# INDIA & NEPAL ESCORTED TOUR



www.mytravelxp.com hello@mytravelxp.com 1300 168 910





# Classic India & Nepal Escorted Tour with Flights

**Duration:** 17 days

Stay: 15 nights hotels (4-5 star rating), overnight flight

Travel style: Escorted tour with flights from Australia

Booking code: INDNG17M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience Email hello@mytravelxp.com

# 17 Days Classic India & Nepal Tour with Flights

# About the holiday

This extraordinary tour of India and Nepal ticks all the boxes. Must-see sights - tick. Luxe accommodation - tick. Loads of inclusions - tick. Expert guides - tick!

See more for less on a tour that starts in New Delhi and travels to Agra, Ranthambore, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Mumbai and Kathmandu.

Discover New Delhi's grand boulevards and take a cycle rickshaw through the lanes of Old Delhi. The historic city of Agra is where you'll find the famous Taj Mahal and World Heritage-listed Agra Fort. In Ranthambore National Park you'll see a different side of India and, if you're very lucky, while on a wildlife safari you could spot a tiger. Explore the "Pink City" of Jaipur and the blue-hued old city of Jodhpur. Spend time in the stunning city of Udaipur and take a tour of colonial Mumbai.

Then fly to Kathmandu, where you'll venture into rural Nepal, have the chance to see spectacular views of the Himalayas on a clear day and visit UNESCO World Heritage Sites that showcase some of the most impressive architecture in Asia.

Expert local guides, all your transport and premium accommodation, as well as free time to explore at your leisure, make this an ideal India and Nepal adventure.

# Why you'll love this trip...

- Qutab Minar Victory Tower, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- · View Raj Ghat, cremation site and memorial to Mahatma Gandhi
- View the imposing India Gate War Memorial in New Delhi
- · Taj Mahal, the most perfect architectural monument in the world
- Safari in Ranthambore National Park, previously hunting grounds of the Maharajas
- Visit the Amber Fort with its gorgeous Palace of Mirrors
- View the Mehrangarh Fort, called the "Citadel of the Sun"
- Visit Udaipur's spectacular City Palace, creation of marble and granite
- Stand before the commanding Gateway to India Arch in Mumbai
- Explore rural Nepal's temples, villages and mountain vistas
- Visit Durbar Square, home to some of Asia's finest architecture

Call our office on 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com for current rates & travel info.



#### **Travel Dates:**

# Departs Saturdays & Tuesdays from September to March

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking - contact us for details.

# Tour package includes:

- International return economy airfares from Australia to Delhi & from Kathmandu
  - Airline taxes & fuel surcharges
- One-way flights Udaipur-Mumbai & Mumbai-Kathmandu
- 15 nights' accommodation in premium 4- & 5-star hotels
  - 2 nights New Delhi
  - o 2 nights Agra
  - 2 nights Ranthambore
  - 2 nights Jaipur
  - o 1 night Jodhpur
  - 2 nights Udaipur
  - o 1 night Mumbai
  - o 3 nights Kathmandu
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- 24 meals: 15 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 7 dinners with wine
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

Subject to confirmation by airlines, hotels, tour company & local operators.

Booking fees & cancellation conditions apply.

For more information call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com

# Package excludes:

Tourist visa fees

Airport transfers - speak to your consultant if you would like to pre-book Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for tour managers & drivers

Video & camera permits

Travel insurance is essential - we can assist you with a quote

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Any questions? Call our office on 1300 168 910

# Itinerary:

DAY 1, Saturday - Depart for India

#### DAY 2, Sunday - Arrive in New Delhi

Welcome to India! Arrive in the energetic capital city of New Delhi and make your own way to the hotel. Time to rest and relax after your journey.

Overnight: New Delhi

# DAY 3, Monday - Old & New Delhi

Wake up this morning to the incredible journey in India that awaits you. Begin with the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Qutub Minar, the world's tallest brick minaret. Later, continue on to the walled city of Old Delhi, founded by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. Drive past the massive Red Fort, a reminder of the magnificent power and pomp of the Mughal emperors. Then, ride a cycle rickshaw along the lanes of Chandni Chowk, once the imperial avenue of Mughal royalty. Travel along the winding streets to Raj Ghat, memorial to Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation and site of his cremation. The tour continues to New Delhi, a city of airy boulevards, lush parks and gardens. Visit the 20th-century Birla Temple, honouring the Hindu goddess of wealth. Drive past the imposing India Gate War Memorial to Indian and British soldiers, Parliament House and the Presidential Palace. This evening, attend an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at approximately 6 PM, followed by a light dinner

Overnight: New Delhi Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 4, Tuesday - New Delhi to Agra

Morning visit to Akshardham Temple, it is a beautifully ornate structure carved by 7,000 sculptors out of pink sandstone and white marble with over 20,000 statues, floral motifs and exquisite carved pillars made of stone that epitomizes the spirituality and beauty of the country's rich Hindu culture.

