



INCREDIBLE INDIA TOUR



Tour Itinerary

Day 01, 21st Sep, Saturday: Arrive Delhi

Welcome!!!

Meet our representative upon arrival in Delhi and check-in at the hotel.

Check Inn Time is 12:00 Hrs.

Overnight at hotel.



Day 02, 22nd Sep, Sunday: Delhi

After breakfast, we will proceed towards Morning sightseeing of Old Delhi drives you past the magnificent Red Fort, - a marvel in red sandstone, built on the banks of River Yamuna by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan. Visit Jama Masjid, - The largest mosque in India.



Experience a cycle rickshaw/pedi cab ride through Chandini Chowk, once an imperial avenue of Mughal Royalty which today is the busiest commercial area of the city.

Afternoon in New Delhi visit the 12th century Qutab Minar, gracefully hand-carved for its entire height of 234ft, and the iron pillar, which has withstood the ravages of time and not rusted even after 1500 years. Visit the mausoleum of emperor Humayun –a forerunner of the Mughal style of architecture. Drive past the India Gate (war memorial dedicated to the lives of laid down by the Indian soldiers), the president's residence - formerly the Viceroy's Palace, parliament House and the Secretariat buildings, - an interesting blend of the Victorian and 20th century architecture.



Overnight Stay at hotel.

Day 03, 23rd Sep, Monday: Delhi – Agra (204KMS/4 ½ HRS)

Morning drive to Agra. On arrival proceed to visit **Taj Mahal** ... a mausoleum built as a symbol of Emperor Shah Jehan's devotion to his beloved queen Mumtaz Mahal. Considered an architectural marvel, its construction took thousands of workers over 21 years to complete.

Later visit **Red Fort**, which was commissioned in 1565 by Akbar. The beautiful yet forbidding structure is a handsome example of Mughal architecture.



Overnight Stay at hotel.



Day 04, 24th Sep, Tuesday: Agra – Fatehpur Sikri - Jaipur (240 KMS/5 HRS)

After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Jaipur en route visit **Fatehpur Sikri**

The City of Victory or Fatehpur (victory) Sikri (city), as it translates to in Persian, sounds paradoxical now. Approximately 30 miles west of Agra, Fatehpur sikri was built by Emperor, Akbar between 1571 and 1573 AD but was later abandoned. In the modern day, Fatehpur Sikri features in the list of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites & is a fine living example of an amalgamation of various architectures' style. On the Agra-Jaipur Fatehpursikri is a must stop en route.



Later drive towards Jaipur, on arrival check inn at hotel.

Overnight Stay at hotel.

Day 05, 25th Sep, Wednesday: Jaipur

Morning visit Amber Fort with elephant ride. Amber is a classic, romantic Rajasthani fort Palace. The rugged, time-ravaged walls of the Fort may not 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. A major attraction at Amber is the Elephant Ride all the way up to the Fort entrance. This journey on caparisoned elephants is bound to enrich your memories with the Royal lifestyle of the Maharajas and leave you with a truly unforgettable experience.



Inside the Fort visit the Jag Mandir or the Hall of Victory.

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. Afternoon city tour begins with a visit to the 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 Armory 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 hotel.

Day 06, 26th Sep, Thursday: Jaipur – Delhi (270 Kms / 5 Hrs Approx)

Morning after breakfast drive to Delhi, upon arrival transfer to the hotel.

Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 07, 27th Sep, Friday: Delhi – Bagdogra (By Flight AI 879 @ 11:15 Hrs/13:15 Hrs) & Bagdogra – Darjeeling (90 Kms / 3 ½ Hrs Approx.)

Morning after breakfast transfer to the airport for flight to Bagdogra, upon arrival in Bagdogra drive to Darjeeling & check inn at hotel.

Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 08, 28th Sep, Saturday: Darjeeling

Early morning proceed to visit **Tiger Hill**, It is 13 kms from Darjeeling and one can see beautiful sunrise and Himalayan Range like Kanchandzonga , Mount Everest etc. One can see the horizon changing colors just before sunrise and then the entire Himalayan range turn golden. It is truly a majestic sight. The visit **Ghoom Monastery**, This is oldest Monastery in the area which was built in 1875 and one can see the image of Mythey Buddha 15ft. Then back to the hotel for breakfast & then go for Enjoy **toy train ride**. The spectacular landscape unfolds as the 2-foot gauge Darjeeling Himalayan railway, opened in 1881, labours at about 10 mph criss-



crossing the road. It has tiny 4-wheel locomotives (some over 100 years old) like living legends. One can experience the sound, smell and romance of a bygone era. DHR is a work of genius and technological achievement of 1881. It has social and cultural importance. It is beautiful and has outstanding universal appeal. Based on its unique features, it is considered to be of lasting significance to mankind. Post lunch proceed for city tour Himalayan Mountaineering Institute/Padmaja Naidu Himalayan

Zoological Park The Himalayan Mountaineering Institute was started in Darjeeling when Tenzing Norgay climbed Everest to give training to learn Mountaineering and other adventure sports related to mountaineering and in that Institute one can see equipment etc.used by Mr. Tenzing Norgay and Everest Museum having complete details on Everest attached to institute one can visit Himalayan Zoological Park where one can see Himalayan animals like Snow Leopard, Tibetan Wolf, Tibetan Yak, Himalayan Black Bear and several varieties of birds.



Tibetan Self- Help Centre or Refugee Centre this institute is run by Tibetan Refugees to preserve their handicrafts and one can see making of Tibetan Carpets, Leather work, Paintings and Wooden work etc.

Overnight at hotel.

Day 09, 29th Sep, Sunday: Darjeeling – Gangtok (98 Kms / 5 Hrs Approx.)

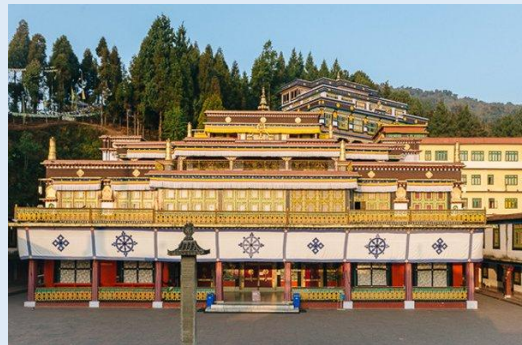
Breakfast at the hotel and drive to Gangtok. Gangtok became the state capital in the mid-19th century and has undergone rapid development since then. The downtown area is dominated by huge government buildings decorated with traditional Buddhist symbols. Gangtok is also a resting ground for people traveling to North Sikkim. Surrounded by Monasteries and Orchids, Gangtok is truly a travellers delight.

Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 10, 30th Sep, Monday: Gangtok

Breakfast at the hotel and full day city tour of Gangtok including excursion to Rumtek Monastery.

Rumtek Monastery: -24 Kms. from Gangtok is the awe - inspiring Rumtek Monastery the world Dharma chakra Centre and the seat of His Holiness, the Gyalwa Karmapa, who is the head of the Kagyupa order of Tibetan Buddhism. Behind the main monastery is the lavishly decorated Karmae Nalanda Institute of Buddhist Studies, which attracts students from the world over. Opposite the entrance to the Institute is a small hall featuring a beautiful jewel studded Chorten the Golden Stupa, which contains the ashes and remains of His Holiness the xvi Gyalwa Karmapa.



According to legend, it is believed that after years of meditation, the first Karmapa was said to have been visited by ten thousand fairies who came to congratulate him each of whom offered a strand of her hair as a gift. These were said to have been woven into a black hat, which was passed down and is still at the Rumtek Monastery today. It is said that unless held on to by the wearer (who of course, cannot be anyone else but the Karmapa) or kept in a box, the hat would fly away.

Do Drul Chorten, built to commemorate the victory of good over evil and the Jhang Chub Chorten, built in the memory of Thrukshik Rinpoche, an ardent devotee, a great spiritualist and interpreter of Buddhism. Near the Chorten are housed two giant statues of Lord Buddha and Guru Padmasambhava, also known as Guru Rimpoche, the patron saint of Sikkim.

The Enchey Monastery: -Perched on a ridge above Gangtok, the Enchey Monastery is nestled within lush woods with a spectacular view of Gangtok town. Built in 1910 on the site of the hermitage of the great tantric saint, Lama Drutob Karpo, who was renowned for his powers of levitation, this monastery houses the monks of the Nyingmapa Order of Tibetan Buddhism.

