



THE JEWELS OF INDIA

A unique and exclusive personalised journey throughout northern and central India, from the deserts of Rajasthan to the foothills of the Himalayas, covering the most significant sights, cities and experiences that we believe will prove to be the most memorable journey of your lifetime
In the company of Geoff & Cherrie Whittle

(FEBRUARY – MARCH 2015)
for 6 OR 8 people

INTRODUCTION

Despite having lived in India for seven years and having travelled the length and breadth of the continent Cherrie and I are truly excited by the prospect of accompanying this trip. It encompasses a complete spectrum of cultures, religions, sights, sounds and some of the most fascinating locations you're ever likely to experience in a trip of this duration. India is in our blood and we hope that we'll bring a different and interesting insight into the holiday that you'll never experience elsewhere – and one which will enthuse you with the same awe and wonder of this country. You will no doubt travel to other parts of India in the future but this journey encompasses the essence of India in all its forms. We've tried to achieve a balanced itinerary that doesn't leave you exhausted, 'temped out' or lost for choice – and as we're with you all the way we'll be there to help, advise and to add our own personal take based on the experience of living in country for so long – we do hope you'll join us

**DELHI – JAIPUR – RANTHAMBORE – FATEHPUR
SIKRI – AGRA - ORCHHA – KHAJURAHO →
VARANASI → KOLKATA – DARJEELING –
KALIMPONG → MUMBAI**

SATURDAY – DAY 01 ARRIVAL DELHI

On arrival at Delhi airport we will be met and bedecked by traditional welcome garlands before being transferred to our hotel. We'll travel by comfortable AC Vehicle to take you to one of our favourite hotels in the whole of India – **The Imperial** – which harks back to days of the Raj and offers a superb start point to this adventure and a brilliant way to begin to acclimatize and adjust to the realities of life outside the hotel. Depending on arrival time you'll probably explore the hotel before retiring for our first overnight stay



SUNDAY – DAY 02 DELHI

After Breakfast we'll spend the day experiencing the diverse attractions and experiences that Delhi offers.

In addition to its Historic interest and role as the Government center, Delhi is a major travel gateway. It is one of India's busiest entrance points for overseas airlines, the hub of the North Indian travel network and a stop on the overland route across Asia. Places we'll aim to visit are

- Red Fort
- Raj Ghat
- Jama Masjid
- Qutub Minar
- Humayun's Tomb
- India Gate

*Whilst here it's a good idea to take in a **rickshaw ride** in Old Delhi*



- Drive past the Government building lining Jan Path (the road on which The Imperial stands)
- In the evening, if you wish we can visit the Sikh temple of Bangla Sahib.

After the day out we'll return to the Imperial again for dinner and overnight stay

MONDAY - DAY 03 DELHI / JAIPUR

DISTANCE: 240 KMS DRIVING TIME: 04 HRS APPROX

After breakfast, we'll check out from The Imperial and drive to Jaipur and on arrival, check in to the hotel. We always factor in some extra time for journeys in India and even though we have a full day planned the next day, we should also have ample time available to get to know the immediate environs of the hotel in Jaipur, including an evening visit to the local market after our arrival at the **Hotel SAMODE HAVELI**. We'll have dinner and stay overnight here

- *Evening is spent exploring the city by visiting the local market.*



OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT £ 73.00 PER PERSON

Enjoy Elephant safari at Dera Amber with Dinner (without drinks). The elephant treks are conducted in the original Aravali forests surrounding the camp and follow a route through villages, agricultural fields, hills and ancient monuments, the birdlife in the thick forests is thriving and though panthers do inhabit the jungles it is very rare to see them however occasionally the hyena and the wolf has been sighted by guests, antelopes, jackals are in abundance. The sunset elephant treks are magical.



TUESDAY – DAY 04 JAIPUR



Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, takes its name from Maharaja Jai Singh, who in the early 1700s became the king of Amber at the age of 13. He soon added architecture and astronomy to his credentials and thereafter designed the bulk of his new capital - with its exquisite buildings of rose colored terra cotta - thus giving it the name of "the pink city" with pink and orange the dominant colors - the effect is magical at dusk.