This architectural masterpiece, built along the river Yamuna, lies in an area of over 100 acres with beautiful gardens, water fountains and carved pavilions. Afterwards, on to Agra, with its celebrated past, rich heritage and architectural treasures. En route, stop at the Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah, built of the finest Indian marble embellished with mosaics and inlay of semi-precious stones. Tonight, enjoy dinner at the hotel

Overnight: Agra

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 5, Wednesday - Taj Mahal & Agra Fort

A memorable day as you visit the astonishing Taj Mahal, built by Emperor Shah Jahan as a mausoleum for his beloved queen. This is perhaps the most perfect architectural monument in the world, built of white marble and precious stones over a 22-year period; regarded as the finest example of Mughal design in the world. Afterwards, stop at a handicraft gallery and showroom displaying a unique collection of sculptures, and intricate inlaid marble work. Marvel at the museum quality workmanship as you watch a demonstration of the timely process of marble carvings, filigree and stone inlay. Afterwards, you'll be able to browse their decorative items. Later, visit the red sandstone Agra Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with its incredible maze of walled courtyards, mosques and lavish private chambers reflecting the grandeur of the Mughal Empire. The balance of the day is at leisure

Overnight: Agra Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 6, Thursday - Agra to Ranthambore National Park

Depart Agra to the small ancient village of Abhaneri in northern Rajasthan. Here, you visit the Chand Baori step well, fortified on all sides, one of the oldest and largest in India dating back to the 8th or 9th century. This unique idea, conceived by the early natives to function as a water reservoir, is situated adjacent to the temple dedicated to Harshat Mata, the goddess of joy and happiness. After lunch, drive to the Ranthambore National Park region, one of the largest and most renowned national parks in Northern India, the former hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur. Time to enjoy the beautiful new surroundings. Dinner together tonight is at the hotel

**Overnight:** Ranthambore

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 7, Friday - Ranthambore National Park Safari

Set out this morning on an early morning drive to the wildlife sanctuary at Ranthambore National Park. A local naturalist guide joins you in your park-assigned Jeep or Canter vehicle as you begin your search for elusive tigers as well as hyenas, jackals and foxes. The park is dotted with structures, including a huge hilltop fort that reminds you of a bygone era. Ranthambore National Park was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1957 and in 1974 it gained the protection of "Project Tiger." The park is truly a wildlife enthusiasts and photographer's dream, most famous for its tigers and one of the best locations in India to see these majestic predators in their natural habitat. Have lunch at the hotel, with time to relax before the evening safari that is sure to thrill you. Return to the lodge in time for dinner together - a great

Overnight: Ranthambore

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

# DAY 8, Saturday - Travel to Jaipur

opportunity to compare your wildlife stories

Travel to Jaipur, gateway to the desert state of Rajasthan. Arrive in this glorious city, with its colourful stucco buildings lining the wide streets and you'll understand why it's nicknamed the "Pink City." The city was painted this unique colour in 1876 to celebrate the first visit of the Prince of Wales to Jaipur. Drive past stunning hilltop forts and glorious palaces en route to the hotel. Visit the world-famous Raj Mandir Cinema, a popular symbol of Jaipur with its astonishing meringue-shaped auditorium, ever-changing coloured lighting and a symmetrical shaped exterior, afterwards visit a local jewellery store

Overnight: Jaipur Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 9, Sunday - Amber Fort and Highlights of Jaipur

Excursion to the spectacular Amber Fort, a stunning fusion of Mughal and Hindu styles, with its gorgeous Palace of Mirrors. On the way, drive past the Hawa Mahal, the "Palace of Winds" with its lacy ornamental façade accented by delicate latticework and honeycomb windows. Arrive to the Amber Fort and ascend the hill to the ramparts by jeep. From here, view the breathtaking panorama of Jaipur's original city walls and Maotha Lake. Enjoy some refreshments while shopping the vast collection of local handicrafts at a store, offering premium quality handmade carpets, textiles, pashminas, pottery and paintings. Fabrics in all colours and texture are available for loose purchase as well as custom design work. This afternoon's tour includes the beautifully preserved 18th century Jantar Mantar Observatory with its ingenious instruments, and the opulent City Palace, a former royal residence, now a grand museum with an extraordinary collection of paintings, costumes and armoury. Stroll through Jaipur's bargain-filled bazaar bursting with treasures.

