful lake one can feed the turtles and the fish. This process incurs good thoughts in the minds of the people and gives them a feeling as if they are visiting the shore of the Almighty.
Amazing Peacefully
Mairay Jammu Da Slaypa

Jammu Yours !!!
Meri Aakhi Kanay Dikh !!!

FACT FILE
COORDINATES: 32.33°N 74.87°E
ELEVATION: 327 meters (1,073 feet)
DISTANCE FROM NEW DELHI: Approximately 370 miles (600 kilometers)
LANGUAGES: OFFICIAL: Urdu
SPOKEN: Dogri, Hindi, English and Punjabi
TEMPERATURE: Ranges between around 10°C in winter to around 45°C in summer barring extreme weather conditions.
MAHAMAYA, a Temple dedicated to a female warrior of the land is situated on a hill commanding a 360 degree view from the left bank of River Tawi overlooking an 18 Hole Jamma Tawi Golf Course which is more than just a game of golf in the offing, as it is still a home to some rare species of birds and plants maintaining a co-existing balance with nature and a whistle from a nearby chugging train will definitely make you sing a soulful song “GADIBULA RAHIHAI SEETIBAJA RAHIJHAL.”
Who knows you may prove Lee Trevino wrong and accomplish a 1-iron hit. A session of spiritual golf is in for the taking, normal golfing comes besides. Come stretch your horizons and do not be surprised if you come across a romantic historian golfer within you.

Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated, it satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time rewarding and maddening. It is without a doubt the greatest game mankind has ever invented.

Arnold Palmer
“SIR WILL NOT ABANDON THE TANK IT IS NOT COMPLETELY DESTROYED THE MAIN GUN IS STILL WORKING”..... Staff Sergeant Lighthouse Arun Khetarpal’s words of passion and pride echo in the surroundings to motivate the future warriors of the NATION to perform their duty without any fear or favour. Here on the left bank of Jajbant river 40 Kilmeters from Jammu in SH 44 Sector stands a memorial paying tribute to the great HERO and HIS TEAM OF GALLANT SOLDIERS, the best way could be there to get a feel of patriotism than saluting the Martwaz who gave away their today for our tomorrow.
A kilometer towards Jammu on the highway is located the shrine of Chichi Mata believed to be a place where the filles ofbagh of J&K fell. Further down about 10 kilometers at Vijaypur a back road connects Baba Shakti Gari and Baba Chanjooli both revered for unshakeable mysteries of prakruthi and faith. The Shrine of Baba Chamliyal is located on the higher road. Hence, every year during the annual melas the and known as shukar and the water known as sharbat is given to Pakistani soldiers who visit this shrine to offer U.A.A.B. The shukar and sharbat both are believed to have medicinal curing power for skin diseases and people from all walks of life and belonging to different faiths come to this Shrine to seek the blessings. The place is second to none to get the feel of border, wellness and spiritual tourism in one go. On the way back to Jammu another
Ancient Meditation Caves at Purmandal

River Devak flowing underground and Temple Complex of Purmandal.

Temple Complex at Uterheen.

Modern forms of an underground river. Ancient Temples & Meditation Caves at Purmandal-Uterheen await the tourist-travelers with many pleasant and educational surprises. The winds whisper many tales and enigmas are steeped with the doctrine of ONE BEYOND THE MANY. A round trip of about 100 odd kilometers with a night & 2 days stay at Jammu is just the tip of the iceberg. Relish it as you discover a new you and see a new light.
Next day a visit to the Shrine of Baba Buddh Shah near Jammu Airport followed by a session at Gharana. Wetland gets complimented by a nostalgic experience at the first line of defence at Suchetgarh, ROF (Border Out Post) - Octroi.

