

AMAZING INDIA

14 Days Tour to Delhi, Agra, Ranthambhore, Jaipur, Bundi, Udaipur & Mumbai

After exploring the sights of old and New Delhi as well as the spectacular Taj Mahal, journey through the princely state of Rajasthan to take a closer look at the region's magnificent forts and explore cities that are full of atmosphere and character, set against stunning desert scenery; then finish the tour in hustle and bustle Mumbai, the country's economy centre.

Day 01 **Australia - Delhi**

Fly from Australia to Delhi, the capital of India. Upon arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport you are met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Stay in Delhi for 2 nights.

Day 02 **Delhi**

Meal: B/D

Today, enjoy the day discovering Delhi, pacing through the city which is as historic as modern, like 2 sides of the same coin! Enjoy a morning sightseeing tour of Old Delhi, which includes a visit to **Jama Masjid**, the largest mosque in India; a rickshaw ride through narrow alleys and lanes in **Chandni Chowk**, one of the oldest and largest trading markets of the country; and drive past **Red Fort**, the place that marked the announcement of India's freedom from the British Raj. Later in the afternoon, discover the modern city of New Delhi, visiting the **Qutab Minar**, a fine example of Indo-Islamic architecture and the world's tallest brick minaret and **Gurudwara Bangla Sahib**, the largest Sikh temple of Delhi. Drive past **President's House**, **Parliament House** and other Government Secretariat Buildings, the most imposing features of Lutyen's Delhi and take a photo stop at the iconic war memorial arch, the **India Gate**.

Day 03 **Delhi – Agra (Approx. drive: 4 hours)**

Meal: B/D

After breakfast travel to Agra, this afternoon visit the splendid **Agra Fort**, built in red sandstone, encapsulating magnificent palaces, halls of public and private audience and beautiful gardens. Then witness the surreal views of the **Taj Mahal**. Step inside this eternal symbol of love and appreciate the intricate designs and symmetries that rhyme as a poem written in marble. Taj Mahal is an extravagant display of love, built by Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. You may choose to stay back to see the glistening white marble beauty at sunset.

Day 04 **Agra – Ranthambore (Approx. drive: 6 hours)**

Meal: B/L/D

This morning embark on a leisurely drive to Ranthambore, acclaimed as one of the best places in the world to photograph tigers in the wild. En-route to Ranthambore, you will make a brief stop to visit **Fatehpur Sikri**, the capital city of the Mughal Empire in the 16th century. Continue your drive to Ranthambore and upon arrival; check in at your hotel for 2 nights stay.

Day 05 **Ranthambore**

Meal: B/L/D

Today, enjoy an early morning and afternoon shared **Jeep safari** (accompanied by a trained naturalist) into the national park. The Ranthambore National Park is one of the prime examples of India's conservation program, Project Tiger. Once the hunting ground of Indian princes, this national park stands atop a 600m high hill range, and is covered with thorn trees, scrub and grasslands. Dotted with beautiful ponds, streams, lakes and old ruins, it is home to a large number of tigers, often spotted and photographed by visitors to the park.

Day 06 **Ranthambore – Jaipur (Approx. drive: 3 hours)**

Meal: B/D

After breakfast, embark on a leisurely drive to Jaipur - land of the Rajputs. Jaipur is an exuberance of colour, dance and traditional arts and crafts. Known, as the 'Pink City', Jaipur is home to ancient forts and palaces and is one of India's most well planned cities. Upon arrival check in at your hotel for 02 nights stay. This evening explore the many facets of Jaipuri crafts such as semi-precious jewels, pottery, colourful embroidered fabrics with mirror work, woven carpets etc – watch artisans at work and enjoy souvenir shopping in this colourful city of Jaipur.

Day 07 **Jaipur**

Meal: B/D

Rise early this morning to visit Jaipur's famous Amber Fort. En route, take a **guided walk** through the **flower market** of Jaipur seeing the beautiful yellow and orange marigolds and other seasonal flowers, being traded. In close vicinity is also the wholesale **vegetable market** where farmers bring fresh produce to begin the day's trading. Walking through the markets brings you to a junction where you will find the interesting and unusual **milk traders of Jaipur**, who bring their cattle's fresh milk to be tested for quality, priced and traded on the spot. Be amazed at the primitive technique of testing quality of milk by dipping hands into large metal milk containers and evaluating the creaminess of milk supplied! After a brief walk through the local trading

markets, drive onwards to visit **Amber fort**, built in the 16th century. The fort is a mesmerizing blend of Hindu and Mughal architecture. The Amber Fort was used by the Rajputs for the dual purpose of defense and private residence. To ascend up the fort, you may choose to walk, drive or take an **elephant ride**.

