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# Romantic India Tour

Delhi \* Agra \* Jaipur \* Jodhpur \* Udaipur \* Delhi

## Skeleton Itinerary

DAY 01	ARRIVE DELHI	BY: INT. FLIGHT
DAY 02	DELHI	
DAY 03	DELHI - AGRA	BY: SURFACE
DAY 04	AGRA	
DAY 05	AGRA - FATEHPUR SIKRI - JAIPUR	BY: SURFACE
DAY 06	JAIPUR	
DAY 07	JAIPUR - JODHPUR	
DAY 08	JODHPUR	
DAY 09	JODHPUR - UDAIPUR	
DAY 10	UDAIPUR	
DAY 11	UDAIPUR - DELHI DEP: DELHI	BY: FLIGHT BY: INT. FLIGHT

\*\*\* END OF TOUR \*\*\*

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## Classical India Tour

Delhi \* Agra \* Jaipur \* Jodhpur \* Udaipur \* Delhi

### DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 01

ARRIVE DELHI

BY: INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT

Today early morning you will arrive at Delhi's International Airport. Following customs, immigration formalities and baggage collection, a TWX representative will meet you as you EXIT the ARRIVALS TERMINAL building and transfer you to your hotel.

India's capital and a major gateway to the country, contemporary Delhi is a bustling metropolis, which successfully combines in its folds - the ancient with the modern. Amidst the fast spiraling skyscrapers the remnants of a bygone time in the form of its many monuments stand as silent reminders to the region's ancient legacy. The first impressions for any visitor traveling in from the airport are of a spacious, garden city, tree-lined with a number of beautiful parks.



Upon arrival at the hotel, you will be accorded with a **Traditional Welcome**. Welcoming guest is an age-old tradition. 'Atithi Devobhava' - treat your guest as if he were God. Indian hospitality can be savored immediately as one arrives at the hotel. The guest's forehead is anointed with the traditional red 'tika' which is considered auspicious along with garlanding. Relax with a non-alcoholic welcome drink following which proceed to check in at your room.

**Overnight at the hotel**

DAY 02

DELHI

After buffet breakfast in the hotel, Proceed for full day sightseeing tour of Delhi and Old Delhi



Tour starts with visit to Old Delhi - Old Delhi is a world all in its own. As you meander through the bustling galis (streets) of this Mughal nerve-centre of old, is difficult to imagine that way back in 1648, Emperor Shah Jahan's daughter Jahanara built up the area only to pander to her father's fetish for grandiose processions, Here you will see the Jama Masjid, built in 1650 AD, and one of the largest mosques in India. Drive through the fabled Chandni Chowk (literally,



'Silver Street'), once the most opulent perfume market of India, but now a bustling market, good for hunting down old and new silver and gold from jewellers whose forefathers served the emperors. Tour the Red Fort (closed on Mondays), dating back as far as 1639-48 AD, and built by Emperor Shah Jahan, who also built the Taj Mahal. Visit Raj Ghat where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated following his assassination in 1948. Continue visit to India Gate.



Continue tour of the New Delhi - New Delhi was planned and built by the British in the 1920s and is characterized by Sir Edwin Lutyen's monumental architecture. You will visit Humayun's Tomb, aptly called the predecessor of the Taj Mahal because of its ornate Mughal style of architecture, later perfected in the Taj Mahal. Continue drive



to 12th century Qutab Minar, considered one of the most perfect towers in the world, measuring 72 meters high. Nearby, amidst the ruins of the Quwwat ul Islam Mosque stands the iron pillar, which is over 1500 years old and seemingly immune to rust. Drive through the city viewing the government buildings, President's House and Parliament House. Also Visit India Gate & drive pass Govt building

**Overnight at the hotel**

After buffet breakfast at the hotel, you will be driven from Delhi to Agra (204 KMS / 4.30 Hours).

Agra in terms of ambiance is still associated with its Mughal period. The Mughals besides being great rulers were also great builders and they preserved their best architectural wonders for Agra & its neighborhood. It has many wonderful monuments and the Taj Mahal, the greatest of them all, is a masterpiece of Mughal architecture at its best. The massive but elegant Agra Fort, the delicate artistry of Itimad-ud-daulah's tomb, the magnificent Taj and Akbar's deserted capital, Fatehpur Sikri, are each unique and outstanding.

Upon arrival check in at your hotel.

