

Trip Details India | Golden Triangle with Ranthambore

What's Included

- Arrival and Departure Transfer in Delhi
- Explore some of India's most impressive UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- 2 Nights in Delhi at Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar or similar
- 1 Night in Agra at Clarks Shiraz Hotel or similar
- 2 Nights in Ranthambhore at Ranthambhore Kothi Hotel or similar
- 2 Nights at Holiday Inn City Center or similar
- Meals: 07 breakfast, 01 lunch, 02 dinners
- Tour Old Delhi and take an exciting rickshaw ride through the colorful Bazar in Old Delhi
- Visit a Sikh temple and community kitchen where you may volunteer your service to humanity.
- Visit Rajghat the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi
- Visit a local family in Agra over a high tea with homemade Indian snacks
- Explore the magnificent Taj Mahal-the extravagant monument of love
- Jungle Safari in Ranthambore
- Visit Anokhi Textile Museum in Jaipur
- Admire the stunning 'Pink City of Jaipur and the Rajput architecture of Amber fort.

- Private guided walk through the colorful bazaar of Jaipur with a variety of experiences.
- Services of English-speaking local guides during sightseeing tours.
- Entrance fees to monuments listed in the program
- Jeep ride to the ascent of Amber Fort
- Bottled water in the vehicle throughout the tour
- All applicable taxes

Not Included

- International airfare and Indian visa charges
- All items of personal nature, tips, souvenirs, laundry, internet charges, etc.
- Gratuities/ Tips to local staff/ guides etc.
- Any activities and excursions not specified.

Day by Day

Day 1

Upon arrival in Delhi, you will be met by one of our representatives to be transferred to your hotel.

The rest of the day is open at leisure.

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: NA

Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel after you will start your guided exploration of Delhi, India's capital city that sports a rich history spanning over 2,000 years. Arrive in Old Delhi and ride in a cycle rickshaw (Pedi-cabs) through the narrow lanes. The Old City walls wrap around Chandi Chowk, the ancient market that continues to thrive. The energy in the streets is palpable. Local men sit and sip their tea at chai stands. After visiting Jama Masjid - the largest mosque in India built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in the 17th century and surrounded by multiple entrances that all lead to the apex of the main worshiping deck. You will continue to Raj Ghat, the memorial of Gandhi, built at the site of his cremation on the banks of the Yamuna River.

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Later visit the Sikh temple, Bangla Sahib Gurudwara, the second most important Sikh shrine in India, and learn about the history of this religion. Here you will witness the community kitchen where thousands of worshippers are fed round the clock. Every Sikh temple across the world has a 'langar' (free kitchen). Every day they serve chapati (bread) and lentil (dal), supplemented with vegetables to the devotees/ community. While at the Sikh temple, visit the Community Kitchen where food is prepared and served free of cost all day and night to thousands of people!!

Afternoon, drive past India Gate and the Government Secretariat buildings on the way to the Qutab Minar - the five-storied victory tower to signify the beginning of the Muslim rule in India by the first Muslim ruler, Qutab-Ud-din Aibak.

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 3

Breakfast at the hotel Afer drives to Agra - the city of Taj Mahal. Toilet stops will be made en route. Arrive in Agra and check in for your stay.

Agra - Once a small village on the banks of the Yamuna, it was transformed by two great Mughal monarchs, Akbar, and his grandson Shah Jehan into the second capital of the Mughal Empire – Dar-ul-Khilafat, or 'seat of the Emperor' in the 16th & 17th century. A world of contrasting edifices of red sandstone and white marble, narrow galleys, bustling streets, and small buggies, Agra retains the irresistible charm that made this the favorite city of the Mughals.

This afternoon, visit your local hosts over a cup of Indian Chai (tea) & some delicious homemade snacks. Interact with the family members to understand the value system of Indian society and the lifestyle of locals.

Optional activity: Visit the Agra Fort - the seat and the stronghold of the Mughal Empire under successive generations. Approachable by two imposing gates and constructed of red sandstone, the citadel was built by the Mughal Emperor Akbar between the years 1565 and 1573. Encircled by a moat, this dramatic city within a city were the palace of three emperors, Akbar, Shah Jehan, and Aurangzeb, each of whom made significant contributions to the wonderful architecture of the inner buildings – a combination of Persian (Islamic) and local Hindu styles.

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 4

Rise early for a dawn visit to the Taj Mahal. It is fitting to see this extraordinary monument in the first light of day as its exemplary beauty is awe-inspiring and will create an unforgettable memory. Mughal emperor, Shahjahan built this architectural wonder to enshrine the mortal remains of his beloved Queen Mumtaz Mahal. Fashioned from white marble with semi-precious pietra dura stone inlay work, it was described by Nobel Prize-winning poet Rabindranath Tagore as "a teardrop on the face of eternity".

Note: Timing is subject to change based on the local sunrise timing

Return to the hotel for breakfast.

