

Taj and Raj 11 Days



Discover the lofty peaks and breathtaking views of Shimla, India's largest and most famous hill station and former summer capital of British India. Ride the narrow gauge railway aboard the Himalayan Queen Toy Train and explore Delhi, the Pink City of Jaipur and the legendary Taj Mahal.

TOUR DETAILS:

- Starts in: New Delhi / Ends in: New Delhi
- Departs: Every second Wednesday, September - April
- No local payment required
- Breakfast: 10, 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 ::: Kerala Tours ::: Top Spots in India ::: Festivals & Events ::: Hotels in India ::: Tiger Spotting ::: India - Useful Info ::: FAQs on India ::: India Visas ::: India Gallery

Taj and Raj 11 Days

Day 1: New Delhi

Wednesday. Welcome to India and the start of your holiday! Arriving to Delhi International Airport you will be met by our representative and included onward transfer to our hotel. The remainder of the day offers free time for you to relax or explore the city your own way. Our welcome meeting takes place at 8pm this evening. Overnight - [New Delhi](#)

Day 2:

Delhi - Kalka - Shimla. Bright and early this morning we board the Shatabdi Express bound for Kalka. Here, travellers will transfer (independently) to the narrow gauge Himalayan Queen Toy Train travelling to Shimla.

The Guinness Book of 'Rail Facts and Feats' records the Kalka to Shimla railway as 'the greatest narrow gauge engineering feat in India'. The scenic 96 kilometre journey built on a 2 feet six inches gauge has 919 curves, passes through 20 railway station and clatters across 5 level crossings, each to the cacophonous symphony of greetings, tooting horns and the hubbub of Indian life. There are 102 tunnels to navigate and some 863 multi-arched galleries bridges (similar to ancient Roman aqueducts) to cross where spectacular landscapes of rolling hills, lush valleys and panoramic vistas can be seen.

To the commotion of the steam locomotion's arrival to Shimla, we meet our representative on the station platform and transfer to our hotel for an evening at leisure. Overnight - [Shimla](#)



Day 3: Shimla - Summer capital of the British Raj

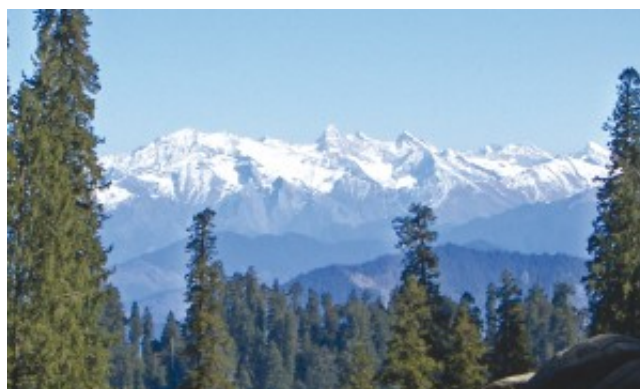
Former 'summer capital' of British India, Shimla sprawls along a crescent-shaped ridge at an altitude of over 2100m. The famous main street, 'The Mall', lined with stately English homes and the fortress-like former Viceregal Lodge, reinforces Shimla's quintessential English look. Today we enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of the lofty settlement, venturing into the narrow streets, which fall steeply away from the ridge giving way to colourful bazaars and fine views of the surrounding valley and snow-capped peaks. Overnight - [Shimla](#)



Day 4: Explore Shimla, train journey to Delhi

Shimla - Kalka - Delhi. Today offer free time for you to independently explore, opt to stroll, drop by the colourful Lakkar Bazaar or hike to the summit of Jakhoo Hill, Shimla's highest point where visitor's are rewarded with panoramic views of the eternal snows set as a backdrop to the sleepy township of Shimla beneath.

