

# Classical India Tour

**Duration: 08 Nights / 09 Days**

**Destination Explored:** Delhi – Taj Mahal - Jaipur – Amber Fort – Varanasi – Sarnath – Akshardham - Delhi.

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## Day 01: Old & New Delhi Sightseeing

Today post breakfast plunge yourself into the enriching experience of Delhi, the most diverse city in India. Start the day with visit to Old Delhi, locally famed as “Purani Dilli” and with the name of Shahjahanabad in past was the capital of Mughal India. A ten minute heritage walk along the Red Fort leads us to the adventure chaos of Chandni Chowk, was the Bazaar of Mughal’s. Board the Rickshaw and slither into the narrow lanes of Chandi Chowk to witness the famous wholesale markets of the beads, Silverware, Sari, Decorative items and the famous Spice market of Delhi.

Later step into newer part of the town famed as Luteyan’s Delhi and enjoy drive pass through the Colonial era heritage buildings of India Gate, President Palace and the Parliament house. Post lunch pay tribute to the man of Peace “Mahatma Gandhi”, with visit Gandhi’s home, where he lived during his Delhi visit. The emotional site also stores the silent memory of his assassination. Our last stop of Delhi tour is Bangla Sahib, the largest Sikh temple in Delhi. Massive kitchen of the shrine provides holy food to 40 thousand people daily. **Overnight stay in Delhi.**

**Remarks:** Old Delhi remains closed on Sunday and New Delhi Remains closed on Monday for Tourism.

## Day 02: Drive to Agra - the city of eternal love, epic & Taj Mahal.

After a leisurely breakfast head to Agra. A memorable 200 Kms country drive, passing through the Delhi suburbs, vast farms and villages reaches us to the city of Love and Taj Mahal. Arrive Agra and check into your hotel. After relaxed afternoon enjoy visit to astonishing UNESCO World heritage Red fort of Agra. Venerate the Mughal’s grandeur with visit to the Pearl Mosque, Halls of Public and Private audience, Jahangir’s Palace, Khaas Mahal, Sheesh Mahal and Musamman Burj inside Agra fort. **Overnight stay in Agra.**

## Day 03: Sunrise visit to Taj Mahal. Drive to Jaipur.

Today enjoy Sunrise visit to the World’s most alluring monument – Taj Mahal. Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan built the greatest memory for Love in 1648 AD in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaj Mahal. It took not less than 22 years and work force of 20000 skilled labourers, skilled artisans and jewelers for the construction of this grand

memorial. The brilliant art work of Pietra Dura, intricate pierce work and marble carving on Marble embraces Taj Mahal in the World's Wonder list. After breakfast head to pink city Jaipur. The Dazzling metropolis is the capital of Royal state Rajasthan in India. Enroute stop at the small village of Abhaneri to visit the thousand year old decorated Chand Baori commonly known as Chand Stepwel. Arrive Jaipur and enjoy Theme dinner with live folk dance and tickling puppet show by local artist. **Overnight stay at Jaipur.**

**Remarks:** Taj Mahal remains closed on Friday for Tourism.

#### **Day 04: Tour of Imperial Jaipur. Excursion to Amber Fort.**

After breakfast head to Amber Fort, is one of the most picturesque fort in India and one of the favorite sight of shooting for Bollywood film makers. Ascend the Amber hill on the back of embellished elephant with feel of Maharaja & Maharani to reach the 16<sup>th</sup> sanctuary built hill fort of Amber. Get soaked in the history of Rajput's with visit to Halls of Public and Private audience, Sukh Niwas (Pleasurable Residence) and spectacular Sheesh Mahal (Mirror Palace). Post Lunch enjoy Jaipur city tour visiting the city palace – Museum and residence of the Royal family, Jantar Mantar- The Observatory, built between 1727-34 AD has a noteworthy collection of traditional astronomical instruments and the spectacular Hawamahal or the Palace of winds built in 1799 AD allowed the royal ladies to see the street procession with its 953 small niche windows, has become the hotspot for selfie stop in Jaipur. **Overnight stay at Jaipur.**

#### **Day 05: Lunch at the Viceroys Club of the best Exotic Marigold hotel. Afternoon tea with Elephant Family.**

Morning is free. Today we have arranged a special lunch for you, drive 15 km from Jaipur to experience the majesty of the past amalgamating with modern times at Castle Kanota, which was used as the Viceroys Club in the famous Hollywood movie "The Best Exotic Marigold hotel". Fathom the clandestine elegance of Rajput art in the meticulously done frescoes and painting on the ceiling and magnificent decorated walls that surely will leave you spellbound. Afternoon holds back an indelible & enliven experience for you in a lush green environment of Jaipur. Enjoy trip to Elephant village and learn the art of bounding with these lovely giants from experienced Mahouts (elephant riders) and let bring out your inner child by washing, painting, feeding and commanding these constantly eating giant creatures. **Overnight stay at Jaipur.**

