

**Tour Of India**  
With A Driver Guide In Your Own Exclusive Air-Conditioned Vehicle.

**GRAND TOUR OF NORTH INDIA**

Day	Date	Location	First Class Hotels	Standard Hotels	Schedule
01		Depart UK			
02		Arrive Delhi	The Manor Superior Room	Hotel Parkland	>Pick Up From New Delhi Airport >Sightseeing Tour Of Old Delhi With The Red Fort, Jama Masjid And Rickshaw Ride Through Bazaars Of Chandni Chowk
03		Delhi	The Manor Superior Room	Hotel Parkland	>Drive Through Lutyen's Imperial New Delhi With Rajpath, Parliament And India Gate >Sights Of Southern Delhi Including Humayun's Tomb And The Qutub Minar
04		Varanasi	Radisson Varanasi Superior Room	Ganges View	>Drop Off At Delhi Airport > <b>INTERNAL FLIGHT FROM DELHI TO VARANASI</b> 1 HR 10 MIN >Pick Up From Varanasi Airport >Walking Tour Of Varanasi's Temples And Bathing Ghats >Evening Rickshaw Ride To An Aarti Ceremony On The Ganges
05		Varanasi	Radisson Varanasi Superior Room	Ganges View	>Sunrise Boat Trip On The Ganges At Varanasi >Excursion To The Deer Park At Sarnath Where The Buddha Preached His First Sermon
06		Khajuraho	Jass Radisson	Usha Bundela	>Drop Off At Varanasi Airport > <b>INTERNAL FLIGHT FROM VARANASI TO KHAJURAH</b> 40 MIN >Pick Up From Khajuraho Airport >Evening Sound And Light Show At The Western Group Of KhajurahoTemples
07		Khajuraho	Jass Radisson	Usha Bundela	>Morning Visit To The Eastern Chandela Temples At Khajuraho Famed For Their Exquisite Carvings And Erotic Sculptures
08		Agra	The Agra Trident Deluxe Garden View Room	Howard Park Plaza	>Palaces And Forts Of The Bundela Kings At Orchha >Drop Off At Jhansi Station Khajuraho-Orchha: 106 Miles Approx 3 Hours > <b>EXPRESS TRAIN FROM JHANSI TO AGRA - SHATABDI EXPRESS</b> DEPART JHANSI:1730 ARRIVE AGRA: 2000 >Pick Up From Agra Station
09		Agra	The Agra Trident Deluxe Garden View Room	Howard Park Plaza	>The Palatial Walled City Of Agra Fort >Tomb Of Itmad Ud Daulah >A Visit To See The Taj Mahal At Sunset
10		Jaipur	The Jaipur Trident Deluxe Lake View Room	Umaid Mahal	>Emperor Akbar's Deserted City Of Fatehpur Sikri Agra-Jaipur: 146 Miles Approx 5 Hours
11		Jaipur	The Jaipur Trident Deluxe Lake View Room	Umaid Mahal	>The Romantic Fort Of Amber On Elephant Back >The Pink City Of Jaipur Including The City Palace And The Palace Of Winds
12		Udaipur	The Udaipur Trident	Jagat Niwas Deluxe	>Drop Off At Jaipur Airport > <b>INTERNAL FLIGHT FROM JAIPUR TO UDAIPUR</b>

			Deluxe Garden View Room	Lake View Room	1 HR >Pick Up From Udaipur Airport >Boat Ride On Romantic Lake Pichola >Evening Light And Sound Show At The City Palace
13		Udaipur	The Udaipur Trident Deluxe Garden View Room	Jagat Niwas Deluxe Lake View Room	>The City Palace, The Largest Palace Complex In Rajasthan >The Durbar Hall And Crystal Gallery At The Fateh Prakash Palace >The Maharajah's Classic Car Collection >Beautiful View Of Udaipur From The Monsoon Palace Overlooking The City
14		Depart Udaipur Arrive Mumbai Depart Mumbai Arrive UK			>Drop Off At Udaipur Airport > <b>INTERNAL FLIGHT FROM UDAIPUR TO MUMBAI</b> 1 HR 15 MIN

Standard Rooms Unless Otherwise Specified



Minature Shrine At Orchha



Viswanatha Temple At Khajuraho

## Day 02 – New Delhi



**Akshardham Temple In New Delhi**

### **Rickshaw Ride Through Old Delhi**

**Delhi** is one of the world's great cities and contains something of interest for everyone. Lose yourself on a **Cycle Rickshaw Ride** through the teeming bazaars and markets of **Chandni Chowk** with outstanding opportunities for bargain-hunting and sampling fine authentic cuisine at superb local restaurants.

