Passage to India 15 days

Embark on a colourful journey through remarkable Rajasthan. Explore the legendary Golden Triangle of Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, before travelling into the mighty Thar Desert to explore the remote towns of Bikaner, Jaisalmer and the Blue city of Jodphur. Opt to finish your tour back in Delhi or head south to Mumbai (Bombay).

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: Delhi / Ends in: Delhi
- Departs: Every second Saturday - September through to April
- No local payment required
- Breakfast:14, Lunch: 1, Dinner: 2
- Hotel Rating: 3 - 4 star & heritage hotels
- Tour Guide: Yes (for groups of 6 or more)

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- For a detailed GO GUIDE - click here
- To book this trip - click here
- To enquire about this trip - click here

TOUR MAP:

QUICK WEB LINKS

India Prices ::: Why Us for India? ::: India Reviews ::: Our India Blog ::: Golden Triangle Tours ::: Kashmir Tours ::: Kerala Tours ::: Top Spots in India ::: Best Time to Visit ::: Festivals & Events ::: Hotels in India ::: Tiger Spotting ::: India - Useful Info ::: FAQs on India ::: India Visas ::: India Gallery

Passage to India 15 days

Day 1: Delhi

Saturday.Upon arrival into Delhi, you'll be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel. The remainder of the day is yours to relax or independently explore this bustling capital. Overnight - Delhi

Day 2: Sightseeing in Old Delhi

This morning, our Welcome Meeting takes place. Afterwards we embark on a full day sightseeing tour of Delhi, taking in the impressive Red Fort, Jama Masjid - India's oldest and largest mosque, Raj Ghat - the site of Gandhi's cremation and more. Tonight, we enjoy a delicious group Namaste Dinner at a restaurant specialising in classic Indian cuisine. Overnight - Delhi

Day 3: The Taj Mahal

Delhi - Agra. Departing Delhi, we journey to Agra, once India's Mughal capital. Here, we visit the impressive Agra Fort, which boasts some of India's finest Mughal buildings behind it's fortified walls. Later on we take a motorised buggy to the legendary Taj Mahal and witness a magical sunset. Built by Shah Jahan in the 16th century as an enduring memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz. Built entirely of white marble, the Taj Mahal has no peers. Overnight - Agra

Day 4: Jaipur

Agra - Jaipur. En route to Jaipur, we visit the ghostly former Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri, abandoned due to lack of water. As we get closer to Jaipur we stop for a tasty lunch and visit Chandra Haveli, a charming haveli (mansion house) with small courtyard, lawned gardens and rustic appeal carefully being restored to the splendour of better farming years (if open, currently under renovation till July 2013). Once in Jaipur, we visit a cotton trading/tailor shop where you can get clothing tailored for delivery to your hotel before we leave! Overnight - Jaipur

Day 5: Jaipur

This morning, we travel beyond Jaipur to the 16th century Amber Fort. An exotic elephant ride transports us to the lofty fort, where we'll enjoy a tour of this Rajput extravaganza. Why not bolt on an early morning amazing hot air balloon ride? Later in the afternoon we tour the City Palace, which boasts an interesting museum of regal attire and Jantar Mantar, an ancient astronomical observatory. Overnight - Jaipur

Day 6: Surajgarh - Shekhawati Region

Jaipur - Shekhawati region. Today, we drive to the semi-desert Shekhawati region. The small towns in this region became important trading posts, a lasting legacy of which are the beautiful painted havelis (mansions) constructed by wealthy merchants in the 18th and 19th centuries. Enjoy an afternoon village walk. Overnight - Surajgarh - Shekhawati Region

Day 7: Bikaner - a fine desert outpost

Shekhawati region – Bikaner. Travelling west, our next stop is the 14th century desert town of Bikaner. Once an important staging post on the great caravan routes, much of the atmospheric old town which we will explore is still encircled by massive fortified walls. Within these walls are havelis, artisan shops and people going about their daily lives. We also visit the spectacular Junagarh Fort & museum, built between 1587 and 1593 during the rule of Rai Singh. Overnight - Bikaner

Days 8 - 9: Jaisalmer - the east, west silk route

Bikaner - Jaisalmer. Driving through the Rajasthani Thar desert we arrive at the medieval caravan outpost of Jaisalmer, one of the jewels in India's crown. Exquisite wood and sandstone buildings dot the town and within Jaisalmer Fort are homes, hotels and shops hidden in ancient lane ways.

