



INDO ASIA TOURS

HIGHLIGHTS OF NORTH INDIA

PTMPPT006

Please contact: specialtours@indoasiatours.com
Delhi –Jaipur - Agra –Orchha- Khajuraho- Varanasi

07 Nights / 08 Days





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Program at a glance

Day	City	Hotels		
		Accommodation	Room Type	Meals
Day 01: Sat, 07 Oct, 2023	Delhi / Jaipur	ITC Jaipur	Executive Club	B/--/--
Day 02: Sun, 08 Oct, 2023	Jaipur	ITC Jaipur	Executive Club	B/--/-
Day 03: Mon, 09 Oct, 2023	Jaipur / Agra	ITC Mughal	Mughal Room	B/-/-
Day 04: Tue, 10 Oct, 2023	Agra / Orchha	Amar Mahal	Deluxe Room	B/-/-
Day 05: Wed, 11 Oct, 2023	Orchha / Khajuraho	Radisson Khajuraho	Deluxe Room	B/--/--
Day 06: Thu, 12 Oct, 2023	Khajuraho / Varanasi	Radisson Varanasi	Deluxe Room	B/--/--
Day 07: Fri, 13 Oct, 2023	Varanasi	Radisson Varanasi	Superior Room	B/--/--
Day 08: Sat, 14 Oct, 2023	Varanasi Departure			

*Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Program Details

Day 01: SAT, 07 OCT, 2023: Delhi / Jaipur (305 Kms / 5 ½ hrs)

Today morning, you will be picked up by our driver from your hotel in Delhi and driven to **JAIPUR – The fascinating capital of the marvellous state of Rajasthan.**

Jaipur is popularly known as the Pink City, thanks to the colour of its buildings. It was built in 1727 A.D by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, followed a grid system, which made it the only planned city of its time. A young Bengali architect Vidhyadhar Bhattacharya designed the city in accordance with Shilp Shastra – an ancient Hindu treatise on architecture. There are innumerable sagas and stories of culture, traditions, practices and valour. This diverse land of rich cultural heritage is a royal treat for tourists all over the world. On arrival in Jaipur, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meals: --/--/--



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Day 02: SUN, 08 OCT, 2023

Jaipur

After breakfast proceed for visit of Jaipur including following:

Photo stop at the Hawa Mahal Palace - Enjoy Photo stop at Hawa Mahal. It is the most well-known landmark of Jaipur city, built by Sawai Pratap Singh in 1799. This five-storied building overlooking the busy street is a fascinating example of Rajput architecture and artistry with its delicately honeycombed 953 pink sandstone windows known as 'jharokhas'. It was originally built for the ladies of the royal household to watch everyday life and processions in the city from their veiled comfort as they had to obey the rules of "purdah".

Amber Fort (with a jeep ride)- Set high on a picturesque and rugged hill, it is a principal attraction in Jaipur. A



noteworthy fusion of Hindu and Mughal architecture, constructed by Raja Man Singh I in 1592 and completed by Mirja Raja Jai Singh, the fort was declared as UNESCO World Heritage site in 2013. It depicts scintillating aura exquisitely made up of red sandstone and white marbles. The interior walls of the palace portray expressive paintings with carvings, precious stones, and mirror settings. Built mainly for the warring enemies as a safe place, the heavily structured walls defended residents, within the ramparts of the fort. Inside the fort, Sheesh Mahal is a



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famous hall of mirrors, constructed by Raja Jai Singh in 1623. An integral part of the Jai Mandir, it has been uniquely constructed by decorating the ceilings and walls with mirrors specially imported from Belgium and carved with beautiful designs that reflect even a small ray of light to provide natural light to the entire hall.

City Palace - Located in the heart of the Pink city and a blend of Mughal and Rajput architecture, it was founded in 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II as part of his ambitious city project. His successors continued to ornament and add to the elegant buildings up until the 20th century. It is a unique complex of several courtyards, buildings, pavilions, gardens, and temples. The most prominent and most visited structures in the complex are the Chandra Mahal, Mubarak Mahal, Shri Govind Dev Temple, and the City Palace Museum.



