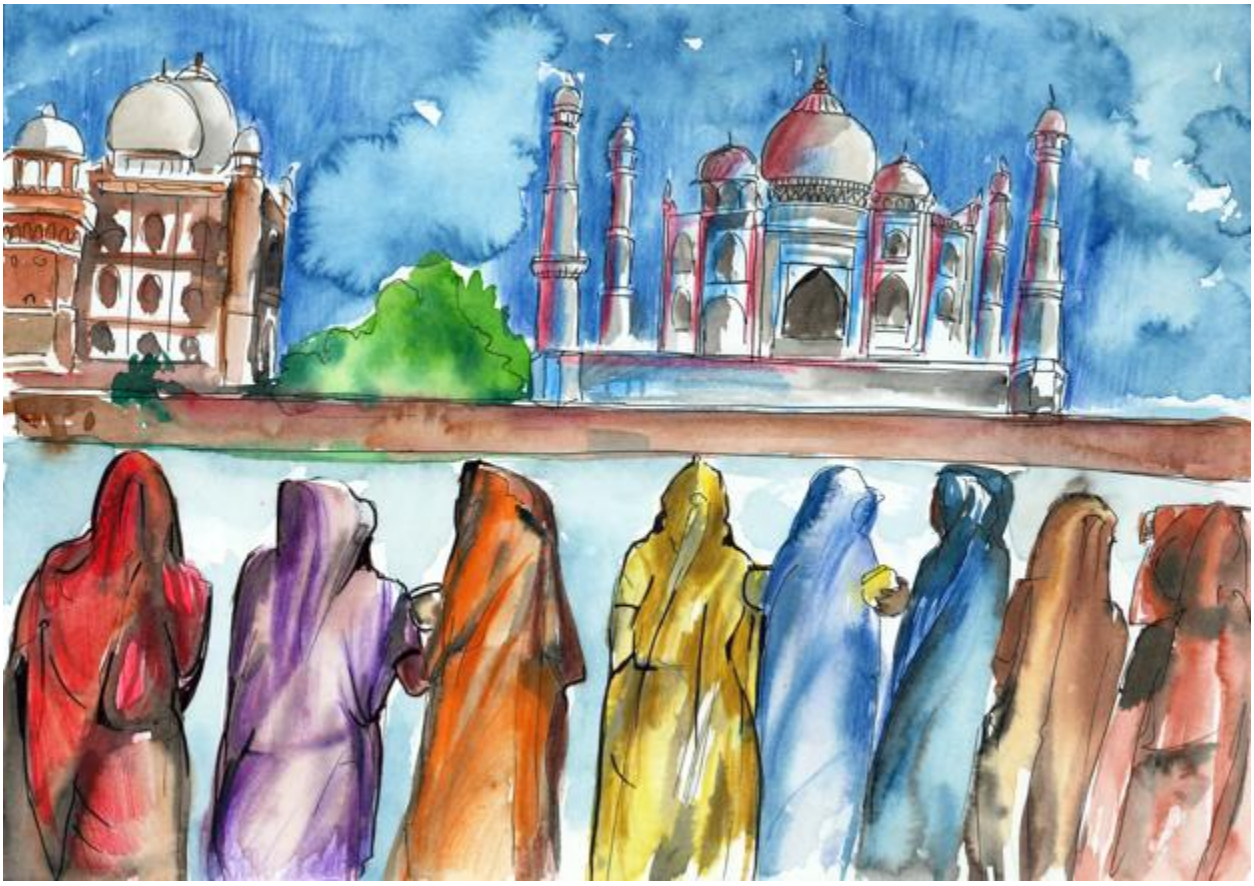


EXPLORATOURS
est 1947

Imperial Splendour



Route: DELHI (02) – JAIPUR (02) – AGRA (02) – DELHI (01)

Trip Experiences /Activities:

- Rickshaw ride in the bazaar of Delhi
- Excursion to Amer Fort in Jaipur
- Sunrise visit to Taj Mahal in Agra

Best time to visit: October to April (also May & June for wildlife enthusiasts)

DAY 01: ARRIVE DELHI

Arrival at the Delhi airport.

