



INDIA
An Incredible Journey



**travel
& you**





‘atithi devo bhava...’

In India, we consider guests as God and treat them accordingly. As God is treated with reverence and respect, what we call as rituals, similarly the guests are also shown respect through some similar rituals. In Hinduism, these rituals comprise of five-steps which are known as Panchopchara Puja. These five rituals of worship similarly become the five “code of conduct” to be followed while receiving guests

- **Fragrance/Incense (Dhupa)** - The rooms must have a pleasant fragrance while welcoming any guest because a good fragrance will make a guest in good mood.
- **Earthen Lamp (Dipa)** – Lighted earthen lamp looks beautiful, fire is considered pious and also a source of light which disperses light so that everything between guest and the host is clearly visible.
- **Eatables (Naivedya)** - Fruits and milk-made sweets were given to guests for refreshments.
- **Rice (Akshata)** – Tilak is considered not only a symbol of warm wishes but also an expectation of well-being of the person on whom it is applied. Made from vermilion paste, tilak is put on the forehead and rice grains are placed on tilak. This is the most respectable form of welcome in Indian Hindu families.
- **Flower Offering (Pushpa)** - A flower not only symbolizes freshness and but is also a gesture of good will. It symbolizes the sweet and enduring memories of the visit between the host and the guest that stay with them for several days.

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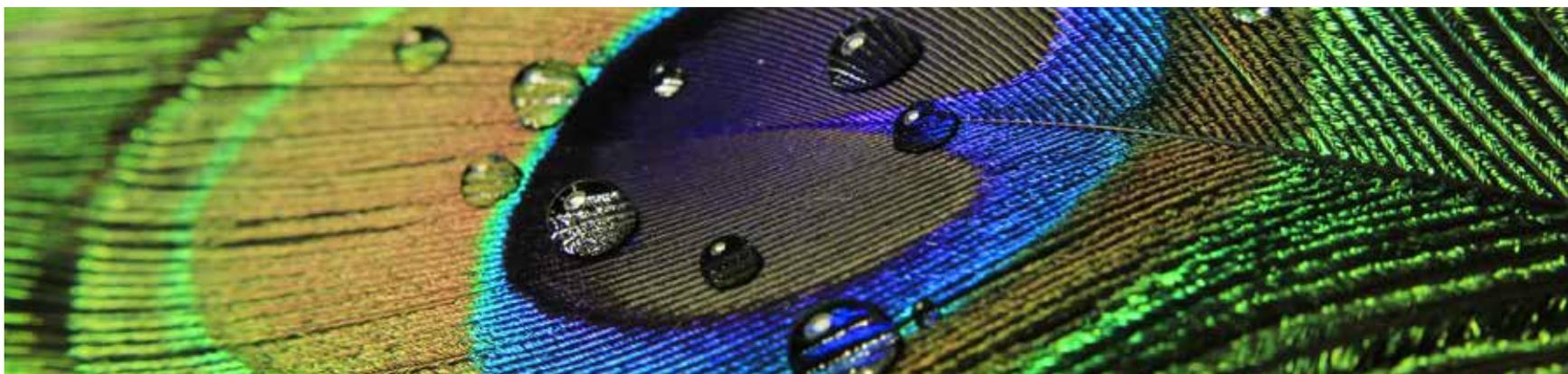
Who We Are

We are a fast growing group of travel experts and enthusiasts, dedicated to creating memorable experiences that surpass our guest's expectations. Having worked with Corporates and Leisure groups extensively, our team brings decades of industry experience which helps us guarantee our guests safe, reliable and hassle free getaways.

The team at **Travel & You** has a great passion for the travel industry and is devoted to creating extraordinary, unique and personalized experiences for each of its clients. Our staff is well-equipped and trained to use state-of-the-art tools like Amadeus etc. to provide efficient and timely services. We take pride in our ability to anticipate and preempt our clients' needs and continuously challenge ourselves to deliver customer delight every step of the way.

Group Tour Specialists

Travel & You, a well established Tour Operator in Delhi - India, offers unparalleled customized group tour packages for India, Europe, USA, UK, Australia and South East Asia. Our 12 years of industry experience in the international travel & tourism arena reflects in the quality of our services. Our forte lies in our ability to provide the best and most competitive domestic and international tour packages. Our services are reliable, prompt, consistent and customer friendly. We also offer some of the most affordable budget packages for travel round the Globe. We even have great offers & heavy discounts for senior citizen travellers.



Our mission is to establish long-term relationships with our guests, and it is no surprise that we have a good track-record of client retention and repeat business from corporates and leisure groups alike.

Fairs & Festivals



The colorful kaleidoscope of Indian festivals and fairs – as diverse as the land, is an expression of the spirit of celebration that is an essential part of the country.

Observed with enthusiasm and gaiety, festivals are like gems, ornamenting the crown of Indian culture. Packed with fun and excitement, festivals are occasions to clean and decorate houses, to get together, gifts, new attire, dance music and rituals, all add to their joyful rhythm. It is a time for prayer, for pageantry and procession... a time to rejoice...

Here are some of the major festivals which are joyfully celebrated in different parts of the land of festivities called; Incredible India...

Desert Festival

Famous for its Cultural events, camel races, turban tying competitions, even best moustache competition etc., desert festival of Jaisalmer also called as Rajasthan Desert Festival is celebrated in the Month of February.



Holi

Mainly celebrated in the northern part of India, this festival of colors falls in the later half of March month. The festival is celebrated in different ways around the country, the most famous one being in Mathura. Here, the festival lasts for 16 days, and is primarily played with flowers.

Rath Yatra

The Festival of Chariots of Lord Jagannatha is celebrated every year mostly in July at Puri, the temple town in Orissa. The presiding deities of the main temple, Sri Mandira, Lord Jagannatha, Lord Balabhadra and Goddess Subhadra, with the celestial wheel Sudarshana are taken out from the temple precincts in an elaborate ritual procession to their respective chariots.



Onam

Onam, the most popular festival of Kerala (a southern coastal state of India). This festival, is celebrated with a great enthusiasm throughout Kerala for a period of ten days. Every year this festival falls between August and September and also known as the harvest festival of Kerala. One can also witness the famous boat race during this festival.



Ganesh Chaturthi

This great Ganesha festival is celebrated by Hindus around the world as the birthday of Lord Ganesha. It is observed during mid-August to mid-September and the grandest and most elaborate of them, especially in the western India state of Maharashtra, lasts for 10 days.

Dussehra

Though celebrated all over India for a day, this festival is celebrated for ten days in Mysore (south India). A traditional Dussehra procession winds its way through the streets of Mysore, in which decorated elephants carry the idol of the goddess atop. The Mysore Palace is lit up this day with more than 1 lac light bulbs.



Diwali

Perhaps the most well-known of all the Indian festivals, Diwali is celebrated throughout India, as well as in Indian communities throughout the world. It is colloquially known as the "festival of lights".

Pushkar Mela

Held each November in Pushkar Rajasthan, at the time of the full moon, Pushkar Fair, is one of India's most highly-rated travel experiences, a spectacle on an epic scale, attracting more than 11,000 camels, horses and cattle and visited by over 400,000 people over a period of around fourteen days.





Dance & Music



Considered to be one of the oldest forms of classical arts, Indian Dance and Music traces its origins back to several thousands of years. Dance and Music is a part of the Indian life. Our day starts with the morning prayers in temples and at homes. Folk lore and hymns are sung in the praise of the Lord. Each region has its own way of doing it. The diversity of the same and yet the similarity of concepts makes India so unique.

Dance

Bharatnatyam

Bharatnatyam, a two thousand year old dance form, is one of the most popular classical dances of India and is more popular in South Indian states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Kathakali

The word Kathakali literally means "Story-Play". Kathakali is known for its heavy, elaborate makeup and costumes. In fact, the colorful and fascinating costumes of Kathakali have become the most recognized icon of Kerala. Kathakali dance presents themes derived from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and other Hindu epics, mythologies and legends.



Indian Music Instruments

India's classical tradition has a variety of musical instruments that reflect original creativity, adaptive innovation and assimilation. Most of the Indian musical instruments have evolved over centuries which have contributed immensely in making Indian music famous. Some instruments are stringed ones, some are percussion ones, and some are wind-blown instruments. The music created by the instruments when played is absolutely melodious and is often used to relax the mind and the senses.



Sitar: The most popular stringed instrument, has been in use for about 700 years. It is fashioned from a seasoned gourd and teakwood and has twenty metal frets with six or seven playing strings and nineteen sympathetic strings below. It is played with a plectrum worn on the finger.

Flute: Belonging to the woodwind family, flute produces a sweet sound. A person who plays the flute is known as a flautist or a flutist. It is usually played in a vertical position. A flute produces sound only when a stream of air is blown through it, which bounces in and out of its numerous holes.

Veena: A stringed musical instrument of South India, this classical instrument is basically used to accompany Carnatic music. The Veena has been modified and refined over centuries and has been used since ancient times.

Tabla: A very popular percussion instrument, it consists of two drums called tabla & dagga (bayan) respectively. The treble drum (tabla) is generally made of wood and the top is covered with a stretched skin.

Shehnai: A popular musical instrument, Shehnai is believed to bring good luck and that is why in North Indian marriages and processions Shehnai is predominantly played. Shehnai is a tube-like instrument that gradually widens towards its lower end.

