Best Of India I North & South Of India

Discover the dry north of India with its wonder of the world and other highlights, as well as the tropical south with its numerous tea plantations and spice fields.

- UNESCO World Heritage Site: Taj Mahal
- CityTour of Jaipur By Tuk-Tuk
- Discover tea & spice plantations
- Stay at an houseboat overnight in Alleppey

Day - 1 Delhi

DELHI ARRIVAL

Upon your arrival at the airport, you are welcomed and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free at leisure.

Overnight: Delhi

Day - 2 Delhi

DELHI: CITYTOUR (B)

Begin your day with a guided tour of the Old City of 'Shahjahanabad'. Your introduction to the city will be with a visit to the Raj Ghat – the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi. On your way, drive past the Red Fort, the magical monument in red sandstone built at the pinnacle of the Mughal Empire. Stroll through the bustling narrow lanes of Chandni Chowk to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in India built by Shahjahan. In the afternoon continue with your sightseeing tour of New Delhi, which reflects the legacy the British left behind. You will visit the Qutab Minar, the tallest stone tower in India built to establish the might of Islam and onset of Muslim rule in India. The tour also includes a drive past the imposing India Gate(War Memorial Arch), the Parliament buildings and the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President's residence).

Overnight: Delhi

Day - 3 Agra

DELHI – AGRA (B)

After breakfast, check out and drive towards Agra. Upon arrival, check into your hotel. In the afternoon visit the world renowned Taj Mahal. Referred to as one of the wonders of the world, the Taj Mahal in Agra is the epitome of tourism in India and is celebrated for its architectural magnificence and aesthetic beauty. A symphony in white marble, a tribute to eternal love, it was built by the Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal. There are tombs of Mumtaz and Shahjahan within the mausoleum. Continue to visit Great Fort of Agra, an outstanding example of Mughal architecture and the seat and stronghold of the Mughal Empire under successive

generations. Originally planned as an impregnable military structure by Akbar, the Agra Fort, over a period of time, acquired all the elegance, lavishness and majesty of an imperial palace. End the tour with a visit to Agra's local market and witness the marble inlay work demonstration.

Overnight: Agra

Day - 4 Agra

AGRA: EXCURSION TO CHAMBAL (B, L)

The Chambal Ravines are the product of centuries of soil erosion by flood and rain waters. They form an incredible maze of intertwining mud cliffs, with tropical dry scrub forest vegetation, that provide shelter for numerous birds, mammals and reptiles. This morning enjoy a River Safari. The calm and gentle waters of the Chambal River are best explored on boats and the River Safari provides spectacular opportunities to view the wildlife. The Chambal Safari boatmen are exceptionally skilled at cutting the boat engines, and manoeuvring as close to the birds and animals as possible without disturbing them. Lunch is then served at the lodge. Afterwards, enjoy the Camel Safari to the Fort Ater and back. Camels remain an important mode of transport for man and goods alike. They are also an ideal means for exploring the wildlife. Be transported back in time as you amble along long forgotten trails and pathways on these haughty beasts, with their snootily upturned noses and disdainfully curled lips. Enjoy a guided tour of Fort Ater as well.

Overnight: Agra

Day - 5 Jaipur

AGRA – JAIPUR (B)

This morning, drive to Jaipur with en-route visiting Akbar’s abandoned capital, Fatehpur Sikri. Built by Mughal emperor Akbar in 1571 in honour of the Sufi saint, Sheikh Salim Chisti, it was the Mughal capital for 14 years after which it was abandoned due to paucity of water. It is made of red sandstone and combines influences from both Hindu and Mughal architecture. Even to this day, the entrance to the fort is through the road that Akbar built which leads to the Buland Darwaza, a huge 54 metres gateway. Other inspiring monuments in Fatehpur Sikri are the Hiran Minar that Akbar built in memory of his favourite elephant, Tomb of Sheikh Salim Chishti, Birbal's House and the Diwan-i-Khas. Continue to Jaipur. On arrival you will check into your hotel and the rest of the day is free at leisure.

Overnight: Jaipur

Day - 6 Jaipur

JAIPUR: AMBER FORT – ANOKHI MUSEUM – CITYTOUR OF JAIPUR (B, D)

Drive in the morning to the ancient capital of Amer to see the fabulous Amber Fort, situated on a ridge just outside Jaipur city. Maharaja Mansingh, Mughal Emperor Akbar’s most successful General, started the construction of Amber Fort in the 17th century. The fort is surrounded by fortified battlements and overlooks the Moat Lake. Continue then to the Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing, to observe the consuming and exhausting method of hand-block printing in entirety, from carving of wooden blocks to transformation of raw fabric into a piece of art. Enjoy then a CityTour of Jaipur on a quirky Tuk-Tuk. Start your tour at the Pink City, an “abode of rajahs”. The highlights

of the tour include a visit to the City Palace Museum, which has a superb collection of Rajasthani costumes. Continue to the awe inspiring Jantar Mantar Observatory, a stone astrological and astronomical Observatory built by Maharaja Jai Singh in the 18th century. Also enjoy a photo stop at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) - a five-storied wonder with a spectacular pyramidal façade and overhanging windows with latticed screens, domes and spires. Your dinner will be served tonight at a special place: inside the famed Amber Fort! The seating is split invarious small sections, decorated with chandeliers, silk rugs and silver furniture. Not one of the most crowded places, the highlight includes Thaali meals in an exotic ambience.