Jantar Mantar - The Jantar Mantar is a collection of architectural astronomical instruments, built by Maharaja Jai Singh II between 1727 and 1734. He constructed a total of five such facilities at different locations which includes one at Delhi and another at Jaipur. The Jaipur observatory is the largest and best preserved out of these and inscribed on the World Heritage List as "an expression of the astronomical skills and cosmological concepts of the court of a scholarly prince at the end of the Mughal period".

Overnight at the hotel.

Meals : Breakfast/--/--



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Day 03: MON, 09 OCT, 2023

Jaipur / Abhaneri / Fatehpur Sikri / Agra (190 Kms / 04 hrs)

After breakfast, drive to Agra. On the way, stop at **Abhaneri**

Abhaneri Step well & Harshat Mata Temple - Abhaneri is a small village, famous for its stepwell, created for rainwater harvesting, a unique invention by the people of Abhaneri. The major attraction of Abhaneri is "Chand Baori" which is located in front of the Harshat Mata Temple and this colossal stepwell has a depth of 20 meters with 13 levels. Despite being so huge in architecture, one can visually notice the delicate and intricate carvings, which is certainly a visual treat. The stepwell is surrounded by various structures.



After the visit, continue drive upto **Fatehpur Sikri**. The beautiful and deserted medieval city built by Akbar the Great in the 16th century to serve as the capital of his vast empire. The complex consists of religious, residential and administrative buildings. The Mosque is considered a copy for the Mosque at Mecca and is extremely elegant, containing elements of Hindu and Persian design. Housed here is the Shrine of Sheikh Salim Chisti one of the greatest of Sufi saints of the Muslim world.

After the visit, continue the drive to **AGRA** - The city of the inimitable "TAJ MAHAL".

The architectural splendour of the mausoleums, the fort and the palaces are vivid reminder of the opulence of the legendary Mughal Empire. While its significance as a political center ended with the transfer of the capital to Delhi in 1634 by Shah Jahan, its architectural wealth has secured its place on the international map. A pleasant town with a comparatively slow pace, Agra is known for its superb inlay work on marble and soapstone by craftsmen who are descendants of those who worked under the Mughals.

On arrival in Agra, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast/--/--

Day 04: Tue, 10 OCT, 2023

Agra / Orchha (253 Kms / 05 hrs)

Early morning, visit Taj Mahal on Sunrise (*As per your convenience, you can also visit it after breakfast, in case you do not want to start so early*).

Taj Mahal

Taj Mahal or Crown of Palaces is a white marble mausoleum, built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan as a memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. A world-renowned wonder, Taj Mahal looks the same from all the four sides and is widely recognized as "the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage". The Taj Mahal is phenomenal not in the beauty alone but in the deep planning and design that went into its making. This enchanting mausoleum started in 1631 and it took 22 years to complete with the help of an estimated 20000 workers. (It remains closed on Fridays). Note: Since Taj Mahal is a World Heritage Sites and hence require some maintenance or restoration work routinely

Later, return to the hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, visit **Agra Fort**.

Agra Fort

The great Mughal Emperor Akbar commissioned the construction of the Agra Fort in 1666, A.D. although additions were made till the time of his grandson Shahjahan. The forbidding exteriors of this fort hide an inner paradise. There are a number of exquisite buildings like Moti Masjid – a white marble mosque akin to a perfect pearl; Diwan-I-Am, Diwan-I-Khaas, Musamman Burj – where Shahjahan died in 1666 A.D. Jahangir's Palace; Khaas Mahal and Shish Mahal. The massive Agra fort is 2.5 km long and is considered as the predecessor of the Delhi Red fort.

After sightseeing, drive to Orchha. On arrival, transfer to hotel and check in.