- *Drive to Amber Fort. You'll be taken up the steep ramp to the fort on elephant back unless you're feeling particularly energetic – good luck to you, we've done it before in the heat of the day!*

In the afternoon we'll tour Jaipur, visiting *City Palace, Jantar Mantar* and *Hawa Mahal* *(From outside only)*



- *NGO School Visit in Jaipur , school children perform a short cultural program for half an hour before we return to the hotel for dinner and overnight*

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT £ 23.00 PER PERSON

In the afternoon / evening we'll go to an Indian home where we'll enjoy a Cooking Demo along with either lunch or dinner with a local Indian Family. It's not similar to a Cooking Demo organised at the Hotels but a unique experience where the lady from the family will show you day to day cooking styles and you can also join in. After cooking we'll enjoy the meal with the family



WEDNESDAY – DAY 05 JAIPUR / RANTHAMBORE

DISTANCE: JAIPUR / RANTHAMBORE: 155 KMS DRIVING TIME: 02 HRS 30 MINS APPROX

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: EXPERIENCE OF BALLOON FLIGHT IN JAIPUR

- Guest Pick-up and Drop: - We'll be picked-up from our hotel approximately 45 minutes before the flight (we'll be notified of the exact pick-up time 24 hours before our flight).
- Passenger Briefing and Tea / Coffee: - The pilot will give us a safety briefing and basic orientation of the technical aspects of Hot-Air Ballooning. Tea / Coffee, cold drinks and biscuits are served during the inflation of the balloon.
- Flight: - Flight time is approximately 60 minutes (+/- 10 minutes). Bottled mineral water is available during the flight.



Flight Timings	Morning Flight	Evening Flight
	6.45 am	4.00 pm

- Post flight the pilot will hand out First Flight certificates to all passengers as a memento of their Balloon Safari experience.

Total Ballooning experience: - Approximately 3 hours.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT – £143.00 PER PERSON (Minimum 2 People are required & Maximum 8 can share a Balloon Flight)

CANCELLATION

Please Note: Any cancellation due to weather or for reasons deemed to be operational issues will result in a full refund of payment.

WEDNESDAY – JAIPUR – RANTHAMBORE

After breakfast, drive to Ranthambore. Considered as one of the most famous parks, it's the former hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur. Upon arrival we'll check into the luxury tented accommodation that is **Sher Bagh**. After a quick wash and change we'll head out into this famous park that is home to most wildlife including the highly elusive tiger. We'll enjoy a total of three park safaris during our stay – as follows:

- *Afternoon Jungle safari in our own 4X4 open jeep in the National Park. Return to hotel. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.*

THURSDAY – DAY 06 RANTHAMBORE



- *Morning Jungle safari by 4X4 open jeep in the park. Return to the hotel for breakfast. After breakfast we are free until noon.*
- *After Lunch, afternoon Jungle safari by 4X4 open jeep in the park Return to the hotel. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.*

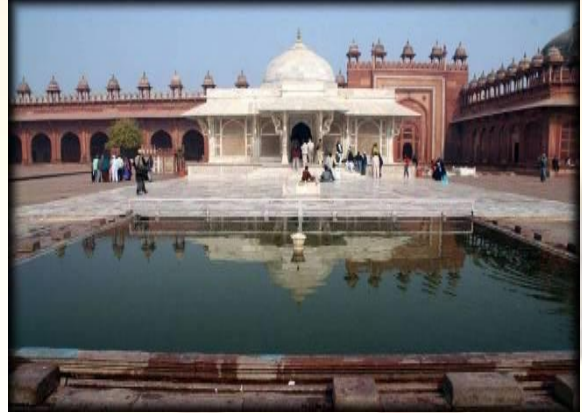
N.B. As we got used to saying when we worked in tiger conservation – ‘The tiger isn’t on the payroll’ – so can’t be guaranteed to appear on demand. They’re a highly endangered species so it will be a surprise and privilege if we see one – but you’re sure to enjoy the environment and what wildlife you do see in this beautiful park.

