



Golden Triangle

Delhi • Agra • Jaipur • Delhi
(5 nights / 6 days)

Routing:

DAY 01	ARRIVE DELHI	<i>By International Flight</i>
DAY 02	DELHI	
DAY 03	DELHI – AGRA	<i>By Surface</i>
DAY 04	AGRA – JAIPUR	<i>By Surface</i>
DAY 05	JAIPUR	
DAY 06	JAIPUR – DELHI DEPART DELHI	<i>By Surface</i> <i>By International Flight</i>

*** END OF TOUR ***



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 01 ARRIVE DELHI

BY: INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT

You will arrive today at Delhi, International Airport. Following customs, immigration formalities and baggage collection, a SITA representative will meet you as you EXIT the ARRIVAL TERMINAL building after which you would be transferred to your hotel.

Delhi is India's capital and a major gateway to the country. Perhaps there is no other capital city in the world so steeped in history and legend as the Indian capital Delhi. It was the magnet, which drew the Mongols, Turks, Persians, Afghans, Mughals and the British, all of whom contributed to its glorious but turbulent past. The fascination with Delhi was such that even though it was abandoned many times, its rulers returned to it again and again rebuilding it at least seven times. Today, the twin cities of Old and New Delhi still intrigue Indians and tourists alike as the cultural and political capital of the largest democracy in the world.

On arrival, check in for your stay.

Meal Plan: No Meal

DAY 02 DELHI

Morning, you will be met by your tour guide in the hotel lobby and taken on a tour of Delhi to begin your introduction to India's vast cultural and architectural heritage.

You will first drive to north of Delhi also known as "Old Delhi", the capital of Mughal dynasty between the 16th and 19th centuries.

Arrive Old Delhi and visit **Jama Masjid** - the largest mosque in India built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in year 1650 AD and completed in the year 1656 AD. From here we board our cycle rickshaws for a tour of **Chandni Chowk** (Silver Street). Here you will get a glimpse into an old world lifestyle slowly fading from Delhi. The hustle and bustle of everyday life can be felt in the Chandni Chowk's narrow lanes. After the rickshaw ride, drive past the Red Fort (photo stop), and we disembark at the **Raj Ghat** – a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi, set within a beautiful park.

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Afternoon, visit New Delhi. Drive past **Sansad Bhawan** (the Parliament House) and **Rashtrapati Bhawan** (the President's House) the one-time Imperial Residence of the British Viceroys governing India. Then proceed to **India Gate** for a photo stop. It's a memorial raised in honour of the Indian soldiers martyred during all the wars until now starting from World War I. Later, proceed to visit **Qutab Minar**, the 12th century Tower of Victory built by a Slave King – Qutb-ud-din Aibak. The Qutb Minar is notable for being one of the earliest and most prominent examples of Indo-Islamic architecture. It is also listed as a UNESCO heritage site.

Cultural connections (Optional):

- Early morning visit to enjoy riots of colors at the flower market in front of a lively Hindu temple. A short walk from here will take you to a prominent and magnificent “Gurudwara” the Sikh Temple buzzing with the morning Prayer activities.

Meal Plan: breakfast

DAY 03

DELHI – AGRA

BY: SURFACE 210 KM / 05 HOUR

Morning, drive to Agra. This is an interesting drive as you will be driving on our newest built expressway. You will drive past India only international standard Grand Prix track “Gautam Buddh circuit” and then vast expanses of agricultural fields dotting the sky. Comfort stops will be made enroute.

Arrive Agra by early afternoon 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.

Later visit **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 was 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.

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This evening, experience the **Taj Mahal** (*closed on Fridays*) by sunset. Said to be one of the most elegant and harmonious buildings in the world, Taj Mahal was built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan in 1630 AD to enshrine the mortal remains of his beloved Queen Mumtaz Mahal. Taj Mahal manifests the wealth and luxury of Mughal art as seen in architecture and garden design, painting, and calligraphy. The 144 foot double dome of the Taj is capped with a finial and the four minarets each 131 ft high and crowned by an open octagonal pavilion highlight the perfect symmetry of the tomb.

Cultural connection (Optional):

- In the evening walk through Kachhpura village to Mehtab bagh a Mughal era garden which is being restored, just behind the Taj Mahal across the river Yamuna. The walk conducted by an NGO working for the local community and includes some lesser known Mughal era monuments along the way.

Meal Plan: breakfast

DAY 04

AGRA – JAIPUR

BY: SURFACE 240 KM / 06 HOUR

Today you will drive to Jaipur en-route visiting **Fatehpur Sikri** - 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. It is not hard to imagine what the court life must have been like in the days of its grandeur.

Continue your journey to Jaipur.

