



India's Majesty with Nepal - 15 Days

India is a country steeped in cultural diversity, historical treasures and architectural wonders, set against a scenic backdrop of traditional rural settings and modern cities.

Start in Delhi, home to India's largest mosque and the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi. Move on to Jaipur where you can take a morning ride to the Amber Fort on the back of an elephant. Venture to the city of Agra and take in the breathtaking Taj Mahal, one of the seven wonders of the world. It was built by Emperor Shah Jehan as a mausoleum for his beloved Queen Mumtaz Mahal.

No Indian odyssey would be complete without a visit to Varanasi, Hinduism's holiest city. Enjoy a boat ride along the sacred Ganges River, then it's on to Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, nestled high in the Himalayas. Drive to Durbar Square, a showcase of Nepalese architecture with over fifty palaces, pagodas, temples and monuments. Visit the temple of Machhendranath and the great stupa of Swayambhunath where the eyes of Buddha gaze upon you. India and Nepal will dazzle you with magnificent scenery, and immerse you in their mystical wonders.

Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Khajuraho Varanasi, Kathmandu



DAY 1, Mon DEPART USA

Your flight includes meals, drinks, and in-flight entertainment.

DAY 2, Tue ARRIVE DELHI, INDIA

Transfer to your hotel. Balance of day at leisure.

DAY 3, Wed DELHI - OLD & NEW DELHI CITY TOUR

This morning, enjoy a tour of Old Delhi, an ancient historical city with more than 60,000 identifiable monuments. Visit the Memorial of Mahatma Gandhi and the Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, and on to view the famous Red Fort. This afternoon, tour New Delhi. Pass by the UNESCO World Heritage Qutab Minar, the world's tallest brick minaret (spire). Continue for a visit to the Mausoleum of Humayun and the 20th century Birla Temple. Drive past India Gate, the former Viceroy's Palace, and the Indian Parliament House. (B)

DAY 4, Thu DELHI TO JAIPUR

This morning, transfer to your hotel in Jaipur, the famed Pink City of India. The entire city was painted its unique pink color in 1876 to celebrate the visiting Prince of Wales. Several legends exist to explain why the color pink was chosen, but no matter the reason, it has come to represent the welcoming hospitality of Jaipur. Balance of the day at leisure. (B)

DAY 5, Fri JAIPUR- ELEPHANT RIDE & CITY TOUR

This morning's excursion takes you to the 16th century Amber Fort. Ascend the hill to the fort on the back of an elephant, and admire views of Jaipur's original city walls and the Maota Lake below. In the afternoon, tour Jaipur, including visits to the observatory of Maharaja Jaisingh and the museum at the Maharaja City Palace. Drive past the 18th century Hawa Mahal ("Palace of Winds"), which has a streetside facade of 953 small windows designed to circulate wind throughout the palace; thus giving the palace its name. (B)

DAY 6, Sat JAIPUR TO AGRA

Travel to the medieval city of Agra via the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. Explore the well-preserved buildings of this UNESCO World Heritage Site, including the Panch Mahal Palace and 17th century Jama Masjid, one of the largest and most impressive in India. (B)

DAY 7, Sun AGRA - TAJ MAHAL & AGRA FORT

This morning, visit the Taj Mahal, one of the "Seven Wonders of the World," built by Emperor Shah Jehan as a mausoleum for his beloved Queen Mumtaz Mahal. This monumental construction, which took 22 years to complete (1631-53), is most famous for its imposing white-marble dome, and is considered the finest example of Mughal architecture in the world. Continue to the Taj's nearby sister monument, the Agra Fort, begun by Emperor Akbar the Great in the 16th century. View the palaces, mosques, and Halls of Public and Private Audiences of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. (B)

DAY 8, Mon AGRA TO KHAJURAHO

This morning, board the Shatabdi Express train for Jhansi. Continue via motorcoach to Khajuraho, stopping at Orchha on the River Detwa to view some of the most noteworthy Hindu architecture in India. (B)

DAY 9, Tue KHAJURAHO - CHANDELA TEMPLES

Enjoy an exciting morning tour of the Chandela Dynasty Temples. First visit the Western Temples including the Kandariya Mahadeo Temple to Lord Shiva and the Chaunsath Yogini Temple, dedicated to the 64 Yoginis of the Goddess Kali. Among the Western Temples you will view the Bharatji Temple, with its 11-headed sculpture of Vishnu. Next visit the Eastern Temples including the Ghantai Temple, Javari Temple, and the Vamana Temple, dedicated to the dwarf incarnation of Lord Vishnu. The afternoon is free to explore the city on your own (B)