FRIDAY – DAY 07 RANTHAMBORE / FATEHPUR SIKIRI / AGRA

DISTANCE: 255 KMS DRIVING TIME: 03-04 HRS APPROX

After breakfast we'll drive to Agra; en-route visiting Fatehpur Sikri 'The Ghost City' which was built in 1569 as the new capital by Emperor Akbar but abandoned within one year after the water supply dried up. It is fantastically preserved as a monument to Muslim architecture and quite an eerie but worthwhile experience.

From here we'll continue our drive to Agra a further 22 miles. Agra is famous as being home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World - the Taj Mahal. Agra was once the capital of the Mughal Empire and even today it seems to linger in the past. Not surprising, for the Mughal emperors with their passion for building, endowed the city with some of the finest structures in the world.



Upon arrival, check in to the **Royal Mughal Suites of the ITC Murghal Hotel**. After quick wash and change, we'll visit Agra itself, saving the Taj Mahal for the next day. There are several places we may visit which include the Red Fort and Mother Theresa orphanage, which we can do depending on how lively you're feeling

- Red Fort. Architects laid the foundation and it was built by some 4,000 builders working on it daily for eight years, completing it in 1573. At the end of his life, Shah Jahan was deposed and restrained by his son, Aurangzeb, in the fort. It is rumoured that Shah Jahan died in Muasamman Burj, a tower with a marble balcony with a view of the Taj Mahal



- *Mother Teresa's Charity home in Agra has 48 children who are orphaned or come from poor families who can no longer provide for them; as well as 150 infirm adults who can no longer care for themselves. They don't accept donations but will appreciate: Vitamins Sterile Gauze, Masks, Latex gloves etc.*

Dinner and Overnight at the hotel

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT

£ 23.00 PER PERSON

Later in the evening we could visit the Kalakriti theatre which highlights the famous play of Shah Jahan & his wife Mumtaz Mahal.. 'An Experience of Love'!

This is a colourful Sound and Light extravaganza that might appeal but the translations are sometimes tortuous and the duration excessive – if its anything like others we've seen it's an experience that you might want to do once !



SATURDAY – DAY 08 AGRA / JHANSI (TRAIN) / ORCHHA

DISTANCE: 20 KMS SDRIVING TIME: 30 MINS APPROX

- *Early morning visit The Monument of Love – Taj Mahal. You'll enjoy a short horse and carriage ride from the parking lot to the main gate of Taj Mahal before waiting for the Taj to open so that we're one of the first in.*

If your opinion of Agra is anything like ours you won't be in a hurry to come back to the city but your visit to the Taj will undoubtedly be magical and will make up for the rest of this sprawling city – it's difficult not to be captivated by the workmanship and presence of the mausoleum in the early morning light – especially as it was built purely as a testament to love.



Return to hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, we'll transfer to the Agra railway station to board the train for Jhansi. Indian trains are an experience in themselves and very much part of the holiday. On arrival, we'll transfer to Orchha and check in to the **Hotel Amar Mahal**. After a quick wash and change, we'll visit the town itself.

- *It's not large and a stroll around its sights will both intrigue and puzzle you. The medieval township of Orchha has hardly been touched by the hand of time and is famous for its palace & temples, built in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.*

After our visit, we'll return to the hotel. Dinner and Overnight at the Hotel.

SUNDAY – DAY 09 ORCHHA / KHAJURAHO / SARAI AT TORIA

DISTANCE: 180 KMS DRIVING TIME: 04 & 1/2 HRS APPROX

After breakfast we'll drive to Khajuraho.

The small village of Khajuraho is in the Chattarpur district that housed the Chandela dynasty in the 11th Century. Khajuraho is famous for the temples here which have some of the most exotic, erotic and breathtaking carving ever to be done by a Human hand. The temples classified as Indo-Aryan architect are in three groups covering an area of about 8 square miles. We'll visit the temples en route to the hotel in the morning so that we have a relaxing break at the hotel which is run by people who were also involved in conservation during our time in India

- *Visit to The eastern group of temples. These are the best preserved and most concentrated group, so you'll get the best of the stunning architecture with the least amount of hiking or travel.*



After visiting, we'll drive to the **Hotel Sarai at Toria**, check in and later enjoy lunch here.