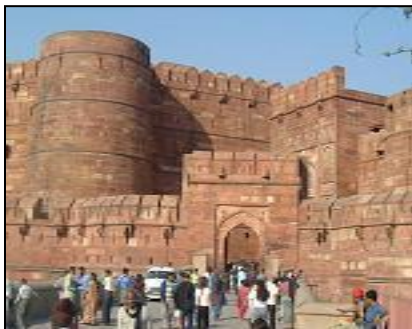
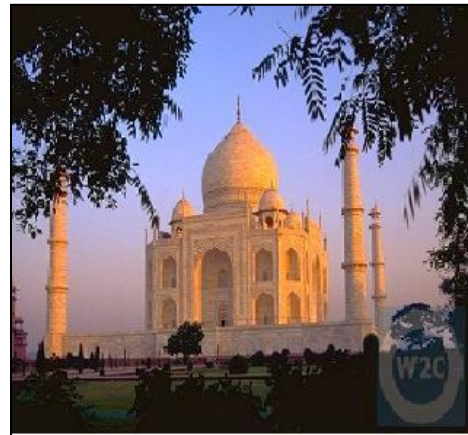
Rest of the day at leisure.

### Overnight at the hotel

## DAY 04      AGRA

Morning proceed to visit the **Taj Mahal (closed on Fridays)** at Sun Rise. Midway **Tonga's "horse carriages"** would be waiting for you and will drop you at the gates of the Taj Mahal.

The Taj Mahal is everything that has been said about it and more. Taking 22 years and 20,000 men to build, the white marble was quarried 200 miles away and was transported to the site by a fleet of 1000 elephants. Built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as an expression of his love for his wife Mumtaz Mahal, in mid 17th century, the Taj Mahal is truly one of the wonders of the world. Though the Taj appears to be amazingly perfect from almost any angle, it is the close-up marble inlay work, which is really astounding. You will have ample time to view and be mesmerized by this outstanding piece of architecture.



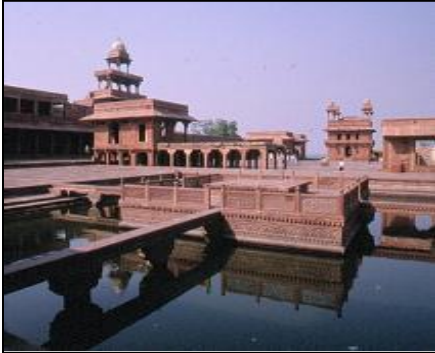
Later after breakfast proceed for tour of **Agra Fort** - the seat and the stronghold of the Mughal Empire under successive generations. This was the seat of Mughal rule and administration and the present structure owes its origins to Akbar who erected the walls and gates and the first buildings on the eastern banks of Yamuna River. Shah Jehan added the impressive quarters and the mosque while Aurangzeb added the outer ramparts. Visit its Hall of Public Audience and its Royal Pavilions.

## Overnight at the hotel

**DAY 05**      **AGRA - FATEHPUR SIKRI - JAIPUR**

**BY: SURFACE**

After buffet breakfast in the hotel you will be driven from Agra to Jaipur (254 KMS / 6 Hours). Enroute your drive to Jaipur, you will visit Fatehpur Sikri.



**Fatehpur Sikri** - the deserted red sandstone city, built by the Great Mughal Emperor Akbar as his capital and palace in the late 16th century. Fatehpur Sikri (the City of Victory) was the capital of the Mughal Empire for only some 10 years. It was abandoned soon after it was built when the local wells went dry and it remains today in much the same condition that it was over 300 years ago. It is complete with palaces and mosques and used to be a town larger than London when it was originally constructed.

Later this afternoon you will arrive into Jaipur & check in at your hotel.

Jaipur's past is never too far from hand. The city of victory, Jaipur presides over the fascinating desert state and its people: surrounded by rugged hills, each crowned by a formidable fort; and beautiful palaces, mansions and gardens dotted throughout its precincts. The palaces and forts of yesteryear that were witness to royal processions and splendour are now living monuments, accepted quite naturally into the lifestyles of the people of the "pink city". Except for the busy traffic of bicycles, cars and buses, little seems to have changed. There is a timeless quality to Jaipur's bazaars and its people. With its historical past, Jaipur revives legends of the ancient Rajputs. The dresses of the women and the turbans of the men add colour to this fascinating city.

## Overnight at the hotel

**DAY 06**

**JAIPUR**

After buffet breakfast at the hotel, you will be driven just outside Jaipur to the **ancient capital of Amber** to see the fabulous Amber Fort.

Maharaja Mansingh, Mughal Emperor Akbar's most successful General, started the construction of Amber Fort in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Before the City Palace was constructed in Jaipur, Amber was the seat of power. **An elephant /Jeep** will spare you the trouble of reaching up to the fortress (*Elephant ride is subject to availability*) Once



on top, stroll through the sprawling complex of courtyards and halls. Many of the rooms have delightful wall paintings, with precious stones and mirrors inlaid in the walls.

Most fascinating, perhaps, is the Sheesh Mahal (hall of mirrors) where a single lamplight is reflected in the many mirrors, lighting up the room. Come back to your hotel after your excursion.