**The Red Fort Of Delhi (Lal Qila)** was the palace of **Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan** and dominates the old city. The **Jama Masjid** is a mosque of vast proportions with a courtyard that can easily accommodate 25 000 people.

### **Imperial New Delhi**

From the labyrinthine streets of **Old Delhi**, emerge in to the wide open spaces of imperial **New Delhi**, with its ordered governmental vistas and generous leafy avenues. Those with an appreciation for colonial architecture will marvel at **Sir Edwin Lutyen's** buildings such as **Viceroy's House (Rashtrapati Bhavan)**, **Parliament House** and the **India Gate**, one of **Delhi's** most famous landmarks.

**Rajghat**, the cremation site of **Mahatma Gandhi** is also a popular place for visitors.



**Traditional Dolls At A Market Stall**





### Day 03 – New Delhi



Colonial Grandeur Of New Delhi

#### Delhi's Southern Landmarks

You can visit the capital's fascinating southern sites that cover **Emperor Humayun's Tomb** and the amazing **Qutub Minar**.

**Humayun's Tomb** is one of **Delhi's** three **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**. The tomb is located in large, immaculately maintained gardens. The **Qutub Minar** (1193 AD) is the tallest brick minaret in the world (238 ft) and an architectural wonder of **India**.



Delicious Delhi Cuisine



## Day 04 – Varanasi



The Bathing Ghats At Varanasi

### The Holy City Of Varanasi

A city sacred to **Hindus** and one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. **Varanasi** consists of a long sequence of **Ghats**, a series of steps leading down to the river, used by bathers and pilgrims, and riverside temples along the **Ganges**.

### Witness An Aarti Ceremony At Varanasi

In the evening you may observe the **Aarti** ceremonies on the riverbanks. **Aarti** is often called "The Ceremony Of Lights" where the priest offers various auspicious articles before a deity. The **Aarti** lamp is then passed around the congregation.



Aarti Ceremony At Varanasi



## Day 05 – Varanasi



**Sunrise On The Ganges At Varanasi**

### **Boat Ride To Experience Sunrise Over Varanasi**

The scene of pilgrims doing their devotions in the **River Ganges** at sunrise set against the backdrop of the centuries old **Varanasi** temples is probably one of the **Most Impressive Sights In The World** - definitely a must see on any trip to northern **India**.

### **The Deer Park At Sarnath**

**Sarnath** is the site of the **Deer Park** where **Gautama Buddha** first taught the **Dharma** (teachings) and also where the original **Sangha** (association of monks) was formed. Consequently, it is a major **Buddhist** pilgrimage destination.

Within the **Deer Park** complex is the **Dhamekha Stupa** constructed by the **Emperor Ashoka** in 249 BC.



**Buddhist Fresco At Mulaghandakuti Vihare Temple At Sarnath**





## Day 06 – Khajuraho



The Temples At Khajuraho

### Evening Sound And Light Show At Khajuraho

The **Khajuraho** temples have been listed as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. The second most popular tourist destination in **India**, **Khajuraho** has a large group of medieval **Hindu** and **Jain** temples, famous for their erotic sculptures.

The fascinating **Son-et-Lumière** spectacle evokes the life and times of the great **Chandela Kings** and traces the story of the unique temples from the 10th Century to the present day. Mounted in the complex of the **Western Group Of Temples**, the 50-minute show runs in **English** every evening. **Amitabh Bachchan**, the **Indian** movie superstar, narrates the story of **Khajuraho** in his mesmerising voice.



The Famous Khajuraho Sculptures



## Day 07 – Khajuraho



The Temples At Khajuraho

### Private Guided Tour Of The Eastern Chandela Temples

There were originally over 80 **Hindu** temples at **Khajuraho**, of which only 22 now stand in a reasonable state of preservation, scattered over an area of about 8 square miles.

Unlike other cultural centers of **North India**, the temples of **Khajuraho** never underwent massive destruction and a number of them have survived. They are fine examples of **Indian** architectural styles that have gained popularity due to their salacious depiction of the traditional way of life during medieval times. They were rediscovered during the late 19th century but the jungles had taken a toll on some of the monuments.