Sector TBA **Flight TBA** **Time TBA Hrs'**

Meeting & assistance on arrival and transfer to hotel.

(Standard check in time is 1400 hrs, early check in is subject to the availability)

***Delhi**, being the national capital of India is the lifeline of the country. A place where past greets the future and lives calmly is worth a detailed visit. Whether it's inviting markets of the Connaught place or the crowds of foodies at world famous Chandni Chowk, Delhi has food to satiate your taste buds and lovable locales to entertain your senses. A place where all important national offices reside has a mixture of multilingual population coming to work and earn its living. Ancient Mughal era remnants like Humayun ka Makbara and magnificent Qutub Minar spell the historical importance of this ancient soil. Delhi has old world charm as well as modern lifestyle necessities to cherish at its every nook and corner. The banks of river Yamuna serve as a rich platform for the flourishing culture.*

Spend rest of the day at leisure for relaxation.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 02: DELHI

Today morning, **sightseeing of Old Delhi**. Visit **Jama Masjid,** the great mosque of Old Delhi is both the largest in India and the final architectural extravagance of Shah Jahan, with a courtyard capable of holding 25000 devotees. **Enjoy a rickshaw ride at Chandni Chowk**, winding through the labyrinthine lanes of the "moonlight place" glimpsing tiny shops crammed with spices and trinkets. Drive past the 17th century Red Fort, the magnificent fort symbolizes the sovereignty of India builds by Shah Jahan. Also, **Gandhi Smriti** is the historic residence where Mahatma Gandhi spent his final 144 days before his assassination in 1948.



Later in the afternoon, visit the very interesting **Bangla Sahib Sikh temple** known for its huge community kitchen which daily serve food to thousands of devotees. In the afternoon, enjoy visit to New Delhi visit **Qutab Minar** which is a soaring, 73 m-high tower of victory, built in 1193 by Qutab-ud-din Aibak immediately after the defeat of Delhi's last Hindu kingdom; India Gate, the 42-metre-high, free-standing arch, designed by Lutyens, built in 1931, is dedicated to 90,000 soldiers of the Indian Army who died in World War I.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 03: DELHI TO JAIPUR BY DRIVE (APPROX... 5 -1/2 HRS')

Post breakfast, you will drive to Jaipur.

***Jaipur**, also known as the pink city, is one of the most beautiful and culturally rich cities in India. It was founded by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II in November 1727 and also got its name from this brave Hindu ruler. Located in Northern India, Jaipur is the capital of Rajasthan and also the largest city in this state. The main attraction of Jaipur is its archetypal architecture. The city was planned as per the Indian Vastu Shastra, a science that promotes wellbeing and prosperity.*

On arrival check in at the hotel.

Spend evening at leisure for relaxation.

*Optional: Evening visit **Indian family** where you get the opportunity to interact with family members, interaction is followed by **cooking demonstration** and dinner. Spend time with the family, discuss the history of Rajasthan royals, how they have evolved over the centuries and their relations with Mughals & then British, the society and life of locals in Rajasthan and of course the current socio-political scenario of India. The ladies in the family will share with you some of the best kept secrets of traditional Rajasthani cuisine*

like Laal Maans & Bati Choorma. End the evening relishing the home cooked dinner with the family.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 04: JAIPUR

Morning excursion to **Amber fort.** Amber is a classic, romantic Rajasthani Fort Palace. The rugged, time-ravaged walls of the Fort not only look beautiful from the outside, but the interior is a virtual paradise. Miniatures painted on the walls depict hunting and war scenes, apart from festivals. Precious stones and mirrors are embedded into the plaster. Inside the Jag Mandir is the famed Sheesh Mahal - a room with all the four walls and ceiling completely embedded with glittering mirror pieces, which were specially imported from Belgium during that period. En route to Amber Fort, you will have a brief photography stop at **Hawa Mahal - the Palace of Winds.**