Namgyal Institute of Tibetology: -Amidst a serene surrounding of oak, birch and ash lies the unique organization established in 1958. Built in traditional style, the namgyal Institute of Tibetology promotes research in Mahayana Buddhism and the language and tradition of Tibet. It has one of the world's largest



collections of rare books and manuscripts on Mahayana Buddhism. The Institute also has a retail outlets where related books and commercially produced religious art and craft of Tibet can be bought.

Adjacent to the institute are two exquisite stupas, the

Directorate of Handloom and Handicrafts: -This Directorate was set up to promote traditional Sikkimese art and handicrafts. Exquisitely carved wooden friezes, intricate bamboo work, along with beautiful hand woven carpets and handlooms are on exhibit here. Visitors can not only purchase these items here but also see the artisans at work. Among others, a favourite item here is the choktse a wooden table with carved panels that can be folded into a portable pack.

Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 11, 1st Oct, Tuesday: Gangtok – Bagdogra (125 Kms/ 5 Hrs Apporx.) & Bagdogra – Amritsar (By Flight)

Bagdogra – Amritsar (6E 2894 @ 17:40 Hrs/22:45 Hrs)

Morning after breakfast drive to Bagdogra, upon arrival transfer to the airport for flight to Delhi, on arrival in Delhi connect your flight to Amritsar.

Upon arrival Amritsar transfer to the hotel.

Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 12, 2nd Oct, Wednesday: Amritsar

Morning post breakfast proceed to visit **Sri Harmandir Sahib**, is named after Hari (God) the temple of God, also known as the Golden Temple in Amritsar is the holiest shrine of the Sikh religion. It was built by the fifth Sikh guru, Guru Arjan, in the 16th Century. In 1604, Guru Arjan completed the Adi Granth, the holy scripture of Sikhism. There are four doors to get into the Harmandir Sahib, which symbolize the openness of the Sikhs towards all people and religions. Then visit **Jallianwala Bagh** which is a memorial to the countless numbers of innocent Indians which were massacred by General Dyer in 13 April 1919 which happened to be 'Baisakhi', one of Punjab's largest religious festivals. British General, Edward Dyer, ordered his soldiers to opened fire on an unarmed gathering of Hundreds men, women and children in this place. Post that visit **India & Pakistan Border**. Experience the Beating the Retreat ceremony. The flag ceremony is a daily military practice between the two nations.



Overnight Stay at hotel.



Day 13, 3rd Oct, Thursday: Amritsar

Morning post breakfast at hotel & later explore the local market of Amritsar.

Overnight Stay at hotel.

Day 14, 4th Oct, Friday: Amritsar – Delhi – Kathmandu (By Flight)

Amritsar – Delhi (AI 118 @ 09:15 Hrs/10:30 Hrs)

Delhi – Kathmandu (AI 215 @ 12:50 Hrs/14:35 Hrs)

Morning after early breakfast transfer to the airport for flight to Kathmandu via Delhi.

Upon arrival Kathmandu you will be received & transfer to the hotel.

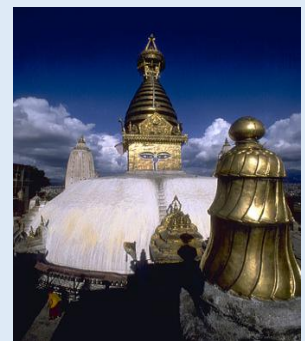
Overnight Stay at hotel.

Day 15, 5th Oct, Saturday: Kathmandu

After breakfast visit **Kathmandu City: Hanuman Dhoka (Durbar Square)**, Built between the 12th and the 18th centuries, this complex of palaces, courtyards and temples is the historic seat of royalty. It used to be the seat of ancient Malla kings of Kathmandu. The durbar Square, protected as a UNESCO World heritage site, epitomizes the religious and cultural life of the people. Other than a 17th - century stone inscription set into the wall of the palace with writings in 15 languages, interesting things to see here are: Taleju Temple (Built by King Mahendra Malla in 1549 A.D., Kal Bhairav, the god of Destruction Nautalle Darbar, Coronation Nasal Chowk, the Gaddi Baithak, the statue of king Pratap Malla, the big bell, big drum, the Jagannath Temple and three museums including the numismatic museum and the Tribhuvan Museum.



Swayambhunath (Samhengu): Listed as a world heritage site, this is one of the world's most glorious Buddhist sites in Nepal. Its established is linked to the creation of the Kathmandu Valley out of a primordial lake. Three km west of Kathmandu this site is situated on a hillock about 77 m. above the valley. Painted on the four-sides of the spire bases are the all seeing eyes of Lord Gautam Buddha, the founder of Buddhism.