A true half in India and half in Pakistan. A Temple with ten doors & walls depicting the various yugs and the memories of a railway station of pre-independent era, definitely are amazing and peaceful. If you want to relive that era, the trains do not exist any more but horse driven tongas still ply in the area. Enjoy a ride.
The historic town of Aknoor also known as Vairi angri in mythological mentions, has many stories and facts to create a blend that takes the sustainability level of a saga beyond the boundaries of imagination. One such road to a nostalgic journey on the right bank of River Chandra-Bhaga has many historical and cultural mysteries for refreshing rendezvous and divine discovery for an lifelong impact on the minds and souls of the frequenters of this path. This mosaic of timeless grandeur mentioned in the history as THE UTTRAPATH THE NORTHERN WAY, has a connect with history, dating back to 5000 BCE and Harappan Civilization.
Last but not the least a visit to nearby enchanting marvels of Burej & Nural will bring you face to face with unmatched, astonishing confluence of sage, ancient art & history. The journey has its imprint leading to time immemorial commencing from Kameshwar Mahadev & Bhole Hans.

At Ambron, a place of wisdom and knowledge where time seems still, His Holiness The Shri Ji Jivan Ji, while his visit to the site, felt the significance and importance of the place. A relic believed to be that of Maharana Pratap and various other artifacts dating back to that era were found here during the excavation. The vast area here contains rich in legends and paradises.

A round journey of about 70 Kilometers has a connect with history and culture which requires another one night & two days stay either at Jammu or at Akhnoor. AMAZING JAMMU? DEFINITELY YES!
WELCOME MAIN JAMMU HOON!
TRIKUT PARVAT, THE ABODE OF MATA VAISHNO DEVI JI AS SEEN FROM VILLAGE AMRAN

About the author
QATRA GAR DARIYA MAIN HUJAY TO DARIYA HO JAYAHI KAAM ACCHA WOHS KA MA-ALL ACCHA HAI!
(When a drop fails in the river, it becomes the river. When a deed is done well, it becomes the future)

This couplet from a ghazal of Mirza Ghalib has great bearing on the destiny of V.K. Sehgal (TOURISM ADVISOR / JOURNALIST / TRAVEL WRITER) inspiring him to adopt the method of self-training and career counselling as a guest faculty and resource person, associated with various institutes of repute nationally along with disseminating information about lesser-known places of diverse tourism verticals among potential travelers aspiring to visit the state of Jammu & Kashmir in particular and the nation as a whole by virtue of motivational lectures/interactions.

With more than thirty years of experience in tourism, hospitality, education and journalism verticals apart, he created a social body namely Jammu Kashmir Ladakh TOURISM PROMOTION COUNCIL, with a sole refrain to bring to the notice of the people at the helm of affairs the intricacies and hindrances faced by bonafide tourism promoters. He was aimed at enhancing the scope of tourism promotional efforts initiated by travel agencies so that all three regions viz-a-vis Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh get recognized as complementsaric destinations of high esteem among varied target markets. Having written two books on lesser known places of tourism interest in J&K, he has also developed the concept along with designing of investor’s brochure for the Tourism Department of the State and further contributed to the formation of a sales package of JRTC located on the area of Mata Vaishno Devi. He is an active participant in Seminars, Workshops, Conferences and Trade Fairs and also writes columns for Newspapers and Magazines with a specific focus on Spiritual Tourism; as he strongly believes that tourism is one vertical that has more to offer than just being recognized merely as tour and travel vistas, it should be practical and practiced responsibly beyond the psycho-centric horizons, tourism is an paradigm which broadens the scope of learning and ultimately opens a roadmap to wisdom astoundingly as an old saying goes “THE ONE WHO TRAVELS MORE KNOWS MORE”.

A science graduate and a keen traveler, he impresses and makes a continuous effort to contribute towards the capacity building, skill development and entrepreneurship qualities along with overall personality enhancement of the youth, so as to hone their abilities which shall enable them to become responsible citizens of tomorrow. Graduation besides the initial education in CMS, Jalandhar, Bisoe School, Srinagar and The Saint School, Naraina still plays an instrumental guiding force for him in this journey called life in order to make a dedicated effort without any fear or favor.

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(Images and text on the page)
JAMMU TAWI
GOLF COURSE SIDHRA

Golf with Divinity!
10 kms from Jammu