Music

Hindustani Gharanas

There is a rich tradition of Gharanas in classical Hindustani music. The music Gharanas are also called schools. These schools or Gharanas have their basis in the traditional mode of musical training and education. Every Gharana has its own distinct features.



Food & Delicacies

India is a diverse country and it can be clearly seen in its geography, people, culture, climate and even food. Each region of the country has something different to offer to its food lovers. Indian food lovers can taste each color of the region food in the Indian restaurant menu.

The unique taste and aroma of various ingredients make the Indian cuisine so special and popular across the world. The influence of rich tradition and culture can be seen easily in the traditional food of the country. The food of each region of the country has tongue tantalizing taste. Indian cuisine offers variety of mouthwatering dishes.



The food of north region is known as spicy and mainly vegetarian. Rajasthani and Punjabi food of north region offers a variety of spicy and delicious dishes. The popular dishes of Rajasthani food are Balusahi, Churma, Panchkoota, Raabdi, Jhajariya, ghever, Dal-bati, Besan-Chakki etc. while the popular curries are Beans Ki sabji, Keri ki sabji, makki ki raab, karele ki sabji and many others. Rajasthani food is cooked with Ghee and lots of nuts. Unlike other dishes, sweets are taken before, with and after the meal in Rajasthani cuisine. While in north region Haryanvi food is famous for its milk products. Milk and its products like, ghee, curd, lassi along with green vegetables like saag and others are the main part of food. Bajre ki roti is also very famous in Haryana. In Punjabi food, makki ki roti, saag, kadhi-rice, etc. are quite famous while the popular drink is lassi.



South Indian food is considered to be the spiciest. The famous dishes of this food are idli- dosa, masala- dosa, sambar- idli, coconut chutney, rice etc. Coconut is widely used in south Indian cuisine. There is one other thing that makes this food special is that it is served on banana leaf. Sea food like fishes, prawns etc. are main part of the meal. Most of the people like non- vegetarian in this region.

In West Indian food, Gujarati and Maharashtrian food is very famous. Popular dishes of this food are puran poli, puri, chapatti etc. While in rice based dishes khatta mittha bhaat, kheer, khichdi and pulao, in vegetables, potato curry, stuffed okra, French bean curry, chickpea curry etc. are liked.



East Indian cuisine is mainly based on root vegetables and rice. A number of dishes are based on these but cooking methods vary so the taste is always different.

Indian desserts are very tempting and mouth watering. Be it a scorching summer or a bone clattering winter indian mithai is always too difficult to resist. A sumptuous meal is always incomplete without sweet dish like gulab jamun or kulfi or gajar ka halwa. These are some of the desserts which must be tasted whenever you visit India.

Arts & Crafts



Arts and crafts define the cultural layers of a particular place, community and race. India, being a multicultural nation, is home to multiple cultural strata of cultures and traditions. A land of immense diversity, various traditions, rituals, geographic and climatic conditions, lifestyles and cultures India have given birth to numerous styles and designs.

India is a land abundant in raw materials that have lent themselves to the creative hands of the Indian craftsmen. From expensive materials like ivory, gems and marble; to cheaper ones like clay, cane and bamboo and wood, Indian handicrafts have an amazingly captivating beauty.

Rajasthan, recognized by its Royal heritage is also a prominent and well-established in craft industry. Craft workers see this not as an occupation, but rather a mark of respect to their heritage.

Some of the finest crafts examples of Rajasthan are; fabric colouration and embellishment, decorative painting and puppetry. Rajasthan is also famous for its block Printing and wooden handicrafts and lac bangles.



The hub of the stone craft in India is Agra and the supreme example of which is the Taj Mahal. The art of carving the thin marble slabs to make the fine lattice windows is the most difficult for the craftsmen. The other marble products available in Agra are mirror frames with lace-like fringes, fretwork balustrades, bowls, garden furniture, etc. The other specialty of the Agra is the inlay work on marble with the colorful and precious stones to form a multitude of mosaics.



After the Persian and Arabian carpets it comes the turn of our local carpets prepared at some of the cities of Uttar Pradesh. With the exotic designs of flora and fauna, Taj Mahal, "Kethariwala Jal", "Jamabaz", "Kandhari", etc. the industry has succeeded in attracting not only the national market but due to some attractive Chinese designs international market is establishing as well.

The image displays a variety of colorful, patterned fabric samples, likely for jewelry or textile design. The samples are arranged in vertical strips, showing different colors and intricate patterns. The patterns include geometric shapes, stripes, and traditional motifs. The colors are vibrant, including red, yellow, green, blue, purple, and brown. The fabric appears to be a woven material, possibly cotton or wool, with a visible texture. The overall composition is a collage of these different fabric samples, showcasing a wide range of design options.

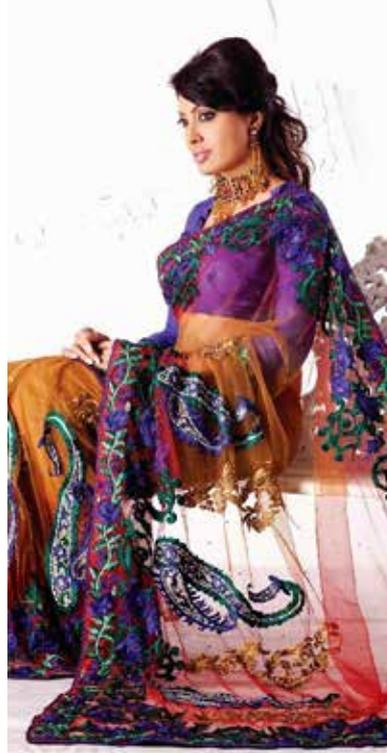
Textile & Jewelry

Indian fashion is rich in tradition, vibrant in colors and truly beautiful. It reflects the country's cultural and ethnic diversity. Indian Fashion is in Indian clothes or Indian costumes, it's in accessories, in jewelry, in dresses, designs, & in makeup.

Indian Ethnic Wear

Dhoti Kurta; a traditional Indian clothing of men. It is an unstitched piece of cloth. The knot is tied at the waist. Kurta is a term used to refer to a long loose shirt, the length of which falls below or may be just above the knees of the wearer.

Indian Sari, one of the most wonderful dresses worn by Indian women. Women dress up in ethnic styles to embellish their look. Ethnic is classic and maintain the essence of our culture. Among women's ethnic wear, Sari is the most elegant and sensuous attire. The most brilliant aspect of this dress is that it looks good on all kinds of women.



Chikankari of Lucknow- Chikan embroidery is a specialty of the Uttar Pradesh city Lucknow. Its unique style was developed during the Mughal period. It is also called Lakhnavi Chikankari.

Banaras Brocade- Banaras is one of the richest weaving craft centers of India, famous for Brocade saris and all over dress material. A Banarasi Saris is virtually mandatory in the bride's trousseau.

Kashmiri Embroidery: (also Kashida), is as colorful as Kashmir. It is primarily done on canvas with crystal threads, but Kashida also employs Pashmina and leather threads. Kashida embroidery, which is famous for its sheer beauty, has attained the limits of fantasy and incredulity.

Indian Jewelry

The range of jewelry in India is wide as well as varied, India houses various kinds of jewelry arts, ranging from Meenakari and Kundan to stone and bead work. Emeralds, rubies, garnets, amethysts, corals, sapphires, and turquoises are among the stones which are used for the enhancement of gold and silver jewelry. In southern part of India, gold is considered auspicious and a status symbol.

Antique Jewelry - The jewelry which is not in mainstream production and of which the mode of production is no longer popular is known by the name of 'Antique Jewelry'. This kind of jewelry has dull and rough look, combined with an old world-world charm, and this serves as the major USP of such jewelry.

Bead Jewelry - Bead art in India is five thousand year old and dates back to the time of Indus Valley Civilization. People of that civilization used to make beads out of gold, silver, copper, clay, ivory and even wood. The excavations carried out there came out with finished and unfinished beads from the site.

Jadau (engraved) Jewelry - Jadau Jewelry forms one of the major examples of high skilled craftsmanship that was brought into India by Mughals. Historically speaking, the tradition of Jadau work has been in practice in the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat since the Mughal era.

Kundan Jewelry - During Mughal period, the art of kundan work reached Rajasthan from Delhi. Later on, craftsmen from the different part of the country migrated to the place and made Rajasthan a hub of Kundankari. Rulers and feudal lords gave patronage to the art and it developed into perfection.

Meenakari Jewelry - In Meenakari jewelry, precious stones are set and then enameled with gold. Historically speaking, the art was introduced to Rajasthan artisans by Raja Mansingh of Amer. He invited Lahore-based skilled artisans to his kingdom, and their intermingling with the locals craftsmen resulted in an amalgam.





India is a land of diverse cultures. The greatness of India has been in accepting the best from all the invaders and intermingling the new customs and styles with the existing ones– this is visible in all aspects – be it music, dance, painting, sculptures, or architecture. Indian monuments are such a canvas of history which have displayed all the above beautifully

Thirty UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India boastfully speak of India's immensely rich Heritage and Culture..

