

## **Package D: Historical North India**

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### **DAY 1 (JUNE 2014): ARRIVE DELHI – FULL DAY SIGHTSEEING OF DELHI**

*Our services begin here.* We will pick you up from location of your choice in New Delhi, for the *Full day Tour of Delhi*. And he will explain the travel plan in detail and hand over the essential documents to you such as your itinerary. He will explain the travel plan in detail and hand over the essential documents to you.

We begin with visit to the massive **Red Fort** built, by Shah Jahan in 1648, before exploring the colorful Chandni Chowk market by cycle-rickshaw. You also visit the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi (**Raj Ghat**). Shortly after, we will arrive in **Jama Masjid**. This is the largest mosque in India at the height of 40m where you are able to view Delhi from the minarets of this last architectural project of Shah Jahan. Drive past Safdarjang's tomb to visit the highest stone tower in India, the **Qutab Minar**, metallurgical marvel that has never rusted since its iron pillar shape was erected in 1199. **Later on** – we will take you past the earliest example of Mughal architecture, the **Tomb of Humayun**. Drive through New Delhi on the way to your hotel. New Delhi is a much more recent city and is also known as Lutyens' Delhi. The city's namesake, Edwin Lutyens, was a British architect who was largely responsible for designing the **India Gate** (a memorial to the martyrs of World War I), Rashtrapati Bhavan (**the Presidential House**), the Secretariat, the Parliament House, and many other government buildings.

**After the tour** – check in to the hotel. Stay overnight at the hotel.

**Note: The Red Fort remains closed on Monday**

### **DAY 2 (JUNE 2014): DELHI - AGRA**

Check out of your hotel after breakfast and set off for the lovely drive to **Agra by the new expressway**. The journey will take about three hours, hence an early morning (**0700 hrs**) start is recommended. In Agra, you will be caught up in a world of contrasting edifices, of red sandstone and white marble, narrow galleys and quaint buggies, as well as the city's irresistible charm. **On arrival at Agra** – visit the **Itmad-Ud-Daulah's tomb**, a beautiful mausoleum built by the Mughal Emperor Jehangir's queen in 1628 as a memorial to her father. Many historians revere the mausoleum as the inspiration of the Taj Mahal, yet it still has an original beauty. It houses significant 'Pietra Dura' inlays, marble screens within a walled garden, and a view of the Yamuna River. **After the tour** - check in to your hotel.

**Afternoon** – Your discovery of historic Agra will begin with a visit to the red sandstone **Agra Fort**, built by the Mughal dynasty's greatest Emperor, Akbar, in 1565. A number of the fort's beautiful palaces, mosques and gardens were built by his successors in later years. **Later on** – visit the magnificent **Taj Mahal**, a pristine white marble mausoleum built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife – Mumtaz Mahal. One of the *Seven Wonders of the World*, it took 20,000 workers from neighboring Islamic countries, 22 years of ceaseless toil to create this exquisite white marble monument upon which peopled have waxed eloquent throughout the world. Experience a splendid **sunset viewing** of the Taj Mahal and the return to your hotel. **Agra is famous** for its marble manufacturing, carpets and ethnic jewelry. Stay overnight at the hotel.

**Note: The Taj Mahal remains closed on Friday.**

### **DAY 3 (JUNE 2014): AGRA – FATEHPUR SIKRI – JAIPUR**

**Early morning** – visit **Mehtab Bagh** (Mughal Garden) to view the Taj Mahal while the **sun rise** upon its massive bronze domes. This 500-year-old garden is located across from the Taj Mahal on the other side of the Yamuna River. Return to your hotel and freshen up after your visit. **After breakfast** – check out of the hotel and drive to **Jaipur**, which is about a five hours journey. **On the way** – take a mini-excursion to **Fatehpur Sikri**. Akbar completed this red sandstone city in 1585 that still holds the mysterious tomb of Salim Chishti (the Muslim mystic who gave his blessings to Akbar for a son). The Panch Mahal, Jodha Bai's Palace, Birbal Bhavan and the uniquely checkered Pachisi Court are also original monuments from the Mughal Empire.