During our stay in this stunning Rajasthani fortress town we'll enjoy some touring plus a desert camel safari on the rolling sand dunes. Overnight - Jaisalmer

Day 10: Jodphur - the blue city

Jaisalmer - Jodhpur. An interesting drive through increasingly varied scenery takes us to Jodhpur, a town at the edge of the

mighty Thar Desert. Dominated by Meherangarh Fort which sits majestically atop a hill, Jodhpur is known as the Blue City. This is because of the coloured houses in the old town, painted indigo. We'll enjoy some touring in this colourful Rajasthani city, taking in the mighty fort and bazaars of the old city which are gathered around the city's tall clock tower. Overnight - Jodhpur

Day 11: Ranakpur

Jodhpur - Ranakpur. Leaving Jodhpur, we drive to Ranakpur, a small town tucked away in a remote valley and famed for its beautiful 14th century Jain temples. We'll enjoy some exploration here and time to relax at our hotel. Overnight - Ranakpur

Days 12 - 13: Udaipur

Ranakpur - Udaipur. Continuing south, we arrive at Udaipur. An oasis of cool, with its massive lake and Venetian-like appearance, Udaipur is one of the most romantic towns in Rajasthan. A favourite amongst travellers, Udaipur is crammed full of palaces and temples. During our stay we'll enjoy a cruise on Lake Pichola, plus touring of the imposing City Palace, not to mention free time to explore and perhaps shop for colourful Rajasthani souvenirs and Indian spices. Overnight - Udaipur

Day 14: Fly back to Delhi

Udaipur – Delhi. Departure transfer to the airport to board a morning flight to Delhi. Option to travel onward to Mumbai, see note below. The afternoon is free for you to relax at the hotel or to head out and further explore Delhi. Overnight - Delhi

Day 15: Delhi

Saturday. Saying goodbye to our new found friends, our tour ends, hotel check-out and included onward transfer to airport.

Hola Mohalla Sikh Festival - For a truly unique experience combine your tour with the spectacle of the Hola Mohalla Sikh Festival held in the holy city of Anandpur Sahib. Witness the colourful festivities including mock martial arts battles, impressive displays of weaponry, archery and wrestling as well as music, poetry and prayers, singing and chanting, while food is served to pilgrims from all castes and creeds by women from the neighbouring villages.

If travelling on our 30 March 2013 Passage to India departure you can combine this with our 5 day Hola Mohalla Sikh Festival tour departing on 26 March 2013. Contact us for further details.

WHAT YOU SEE AND WHAT YOU GET:

Below is a list of key highlights and what is included on this tour. Further, where appropriate, we have listed the items that are not included in the tour price.

Trip Highlights

- Old and New Delhi - the magnificent Red Fort, India's largest mosque Jama Masjid, and Gandhi's crematorium Raj Ghat.
- The spectacular Taj Mahal - India's most famous monument in all its glory at sunset.
- The Pink City of Jaipur - the lofty Amber Fort, the very regal City Palace and the ancient observatory of Jantar Mantar.
- An exotic elephant ride into Jaipur's Amber Fort - just like the Raj would have done
- Fatehpur Sikri - an ancient abandoned Mughal city.
- India's rural Shekhawati region famed for its beautiful Rajasthani architecture and classic havelis.
- Bikaner - the meticulous Junagarh Fort and Camel Research Centre where you can try ice cream made from camel's milk!
- The desert city of Jaisalmer - the dominating Jaisalmer Fort, gorgeous old town and the magnificent sweeping Sam Sand dunes
- The Blue City of Jodhpur - the skyline dominating Meherangarh Fort, the regal Jodphur Palace and the beautiful Thar Desert
- Ranakpur - the stunning intricately designed Jain temples
- Peaceful Udaipur - the tranquil Lake Pichola, and the delightful City Palace.