Tonight's *optional* evening is highlighted by the exotic flavours of Indian cuisine at a local neighbourhood restaurant where you'll be entertained by performers in traditional attire performing dance moves to the rhythm of accompanying musical instruments\*

For Nov 4 departure Dinner at Local Jaipur Restaurant Optional Tour will be on day 8 due to Diwali festival

Optional: Dinner at Local Jaipur Restaurant with Cultural Performance

Overnight: Jaipur Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 10, Monday - Jaipur to Jodhpur

Arrive in the blue-hued old city of Jodhpur, which lies at the foot of the massive Mehrangarh Fort that dominates the skyline. Begin with a visit to the Jaswant Thada Memorial, built in 1899 out of the finest marble in honour of the Maharaja of Jodhpur. Afterwards, ascend to the imposing Mehrangarh Fort, built in 1459 of burnished red sandstone, often called the "Citadel of the Sun." This fort, one of the most impressive in all of Rajasthan, is acknowledged as one of the best-preserved forts in all of India. Tonight, enjoy dinner together at the hotel

Overnight: Jodhpur Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

#### DAY 11, Tuesday - Ranakpur en route to Udaipur

This morning, depart Jodhpur for Udaipur. On your drive, stop in Ranakpur to visit one of the Jain's holiest pilgrimage centres and the Jain Temple, dating back to the 14th and 15th centuries, crafted of pure white marble with more than a thousand columns. See the magnificent views of the surrounding landscape before departing to Udaipur, known as the "City of Lakes" and celebrated for its fairy-tale marble palaces that seem to rise from the waters of Lake Pichola. Arrive at your hotel in Udaipur late in the evening. Tonight, explore the city's culinary scene

Overnight: Udaipur Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 12, Wednesday - Udaipur City Tour & Lake Pichola Boat Ride

Begin the day with a tour of Udaipur. Visit the spectacular City Palace, a soaring creation of marble and granite perched on the lake's edge. This extravagant palace complex, the largest in Rajasthan, blends medieval, European, and Chinese architecture and is richly decorated with glittering Belgium mirrors. The serene setting of the Sahelion-ki-Bari gardens is your next stop, with its lovely fountains, lotus pools and marble elephants. Spend the afternoon at leisure before departing on an evening boat cruise on Lake Pichola

Overnight: Udaipur Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 13, Thursday - Flight to Mumbai (formerly Bombay), Explore Mumbai

This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Mumbai. Upon arrival begin your tour of Mumbai at the commanding Gateway to India Arch, built to commemorate the 1911 royal visit of King George V. Ironically, 24 years later, the last British regimen marched through the Arch while leaving India following the country's independence. Continue to Dhobi Ghat, where dirty laundry from all over Mumbai is brought to a massive open-air laundry and painstakingly hand washed by the "dhobis" (washermen) in endless rows of concrete troughs fitted with flogging stones. It provides an unforgettable glimpse into the workings of the city. Stop at the Mani Bhavan Mahatma Gandhi Museum, where Gandhi's movement was launched in 1942 and the serene ISKCON Temple. Drive through colonial Mumbai with its many buildings, structures and historical monuments still remaining from the colonial era. Tonight, attend dinner at the hotel

Overnight: Mumbai Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

# DAY 14, Friday - Flight to Kathmandu, Nepal

Free time this morning for individual explorations. Later transfer to the airport for your flight to Kathmandu. Arrive and transfer to your hotel

Overnight: Kathmandu

Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 15, Saturday - Rural Nepal Excursion