Hotel check out is at 12 noon, opt for some lunch and pack an evening picnic meal before boarding the Kalka Shatabdi Express at sunset and arriving to Delhi late this evening. Overnight - [New Delhi](#)



Day 5: Old Delhi

Today we enjoy 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 group Namaste Dinner at a restaurant specialising in classic Indian cuisine. Overnight - [New Delhi](#)

Day 6: Taj Mahal

Delhi - Agra. Departing Delhi, we journey to Agra, once India's Mughal capital. Here we explore the legendary Taj Mahal. Built entirely of white marble, the Taj Mahal has no peers. Continuing, we visit Agra fort, which boasts some of India's finest Mughal

Taj and Raj 11 Days

buildings behind its fortified walls. Overnight - [Agra](#)



Day 7: Agra

Agra - Jaipur. En route to Jaipur we visit the stunning former Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri - Emperor Akbar's vision in red sandstone. We enjoy lunch at Udai Vilas Palace in Bharatpur, before taking a walk in the traditional rural village of Peharsar. In Jaipur, we visit a cotton trading/tailor shop where you can get clothing tailored for delivery to your hotel before we leave Jaipur! We will also have the opportunity to ride a hot air balloon whilst staying in the Pink city. Overnight - [Jaipur](#)



Day 8: Jaipur

This morning, we drive just beyond Jaipur to the 16th century Amber Fort. An exotic elephant ride transports us to the lofty fortress, where we will enjoy a tour. Back in Jaipur, we visit the City Palace, which has an interesting museum of regal attire and Jantar Mantar, an ancient astronomical observatory. Overnight - [Jaipur](#)



Day 9: Village life, rural India

Jaipur - Surajgarh in the 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. Overnight - [Surajgarh](#)

Day 10:

Surajgarh - Delhi. Returning to Delhi, the remainder of the afternoon and evening is free for you to further discover the city. Opt for a meal in the heart of the city or simply relax and chat with group members at the hotel. Overnight - [New Delhi](#)



Day 11: New Delhi

Saturday. Our holiday concludes after breakfast, hotel check out and included onward departure transfer to airport. [New Delhi](#)

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.

Taj and Raj 11 Days

Trip Highlights

- Delhi - Old Delhi - Red Fort, Jama Masjid and Raj Ghat.
- New Delhi - India Gate, Rajpath, Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and visit a carpet emporium with demonstration
- Agra - Taj Mahal (entrance fee included) and Agra Fort
- Fatehpur Sikri - ancient Mughal city
- Jaipur - Amber Fort & Jantar Mantar and visit to a cotton trader/tailor
- Shekhawati region - Rajasthani architecture, havalis and village walk
- Shimla - hill station and former British summer capital in Himachal Pradesh
- Shimla sightseeing tour including Jakhoo Temple, Viceroy Lodge, State Museum, Christ Church, Gaity Theater and the Mall.

What's Included

- 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 dinners including Namaste Dinner in Delhi
- 10 nights - 3-4 star and heritage hotels
- 2 train journeys, Air-conditioned Chair Class, Delhi to Kalka and Shimla to Delhi
- Elephant ride to Amber Fort - Jaipur (*Subject to Government regulations and availability)
- Buggy ride to Taj Mahal - Agra
- Touring of Delhi, Shimla, Agra, Jaipur, Surajgarh and the Shekhawati region
- Escorted by an English speaking Indian tour leader for groups of 6 or more
- Specialist guides at local sights
- Taj Mahal, Jaipur City Palace and Jantar Mantar entrance fees.
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private vehicles
- Airport arrival and departure transfers on day 1 and day 11
- Narrow gauge Toy Train journey on the Kalka to Shimla Railway Line.

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: \$45-55 USD
- Tipping Kitty: \$20-25 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.

Gateway to the Gods - USD \$509

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 \$569

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 \$1,599

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. To date we have not cancelled a single trip.