Our afternoon and evening is free for individual leisure and we'll have Dinner and Overnight here

MONDAY – DAY 10 KHAJURAHO / VARANASI (FLIGHT)

After breakfast, we'll have a morning tour of the western group of temples at Khajuraho before transferring to the airport to connect with the flight for Varanasi followed by transfer to the **Hotel Taj Gateway**.

Varanasi is the Hindu's Holiest Pilgrimage city, also known as the "City of Light." Ancient names for this city include Benares or Kashi. Varanasi is also the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world. It is here that all Hindus aspire to come once in their lifetimes to bathe in the Ganges River on the Ghats, or landings, all along the river. This act of worship releases the soul from earthly samara, or the Cycle of Life, Death and Rebirth, caused by ignorance.

Personally we prefer to remain in ignorance rather than bathe in the Ganges but it takes all sorts. Someone we met had brought her mother's ashes from the States to sprinkle on the waters but took her back home again. Whatever your opinion of bathing you can't help but be entranced by the assault on the senses that Varanasi brings in this, one of the most colourful and fascinating of cities.

- *Later we can take the **old city and Evening Aarti tour** – driving to the old city by car and taking a late afternoon walk through the famous narrow lanes to witness the Burning Ghat (cremations) and take a boat to view the sunset Aarti Puja from the Ganges River itself from 0630 to 0730 PM.*

As our transport in Varanasi is just from point to point rather than in constant use – we'll return to the hotel after walking back through the old city which is by now lit up.



TUESDAY – DAY 11 VARANASI / KOLKATA (FLIGHT)

- We'll enjoy an early morning sunrise boat ride along the river's edge to view the temples and the ancient rituals of the thousands of pilgrims who worship here daily. The boat will pass along the bathing Ghats and we'll later disembark to walk through the ancient narrow lanes of Varanasi witnessing the pilgrims going for worship to the GOLDEN TEMPLE.



We'll now return to the hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, we'll continue with a further half day city tour of Varanasi. Places to visit include... *Mother India Temple, Durga Temple, Sankat Mochan Temple, Birla Temple.* This might seem like quite a bit of repetition and it's certainly not compulsory but there is just so much to see in Varanasi its well worth spending the time here. We're really looking forward to revisiting this city.



Later there's an excursion of Sarnath planned. Just 13 kilometers from Varanasi is Isipathana, now called Sarnath, the site of the deer park where Gautama Buddha is said to have given his first sermon about the basic principles of Buddhism. It has been a premier centre for Buddhism & has a rich collection of ancient Buddhist relics & antiques comprising numerous Buddha & Bodhisattva images on display at the Archaeological Museum. The main Places to see are...

- *Asoka's pillar*
- *The ruins of the Mulagandhakuti*
- *Dharmek Stupa.*
- *Further to the east is the modern Mulagandhakuti Vihara with its beautiful wall paintings and behind it the Deer Park.*



After the visit we'll transfer to the airport to connect with the flight for Kolkata (Calcutta). On arrival, we'll be provided with transfer to the hotel and have Dinner and Overnight accommodation at the **Hotel Oberoi Grand**

WEDNESDAY – DAY 12 KOLKATA

Perhaps no other city overwhelms a visitor as Kolkata does - crowded, alive, vibrant, a city with a rich intellectual and cultural heritage. Inhabited by people who are proud to call themselves Kolkattans, this city is over 300 years old and has a fairy tale beginning. Kolkata owes its origin to the British merchant Job Charnock. During the days of the British Raj, Kolkata was known as the Jewel of the East, and was the capital of the country until 1911. Today it is still the most important city in the East, the nerve center of trade and industry, a city bustling with a population of around 15 million.

Places to visit are...