Venture into rural Nepal this morning and enjoy visits to Dhulikhel and Bhadgaon. Begin with Dhulikhel, a Newari town, where you will see spectacular views of the Himalayan Mountains, on a clear day. In the centre of the old town, view temples adorned with wood carvings, fine examples of traditional Newari craftsmanship. Afterward, drive to Panauti, one of the oldest towns in Nepal. The tour continues with a stop at Bhadgaon (Bhaktapur), an ancient Newar city founded in the 9th century. Here, you will see the royal residential quarter of King Bhupatindra Malla and the Nyatapola Temple. Finally, located on the banks of the Bagmati River, the Pashupatinath Temple, the most important Hindu site in all of Nepal. Tonight, join the optional Traditional Nepalese Dinner

Optional: Traditional Nepalese Dinner

Overnight: Kathmandu

Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 16, Sunday - Kathmandu City Tour

Early in the morning, join the *optional* Mount Everest Flightseeing. Enjoy a flight on a small aircraft with a window seat for an hour of spectacular scenery over the tallest mountain on earth. During the morning city tour, view the iconic landmark of Kathmandu, the great stupa of Swayambhunath, with the eyes of Buddha painted on all four sides.

Next Durbar Square, the UNESCO World Heritage Site that showcases some of the most impressive architecture in Central Asia, with more than 50 palaces, pagodas, and temples. The square is home to the Royal Palace complex with its gilded doorway and the 16th century Taleju Temple, which honours a form of the Goddess Durga. Continue to Boudhanath, an important Buddhist pilgrimage centre and home to one of the world's largest Buddhist stupas. Afternoon is free or, perhaps join the *optional* Half Day Patan City Tour. Known as Lalitpur or the "City of Beauty", Patan is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city is filled with Hindu temples and Buddhist monuments exhibiting skilful carvings. Tonight, at dinner bid goodbye to your Tour Manager

Optional: Mount Everest Flightseeing (AM)
Optional: Half Day Patan City Tour (PM)

**Overnight:** Kathmandu **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

# DAY 17, Monday - Fly Nepal to Australia

Check out of your hotel this morning and make your way to the airport for your departure flight. As the journey ends, precious memories begin!

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day-by-day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

# **Accommodation:**

These hotels have been chosen for their comfort and location. Where your group will be staying will be confirmed prior to departure and changes to similar, suitable hotels are at the discretion of the tour operator.

The Suryaa New Delhi, New Delhi

This first class hotel is located in the posh New Friends Colony neighbourhood of New Delhi.

Jaypee Palace, Agra

This deluxe hotel is centrally located in the main tourist district of Agra.

The Tigress Ranthambore, Sawai Madhopur

These first class hotel is located near Ranthambhore National Park.

Radisson Jaipur City Centre, Jaipur

This superior first class hotel is a ten minute drive from the City Palace of Jaipur.

WelcomHeritage Bal Samand Lake Palace, Jodhpur This first class hotel is located a short drive from Mandore, the ancient capital of Marwar.

Trident Udaipur Hotel, Udaipur This first class hotel is located on the banks of Lake Pichola in Udaipur.

Trident Nariman Point Hotel, Mumbai
This deluxe hotel is located in the business district of Mumbai.

Radisson Hotel Kathmandu, Kathmandu This deluxe hotel is located in the heart of the city, in the Lazimpat area.

# Is this tour right for you?

This moderately active program has a few long travel days with five to eight hours driving between cities. Expect some early wake-up calls around 4 to 5 AM in Ranthambore and Udaipur for sightseeing and intra-flights. The pace is moderate. Some days will require walking for extended periods of time, walking over uneven terrain and travel in 4x4 vehicles over rough terrain. Open-air vehicles will be used in Ranthambore National Park for Safari activities on roads that are often rough and bumpy. During this tour, you may come into proximity of wild animals whose actions can be unpredictable. Certain inherent risks are involved which should be considered at your own discretion. Wildlife sightings cannot be guaranteed. Air pollution is a problem in many of India's major cities. Please see the CDC website and/or consult with your healthcare provider for specific recommendations. The use of a bandana or light scarf may help screen out some of the pollutants in the air.

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# Travel On Demand Pty Ltd Trading As My Travel Experience



#### **BOOKING CONDITIONS**

#### Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

#### This is a summary in brief for our customers:

- 1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
  - 2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
- 3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
- 4. 90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
  - 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents via email.
- My Travel Experience manages a professional client operating account. All booking payments are held securely to pay for your travel services. We do not retain your money and funds are distributed promptly to travel service providers, including but not limited to, airlines, tour operators, cruise lines and hotels. We are required to pay the providers deposits and final payments and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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