

the holiday team

India

and Beyond



Nepal
Bhutan
Tibet
Sri Lanka
Maldives
Dubai



Welcome to the Indian sub continent, the land where hospitality knows no bounds, and take a voyage of discovery through its different lands. With so much to offer, there is something for all tastes. India takes pride in its rich cultural heritage characterised by its magnificent temples and the historic forts and palaces, with so much still to be discovered, from the Himalayas, vast deserts to waterways and picturesque beaches.

Beyond India, there are the other great lands of the Indian sub continent, Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet with their unspoilt culture, monasteries and leafy hill stations under the backdrop of snow capped peaks, and the enchanting island of Sri Lanka, renowned for its mythological and cultural roots. The tropical Maldives dotted with scenic beaches and surrounded by coral reef. Should, you wish to explore further a field, we can take you beyond the Indian sub continent into the modern city of Dubai, the pearl of the Arabian Gulf, and indulge into its cosmopolitan lifestyle, vast desert interiors and crystal clear beaches.

In this brochure you will find suggested itineraries, compiled meticulously and with our wealth of knowledge, into an exciting range of tours for the discerning traveller, however these can be tailored to suite your needs. At The Holiday Team we aim to bring out the best of these destinations and make your holiday an enjoyable and memorable experience.

INDIA

...a land truly Incredible



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Starting out with one aircraft and one route in 1984, Virgin Atlantic now provides an award winning scheduled service to 28 destinations around the world including Mumbai and Delhi and has become the second largest longhaul international airline operating from Heathrow and Gatwick. Virgin Atlantic aims to fly one of the youngest fleets of aircraft in the world and currently operates Boeing 747-400, Airbus A340-300 aircraft and the longest aircraft in the world the A340-600. In 2008 Virgin Atlantic will be introducing the Airbus A380 which is set to change the way people fly and the face of travel.

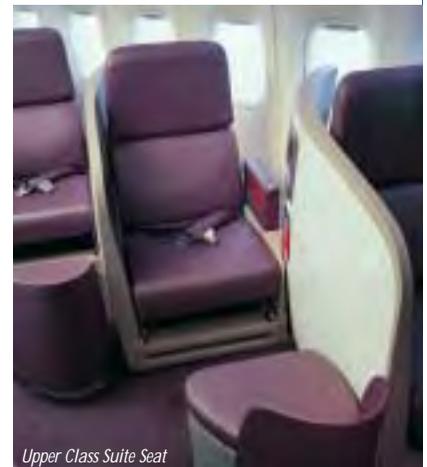
Whatever class you fly in with Virgin Atlantic, you'll always experience that little bit extra – a quality that sets Virgin Atlantic apart.



Economy Seats



Premium Economy Seats



Upper Class Suite Seat

Economy

Your journey begins as soon as you board Your Virgin Atlantic flight – great entertainment, free drinks throughout the flight and you'll even be offered ice cream during the movies!

- DIY check in – passengers can save time at the airport by checking in online from home. Or use the DIY check in kiosks at London Heathrow.
- Comfortable seat, with up to 32" seat pitch.
- Every seat has its own seatback TV with up to 20 channels of award winning entertainment, including movies, comedy, drama, and sport.
- Free amenity kit containing all the essentials such as postcards, eyeshades, earplugs, socks – so you can relax in your seat and make yourselves comfortable.
- Three delicious meal choices, with a vegetarian option.
- Serious Retail Therapy – Virgin Atlantic's duty free service with great savings on high street prices.

Premium Economy

Premium Economy seats are bigger and wider than in Economy, with a headrest, a legrest and a seat pitch of up to 38 inches.

The premium service begins at the airport with a dedicated check in that means you'll be through faster than you can say "My usual window seat, please".

- A dedicated cabin means you'll get prompt and attentive service starting with a preflight glass of champagne.
- A full range of newspapers and up to 20 channels on the seatback TV showing the latest movies and a host of great programming. A video games console on most of our flights and, rolling out across the fleet, our programmes on demand systems allows you to pause, rewind or fast forward videos.

Upper Class

Luxuriously spacious seats with over six feet of sleeping space.

- Our Upper Class seat keeps you comfortable. Upright for dining or working, relaxed for watching TV or sleeping, your seat gently glides through countless settings, with up to 6 feet of sleeping space to stretch out in.
- Our Sleeper Service is available on all night flights and includes full-size pillows, duvets and fleece blankets. We'll even give you a cosy sleep suit to change into, so your clothes won't get creased.
- Not feeling tired? Our inflight entertainment on your personal screen offers award-winning programming featuring the latest movies, sports, comedy, drama, music and kids channels.
- You'll receive Virgin Atlantic's door-to-door Upper Class service including ground transfers, dedicated check in, Clubhouse invitations, onboard Freedom menu and much more.

What's on offer to Upper Class passengers?

The Upper Class Suite

On selected flights Virgin Atlantic's latest innovation the Upper Class Suite flips over to become the biggest fully flat bed compared with any other airline's business class service.

Note: For operational reasons we cannot guarantee that aircraft will not change without prior notice. Some aircraft will not be fitted with the Upper Class Suite.

INDIA

India, the world's largest democracy and second most populous country, with a recorded history of more than 5000 years, is one of the oldest civilizations in the world. It has assimilated different cultures down the history. The different strands of cultures are maintained individually even today, which is why every part of India is different, colourful and exciting.

Mystic India is a land of breathtaking scenery. The exotic and leafy hill stations against the backdrop of snow capped peaks of the mighty Himalayas. A long coastline of about 3500 kms with palm fringed beaches. Rich flora and fauna in its jungles. The romantic forts and palaces of Rajasthan in contrast to its vast deserts. The waterways, tea and spice plantations of Kerala. The bewildering temples, mosques and churches. The historical sights with hundreds of years of history. The vibrant and bustling cities. India is a vast sub continent, a melting pot of races, peoples, languages, customs and traditions, where the past is living in the present. Its vivid colours, inspiring fairs and festivals and most interestingly its hospitable people with rich and diverse cultures make India, a truly incredible destination.



NORTH INDIA

Delhi, the capital city, lies to the north of India. The 17th century old Delhi has bustling streets and busy bazaar's, while as New Delhi designed by the British architect Sir Edward Lutyen, has stately avenues, museums and civic buildings. Taj Mahal, in Agra, is one of the modern wonders of the world. Short distance from Agra is Fatehpur Sirki, the abandoned Mughal City and now the world heritage site. Further away in Rajasthan are the famous cities of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur and the exotic city of Jaisalmer with romantic forts and palaces. The famous game reserves of Ranthambhor and the Bharatpur bird sanctuary. To the North and south east of Delhi are the holy cities of Haridwar and Varanasi (Benaras) on the sacred Ganges. The erotic ancient temples of Khajuraho, the Bandavgarh game reserve. Nestles in the Himalayas is the leafy Himachal Pradesh with its capital Shimla – the summer capital of British Raj. The barren mountains of culturally rich Ladakh (Little Tibet) offering unmatched beauty.

Gateway City: Delhi

SOUTH INDIA

The exotic South India is a geographic and linguistic cultural region of India comprising of four states, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala, all with distinct identities. The erstwhile French colony of Pondicherry and the islands of Andaman and Lakshadweep. South India traditionally includes the Indian Peninsula. Discover the greatest temple treasures at Mahabalipuram and Kanchipuram. The temple cities of Trichy, Tanjore and Mdurai with amazing Dravidian architecture. The hill stations of Ooty and Coonoor – summer retreat of the British, surrounded by tea plantations. Bangalore is the capital city of Karnataka, known for its tree-lined avenues and Gothic Churches. The princely city of Mysore in the sandalwood country is an ideal base to visit the historical sites of the Vijayanagar Empire at Hempi and Badamai. The game reserves of Nagarhole, Madumalai and Bandipur have an abundance of wildlife. Delightful resorts of Coorg and Vythiri set in tropical forests amidst coffee plantations.

You have an opportunity to visit a nearby tribal village to see their way of life. Kerala, the God's own country, has a network of waterways and canals. The port city of Cochin also known as 'The Venice of the East' on the Malabar coast in Kerala, was the earliest European settlement in India. Cochin is an ideal base to explore the tropical waterways. Visit the tea country of Munnar, the nature reserve of Periyar. Relax on one of its many palm fringed beaches of Kovalam, Mararikulam and Varkala or on the shores of the vast Vembanad Lake. *Gateway Cities: Mumbai, Chennai, Cochin, Hyderabad, Trivandrum & Bangalore*

WEST INDIA

The west India largely comprises of the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa. Mumbai is a vibrant city and the commercial capital of India. The shopper's paradise and the home of Indian film industry – Bollywood, the largest producers of films. Gateway of India, Dhobi Ghat, Prince of Wales museum and a visit to the film city and the Elephanta caves on an island in the Arabian sea are interesting sights to visit. World famous Ajanta and Ellora caves can be visited from Mumbai by air or by train. Kanha, the Kipling's Jungle with rich wildlife, can be reached from Nagpur after a short flight from Mumbai. Gujarat, the Mahatma Gandhi's home state, has glories of its own. It has many temples, mosques, ancient shopping ports and quite villages. Gujarat is also home to Asiatic Lion in the jungles of Gir. Diu with its ancient Portuguese colonial history. See for yourself the multicoloured traditions of the tribal life.

Goa, a former Portuguese colony, is a very popular beach destination with miles of long golden beaches against the backdrop of coconut palm and the green paddy fields. Goa has excellent beach resorts with water sports facilities, good food and lifting music. Temples and churches of Goa are famous for their architecture.