- **Howrah Bridge;** this bridge is built on river Hooghly and connects the city of Kolkata with the industrial town of Howrah.
- **Flower market** day-to-day life of everyday people surrounded in colour
- **Dalhousie Square** where we'll see the Writers Building (State Secretariat), Raj Bhawan (Governor's House), General Post Office Building, Kolkata High Court, Kolkata Town Hall and the St. John's Church.
- **Victoria Memorial.** A massive domed building of white marble from Rajasthan. It was inaugurated in 1921 by the Prince of Wales (later, briefly, Edward VIII). It houses a collection of Victorian memorabilia and also history related objects and documents on Bengal. In the park in which the memorial stands are statues of Queen Victoria, Lord Curzon and other figures of the Raj. Here, on weekends, people picnic, families meet for 'matchmaking', and transiting pilgrims bring flowers to the statue of "Maharani Victoria".

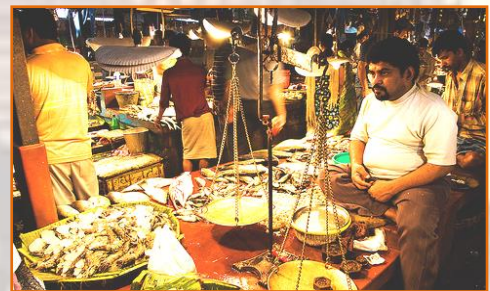


- **Indian Museum**, founded in 1814 on the basis of the collection of the Asiatic Society. Its widely varied exhibits include such oddities as a roomful of meteorites and a number of (stuffed) man-eating crocodiles. It has an impressive archaeology and sculpture department with a superb collection of Gandharan Buddhist art, as well as works from Khajuraho, Bhairat and many other important sites.
- **Missionaries of Charity**, this is where Mother Teresa lies in peace, there is a photo gallery on the works and life of the Mother.

After this visit we'll return to the hotel for Dinner and Overnight stay

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY 1: ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT £ 13.00 PER PERSON

In evening visit to the Masala 'spice' Market, the wholesale fruit market at Machua, and finally to the BURRA BAZAR (Big Bazaar). This market feeds the entire eastern part of the country. It is crowded, always busy and specially liked by Europeans. We'll then go to the College Street Book Market (Asia's largest Book Market) with a visit to the Coffee Shop (built during the British Raj) to see the young 'turks' and artists gossiping. A cup of coffee here is highly recommended. We'll then move on to KUMARTOLLY (Potters village) to see artists making idols of Gods.



THURSDAY – DAY 13 KOLKATA / BAGDOGRA (FLIGHT) / DARJEELING

After breakfast we'll drive to the domestic airport for a connecting flight to Bagdogra. Upon arrival we'll be met and will drive to Darjeeling.



Darjeeling This famous town in the Indian state of West Bengal is located in the Mahabharat Range or Lesser Himalaya at an average elevation of 6,710 ft (2,045.2 m). It is noted for its tea industry and the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Darjeeling was built by the British in the mid-1800s primarily as an R & R centre for British troops. Over a period of time it has become recognized as one of the most important hill stations in India. Darjeeling still has a lot of the old world charm of a typical English town. To reach it we'll pass through numerous small villages as well as the important town of Kurseong.

On arrival we'll check into **The Mayfair Hotel**.

- *Our evening is at leisure to explore this beautiful town with Dinner and overnight at the hotel.*

FRIDAY – DAY 14 DARJEELING

An early morning wake up around 0430 hrs sees us driving for about 30 minutes to see the dawn views over the Kanchenjunga (8,548m) and other Eastern Himalayan peaks from the Famous Tiger Hill. Tiger Hill is the highest point of this area (2,540m) and is about 11 kms from Darjeeling.

- *On the way back we'll visit Ghoom monastery which is one of the most famous monasteries in Darjeeling, it also enshrines an image of "MAITREYA BUDDHA".*

After this visit, we'll return to the hotel for breakfast.

- Following breakfast we'll walk around 15-20 Mins to Observatory Hill



Later we'll enjoy the 'toy train' ride from Darjeeling to Ghoom.

