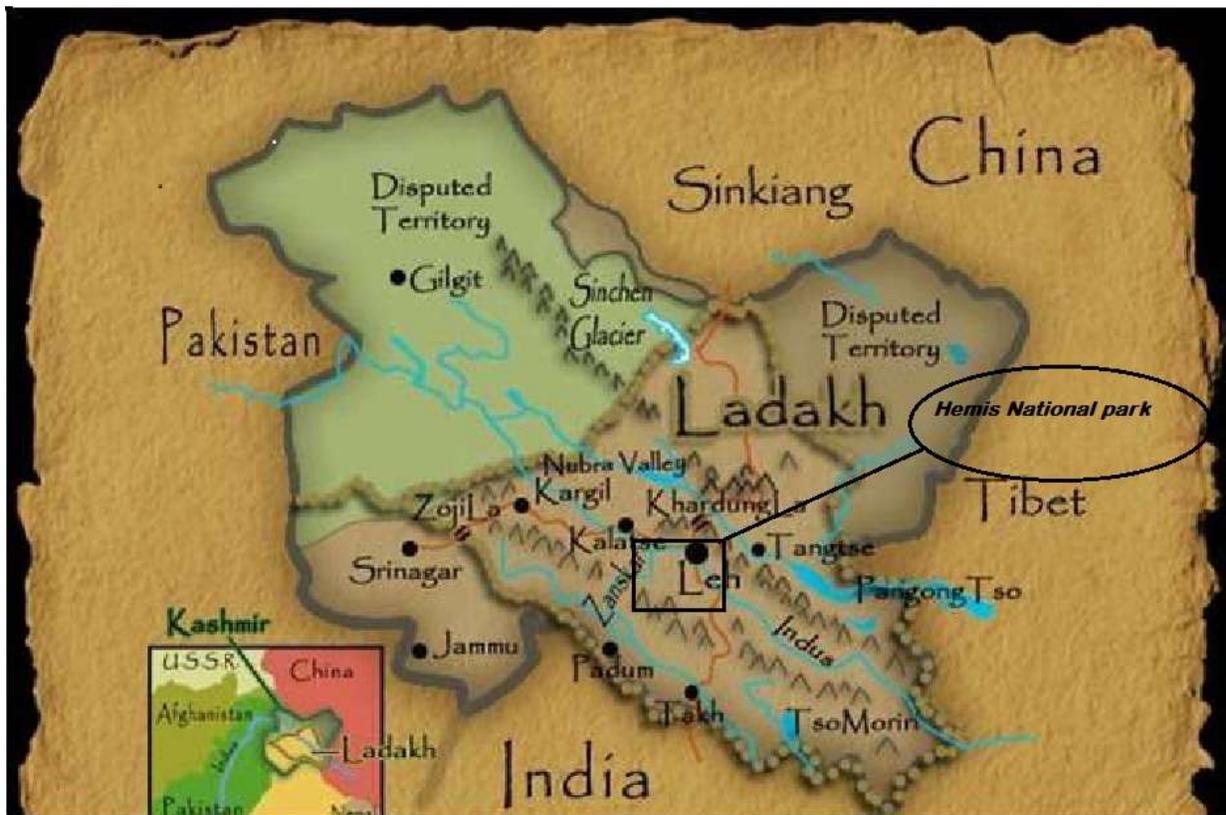


Hemis National Park, Ladakh, India.

“In search of Snow Leopard, March 2018.”

Participants.

Mrs Alice Brunet and Mr Vincent Datte (from France) with Exotic Travel Team members: Dorje, Sonam (main spotter), Phunchok (assistant spotter), Stanzin and Tundu (chef and assistant).



Introduction

[Exotic Travel Ladakh](#) have been organizing successfully snow leopard trip since 2005. We are very proud to announce that our success rate is 90% since we started. But over the past 5 years we have had a 100% success rate on finding Snow Leopards.



Trip description

Mr, Vincent and Mrs Alice arrived in Leh on 21 March, 2018 and rested to acclimatize to the altitude of 3500m.

On 22 March we went for some birding around the Shey marshes and the Indus belt . We saw some important birds like Solitary Snipe and Ibis Bill, among the rarest birds in the world.

From 23 to 29 March 2018 we were in Hemis National Park for our Elusive Cat Quest. We saw 4 Snow Leopards in Hemis including a mother with 2 cubs, and another Snow Leopard near a kill at Rumbak village. We also saw Golden Eagle, Lammergeyer, Himalayan Griffon, Wall Creeper, Tibetan Partridges, Woolly hare, Tibetan Wolf, Finches, Large-eared Pikas and Blue Sheep, as well as Ladakhi Urial on the way to Zingchen.

Day 01: we reach Rumbak around 1400 h. It was a fairly difficult 4 hr walk from Zingchen. One the way we saw some Urials, Blue sheep Golden Eagles and Lammergeyer. Overnight camp at Rumbak.

Day 02: we saw some birds like Wall Creepers, Fiches, Golden Eagles, Lammergeyers and Himalayan Griffon.



Day 03: we learnt there was a Snow Leopard in Rumbak Village from one of our spotters. It was such a great moment: the cat had kill a dzomo (a Cow-Yak offspring) just 100 meters from Rumbak Village centre and near a house. The cat seemed to have killed the Dzomo in the night and remained near the kill till midday. It headed up into the hills but returning in the evening. We were exceptionally lucky as there was no other tourists in Rumbak at the time.

Look at some [great video here](#).

Day 04: we returned to to Rumbak but the cat was not there. He seems to eat in the night time and disappear in the day time into the mountains. We saw Tibetan Partidge near Rumbak village in a field and a Woolly Hare near the river.

Day 05: we decided to leave Rumbak, satisfied with our Snow Lopeard sightings, and went to Urutse village at an altitude of 4200 meters and a 3 to 4 hr walk from Rumbak. We are lucky to see Tibetan Wolf up there from a distance but could not see Lynx.

Day 06: we returned to Rumbak but although the kill was still there the Leopard was not (the villagers confirming that in the night time he comes to feed and returns each dawn to the mountains).

Day 07: return to Leh. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 08: Leh to Delhi.



[Phunchok Tsering](#), 2018