Heritage & Culture

RAJASTHAN SAGA

13 NIGHTS / 14 DAYS

Delhi | Agra | Jaipur | Shekhawati | Bikaner | Jaisalmer
Jodhpur | Kumbhalgarh | Udaipur | Delhi



Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival at Delhi, and transfer to hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of New Delhi which includes the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun. Drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Day 2. Delhi-Agra: Morning drive to Agra, on arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna. Also visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great.

Day 3. Agra-Jaipur: Drive to Jaipur, enroute visit Fatehpur Sikri the Mughal capital during the reign of Akbar the great, further drive to Jaipur. Check into your hotel for two nights.

Day 4. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Jal Mahal, summer palace and Hawa Mahal, the palace of winds. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family.

Day 5. Jaipur: Shekhawati: Morning drive to Shekhawati region, which literally means the garden of Shekha. On arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. The towns of Shekhawati region are known for their amazing painted havelis, visit at least one today.

Day 6. Shekhawati-Bikaner: Drive to Bikaner, on arrival check into your hotel for an overnight stay. After visit the 16th century fort that was never conquered, The Junagarh.

Day 7. Bikaner-Jaisalmer: Drive to Jaisalmer, en-route visit Camel breeding farms the only of its kind in Asia. On arrival, check into your hotel for two nights. Evening at the Sam Sand dunes, witnessing a breath taking sunset post camel safari, also enjoy Rajasthani traditional dance and music with local cuisine and drinks.

Day 8. Jaisalmer: Visit the mesmerizing golden fort of Jaisalmer, which still houses many families. Post the fort visit Patwon-Ki-Haveli, one of the largest and most elaborate of Havelis. Evening free at leisure.

Day 9. Jaisalmer-Jodhpur: Drive to marwar region of Rajasthan, which is the second largest city of Rajasthan. On arrival, check into your hotel for two nights. Visit Umaid Bhawan palace, the historical residence of the royal family, the present king Maharaja Gaj singh still lives here. This grand palace was built under famine project.

Day 10. Jodhpur: Morning visit Mehrangarh fort, perched on a 150 m high hill its sprawl is the most formidable and magnificent fort in Rajasthan, also visit Jaswant Thada, the graceful marble cenotaph of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. Evening experience a local village of Rajasthan.

Day 11: Jodhpur-Kumbhalgarh: Drive to Kumbhalgarh, en-route visit the famous marble Jain Temples at Ranakpur, nestled in the lush green Aravali Hills. Evening visit Kumbhalgarh fort, the birthplace of Maharana Pratap, a great warrior from the royal family Mewar. On arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 12. Kumbhalgarh-Udaipur: Morning drive to Udaipur, the lake city. On arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon visit the majestic city palace overlooking the lake pichola was built in 15th century by Maharana Udai singh, also houses the royal family of Mewar. Evening witness the beauty of Lake Pichola on a boat ride.

Day 13. Udaipur-Delhi: Flight to Delhi, on arrival check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of Old Delhi includes a drive past the Red fort and a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in Asia and the Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

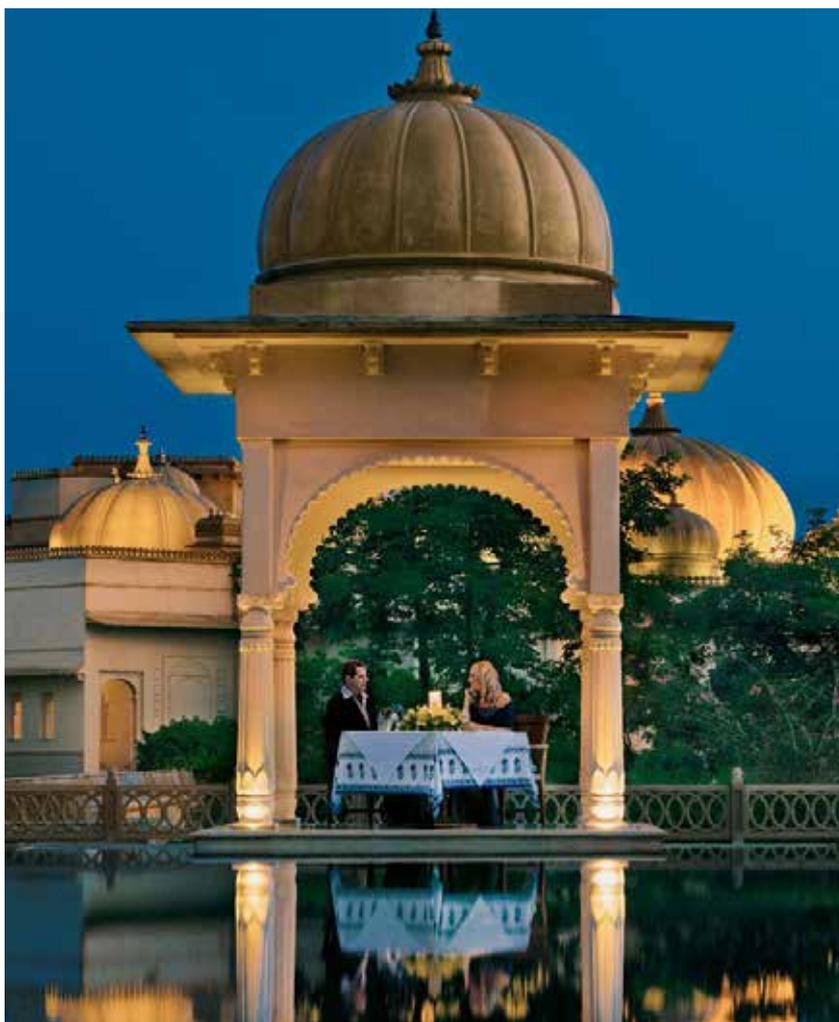
Day 14. Departure: Check out and transfer to airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour

LUXURIOUS RETREAT OF RAJASTHAN

10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS

Delhi | Agra | Jaipur | Chhatra Sagar
Jodhpur | Udaipur



Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival at Delhi, and transfer to hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of New Delhi, which includes the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun and drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

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Day 3. Agra-Jaipur: Drive to Jaipur, en-route visit Fatehpur Sikri the Mughal capital during the reign of Akbar the great, further drive to Jaipur. Check into your hotel for two nights.

Day 4. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family. Afternoon check into your hotel for an overnight stay, evening visit Samode palace, once the residence of the prime minister of the royal court of Jaipur.

Day 5. Jaipur-Chhatra Sagar: Drive to Chhatra Sagar, on arrival check into luxury tent accommodation. Luxury tents have always been an important part of Rajput lifestyle.

Day 6. Chhatra Sagar -Jodhpur: Drive to Jodhpur, on arrival, check into your hotel for two nights. Early evening enjoy a jeep safari to the Bishnoi tribal villages. Witness the opium ceremony, a ritual by which guests are traditionally welcomed.

Day 7. Jodhpur: Visit Mehrangarh fort, perched on a 150 m high hill its sprawl is the most formidable and magnificent fort in Rajasthan, also visit Jaswant Thada and Umaid Bhawan palace, the historical residence of the royal family.

Day 8: Jodhpur-Udaipur: Drive to Udaipur, en-route visit the famous marble Jain Temples at Ranakpur, nestled in the lush green Aravali Hills. On arrival, check into your hotel for two nights stay.

Day 9. Udaipur: Visit the majestic city palace overlooking the lake pichola was built in 15th century by Maharana Udai singh, also houses the royal family of Mewar. Also witness the beauty of Lake Pichola on a boat ride. Evening visit Jagmandir Island palace built in 17th century.

Day 9. Udaipur-Delhi: Flight to Delhi, on arrival check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon drive past the Red fort and visit Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in Asia.

Day 10 Departure: Check out and transfer to airport to take a flight home.

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GOLDEN TRI-ANGELS

Delhi | Agra | Jaipur

6 NIGHTS / 7 DAYS

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Day 2. Delhi-Agra: Morning drive to Agra, on arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay.. Afternoon visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna. Also visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great.

Day 3. Agra: Morning visit The Taj Mahal, with the first ray of the Sun on the white Marble mausoleum. Also visit the site of The 'Black Taj', which Shah Jahan intended to build in black marble opposite the present mausoleum, on the site of the Mahtab Bagh. 'Shahjahan began to build his own tomb on the other side of the river, but the war with his sons interrupted his plan. Afternoon visit Sikandra, the tomb of the greatest Mughal emperor Akbar.

