



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

Taj Mahal & The Himalayas

14-Day, 13-Night Journey

Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Kathmandu, Thimphu, Paro

Join an amazing private tour that visits three extraordinary neighboring countries; India, Nepal and Bhutan! With an unbelievable number of UNESCO Historical sites to see, rest assured you'll have ample time to explore them all at leisure. From magnificent historic palaces, the hustle and bustle of colorful cities, mystic monasteries, to a change in altitude that will finish your journey on a very high note. Each experience is both mesmerizing and mind-opening. Be inspired by the majesty of nature and the ancient culture of India and a close up view of the Himalayas, no Mt Everest climbing skills required!

◆ Customizable Private Tour

Trip Overview (*UNESCO World Heritage Sites)

- Delhi City Tour
- Jama Masjid Mosque
- Cycle Rickshaw at Chandni Chowk Bazaar
- Spice Market
- **Humayun's Tomb***
- Lunch at Sikh Temple, Bangla Saheb Gurudwara
- **Qutab Minar***
- Mehtab Bagh (Moonlight Garden) (Palace of Mirrors)
- **Taj Mahal***
- **Agra Fort***
- Itimad-ud-Daulah Tomb
- **Fatehpur Sikri*** (City of Victory)
- Chand Baori Step Well
- Jaipur City Tour
- **The Walled City of Jaipur***
- **Amber Fort***
- Sheesh Mahal
- Jaipur City Palace
- **Jantar Mantar***
- Kheri Gate Step Well
- Bhaktapur & Kathmandu City Tour
- **Bhaktapur Durbar Square***
- Nyatapola Temple
- Kashi Biswanath Temple
- Dattatreya Temple
- **Pashupatinath Temple***

- **Boudhanath Stupa***
- **Swayambhunath Stupa***
- **Kathmandhu Durbar Square***
- Mount Everest Sightseeing Flight
- Patan City Tour
- **Patan Durbar Square***
- Chandragiri Hills Cable Car Ride
- Thimphu City Tour
- Changangkha Lhakhang Temple
- Bhutan National Bank
- Arts and Crafts School
- Traditional Medicine Institute
- Motithang Takin Wildlife Preserve
- Thimphu Weekend Market
- Cheri Monastery
- Handicraft Bazaar
- National Memorial Chorten
- Simtokha Dzong
- Mount Sumeru
- Taktshang Monastery (Tiger's Nest)
- Archery Demonstration
- (Chagri Monastery)

Why You'll Love This Tour



IMPRESSIVE MONUMENTS FROM A MAJESTIC PAST

Many royal palaces, forts and temples in India and Nepal are UNESCO's World Heritage sites. Each historical monument possesses a great history and its own unique identity. So if you'd like to visit many UNESCO World Heritage Sites then this tour of India & Nepal will give you a big boost in the right direction.



BHUTAN'S SACRED TIGER'S NEST

No visitor leaves Bhutan without making the trek to Taktsang Palphug, aka the Tiger's Nest. Situated on the edge of a cliff, some 1,700 feet above the rice fields of Paro, this 325-year-old monastery is the kingdom's most sacred religious site.



PANORAMA VIEW OF HIMALAYA

Since Nepal is located right in the heart of Himalayan Mountains, it, therefore, has extremely beautiful summits that are high and contain various options to the adventure lovers. Catch a glimpse of 20 of the highest peaks to the East of Nepal on your scenic flight. Now you can see the stunning beauty of nature; raw, undiluted and truly majestic.

Inclusions

- Airport Transfers, Meet and Greet
- Hotel Accommodations
- Daily Breakfast & Selected Meals
(See tour plan for details)
- English-speaking Local Guide
- Entrance Fees to Monuments and Attractions per Itinerary
- Bhutan Visa Fee

Exclusions

- Air Fare
- Travel Insurance
- Medical Expenses
- India & Nepal Visa Fees
- Gratuity
- Personal Expenses

Nearby Airport

Delhi - Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL)

Paro – Paro International Airport (PBH)

Itinerary

(B)-Breakfast, (L)-Lunch, (D)-Dinner

DAY 1: MEET UP AT DELHI (DEL)

Upon arriving at **Delhi airport**, you'll be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is free.

DAY 2: DELHI | OLD AND NEW CAPITAL CITY (B, L)

Delhi is the capital of modern India. It has also been the capital of at least seven previous civilizations as well as the British Raj, and each have left behind a trail of monuments.

Explore the beautiful chaos of both Old and New Delhi, including **Jama Masjid** - India's oldest and largest mosque. Experience a busy & bustling local bazaar on a cycle rickshaw through **Chandni Chowk** and visit **Khari Baoli** (Spice Market). Next is **Humayun's Tomb** of the Mughal Emperor. Photo op at **Rashtrapati Bhavan** (President's Residence) and **India Gate**. Visit the most prominent Sikh temple, **Bangla Saheb Gurudwara**, and share one of the 25,000 free meals served daily in the temple.

DAY 3: DELHI – AGRA | LEANING TOWER, MOONLIGHT GARDEN (B)

After breakfast, visit **Qutab Minar** - the world's tallest brick tower and then a photo op at **Lotus Temple**.



We then drive to **Agra**, the erstwhile capital of the Mughal Empire. We will watch a breathtaking, fully symmetrical sunset view of the Taj Mahal from across the river at **Mehtab Bagh (Moonlight Garden)**.

DAY 4: AGRA | THE LEGENDARY TAJ MAHAL (B)

Early morning, sunrise visit to the legendary **Taj Mahal**. Built by Emperor Shah Jahan in loving memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz, who tragically died in childbirth in 1631. Then breakfast.