Later in the afternoon we'll the visit following places...

- *Zoological Park*
- *Himalayan Mountaineering Institute - the First home of the famous climber Tenzing Norgay... Which also has a small museum housing all the equipment used on the First successful expedition on Everest lead by Tenzing Norgay & Sir Edmund Hillary...there we will meet up with a Sherpa, who has climbed Mount Everest & also visit Das Studio.*
- *Tea Estate to get a firsthand experience of the Famous Darjeeling Tea.*
- *Tibetan Refugee Center*



We'll now return to the hotel (*prior to an evening stroll around the market*) and later dinner and overnight here

SATURDAY – DAY 15 DARJEELING / KALIMPONG

DISTANCE: 50 KMS DRIVING TIME: 03 HRS APPROX

After breakfast, we drive to **Kalimpong (1,250m)** the road winds its way through the hill side following the Tea estates all along the way, passing through some of the most beautiful countryside in this region. Kalimpong is a bustling and rapidly growing town, though relatively small and is set amongst the rolling foothills and deep valleys of the Himalaya.

Upon arrival, check in to the **Hotel Elgin Silver Oaks**. After a quick wash and change we'll visit the town of Kalimpong including...

- *Flower and Orchid Nurseries,*
- *Buddhist Monasteries*
- *The Local Market*

After this visit; return to the hotel.

- *Evening visit Monastery in Durbin Hill to witness the evening prayer ceremony.*

Return to hotel. Dinner and Overnight at Hotel

SUNDAY – DAY 16 KALIMPONG / BAGDOGRA / MUMBAI (FLIGHT) VIA GUWAHATI

DISTANCE: 80 KMS DRIVING TIME: 03 HRS APPROX

After breakfast, we'll commence our drive to Bagdogra.

Following our arrival we'll be transferred to the airport to connect with the flight for Mumbai, via Guwahati. It's worth remembering as we make these transfers that you're in one of the remotest parts of India, surrounded by tea plantations in an outpost of what was once Empire and one of the most inhospitable parts of the Raj, with reported headhunters in the neighbouring states and far from adequate medical care, a handful of Planters and no more than a thousand 'Civil Servants' ruled a country of millions for hundreds of years.

On our arrival in Mumbai, we'll be provided with assistance at the airport, followed by transfer to the **Taj Mahal Hotel**.

This hotel vies with us for first place against the Imperial in Delhi, in terms of opulence, style and service. Built by the Tata family in the prime Colaba district as a counter to the 'No Indians' policy of the British, this hotel eclipses most of the establishments that you will find elsewhere in India

- *Evening is free for individual leisure activities...*

Dinner and Overnight at the Hotel

MONDAY – DAY 17 MUMBAI / DEPARTURE



After breakfast, we have a full day city tour of Mumbai. Formerly known as Bombay, Mumbai is the capital of the western state of Maharashtra. The city is a natural harbour lying at the mouth of the Ulhas River on the west coast of India. The Arabian Sea borders the western coast of Mumbai, which has a population of approximately 12.5 million; ranking as the most populous city in India and the fifth most populous city in the world. Whereas Delhi exhibits much of the colonial grandeur in its architecture, Mumbai reflects Victorian thinking mixed with many diverse cultures. Places we'll visit include...

