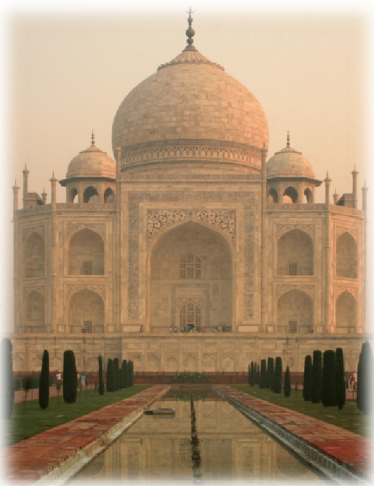




The Golden Triangle and Pushkar Fair

Situated on the edge of the deserts of Rajasthan, Pushkar becomes the temporary home for thousands of people around the full moon of Kartik Purnima in October / November. Coinciding with the religious pilgrimage, the town becomes home to one of the most colourful celebrations of life in India, known as the Pushkar Fair. Most famous for its camel trading, the town becomes a spectacle of dance, music and traditional events.

In addition this tour visits Agra, the city of Jaipur (the Pink City) and the kaleidoscope of life that comprises Old and New Delhi, which together are known as the Golden Triangle. If you are looking for a tour that encapsulates both modern and traditional India, this tour is highly recommended.



DAY 1 [11 Nov 2010] • DEPART FROM UK

Depart from the UK on your overnight flight to Delhi.

DAY 2 • ARRIVE DELHI

Morning arrival in Delhi, where you will stay at the Taj Palace for 2 nights on a bed and breakfast basis. The afternoon is at leisure.

DAY 3 • OLD DELHI • NEW DELHI

In the morning take a sightseeing tour of Old Delhi, visiting Jama Mosque and the Red Fort, before taking a rickshaw ride in the by-lanes of the old city. In the afternoon take a tour of New Delhi, visiting Qutab Minar, Humyan's Tomb and the Government Buildings.

DAY 4 • TO AGRA • TAJ MAHAL

After breakfast drive to Agra, where you will stay at the Trident Hotel for 2 nights on a bed and breakfast basis. The Taj Mahal is one of the world's most recognisable and evocative sights and a visit here does not disappoint. In the afternoon explore the shrine and stop to watch the colours slowly change as the sun sets.

DAY 5 • FATEHPUR SIKRI • RED FORT

After breakfast drive to the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. Abandoned after only 15 years due to a shortage of water, the ancient city stands perfectly preserved. In the afternoon you will take a sightseeing tour of Agra, including a visit to the Red Fort. This 16th century monument is a powerful fortress of red sandstone, and encompasses within its walls the imperial city of the Mughal rulers.

DAY 6 • TO JAIPUR

After breakfast transfer to Jaipur, where you will stay at the Jai Mahal Palace for 2 nights on a bed and breakfast basis. The afternoon is at leisure for you to relax.

DAY 7 • JAIPUR

In the morning you will visit the Amber Fort, arriving at the gates by elephant. In the afternoon you will explore the city, visiting the City Palace, Hawa Mahal (Palace of The Winds) and Jantar Mantar (Astronomical Observatory).

DAY 8 • TO PUSHKAR

After breakfast, drive to Ajmer, and from there to your camp at Pushkar where you will stay for 4 nights on a full board basis. Surrounded by hills on three sides and sand dunes on the other, Pushkar forms a fascinating location and a fitting backdrop for the annual huge and colourful 'Pushkar Fair'. In the afternoon you can begin exploring the town with your guide. Pushkar Fair is well known for its camel trading and other activities, including dance, music, puppet shows, camel races and many shops,

which spring up during the fair. The fair climaxes on the day of the full moon, when thousands of devotees throng bathing ghats around the lake to immerse themselves in the holy waters. Centrally situated, the camp is an excellent base from which to explore the area.

DAY 9 to 11 • PUSHKAR • AJMER

On arrival you will be provided with a programme of events, and you will have a guide to personally escort you around the fair. A car is available for you at all times, though much of the activities are easily done on foot. In the evenings the camp provides themed entertainment for their guests. On **Day 11** you will take a morning tour of Ajmer, exploring the fort, the mosque and the amazing Jain temple.

DAY 12 • TO DELHI

After breakfast transfer by road to The Park Plaza Hotel, where you will stay for 1 night on a bed and breakfast basis. You will arrive mid afternoon and have the rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 13 [23 Nov 2010] • DEPART TO UK

Transfer to airport for return flight to UK

DATES

This tour is run on an individual basis on dates specific to Pushkar Fair. The last day in Pushkar coincides with the closing ceremony of the fair.

COST

Please see our Price Guide at the front of the brochure.

PRICE INCLUDES:

Accommodation and food as described; programme of events as described; all entry fees to monuments in Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Ajmer; elephant ride and use of jeep at Amber Fort; services of English speaking guide as required; all transfers in air-conditioned cars; portage at airports; all local taxes.

PRICE EXCLUDES:

Flights; visas; camera fees; personal items such as drinks; laundry; phone calls; insurance; tips.

DEPOSITS

A Standard Deposit is required for this tour as detailed in our Booking Conditions.

OTHER INFORMATION

The flights listed in the itinerary are easily available from online agents. We will be happy to advise you about booking.

This tour can link with our other itineraries to create a tailor made itinerary for you.

It is possible to join the tour from any country of origin, so long as you arrive in Delhi during day two of the itinerary.

Pushkar is entirely vegetarian and alcohol free.