Gateway Cities: Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Goa

EAST INDIA

Kolkatta, gateway to the East of India, is always buzzing with life. Known as 'the Intellectual capital of India', the people here are faithfully traditional in customs and manners. It has many British landmarks and museums including the India museum (largest in India) and the Prince of Wales museum. To the north lie the British summer retreat of Darjeeling and the Himalayan State of Sikkim offering heavens of unmatched beauty against the backdrop of Kanchanchanga in the western Himalaya. Further east is the states of Assam known for its tea plantations. Kaziranga game reserve, on the banks of the mighty Brahmaputra River, is known for the one horned Rhino. Bhubaneswar, the city of temples, is the capital of the rural state of Orissa. A short drive away lies the Sun temple at Konark (world heritage site) and massive Jagannath temple in the seaside towns of Konark and Puri. Orissa has a rich cultural heritage. Pre Aryan and pre Dravidian tribes once inhabited here. About 60 tribal groups still live in the hilly areas. Orissa also has a long coastline with some fine beaches at Puri, Konark and Gopalpur-on-sea. *Gateway City: Calcutta*



INDIA EXPERIENCE

This tour is an introduction to the history and culture of India from the Mughals and before to the days of the Raj and present. Enjoy a taste of the most famous sights of the Golden Triangle and the ancient city of Mathura with more than 3500 years of history. On this tour you will visit forts, palaces and temples. The tour starts with the historical Delhi where the teeming bazaars of Old Delhi meet with the colonial grandeur of New Delhi. A visit to the ancient city of Mathura, the birth palace of Lord Krishna and one of the most sacred Hindu pilgrimages, is most rewarding. Continue on to visit the immortal Taj Mahal, a poem on marble, and the Mughal City of Fatehpur Sikri. Visit the pink washed city of Jaipur and the ancient capital of Amber with its majestic fort.

Delhi ~ Agra (Mathura) ~ Jaipur

Taj Mahal - Agra



Delhi

Day 1 Arrive Delhi. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Intercontinental The Grand / Nikko for 2 nights.

Day 2 Delhi

After breakfast, city tour of Old and New Delhi. Old Delhi built by the Emperor Shahjahan is a bustling city of crowded bazaars and winding alleys teeming with life. New Delhi, designed by British architects Lutyens and Herbert Baker, with wide avenues, landscape gardens and stately monuments. Visit the Red Fort, Jama Masjid mosque, Chandni Chowk bazaar. Also visit India Gate, Humayun's tomb, Birla temple, Qutb Minar and drive past President's Palace and the diplomatic enclave.

Day 3 Delhi to Agra

After breakfast leave for the ancient city of Mathura, the birthplace of Lord Krishna, situated on the banks of River Yamuna with a long line of picturesque ghats, arched gateways and temples. This city of festivals and fairs has religious and historical interest and is one of the most sacred cities. It was on the centre of trade route to central Asia, Roman Empire and China. Tour of

city visiting some famous temples and the museum housing 1st AD art of Indian sculpture and the Buddhist monuments. A short journey to Agra. Overnight at the Jaypee Palace.

Day 4 Agra

Morning tour of Agra visiting the elegant Fort and the tomb of Itimad-ud-daula. In the afternoon visit the romantic Taj Mahal, the mausoleum built by the Mughal King in the loving memory of his queen. You will remain here until sunset.

Day 5 Agra to Jaipur

After breakfast leave for Jaipur en route visit the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. Built by Mughal King Akbar in 1569, only to abandon after 14 years due to the shortage of water. This is perhaps the best-preserved Mughal City of all and now a world heritage site. Jaipur, the capital and the largest city of Rajasthan, popularly known as the Pink City, built by Maharaja Swai Jai Singh in 1727 AD. The whole city was painted pink in 1876 during the visit of Prince of Wales, later Edward VII. Overnight at the Mansingh Tower.

Day 6 Jaipur

The city of Jaipur is divided into nine rectangular sectors symbolizing the nine divisions of the universe. Today in the morning, drive outside of the city to visit the Amber Fort with huge ramparts and watch towers. A decorated elephant will take you up to the fort. Amber was the capital before Jaipur was built. Visit the marble palace, temple of victory, hall of mirrors, which are excellent examples of ancient Rajput architecture. Afternoon tour of the city includes visit to the City Palace and Museum, Hawa Mahal (The Palace of the Winds) and Janater Manter, an 18th Century astronomical Observatory with accurate 90 feet Sundial.

Day 7 Jaipur to Delhi

Return to Delhi. Afternoon for independent exploration. Overnight at the Intercontinental The Grand/Nikko.

Day 8 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.



Amber Fort - Jaipur



Amber Fort - Jaipur



Spice Seller



Extensions...

Rajasthan Extension

Day 7 Jaipur to Jodhpur

Morning for independent exploration. Afternoon train to Jodhpur. Overnight at the Fortune Umed.

Day 8 Jodhpur

Morning City tour includes visit to the impressive Mehrangarh Fort and Jaswant Thada. Afternoon visit the City of Mandor.

Day 9 Jodhpur to Udaipur

Drive to Udaipur visiting en-route the impressive Jain temples at Ranakpur. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 10 Udaipur

Morning city tour includes visit to the City Palace complex, Museum, impressive carved Jagdish temple and the Garden of the Maids of Honour. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 11 Udaipur to Mumbai

Morning flight to Mumbai. Afternoon City tour. Overnight at the Ambassador Hotel.

Day 12 Depart Mumbai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Goa Extension

Day 7 Jaipur to Goa

Morning flight to Goa via Mumbai. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Ramada/Majorda Beach Resort.

Days 8-10 Goa

At leisure. Enjoy the sun, sand and the sea.

Day 11 Goa to Mumbai

Afternoon flight to Mumbai. On arrival a short city tour of Mumbai. Overnight at the Ambassador Hotel.

Day 12 Depart Mumbai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Rajasthan & Goa Extension

Day 11 Udaipur to Goa

Morning flight to Goa via Mumbai. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Ramada/Majorda Beach Resort.

Days 12-14 Goa

At leisure to enjoy the sun, sand and the sea.

Day 15 Goa to Mumbai

Afternoon flight to Mumbai. On arrival a short city tour. Overnight at the Ambassador Hotel.

Day 16 Depart Mumbai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Options...

Mumbai Stay for a few nights in Mumbai, the commercial capital of India. Visit the Elephanta caves by boat in the Arabian Sea.

Aurangabad Visit Aurangabad to see the world famous Ajanta and Ellora Caves.

Himalayas Combine the tour with a visit to the mountains of Himachal Pradesh. In this case you will fly to Delhi from Jaipur or Udaipur.

Nepal Combine the tour with a visit to Nepal.

ROYAL RAJPUTANA

Rajasthan, land of Maharaja's abounds in romantic history, chivalry and valor with idyllic palaces and forts. Formerly known as Rajputana, it boasts some of the finest fortress-palaces carved from subtle shades of sandstone. In contrast with the pastel shades of the desert landscape are the crowds of brightly turbaned men and richly jewelled women, its shimmering lakes, havelis and villages. You will also visit Agra to see one of the modern wonders of the world, The Taj Mahal. This tour is rich in cultural and historical experience and covers almost all the sites of Rajasthan. An ideal itinerary for both first-time visitors and those who wish to explore more of this beautiful and historical land.

Delhi ~ Agra ~ Samode ~ Jaipur ~ Kota ~ Udaipur Jodhpur ~ Jaisalmer ~ Bikaner ~ Mandawa



Day 1 Delhi

Arrive Delhi. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to Intercontinental the Grand/Nikko.

Day 2 Delhi

After breakfast, city tour of Old and New Delhi includes visit to the Qutab Miner, Red fort, Jama Masjid Mosque, Chandni chowk bazaar, India Gate and drive past the President's Palace.

Day 3 Delhi to Agra

Morning leave for Agra pausing en-route at Sikandara to see the tomb of Akbar. Afternoon city tour visiting the Taj Mahal and the fort. Overnight at the Jaypee Palace.

Day 4 Agra to Samode

Drive to Samode visiting en route the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri with its forts, palaces and mosques. Continue to Samode, a small village near Jaipur. Afternoon free to explore the village, the fort and the restored Mughal garden. Overnight at the charming Samode Palace.

Day 5 Samode to Jaipur

Morning drive to Jaipur visiting en route Amber. You will ascend the fort, with its huge ramparts and watchtowers, on a decorated elephant. Evening dinner in a traditional setting with folk dances. Overnight at the Mansingh Tower.

Day 6 Jaipur

Morning sightseeing of Jaipur. Visit the City Palace complex, Museum, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds), Jantar Manter, the largest stone Observatory in the world. Afternoon free.

Day 7 Jaipur to Kota

Leave for Kota, visiting en route Bundi. Founded in 1342, it lies well protected within the range of Aravali hills. Visit the Chatter Mahal, a stunning palace fort. Drive on to Kota and visit the Madho Singh Museum, which houses a fine collection of miniature paintings. Overnight at the Umed Bhavan Palace.

Day 8 Kota to Udaipur

Morning drive to the lake city of Udaipur visiting en route Chittorgarh to see the spectacular fort, lauded in legends of valor and chivalry. Visit the Padmani's Palace, Tower of Victory and Tower of Fame. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 9 Udaipur

Udaipur, the city of shimmering lakes and palaces, was founded by Maharaja Udai Singh in 1567 and is still very much a traditional Rajput town. Morning city tour visiting the City Palace complex, museum, impressively carved Jagdish temple built in 1651 and Saheliyon-ki-Bari (Garden of Maids of honour). Afternoon free. Optional boat ride on the lake Pichola.

Day 10 Udaipur to Jodhpur

Morning drive into the Aravali hills to visit the 15th Century spectacular Jain temple at Ranakpur, noted for its outstanding sculpture. Continue on to Jodhpur, the second largest city of Rajasthan, founded in 1459 by Rao Jodha. Overnight at the Fortune Umed/Ajit Bhavan Place.

Day 11 Jodhpur to Jaisalmer

Morning city tour visiting the Mehrangarh Fort that dominates the city, Jaswant Thada and the magnificent Umaid Bhavan Palace. Afternoon drive to the ancient city of Jaisalmer, one of India's most exotic towns. Overnight at the Rawalkot/Rang Mahal.