**After the tour** – resume your drive to **Jaipur**. When you arrive, check in to your hotel.

**Jaipur:** The origins of the beautiful city of Jaipur can be traced back to the eighteenth century, during the reign of Jai Singh II who ascended the Amber throne in 1699. Jaipur is popularly known as the Pink City because of the extensive use of the locally abundant pink plastered stone, painted so in honor of the visit of the royal consort of Queen Victoria. Jaipur thrills the soul with its massive forts, magnificent palaces, exquisite temples and lush gardens. Stay overnight at the hotel.

**DAY 4 (JUNE 2014): JAIPUR**

Make an 8 a.m. excursion to the **Amber Fort & Palace** so that you may ascend to its colossal red entrance on the back of a highly decorated elephant. You will see the fort's splendor with your own eyes when you walk down the hallways and chambers to see the luxurious and adorned ambiance of the palace. **Afternoon** – take a half-day tour of **the Palace Complex** See the **Jantar Mantar** Observatory, a sanctuary of the astronomer king, Maharaja Jai Singh II. Nearby, the intriguing Palace of the Wind, the **Hawa Mahal**, was built in 1799 to allow ladies from the royal family to view the city and bazaar below in privacy. Continue to the breathtaking Palace, a royal residence built in a blend of Rajasthani and Mughal architectural styles. The **city's Palace Complex** holds several museums that contain impressive collections of miniature paintings, costumes, and armor. Rest of the day is free for relaxing or shopping for Jaipur's great selections of jewelry, blue pottery, and colorful fabrics. Stay overnight at the hotel.

**DAY 5 (JUNE 2014): JAIPUR – SAMODE – JAIPUR**

**Morning** - Next destination in the itinerary is **Samode**. This palace, located on hilltop, is about one and half hour drive from Jaipur. This palace is a great place for those who appreciate and value local art and culture of rural India and want to enjoy the flavors of Rajasthan. Arrive at Samode and enjoy the camel safari as you explore the life of rural India. There are not any sand dunes here. Relish lunch in royal ambience of the lovely Samode Palace and explore the monuments. **After the tour** – resume your drive back to Jaipur. When you arrive, check in to your hotel. Stay overnight at the hotel.

**DAY 6 (JUNE 2014): JAIPUR – DELHI – ONWARD DESTINATION**

**Morning** – check out from your hotel and drive back to **Delhi**. The journey will take around five hours. Arrive at **Delhi** and we will drop you at a location of your choice in New Delhi.

<b>Per Person Land Costs (based on 1 guest traveling alone):</b>	
<b>First Class Level</b>	<b>Single Occupancy</b>
	<b>US \$ 1598</b>
<b>Per Person Land Costs (based on 2 guests traveling together):</b>	
<b>First Class Level</b>	<b>Double Occupancy</b>
	<b>US \$ 967 Per Person</b>

**Hotel to be used: (First Class Level - 5 Star Hotels)**

CITY	HOTEL	NIGHTS
Delhi	The Oberoi Maidens or Similar	1
Agra	The Taj or Similar	1
Jaipur	Trident or Similar	3

**INCLUSIONS:**

- 5 nights stay at the hotels on entire trip.**
- Hotel accommodation on **single or double** occupancy basis.
- All transfers and sightseeing by your personal A/C SUV.
- Check-in time is 2 p.m. and check-out time is 12 noon for most of the hotels
- Breakfast at all the hotels.
- One cycle-rickshaw ride to explore the famous Chandni Chowk market in Delhi.

- One horse-carriage ride to the Taj Mahal from the nearest parking point.
- One elephant ride at Amber Fort, Jaipur.
- One Camel ride at Samode.
- One Lunch at Samode.
- Services of an English speaking guide as per the itinerary.
- Entrance fees to the monuments as per the itinerary.
- Bottled mineral water for sightseeing/excursions and long drives.
- Representative for assistance on all arrival and departure transfers.
- All currently applicable taxes.

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- Any personal expenses such as tips, laundry and drinks.
- Any extra meals (other than those specifically laid down).
- Personal Travel Insurance, visa etc.
- Camera fees (both still and video).
- International / Domestic flight tickets.
- Miscellaneous.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- ***WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE YOUR CONFIRMATION FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED PACKAGE LATEST BY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2014 TO AVAIL THE ABOVE TOUR COST.***

For Bookings: **REACH US AT**

**info@theholidayshoppe.in**