DAY 10, Wed KHAJURAHO TO VARANASI

This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Varanasi. Visit the Bharat Mata Temple, with its marble relief map of an undivided India, the Durga Temple, and the golden-spire temple of Vishwanath. Enjoy time to shop for authentic silks and brocades in the city's bustling bazaars. (B)

DAY 11, Thu VARANASI TO KATHMANDU, NEPAL

This morning on a boat ride witness dawn on the Ganges, a time when the Ghats along the riverbanks hum with activity, as Hindu devotees perform their ablutions in the river or offer prayers to the rising sun. Drive to the city of Sarnath, the ancient deer park where Guatama Buddha gave his first divine sermon of Dharma, and view the ruins, the stupa, and the Buddhist Temple. Next you fly on to Kathmandu, capital of Nepal. (B)

DAY 12, Fri KATHMANDU

Drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Durbar Square, showcasing some of the finest architecture in Central Asia with more than 50 palaces, pagodas, and temples. The square is home to two very important temples, the Kastha Mandap (House of Wood), one of the oldest wooden structures in the world, and the 16th century Taleju Temple. Visit the temple of Machhendranath and the great stupa of Swayambhunath, with

the eyes of Buddha painted on all four sides. See the Royal Palace complex with its gilded doorway and the shrine of Teleju. The afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 13, Sat KATHMANDU & MT. EVEREST

Venture into rural Nepal to visit Pashupatinath, Bodhnath, Bhadgaon and Nagarkot. Located on the banks of the Baghamai River, the Pashupatinath Temple is believed to mark the site where Shiva worshipped in the form of Lingam. Continue to visit Bodhnath, an important Buddhist pilgrimage center and home to one of the world's largest Buddha stupas. Also visit Bhadgaon, a Newar city founded in the 9th century. See the royal residential quarter of King Bhupendra Malla and the Nyatapole Temple. The tour concludes with a stop at Nagarkot, where you will see a spectacular view of the Himalayan Mountains and Mt. Everest if the weather allows. (B)

DAY 14, Sun KATHMANDU TO DELHI

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. Remainder of the day is at leisure. (B)

DAY 15, Mon RETURN TO USA

Transfer to the airport for your departure. (B)

Escorted Package Includes:

- * Round trip flights NYC-Delhi
Other departure cities available.
- * Airline fuel surcharges of up to \$180
- * Intra flights
- * 13 nights Deluxe and Superior First Class accommodations
- * 3 nights The Park, Delhi - 5 star
- * 2 nights Sheraton, Jaipur - 5 star
- * 2 nights ITC Mughal, Agra - 5 star
- * 2 nights Ramada, Khajuraho - 5 star
- * 1 night Radisson, Varanasi - 4 star
- * 3 nights Crowne Plaza, Kathmandu - 5 star
- * Breakfast daily
- * All transfers
- * Sightseeing per itinerary
- * Services of a tour manager throughout
- * Entrance fees per itinerary

Not included: airport taxes, fees & Sep 11th Security Fee, tips to tour escort and driver, and visa fees. Apprx \$110.

US travelers will need a visa for this trip.



Travel Guard Insurance offers excellent coverage with low premiums: trip cancellation or interruption, travel & baggage delay, lost, stolen, or damaged baggage, medical expense, emergency medical transportation, terrorist incident, and **preexisting conditions waiver**.

RESERVATIONS

Return the the Reservation Request Form or contact Postcard Destinations at travel@postcarddestinations.com, or call 800-484-3250 X2621, 814-539-4999.

Roommates: We will try to match a single traveler with a roommate if you want to share a doubler, however we accept no responsibility for providing any traveler with a roommate or for changes in roommate status once a reservation is made.

Cancellation Policy: All tour cancellations must be received in writing and are subject to a minimum \$25 per person fee and to the following per person fees: 60-50 days prior to day of departure: \$50; 49-40 days prior: \$125; 39-30 days prior: \$300; 29-16 days prior 50% of total tour cost; in addition any expenses incurred on your behalf will also be deducted; 15 days or less prior: nonrefundable. If cancellation penalties of any contracted tour operator or cruise line are higher than those stated here the higher penalty will be enforced.

Insurance: It is highly recommended that you purchase travel insurance to protect your vacation investment. POSTCARD DESTINATIONS can secure for you comprehensive coverage with TRAVEL GUARD. It is the only company that offers coverage for preexisting conditions -- if taken out within two weeks of making your deposit.

TOUR COSTS

Per person double occupancy

2009

Oct 12, Nov 23 \$3059
Dec 21 \$3589

2010

Feb 1, Mar 1 \$3059
Apr 26 \$3039

All tour participants should read the Postcard Destinations *Statement of Responsibility and Terms*, which can be found on our web site or you may request that a copy be sent to you.



188 Crystal Street, Johnstown, PA 15906
Email: travel@postcarddestinations.com
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