This afternoon take a photo stop at the **Hawa Mahal**, Palace of the Winds, with its unique layer-cake honeycomb windows designed to enable erstwhile women of the royal court to observe passing life without being seen; **Jantar Mantar**, the largest astronomical observatory built in stone, and the **City Palace** complex with its impressive gardens and museums.

Day 08 Jaipur – Bundi (Approx. drive: 4 hours)

Meal: B/D

After breakfast, embark on your drive to Bundi. Upon arrival check in at your hotel. Afternoon visit **Bundi Palace** is known for its Rajput architecture, which is easily noticeable in the jharokhas and pillars, many of which sport elephant carvings. Some of the famous palaces here include **Chhatra Mahal**, **Phool Mahal** and **Badal Mahal**, but one of the most famous ones has to be the Chitrashala, which has a fascinating pavilion and gallery of miniature murals, **Raniji ki Baori**, also known as 'Queen's Stepwell', is a famous stepwell built in 1699 and **84 Pillared Cenotaph** is a structure supported by 84 columns, this impressive structure is decorated with carvings of deer, elephants and apsaras.

Day 09 Bundi – Udaipur (Approx. drive: 8 hours)

Meal: B/D

After breakfast, embark on your drive to Udaipur, a serene city set in the scenic valley of Aravalli hills, surrounded by three lakes – Lake Pichola, Fateh Sagar and Udai Sagar. En route visit **Kumbhalgarh Fort** - the pride of the Mewar Empire. The grand wall of Kumbhalgarh fort which runs through the entire fortress is considered to be the longest wall in the world right after '**The Great Wall of China**'. Hence, it is fondly known as 'The Great Wall of India'. The wall stretches over a distance of 36 km. It is 15 m wide which is wide enough for eight horses to walk abreast. Upon arrival check in at your hotel for 2 nights stay.

Day 10 Udaipur

Meal: B/D

After breakfast, visit the 16th century **City Palace**, one of the largest palace complexes in Rajasthan comprising residence of the current Maharaja, heritage hotels, museums and galleries, courtyards and reception halls where royal events take place even today; **Jagdish Temple**, the 17th century Indo Aryan temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu (Laxmi Narayan), the preserver of the Universe; **Saheliyon-Ki-Bari**, garden of the maids of honour, with beautiful green lawns, flower beds, water pools, marble elephants and bird fountains; and **Monsoon Palace** also known as the Sajjan Garh Palace, a hilltop palatial residence in the city of Udaipur, overlooking the Fateh Sagar Lake. Enjoy an evening boat cruise at the serene Lake Pichola.

Day 11 Udaipur – Mumbai

Meal: B/D

In time, transfer to airport for your flight to Mumbai.

Upon your arrival in Mumbai, the fast paced commercial and celluloid capital of India, you will be greeted by our representative at the Airport. After that, you will be escorted to your hotel for 02 nights stay.

Day 12 Mumbai

Meal: B/D

Morning enjoy an excursion tour to the rock cut **Elephanta Caves** (located 10 Km from the Gateway of India, Mumbai). A short shared ferry ride takes you across the harbour to the island of Elephanta for a visit to the Great Cave Temple, which dates back to 550 A.D. Elephanta's most striking figure represents the three aspects of Shiva – the creator, preserver and destroyer. This afternoon, take a city tour of Mumbai visiting the **Gateway of India**, built in 1911 to commemorate the visit of King George V and Queen Mary to India; **Prince of Wales Museum**, built in early 20th century in Indo-Saracenic style architecture, housing a priceless collection of art, sculptures, china and other antiques; and Hanging Gardens. While driving in Mumbai you get an opportunity to observe and take photo stops at some famous landmark sites such as **Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus** (CST – previously called 'Victoria Terminus'), Mumbai's most famous railway station, a brilliant specimen of Victorian Gothic style architecture in India; **Dhobi Ghat**, the open air launderette, **Juhu Beach**, **Nariman Point** and **Marine Drive** Queens Necklace view.

Day 13 Mumbai Australia

Meal: B

In time, transfer to airport for your flight bound for Australia.

Day 14 Australia

Arrive into Australia this morning.