

SPLENDORS OF NORTH INDIA

12 Days & 11 Nights, Private Journey
Delhi, Varanasi, Khajuraho, Agra, Jaipur

The Great Expectations Travels Experience

- See the grand Mughal and colonial monuments of Delhi
- Enjoy a sunrise cruise on the sacred Ganges in Varanasi
- Marvel at the splendid Khajuraho temples
- Discover the fantastic princely palaces of Orcha
- Enjoy breathtaking views of the sun rising over the Taj Mahal in Agra
- Marvel at the timeless beauty of the spectacular Agra Fort
- Hear your steps echo at the abandoned capital of Fatehpur Sikri
- Admire the views from the massive Amber Fort and see the lovely Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) in Jaipur
- Explore Jaipur's City Palace Museum and the famed Jantar Mantar observatory



Day 1: **Arrive Delhi:** Upon arrival in Delhi, you will be welcomed by your travel representative and transferred to your hotel. *Taj Mahal or Leela Palace - 3 nights*

Day 2: **Delhi:** Immerse yourself in the grandeur of the past as you explore Old Delhi's Red Fort, an opulent bastion of the Mughal Empire. Also visit Shah Jahan's incredible Jama Masjid, one of the largest mosques in the world. Savor a local lunch and then take some time on your own this afternoon. You can explore the area around your hotel, hire a private guide to introduce you to some of the city's other sights, or just relax and enjoy the amenities of your hotel. *Taj Mahal or Leela Palace (B, L)*

Day 3: **Delhi:** Get acquainted with the red sandstone tower of Qutab Minar, built to celebrate the onset of Muslim rule. Then, soak up the atmosphere at the garden tomb of Emperor Humayun and admire the imposing India Gate. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure. *Taj Mahal or Leela Palace (B, L)*

Day 4: **To Varanasi:** Fly to Varanasi and witness the magical evening aarti ceremony on the Ganges. *The Gateway Hotel Ganges - 1 Night (B)*

Day 5: **To Khajuraho:** Early this morning, immerse yourself in the sacred surroundings as you enjoy a sunrise boat ride. This afternoon, fly to Khajuraho. On arrival, check in to your hotel. Following check in, take a tour of the intricately carved Hindu and Jain temples of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. *The Lalit - 1 Night (B)*

Day 6: **To Agra:** This morning, discover the medieval palaces of Orcha. After lunch, board your train and ride the rails to Agra. *The Oberoi Amarvilas - 2 Nights (B, L)*

Day 7: **Agra:** Watch the rising sun gild the white marble mausoleum of the Taj Mahal. After breakfast, discover the palaces, mosques and halls of audience of magnificent Agra Fort, a walled city built out of red sandstone in the 16th century. Pass through the monumental Delhi Gate to explore the Golden Pavilions, extensive gardens and grand towers of the fort. In this once-impregnable fortress, discover the many hidden rooms and immerse yourself in the grand legacy of the Mughals in India. *The Oberoi Amarvilas (B)*

Day 8: **To Jaipur:** Depart Agra for the Pink City of Jaipur. En route, explore Fatehpur Sikri, the enigmatic red-sandstone city built by Emperor Akbar as his capital and abandoned just 15 years later. Stop for a tasty lunch on the way. Upon arrival, take a stroll around the grounds of your palace hotel. *Rambagh Palace - 3 Nights (B, L)*

Day 9: **Jaipur:** Ride on stately elephants to the spectacular Amber Fort. From the massive ramparts of the intimidating fort, look down upon the Maota Lake and the historic old city. Back in town, spend some time admiring the Hawa Mahal. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. *Rambagh Palace (B)*

Day 10: **Jaipur:** Visit the City Palace Museum and marvel at its collection of Rajasthani costumes, weaponry and miniature paintings before you continue to the awe-inspiring Jantar Mantar observatory. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. *Rambagh Palace (B, L)*

- **Option:** If you like, embark upon an elephant for a ride followed by a picnic lunch.

Day 11: **To Delhi:** After returning to Delhi by air, the rest of the day is at leisure. *Trident Gurgaon - 1 night (B)*

Day 12: **Depart Delhi:** Transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

TRIP INFORMATION:

- All hotel accommodations as per the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the itinerary (B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner)
- Prices are per person, based on double-occupancy.
- All transfers and transportation
- Sightseeing as described in itinerary including entrance fees and services of professional local guides