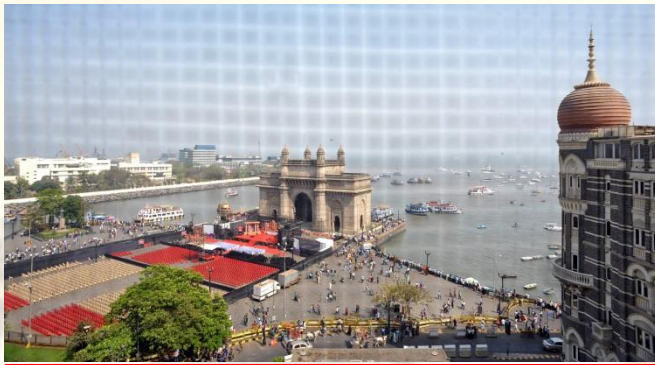
- *Gateway of India (Built to welcome George V and the last point of departure for the British forces in 1947)*
- *Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Victoria Terminus – or 'VT') to see the Dabbawalas of Mumbai delivering tens of thousands of tiffin boxes of freshly made lunch from individual homes to offices throughout the city, adjacent to this grand Victorian railway edifice.*
- *Marine drive – the 'string of pearls' that leads to Bollywood*
- *Dhobi Ghat – a thriving chaotic enclave of 'dhobi-wallahs' or laundrymen cleaning Mumbai's linen*
- *Crawford market – fruit and veg and yet more fruit and veg on a grand scale in this enormous indoor market surrounded by trades of all kinds*
- *Drive past the Mumbai high court and the Zoroastrian Tombs of Silence.*

Far from being just the last port of call on this wonderful trip, you'll be as fascinated by what Mumbai has to offer as with any other place we've visited. From the opulence of the Taj in which you're staying, to the Dhobi Ghat and the street urchins rubbing shoulders with some of India's richest, you can't but fail to be mesmerized by this bustling city. Cherrie and I differ over which of the two main cities – Delhi or Mumbai – holds the most fascination for us – you decide for yourself.

After our tour of Mumbai we'll return to the hotel for our Dinner. Our rooms are ours until departure time after which we'll be transferred to Mumbai airport for our flight home.

This is where our itinerary ends

– until next time – but just have a look at some of the sites you'll probably have seen whilst you're with us.



The following pages detail what is, and what isn't included and the hotels we'll stay in with the url links so that you can see what you'll be enjoying

CITY	HOTELS	ROOM CATEGORY	NIGHTS	MEAL PLAN
Delhi	The Imperial www.theimperialindia.com	Heritage Room (01 st Step Higher Category)	02	01 NIGHT BB 01 NIGHT HB
Jaipur	Samode Haveli www.samode.com	Deluxe Suite Room (01 st Step Higher Category)	02	HB
Ranthambore	Sher Bagh www.sherbagh.com	Luxury Tent	02	FB
Agra	ITC Mughal www.itchotels.in	Royal Mughal Suite (02 nd Step Higher Category)	01	HB
Orchha	Amar Mahal www.amarmahal.com	Suite Room (Highest Category)	01	HB
Khajuraho	Sarai at Toria www.saraiattoria.com	Cottage Room	01	FB
Varanasi	Taj Gateway Ganges www.tajhotels.com	Executive Suite Room (02 nd Step Higher Category)	01	HB
Kolkata	The Oberoi Grand www.oberoihotels.com	Deluxe Room	02	HB
Darjeeling	Hotel Mayfair www.mayfairhotels.com	Deluxe Room	02	HB
Kalimpong	The Elgin Silver Oaks www.elginhotels.com	Deluxe Room	01	HB
Mumbai	Taj Mahal Palace www.tajhotels.com	Luxury Grande Room – City / Pool View (PALACE WING) (05th Step Higher Category)	01 + Room Till Departure	HB

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- Complete transportation by an AC Mini Coach, AC Toyota Innova for Varanasi and Darjeeling sector including all airport transfers, hotel transfers, all sector drives and sightseeing as per the program.
- In Delhi, all arrival – departure transfer + full day city tour on day 2 is included.
- Vehicle at our disposal from day 3 Delhi / Jaipur till drop at Khajuraho airport on day 10 is included.
- 3 exclusive park safaris are included in Ranthambore.
- Train fare for sector Agra / Jhansi in AC Chair car in Taj Express is included.
- In Khajuraho 2 half day temple tours on day 9 and 10 are included.
- In Varanasi, arrival - departure transfer + 1 half day city tour is included.
- In Kolkata, arrival - departure transfer + 1 full day city tour on day 12 is included.
- Vehicle at our disposal from pick-up at Bagdogra airport on day 13 till drop at Bagdogra airport on day 16 by Toyota Innova (4 people can sit in one Innova)
- In Mumbai, arrival – departure transfer + 1 full day city tour on day 17 is included.
- Services of English speaking local guides during the sightseeing in Delhi, Jaipur, Fatehpur Sikiri, Agra, Khajuraho, Varanasi, Kolkata and Mumbai are included.
- Service of Local **English Speaking** accompanying guide from Bagdogra airport on day 13 till drop at Bagdogra airport on day 16 is included.
- Onetime monument entrances fees WITHOUT CAMERA FEES during sightseeing visits as per the above program is included.
- Internal flights