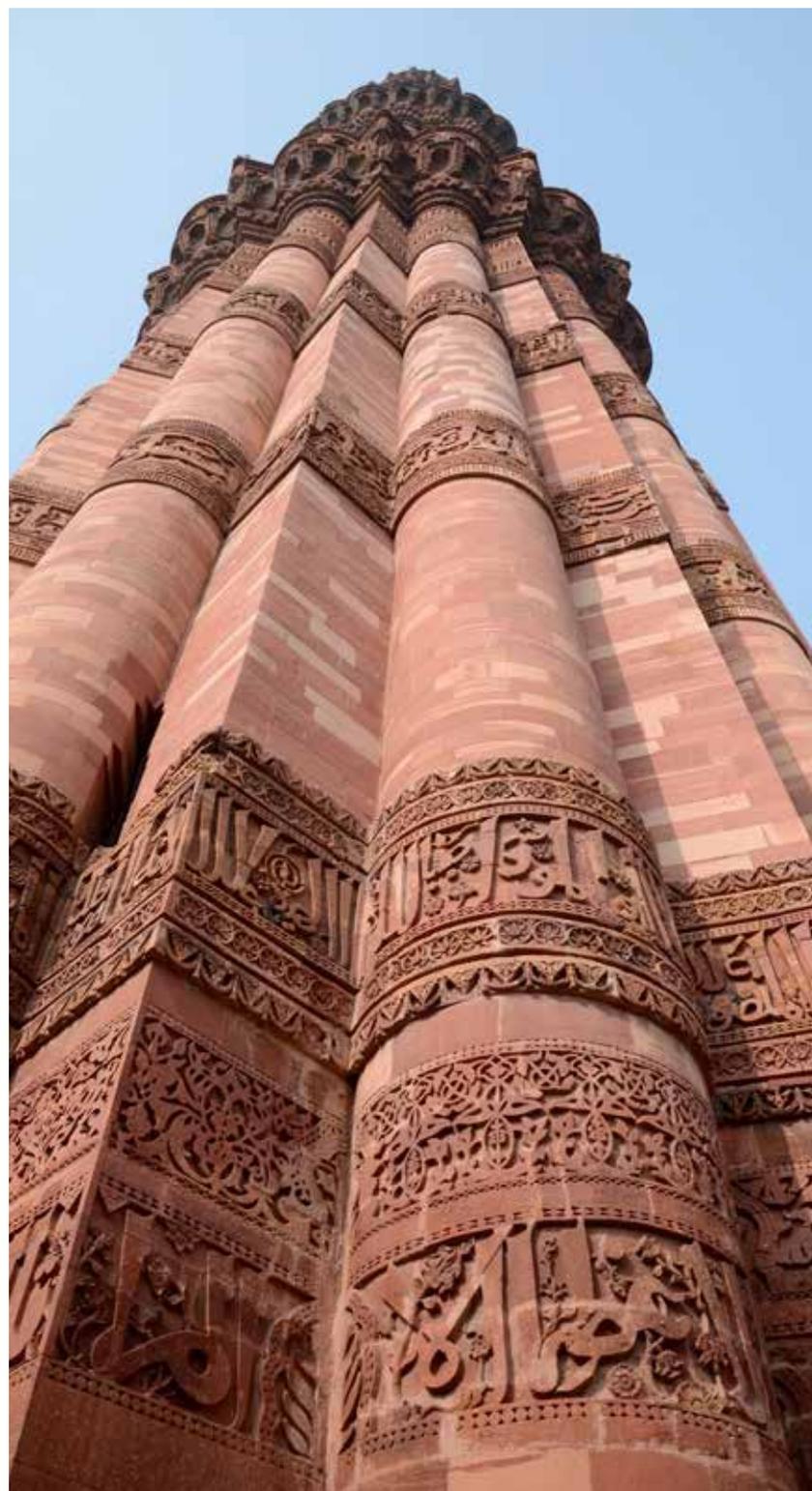
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Day 6. Jaipur-Delhi: Drive to Delhi, on arrival check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of Old Delhi includes a drive past the Red fort and a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in Asia and the Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

Day 7. Departure: Check out and transfer to airport to take a flight home.

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Day 2. Delhi-Jaipur: Travel by train to the capital city of state Rajasthan, on arrival, check into your hotel. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Jal Mahal, summer palace and Hawa Mahal, the palace of winds. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family. Also visit Jantar Mantar observatory with its 90 ft. sundial and explore the bustling and colourful markets of the old city.

Day 3. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Evening visit Chokhi Dhani, an ethnic village resort. Enjoy local Rajasthani cuisine.

Day 4. Jaipur-Agra: Drive to Agra, en-route visit Fatehpur Sikri the Mughal capital during the reign of Akbar the great, further drive to Agra, check into your hotel for two nights.

Day 5. Agra: Morning visit The Taj Mahal, with the first ray of the Sun on the white Marble mausoleum. Afternoon visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna.

Day 6. Agra- Orchha: Drive to Orchha, once the capital of one of the largest and most powerful kingdoms of Central India. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Experience the evening Aarti (prayer) of Raja Ram Temple.

Day 7. Orchha- Khajuraho: Drive to Khajuraho. Check into a hotel for an overnight stay. Visit the world renowned temples of Eastern & Western group. The carvings that swathe Khajuraho's three groups of World Heritage-listed temples are among the finest temple art in the world

Day 8. Khajuraho- Varanasi: Take a flight to Varanasi today. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Varanasi is also popularly called as Benaras, "the city of temples". Visit the famous Ghats and temples of Varanasi. In the evening witness the spectacular Aarti of the holy river Ganges.

Day 9. Varanasi-Delhi: Take a flight to Delhi. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of Old Delhi includes a drive past the Red fort and a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in Asia and the Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

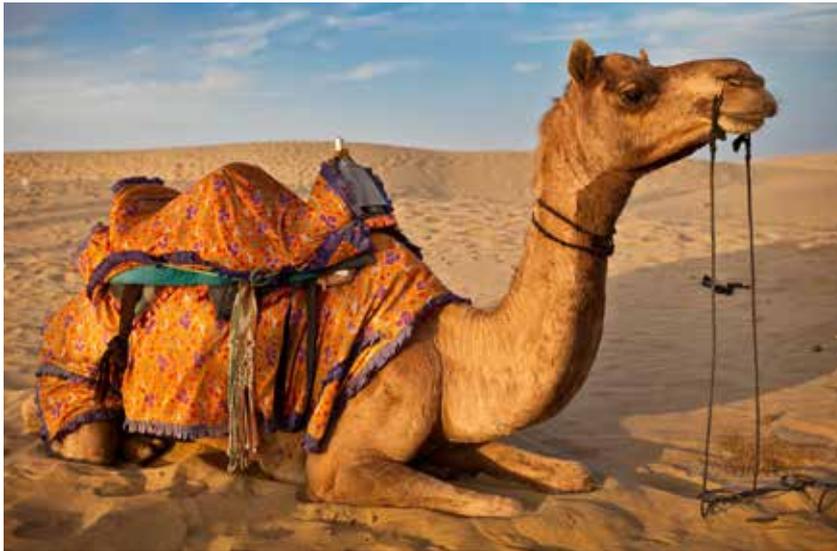
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HIGHLIGHTS OF RAJASTHAN

9 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

Delhi | Agra | Jaipur
Jodhpur | Osian | Udaipur



Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival at Delhi, and transfer to hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of New Delhi, which includes the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun and drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Day 2. Delhi-Agra: Morning drive to Agra, on arrival, check into your hotel. Afternoon visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna. Also visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great.

Day 3. Agra-Jaipur: Drive to Jaipur, en-route visit Fatehpur Sikri the Mughal capital during the reign of Akbar the great further drive to Jaipur. Check into your hotel for two nights.

Day 4. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Jal Mahal, summer palace and Hawa Mahal, the palace of winds. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family. Evening visit Samode palace, once the residence of the prime minister of the royal court of Jaipur.

Day 5. Jaipur-Jodhpur: Drive to Jodhpur, on arrival, check into your hotel for two nights. Afternoon visit Umaid Bhawan palace, the historical residence of the royal family, the present king Maharaja Gaj Singh still lives here. This grand palace was built under famine project. Evening enjoy a jeep safari to the Bishnoi tribal villages. Witness the opium ceremony, a ritual by which guests are traditionally welcomed.

Day 6. Jodhpur-Osian: Visit Mehrangarh fort, perched on a 150 m high hill its sprawl is the most formidable and magnificent fort in Rajasthan, also visit Jaswant Thada, the graceful marble cenotaph of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. Afternoon drive to Osian, an ancient town of the Thar Desert. Check into the camps. Enjoy the camel ride at the time of the sunset followed by performing arts and choice of oriental cuisines arranged in the ethnic style of that region.

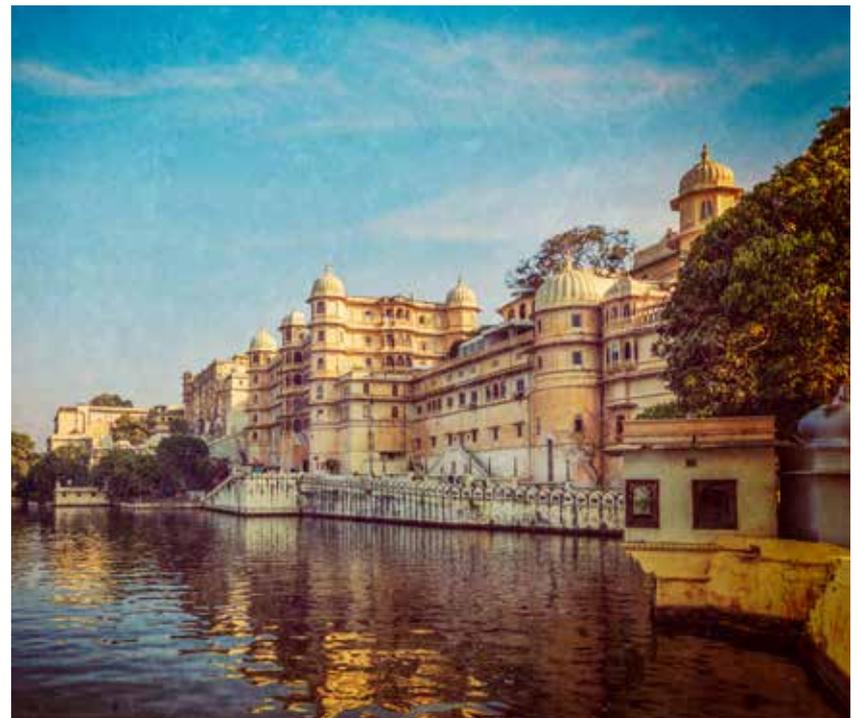
Day 7. Osian-Udaipur: Drive to Udaipur, en-route visit the famous marble Jain Temples at Ranakpur, nestled in the lush green Aravali Hills. On arrival, check into your hotel for two nights stay.

