

THE BEST OF NEPAL & INDIA

14 Days Tour to Kathmandu, Chitwan, Delhi, Agra, Ranthambhore & Jaipur

This tour offers you an exciting opportunity to explore the treasures and lifestyles in the two magical and mysterious countries of the former Himalayan kingdom of Nepal and colourful, vibrant India, both wonderfully rich in history and culture. On this incredible trip we sample some of the best this region has to offer, from Buddhist stupas of Kathmandu, the exquisite palaces of Jaipur to the Taj Mahal, and the Palaces of Mughal India.

Day 1 Australia – Kathmandu

Fly from Australia to Kathmandu, capital of Nepal. Upon arrival you are met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight stay in Kathmandu.

Day 2 Kathmandu – Chitwan (Approx. Drive: 05½ Hours) Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast, drive to Chitwan, Nepal's first national park, which offers one of the finest wildlife experiences in Asia. Arrive and check in at the hotel. Afternoon is at leisure. Evening proceed for cultural show comprising the performance of Tharu stick dance. Stay Overnight at the hotel in Chitwan.

Day 3 Royal Chitwan National Park Meal: B/L/D

Enjoy the wildlife of Chitwan escorted by expert naturalists. Indulge in various exciting activities including elephant back safari, Canoe ride, Jungle walk, Bird watching and a Slide show on Jungle life. Stay overnight at the hotel in Chitwan.

Day 4 Chitwan – Kathmandu (Approx. Drive: 05½ Hours) Meal: B/D

In the morning drive back to Kathmandu. Upon arrival, check in at the hotel. Stay for next two nights at Kathmandu

Day 5 Kathmandu Meal: B/D

After breakfast visit one of the Oldest Buddhist Sites in Nepal the 2000 years old Swayambhunath stupa, the UNESCO World heritage site, also known as the Monkey Temple due to the presence of Holy monkeys in its premises. Followed by Patan Durbar Square, it has many famous sites and unique architectures and temples. Later in the afternoon visit Pashupatinath Temple (UNESCO World heritage site in 1979) which is one of the holiest pilgrimage destinations for all the Hindus of the world. Stay overnight at the hotel in Kathmandu.

Day 6 Kathmandu – Delhi Meal: B

After breakfast you are transferred to Kathmandu international airport for your flight to Delhi. Upon arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport you are met and transferred to your hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure. Stay in Delhi for 2 nights.

Day 7 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 8 Delhi – Agra (Approx. drive: 04 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 9 Agra – Ranthambore (Approx. drive: 06 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 10 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 11 Ranthambore – Jaipur (Approx. drive: 03 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 12 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 13 Jaipur – Delhi (Approximate Drive: 5 Hrs) – Australia Meal: B

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast; you will be transferred to Delhi International airport to board flight bound for Australia.

Day 14 Australia

Arrive into Australia this morning.