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In the evening, enjoy **Ceremony at Ram Raja Temple** - In India, this is the only temple where Lord Rama is worshipped as a king and that too in a palace. Today, you will have the opportunity to witness the divine evening aarti ceremony (a fire ritual) that is laced with a certain amount of pomp and fanfare. It is followed by a guard of honour given to Lord Ram as a king, every evening.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast/--/--

Day 05: WED, 11OCT, 2024

Orchha / Khajuraho (172 Kms / 04 hrs)

After breakfast, enjoy the visit of Orchha –

Orchha Fort - The main attraction of Orchha is the Orchha Fort Complex, located on an island, on River Betwa. A



four-arched bridge leads to the fort complex on the island and many palaces are located within the complex. To mark the visit of Mughal Emperor, Jahangir Mahal was built by Bir Singh Deo, in the early part of the 17th century which is an important monument of this fort. It is known for its delicate work on one side and balanced with strong masonry on the other. Raj Mahal, the second palace in this fort complex is well known for its murals, depicting religious themes. The Rai Parveen Mahal, dedicated to the 17th-century poetess-musician, is the third palace within this complex and is set amongst well-laid gardens.



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After the visit, drive to Khajuraho. One of the most frequented tourist spots in the state of Madhya Pradesh in India, Khajuraho is popular for its temples that were built by the Chandela dynasty rulers. Built over a span of 200 years, only 25 of the original 80 Hindu temples remain today. The structures are scattered over an area of about 20 square kilometers and are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Unlike other Hindu temples in India that centre on religion, Khajuraho temples are well known for their erotic art in the form of carvings on the temples' surfaces. The group of monuments is representative of Indian architectural styles that have gained popularity due to their explicit depiction of sexual life during medieval times. On arrival in Khajuraho, transfer to hotel and check in.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast/--/--

Day 06: THU, 12 OCT 2023

Khajuraho / Varanasi (Flight: 6E 2232 – Dep. 1500 hrs / Arr. 1615 hrs)

After breakfast, enjoy the visit to Temples.

Eastern Groups of Temple - Visit Eastern Group of Temples includes the Parsvanatha Temple, the Adinatha



Temple, and the Shantinatha Temple, dedicated mainly to Jain teachers (Tirthankaras). These temples are ornately carved on the outside, with beautiful figures of Hindu Gods and Goddesses.



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Later visit the **Western Group of temples** - These consists of a group of artistic (erotic) temples built in sandstone. The sculptures of Hindu deities, dancers and musicians appear to be so natural as if they will come alive any time.

After the visit, transfer to airport to connect the flight to Varanasi. "Benaras is older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend and looks twice as old as all of them put together", wrote the American novelist Mark Twain. Referred to as the oldest living city in the world, Varanasi, situated between Rivers Varuna and Assi, in Uttar Pradesh derives its name from its location. A city of thousand



temples, it is also known as Kashi which stands for "the city of light". According to Hindu mythology, Varanasi is the cosmic center of the universe. The British referred to Varanasi as Benaras or Banaras and the Banarasi sari of this region is as popular as its temples and traditions.

On arrival in Varanasi, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast/--/--



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Day 07: FRI, 13OCT, 2023

Varanasi

In the morning enjoy **Boat ride on river Ganges** - Experience the life of this ancient city early morning. See the beauty of the rising sun on the River Ganges. Enjoy the boat ride and witness the early morning rituals of the Hindus being performed. A perfect click will be the view of thousands of people taking a bath in the holy water of River Ganges, believing that they will be free from the circle of rebirth. It is interesting to see the pilgrims offering sweets, flowers and holy water to the Sun God.

Later, return to the hotel for breakfast.

After the breakfast, enjoy the visit to following:

Tulsi Manas Temple- Built in 1964, the Tulsi Manas Temple stands about 150 m south of Durga Temple. The temple is dedicated to Lord Rama and is situated at the place where Tulsidas, the great medieval seer, is believed to have lived and written the great epic "Shri Ramcharitmanas". The two-tier walls of the temple are engraved with the verses and scenes from this great epic.