Day 8. Udaipur: Visit the majestic city palace overlooking the lake pichola was built in 15th century by Maharana Udai Singh, also houses the royal family of Mewar. Also witness the beauty of Lake Pichola on a boat ride. Evening visit Jagmandir Island palace built in 17th century, redeveloped as a complete destination

Day 9. Udaipur-Delhi: Flight to Delhi, on arrival check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of Old Delhi includes a drive past the Red fort and a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in Asia and the Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

Day 10 Departure: Check out and transfer to airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.



Yoga & Ayurveda



Originated in ancient India, Yoga and Ayurveda are like inseparable sisters. Yoga originates in the Yajur Veda, while Ayurveda originates in the Atharva Veda and Rig Veda.

"Ayurveda is the science and yoga is the practice of the science."

Drawn from an understanding of nature's rhythms and laws, ayurveda—the science (veda) of life (ayur)—is built around the five elements of ether, air, fire, water and earth. Yoga is a healing discipline that provides a practical method for integrating the body, breath and mind. The two complement each other and act to achieve harmony of the body, mind and spirit – which is the essence of true health.

Yoga and Ayurveda, both recognize that keeping the body healthy is vital for fulfilling the four aims of life: Dharma (duty), Artha (wealth), Kama (desire), and Moksha (liberation).

KERALA REJOICE

9 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

Kumarkom | Munnar | Alleppy
Marari Beach | Kochi

Day 1. Kochi – Kumarkom: Arrive Kochi and transfer to your resort in Kumarkom for three nights' stay. Arrive and check into your resort. In the evening tour a farm which grows pepper, nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves, cardamom, ginger, turmeric along with the fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs and honey. Enjoy a cooking demonstration before dinner.

Day 2. Kumarkom: Start your day with an outdoor yoga class followed by Ayurvedic treatment. Afternoon is free to walk through the tropical forest, see how rubber is tapped, explore the farm, visit the nearby village, temples and school or simply relax.

Day 3. Kumarkom: Morning yoga practice followed by breakfast and Ayurvedic treatment.

Day 4. Kumarkom – Munnar: Drive to Munnar, a beautiful area of thick forests and verdant tea plantations. Arrive and check into your resort for two nights' stay. Hike through the tea and other spice plantation or practice yoga in the garden.

Day 5. Munnar: Enjoy a walk in the fresh mountain air before breakfast. Visit a tea plantation and tea museum to learn about the cultivation and processing of a variety of Indian teas—as well as visit a vocational training school for the disabled children of tea pickers. We'll see their paper-making and textile-production process using all natural dyes in the crafting of beautifully designed products that are offered for sale. Time to shop there and in the town of Munnar for spices and handicrafts.

Day 6. Munnar – Alleppy: Drive to Alleppy. Arrive and check into a houseboat for an overnight stay. Enjoy the serene beauty of the backwaters. Kerala backwaters consist of a complex network of lagoons, lakes and canals and are best experienced while slowly cruising the labyrinth of canals in a traditional thatch-roofed houseboat. See life on the banks, lush green rice fields, coconut groves, temples and churches.

Day 7. Marari Beach: Drive to Marari beach. Arrive and check into your resort for an overnight stay. Marari originates from 'Mararikulam', the name of the nearby local fishing village. Life here still goes on much as it did a hundred years ago, with the men going out to sea to bring in the daily catch. Marari Beach offers endless miles of superb sand beach, an organic garden.

Day 8. Marari Beach: A day free at leisure

Day 9. Marari Beach- Kochi: Drive to Kochi and check into your hotel on an overnight stay. Enjoy a tour of Kochi, visiting the Dutch Palace, Jewish Synagogue, Fort Cochin, & Chinese fishing nets.

Day 10. Departure: Check out and transfer to Airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customized extension tour.



AN ENRICHING AYURVEDA EXPERIENCE

9 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

Trivandrum | Kovalam | Alleppy | Munnar

Day 1. Trivandrum-Kovalam: Arrive at the Thiruvananthapuram (also known as Trivandrum) and transfer to the Ayurvedic Resort at Kovalam for four nights' stay. Day free at leisure.

Day 2. Kovalam: A brief session on yoga and meditation. After breakfast enjoy an Ayurvedic rejuvenation massage. The massage helps you to relax mentally and physically. The afternoon is at leisure.

Day 3. Kovalam: Start your day with a lesson on Yoga and Meditation followed by an Ayurvedic rejuvenation massage. In the afternoon visit the Trivandrum City.

Day 4. Kovalam: Another day with a session on some new Yogasanas and Meditation followed by an Ayurvedic treatment that will give you rejuvenation. In the evening proceed on a boat cruise to Thiruvallam backwaters and visit a traditional Kerala home.

Day 5. Kovalam-Alleppy: Drive to Alleppy. Arrive and check into a houseboat for an overnight stay. Enjoy a backwater cruise. Kerala backwaters consist of a complex network of lagoons, lakes and canals and are best experienced while slowly cruising the labyrinth of canals in a traditional thatch-roofed houseboat. See life on the banks, lush green rice fields, coconut groves, temples and churches.

Day 6. Alleppy-Munnar: Drive to Munnar, a beautiful area of thick forests and verdant tea plantations. Check into your hotel for two nights' stay. Hike through the tea and other spice plantation or practice yoga in the garden.

Day 7. Munnar: Enjoy a walk in the fresh mountain air before breakfast. Visit a tea plantation and tea museum to learn about the cultivation and processing of a variety of Indian teas. See their paper-making and textile-production process using all natural dyes in the crafting of beautifully designed products that are for offered for sale.



Day 8. Munnar - Kochi: Drive to the beautiful coast city of Kochi. Check into your hotel for two nights' stay. Evening free at leisure.

Day 9. Kochi: Today enjoy a walking tour of Kochi, visiting the Dutch Palace, Jewish Synagogue, Fort Cochin, Chinese fishing nets and if you like, shop for antiques and jewelry. Afternoon yoga practice, and introduction to the principles of Ayurvedic wellness.

Day 10. Departure: Check out and transfer to Airport to take a flight back home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.

A TRANQUILIZING YOGA EXPERIENCE

8 NIGHTS / 9 DAYS

Delhi | Haridwar | Rishikesh



Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival at Delhi, and transfer to hotel for two nights stay.

Day 2. Delhi: Today experience a guided tour of New Delhi includes the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun and a drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Day 3. Delhi - Haridwar - Rishikesh: Transfer to the railway station to connect train for Haridwar. Arrive and transfer to Ashram at Rishikesh. Rishikesh, a holy city is a totally vegetarian town. Arrive at Ashram, resting serenely on the banks of the holy Ganga, nestled in the lap of the Himalayas. Rest of the day accumulate to the Ashram life.

Day 4. Rishikesh: Early morning yoga class followed by relaxation of body & mind. After relaxation learn about breath awareness exercise & stretching exercise. Before breakfast the Ayurvedacharya will check your body type and explain you different Doshas and details of prevention, maintenance and the improvement of one's health and overall sense of well being. Afternoon visit the Triveni Ghats for exclusive Ganga Arti, dedicated to Goddesses Ganga.

Day 5. Rishikesh: Enjoy relaxation & Asanas. Later stimulating & purifying Ayurvedic therapy as per the Ayurvedic consultant. Afternoon visit some of the famous Temples in Rishikesh. Evening yoga & traditional meditation class.

Day 6. Rishikesh: Get training for PRANAVAM (advance breathing), Dynamic yoga. Advance yoga postures. After Yoga start your PanchKarma treatment.

PanchKarma : This five-fold purification therapy aims at correcting the imbalance of the body's Doshas or bioenergies (Vata, Pitta and Kapha) in order to maintain their inherent equilibrium and Ama, which forms as a result. Afternoon Drive up to Vashistha Gufa. Arrive and explore vashistha Goofa (cave), where famous saint Vasistha, meditated. A perfect place for transcendental meditation. Late afternoon drive back to resort. Evening meditation and curative yoga

Day 7. Rishikesh: Early morning wake up for Pranayam & advance technique of Yoga. After Yoga do PanchKarma treatment. Afternoon trip to Devprayag, one of the five most important confluences of Garhwal Himalayas. Arrive and explore the area. Also visit 10th century old temple of Ragunath ji.

Day 8. Rishikesh - Haridwar: Delhi Drive to Haridwar today which is railway station to connect train for Delhi. Upon arrival check in to the hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 9. Departure: Check out and transfer to Airport to take a flight back home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.