Jaipur - the City of Victory was founded by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II in 1727. It is the only city in the world symbolizing the nine divisions of the Universe through nine rectangular sectors sub-dividing it. The architect who formalized the city's plans on the Shilpa Shastra, the epic Hindu treatise on architecture, mixed it with the sublimity of the Mughal and Jain influences of those times. The city was painted pink in 1853 in honor of the visit by Prince Albert. Except for the busy traffic of bicycles, cars and buses, little has changed.

Arrive in Jaipur by midday and on arrival check in for your stay.

Cultural connections (Optional):

- In the evening drive to the outskirts of Jaipur to Dera Amer to experience a wonderful Elephant safari through the forest followed by a lovely dinner under the stars at an exclusive venue.

Meal Plan: Breakfast



DAY 05 JAIPUR

This morning, take an excursion to **Amber Fort**. Jaipur's Maharaja Man Singh, Mughal Emperor Akbar's most successful General, started constructing Amber Fort in the 17th century. Before the City Palace was constructed in Jaipur, Amber was the seat of power. The Fort is surrounded by fortified battlements and overlooks the Moat Lake. Once you are on top, stroll through the sprawling complex of courtyards and halls. Many of the rooms have delightful wall paintings, with precious stones and mirrors inlaid in the walls. Most fascinating, perhaps, is the Sheesh Mahal (hall of mirrors) where a single lamplight is reflected in the many mirrors, lighting up the room.

Afternoon, you will explore the city starting with **Jantar Mantar**, an observatory built by Sawai Jai Singh II in the 18th century. The Maharajah, a scientist as well as an astronomer, had the principles of Euclid translated into Sanskrit. One of the most remarkable sites in Jaipur, the Jantar Mantar has fourteen major geometric devices for measuring time, predicting eclipses and tracking stars and planets.

Take a photo-stop at **Hawa Mahal** (the Palace of Winds). Five stories in height, and built of red and pink sandstone highlighted with white quicklime, it is thought that the women of the royal harem used the many casements to observe everyday life in the street below without being seen.

Continue to the **City Palace** 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.

Cultural connections (Optional):

- Evening Bazaar walk. The pulse of the city often lies in its bazaars or markets. Mingle and talk with the locals whilst observing some of the regions culinary delight. Observe local artisans in their workshops; jewelers and silversmiths, 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 and trying the art of Henna painting.

Meal Plan: Breakfast

Day 06 JAIPUR – DELHI

BY: SURFACE 260 KM / 6 HOURS

Morning at leisure

Afternoon, drive to Delhi in time to connect onward flight for home

Meal Plan: Breakfast

TOUR ENDS



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Proposal – Golden Triangle

Hotels Envisaged:

City	Nights	Deluxe	Superior	Meal Plan
Delhi	02	Le Meridien Executive	The Suryaa Deluxe room	CP
Agra	01	Double tree by Hilton Guest room	Four Points by Sheraton Superior	CP
Jaipur	02	Hilton - Guest room	Holiday Inn City Centre Superior	CP

Includes:

- Accommodation on twin share basis for total of 9 night's as per the hotels mentioned or similar.
- Buffet breakfast at all hotels except in Vanaashrya where all meals will be provided.
- All transport services shall be provided as per the program
 - a. 02 –03 pax - Toyota Innova
 - b. 04 - 06 pax - Tempo Traveller
 - c. 07 – 14 pax –Mini Coach
- Services of English speaking local guides during sightseeing tours.
- Rickshaw ride in Delhi.
- Elephant ride in Jaipur.
- Entrance fees to the places of visit as per the itinerary.
- All applicable taxes.

Does Not Include:

- International/domestic airfare
- Any room service, telephone charges, mini bar, gratuities, tips.
- Any expenses of personal nature
- Any insurance of any kind.
- Any meals not specified in the itinerary.
- Any item not specified under 'cost includes'.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- **This Itinerary can be customized and Pricing is available upon request.**
- Hotel Check-in is 1400 Hrs & check out time is 1200 NOON.
- We reserve the right to modify itineraries and/or substitute hotels of a reasonably similar quality, when available, should circumstances beyond our control deem it necessary.
- Taj Mahal is closed to public on Fridays.
- Elephant ride to visit Amber Fort in Jaipur is subject to availability as government has restricted the number of rides and prior reservation. Clients will have to queue themselves and wait to see if they can get a chance to have the elephant ride. There is no guarantee that even after queuing, they will get an elephant ride if the quota of rides is over. In this case, we shall provide Jeep ride to ascend the Amber Fort.
- In case on any currency fluctuations or amendment in local Government taxes, or any fuel hike, we reserve the right to adjust the tour price accordingly.

