

INDIA

India is a country that breathes an atmosphere of exotic magic. It is a wonderful touring destination with its endless variety of colour, bustling cities, fabulous temples and mixture of cultures and religion.



Taj Mahal

AGRA

Agra was the capital of India under the Mughals in the 16th and 17th centuries and its superb monuments date from this era. Agra is popularly known for its magnificent fort and the Taj Mahal which is said to be 'the most beautiful building in the world'. This spectacular mausoleum, with its marble walls, is inlaid with flowers of lapis lazuli, cornelian, agate, jade and the verses of the Koran written on its outer walls, is deservedly counted amongst the seven wonders of the world.

AGRA FORT

Built on the site of a pre-Mughal Hindu citadel, the Agra Fort bears the distinctive architectural imprint of successive generations of rulers. This vast complex of palaces, mosques and administrative buildings is enclosed within massive walls of red sandstone.

QUTAB MINAR

The origins of the Qutab Minar are shrouded in controversy. Some believe it was erected as a tower of victory to signify the beginning of Muslim rule in India. Others say it served as a minaret for the muezzins to call the faithful to prayer. The tower, however, is not only one of the finest monuments in India, but also in the world.

JAMA MASJID

Work on the Jama Masjid mosque was begun in 1650 by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan to complement his palace at the Red Fort. More than 5,000 workers toiled for six years to complete the largest mosque in India. Jama Masjid is not only architecturally beautiful, but is also a place of great religious significance as it houses a hair from the beard of the Prophet and also a chapter of the Holy Quran written by him.

RAJ GHAT

The remains of Mahatma Gandhi were cremated on this spot on the west bank of the river Yamuna on the evening of January 31, 1948. A simple open platform inscribed with the Mahatma's last words, 'Hey Ram' (Oh God) is set in a garden with fountains and a variety of exotic trees.

SUGGESTED ITINERARY

- DAY 1** Scheduled international flight from London - Delhi
- DAY 2** Arrive in Delhi. Transfer to your hotel in the heart of New Delhi.
- DAY 3** Full day of excursions visiting several prominent monuments - The second Mughal Emperor Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar, Quwwat Ul Islam (Might of Islam) Mosque, Jama Masjid (a place of great religious significance), Chandni Chowk, Raj Ghat where the remains of Mahatma Gandhi were cremated, the Government Buildings and India Gate.
- DAY 4** Half Day tour in Delhi visiting the National Museum with its Indian and foreign works of art and the National Crafts Museum. Afternoon is at leisure to explore the city.
- DAY 5** Depart Delhi for Jaipur also known as the "Pink City" because the facades of all the building are painted Pink by law.
- DAY 6** Morning visit to the Amber Fort where you will ride an elephant up the steep slopes to the Fort. Afternoon is free to explore the Bazaar.
- DAY 7** Depart Jaipur for Agra stopping at the magnificent Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri en-route.
- DAY 8** Full day of excursions including Agra Fort and, one of the most beautiful buildings in the world, the Taj Mahal
- DAY 9** Depart Agra for Delhi. Afternoon is at leisure.
- DAY 10** Transfer to airport for your scheduled flight home.

WHAT IS INCLUDED...

- Scheduled International flights from London to Delhi return.
- 8 nights hotel accommodation on Dinner, half board.
- Excursions and entrances as per the itinerary.
- Transfers to and from Indian airports.
- Air-conditioned coach throughout.
- English speaking guides.



Top to Bottom:
Budda,
Palace of Jaipur,
Indian Cuisine.

DELHI

Delhi is the capital of India and is a major travel gateway which has a long and fascinating history. One of the most interesting areas to visit is on the west bank of the Yamuna River which is divided into two parts - Old Delhi the 17th Century walled city which has tightly packed streets; and New Delhi the planned city with wide tree-lined streets, parks and fountains. Both still have the traditional cows walking the streets calmly ignoring the traffic. Culturally, Delhi is renowned for its visual arts scene and its dance.

JAIPUR

Jaipur is the vibrant capital of Rajasthan and is also known as the 'pink city' because of the colour of the buildings in the old city. It is situated on a dry lake bed which is arid and surrounded by barren hills. Jaipur is a feast for the eyes with its vegetable laden camel carts and jam packed streets full of cars, rickshaws, bicycles, tempos, motorcycles and pedestrians dodging the traffic. It is certainly a place of wild contrasts.