In Jaipur city visit **Maharaja's City Palace**, the former Royal residence, part of it converted into a museum. A small portion is still used by the Royal family of Jaipur. Built in the style of a fortified campus, the palace covers almost one-seventh in area of the city. One of the major attractions in the museum is the portion known as Armoury Museum housing an impressive array of weaponry-pistols, blunderbusses, flintlocks, swords, rifles and daggers. The royal families of Jaipur once used most of these weapons. Later visit the **Jantar Mantar**, which is the largest stone and marble crafted observatory in the world. Situated near the gate of the city palace, the observatory has 17 large instruments, many of them still in working condition.

Overnight stay at the hotel

DAY 05: JAIPUR TO AGRA BY DRIVE (APPROX. 05- 1/2 HRS')

Post breakfast, you will drive to Agra enroute visiting Chand Baori.

*Enroute visit the beautiful **Chand Baori (Stepwell) in Abhaneri village**. It was built during the 8th and 9th centuries and has 3,500 narrow steps arranged in perfect symmetry, which descend 20 meters & 3 floors to the bottom of the well. Stepwells were the local rainwater harvesting systems in the arid regions. The stepwell rose to fame when scenes from "Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" were shot here.*

Continue your drive to Agra.

Meeting and assistance on arrival and transfer to your hotel.

***Agra** – The Land of Love, known for its world-famous monument and memoir of everlasting love, The Taj stands silently right inside the heart of Agra, by the ever-flowing waters of the river Yamuna, A reminder of the glories, charisma and the love for life carved strongly in the heart of the Mughal emperor, Shah Jahan.*

Overnight stay at the hotel

DAY 06: AGRA

Today early morning **visit Taj Mahal at sunrise**. Taj Mahal is living example of greatest love story ever told. On the death of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, in wild extravagance, Mughal emperor Shahjehan built her this memorial. 20,000 men laboured for over 17 years to build this wealth of white marble and precious stone. *(Closed on Friday)*.

Return back to hotel for breakfast.

Later visit **Agra Fort visit Agra Fort**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the finest Mughal forts in India. Built in the 11th century, an era marked by invasions and battles, this red stone-fortified castle was also the site of India's Rebellion of 1857.

*Optional: In the late afternoon, visit **Mehtab Bagh (Moonlit Garden)**, on the east bank of Yamuna River. Mehtab Bagh is one of the eleven Mughal-built gardens along the Yamuna offering the beautiful view of Taj Mahal. The park was set up by Emperor Babur, way before when Taj Mahal was built. The park has now been reconstructed to its original grandeur and is today a good location to view the Taj Mahal. Landscape artists meticulously planned the replanting of trees, plants and herbage to match the original Mughal Gardens, replicating the riverside gardens brought to India from Central Asia. 81 kinds of plants adopted in Mughal horticulture including Guava, Maulshri, Kaner, Hibiscus, Neem, Bahuinia, Ashoka, Jamun and some citrus fruits have been planted.*



Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 07: AGRA TO DELHI BY DRIVE (APPROX... 4-1/2 HRS')

Post relaxed breakfast, you will drive back to Delhi.

Upon arrival, check in at the hotel.

Spend rest of the day at leisure for relaxation.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 08: DEPARTURE DELHI OR JOIN EXTENSION PROGRAM FOR YOGA RETREAT

Intime, you will drive back to Delhi airport to board the flight for onward journey.

Sector TBA Flight TBA Time TBA Hrs'

Or

You can take extension program for Yoga Retreat.

Safe onward travels

Note: *The driving hours given are based on normal road conditions and may vary. Stops for meals, tea, restrooms, or sightseeing will add extra time to the journey*