2012

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
05 SEP - 15 SEP	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
19 SEP - 29 SEP	USD \$1,599	USD \$699

Taj and Raj 11 Days

03 OCT - 13 OCT	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
17 OCT - 27 OCT	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
31 OCT - 10 NOV	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
14 NOV - 24 NOV	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
28 NOV - 08 DEC	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
12 DEC - 22 DEC	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
26 DEC - 05 JAN	USD \$1,699	USD \$699

2013

Date	Price/Person	Single Supp.
02 JAN - 12 JAN	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
16 JAN - 26 JAN	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
30 JAN - 09 FEB	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
13 FEB - 23 FEB	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
27 FEB - 09 MAR	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
13 MAR - 23 MAR	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
27 MAR - 06 APR	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
10 APR - 20 APR	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
24 APR - 04 MAY	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
11 SEP - 21 SEP	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
25 SEP - 05 OCT	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
09 OCT - 19 OCT	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
23 OCT - 02 NOV	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
06 NOV - 16 NOV	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
20 NOV - 30 NOV	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
04 DEC - 14 DEC	USD \$1,599	USD \$699
18 DEC - 28 DEC	USD \$1,599	USD \$699

Supplementary Prices

	Price/Person	Single Supp.
Pre-Tour accom (Delhi)	USD \$89	USD \$40
Post-Tour accom (Delhi)	USD \$89	USD \$40

POSTCARDS:

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

I am thrilled with on the go tours. It was an action packed trip with like minded people, well done.

[K Uddin, Jan 2011](#)

Made our trip to India very special, Taj and Raj (so we got to visit Shimla) and a bolt on to Udaipur which was a delight. I spent my 50th birthday at the Taj Mahal! Still get goose bumps remembering first sight through the gates...

[Sue O'Riordan, Aug 2010](#)

Hi, Having just returned from India (Taj & Raj Tour) we felt that we must write to thank you for a wonderful holiday. From our original contact with the helpful Charlie in London everything was handled smoothly and efficiently. Your guide in India Yusuf is an absolute gem. His professionalism, knowledge, flexibility and endless good humour turned a very good holiday into an excellent one. For example when the group decided that we would prefer to visit the Taj Mahal in the early morning rather than the scheduled afternoon, Yusuf, apparently effortlessly, re-scheduled what was already a pretty tight itinerary to grant us our wish. The 'Bolt On' hot air balloon ride over Jaipur is an absolute must, if only for the looks on the faces of the local villagers when you land! All the Hotels used were of good quality and each had its own character and style. The Drivers were excellent (they need to be in India!) and the tour bus cool and reasonably comfortable on the long journeys with plenty of cool bottled water at a sensible price. The overnight train from Delhi to Kalka was a real experience and the 'toy train' up to Shimla was breathtaking (as was Shimla at 2100 metres above sea level!) We still can't believe that we packed so much into 11 days and will treasure the memories (and 750 Photos!) We had not heard of On The Go Tours until we researched this holiday but we can thoroughly recommend you to all potential clients and would not hesitate to use you again in the future.

[Steve & Gloria Clark, Apr 2010](#)

We went on the TAJ AND RAJ tour and would like to place on record that we were very impressed with it. When on the go said they would meet us, they did. They arrived on time no matter what the time of our arrival, whether it was 6.30am or 19.30hr. We did not have to worry about anything; this was a great relief especially in a country where we did not understand the language nor the customs. We found your guides to be well informed and no matter how many questions were asked they took the time to listen and answer all our queries. We would recommend your tours to all of our friends and family. We would like to thank you all for a most memorable trip which we enjoyed greatly.

[Dennis and Lilian Southee, Apr 2010](#)

As a travel agent by profession, I will be more than happy to recommend on the go products to clients now. I chose the tour because it was good value for money and I was very impressed with the organization. Thank you.

[Natasha Hood, Dec 2009](#)

Taj and Raj 11 Days

I cannot explain the impeccable manner of our tour guide - Yousef - always willing to make sure everything was running smoothly. His knowledge of India should be commended. Thank you very much, it was a privilege to be on this tour.

Greta Martin, Oct 2009

This was a dream trip for a long time and lived up to expectations. A lot was packed into the tour but the organisation and support made it all run so smoothly. I wish we could do a rerun now!!! Yusef is a real ambassador for India and on the go. He is courteous, helpful friendly - everything a perfect tour guide should be - thanks!!

Brenda + Bob, Sep 2009