Patan : Durbar Square, Situated I the heart of the city, constitutes the focus of visiorts; attraction. The Square is full or ancient places, temples



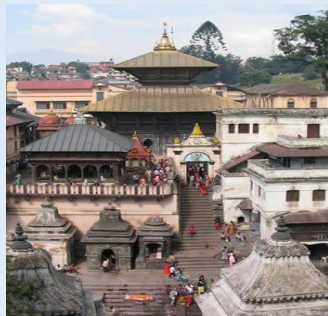


and shrines, noted for their exquisite carving. The Patan Durbar Square consists of three main chowks and Keshar Narayan Chowk. It was listed in the UNESCO World Heritage Monument List in 1979. **Patan Museum:-** This museum inside the Durbar Square specializes in bronze statues and religious objects. **Krishna Mandir:-** Built in 1637 AD, the temple of Lord Krishna holds a commanding position in the palace complex of Patan, **Tibetan Refugee Camp:** This camp was set up in 1960 under the initiative of the International Red Cross & the Swiss Development Corporation in cooperation with HMG of Nepal. Its main objective is to help the Tibetan Refugees to do something nice & support themselves & some carpet industries & handicrafts have been operating.

Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 16, 6th Oct, Sunday: Kathmandu

After breakfast, visit **Pashupatinath Temple, Boudhnath Stupa** and **Bhaktapur City**.



Pashupatinath : Situated five kilometers east of Kathmandu on the bank of sacred Bagmati river, the temple of Lord Shiva Pashupatinath with two-tiered golden roof and silver doors is famous for its superb architecture. It is a centre of annual pilgrimage on the day of Maha Shivratri. Entrance to the temple precinct is permitted to Hindus only; however, visitors can clearly see the temple and activities performed in the temple premises from the eastern bank of the Bagmati river.

Boudhanath

Boudhanath is among the largest stupas in South Asia, and it has become the focal point of Tibetan Buddhism in Nepal. The white mound looms thirty-six meters overhead. The stupa is located on the ancient trade route to Tibet, and Tibetan merchants rested and offered prayers here for many centuries. When refugees entered Nepal from Tibet in the 1950s, many of them decided to live around Boudhanath. They established many gompas, and the "Little Tibet" of Nepal was born. This "Little Tibet" is still the best place in the Valley to observe Tibetan lifestyle. Monks walk about in maroon robes. Tibetans walk with prayer wheels in their hands, and the rituals of prostration are presented to the Buddha as worshippers circumambulate the stupa on their hands and knees, bowing down to their lord.



Many people believe that Boudhanath was constructed in the fifth century, but definite proof is lacking. The stupa is said to entomb the remains of a Kasyapa sage who is venerable both to Buddhists and Hindus. One legend has it that a woman requested a Valley king for the donation of ground required to build a stupa. She said she needed land covered by one buffalo's skin and her wish was granted by the King. She cut a buffalo skin into thin strips and circled off a fairly large clearing. The king had no choice but to give her the land.



The Bouddha area is a visual feast. Colorful thangkas, Tibetan jewellery, hand-woven carpets, masks, and khukuri knives are sold in the surrounding stalls. Smaller stupas are located at the base. Gompa monasteries, curio shops, and restaurants surround Bouddhanath. Conveniently situated restaurants with roof-top patios provide good food and excellent views of Bouddhanath.

Bhaktapur City:

Bhaktapur Durbar Square is a conglomeration of pagoda and shikhara-style temples grouped around a fifty-five window palace of brick and wood. The square is one of the most charming architectural showpieces of the Valley as it highlights the ancient arts of Nepal. The golden effigies of kings perched on the top of stone monoliths, the guardian deities looking out from their sanctuaries, the wood carvings in every place-struts, lintels, uprights, tympanums, gateways and windows-all seem to form a well-orchestrated symphony. The main items of interest in the Durbar Square are: The Lion Gate, The Golden Gate, The Palace of Fifty-five Windows, The Art Gallery and The Statue of King Bhupatindra Malla.



Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 17, 7th Oct, Monday: Kathmandu Dep

Morning after breakfast transfer to the airport for flight to Toronto.

End of the Services!!