

# Explore Odisha

## 10 Days | Starts/Ends: Kolkata



Commencing in Kolkata, we journey south to Bhubaneswar, home to more than 500 temples. After visiting the unique tribal villages of Odisha, we round off our adventure with a trip to Puri, home to the World Heritage listed Sun Temple at Konark.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Cultural Kolkata - The famous Victoria Memorial, historic Indian Museum, colourful Howrah Flower Market and Hooghly River
- Bhubaneswar - The temple city of India and the state capital
- Konark - World Heritage Sun Temple
- Puri - Home of the imposing Jagannath Temple
- Taptapani - Sulphur Spring Shrine and Chandragiri Tibetan Settlement
- Chilika Lake - Asia's largest lagoon
- Jhigdi - Village of the jewellers of the Kondh group
- Coastal Pipli - The capital of applique craft
- Kutia Kondh tribal villages and markets

#### What's Included

- Breakfast daily, 3 lunches and 3 dinners

- 8 nights SUPERIOR hotels. STANDARD hotel options are also available upon request. Accommodation rating – See Trip Notes for details
- Touring - Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Pipli, Puri, Taptapani and tribal villages
- Guided tour of the World Heritage Sun Temple at Konark
- Services of a licensed English speaking tour guide at all included sites
- Entrance fees for all included sightseeing
- Overnight sleeper train Bhubaneswar to Rayagada. Train journey Puri to Kolkata
- An airport arrival transfer day 1 and a departure transfer day 10
- All relevant transfer and transportation in private modern Chauffeur driven air-conditioned vehicles

#### What's Not Included

- International flights and visa
- Tipping - An entirely personal gesture

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 : Kolkata

On arrival in Kolkata you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to spend at leisure.

#### Overnight - Kolkata

#### Day 2 : Kolkata City Tour



Kolkata - Bhubaneswar. This morning enjoy a city tour visiting the stately Indian Museum (the oldest and largest in India), the Victoria Memorial, Howrah Flower Market, St Paul's Cathedral and the extraordinary Marble Palace which houses paintings by Rubens, Titian and Reynolds. This afternoon board the Shatabdi Express (A/C wagon) to Bhubaneswar.

#### Overnight - Bhubaneswar (B)

#### Day 3 : Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar - Rayagada. This morning embark on a sightseeing tour of Bhubaneswar - state capital and home to more than 500 temples. The final stop of the day is at the coastal town of Pipli which is renowned for its handicrafts, patchwork and exquisite appliqué. This evening board the over night train to Rayagada on the Hirakhand Express (A/C wagon). **Overnight - Overnight train (B)**

### Explore Odisha - 10 Days

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This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

# Explore Odisha

## Days 4-5 : Jhigidi Village



Rayagada - Jhigidi Village On day 4 arrive into Rayagada in the morning and drive to Jhigidi Village. Jhigidi Village is famous for jewellery made by the local Kondh tribe and it is your home for the next two nights. The remains of the day are free for you to explore the village and watch the locals making jewellery.

On day 5 we visit one of the most fascinating and primitive divisions of the Kondh tribes, the Kutia Kondh. Once known for their human sacrifice, the tribal women tattoo their faces geometrically, so they are able to recognise one another in the spirit world. Kutia means cave and legend has it that they were cursed by their ancestral god and have lived in the caves away from the rest of the tribe ever since. If you're here on Tuesday, you'll be lucky enough to experience the weekly market at Kotgarh, where the tribal people of the region gather to buy and sell goods.

**Overnight - Jhigidi Village** (B:2, L:2, D:2)

## Day 6 : Tribal villages & Taptapani



Jhigidi Village - Taptapani. On day 6 drive to Chatikona to visit the bustling and colourful local market of the Dongaria Konch Group, who were once known for their Meria (human) Sacrifice, until it was stopped by the British Army. Continue on to Taptapani, stopping en

route to visit Bara Paraja and Sana Paraja Villages.

**Overnight - Taptapani** (B, L, D)

## Days 7-8 : Puri & Chilika Lake



Taptapani - Puri. Explore Taptapani on day 7 which is famous for its perennial hot spring of medicinal sulphuric waters. Touring includes a visit to the Chandragiri Tibetan Settlement and Taptapani Sulphur Spring Shrine. Then drive to Janhikuda for an excursion on Chilika Lake, Asia's largest lagoon, which is famous for its migratory birds and dolphins. spend the next two nights in the city of Puri on the banks of the Bay of Bengal.

The following day explore Puri which is blessed with beautiful beaches and famous for its imposing Jagannath Temple and visit the spectacular Sun Temple in Konark, which is a World Heritage Site. The temple was built as a chariot for the sun god Surya and has 24 gigantic stone wheels, 7 horses and many elaborate carvings. **Overnight - Puri** (B:2)

## Days 9-10 : Kolkata

Puri - Kolkata. Spend the morning at leisure in Puri before boarding the Shatabdi Express (A/C wagon) back to Kolkata on day 9. The following day our touring arrangements come to an end after hotel check out. Transfer to the airport for your journey home.

If you'd like to extend your stay, we offer a variety of hotels, short stays and add-ons for you to choose from. Please read our best places to visit or best things to see each month for suggested places to visit on your holiday. If you can't find what you're looking for, please let us know so we can accommodate your request.

For information about visas, top travel tips, best time to travel and much more, browse our travel guide.

(B:2)

### PRICES / DATES INFO

Prices shown are 'per person', based on a travelling party of at least 2 adults. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price.

### PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
12 Jul	ZAR 36,410	ZAR 48,730

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