The Famous Khajuraho Sculptures





## Day 08 – Agra



Orchha By The Betwa River

### The Magnificent Monuments At Orchha

Situated on banks of the **Betwa River**, the historical monuments of **Orchha** still retain their glory. **Orchha's** grandeur has been captured in stone, frozen in time, a rich legacy to the ages. In this medieval city, the palaces and temples built by its **Bundela** rulers in the 16th and 17th Centuries retain much of their pristine perfection.

Of the rulers, the most notable was **Raja Bir Singh Ju Deo** who built the exquisite **Jehangir Mahal**, a tiered palace crowned by graceful 'chhatris'. From here the view of soaring temple spires and cenotaphs is spectacular.

In the **Laxminarayan Temple** and **Raj Mahal**, vibrant murals encompassing a variety of religious and secular themes, bring the walls and ceilings to rich life.

### From Jhansi To Agra By Express Train

An overland **Train Journey In India** is truly one of the classic **Indian** travel experiences. There are daily express trains from the railway junction at **Jhansi** to **Agra**.



Romance Of Indian Railway Travel



## Day 09 – Agra



Views Of The Taj Mahal

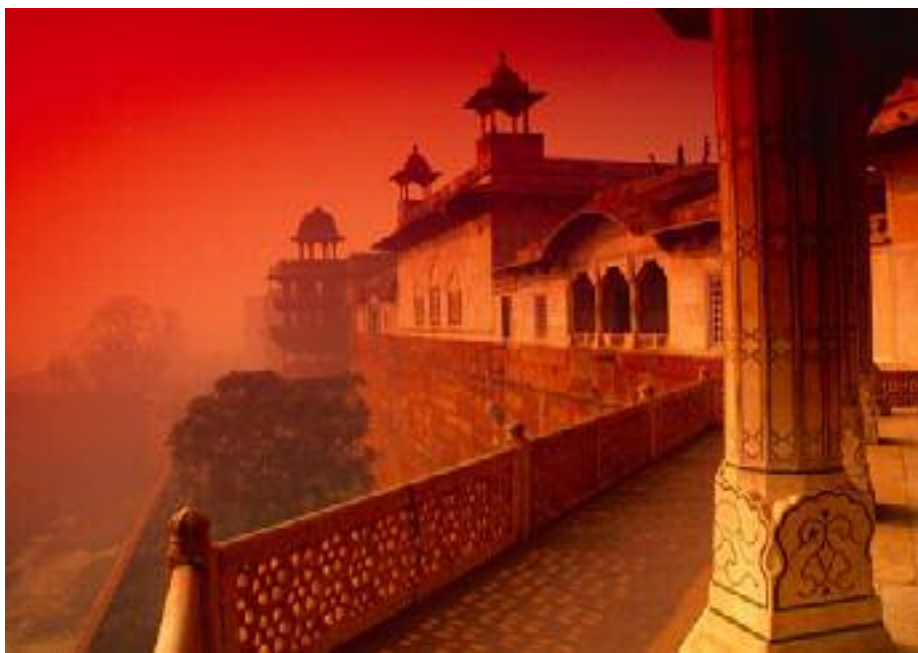
### The Amazing Beauty Of The Taj Mahal

The world's greatest monument to love – the **Taj Mahal**, will be the highlight of your visit to **India**. Set overlooking the **River Yamuna**, the **Taj** was built by **Emperor Shah Jahan** to enshrine the body of his favourite wife in 1631. To truly appreciate the wondrous **Taj Mahal** and its many moods, you should aim to visit it at dawn or dusk when the reflection of the sun changes the colour of the dome from white to shades of pink.

### Private Guided Tour Of The Agra Red Fort

People sometimes forget that **Agra** contains more than the **Taj Mahal**. The 16<sup>th</sup> Century **Mughal** monument known as the **Red Fort of Agra** was built by **Akbar The Great** (1556-1605) is in fact a walled palace that remained **India's** premier city for almost two centuries.

The powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses, within its 1.5 mile-long enclosure walls, many fairytale palaces such as the **Jahangir Palace** and the **Khas Mahal**, audience halls such as the **Diwan-i-Khas**, and **Sheesh Mahal (The Glass Palace)** which is inlaid with thousands of mirrors and was once the harem's dressing room.