A Few interesting activities are also included:

- + Rickshaw ride in Delhi is included.
- + Visit of Bangla Sahib in Delhi is included.
- + 1 Elephant ride while going up to Amber Fort in Jaipur is included.
- + School visit for interaction between local children and teachers in Jaipur is included.
- + Visit to NGO i.e. Agra (**Mother Teresa orphanage**) is included.
- + 1 horse and carriage ride from the parking till the gate of Taj Mahal in Agra is included.
- + 2 boat rides on river Ganges in Varanasi is included.
- + Excursion to Sarnath visit is included.
- + Toy train ride is included in Darjeeling.

***** WHEN WE HAVE THE VEHICLE AT OUR DISPOSAL, THE MAXIMUM RUNNING IS 08 HOURS / 80 KMS PER DAY.**

TRAIN SCHEDULE

SECTOR	TRAIN	Day of Operation	ETD	ETA	CLASS
Agra / Jhansi	Taj Express	Daily	1013 Hrs	1400 Hrs	AC Chair Car

COST - 8 people travelling in addition to Geoff & Cherrie – £ 4707 pp
- 6 people travelling in addition to Geoff & Cherrie - £ 5114 pp

THE ABOVE PRICE EXCLUDES:

- Any expenses of personal nature such as drinks, tele / fax calls, laundry etc.
- Any expenses caused by reasons beyond our control such as road blocks, accidents, medical evacuations, flight delays, or re-scheduling etc
- Any tips to hotel staff, local guides, drivers etc.
- Any meals apart from the ones mentioned above.
- Any expenses apart from the ones above.
- **ANY EXPENSES CAUSED BY REASONS BEYOND OUR CONTROL SUCH AS TRAIN – FLIGHT DELAYS / CANCELLATION / RESCHEDULING, ETC AND ANY OTHER SITUATIONS RELATED TO ROAD BLOCKS, ACCIDENTS, MEDICAL EVACUATION AND NATURAL CALAMITIES.**
- Any camera fees.
- Any international airfares.
- Any expenses apart from the ones above.

Some of the Small Print:

THE ABOVE PRICES ARE VALID FOR THE PERIOD FROM FEB 20, 2015 TILL APRIL 15, 2015 ONLY & IS INCLUSIVE OF SERVICE TAX. WE HAVE CALCULATED THE PRICE AS PER CURRENT CONVERSION RATE OF RUPEE/POUND STERLING (£) AND IF VARIANCE OCCURS OF MORE THAN 3% (PLUS OR MINUS) AT THE TIME OF INVOICING THEN WE WILL MAKE AN ADJUSTMENT ACCORDINGLY. THE PRICE IS SUBJECT TO BE REVISED IF ANY ADDITIONAL TAXES OR CHARGES ARE INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE COST ABOVE IS PROVISIONAL; SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON THE HOTELS CONFIRMED. THE EXACT COST WILL BE PROVIDED TO YOU AFTER HOTEL CONFIRMATION.

Please note that the Hotels proposed in the quote may not be available at time of booking, in this situation suitable alternative hotels will be booked. In the event that a suitable/similar hotel is not available, the next available category will be booked and the cost difference between the two hotels provided - in case of a reduction we will refund money but in case of supplements, you should be prepared for an appropriate uplift.

THE JEWELS OF INDIA TOUR



This map is only a very rough guide
(as all maps in India are illegal as a result of boundary disputes with all her neighbours)
and should not be relied upon for survival or any form of planning that relies on accuracy.