- Agra - the beautiful Agra Fort and the Mughal mausoleum known as Baby Taj)

What's Included

- 14 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners (including Namaste Dinner in Delhi)
- 14 nights - 3-4 star and heritage hotels
- Elephant ride to Amber Fort - Jaipur (*Subject to Government regulations and availability)
- Buggy ride to Taj Mahal - Agra
- Camel sand dune safari - Jaisalmer
- Boat cruise on Lake Pichola - Udaipur
- Economy class flight - Udaipur - Delhi
- Taj Mahal, Jaipur City Palace and Jantar Mantar entrance fees.
- All relevant transfers and transportation
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 15
- Touring of Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Alsisar, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhur and Udaipur
- English speaking Indian tour leader for groups of 6 or more
- Specialist local guides at some sights

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tip for your tour leader. We suggest $13-$20 USD per person for this tour. Tipping your leader is an entirely personal gesture.
- Entrance Fees: $50-60 USD
- Tipping Kitty: $25-30 USD

BOLT-ONS:

Make the most of your time away! Listed below are the optional activities that are available on this trip. Please note that you will need to book these prior to travel as we cannot always guarantee availability of these activities once you are on holiday.

Balloon over Jaipur - USD $299

Sail within a breath of lofty hilltop forts and fine regal palaces. Look down upon sleepy villages waking to the early morning sun. Drift past expansive waterside manors and intricately stone carved temples with the Pink City of Jaipur in the distance on a magical hot air balloon adventure.

Shimla Calling - 4 days - USD $579

Ride the narrow gauge railway aboard the Himalayan Queen Toy Train to Shimla. Nestled between lofty peaks and breathtaking scenery, the charming getaway was once the summer capital of British India. The natural beauty of Shimla will enchant you, being famous for its colourful bazaar, temples at soaring heights, stunning sunsets and verdant woods, contrasted with the quintessential English pomp and style.

Bollywood Dancing - USD $79

For some lighthearted fun, join in the energy of a Bollywood dance class in Delhi! Bollywood dance has transformed over the years from a traditional, classical style into a modern, pop culture which is taking the world by storm! We have teamed up with the Delhi Dance Academy to offer you a simple and entertaining introduction to this wonderful dance form! Whilst we cannot guarantee you'll leave the class ready to star in the next big Bollywood Blockbuster, you're sure to learn a few sharp moves to impress your friends on the dance floor!

Gateway to the Gods - USD $569

Experience Eastern spirituality on this 4 day/3 night bolt-on to Haridwar and Rishikesh - two of the holiest cities in India. Haridwar - the 'Gateway to the Gods', attracts millions of pilgrims from around the world who come to cleanse their sins by bathing in the Holy Ganges River and Rishikesh - the 'Yoga Capital of the World', is an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Mumbai Breakaway - USD $599

Formally known as Bombay, exhilarating and charismatic Mumbai is the most populated city in the world, home of Bollywood and the setting of the hit film 'Slum Dog Millionaire'. Discover this city of contrasts where gleaming sky scrapers stand side by side with run down slums. Explore this bustling city and immerse yourself in the madness of Mumbai!

PRICES AND DATES: from USD $2,539

Prices shown are per person travelling. 'Twin/Double' prices per person apply when there are 2 people travelling, sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the 'Twin/Double' price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same sex on your tour, this can be arranged, (if another solo traveller of the same sex is already booked upon the tour), thus avoiding the single person supplement. All our scheduled tour departures are guaranteed subject to a minimum of 2 travellers. This tour is also available on a private basis - for details please see the Supplementary Prices at the bottom of this page. Family Departures - Families with teens, aged 12 and above are welcome to join our tours marked with the 'Family' icon below. The adult/ price per person cost applies.