A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY OF SOUTH

7 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS

Chennai | Mahabalipuram | Pondicherry | Tanjore | Trichy | Madurai

The rich heritage and culture of south India get mirrored in its ancient architectural achievements that include splendid temples and other architectural marvels. The former rulers of dynasties in south India were highly religious and patronized the creative pursuits, including the building of exquisite temples.

Day 1. Chennai: Arrive Chennai and transfer to your hotel. Check into your hotel for two nights' stay. Visit Marina Beach, the second longest beach in the world along the Bay of Bengal.

Day 2. Chennai: Visit Victoria Art Gallery, Bronze Gallery and Chennai Museum. Also visit San Thome Cathedral and Kapaleeswarar Temple in the evening.

Day 3. Chennai - Mahabalipuram - Kanchipuram Excursion: Drive to Kanchipuram, one of the seven sacred cities of India. Visit three of the best temples - Kailasanatha and Ekambareshwara (dedicated to Lord Shiva) and Vaikuntaperumal (dedicated to Lord Vishnu). In the afternoon, tour Mammalapuram (Mahabalipuram), where you will visit the seventh century rock hewn monuments. The shore temple, the only surviving one of seven, is a unique example of a temple built of rock quarried elsewhere and carried to shore. Check into your hotel in the evening for an overnight stay.

Day 4. Mahabalipuram - Pondicherry: Drive to Pondicherry. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Visit the Botanical Gardens, Sri Aurobindo Ashram, French Institute, Museums and Art Galleries.

Day 5. Pondicherry - Tanjore: Drive this morning to Tanjore, en route visit Nataraj Temple at Chidambaram, and also visit the temples at Kumbakonam. Arrive in Tanjore and check-in your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 6. Tanjore - Trichy: Morning tour of Tanjore, visiting Brihadeeswara Temple, The Palace, Sangeetha Mahal, Saraswati Mahal, Library, Raja Museum, Temple Museum and Schwarz Church. Later drive to Trichy to visit the Rock Fort, Sri Jambukeshwara Temple, Tiruvannaikaval, Srirangam, Museums and Art Galleries. Overnight stay in Trichy.

Day 07. Trichy - Madurai: Depart for Madurai. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. In the afternoon visit Meenakshi Temple, Tirumalai Nayak Palace, Mariamman Tank and Koodal Alagar Temple. In the evening, visit Meenakshi Temple again for the evening prayer ceremony.

Day 8. Departure: Check out and transfer to Airport to take a flight back home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.



The Abode of Lord Buddha

India has always been a delight for tourists, especially those interested in history, culture and religion. For Buddhist tourists, **India is the land of Buddha, for it was here, in a small town of Bodh Gaya, that the great prince Siddhartha attained enlightenment and became Buddha. Years later, it was again in India that an ambitious king Asoka renounced everything and took refuge in the preaching of Buddha.** He sent his emissaries to different parts of the world so as to spread the message of peace and harmony and the religion of Buddhism.

In brief, it was from India that Buddhism flourished and found its way to the other countries of the world. Hence, a trip to India to know and understand Buddhism comprehensively is extremely important.

Gautama Buddha, also known as Siddhartha, Gautama, Shakyamuni, or simply the Buddha, was a sage, on whose teachings Buddhism was founded. Born in the Shakya republic in the Himalayan foothills, Gautama Buddha taught primarily in northeastern India.

Some of the famous Buddhist sights in India and Subcontinent are Mahabodhi Temple, Gaya, Bihar, Lumbini, Nepal, Sanchi Stupa, Madhya Pradesh, Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, Kyichu temple, Taktsang monastery in Bhutan.

FOOTPRINTS OF BUDDHA

8 NIGHTS / 9 DAYS

Delhi | Gaya | Bodhgaya | Varanasi | Sravasti | Lumbini
Kushinagar | Kesariya | Vaishali

Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival, transfer to your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 2. Delhi-Gaya: Take a flight to Gaya, meet and greet on arrival. Afternoon visit Gaya including Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhi Tree where Lord Buddha was enlightened. Great Buddha Statue, Niranjana River, Sujata Temple & other Buddhist temples in Bodhgaya are all close-by. Overnight stay at Bodhgaya.

Day 3. Bodhgaya-Varanasi: Drive to varanasi, on arrival, check into to your hotel for two nights. Early evening visit Sarnath, where the Buddha preached his first sermon and first organized an order of monks, the sangha. In the evening witness the spectacular Aarti of the holy river Ganges.

Day 4. Varanasi: Early morning enjoy the dawn boat ride on the holy river of the Ganges. Also visit Kashi Vishwanath temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is popularly known as the golden Temple due the Gold plating done on its 15.5 meter high spire. Afternoon visit popular ghats of varanasi and experience a sunset boat ride.

Day 5. Varanasi-Sravasti: Drive to Sravasti, on arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. visit Jethavanaramaya where Lord Buddha spent 19 yrs preaching Dhamma. Visit Angulimala Stupa., Ananda Bodhi and other sacred places.

Day 6. Sravasti- Kapilvastu-Lumbini: Drive to Lumbini, en-route visit Kapilvastu, where Buddha childhood was spent & also visit ruins of the palaces. Further drive to Lumbini, enroute stop at India / Nepal border for visa / immigration formalities. Afternoon visit sacred site where Prince Siddhartha was born. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 7. Lumbini-Kushinagar: Morning drive to Kushinagar, on arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. visit Mahaparinirvana Temple, where Lord Buddha took his last breath and Adhahana Chethiya, cremation site of Lord Buddha.

Day 8. Kushinagar-Kesariya-Vaishali-Patna: Early morning drive to Patna, Visit Kesariya Stupa & Vaishali - Ashoka pillar Monkey Tank & Ruins of Buddha, Original Relic Stupa. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 9: Departure: Check out and transfer to Airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.



HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDDHA'S TRAIL

6 NIGHTS / 7 DAYS

Delhi | Agra | Varanasi | Bodhgaya | Patna



Day 1. Delhi: Arrive Delhi, transfer to your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 2. Delhi-Agra: Morning train to Agra. Visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna. Also visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great. Board evening train to Varanasi.

Day 3. Varanasi: On arrival, transfer to your hotel for an overnight stay. Visit Sarnath, where the Buddha preached his first sermon and first organized an order of monks, the sangha. Afternoon visit Kashi Vishwanath temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is popularly known as the golden Temple due the Gold plating done on its 15.5 meter high spire. also visit popular ghats of varanasi and experience a sunset boat ride followed by aarti on the bank of the river Ganges.

Day 4. Varanasi-Bodhgaya: Early morning drive to Bodhgaya, on arrival, check into the hotel for two nights stay. Visit Gaya including Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhi Tree where Lord Buddha was enlightened. Great Buddha Statue, Niranjana River, Sujata Temple.

Day 5. Bodhgaya: Full day visit various temple and monastery.

Day 6. Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda-Patna: Drive to Patna, enroute visit Rajgir and Nalanda. Rajgir, once the capital of Magadha. Amongst the favorite most retreats of Lord Buddha, it was here only in Rajgir that Lord Buddha preached two of his most famous sermons. Visit Shanti stupa, which is situated in the top of a hill, that houses four Gold statues representing Buddha's birth, enlightenment, teaching and death. Further drive to Nalanda, which was center to one of the oldest universities in the world, dating back to 5th century BC. Visit the ruins of Nalanda university and museum.

Day 7: Departure: Check out and transfer to Airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.

Nature & Wildlife

India is home to several fabulous wildlife sanctuaries and national parks, which makes this country a nature lover's paradise. There are as many as 80 national parks and over 441 wildlife sanctuaries in India, covering nearly 4.5% of the total geographical area of the country. Scattered all across the country, these sanctuaries and parks attract the tourists with their beautiful landscapes, amazing rock formation and diverse range of flora and fauna. Most of these sanctuaries were originally private hunting grounds of the former Indian aristocratic families.

There are 43 tiger reserves in India which are governed by Project Tiger which is administered by the National Tiger Conservation Authority:

Some of the famous reserves are Ranthambore Tiger Reserve - Rajasthan, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve - Uttar Pradesh, Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve - Uttarakhand, Periyar Tiger Reserve - Kerala, Sunderbans Tiger Reserve - West Bengal, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Kanha Tiger Reserve, Panna Tiger Reserve and Pench Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.



A KALEIDOSCOPE OF NATURE & HERITAGE

9 NIGHTS/ 10 DAYS

Delhi | Jaipur | Ranthambore | Bharatpur | Agra



Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival at Delhi, and transfer to hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of New Delhi which includes the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun. Drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Day 2. Delhi-Jaipur: Travel by train to the capital city of state Rajasthan, on arrival, check into your hotel. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Hawa Mahal, the palace of winds. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family. Also visit Jantar Mantar observatory with its 90 ft. sundial and explore the bustling and colourful markets of the old city.

Day 3. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Jal Mahal, summer palace. Also Evening visit Samode palace, once the residence of the prime minister of the royal court of Jaipur

Day 4. Jaipur-Ranthambore: Drive to Ranthambore National Park, once a princely game conserve is the scene where the celebrated Indian Tiger is best seen. On arrival, check into your resort for two nights.

Day 5. Ranthambore: Today enjoy Morning and evening safari on an open vehicle, to the home of Indian Tiger.