## **Day 06: Fly to Varanasi via Delhi. Evening Grand Ganga Aarti**

Today in time transfer to Jaipur Airport to board your Flight to Varanasi (Flight via Delhi). Varanasi is the oldest living city in the world and most sacred city in Hinduism. At dusk submerge yourself into supreme spirituality with attendance at holy Ghat of Dasaswamedh to witness the extravagantly choreographed River Ganges Aarti ceremony enthusiastically performed by the apprentices of the Upanishads & Vedas which is supervised by the head priest and observe merrily the entire environs transforming into living pagoda. **Overnight stay in Varanasi**

## **Day 07: Varanasi & Sarnath Sightseeing**

After relaxed breakfast enjoy temple and city tour of Varanasi visiting Durga Temple, Sankat Mochan Temple, Bharat Mata Temple and Benares Hindu University. Later in the day enjoy excursion tour to Sarnath – 10 Kms from Varanasi, where Lord Buddha preached his sermon after attaining enlightenment. Visit Dhamekh Stupa built by Emperor Ashoka in 249 BC and Chaukhandi Stupa built in 5th century AD, Sarnath Archaeological Museum has an impressive collection of artifacts collected from the excavation site of Sarnath, including India's national emblem- the Ashoka Stambh. **Overnight stay in Varanasi.**

## **Day 08: Sunrise Cruise on River Ganges. Fly to Delhi. Visit to Akshardham Temple & Cultural Complex.**

Today at Sunrise collect the another marvellous experience of the town – set sail into the river Ganges and espy the magnificent view of Hindu mores performing their rituals, worshipping the sun and taking dip into the holy river for salvation on the Ghats. There are numerous temples, old buildings, ashrams and palaces along the shoreline which beautifully gleams into the river and looks like rainbow when the sunlight touches them. Return back to the hotel for breakfast. Intime fly to Delhi. Check into your pre booked hotel in Delhi. Today have a special evening with visit to the grand Akshardham Temple & cultural complex, a great example of fusion of ancient temple architecture and modern Indian architecture. It took more than five years and a work force of 11,000 artisans to complete the marvellous modern day icon of Delhi. Enjoy a cultural boat ride and musical fountain show, which takes you on a glorious tour of 10,000 years of the heritage of India. **Overnight stay in Delhi.**

**Day 09:** Head to Rishikesh to join Thom Retreat 2017

**Tour Services Ends...**

## **Hotels selected for your Holidays:**

**Delhi:** Hotel Visaya (4 Star Boutique) or Similar.

**Agra:** Hotel Ramada Plaza (5 Star) or Similar.

**Jaipur:** Shahpura House (4 Star Heritage) or Similar.

**Varanasi:** Hotel Ganges View (4 Star) or Similar.

**Trip Cost:** With minimum 2 people travelling together

**Sharing basis:** USD 1780 per person

**Single room Supplement:** USD 585

## **Cost Includes:**

- Accommodation at above mentioned hotels inclusive of Breakfast and Hotel tax.
- Air conditioned Chauffeur driven car for transfers and sightseeing.
- Guided sightseeing tour of Delhi.
- Rickshaw ride ticket for Old Delhi tour inclusive of tips to Rickshaw driver.
- Guided sightseeing tour Tajmahal and Agra.
- Tour of Abhaneri Stepwell
- Theme dinner with live folk dance performance at Shahpura house.
- Guided sightseeing tour of Jaipur and Amber fort.
- Elephant back ride ticket / Jeep ride to ascend the hill of Amber fort.
- Lunch at Marigold hotel in Jaipur.
- Day with Elephant tour at Jaipur.
- Flight ticket Jaipur - Delhi – Varanasi
- Evening Grand Ganga Aarti ticket at Varanasi.
- Morning Boat cruise on Ganges ticket at Varanasi.
- Guided Varanasi and Sarnath Sightseeing.

- Flight ticket Varanasi – Delhi.
- Guided visit to Akshardham temple and Cultural center at Delhi.
- If more than 5 person than full time escort travelling from Delhi office.
- GST (Increased One 18 % earlier it was 6.5 %)

**Cost Excludes:**

- Monument admission fees. To be paid directly at Monument our Guides / Escorts will assist you in the same.
- Lunch / Dinner other then specified in the inclusions
- Any Gala dinner charges imposed by hotel for New Year or Xmas eve.
- Tips to driver / Guide.