

A Taj Showcase

9 days | Starts/Ends: Delhi



PREMIUM TOUR: Explore the famous Golden Triangle while staying in the lap of luxury at some of the world's most luxurious hotels. From the lavish Gateway Hotel in Agra, to the majestic Jai Mahal Palace in Jaipur and exquisite Lake Palace Hotel in Udaipur, this itinerary is the definition of luxury and India at its absolute finest

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Delhi - Enjoy an exciting rickshaw ride and explore Old and New Delhi, visiting sites such as Humayun's Tomb, Jama Masjid Mosque and Raj Ghat
- The Pink City of Jaipur - Discover the former home of the Maharaja at the City Palace and ancient observatory of Jantar Mantar
- Agra - Explore the sandstone and white marble labyrinthine passageways, and take in the incredible mix of Mughal and Hindu architecture at Amber Fort
- Taj Mahal - Take in India's most famous monument in all its glory at sunset

- Udaipur - Marvel at the bustling bazaars and soak up the tranquility of Lake Pichola
- Fatehpur Sikri - Wander through the abandoned ancient Mughal city

What's Included

- Breakfast daily
- 8 nights - 5 star palace, superior and luxury rooms at Taj Group and Gateway hotels
- Touring - Delhi, Jaipur, Agra and Udaipur region
- Rickshaw ride in Delhi
- Travel by jeep to Amber Fort in Jaipur
- Taj Mahal, Jaipur City Palace and Jantar Mantar entrance fees
- Escorted by an English-speaking Indian tour guide (for groups of 6 or more)
- Internal flight from Udaipur to Delhi
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on days 1 and 9
- Services of English-speaking Indian specialist guides at some sights
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$30-35pp, paid in local currency
- Entrance Fees: USD\$55-60pp, 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. Welcome to India! Upon arrival into Delhi, you'll be met at the airport and transferred to your Taj Hotel, a fine example of luxurious accommodation. The remainder of the day is yours to relax or independently explore this bustling capital. This evening we have a welcome meeting at 18:00 at the hotel to meet our guide the rest of the group. **Overnight - Delhi**

Day 2 : Old Delhi



This morning, after breakfast, we depart to enjoy a full day of sightseeing in Delhi. We take in the magnificent tomb

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of the Mughal Emperor Humayun, a building said to have inspired the design for the Taj Mahal, Jama Masjid - India's oldest and largest mosque, Raj Ghat - the site of Gandhi's cremation, where we see the eternal flame which now burns in his honour. Enjoy exploring India's side streets on an exciting rickshaw ride before returning to your hotel driving past India Gate. This evening is at leisure to relax. **Overnight - Taj Palace (B)**

Day 3 : Taj Mahal



Delhi - Agra. Departing Delhi, we journey to Agra, once India's Mughal capital, upon arrival we check into the Gateway Hotel where you will have a Taj Mahal facing room, all you have to do is glance out your window to see one of the world's most iconic monuments built in the name of love.

In Agra, we visit the impressive Agra Fort, which boasts some of India's finest Mughal buildings behind its fortified walls. Later, we take a motorised buggy to the legendary Taj Mahal and witness a magical sunset. **Overnight - Gateway Hotel (B)**

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 UNESCO-listed 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). Once in Jaipur, we visit a cotton trading/tailor shop where you can get clothing tailored for delivery to your hotel before we leave!

In Jaipur, you will stay in the majestic Jai Mahal Palace where you have 2 nights to enjoy the luxury of this decadent property set upon 18 acres of manicured lawns and Moghul designed gardens. **Overnight - Jai Mahal Palace (B)**

Day 5 : Jaipur



Today is ours to explore the Pink City. Our first stop of the day is to Amber fort, looking out for the snake charmers that dot our route. On arrival, we board a jeep which transports us to the lofty fort, where we'll enjoy a tour of this Rajput extravaganza. Later in the afternoon, we visit the City Palace, situated in the heart of the Old City, which boasts interesting buildings from different eras. Our final stop of the day is to Jantar Mantar, an ancient astronomical observatory.

The evening is at leisure for you to soak up the luxury of your palace room as much as you can. Or visit the local markets and pick up some bargains. Just wandering the busy streets is an experience in itself.