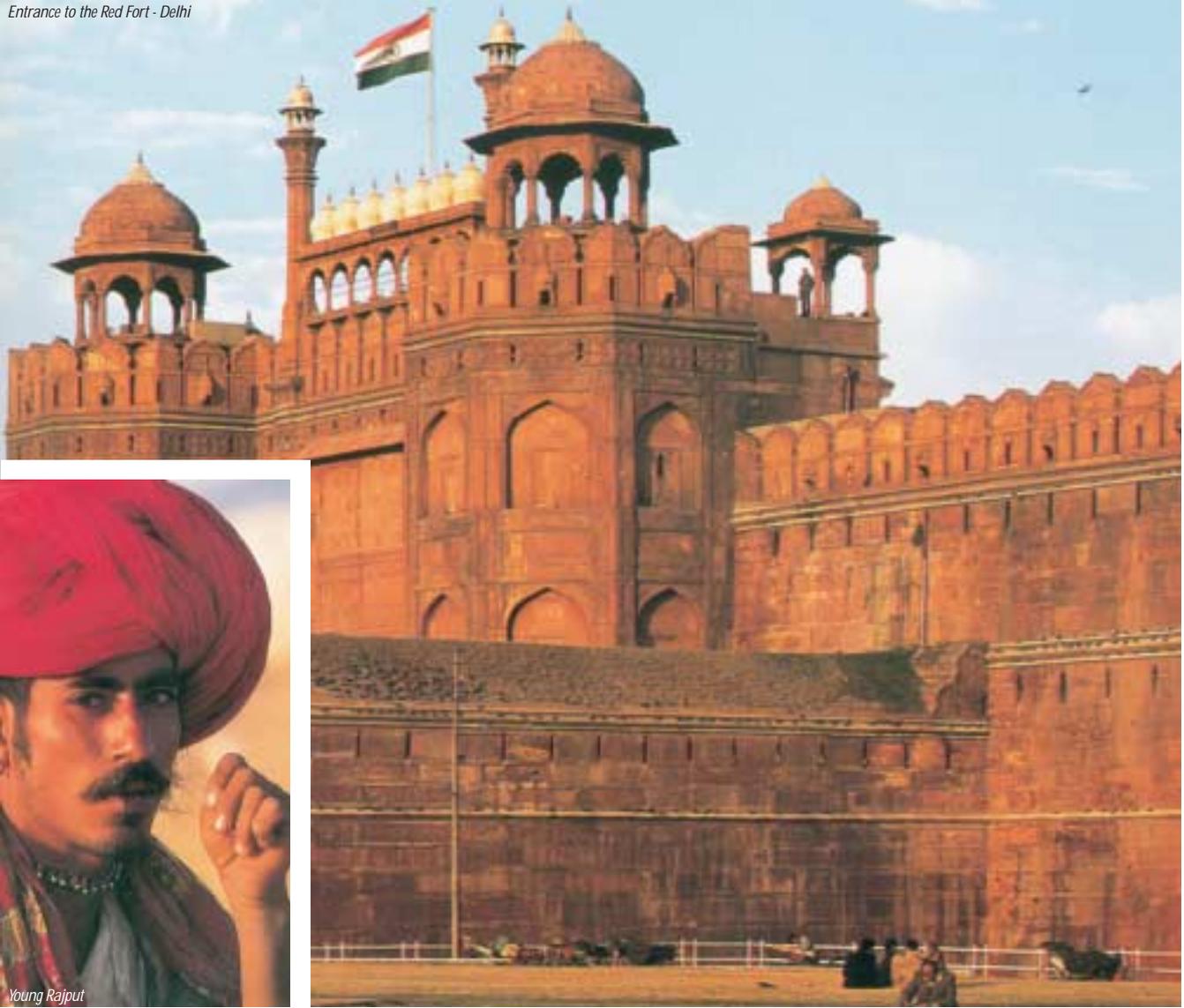
Day 12 Jaisalmer

Jaisalmer lies in the heart of the desert. Morning tour visiting the imposing 12th Century Fort and the imposing Jain temples with intricate and delicate carvings. Evening visit Sam Sand Dunes. Dinner and cultural program at the dunes (October – March).

Day 13 Jaisalmer to Bikaner

After breakfast drive to Bikaner. Afternoon visit the 16th Century Junagarh Fort with its palaces, mosaic courtyards, carved balconies and temples. Overnight at the Raj Vilas Palace.

Entrance to the Red Fort - Delhi



Day 14 Bikaner to Mandawa

A safari to Bishnoi village to see lifestyle and culture of the Bishnoi people in the rural environment before proceeding to Mandawa in the Shekhavati region. Shekhavati is renowned for its havelis (traditional houses with interior courtyards). Overnight at the Mandawa Castle/Desert Resort.

Day 15 Mandawa to Delhi

Morning tour of Mandawa. Explore the beautiful havelis with ornately decorated interiors and exteriors in colourful frescos and paintings depicting lives of the local people in the 19th Century. Afternoon drive to Delhi. Overnight at the Radisson Hotel.

Day 16 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Extensions...

Kathmandu Extension

Day 16 Delhi to Kathmandu

Fly to Kathmandu. Afternoon city tour and also visit Syambunath. Overnight at the Yak and Yeti.

Day 17 Kathmandu

Tour of Pashupatinath, Bodhnath and the ancient city of Baktapur.

Day 18 Kathmandu

Early in the morning drive to Nagarkote to see the Sunrise over the Himalaya. On a clear day you can see Mt. Everest from here. Return to Kathmandu visiting en route the city of Patan.

Day 19 Kathmandu to Delhi

Return flight to Delhi. Overnight at the Radisson Hotel.

Day 20 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Shimla Extension

Day 16 Delhi to Shimla

Morning train 'Himalayan Queen' to Kalka, connecting the toy train to Shimla, the summer capital of the British Raj. Overnight at the Clarks Hotel.

Days 17 & 18 Shimla

A walking tour of Shimla. Optional excursion to Chail and Kufri, famous for round the year snow and Skiing.

Day 19 Shimla to Delhi

Drive to Kalka and connect the train to Delhi. Transfer to the Radisson Hotel.

Day 20 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your International flight.



International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Options...

Beaches Continue your stay in India and relax for a few days on the beaches of Goa or Kerala.

See *Beaches & Islands* pages 41-42

ESSENCE OF NORTH INDIA & NEPAL

This tour combines the sites of North India and Nepal. You will discover the city of Udaipur with shimmering lakes and marble palaces, the beauty of the pink city of Jaipur. Visit to the Taj Mahal, one of the modern wonders of the world, the Indo-Aryan architecture in Khajuraho temples with 1000 year old erotic stone carvings. In Varanasi you will see 5000 years old Hindu rituals on the holy Ganges and visit to Sarnath where the Buddha preached his first sermon and where his mortal remains lay buried in Stupa. In Nepal you will see the pagoda style architecture in three ancient cities, the Hinduism and the Buddhism co-existing side by side and the breath taking panoramic views of the mighty Himalayas.

Delhi ~ Udaipur ~ Jaipur ~ Agra Khajuraho ~ Varanasi ~ Kathmandu ~ Nagarkot



Dancers, City Palace - Jaipur

Day 1 Delhi

Arrive in Delhi and transfer to the Taj Palace Hotel.

Day 2 Delhi

Tour of Old and New Delhi. Old Delhi built by the Emperor Shahjahan is a bustling city of crowded bazaars and winding alleys teeming with life. New Delhi, designed by British architects Lutyens and Herbert Baker, with wide avenues, landscaped gardens and stately monuments. Visit the Red Fort, Jama Masjid Mosque, Chandni chowk bazaar. India Gate, Humayun's tomb, Qutb Minar and drive past President's Palace and the diplomatic enclave.

Day 3 Delhi to Udaipur

Morning flight to Udaipur. Described as the most romantic city, Udaipur is interspersed with shimmering lakes, marble palaces and beautifully laid gardens. Afternoon city tour includes visit to the City Palace complex, a marvel of marble and granite with ornate windows and craftsmanship in glass, overlooking lake Pichola. The museum inside has an extensive collection. Also visit Jagdish Temple built in 1651 and the Saheliyon-ki-Bari (Garden of the Maids of honour), once used for enjoyment by the royal ladies. Overnight at the Fateh Prakesh Palace.

Day 4 Udaipur

Morning drive outside of the city to visit Eklingji, a complex of 108 temples chiseled out of sandstone and marble and enclosed by high walls. Built in 725 A.D, this temple is devoted to the family deity of the rulers of Mewar. Visit nearby Nagda which has ancient Jain temples, including the Saas Bahu temple (Mother and Daughter in law) with interesting architecture and carvings. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 5 Udaipur to Jaipur

Morning flight to Jaipur also known as the, Pink city, Jaipur is the capital and the largest city of Rajasthan. Built in 1722 according to the Shilpa Shastra, the ancient Hindu treatise on architecture and sculpture. The city is divided into seven rectangular blocks with seven gates. Afternoon city tour visiting the City Palace, Museum, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the winds) from where the royal ladies could watch the life on the streets without being seen and Janter Manter Observatory. Overnight at the Jai Mahal Palace.

Day 6 Jaipur

After breakfast drive outside of the city to visit Amber Fort and Palace. A decorated elephant will take you up to the fort. Here you will see the

marble Palace, temple of victory, hall of mirrors, which are excellent examples of ancient Rajput architecture. The afternoon is at leisure. Evening cultural program and dinner in a traditional setting (Optional).