Overnight: Jaipur

Day - 7 Kochi

JAIPUR – DELHI – KOCHI (B)

Before you leave Jaipur enjoy an elephant safari at Dera Amer. It is going to be a unique opportunity to enjoy an interesting insight into the countryside and rural life of Rajasthan. With a beautiful wooden howdah on its back, the elephant and his mahout welcomes you and the safari starts. The elephants take you through farms, agricultural fields, hills and ancient monuments tucked away in the countryside. The atmosphere is peaceful and all you can hear is the ringing of bells that are a part of the ornaments your elephant wears, occasional dialogue between the mahouts and the elephants and sometimes the cheers of excited children from the villages who gather and follow the elephants enjoying this rare sight. Enjoy a sumptuous breakfast afterwards, before you drive back to Delhi. Catch your flight to Kochi in the evening.

Overnight: Kochi

Day - 8 Kochi

KOCHI: SIGHTSEEING (B)

Enjoy a free morning on your own. In the afternoon, visit some of the highlights of this captivating port, taking in the myriad styles that attest to Arab, Jewish and European influences. View the remarkable cantilevered Chinese Fishing Nets and help fisherman pull catch of the day; explore the 16th century Portuguese built Mattancherry Palace, Church of St Francis and the oldest living Jewish Synagogue in the world. Enjoy a walk through Fort Kochi region – the area still retains its old world charm with European style quarters. Later, visit the Kathakali dance studio for a traditional dance performance. The striking feature of this dance form is the elaborate face make up and costumesOvernight: Kochi

Day - 9 Munnar

KOCHI – MUNNAR (B)

Leave Kochi in the morning and drive towards Munnar. Upon arrival, visit the Tata Tea Museum – a charming tea estate. Brain child of Tata Group, this museum was added to the scenic hill station as a contribution to the flourishing tea industry. It houses the photographs, machineries and informative of the eventful stories of transformation of desolate stretch of forest land into a plantation town. Enjoy a guided tour of the working tea factory, where you observe the various stages of tea processing. Tea tasting is also available for visitors to sample different varieties of tea.

Overnight: Munnar

Day - 10 Thekkady

MUNNAR – THEKKADY (B)

Continue your trip today to Thekkady. In the afternoon, take part at a Spice Plantation Tour. Later witness the region's pivotal role in the global spice market, one must get a glimpse of the Kumili spice market of Thekkady at the end.

Overnight: Thekkady

Day - 11 Kumarakom

THEKKADY – KUMARAKOM (B)

Upon arrival in Kumarakom, the rest of the day is free at leisure.

Overnight: Kumarakom

Day - 12 Alleppey

KUMARAKOM – ALLEPPEY (B, L, D)

From Alleppey, board the houseboat for your relaxing overnight cruise. Lunch and dinner will be served while you can enjoy the great view from the waterside.

Overnight: Alleppey

Day - 13 KOCHI

ALLEPPEY – KOCHI DEPARTURE (B)

After breakfast, check out from your houseboat and drive back to Kochi. Here, you can catch your flight back home or keep on travelling.

Inclusions

- 11 nights in your chosen accomodation
- 1 night on board the houseboat
- Domestic flight incl. all service fees (Delhi - Kochi)
- Meal as specified in itinerary
  (B = Breakfast, BR = Brunch, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and excursions according to itinerary

  FOR EXAMPLE:
  - CityTour of Delhi
  - Visit the Taj Mahal & Great Fort in Agra
  - River & Camel safari in Chambal
  - Visit the Amber Fort & the Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing
  - CityTour of Jaipur by Tuk-Tuk
  - Elephant safari
  - CityTour of Kochi
  - Visit the Tata Tea Museum
  - Spice Plantation Tour

- Tours and excursions in mini buses/buses
  or with public transportation according to itinerary
- English speaking tour guide
- Admission fees according to itinerary
- 1 litre of mineral water per person per day

Exclusions

- International flights
- Meals other than mentioned in itinerary
- Tours and Excursions other than mentioned in itinerary
- Early check-in and late check-out at hotels
- Personal travel insurance
- Personal expenses and tips for driver/guides
- Visa fees

Payment Details:

Group from 6 persons and more starting from (p.P)

USD 1818

Private tour for 2 persons starting from (p.P.) USD 2138

Booking Availabilities

Booking in between : 16th April 2019 & 1st March 2022

★★★★ Deluxe Hotel

Single Supplement	: USD 1167.00
Double Room Price(per person)for the 1st + 2nd person	: USD 2138.00
Double Room Price(per person)for the 3rd + 4th person	: USD 2063.00
Double Room Price(per person)for the 5th + 6th person	: USD 1818.00