

# Taj Traveller

8 days | Starts/Ends: Delhi



Discover the spectacular sights of India's famous Golden Triangle including both old and new Delhi, the Pink City of Jaipur and Agra – home to the magnificent Taj Mahal. Also explore the Chand Baori step well and sample traditional rural life in the quaint village of Bharatpur on this classic 8 day tour of India.

## HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

### Trip Highlights

- The Taj Mahal – Explore the most famous site in India on a guided tour and marvel at this enduring symbol of love
- Delhi – Ride on a rickshaw around Chandni Chowk bazaar and tour highlights of the city including Jama Masjid and the India Gate
- Jaipur – See the City Palace and the UNESCO-listed Jantar Mantar space observatory in the Pink City
- Amber Fort – Visit the fantastically preserved lakeside fortress which is laid out over four striking levels
- Abhaneri – Admire the famous Chand Baori step well and marvel at

the 3,500 steps which descend to the waters edge

- Keoladeo Ghana National Park – Look out for rare bird species from your cycle rickshaw and explore this biodiverse wetland reserve
- Fatehpur Sikri – Discover the ghostly former Mughal city which has laid abandoned for more than 400 years
- Agra – Enjoy a guided tour of the impressive UNESCO-listed Agra Fort

### What's Included

- Breakfast daily and 2 dinners
- 7 nights 3-4 star and heritage hotels
- Guided sightseeing – Delhi, Jaipur, Bharatpur and Agra
- Travel by jeep to beautiful Amber Fort in Jaipur
- Escorted by an English-speaking Indian tour guide (for groups of 6 or more)
- Services of English-speaking Indian specialist guides at some sites
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on days 1 and 8
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles

### What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$25-35pp, paid in local currency

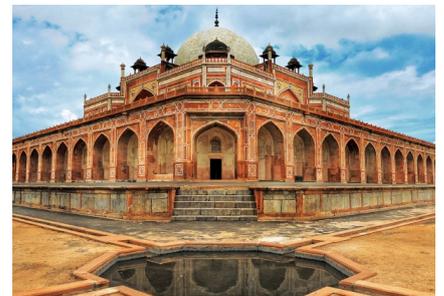
- Entrance Fees: USD\$75-85pp, paid in local currency
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$4-7 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Delhi

Saturday. Welcome to India! On arrival in Delhi you are transferred from the airport to our hotel. Enjoy the rest of your first day exploring independently in the city. Perhaps visit Akshardham – the world's largest Hindu temple. 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 and New Delhi sightseeing



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This morning, we enjoy a full day of sightseeing in India's capital. In Old Delhi we see the UNESCO-listed Humayun's Tomb and visit Jama Masjid – the oldest and largest mosque in the whole of India. We also visit Raj Ghat, the site of Gandhi's cremation. An eternal flame now burns here in his honour. Continue to the bustling Chandni Chowk bazaar for an exhilarating rickshaw ride. Later explore New Delhi, including the Rajpath and the impressive India Gate monument. This evening we enjoy a group Namaste dinner. **Overnight – Delhi (B, D)**

## Day 3 : Jaipur – the Pink City!



Delhi – Jaipur. We leave Delhi and travel to UNESCO-listed Jaipur today. In 1876 the Maharaja had the Old City painted pink to herald a visit by the Prince of Wales (soon to be King Edward VII), giving Jaipur its famous nickname. This afternoon we tour the City Palace in the centre of the Old City and the UNESCO-listed Jantar Mantar space observatory. **Overnight – Jaipur (B)**

## Day 4 : Amber Fort



Enjoy an optional hot air balloon ride over Jaipur this morning, an unforgettable experience. Sail over the beautiful region with the Pink City below

you and pass over palaces, villages and temples. We then take a jeep ride to visit the famous lakeside palace of Amber Fort. Walk down cobbled streets and explore courtyards laid out over four levels. We continue to a local cotton weaving house on our way back to Jaipur. **Overnight – Jaipur (B)**

## Day 5 : Chand Baori & Keoladeo Ghana National Park



Jaipur – Abhaneri – Bharatpur. Say goodbye to Jaipur today as we travel to the village of Abhaneri to see the beautiful Chand Baori step well, where 3,500 steps climb down to the water's edge. The well famously featured in the blockbuster movie 'Batman: The Dark Knight Rises'.