Day 7 Jaipur to Agra

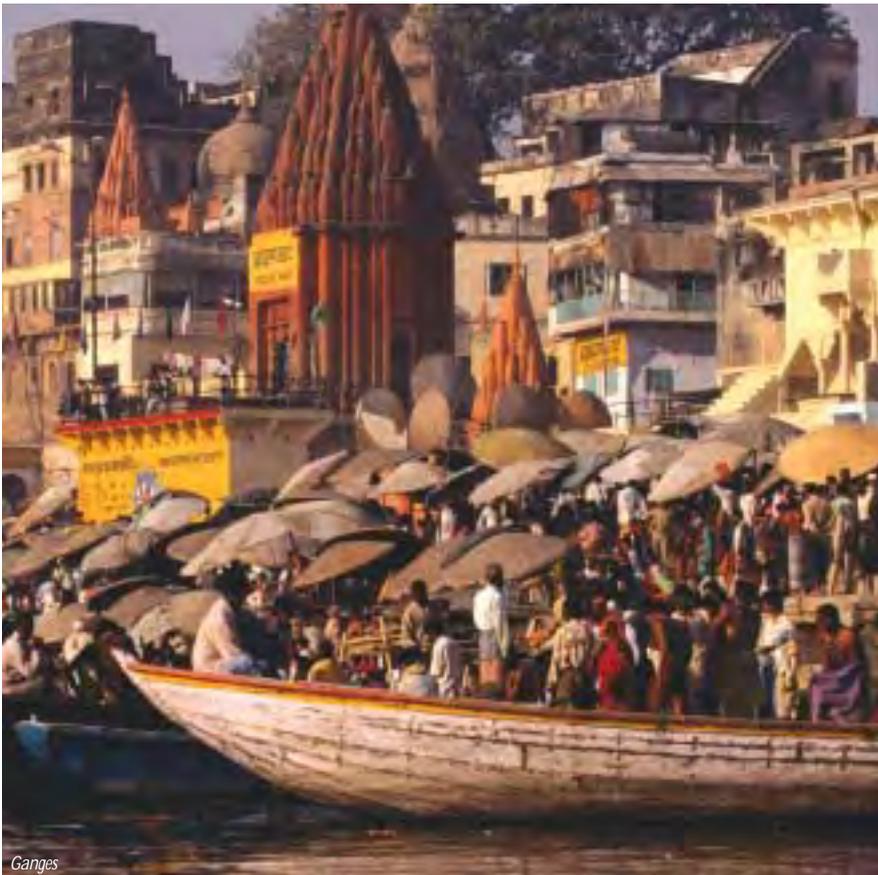
Leave Jaipur in the morning. Lunch at the Bharatpur bird sanctuary. Continue on to Agra visiting en route the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. Built by the Mughal King Akbar only to be abandoned 14 years later due to the shortage of water. Now a world heritage site, this is perhaps the best-preserved Mughal city of all. Visit the Taj Mahal at Sunset. Overnight at the Taj View Hotel.

Day 8 Agra

Morning city tour visiting the Taj Mahal built by the Mughal king Sheh Jahan in the loving memory of his wife, the elegant Fort and the tomb of Itmad-ud-daula. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 9 Agra to Khajuraho

Fly to Khajuraho. Afternoon visit the famous Chandela rock cut temples built between 950 to 1050 A.D, depicting erotic themes. These magnificent temples were discovered by Captain T S Burt in 1838. You will visit some of the most



Ganges



Bodnath Stupa - Kathmandu



prominent temples including the Kandariya Mahadev, Chaunsat Yogini, Devi Jagadamba, and Laxmana temples. These temples are in cluster built from east to west. Overnight at the Taj Chandela.

Day 10 Khajuraho to Varanasi

Fly to Varanasi, one of the worlds most ancient cities and the oldest living city in India. Also known as Benaras and Kashi, Varanasi is the most sacred Hindu pilgrimage. Afternoon tour of this great city visiting the narrow streets winding between carved and painted buildings with overhanging galleries. Also visit the temples in the Old city and the Aurangzeb mosque. Overnight at the Taj Ganges.

Day 11 Varanasi

Early morning boat ride on the Ganges to see the Sunrise and the rituals on the Ghats (waterside steps), where pilgrims bath in the holy waters. Later visit Sarnath where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. Here Dhameka Satupa (28.5 meters in diameter and 33.5 meters in height) contains the mortal remains of Lord Buddha. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 12 Varanasi to Kathmandu

Morning flight to Kathmandu via Delhi, the capital of the Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal. It is a city of temples, shrines and living Gods, where worship of Gods and Goddesses is a part of public life. Afternoon city tour visiting the Durbar Square noted for its temples, shrines and palaces including the Khasta Mandap, the wooden temple which gave Kathmandu it's name, and the temple of Living Goddess or Kumari. You will see much evidence of Pagoda style of architecture that Nepalese claim to have been originated. Nearby on a hill, visit Syambunath Stupa with all

seeing eyes of Buddha overlooking the valley. Overnight at the Yak and Yeti.

Day 13 Kathmandu to Nagarkot

After breakfast visit Bodhnath, one of the world's largest stupa and the most important Tibetan Buddhist monument outside Tibet. Pashupatinath, a pagoda style temple, on the banks of sacred Baghmati River. Also visit the medieval city of Bhadgaon, one of the ancient cities of Nepal, noted for wooden carved buildings. The main city square contains many temples including the five-storied Nyatapole Pagoda and Golden Gate. Continue on to Nagarkot (7200ft), which offers a complete panoramic view of the mighty Himalayas from Mount Everest in the east to Dhaulagiri in the west. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Club Himalaya Hotel.

Day 14 Nagarkot to Kathmandu

Early in the morning view the Sunrise over the Himalayas. On a clear day you can see Mount Everest from here. Return to Kathmandu visiting en route the city of Patan, one of the three ancient cities. Visit the Durbar Square, built by Malla King in 1917 where most of the buildings have intricate woodwork, and the Tibetan refugee centre. Remainder of the day at leisure. In the evening a Farewell dinner in a traditional setting with Nepalese folk dances. Overnight at the Yak and Yeti.

Day 15 Depart Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your International flight.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Extension.

Pokhara & Chitwan Extension

Day 15 Kathmandu to Pokhara

Morning leave by car for the lake city of Pokhara. Afternoon tour of the city. Overnight at the Shangrila Hotel.

Day 16 Pokhara

Day at leisure or take a boat ride on one of the three lakes of Pokhara. Short day treks can be arranged from Pokhara.

Day 17 Pokhara to Chitwan

Morning leave for Royal National Chitwan Park. Afternoon safari on an elephant back. Overnight at the Gaida Lodge.

Day 18 Chitwan

Dawn and dusk jungle safari.

Day 19 Chitwan to Kathmandu

Safari in the morning. Return to Kathmandu. Overnight at the Yak and Yeti.

Day 20 Depart Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

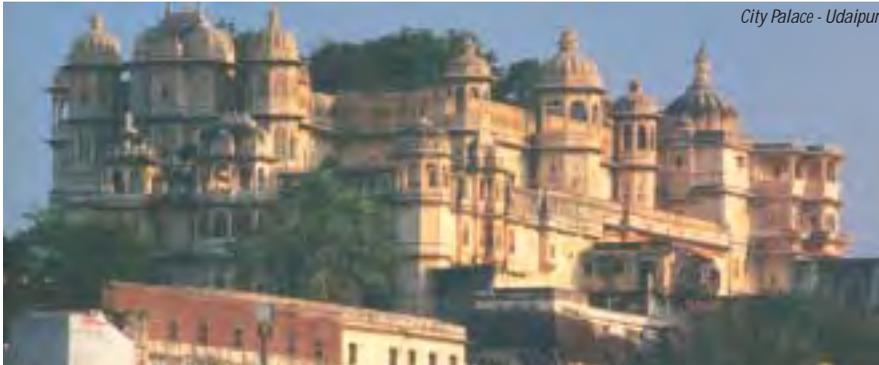
Mountain Flight

The Mountain flight gives a breathtaking view of the mighty Himalayan panorama. This is one-hour flight cruising at 25,000 feet and going within 5 nautical miles of Everest. Along with Everest you can also view host of other giant peaks including Shisha, Pangma, Choyu, Pumori and Makalu. Operational daily between September and May in the early morning. A must for those visitors to Kathmandu who do not have the time to trek in the Himalaya. The success of the flight depends on the weather conditions.

LAND OF RAJPUTS

Rajasthan, the land of Kings and Princes, romance and chivalry, is a very colourful state. It boasts countless palaces, forts and monuments, lakes and game parks. It's brightly turbaned men and richly jeweled woman show a distinct contrast to its desert landscape. Rajasthan greets you with its beauty, grace and rich cultural heritage.

Delhi ~ Mandawa ~ Bikaner ~ Jaisalmer ~ Jodhpur ~ Rohet ~ Udaipur Deogarh ~ Ajmer-Pushker ~ Samode ~ Jaipur ~ Bharatpur ~ Agra



City Palace - Udaipur



Day 1 Delhi

Arrive Delhi and transfer to the Intercontinental The Grand/Nikko.

Day 2 Delhi

Full day city tour of Old and New Delhi includes visit to the Red Fort, Jama Masjid Mosque, Raj Ghat, Chandni Chowk bazaar and Qutab Minar.

Day 3 Delhi to Mandawa

Drive to Mandawa, in the Shekhavati region, renowned for its havelis (traditional houses with interior courtyards) decorated with frescos. En-route visit Dundlod and Nawalgarh. Overnight at the Mandawa Castle/Desert Resort.

Day 4 Mandawa

Morning explore the castle. Also visit some of the local havelis with ornately decorated interiors and exteriors in colourful frescos and paintings. Afternoon free.

Day 5 Mandawa to Bikaner

After breakfast drive to Bikaner, founded in 1488 by Rao Bikaji and encircled by a high battlement wall. Afternoon visit the 500-year-old Junagarh fort and the Palace. Overnight at the Raj Vilas Palace.

Day 6 Bikaner to Jaisalmer

Morning leave for Jaisalmer, one of Rajasthan's most exotic towns deep in the heart of Thar Desert. Afternoon free to walk through the streets and absorb the atmosphere. View magnificent houses with their facades carved from the yellow sandstone and decorated with painted murals. Overnight at the Rawalkot/Rang Mahal.

Day 7 Jaisalmer

Morning City tour visiting the imposing Fort towering magnificently over the city. Wander around and see the exquisitely carved balconies, havelies (mansions), palaces and towers. Visit the 12th Century Jain temples with intricate and delicate carvings. Afternoon visit Lodruva.

Day 8 Jaisalmer to Jodhpur

After breakfast drive to Jodhpur, at the entrance

of the Thar Desert, and en route visit the Hindu and Jain temples at Osian. Remainder of the day at leisure to explore the narrow bustling streets and bazaars. Overnight at the Fortune Umed/Ajit Bhavan Palace.

Day 9 Jodhpur

Morning City tour visiting the 15th Century Mehrangarh Fort, Jaswant Thada and the magnificent Umaid Bhavan Palace. Afternoon visit Mandore.