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
27 JUL - 10 AUG	USD $2,539	USD $929
10 AUG - 24 AUG	USD $2,539	USD $929

24 AUG - 07 SEP	USD $2,539	USD $929
14 SEP - 28 SEP	USD $2,539	USD $929
28 SEP - 12 OCT	USD $2,539	USD $929
12 OCT - 26 OCT	USD $2,539	USD $929
26 OCT - 09 NOV	USD $2,539	USD $929
09 NOV - 23 NOV	USD $2,539	USD $929
23 NOV - 07 DEC	USD $2,539	USD $929
07 DEC - 21 DEC	USD $2,539	USD $929
21 DEC - 04 JAN	USD $2,639	USD $929

2014

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
04 JAN - 18 JAN	USD $2,539	USD $929
18 JAN - 01 FEB	USD $2,539	USD $929
01 FEB - 15 FEB	USD $2,539	USD $929
15 FEB - 01 MAR	USD $2,539	USD $929
01 MAR - 15 MAR	USD $2,539	USD $929
29 MAR - 12 APR	USD $2,539	USD $929
12 APR - 26 APR	USD $2,539	USD $929
26 APR - 10 MAY	USD $2,539	USD $929
03 MAY - 17 MAY	USD $2,539	USD $929
24 MAY - 07 JUN	USD $2,539	USD $929
26 JUL - 09 AUG	USD $2,539	USD $929
09 AUG - 23 AUG	USD $2,539	USD $929
13 SEP - 27 SEP	USD $2,539	USD $929
27 SEP - 11 OCT	USD $2,539	USD $929
11 OCT - 25 OCT	USD $2,539	USD $929
25 OCT - 08 NOV	USD $2,539	USD $929
08 NOV - 22 NOV	USD $2,539	USD $929
22 NOV - 06 DEC	USD $2,539	USD $929
06 DEC - 20 DEC	USD $2,539	USD $929
20 DEC - 03 JAN	USD $2,639	USD $929

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
Private Tour Supplement - Passage to India	USD $660	USD $0
Pre-Tour accom (Delhi)	USD $89	USD $40
Post-Tour accom (Delhi)	USD $89	USD $40
Post-Tour accom (Mumbai/Kolkata)	USD $169	USD $120
Passage to India - Mumbai Option	USD $300	USD $0

POSTCARDS:

Here's what some of our past travellers have written in to us and said about their experiences on this trip.

Yusuf was very organised and informative guide. He really impressed us with his knowledge and humor and made our time in India absolutely wonderful.

Claire Hunter , Mar 2013

The tour was absolutely incredible and I've loved everything about it. Our guide Yusuf has been so, so amazing and I'm grateful to have had such a great guide. Will definitely be returning to India after such a fantastic experience.

Asia Marston , Feb 2013

I really enjoyed and had a wonderful holiday with 'on the go' and am hoping to do more in the near future in India and other places.

Shenaz Ghani , Feb 2013

Good trip with good services.

Peter Fitzgerald , Jan 2013

Yusuf was a really great tour leader, very nice man, helpful and very knowledgeable. He really made the tour very special. He is a great asset to on the go.

David White , Jan 2013

Dear Charlie Just to say I had a fantastic time in India and will thoroughly recommend the tour. I would also like to say a big thanks to you personally for dealing with all my requests and enquiries promptly and so well - that made a big difference as this was my first solo tour. Looking forward to my China trip now! Warm regards

Catherine Ward, Apr 2012

Rajasthan is absolutely amazing! I never thought of India as such a colourful and warm hearted place and this tour really changed my opinion. I definitely recommend opting for the balloon flight it's a once in a life time opportunity and you really get to marvel at the

sheer beauty of Jaipur. Finishing the tour in Udaipur is fantastic, such a cool chilled out place, and stunning as well.

Simona Anderson, Mar 2012

Hi Kelly, I have been meaning to write and say thanks for encouraging me to do the 2 week trip. I had a fabulous time and despite the heat, loved seeing more of the country side, and how the locals live in Rajastan. I felt the guides were fantastic and it was great value for money! Would happily recommend that trip again! It was nice to be in a larger group initially and then break off into a smaller group for the second week.! Thanks again!

Melinda Hamilton, May 2011