Later drive to Ranthambhore. On arrival in Ranthambhore, check-in for your stay.

Optional activity: Visit Fatehpur Sikri (37 Kms southwest of Agra) - the deserted red sandstone city that was built by Emperor Akbar as his capital. Ponder the mysterious desertion of this capital city that was dramatically abandoned a few years after it was built. It was a veritable fairy tale city and its 'ruins' are still in a pristine condition.

Supplement cost: USD 28 per person on a minimum 2 paying pax

The Ranthambore National Park was once the hunting ground of the Maharaja of Jaipur. In 1955, it was declared a game sanctuary; in 1980, it became a national park. But with the commissioning of Project Tiger in 1972, it was included in the project. With the addition of neighboring Keladevi and Mansingh sanctuaries, the total area of the national park stands at 1,334 sq. km.

The tigers of Ranthambhore are among the best documented and most photographed and filmed of any in India. It is also the park where a successful series of projects undertaken by the wildlife conservationists have benefited the surrounding villages through health projects, agricultural assistance, and reforestation - all to deflect pressure from this isolated park.

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 5

This morning, set off on jeep/canter safari to experience the first signs of wildlife awakening in the park, with a good chance to spot a tiger! Ranthambore is considered by many to be one of India's most beautiful national parks because of the picturesque ruins that dot the wildlife park. Encircled by a series of high escarpments, the forests, lakes, and dry scrub that make up the park are dotted with old forts and temples, creating a wonderful atmosphere for both bird and mammal viewing amongst a landscape oozing with ancient Rajput history and Rajasthani culture.

The rest of the day is at leisure.

Spend half a day at a craft center interacting with local women. This social start-up aims to provide sustainable jobs to the Ex-poacher's families and villagers by giving them training in crafts and helping them to market their products, this is a wonderful opportunity for you to mingle with local women, and witness their crafts and actively participate in women empowerment.

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

This morning, drive to the picturesque capital of Rajasthan – the beautiful Jaipur, a city awash with pink, the color of hospitality in Rajput culture.

Continue to Jaipur, reaching in the evening. On arrival, check in for your stay.

Jaipur - the capital of Rajasthan province is known for its arts and crafts, jewelry, hand-painted fabrics, and stone sculptures; it is one of North India's finest examples of a planned city embodying the best of Rajput and Mughal architecture.

Optional activity: Visit the City Palace, Jaipur built within the fortified area of the original city, with one of the finest monumental entrances in India. The Palace is now principally a museum housing a collection of great treasures, including miniature paintings, carpets, royal garments, and other interesting objects from Jaipur's intriguing past. The former royal family retains a part of the palace for their personal use.

Supplement cost: USD 30 per person on a minimum 2 paying pax

Evening visit the ancient Hindu Birla temple for the Aarti (Prayer) ceremony which is the act of showing reverence to a god, a spirit, or another aspect of the divine through invocations, prayers, songs, and rituals. An essential part of puja for the devotee is making a spiritual connection with the divine. Most often that contact is facilitated through an object: an element of nature, a sculpture, a vessel, a painting, or a print.

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 7

Morning visit the imposing Amber Fort. Set on a hilltop overlooking Maota Lake, the fort is an authentic example of Rajput architecture and the Sheesh Mahal (Hall of Mirrors) is one of its more spectacular buildings.

After this visit, you will be attending a workshop on traditional authentic carving and hand block printing demonstration to learn this age-old textile craft of Jaipur. In this tour, you will be visiting Anokhi Textile Museum followed by a hand on experience with block printing to create your souvenir.

Next brief photo stop at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds). Its beehive-like structure is the interplay of red and pink sandstone, painstakingly outlined with white borders and motifs. Behind this elaborate latticed facade, the cloistered ladies of the court could watch the daily goings-on in the street below.

End the tour with a fascinating walk in the old city. Mingle and talk with the locals whilst observing some of the region's culinary delight and trying out some famous Indian snacks. Observe local artisans in their workshops; jewelers and silversmiths, and gold and silver foil makers. The iconic Hawa Mahal also called the Palace of the winds is the meeting - point at which this walk begins. Here you also have the option of seeing the art of Henna painting.

Optional activity (Dinner with local noble family):

Rajasthan is known for its unique cuisine style. They have delicious homemade dishes which are mouth-watering. This session will give you an excellent opportunity to try your hands on local cuisine with some simple steps which you may follow back at home to create "Indian magic". In addition to

the cooking class, another highlight of the evening is your host who is from a noble family. He would give you an insight into contemporary India and ancient India during the conversation over dinner

Supplement cost: USD 55 per person (minimum 2 Pax)

Hotels: Overnight at the hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 8

Morning is at leisure for independent explorations.

Afternoon drive back to Delhi reaching in-time to connect flight for onward destination.

Hotels: NA

Meals: Breakfast