Day 10 Jodhpur to Rohet

Morning drive to Rohet. Afternoon village safari by jeep to see the colourful rural life of Bishnoi tribes. Overnight at the Rohetgarh Castle.

Day 11 Rohet to Udaipur

After breakfast drive to Kumbelgarh. Visit the imposing fort and temple. Continue on to the lake city of Udaipur visiting en route the Jain temples at Ranakpur. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 12 Udaipur

Founded by Maharaja Udai Singh in 1567, Udaipur is still very much a traditional Rajput town. Morning city tour visiting the City Palace, the museum, impressively carved Jagdish temple and Saheliyon-Kibari (Garden of Maids of honour). Afternoon free.

Day 13 Udaipur to Deogarh

Morning leave for Deogarh en route visit the temples at Eaklingji and Nagda. Afternoon explore the village. Overnight at the Deogarh Mahal.

Day 14 Deogarh to Ajmer/Pusker

Drive to Ajmer, which boasts unique architectural styles. A short drive to the holy town of Pushker, a place of pilgrimage for Hindus and famous for the sacred Pushker Lake. Every year in the month of November a camel and cattle fair is held here. Overnight at the Mansingh Palace.

Day 15 Ajmer to Samode

After breakfast drive to Samode. Afternoon free to explore the village, the fort and the restored Mughal garden. Overnight at the charming 400 year old Samode Palace.

Day 16 Samode to Jaipur

Morning drive to the rugged hills that surround Jaipur to visit Amber. Ascend the fort, with its huge ramparts and watchtowers, on a decorated elephant. Continue to Jaipur, the state capital that owes its name, foundation and planning to Maharaja Jai Singh II. Overnight at the Mansingh Tower.

Day 17 Jaipur

Morning city tour visiting the City Palace complex, museum, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) and Jantar Manter Observatory Afternoon free.

Day 18 Jaipur to Bharatpur

After breakfast leave for Bharatpur bird sanctuary. Afternoon bird watching by rickshaw. Overnight at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Day 19 Bharatpur to Agra

Morning bird watching by boat. Later leave for Agra visiting en route the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri. Built in 1569 by the Mughal King Akbar, with its forts, palaces and Mosques. Optional visit to the Taj Mahal at Sunset. Overnight at the Jaypee Palace.

Day 20 Agra to Delhi

Morning tour of Agra visiting the Immortal Taj Mahal and the elegant fort. Afternoon leave for Delhi pausing at Sikandra to see the tomb of Akbar. Overnight at the Intercontinental The Grand/Nikko.

Day 21 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Beach Fly to Goa, at the end of the tour, and relax on the sun kissed beaches.

Mountains Travel to Shimla in the tranquil mountains of the Himalayas.

CENTRAL INDIA

Discover the contrasts of this fascinating country. This journey represents the different phases of the Indian history. From the Taj Mahal in the north, journey to the magnificent forts and palace of Gwalior and Orcha, the pre-historical paintings in Bhopal, archaeological sites of Sanchi and Mandu (architectural gem) to the rock carving and frescos of Ajanta and Ellora.

Delhi ~ Agra ~ Gwalior ~ Khajuraho ~ Orcha Bhopal ~ Dhar ~ Indore ~ Aurangabad ~ Mumbai



Day 1 Delhi

Arrive Delhi. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Intercontinental The Grand/Nikko.

Day 2 Delhi

Full day tour of Old and New Delhi includes visit to Qutab Minar, Red fort, Jama Masjid Mosque, Chandni Chowk bazaar, India Gate and government buildings.

Day 3 Delhi to Agra

Morning train to Agra. Later visit the elegant Fort and the Taj Mahal, the mausoleum built by the Mughal King Shah Jahan in the loving memory of his queen. Overnight at the Taj View.

Day 4 Agra to Gwalior

A short train journey to Gwalior, dating back to 8th Century and dominated by a massive hilltop fort overlooking the city. Within the Fort is 9th Century Teli Ka Mandir (Temple), 15th Century palace of Raja Man Singh and a museum. Overnight at the Usha Kiran Palace.

Day 5 Gwalior to Khajuraho

Morning train to Jhansi and drive to Khajuraho. Afternoon visit the famous Chandela rock cut temples built between 950 to 1050 AD and frequently depicting erotic themes. Captain T S Burt discovered these temples in 1838. Overnight at the Taj Chandela.

Day 6 Khajuraho to Orcha

Drive to the medieval city of Orcha, situated on

the banks of Betwa River. Founded by Bundela rulers in 16th Century, the palaces and the temples built by its rulers retain much of their pristine perfection. Afternoon city tour. Overnight at the Orcha Palace.

Day 7 Orcha to Bhopal

Morning drive to Jhansi and travel by train to Bhopal. The present city was built in the 18th Century on the ruins of the 11th Century city named Bhojapal. Afternoon city tour visiting the beautiful palaces and mosques. Overnight at the Noor-ul-Sabha Palace.

Day 8 Bhopal

Full day tour visiting Sanchi, an important seat of Buddhism. Also visit Bhimbetka, where over 500 caves have paintings of prehistoric man.

Day 9 Bhopal to Dhar

After breakfast drive to Indore for lunch. Continue on to Mandu and Dhar for 2 nights stay at the Jhira Bagh Palace.

Day 10 Dhar

Explore the ancient city of Mandu, an architectural gem. Mandu was once one of the largest fortified cities of the world and was also known as the city of joy.

Day 11 Dhar to Indore

Morning drive to Indore. Built by Rani Ahilyabai, one of the greatest queens of Indian history. Afternoon city tour includes visit to the famous Kanch Mandir. Overnight at the Fortune Landmark.

Day 12 Indore to Aurangabad

A long but interesting drive to Aurangabad, the starting point for visiting the greatest art treasures of Ajanta and Ellora. Overnight at the Taj Residency.

Day 13 Aurangabad

A full day excursion to visit Ajanta caves dating back to 200BC and AD600. The caves contain remarkable murals, paintings and some excellent sculptures.

Day 14 Aurangabad to Mumbai

Morning visit famous Ellora caves stretching about 2kms from north to south. The cave temples (34) were carved out of the hill with hand tools and date back to 9th Century. Afternoon flight to Mumbai, transfer to the Leela Kempinski for one night.

Day 15 Depart Mumbai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Options...

Mumbai Continue your stay in Mumbai and visit Elephanta Caves by boat in the Arabian Sea.

Goa A short flight to Goa to enjoy the sun, sand and the sea.

South India Fly down south and explore the Tea country and the waterway of Kerala.

ON THE TIGER TRAIL

India is unique in its richness and variety of wildlife. This program has been designed for the wildlife enthusiasts and nature lovers. The finest wildlife parks in the north India have been chosen to maximize the chances to see elusive tiger, including Kanha National Park, the Kipling country. Most of the parks are known for daylight tiger sightings and are home for a variety of mammal and bird species. A visit to the immortal Taj Mahal, the pink city of Jaipur and the ancient temples of Khajuraho, adds to the richness of this program.

**Delhi ~ Jaipur ~ Ranthambor ~ Bharatpur ~ Agra
Kanha ~ Bandavgarh ~ Khajuraho**



Day 1 Delhi

Arrive Delhi, and transfer to the Taj Palace Hotel.

Day 2 Delhi

Tour of Old and New Delhi visiting the Red fort, Jama Masjid, Raj Ghat and busy bazaar of Chandni Chowk. Also visit Qutab Minar, Humayun's tomb, India Gate, Birla Temple and drive past President's Palace, Parliament House, Diplomatic enclave and Connaught Place.

Day 3 Delhi to Jaipur

Morning train to Jaipur, the capital and the largest city of Rajasthan. Afternoon tour of the city visiting the City Palace, Swai Madho Sigh Museum, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the winds) and Jantar Manter Observatory. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 4 Jaipur to Ranthambor

Morning drive out to the hills that surround Jaipur to visit Amber Fort and Palace, marvelous example of ancient Rajput architecture. Ascend the Fort on an elephant back. Afternoon drive to Ranthambor National Park. Overnight at the Tiger Den.

Day 5 Ranthambor

Ranthambor National Park, a Project of Tiger Reserve, spreads over slopes to sharp ridges, flat

valleys to narrow gorges, dotted with number of water holes and lakes fed by several perennial rivers. The reserve is dynamic in the diversity and density of fauna it supports and is noted for daylight Tiger sightings. The other fauna includes panther, nilgai, hyena fox, sloth bear, wild boar, marsh crocodile and variety of resident and migratory birds. Morning and afternoon safari.

Day 6 Ranthambor to Bharatpur

Game viewing at dawn. Later drive to Bharatpur bird sanctuary, one of the finest in Asia with over 300 species of birds and now a world heritage site. Among the rich fauna are Siberian crane, cormorant, painted stork, pelican, ibis and snakebird. Exotic migratory birds flock here as far as Central Asia, Siberia, the Arctic region and China. Afternoon bird watching by rickshaw, boat or foot. Overnight at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Day 7 Bharatpur to Agra

Morning bird watching by boat. A visit to nearby Band Baratha bird sanctuary can be arranged (optional). Later drive to Agra visiting enroute the deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri, a well preserved Mughal city and a world heritage site. Optional visit to the Taj Mahal at sunset. Overnight at the Jaypee Palace.

Day 8 Agra to Kanha

Morning city tour of Agra includes visit to the Taj Mahal, a poem in marble, built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, the elegant Fort and the tomb of Itmad-uddaulah. Afternoon train to Jabalpur. Overnight on board the train.

Day 9 Kanha

Arrive Jabalpur in the morning and drive to Kanha National Park, the original Kipling country. The setting of Rudyard Kipling's, "The Jungle Book". A project Tiger reserve, this is one of the finest and most popular National Parks of India known for Tiger sightings. The park is also noted for hyena, wild dog, barking deer, langur, sambar, black buck and gaur. Afternoon game viewing. Overnight at the Krishna Jungle Resort.

Days 10&11 Kanha

Morning and evening game viewing by jeep and / or on elephant back. Kanha is also rich in bird life. It has about 260 species of birds including storks, teals, pintails, partridge, falcon, golden oriole and rock pigeons.