Day 6. Ranthambore-Bharatpur: Drive to Bharatpur, on arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Bharatpur is also known as Keoladeo Ghana National Park, and home for migrated birds from all over the world. Experience the bird century on a bicycle or rickshaw.

Day 7. Bharatpur-Agra: Drive to Agra, en-route visit Fatehpur Sikri the Mughal capital during the reign of Akbar the great, further drive to Agra, check into your hotel for two nights.

Day 8: Agra: Early morning visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great. Also visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna.

Day 9: Agra-Delhi: Drive to Delhi, on arrival, check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Afternoon experience a guided tour of Old Delhi includes a drive past the Red fort and a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in Asia and the Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

Day 10 Departure: Check out and transfer to airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.



THE TRAILS OF TIGER

12 NIGHTS/ 13 DAYS

Delhi | Jaipur | Ranthambore | Bharatpur | Agra | Bandhavgarh
Kanha | Pench | Mumbai



Day 1. Delhi: Meet and greet on arrival at Delhi, and transfer to hotel for two nights stay. After noon experience a guided tour of New Delhi includes the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun and a drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Day 2. Delhi-Jaipur: Travel by train to the capital city of state Rajasthan, on arrival, check into your hotel. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Hawa Mahal, the palace of winds. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family. Also visit Jantar Mantar observatory with its 90 ft. sundial and explore the bustling and colourful markets of the old city.

Day 3. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Jal Mahal, summer palace. Also Evening visit Samode palace, once the residence of the prime minister of the royal court of Jaipur

Day 4. Jaipur-Ranthambore: Drive to Ranthambore National Park, once a princely game conserve is the scene where the celebrated Indian Tiger is best seen. On arrival, check into your resort for two nights.

Day 5. Ranthambore: Today enjoy Morning and evening safari on an open vehicle, to the home of Indian Tiger.

Day 6. Ranthambore - Agra: Drive to Agra, en-route visit Keoladeo Ghana Bird sanctuary, at Bharatpur, known for its migratory birds, further drive to Agra, check into your hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 7: Agra-Bandhavgarh: Early morning visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah

Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great. Also visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna. Evening experience numerous shades of The Taj Mahal with the setting sun. Board an overnight train for Bandhavgarh.

Day 8. Bandhavgarh: Morning arrive at Katni, and transfer to your resort in Bandhavgarh National Park for an overnight stay. This national park has the highest density of the tigers where you can be almost certain of seeing a tiger in its natural habitat. It's in this valley that the world's first white tiger was found. Evening enjoy safari on an open vehicle to see the animals in their natural abode.

Day 9. Bandhavgarh-Kanha: Morning enjoy the safari to the beautiful park with the sun rays filtering from the trees leaves. Afternoon checkout and drive to Kanha National park. Check into your hotel/resort for two nights stay here.

Day 10. Kanha: Today experience morning and evening safari in one of the most well maintained National Parks in Asia, Kanha National Park. It was here only that Rudyard Kipling got inspiration for his famous novel "Jungle Book"

Day 11. Kanha - Pench: Check out and drive to Pench National Park. Check into a resort for an overnight stay. An evening safari in the park will leave you spell bound with its beauty

Day 12. Pench - Mumbai: Check out and drive to Nagpur to take a flight to Mumbai. Check into a hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 13 Departure: Check out and transfer to airport to take a flight home.

Or opt for a customised extension tour.

THE HIGHLIGHTS OF INDIA

17 NIGHTS/ 18 DAYS

Delhi | Varanasi | Khajuraho | Agra | Jaipur
Goa | Kochi | Alleppy | Mumbai



Day 1. Delhi: Arrive Delhi and transfer to your hotel for two nights' stay.

Day 2. Delhi: Experience a guided tour of New Delhi including the Qutab Minar, a symbol of Victory built in the early 13th century and the tomb of the Mughal Emperor Humayun and a drive past the imposing India Gate (War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Day 3. Delhi -Varanasi: Take a flight for Varanasi. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Varanasi is also popularly called as Benaras, "the city of temples". Visit the famous Ghats and temples of Varanasi. Witness a spectacular sunset while you take boat ride on the river Ganges. In the evening witness the spectacular Aarti of the holy river.

Day 4. Varanasi - Khajuraho: Take a flight for Khajuraho, on arrival transfer to your hotel for two nights' stay. Enjoy the light & sound show in the evening, that take you back to the era when the construction of the temples had started.

Day 5. Varanasi - Khajuraho: Visit the world renowned temples of Eastern & Western group. The carvings that swathe Khajuraho's three groups of World Heritage-listed temples are among the finest temple art in the world. Evening free at leisure.

Day 6. Khajuraho - Orchha- Agra: Drive to Jhansi to board train for Agra. En-route visit Orchha, once the capital of one of the largest and most powerful kingdoms of Central India. Arrive Agra by late evening. On arrival transfer to your hotel for two nights' stay.

Day 7. Agra: Morning visit The Taj Mahal, with the first ray of the Sun on the white Marble mausoleum. Afternoon visit Agra fort which was amazingly built of red stone in the 11th century by the Mughal emperor Akbar, beside the then fast flowing river Yamuna. Also visit the white marble mausoleum The Taj Mahal built in the memory of Mumtaz Mahal the beloved wife of Shah Jahan the Mughal emperor also the descendant of Akbar the great.

Day 8. Agra-Jaipur: Drive to Jaipur, en-route visit Fatehpur Sikri the Mughal capital during the reign of Akbar the great, further drive to Jaipur. Check into your hotel for two nights.

Day 9. Jaipur: Morning visit Amer Fort Palace, once the capital of Kachhwaha dynasty. Afternoon a brief photo stop at Jal Mahal, summer palace and Hawa Mahal, the palace of winds. Also visit City Palace museum, which still houses the royal family. Visit Samode palace, once the residence of the prime minister of the royal court of Jaipur.

Day 10. Jaipur-Goa: Take a flight for Goa. Arrive in the afternoon and check into a resort for two nights stay.

Day 11. Goa: Explore some of the most beautiful beaches of North Goa viz. Vagor, Anjuna, Calangute, Baga etc.

Day 12. Goa-Kochi: Visit world heritage sites of Old Goa; the basilica of Bom Jesus and St. Fransis Xavier Church. A visit to the spice plantation village is a must in your itinerary. Evening transfer to railway station to take an overnight train for Kochi.

Day 13. Kochi: Arrive Kochi and check into a hotel for two nights' stay. Evening free at leisure.

Day 14. Kochi: Enjoy a tour of Kochi, visiting the Dutch Palace, Jewish Synagogue, Fort Cochin, Chinese fishing nets and if you like, shop for antiques and jewelry.

Day 15. Kochi - Alleppy: Drive to Alleppy. Arrive and check into a houseboat for an overnight stay. Enjoy a backwater cruise. Kerala backwaters consist of a complex network of lagoons, lakes and canals and are best experienced while slowly cruising the labyrinth of canals in a traditional thatch-roofed houseboat.

Day 16. Alleppy-Mumbai: Check out and drive to Kochi to take a flight for Mumbai. Arrive Mumbai and check in to a hotel for two nights' stay. Evening free at leisure.

Day 17. Mumbai: Morning visit Gateway of India and board a ferry for Elephanta caves. Also known as Gharapuri, this green island is a wonder of the 7th century, the painstakingly hewn rock-cut cave temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva. Evening free at leisure.

Day 18. Mumbai: Check out and fly back to your home.



A close-up photograph of a person's hand touching a dark, intricately carved metal pillar. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with fingers gently resting against the textured surface of the pillar. The pillar features detailed carvings, possibly of a religious or historical nature. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the same structure and a warm, golden light, suggesting an indoor setting with traditional architecture.

Indian *Subcontinent*

Nepal is a country of highly diverse and rich geography, culture, and religions. The mountainous north has eight of the world's ten highest mountains, including the highest, Sagarmatha, known in English as Mount Everest. The fertile and humid south is heavily urbanized. It contains over 240 peaks more than 20,000 ft (6,096 meters) above sea level.

By some measures, Hinduism is practiced by a larger majority of people in Nepal than in any other nation. Buddhism, though a minority faith in the country, is linked historically with Nepal as the birthplace of Siddhartha Gautama, who as the Buddha Gautama gave birth to the Buddhist tradition.

Day 1. Kathmandu: Arrive Kathmandu and transfer to the hotel. Check into your hotel for three nights stay. Evening free at leisure.

Day 2. Kathmandu: Early morning, enjoy an optional Mountain Flight for an hour by fixed wing aircraft, the flight shall give you an ariel view of Mt. Everest and other Himalayan Peaks. Later in the day visit Patan City which is a world heritage site and has artistic courtyards and graceful pagoda temples. Visit Swoyambhunath, the four seeing eyes of Swoyambhunath Stupa watch over the valley from the top of 77-m high hillock on western side. This most glorious Stupa in the world, is one of the holiest Buddhist sites in Nepal. Kathmandu Durbar Square, this complex of palaces, courtyards and temples, built between 12th and 18th Centuries, used to be the seat of ancient Malla Kings of Kathmandu. It is the place where kings of Nepal are crowned and their coronations solemnized.