Overnight - Jai Mahal Palace (B)

Days 6-7 : Udaipur



Today involves a day of driving as Udaipur beckons, upon arrival check in to your luxurious palace room at the Lake Palace Hotel. Located in the middle of Lake Pichola the white marble hotel sits on a four acre island and is only accessible by boat. Built as a palace in 1746 and now refurbished as a hotel Lake Palace Hotel is an icon of Udaipur. The beautiful building almost seems to burst out of the surrounding waters.

This evening is free for you to unwind and enjoy the luxurious amenities. On day 7 we take a morning city tour of this walled city renowned for its palaces - the white marble Maharajah's Palace, the Winter Palace (with its inlaid tile, mirrors and mosaics of peacocks), the Jag Mandir (an eighteenth-century yellow-sandstone palace) and Jag Niwas (an eighteenth-century granite and marble palace). Also see the Victoria Hall Museum (local historical displays and antiques), Sahelion-ki-Bari garden and the Jagdish Temple. This evening we enjoy a boat ride on Lake Pichola. **Overnight - The Taj Lake Palace (B:2)**

Day 8 : Udaipur to Delhi

Today you will be transferred to Udaipur airport for your flight to Delhi. Upon arrival in Delhi you will be met and transferred to your hotel, You will be accommodated in either the Taj Mahal Hotel or the Taj Palace. The evening is free for you to enjoy your final night of

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luxury. **Overnight - The Taj Mahal Hotel** (B)

Day 9 : Delhi

Sunday. Today after breakfast and your onward transfer to the airport tour arrangements come to an end. Should you wish to extend your stay in India, we can help arrange this. (B)

ACCOMMODATION

Highlighted below are some of the accommodation/ hotels which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these stays to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel or start point and further arrival information.

Taj Palace

Built in 1983 and renovated in 2011, the Taj Palace hotel is a perfect example of first class service in a luxurious setting. All guest rooms are perfectly appointed with expansive views of the city. The hotel offers guests some of the best dining experiences in the city with top chefs and fine cuisine. Start the day with a refreshing dip in the outdoor pool before setting out to explore Delhi. Perfectly positioned between the city centre and the airport in the diplomatic enclave part of Delhi.



The Taj Mahal Hotel

A popular choice for visiting dignitaries and heads of state, the luxury Taj Mahal Hotel displays beautiful Mughal architecture alongside contemporary facilities. These include a Wellness spa featuring Indian treatments and the luxurious Taj Club Floor and Lounge offering stunning panoramic views of the city. Opt for a pool view room to be greeted with superior vistas of the

surrounding area. Without doubt the Taj Mahal in Delhi has one of the most prestigious addresses in India, Number One Mansingh Road. Surrounded by beautiful broad boulevards and leafy grounds with India Gate just a short walk away.



Gateway Hotel

Set amidst six acres of manicured gardens, the Gateway hotel is a beautiful oasis in the chaos of the city. Carefully blending modern day necessities with traditional designs - all rooms have both Wi-Fi connectivity and classic marble flooring. A refreshing outdoor pool offers guest some cool in the heat of Agra and our recommendation here is to upgrade to a Taj View room. This accommodation is located on the popular Fatehabad Road in Agra, close to all of the major attractions.



Jai Mahal Palace

Surrounded by 18 acres of perfectly manicured Moghul gardens, the Jai Mahal Palace luxury heritage breathes opulence and comfort. Rooms are designed in a colonial style with gold hued silks, marble floorings and Rajasthani wooden furniture. Sipping a cup of Indian tea before dinner at the Terrace is a must. Very well located in central Jaipur. Major attractions like the Amber Fort and Palace of the Winds are both easily accessed from here.



The Lake Palace by Taj

Built for a young prince in 1743, the Lake Palace by Taj is one of Udaipur's most iconic sites. Guest rooms are grand with high reaching ceilings, luxury amenities, rich marble flooring and beautiful lake views. A number of restaurants all with master chefs offer guests a great range of dining options from the rooftop to the poolside. The hotel's 1 hour heritage walk is a great way to learn about the magnificent grounds whilst sipping a delicious glass of champagne. Perfectly located in the middle of Lake Pichola in the beautiful city of Udaipur.



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