Day 12 Kanha to Bandavgarh

Early morning jungle safari. Later drive to Bandavgarh National Park, also known as White Tiger Country. Bandavgarh was originally a game



reserve of the Maharaja of Rewa. In the moist and mixed deciduous forest, the park is dominated by a 14th Century hilltop fort and supports numerous species of mammals including tigers, leopards and variety of bird life. The other wildlife includes sloth bear, chausingha, Asiatic jackal and Bengal fox. Among reptiles it has cobra, python, viper etc. Overnight at the Royal Tiger Resort.

Day 13 Bandavgarh

Early morning and evening game viewing.

Day 14 Bandavgarh to Khajuraho

Early morning game viewing. After breakfast drive to Khajuraho. Afternoon visit the famous rock cut temples built by Chandela rulers between 950 to 1050 AD, depicting erotic themes. Overnight at the Taj Chandela Hotel.

Day 15 Khajuraho to Delhi

Afternoon flight to Delhi, transfer to the Radisson Hotel.

Day 16 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Extension... Corbett Extension

Corbett lies in the Kumaon hills, north of Delhi, and named after legendary hunter and naturalist Jim Corbett, author of "The Man-Eaters of Kumaon". The project tiger program was first started from this park. Here mahseer and trout fishing in the Ramganga River is possible during daytime. A three-night package from Delhi is recommended.

Day 16 Delhi to Corbett

Early morning drive to Corbett National Park. Game viewing at dusk. Park is rich in flora and fauna including tiger, panther, sloth bear, hog deer, elephant and variety of bird life. Overnight at the Infinity Resort.

Days 17&18 Corbett

Early morning and evening safari by Jeep or elephant. During day visit Ramganga River for fishing (Optional).

Day 19 Corbett to Delhi

Early morning safari. Return to Delhi. Overnight at the Radisson hotel.

Day 20 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Options...

Beaches Fly to Goa for a few days of relaxation on the sun kissed beaches.

Nepal Visit the Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal with a direct flight from Delhi.

Shimla Visit Shimla- summer capital of British Raj, in the Himalayas.

PALACE ON WHEELS

The Palace on Wheels takes you on a vibrating journey to the royal land of sand dunes and regal palaces. This is a 7-night journey through Rajasthan to explore this imperial land on the luxurious train. Discover the royal history of Taj Mahal, one of the modern wonders of the world. The Palace on Wheels is a fully air-conditioned train comprising of 14 deluxe saloons tastefully decorated. Each saloon has a personal attendant and attached bathroom with running hot and cold water. The train has 2 multi cuisine dining cars, well appointed lounge, library and bar. It has been rated one of the ten best luxurious train journeys in the world.

Delhi ~ Jaipur ~ Jaisalmer ~ Jodhpur ~ Ranthambore ~ Chittaurgarh ~ Udaipur ~ Bharatpur ~ Agra



Day 1 (Tue) Delhi

Arrive Delhi. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Taj Palace Hotel.

Day 2 (Wed) Delhi

After a leisurely morning visit the sights of New Delhi. In the afternoon join the Palace on Wheels and our journey starts. Dinner on board.

Day 3 (Thu) Jaipur

Sightseeing of Jaipur, famous as "The Pink City". Also visit Amber Fort; ascend the Fort on an elephant. Lunch at a Palace Hotel. Evening depart for Jaisalmer.

Day 4 (Fri) Jaisalmer

Morning tour of the city includes the impressive fort. Evening camel ride and tea on the Sam Sand Dunes. Depart for Jodhpur.

Day 5 (Sat) Jodhpur

Morning sightseeing of Jodhpur, known for its rock solid Meharangarh Fort, Jaswant Thada and group of Royal Cenotaphs made of White marble. Evening depart for Swai Madhopur.

Day 6 (Sun) Ranthambore

Arrive Swai Madhopur, the staging post for Ranthambore National Park. Visit the park for game viewing. Later depart for Chittaurgarh. Visit the fort, lauded in legends of valor and chivalry.

Day 7 (Mon) Udaipur

A day excursion by coach to Udaipur, the city of palaces, lakes and gardens. Sightseeing includes visit to the City Palace complex. Return to Chittaurgarh. Evening depart for Bharatpur.

Day 8 (Tues) Bharatpur & Agra

Early morning visit Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary. Continue on to Agra to see the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort. En route visit Fatehpur Sikri. Evening depart for Delhi. Dinner on board.

Day 9 (Wed) Delhi

Breakfast on board. The journey ends and you step back from fantasy to reality. Transfer to the Taj Palace Hotel.

Day 10 (Thu) Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Meal Plan: *Palace on Wheels - full board. Rest with breakfast.*

Departures: *Every Wednesday from Delhi – September to April*

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Extensions...

Ganges Extension

Day 9 (Wed) Delhi to Khajuraho

Arrive Delhi in the morning. Transfer to the airport and fly to Khajuraho. Visit the rock cut Chandela temples depicting erotic themes. Overnight at the Taj Chandela Hotel.

Day 10 (Thu) Khajuraho to Varanasi

Afternoon flight to Varanasi. Overnight at the Taj Ganges Hotel.

Day 11 (Fri) Varanasi

Early morning boat ride to see the Sunrise over the Ganges. After breakfast city tour of Varanasi. Afternoon visit Sarnath.

Day 12 (Sat) Varanasi to Delhi

Fly to Delhi and transfer to the Hotel Taj Palace.

Day 13 (Sun) Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Goa Extension

Day 9 (Wed) Delhi to Goa

Breakfast on board the Palace on Wheels. Arrive Delhi, transfer to the airport and fly to Goa. Overnight at the Fort Aguada Beach Resort.

Days 10&11 (Thu&Fri) Goa

At leisure to enjoy by the beach.

Day 12 (Sat) Mumbai

Afternoon flight to Mumbai and transfer to the Leela Kempinski.

Day 13 (Sun) Depart Mumbai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Options...

Nepal Fly from Delhi to Kathmandu, combining the main tour with a visit to Nepal. You can also fly to Kathmandu from Varanasi, combining the main tour with Ganges extension and Nepal.

Himalayas Combine the tour with a visit to the mountains of Haimachel Pradesh.

Goa Continue your stay in Goa for a longer duration.

DECCAN ODYSSEY

Deccan Odyssey is India's new luxury train. A seven-night heritage train tour on the West coast of India takes you through time and cultures. Visit the erstwhile kingdom of the Marathas, the finest beaches on the Konkan coastline, the backwaters and the legendary ocean forts, the world heritage caves of Ajanta and Ellora, the handicraft village of Shilpa Gram, the vineyards of Nashik and the bustling city of Pune. This train has 13 air-conditioned deluxe saloons, each comprising of 4 passenger cabins with shower and attached private facilities. The facilities include 2 multi-cuisine restaurants, a lounge and a bar, channel music and spa with Ayurvedic message facility.

Mumbai ~ Ganapatipule ~ Tarkarli ~ Goa ~ Pune Aurangabad (Ellora) ~ Ajanta (Nashik)



Day 1 (Tue) Mumbai

Arrive Mumbai and transfer to The Oberoi Hotel.

Day 2 (Wed) Mumbai

Morning city tour of Mumbai. In the afternoon join the Deccan Odyssey train from Victoria Terminus station (Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus). Dinner on board.

Day 3 (Thu) Jaigarh, Ganapatipule & Ratnagiri

Arrive Bhoke Railway Station in the morning. Take backwater cruise to view legendary Jaigadh Fort. Drive to Ganapatipule on the Konkan coast for lunch. Afternoon visit charming Ratnagiri town, Ratnagur fort and the Lokmanya Tilak Smarak. Board the train in Ratnagiri.

Day 4 (Fri) Sindhudrug, Tarkarli, Sawantwadi

Morning arrive Sindhudrug Nagari. Visit the Sindhudrug seaside Fort. Later drive to Tarkarli beach resort for lunch. Afternoon cruise through the Taekarli Creek to the Kalse Jetty. Visit the Sawantwadi town, famous for its 'Shilpgram' handicraft bazaar. Board the train at Sawantwadi Railway Station.

Day 5 (Sat) Goa

Arrive Karmali Railway station in the morning. Tour of old Goa visiting Basilica of Bom Jesus Church, Se Cathedral and Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Walk through Fontanhas, the Latin quarters at Panjim (Capital of Goa). Lunch at a Beach resort hotel. Afternoon free for independent exploration. Evening depart from Madgoan Railway Station.

Day 6 (Sun) Pune

Visit the old central market, Kelkar Museum, David Sassoon Synagogue and Agha Khan Palace where Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned during British India. Also visit Osho Ashram and enjoy a son et lumiere at Shaniwarwada Palace. Evening board the train.

Day 7 (Mon) Aurangabad

Morning visit historical Daulatabad Fort and famous Ellora caves with 34 cave temples dedicated to Hindu, Buddhist and Jain religions. After lunch and a cultural program visit Shivaji museum with weapons and antiques from the great Maratha Empire. Also visit Aurangabad caves (No.7&8) and Bibi Ka Makbara – replica of Taj Mahal. Depart in the evening.

Day 8 (Tue) Ajanta, Nashik

Arrive Jalgoan Railway Station in the morning and drive to Ajanta to visit the world renowned caves (200BC to 650AD) discovered by a British hunting party in 1819. Now a world heritage site, these caves house the finest murals and sculptures. Board the train at Bhusaval and proceed to Nashik. Lunch on board. Visit Sula vineyard in Nashik, where you will wine and dine before departing for Mumbai.

Day 9 (Wed) Mumbai

Breakfast on board. Arrive Mumbai in the morning. Transfer to the Oberoi Hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 10 (Thu) Mumbai to London

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.



Meal Plan: Deccan Odyssey - full board.
Rest with breakfast.

Departures: Every Wednesday from Mumbai – October to March

International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Options...

Taj Mahal Fly to Delhi and visit the Taj Mahal and the Golden Triangle.

Kerala Fly to Cochin or Trivandrum to explore the waterways of Kerala.