We continue to a local school (if open), where we operate our Change for Children programme. Any donations we can give here will make a real difference to the lives of underprivileged children. You may also wish to bring some educational gifts with you from home to give to the pupils (see trip notes). Finally, we visit the UNESCO-listed Keoladeo Ghana National Park. Enjoy a rickshaw ride around this wetland reserve, home to hundreds of bird species. We are then escorted by a knowledgeable guide who will help us spot and identify these birds. **Overnight – Bharatpur (B, D)**

## Day 6 : The Taj Mahal



Bharatpur – Agra. We visit the former Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri this morning, which has laid abandoned for more than 400 years. Continue to Agra where we see the imposing Agra Fort, before paying a visit to India's most iconic site – the Taj Mahal. This famous monument was built by Emperor Shah Jahan in the 17th century in memory of his beloved wife who died tragically in childbirth. It remains the most extravagant monument to love ever built and is the enduring symbol of India. Enjoy a tour of this famous site before we continue to our hotel. **Overnight – Agra (B)**

## Day 7 : Return to Delhi



Agra – Delhi. After breakfast we return to Delhi, where the rest of the day is free for you to explore. Perhaps visit the impressive Red Fort and enjoy its Sound and Light Show after dark. **Overnight – Delhi (B)**

## Day 8 : Delhi

Saturday. Our tour comes to an end today with an included departure transfer to the airport. (B)

## ACCOMMODATION

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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.**

### 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.



### Crowne Plaza New Delhi Rohini

Located just footsteps from the nearest metro station, the Crowne Plaza New Delhi offers a beautiful blend of contemporary facilities and warm Indian hospitality. Each en-suite guestroom features traditional wood furnishings and a minibar, free WiFi and a flat screen TV. Guests can unwind in the Adya Spa which features a mix of Asian and European therapies or take a swim in the outdoor pool to escape the heat. The hotel prides itself on its range of dining options including the Spice Art restaurant, which serves delicious North

Indian cuisine, and Moasic, where you'll find a range of international dishes.



### 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 renovation and is expected to be finished by September 2020.



### 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.



### Udai Vilas Palace

Set amongst 2 acres of landscaped gardens, the Udai Vilas Palace is a traditional hotel located right in the heart of Bharatpur city. Guest rooms are spacious and well equipped with comfortable beds and large windows. The hotel is famous for its barbecue nights and Rajasthani folklore evenings, where you will be enthralled by traditional music and dance performances. Keoladeo National Park, one of the most well-known bird sanctuaries in India, is also just a five-minute drive away.



### 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 minibar 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.



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## PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates marked with a 'G' are operating. All departure dates from 1 Apr 2023 are guaranteed to operate when there are 2 persons booked on the tour. Prior to this date a departure is guaranteed with 4 persons. 'Twin Share' prices are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. 'Single Room' prices are applicable to solo travellers or anyone wanting the privacy of a single room.

## PRICES / DATES 2022

Date	Twin Share	Single
22 Oct	USD 918	USD 1,437

## PRICES / DATES 2023

Date	Twin Share	Single
04 Mar	USD 864	USD 1,352
08 Apr	USD 972	USD 1,521
09 Sep	USD 960	USD 1,560
23 Sep	USD 1,080	USD 1,690
07 Oct	USD 1,080	USD 1,690
21 Oct	USD 1,080	USD 1,690
25 Nov	USD 1,080	USD 1,690
09 Dec	USD 1,080	USD 1,690

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