

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

THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE WITH VARANASI

Day	Date	Location	First Class Hotels	Standard Hotels	Schedule
01		Depart UK			
02		Arrive Delhi	The Manor Superior Room	Parkland Green Park	>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	Parkland Green Park	>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	Hotel Surya	>Drop Off At Delhi Airport INTERNAL FLIGHT FROM DELHI TO VARANASI 1 HOUR 10 MINUTES >Pick Up From Varanasi Airport >Rickshaw Ride Or 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	Hotel Surya	>Sunrise Boat Trip On The Ganges At Varanasi >Excursion To The Deer Park At Sarnath Where The Buddha Preached His First Sermon
06		Varanasi – Agra	1 ST CLASS A/C SLEEPER FROM MUGHAL SARAI 22:20 TO TUNDLA 06:30	2 ND CLASS A/C SLEEPER FROM VARANASI 17:20 TO AGRA 06:05	>Drop Off At Varanasi Railway Station EXPRESS TRAIN FROM VARANASI TO AGRA
07		Agra	The Agra Trident Deluxe Garden View Room	Howard Park Plaza	>Pick Up From Agra Railway Station >Emperor Akbar's Tomb At Sikandra >The Palatial Walled City Of Agra Fort
08		Jaipur	The Jaipur Trident Deluxe Lake View Room	Umaid Mahal	>A Visit To See The Taj Mahal At Sunrise >Tomb Of Itmad Ud Daulah >Emperor Akbar's Deserted City Of Fatehpur Sikri Agra-Jaipur: 146 Miles Approx 5 Hours
09		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
10		Delhi	Svelte Hotel	Parkland Green Park	>Relax At Delhi Jaipur -Delhi: 160 Miles Approx 4.5 Hours
11		Depart Delhi Arrive UK			>Drop Off At Delhi Airport

Standard Rooms Unless Otherwise Specified



Day 02 – New Delhi



Domes Of The Jama Masjid

Old Delhi

Delhi is one of the world's great cities and contains something of interest for everyone. Lose yourself in the teeming bazaars and markets of **Chandni Chowk** with outstanding opportunities for bargain-hunting or sample fine authentic cuisine at many 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.



The Red Fort At Delhi



Day 03 – New Delhi



India Gate At Rajpath

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.

Delhi's Southern Landmarks

You can visit the capital's southern sites covering **Humayun's Tomb** and the amazing **Qutub Minar**.

This **Qutub Minar** complex in **South Delhi** houses structures dating from the **Slave Dynasty** (1206-1290) and is designated as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. The **Qutub Minar** (1193 AD), is the tallest brick minaret in the world (238 ft) and an architectural wonder of **India**.

Humayun's Tomb is one of **Delhi's** three **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**. The tomb is located in large, immaculately maintained gardens in the **Persian Char Bagh** (four corners) style that have been thoroughly renovated and are consequently probably the best in **Delhi**.



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 – Agra



Overnight Sleeper

Varanasi To Agra By Train

An overland **Train Journey In India** is truly one of the classic **Indian** travel experiences. There are daily express trains from railway junctions at or near **Varanasi** to **Agra**. **First Class A/C Sleepers** are available from **Mughal Sarai** to **Tundla** and **Second Class A/C Sleepers** are available direct from **Varanasi Junction** to **Agra**.



Romance Of Indian Railway Travel



Day 07 – Agra



Audience Hall At The Red Fort Of Agra

Agra – Red Fort

People sometimes forget that **Agra** contains more than the **Taj Mahal**. The 16th 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 On The River Yamuna At Agra



Day 08 – Jaipur

The Beautiful Taj Mahal At Agra

The Taj Mahal

Sunrise can be devoted to the world's greatest monument to love – the **Taj Mahal**. 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.

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.



Holy Man At Fatehpur Sikri

Day 09 – Jaipur



By Elephant Back To Amber Fort

Jaipur

The old **Pink City** of **Jaipur** is an essential stop in any tour of **Rajasthan**. It 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. All seven gates into the old city remain, one of which leads in to **Johari Bazaar** - the famous jewellers' market that has the best selection of precious stones in **India**.

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.

Amber

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. You have the added attraction of an **Elephant Back Ride** to ascend to the top.



The Palace Of Winds

Day 10 – New Delhi

Chawri Bazaar At New Delhi

Relax At Delhi

Relax in the capital city, or head towards **Delhi's** famous markets and bazaars for some last minute shopping. You can even catch up on some of **Delhi's** new sights such as the **Lotus Temple** and **Akshardham Temple** towards the north east of the city.



Akshardham Temple At Delhi

**Depart Delhi**