GOLDEN TEMPLE & THE PANORAMIC HIMACHAL

The Golden Temple or Darbar Sahab, situated in the middle of a man-made lake in the holy city of Amritsar, is the most important spiritual and cultural centre of Sikh religion. A visit to the historical city of Amritsar gives you insight into the culture and the lifestyle of Punjab. This journey also takes you to the Himachal Pradesh, one of India's most picturesque Himalayan states with leafy hill stations. Shimla, the summer capital of the British Raj, the picturesque hill town of Manali and the magical Paragpur takes you to a world beyond imagination. Your stay will be at small hotels and charming heritage properties.

Delhi ~ Amritsar ~ Dharamshala ~ Paragpur ~ Manali ~ Shimla ~ Chandigarh



Golden Temple - Amritsar

Day 1 Delhi

Arrive Delhi. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Oberoi Hotel for one night.

Day 2 Delhi to Amritsar

Sightseeing tour of Delhi. Late in the afternoon board the Shatabadi Express train to the historic city of Amritsar. Overnight at the Ritz Plaza.

Day 3 Amritsar

Morning tour of the city visiting the famed Golden Temples complex, the most important shrine of the Sikhs, Jallian Wala Bagh and the Ram Bagh gardens. Evening visit India and Pakistan boarder at Wagah to see the spectacular joint retreat ceremony by the security forces of India and Pakistan.

Day 4 Amritsar to Dharamshala

After breakfast leave for Dharamshala, the headquarters of the exiled Dalai Lama. Dharamshala is set along Shivalik and Dhauladhar ranges overlooking Kangra valley. Overnight at the Grace Cottage.

Day 5 Dharamshala

Dharamshala is an amalgam of many cultures. Visit McLeodganj, home of Dalai Lama, and Tibetan Buddhist settlement. Also visit Norbulingka Institute, dedicated to the preservation of Tibetan culture.

Day 6 Dharamshala to Paragpur

A scenic drive to Paragpur in the Kangra valley visiting en route Brajeshwari Temple and Kangra fort, housing paintings by Roerich in the fort museum. Explore the Kangra valley. Visit the Heritage village with its cobbled streets, mud walls and slated roofed houses. Overnight at the Judge's Court, a small heritage hotel built in early 17th Century.

Day 7 Paragpur to Manali

After breakfast leave for Manali, situated on the banks of the Beas River in the central Himalayan ranges. It is a lush green hill resort surrounded by mountain ranges and gushing streams. Overnight at the Park Inn.

Day 8 Manali

At leisure to relax or explore the town. Places of interest are 1000 years old four story Hidimba Devi Temple with pagoda shaped roof. Spectacular Solang valley is 13 kms from Manali. Vashisth hot sulphur springs, 3 kms from Manali, believed to carry medicinal properties.

Day 9 Manali to Shimla

After breakfast depart for the scenic mountain drive to Shimla visiting Kulu valley en route and following the raging torrents of Beas River. Overnight at the Clarks Hotel.

Days 10&11 Shimla

Shimla, the summer capital of the British Raj, is the state capital of Himachal Pradesh. At leisure to explore the town, the Vice Regal lodge, State museum, library and the famous Mall.

Day 12 Shimla to Chandigarh

A scenic drive to Chandigarh, the joint capital of the two North Indian states, Punjab and Haryana, designed by the Swiss architect Le Corbusier with many architectural delights. Afternoon City tour includes a visit to the Botanical garden and the world famous Rock Garden made from the rock fossils, coal and clay and art objects fashioned from industrial and urban waste. Overnight at the Taj Chandigarh.



Day 13 Chandigarh to Delhi

Depart with Shatabadi Express train to Delhi. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Oberoi Hotel.

Day 14 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Options...

Beaches fly to Goa, at the end of the tour, for a few days of relaxation.

Nepal combine the tour with a visit to Nepal.

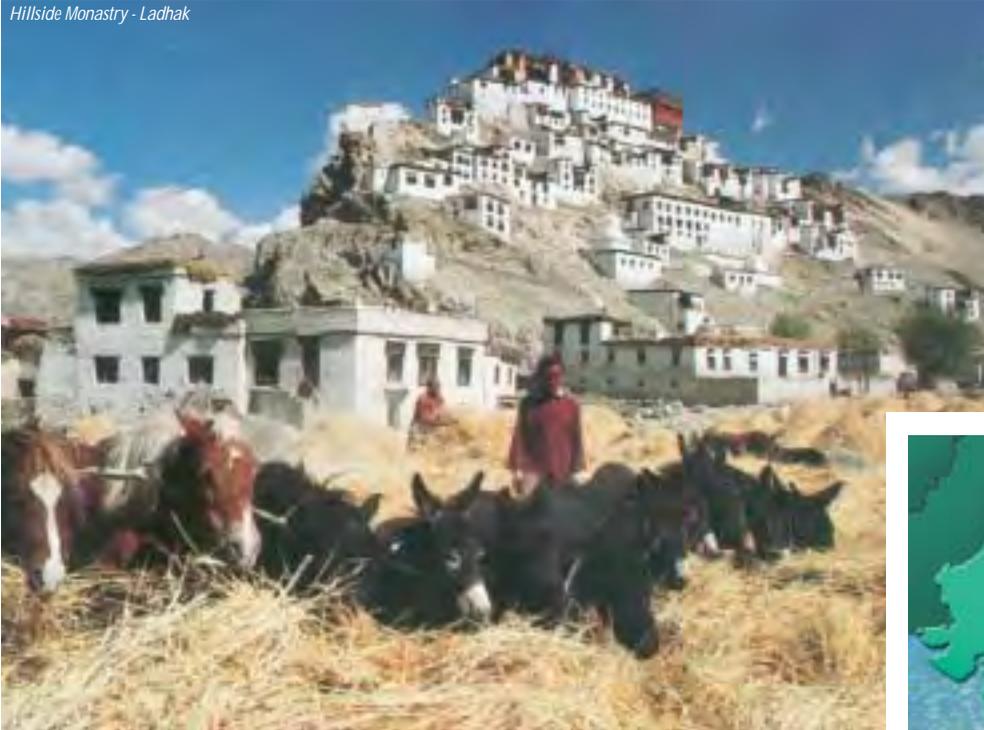
Taj Mahal extend your stay and take a day's trip or an overnight tour to Taj Mahal.

LADAKH - THE LITTLE TIBET

Set deep in the Indian Himalayas (3500 m) on the western edge of the Tibetan plateau, Ladakh, or 'Little Tibet', is bounded by two of the world's mightiest mountain ranges, the Great Himalayas and the Karakoram. Culturally Tibetan, Ladakh has remained culturally unchanged over the centuries. The fairs and festivals with mask dances, beautiful gompas, art treasures and tankas (painted scrolls) are in plenty for the lovers to see and enjoy.

Delhi ~ Leh ~ Delhi

Hillside Monastery - Ladhak



Day 1 Delhi

Arrive Delhi. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Intercontinental The Grand/Nikko.

Day 2 Delhi to Leh

Morning flight to Leh in the Himalayas. Afternoon walk in the winding streets and quaint bazaars. Overnight at the Dewachan Continental.

Day 3 Leh & Stoke Palace

Morning sightseeing includes visit to the eight-storey Leh Palace, built in 16th Century. Shaker Gumpa with an outstanding collection of small statues of pure gold and paintings. Also visit Stoke Palace, home to a superb collection of Thangkas considered to be the best in the world.

Day 4 Visit Hemis, Shey & Thiske

Full day excursion to Hemis Gumpa, built in 1620, Ladakh's most affluent and wealthiest monasteries. Shey Palace, the summer palace of the former Maharaj of Leh housing an outstanding two storied statue of sitting Buddha. Also visit Thiksey monastery, perched high on the hill and presents panoramic view of the Indus valley.

Day 5 Visit Spituk & Phyang

After breakfast enjoy a visit to Spituk Gumpa and Phyang monastery belonging to the Red sect of Buddhists.

Day 6 Visit Khardungla & Sabu

Morning leave for Khardungla pass, a memorable drive to see the world's highest motorable road at 18,338 feet above sea level. Afternoon visit nearby Sabu village famous for Oracles.

Day 7 Leh to Delhi

Return flight to Delhi. Overnight at the Inter Continental The Grand Nikko.

Day 8 Delhi

Morning city tour of Old and New Delhi visiting the Red Fort, the colourful bazaars of the Chandni Chowk, Qutab Minar, India Gate and Rashtrapati Bhavan (President's Palace).

Day 9 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Extension... Lamayuru Extension

Day 7 Leh to Uleytopko

Morning after breakfast leave for Likir, built 500 years ago, and Alchi, one of the most famous of Ladakh's monasteries. Overnight camping in a scenic surrounding at Uleytopko.

Day 8 Visit Lamayuru

Excursion to Lamayuru, Ladakh's most famous temple offering breathtaking views of the Himalayas. The monastery belongs to Gelugpa

sect. It was built, as per the legend, where once serpents or nagas swam in a crystal clear lake.

Day 9 Uleytopko to Leh

Return to Leh via Ridzong monastery. Overnight at the Dewachan Continental.

Day 10 Leh to Delhi

Return flight to Delhi. Overnight at the Intercontinental The Grand/Nikko.

Day 11 Delhi

City tour of Old and New Delhi.

Day 12 Depart Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Season: June to mid October

Options...

Festivals Two-day Hemis festival is held every year in June/July. For full details on Fairs and festivals see price insert.

Himachal Drive from Leh by jeep to Manali in Himachal Pradesh and further on to Shimla, the summer capital of the Raj, crossing spectacular and high altitude passes of Taglang La (5327m), Baralacha (4953m) and Rohatang (3978m). Full details on request.

Taj Mahal Extend your stay and take a day's trip or an overnight tour to Taj Mahal.

EASTERN HIMALAYAS

This journey unfolds the scenic beauty of the Eastern Himalayas with its cultural wonders yet to be discovered. The tour starts with Kolkatta, the city of joy, then on to the Victorian hill station of Darjeeling famous for its tea gardens, monasteries and the beautiful view of the Kanchenjunga (world's third highest mountain), colourful market town of Pymagatse, Gangtok and Kalimpong, the scenic tribal town of Shilong. The tour ends with a visit to unspoiled Kaziranga National Park in Assam, famous for one-horned rhino.