Day 3. Kathmandu: Visit Bhaktapur City, Bhaktapur Durbar Square is a conglomeration of pagoda and shikhara-style temples grouped around a fifty-five window palace of brick and wood. The square is one of the most charming architectural showpieces of the Valley as it highlights the ancient arts of Nepal. Later in the day visit Boudhanath, which is among the largest stupas in South Asia, and it has become the focal point of Tibetan Buddhism in Nepal.

Day 4. Departure: Check out and drive to airport to take a flight home...

Bhutan

On the roof of the world, shoe horned into the grand Himalaya, Bhutan, the thunder Dragon, is a fiercely independent kingdom. With an area slightly larger than Switzerland, there are only about 600,000 people. The name Bhutan appears to derive from the ancient Indian term "Bhotanta" which means the end of land of the Bhots, it could also extend from the Sanskrit word Bhu'uttan or highland.

The Kingdom lies east of Nepal and west of the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh. Located in the heart of the high Himalayan mountain range, Bhutan is a land-locked country surrounded by mountains in north and west. The rugged east, visited by few Western travelers, the high Himalaya in the northern steppes separates the kingdom from Tibet.



Day 1. Thimpu: Arrive Paro and transfer to Thimpu. Check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Thimphu, the capital city is a small city having a population of approximately 90,000 people and the streets are wide and tree lined. Visit Tashichho Dzong, the fortress that serves as the office of the King, ministers and various government organizations, is the headquarters for central monastic body of Bhutan.

Later in the day visit Memorial Chorten, Zilukha Nunnery, and Paper Factory where traditional papers were made from the daphne plant using simple methods. Like rice papers, these papers are said to last longer. IN the evening visit Sangaygang View Point (Telecom Tower)

Day 2. Paro: Drive to Paro. Arrive and check to your hotel for two nights' stay. Visit Kichu Lhakhang, which is one of the oldest temples in Bhutan built in the 7th century. Visit Paro Rinpung Dzong, that was consecrated in 1645 on the site of smaller fort. It is regarded as one of the finest Bhutanese architecture

Day 3. Paro: In the morning hike to Taktshang monestry which is popularly called as the Tiger's nest, one of the most venerated and famous of Bhutan's monasteries. You can also take a pony ride to halfway to the most highlighted Buddhist temple in entire Himalayas. It is located on the face of a sheer 900m cliff above the floor of Paro valley. It is an impressive and un-miss-able sight but accessible only by walk or to ride mules/pony.

Day 4. Departure: Drive to Paro airport to fly back home...

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka has an enthralling recorded history of civilization. Its unique and proud historical record of a great civilization spans over 25 chronicled centuries, and is documented primarily in three books; the Mahavansa (Great Genealogy or Dynasty), Dipavansa and Culavansa. Sri Lankan history is distinctive as it has a historical record, which is ancient, continuous and trustworthy, and begins with the occupation of the island by civilized men in 5th century, BC. The story continues under each successive king for over 20 centuries. The Mahavansa is primarily a dynamic and religious historical record. In addition to this record, there are over 2500 inscriptions in Sri Lanka. The earliest inscriptions are contemporary with the introduction of Buddhism in the 3rd century BC. More than 1000 epigraphs, mostly inscribed on caves, belong to the third, second and first centuries BC, exist in the dry zone as well as in the old caves temples in Colombo, Kegalla, and Kandy.

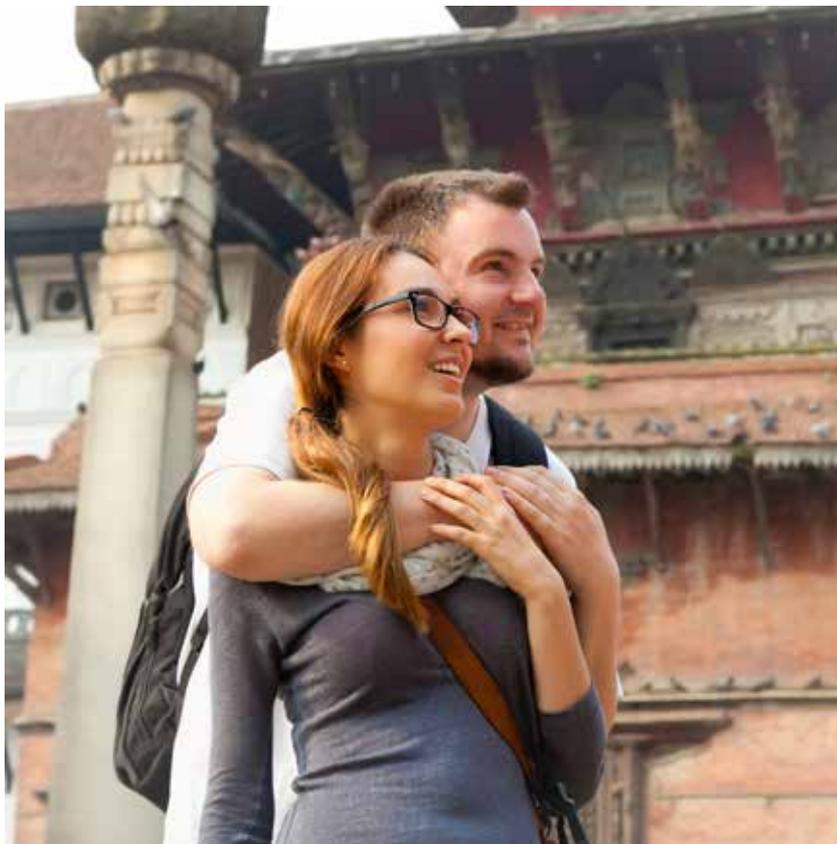
Day 1. Colombo - Bentota: Arrive Colombo and transfer to Bentota. Check into your hotel. Evening free at leisure at the beautiful beach.

Day 2. Bentota: Drive to visit Galle en-route visit the Turtle Hatchery at Kosgodda and a Mask Factory in Ambalangoda. Galle is a world heritage site. It was the chief port of Ceylon/Sri Lanka. The tour to Galle will include a visit the Galle Fort (spread across 90 acres), which was originally built by the Portuguese and later extended by the Dutch in 1663. In addition to the fort, Galle is also well known for its hand-made lace. Return to Bentota in the evening.

Day 3. Colombo: Check out and drive to Colombo. Arrive and check into your hotel for an overnight stay. Enjoy half a day city tour of Colombo, driving through the commercial area of the Fort. Drive past "Pettah" - a noisy Oriental bazaar with a hotchpotch of humanity, ancient vehicles, bargains, mosques & temples. Visit Hindu temple & drive past Jumi-UL Alfar Jumma mosque. Continue the tour through the Wolvendaal Dutch Church and Hultsdorf Law Courts, to the residential area of Cinnamon Gardens and on to the Independence Square and Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall.

Day 4. Departure: Check out and departure for airport to take a flight home..

Essential Information



Location: India is located in South Asia, with China, Nepal and Bhutan in the North; Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh and Burma to the east; the Indian Ocean to the South and Pakistan and the Arabian Sea to the West. India shares land boundaries with Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, China, Nepal, and Pakistan

Capital: New Delhi

Population: India's population is about 1.12 billion (2013 census)

Area: 3.3 million sq. km.

Administrative Divisions: 28 States and 7 Union Territories

Time Difference: 5 ½ hours ahead of GMT (winter) and 4 ½ hours ahead of GMT (summer).

Electricity: Voltage in most places is 220v AC, 50 Hz. Socket sizes vary, so it is recommended to carry adapters.

National Holidays: January 26 – Republic Day, August 15 – Independence Day and October 2 – Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday

International Dialling Code: +91.

National Air Carrier: Air India

Currency: The currency is the Rupee, abbreviated as Rs which is divided into 100 paise. The Rupee notes come in denominations of 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000. Coins are in denominations of Rupee 1, 2, 5 & 10.

Water: It is advisable to drink only bottled or distilled water, which is widely available. Order the same when you are at a restaurant.

Hospitals & Chemists: It is recommended to carry your own medicines, There are very good drug stores and doctors everywhere, and they can advise on substitute medication. If the necessity arises, ask your hotel to recommend a doctor or talk to us for assistance.

Travel Tips

- Your travel arrangements should be made well in advance, especially if you are travelling between October-March (high tourist season) and May-June, the Indian holiday season. Travel facilities are limited in relation to demand so prior bookings are a must.
- If travelling by air, you should include one or more trips by rail or road so that you can experience rural India. When planning your trip, it is a must to include an Indian festival in your itinerary, enhancing your Indian experience.
- English is spoken at almost all tourist centres, but we can also book Government-trained and approved language speaking guides (German, French, Spanish, Japanese, Italian or Russian). Tour guides will assist you not only in your sightseeing, but also help you understand India better.
- Do not wear footwear or shorts, sleeveless tops or revealing clothes inside Hindu, Sikh, Muslim or Jain places of worship. Both men and women need to keep their shoulders and legs covered, especially in temples and it is handy for women to carry a scarf they can use to cover their heads if necessary. Certain areas of temples are not open to Non-Hindus.
- Visitors should be wary of strangers. Do not walk in isolated spots on your own especially after dark.

The image features three hands reaching out from the left, right, and bottom edges towards the center. The hands are positioned as if they are about to meet or are in the process of holding something together. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with blue and white tones, suggesting a bright, open environment. The text is centered in the middle of the frame.

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committed...*



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