Passage to India
14 days | Delhi to Delhi (or Mumbai)

Embark on a colourful journey through remarkable Rajasthan. Explore the legendary Golden Triangle of Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, before going in search of tigers in Ranthambore, visiting holy Pushkar, the blue city of Jodhpur and the beautiful town of Udaipur. Opt to finish your tour back in Delhi or head south to Mumbai, the home of Bollywood.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights
• Agra – Marvel at Agra Fort and enjoy a guided tour of the iconic Taj Mahal, India’s most famous site
• Ranthambore National Park – Enjoy three included game drives in the park and look out for rare Bengal Tigers and sloth bears
• Delhi – Tour highlights of India’s capital including Jama Masjid and ride on a rickshaw around the bustling Chandni Chowk bazaar
• Udaipur – Enjoy a boat trip on stunning Lake Pichola and enjoy a tour of the romantic city including the City Palace
• Jodhpur – Discover highlights including Meherangarh Fort and the clock tower in the Blue City
• Jaipur – Visit the striking Amber Fort and tour the highlights of the city including the beautiful City Palace and Jantar Mantar
• Karauli – Spend the night at the Palace Bhanwar Vilas which remains the home of the Maharaja
• Pushkar – Explore the pretty lakeside town and see the Brahma Temple, an important pilgrimage site for Hindus
• Fatehpur Sikri – Walk around the eerie former Mughal city, which has lain abandoned for over 400 years
• Ranakpur – Discover the majestic white Jain Temple in Ranakpur and see monkeys roaming the streets
• All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles

What’s Not Included
• Tipping Kitty: USD$45-55pp, paid in local currency
• Entrance Fees: USD$95-105pp, paid in local currency
• International flights and visa
• Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD$4-7 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Delhi
Saturday. Namaste! Welcome to India! On arrival in Delhi you’ll be transferred to our hotel. The rest of the day is then free for you to explore India’s capital at leisure before our meeting with the group and guide starts at the hotel at 18:00.

Overnight - Delhi
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Day 2: Delhi sightseeing

After breakfast, we enjoy a full day of sightseeing in India's capital. Our tour begins in Old Delhi with a visit to Humayun's Tomb and Jama Masjid - India's oldest and largest mosque. Continue to the site of Gandhi's cremation at Raj Ghat, where an eternal flame now burns in his honour. Enjoy a thrilling rickshaw ride around Chandni Chowk bazaar before we explore the highlights of New Delhi. Stroll down the ceremonial Rajpath and admire the India Gate war memorial. Tonight we enjoy a Namaste dinner at the hotel. Overnight - Delhi (B, D)

Day 3: The Taj Mahal

Delhi - Agra. Say goodbye to Delhi this morning as we travel to Agra, former capital of the Mughal Empire. Discover the red sandstone walls of Agra Fort before we continue to the most famous site in India - the iconic Taj Mahal. Enjoy a tour of this legendary white mausoleum, built in the 17th century by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife. The Taj Mahal is perhaps the most extravagant monument to love ever built and has no rival. Overnight - Agra (B)

Day 4: Fatehpur Sikri & Karauli

Agra - Karauli. This morning we travel to Fatehpur Sikri, which was abandoned more than 400 years ago due to a lack of water. The city remains fantastically preserved and there's plenty of time to explore before we continue to the Palace Bhanwar Vilas in Karauli. The palace remains the home of the current Maharaja and Maharani, but much of the complex is now a heritage hotel. Take time to explore the peaceful palace grounds and if we're lucky, we may be able to join a guided tour of the site from the Princess. We also visit the Karauli City Palace, which is being restored by the Maharaja. This evening there's the opportunity for you to attend the evening Aarti (prayer). Overnight - Karauli (B, L, D)

Day 5: Jaipur

Jaipur - Jaipur. Today we drive to the UNESCO-listed Pink City of Jaipur, stopping en route at a local school (if open) to meet the teachers and pupils. We operate our Change for Children programme here and any donations you can make will be greatly appreciated. You may also wish to bring some educational gifts with you from home to give out. After our visit we continue to Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. This evening is free to explore, perhaps enjoy a Bollywood film at the lively Raj Mandir cinema. Overnight - Jaipur (B)