Banaras Hindu University - Banaras Hindu University was built in 1917 and considered as one of the oldest educational university in India. It was founded by Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya, as a centre for the study of Indian art, culture, music, and Sanskrit. The university campus is spread over 5 sq. km and houses the Bharat Kala Bhavan. The Bhavan has a fine collection of miniature paintings, sculptures from first to fifteenth centuries, old photographs of Varanasi and brocade textiles. This university is highly reputed and attracts students from every corner of India and the world.

Kashi Vishwanath Temple (University) - The temple is located in the premises of the Banaras Hindu University and is about thirty minutes walk from the gates of the university. The temple, built by the Birlas, was planned by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. Unlike many other temples in Varanasi, this temple is open to all irrespective of caste or creed.

Bharat Mata Temple - Mahatma Gandhi inaugurated this temple of Bharat Mata (Mother India) which lies about 3 km west of Godaulia, outside the old city. The most noteworthy feature of this temple is, instead of idols of Gods and Goddesses (usual of every Hindu temple), here you will find a huge relief map of the whole of the Indian subcontinent and Tibetan plateau, in marble. The map is said to be perfected to scale both vertically and horizontally with all mountains, rivers and the holy Tirthas (pilgrimage centres) clearly visible.



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In the evening, visit the Ghats again for **Evening Aarti Ceremony**. Varanasi is a sacred place where every evening a ritual is performed on the banks of River Ganga known as "Aarti". It is a very auspicious Hindu ritual in which we offer our prayers (traditional Hindi song) to numerous Gods like Lord Shiva, Ganges, Surya (Sun), Agni (Fire), etc. The Guru or the Master, with his devotees, sing the prayers along with the lighting of the small lamps. The whole experience is awe-inspiring. The view is splendid and the positive vibrations are so inspirational that, it is difficult to express them in mere words.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 08: SAT, 14OCT, 2023 Varanasi / Delhi Departure (Flight: UK 674 - Dep.1520 hrs / Arr. 1700 hrs)

After breakfast, enjoy the visit to Sarnath

Sarnath: A major Buddhist centre, Sarnath lies 10 kilometres north east of Varanasi. It was here that Buddha preached his message of the 'middle way' to nirvana after achieving enlightenment at Bodhgaya. In around 234



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BC, Emperor Ashoka, a great follower of Buddhism, erected a stupa here. Between the 3rd century BC and the 11th century

After the visit, drive straightway to the airport to connect flight to Delhi to connect the flight for onward WEjourney
(Rooms will be available till 1200 hrs)

Meals : Breakfast/--/--

End of Services

Price Details

Valid for above dates

Slab	Prices
02-05 Pax	USD 1159 per person sharing a double / twin room
06 Pax onwards	USD 941 per person sharing a double / twin room
Single Room Supplement	USD 434 per single Room
Airfare Supplement	USD 208 per person in economy class
Khajuraho / Varanasi / Delhi	This is the presently available special fare and is subject to change until ticketed.

Cost Includes	Cost does not include
* Double / Twin room on sharing basis	X Any airfares.
* Daily Breakfast.	X Any expenditure of personal nature such as drinks, tips, laundry, telephone charges etc.
* TRANSPORTATION: All ground transportation, as detailed in the itinerary using air-conditioned transport 02-03 pax: Toyota Innova Crysta	X Any new tax imposed by the Govt.



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04-07 pax: Tempo Traveller 08-14 Pax: A.C Mini Coach 15 Pax onwards: A.C Large Coach	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For 02-05 Pax, we will be providing the services of English speaking local guide• For 06 pax onwards, services of an Accompanying English-speaking tour guide from arrival in Delhi till departure (Not staying in the same hotels)	
* Jeep ride Amber fort	
* Monument entrance fee.	
* Currently applicable taxes	