

# Kashmir & Srinagar Packing List

What to pack for Srinagar's houseboats, Dal Lake mornings, and the sharp temperature swings of Gulmarg and Sonmarg — built to pair with Indroam's Kashmir itinerary templates.

## WHY KASHMIR PACKING IS DIFFERENT

Kashmir is the rare Indian destination where you genuinely need cold-weather gear, even outside winter — Srinagar's houseboats and shikara rides on Dal Lake can be chilly at dawn and dusk year-round, while Gulmarg and Sonmarg sit high enough for snow well into spring. Winters (December–February) bring sub-zero nights and heavy snowfall, while summers (April–September) are pleasant by day but still cool after sunset. Houseboats also mean limited luggage space and stairs, so packing light and smart matters more here than almost anywhere else in India.

## CLOTHING

- Thermal base layers — essential for winter, useful even in summer evenings
- Fleece or wool mid-layer for layering on houseboats and early morning shikara rides
- Heavy down jacket for winter visits or Gulmarg/Sonmarg trips at any time of year
- Light windproof jacket for summer visits, as evenings turn cool fast
- Woolen socks, gloves, and a warm hat for winter or high-altitude day trips
- Modest, full-coverage clothing for visiting shrines like Hazratbal and Shankaracharya Temple
- A scarf or stole — useful for warmth and for covering shoulders at religious sites

## FOOTWEAR & ACCESSORIES

- Waterproof, insulated snow boots if visiting Gulmarg, Sonmarg, or in winter
- Comfortable closed walking shoes for Mughal Garden walks and old-city lanes
- Thick socks layered for boots in cold months
- Sunglasses with UV protection — snow glare at Gulmarg is intense
- A daypack for day trips to Gulmarg, Pahalgam, or Sonmarg
- Lip balm and moisturizer — the dry mountain air chaps skin fast

## HEALTH, DOCUMENTS & TECH

- Sunscreen SPF 50+ — UV exposure is strong at altitude even in cold weather
- Personal medication, plus basic cold/flu remedies for sudden temperature drops
- Hand and foot warmers for winter or snow-point excursions
- Power bank — houseboats sometimes have limited or shared charging points
- Photo ID and any permits required for specific high-altitude excursions, checked in advance

Cash in small denominations — card acceptance thins out away from central Srinagar

Some areas near the Line of Control or specific border zones require special permits — confirm current requirements with your hotel or operator before traveling.