Dawn Over The Red Fort Of Agra





## Day 10 – Jaipur



The Palace Of Winds At Jaipur

### The Deserted City Of Fatehpur Sikri

The deserted city of **Fatehpur Sikri** was the capital of the **Emperor Akbar** between 1570 and 1585. Due to a severe shortage of water the city was abandoned after only fifteen years and the capital was relocated back to **Agra**. As a result **Fatehpur Sikri** stands untouched and perfectly preserved, a complete medieval fortress of red sandstone, with vast central squares, exquisitely carved multi-tiered pavilions, cool terraces and formal gardens.

### Private Guided Tour Of The Jaipur City Palace

The old **Pink City** of **Jaipur** has a stunning backdrop of ancient forts like **Amber** that stand as dramatic testimonials of a bygone era and a reminder of their lingering romance. The magnificent **City Palace** was built by **Maharaja Jai Singh** in 1728, enclosed by high walls and set amidst fine gardens and courtyards. It is now a vast museum with exhibits that have lost none of their splendour. The **Jantar Mantar Observatory** is a fascinating astronomical observatory with massive instruments used to predict the monsoon and identify the movements of the stars.

**The Palace Of The Winds (Hawa Mahal)** is **Jaipur's** most acclaimed attraction. Built in 1799, overlooking one of the city's main streets to offer the women of the court a vantage point, behind stone-carved screens, from which to watch the activity in the bazaars below.



Saree Market At Jaipur



**Day 11 – Jaipur****On Elephant Back To Amber Fort****The Fabulous Amber Fort And Palace**

**Amber** is situated about 7 miles from **Jaipur** and was the ancient citadel of the ruling clan of **Amber**. The **Amber Fort** (1592) set in picturesque and rugged hills is a fascinating blend of **Hindu** and **Mughal** architecture. The forbidding exterior belies an inner paradise with a beautiful fusion of art and architecture. **Amber** is the classic and romantic fort-palace with a magnificent aura and you have the added attraction of an **Elephant Back Ride** to ascend to the top.

**Beautiful Palace At Amber Fort**

## Day 12 – Udaipur



Evening View Of Udaipur

### Udaipur

**Udaipur** captures the imagination like few other places in the world. Surrounded by gently undulating hills and set around peaceful **Pichola Lake**, it is a city of impossible beauty. The location is easily the most romantic in **India** with **The Lake Palace** in the middle of the lake complimented by the grand **City Palace** on one bank and the **Monsoon Palace** on a hill above.

### Romantic Boat Ride On Lake Pichola

An evening boat ride will allow you to have a close look at **The Lake Palace** (1743), a magical fairy tale property located in the middle of the **Pichola Lake** on **Jag Niwas Island**. Today the palace is one of the most famous and luxurious hotels in the world.

### Light And Sound Show At The City Palace

During the winter season, there is a very watchable **Son Et Lumiere Show** that showcases the history of the **City Palace** from a magnificent setting on the banks of **Lake Pichola**.



The Maharajah's Old Cadillac



## Day 13 – Udaipur



**Durbar Hall At Fateh Prakash Palace**

### Private Tour Of The Huge City Palace Of Udaipur

The huge **City Palace** that towers over the lake is the largest palace complex in **Rajasthan**. It is a conglomeration of buildings surmounted by balconies, towers and cupolas with wonderful views over the lake and city. The main part of the palace is now preserved as the **City Palace Museum**, housing an armoury and a large collection of artefacts. The **Mor Chowk (Peacock Square)** has beautiful mosaics of peacocks. The **Saheliyon Ki Bari** is an ornamental garden built for the entertainment of the royal ladies.

### The Fateh Prakash Palace

The **Durbar Hall** at the **Fateh Prakash Palace** is undoubtedly the most lavish hall in **India**, and its sheer size makes one gasp in awe. The **Crystal Gallery** also has a breathtaking collection of the finest crystals.

### The Maharajah's Classic Car Collection

The **Maharajah's Car Collection** within the grounds of the **Garden Hotel** includes rare vintage vehicles as well as sleek and fast **Cadillacs** and **Chevrolets**.

### View Of Udaipur From The Monsoon Palace

The view of **Udaipur** from the **Monsoon Palace** is not to be missed. It is located high up on a peak in a forest covered wildlife sanctuary just outside the city.



**The Monsoon Palace Above Udaipur**

## Day 14 – Depart Udaipur