*After your excursion to the Amber Fort, you will proceed for a lunch at a local restaurant – Spice Court.*

In the afternoon you will proceed for **city tour of Jaipur**.



Among the highlights to be seen while touring Jaipur include the **City Palace**, which is an overwhelming complex of exquisite palaces, gardens and courtyards, decorative art and carved doorways. The palace museum houses collections of rare manuscripts, armoury, costumes, carpets and miniature paintings. Walk to the adjacent **Jantar Mantar or Astronomical Observatory** made by the Maharaja of Jaipur, built in 1726 and is one of the five such astronomical wonders built by Sawai Jai Singh and makes accurate predictions even to this day.

You will stop and see the '**Palace of Winds**', otherwise known as Hawa Mahal. It is really an elaborate facade behind which the ladies of the court used to watch the daily goings on in the street below. It is extremely intricate in its pink sandstone carving. The cool wind blows through its facade of windows and latticed screens through which the queens of the court once viewed the streets of the city. You will also have the opportunity to wander about the local markets

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Return to your hotel after the sightseeing tour.

**Overnight at the hotel**

**DAY 07**

**JAIPUR - JODHPUR**

Morning drive to Jodhpur. Upon arrival in Jodhpur assistance and check in at your hotel.

Rest of the day at leisure.

**Overnight at the hotel**

**DAY 08**

**JODHPUR**

After buffet breakfast,

visit the **Mehrangarh Fort** (citadel of the Sun) that evokes the very spirit of the Rathores, the ruling local Rajput clan. Also visit Jaswant Thanda - memorial to the popular ruler Jaswant Singh II (1878-95), who purged Jodhpur of dacoits, initiated irrigation systems and boosted the economy.



Evening enjoy the jeep safari in Bishnoi Village.

**Overnight at the hotel**

**DAY 09**

**JODHPUR - UDAIPUR**

Breakfast and depart for Udaipur. Upon arrival check in at hotel.

Udaipur Set on the shores of Lake Pichola and surrounded by hills, Udaipur grew in complete contrast to the harsh deserts of the rest of Rajasthan. As capital of the old Mewar State it was the only Rajput stronghold to uphold its Hindu allegiance in the face of Muslim invasion. From the late 16th century, peace brought about an era of renaissance in the arts and encouraged the building of beautiful palaces around the lake, culminating in the City Palace, one of the largest palace complexes in the world. The lake itself is a romantic setting surrounding the gleaming white Lake Palace and the Jag Mandir, a refuge of the rebel Mughal prince, Shah Jahan, soon to be the creator of the incomparable Taj Mahal.

**Overnight at the hotel**

**DAY 09**

**UDAIPUR**

After breakfast in the hotel you will be taken for the **sightseeing tour of Udaipur City**, also known as the City of Sunrise

First on your sightseeing tour you will proceed for a tour of the **City Palace**, which overlooks the Lake Pichola. The City Palace was built in 1725 of granite and marble with filigreed balconies, ornate windows and craftsmanship in glass. The royal palace walls stretch over a mile on the eastern side of the lake. Within the palace is a maze of courtyards, apartments and decorated halls. The rooms are covered with frescoes, displays of royal processions, stone and glass mosaics and ornamental doors and painted windows. The marble throne in the coronation rooms was last used during the time Maharana Sangram Singh II (1710-30) and nearby is the Sun Window installed by Maharaja Bhim Singh (1778-1828). This is the divine symbol of the house of Mewar, which traces its lineage to the Surya Vansha, descendants of the Sun. Each palace within is an outstanding creation of art. Visit **the museums and the hall of public audiences, the private chambers of the royal ladies at the palace and Sahelion-ki-Badi.**



*Afternoon free to relax or explore the city on your own.*

Evening enjoy the boat ride on the placid waters of **Lake Pichola**. The beautiful Lake Pichola was enlarged by Maharana Udai Singh after he founded the city. The city palace extends a considerable distance along the east bank of the lake. From the boat you will be able to view the city of Udaipur as it rises majestically above the lake in the middle of the Rajasthan desert. One would get an interesting view of the Dhobi (laundry) ghats. Also visit the Jag Mandir Palace - a lovely island palace in the middle of the lake.

### **Overnight at the hotel**

**DAY 10**

**UDAIPUR - DELHI**

**BY: FLIGHT**

Breakfast at hotel. & Morning at leisure.

Afternoon in time a TWX representative will meet you at the hotel lobby & transfer you to airport to board flight for Delhi..

Departure: Udaipur                      at: 1530 hours                      by: 9W 708 (Jet Airways)  
Arrival: Delhi                                at: 1640 hours

Arrive Delhi Domestic airport, a TWX representative will meet you and transfer to International airport to board your flight for back home.

**\*\*\* END OF TOUR \*\*\***