Days 7-8: Ranthambore National Park

Jaipur - Ranthambore. Leave Jaipur on day 7 and travel to Ranthambore National Park, our home for the next two days. The park has been part of the Indian Government’s Project Tiger since 1973 and is vital in the conservation of the iconic Bengal Tiger. Spanning 282 square kilometres, the park is home to more than 80 individual tigers (2018). During our time at the park we venture into the wilderness on three included game drives, giving us a great chance of spotting these majestic animals. Marvel at the incredible big cats, which can often be seen pacing along
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the trails or relaxing in the sun. The biodiverse reserve is also home to many other species including sambar, leopards, hyena, sloth bears, crocodiles and the Nilgai antelope, which is found only in India. **Overnight - Ranthambore National Park** (B:2, L:1, D:2)

**Day 9 : Pushkar**

Ranthambore - Pushkar. Today we travel to the lakeside town of Pushkar, one of the most sacred places in India for Hindus. Enjoy a sightseeing tour of the lake, which is believed to have healing powers and is an important pilgrimage site. We also visit the colourful Brahma Temple, one of just a handful dedicated to this deity in India. **Overnight - Pushkar (B)**

**Day 10 : Jodhpur - the blue city**

Pushkar - Jodhpur. Leave Pushkar this morning as we travel to Jodhpur, on the eastern edge of the Thar Desert. We explore highlights of the city, affectionately known as the Blue City because of the distinctive colour of its old town houses. See the tall clock tower and visit the imposing Mehrangarh Fort. This 15th century fortress sits on a hill overlooking the city and is surrounded by towering walls. There is also free time for you to explore the bustling local bazaars and bargain for goods with the merchants. **Overnight - Jodhpur (B)**

**Days 11-12 : Ranakpur & Udaipur City Palace**

Jodhpur - Ranakpur - Udaipur. On day 11 we travel to the small town of Ranakpur, famous for its beautiful white Jain temple and the monkeys which live in and around the town. We have time to explore the temple before we continue to Udaipur.

Day 12 sees us discover Udaipur, set on the shores of Lake Pichola. A favourite amongst travellers, the city is viewed as one of Rajasthan's most romantic. We'll visit highlights including the majestic City Palace, which starred as a hotel in the 1983 James Bond film, Octopussy. Construction on this impressive palace began in 1553 and it took more than 400 years to complete. After our tour there is plenty of free time to explore at leisure, before we enjoy a scenic cruise on Lake Pichola this evening. **Overnight - Udaipur (B:2)**

**Day 13 : Fly back to Delhi**

Udaipur - Delhi. Today we fly back to Delhi, with an included departure transfer to the airport. The rest of the day is free for you to relax or explore at leisure. If you prefer, there is the option to travel onwards to Mumbai, see note below. **Overnight - Delhi (B)**

**Day 14 : Delhi**

Friday. Our Indian adventure comes to an end today with an included transfer to the airport. **(B)**

**HOTELS**

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard. **Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

**Jaypee Siddharth Hotel**

The luxurious Jaypee Siddharth is a stunning property located just five kilometres from the New Delhi Railway Station. Guestrooms are exquisitely decorated with a blend of cream and brown tones and benefit from air conditioning and complimentary WiFi. If you have free time, guests can indulge in one of the rejuvenating treatments available at the spa, take a dip in the outdoor pool or work up an appetite in the gym. A range of cuisines are served in the various restaurants found within the hotel complex.

**Hotel Jivitesh**

The Jivitesh Hotel is centrally located in the heart of Karol Bagh, a popular neighbourhood of Delhi renowned for its excellent shops and vibrant street markets. The Jivitesh offers comfortable and spacious guest rooms, with modern amenities such as free WiFi, and you can be assured of a warm welcome and excellent customer service from the hotel staff. Enjoy authentic Indian vegetarian cuisine at the hotel's restaurant and take a refreshing dip in the outdoor swimming pool after a day of sightseeing in the capital. Please note: The swimming pool at the Jivitesh hotel is currently under...
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renovation and is expected to be finished by September 2020.