Visit **Agra Fort (Red Fort)**, a 16th-century Mughal fortress which also contains the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. It offers splendid views across the river towards the Taj Mahal. Then let's size down to visit the **Itimad-ud-Daulah tomb**, the "Baby Taj", a Mughal era mausoleum.

DAY 5: AGRA - JAIPUR | LIFE IN THE DESERT (B)

En route to Jaipur, we visit the ghostly former Mughal capital of **Fatehpur Sikri (City of Victory)**, which has been deserted for over four centuries. Thanks to the very durable red sandstone from which it was built, Fatehpur Sikri remains well-preserved and is a fascinating place to explore.

Stop in the village of Abhaneri to see **Chand Baori**, which is the largest and deepest step well in the world. This incredible well has a staggering 3,500 steps and is 13 stories deep. We continue the drive to **Jaipur**, the bustling capital of Rajasthan.

DAY 6: JAIPUR | THE PINK CITY OF JAIPUR (B)

Visit the stunning 16th century **Amber Fort** - a sprawling Rajput construction, perched on a hillside overlooking the dusty plains, regal palaces, sleepy villages, and stone carved temples below. Reaching its summit on a jeep (or request an elephant ride during reservation), we enjoy a tour of the fort's well-preserved interior grounds including **Sheesh Mahal (Palace of Mirrors)** with its interior embellished of reflective glass tiles.

Visit Jaipur's **City Palace**, an imposing blend of traditional Rajput and Mughal architecture. Then **Jantar Mantar** which is an ancient open-air astronomical observatory and UNESCO world heritage site. Enjoy the sight of **Jal Mahal (Water Palace)**, a palace located in the middle of the Man Sagar Lake. Photo op at **Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds)**, its high screen wall allowed the women of the royal household to observe street life without being seen.

If we have time, we'll marvel at a 16th century **step well** near Kheri Gate. The step well serves as the community well, gathering place and swimming hole.

DAY 7: JAIPUR – DELHI – KATHMANDU (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Jaipur Airport. Fly to Kathmandu via Delhi.

DAY 8: KATHMANDU | TEMPLE TRAIL (B)

Kathmandu Valley has 3 royal cities namely Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Patan. They are filled with historic monuments and temples exhibiting Buddhist and Hindu architecture. Each city has its own Dubar Square opposite the old palaces and surrounded by temples, idols, courtyards and water fountains.

Today we visit the first 2 cities, **Bhaktapur Durbar Square**, **Nyatapola Temple**, the **Kashi Biswanath Temple** and the **Dattatreya Temple. Pashupatinath Temple** (one of the holiest Hindu temples with many exotic carvings on its ornate wooden roof struts); **Boudhanath Stupa**, the largest spherical stupa (akin to a mausoleum) in the world with a massive mandala; **Swayambhunath** which is the most sacred among Buddhist pilgrimage sites; **Kathmandu Durbar Square**.

DAY 9: KATHMANDU | MOUNT EVEREST FLIGHT, PATAN DURBAR SQUARE (B)

Early morning takes off on a spectacular **sightseeing flight** to see **Mount Everest!** Visit the magnificent **Patan Durbar Square** that surrounded by many temples and the ancient royal palace of Patan. Ride the cable car up **Chandragiri Hills** if time permitting. You will see the beautiful Kathmandu valley and great Himalayan range from west to east.

DAY 10: KATHMANDU - PARO - THIMPHU | CITY TOUR (B, L, D)

Fly to Paro, Bhutan. Paro is a valley town west of the capital, Thimphu. It is the site of the country's only international airport with elevation of 7,200 ft. Upon arrival into Paro, you'll be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

Today we visit **Changangkha Lhakhang**, a 12th century temple perched like a fortress on a ridge above central Thimphu. We also visit **Bhutan National Bank**; a local **arts and crafts school**, **Traditional Medicine Institute** where Bhutanese still practice the ancient art of healing, and **Motithang Takin Preserve** which is the wildlife preserve of national animal of Bhutan.

DAY 11: THIMPHU | CHERI MONASTERY, NATIONAL MEMORIAL CHORTEN, HANDICRAFTS (B, L, D)

Today, we enjoy discovering more of the serene and beautiful city of Thimphu while exploring deep within their culture.

The day begins with sightseeing at **Thimphu weekend market** (Thursday – Sunday only). Vendors fill the market with local produce and pink cubes of camphor and saffron. Followed by 1-hour hike to **Cheri**

Monastery (Chagri Monastery). Visit a **Handicraft Bazaar.** Take a look into their artistic techniques and local handicrafts like traditional paper making.

The **National Memorial Chorten** is a stupa built in memory of Bhutan's third King who is popularly regarded as Father of modern Bhutan. The paintings and statues inside this monument provide a deep insight into Buddhist philosophy.

DAY 12: THIMPHU - PARO | SIMTOKHA DZONG, MOUNT SUMERU (B, L, D)

Drive to Paro. Enroute visit **Simtokha Dzong** (the place of profound tantric teaching, one of the oldest fortresses in Bhutan) and **Mount Sumeru**, a sacred five-peak mountain of Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist cosmology.

DAY 13: PARO | TAKTSHANG MONASTERY, ARCHERY DEMONSTRATION (B, L, D)

We save the best for last as today we hike to **Tiger's Nest.** This monastery is the most sacred place in Bhutan, visited by all Buddhists at least once in their lifetime. Round trip hike takes approx. 5 hours; alternatively, if you don't wish to hike, you may ride a pony part of the way. The national sport of Bhutan is archery so your trip wouldn't be complete without observing an **archery demonstration.**

DAY 14: DEPART PARO (PBH) (B)

After breakfast the tour ends. Hotel check-out and transfer to Paro International Airport for your return flight home or onward journey.

Hotels

We carefully handpick our hotels to ensure they provide you with the best comfort and experience. For Private Tours, you may request a specific hotel as one of the customizable options.