Vivanta by Taj Dwarka

Vivanta by Taj Dwarka is a modern, luxury hotel located in Dwarka, on the outskirts of New Delhi, just a 15-minute drive from the airport. Spread over 7 acres, this striking hotel has a unique angular design and offers 250 luxurious rooms and suites. All tastes are catered for at the hotel’s multi-cuisine restaurant, while the Indus Express restaurant serves mouth-watering Punjabi cuisine. Head to the popular Tipple bar for a delicious array of heady cocktails or relax by the poolside with a refreshing smoothie from the Celsius Pool Bar. The nearby Sector 21 Metro station provides direct access to the heart of the city and after a day of sightseeing you can cool off with a refreshing dip in the outdoor pool or relax in the sauna and massage parlour.

Hotel Royale Residency

Situated a stone’s throw away from the legendary Taj Mahal, the Royal Residency Hotel is perfectly located for anyone wanting to immerse themselves in Agra’s famous monuments. Each comfortable air-conditioned room features a mini bar with tea and coffee making facilities, satellite TV as well as excellent en-suite facilities. Guests can enjoy an array of flavours around the world in the multi-cuisine restaurant, or perhaps sip on a cocktail next to the outdoor pool.

Bhanwar Vilas Palace

Built in 1938, this stunning property is the residence of the Maharaja (181st in the Royal Dynasty) and Maharani of Karauli. Both the architecture and furniture have been designed in fitting with colonial styles and the property offers a fantastic insight into the history and elegance of a bygone era. Rooms are split between deluxe rooms and luxury suites, each including a range of modern amenities such as a mini bar, a well-appointed ensuite and a plush king-sized bed. In the evenings, guests can tuck into an array of regional specialties as well as cuisine from around the world in the hotel’s restaurant. The hotel is just 7km from the nearest train station.

Mandawa Haveli

Made of pink and red sandstone, the beautiful heritage-style Mandawa Haveli is a fine example of typical Rajasthani architecture. All rooms are well appointed with intricately carved wooden beds and king-size royal portraits, with modern amenities such as free WiFi and ensuite bathrooms. Spend an evening dining on continental, Indian or Rajasthani cuisine on the outdoor terrace or request a private, candlelit dinner on the rooftop under a star-studded sky. Well located in the heart of Jaipur city on Sansar Chandra Road, this hotel is just a few minute’s drive from the Palace of the Winds.

Ranthambore Heritage Haveli

Set amongst well-manicured gardens, the Ranthambore Heritage Haveli offers stylish and intimate accommodation in an enviable location. Guest rooms are elegantly designed with excellent amenities including large TVs and beautiful rain showers. The haveli also benefits from a multi-cuisine restaurant and complimentary Wi-Fi. Start your day with a refreshing dip in the outdoor pool before you set out sightseeing.

Pushkar Resort

The Pushkar Resort is a warm, family managed hotel and a tranquil oasis set in 15 acres of gardens. Each cottage is constructed from local, authentic stonework and provides an exceptionally high level of comfort, topped off with quaint patchwork furnishings. In the restaurant, guests can treat themselves to a range of cuisines from Asia and Europe and in the evening artists put on traditional performances. A variety of different treatments and massages are available in the spa or you could spend a fun-filled afternoon playing games of table tennis, pool, badminton or volleyball. The hotel is located 4 km from Pushkar town, at the edge of desert.

Karni Bhawan
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A former royal residence, this charming red stone 1940s bungalow has been tastefully restored to its former beauty. Guestrooms are spacious and modern but still in keeping with classic Rajasthani design. The outdoor pool is perfect for relaxing by and the food here is fantastic, having been showcased at Switzerland’s food festivals for the past 10 years. An open-air restaurant sits beside the pool, where you can enjoy an exciting range of Tandoori, Punjabi and Chinese dishes.

Hotel Hilltop Palace

As the name suggests, the Hilltop Palace is set on a hill overlooking Udaipur’s famous Lake Fatehsagar. The hotel perfectly combines effortless service with harmonious spaces and is the perfect setting to enjoy a stay in Udaipur. The tastefully decorated guestrooms are complete with marble inlay and have individual open terraces looking over the stunning lake. Zannat, the open-air rooftop restaurant, is the perfect place to enjoy a cocktail and some northern Indian cuisine whilst watching the sun go down.

PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a ‘G’ are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The ‘Single supplement’ is compulsory for solo travellers or if your booking party cannot reach the minimum of 2 persons in a room and the amount needs to be added to the per person price. The single supplement offers the comfort of your own room and is also available to any other person wanting their own room.

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