Kolkatta ~ Darjeeling ~ Pymagatse ~ Gangtok Kalimpong ~ Shilong ~ Kaziranga



Day 1 Kolkatta (Calcutta)

Arrive Kolkatta, the city of Joy, and transfer to the Hindistan International Hotel.

Day 2 Kolkatta

City tour of Kolkatta visiting the Victoria Memorial, India Museum, and Jain Temple with multi coloured chandeliers and Marble Palace, a one-man collection of Art treasures.

Day 3 Kolkatta to Darjeeling

Fly to Bagdogra and drive to Darjeeling, the queen of the Himalayas. Afternoon tour of the city. Overnight at the Windamere Hotel.

Day 4 Darjeeling

Early morning drive to Tiger Hill to see the Sunrise over the Kanchenjunga range of the Himalayas. Return to Darjeeling via the Ghoom Buddhist Monastery. Afternoon visit the Happy Valley tea estate.

Day 5 Darjeeling

Day at leisure to explore the town. Visit the Botanical Gardens, the Victoria Fall, Tenzings House, Mountaineering Institute and the colourful bazaars.

Day 6 Darjeeling to Pymagatse

A panoramic drive to Pymagatse. Visit the famous Gumpa founded in 1705. Explore the breathtaking beauty of the surrounding area. Overnight at the Mt Padmin Hotel.

Day 7 Pymagatse to Gangtok

After breakfast drive to Gangtok, the capital of the Himalayan state of Sikkim, with great scenic beauty. Overnight at the Norkhil Hotel.

Day 8 Gangtok

Today the sightseeing of Gangtok includes visit to the Royal Monastery (Tsulka Khang) a spectacular

building. The interiors are lavishly decorated and covered with murals with the images of Buddha. Visit the Namgyalak institute of Tibetology, the Orchid sanctuary and the Rumtek monastery, famous for its woodwork.

Day 9 Gangtok to Kalimpong

A fascinating journey through winding roads and several viewpoints to Kalimpong, another beautiful hills resort. Overnight at the Himalayan Hotel.

Day 10 Kalimpong

A free day to explore the colourful bustling town with its churches and monasteries.

Day 11 Kalimpong to Shilong

Transfer to Bagdogra and fly to Gowahati. Drive to Shilong, a beautiful hill resort (1500 meters) set amidst hills and valleys, running brooks and waterfalls. Afternoon explore the town often referred to as the Scotland of the East with its cheerful music loving people in their traditional tribal dresses. Overnight at the Polo Tower Hotel.

Day 12 Shilong to Kaziranga

Morning drive to Kaziranga National Park on the banks of the mighty Brahmaputra river and famous for one-horned rhino. The other fauna includes wild buffalo, swamp deer, wild elephant, tiger, badger and variety of bird-life. Afternoon safari. Overnight at the Wild Grass Resort.

Day 13 Kaziranga

Morning and afternoon safari by jeep and elephant.

Day 14 Kaziranga to Kolkatta

Drive to Guwahati and fly to Kolkatta. Reminder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Hindustan International Hotel.

Day 15 Depart Kolkatta

Transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Extension...

Orissa Extension

Day 15 Kolkatta to Bhubaneshwar

Morning flight to Bhubaneshwar. Afternoon tour of city. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Days 16&17 Bhubaneshwar to Puri

Drive to Puri for 2 nights stay at the Toshali Sands Resort by the beach. Visit the Sun temple in Konark and the famous Jagarnath temple in Puri.

Day 18 Puri to Kolkatta

Drive to Bhubaneshwar airport and fly to Kolkatta. Reminder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Hindustan International Hotel.

Day 19 Depart Kolkatta

Transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

Options...

Nepal Combine the tour with a visit to the Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal.

Tribal Tour Extend your stay and explore the tribal areas of Orissa. Tribal tours start from Bhubaneshwar. See Images of India.

South India Fly to Chennai and see the magnificent temples in Tamil Nadu or explore the waterways of Kerala.

CRUISING ON THE BRAHMAPUTRA

The mighty Brahmaputra originates in the Himalayas in Western Tibet and flows 2900 kms into the sea in the Bay of Bengal. It is navigable through the Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. The cruise provides an opportunity to witness the diverse cultures and the wildlife in Assam. While on cruise you may also see Gangetic Dolphin.



The RV Charaidew is a 38m long twin-engine steel-hulled passenger boat owned and operated by Assam Bengal Navigation Co. She has been converted to provide 12 generous-sized twin-bedded cabins, air-conditioned and with en suite shower and WC. All cabin accommodation is on the upper deck, as is a bar and sitting area. A dining room is on the lower deck, while a top sundeck offers additional open-air seating and sun lounges. Food on board is a mixture of Assamese and continental.

The cruises are named after the "Assam Despatch" service, the daily mail-cum-passenger service that once plied from Calcutta up the Brahmaputra to Dibrugarh. The Charaidew operates between October and March and offers a variety of 4 night, 7 night and 10 night cruises upstream and downstream.

We can tailor-make your India itinerary to include one of the cruises. Detailed sailing schedules are available on request.

Assam Despatch 1 (Upstream)

This 7-night cruise starts at Dhubri, near the Bangladesh border, and finishes at Guwahati. Highlights are Manas National Park, the archaeological site of Sri Surya Prahar, the silk weaving village of Sualkuchi and the pilgrimage centre of Hajo. This cruise is ideal for combining with Sikkim, Darjeeling or Bhutan.

Assam Despatch 2 (Upstream)

This 7-night cruise starts at Guwahati, terminates at Silghat near Tezpur and Kaziranga. Highlights are Orang and Kaziranga National Parks, and temples in Tezpur.

Assam Despatch 3 (Upstream)

This 7-night cruise starts at Silghat, accessed from either Tezpur or Guwahati airports, and terminates at Neamati. Highlights are Kaziranga National Park, the Hindu monasteries on Majuli Island and Sibsagar, the old capital of the Ahom kings, with palaces and temples.

Assam Despatch 4 (Downstream)

This 10-night cruise starts at Neamati and terminates at Guwahati. Highlights are the old capital of the Ahom kings at Sibsagar, Majuli Island with its Hindu monasteries, Kaziranga National Park, temples at Tezpur and the silk weaving village of Sualkuchi.

Assam Despatch 5 (Downstream)

This 4-night cruise starts at Guwahati and terminates at Dhubri, ideal for combining a short cruise with Darjeeling, Sikkim or Bhutan. Highlights are Manas National Park and the archaeological site of Sri Surya Prahar.

Options...

Darjeeling Combine the itinerary with a visit to Darjeeling, Sikkim or Bhutan.

Taj Mahal Fly to Delhi to visit Agra.

Beaches Fly from Kolkatta to Bhubaneshwar or Goa (via Mumbai) or Chennai for a few days of relaxation on the beach.

Manas National Park

Manas National Park, a Project Tiger reserve, is located at the foothills of the Bhutan Himalayas in the state of Assam. It has been declared a biosphere reserve as well as a World Natural Heritage site. The reserve extends over an area of 2837 square kms and has diverse bird and animal life including one-horned Rhinos. Safari is done by open jeep and on elephant back. Manas is a 4-hour drive from Guwahati.

The Bansbari Lodge

Located at the gate to the Manas National Park overlooking the Forest Hills of the park on one side and tea garden on the other. The Lodge has 16 comfortable rooms with attached private facilities. The facilities include hot and cold water, lobby, dining room and a library. Cuisine is local Assamese, north Indian, Chinese and continental. Operational between October to April.

SOUTHERN PANORAMA

South India, a land of vivid colour, spices and backwater. Hill stations from the days of the Raj. Massive old temples, palaces, art galleries, game parks and the palm fringed beaches. On this journey experience the rich and the vibrant culture of South India. The tour starts with Chennai (Madras) and heads to the garden city of Bangalore, then on to the princely state of Mysore, the Sandalwood country, with its lavish palaces and gardens. Watch wildlife in the Nagarhole National Park noted for herds of elephant, tiger and rich diversity of wildlife. Relax in the hill station of Ooty in the Nilgiri hills. Drive through the Western Ghats to Cochin and backwaters to see the Kerala life. Continue on to the temple cities of Madurai and Tanjore and see amazing Dravidian temple architecture and the religious fervor. Relax on the palm dotted Covelong beach before returning home.

Chennai (Madras) ~ Bangalore ~ Mysore ~ Nagarhole ~ Ooty Cochin ~ Kumarakum ~ Madurai ~ Tanjore ~ Covelong

Chinese fishing nets - Cochin



Day 1 Chennai

Arrive Chennai in the morning. Afternoon tour of this bustling city, one of the oldest and the fourth largest city of India which still maintains the best of Indian tradition. Visit the Fort St George, built by the East India Company in 1653, St Mary's Church, the first Anglican Church in India and the Kapaleeshwara temple, which was destroyed by the Portuguese in 1566 and rebuilt 300 years ago. Overnight at the Ambassador Pallava.

Day 2 Chennai to Bangalore

Morning train Shatabadi Express to Bangalore, noted for its gardens, tree-line avenues and Gothic churches. Afternoon tour of the city visiting the Tipu Sultan's Palace and Fort, Bull temple, Botanical garden and impressive Vidhan Sabha. Overnight at the Taj Residency.

Day 3 Bangalore to Mysore

Morning drive to Srirangapatnam and visit the summer palace and museum of Tipu Sultan who was defeated by the British in 1799. Also visit Sriranganathswamy temple. Continue onto Mysore, renowned for sandalwood, teak and incense. Overnight at the Southern Star Hotel.

Day 4 Mysore

Morning city tour of Mysore visiting the City Palace of the Maharaja of Mysore built in Indo-Saracenic style and the museum. Drive to visit Chamundi hill where a huge statue of Nandi Bull overlooks the city. Explore the colourful Devraja fruit and vegetable market. Afternoon free.

Day 5 Mysore to Nagarhole

Morning drive to the Nagarhole National Park, an excellent sanctuary with tropical teak forests and the Kabini river running through. The park is noted for herds of elephant, tiger, leopard, sambar deer and variety of birdlife. Afternoon safari by an elephant, jeep or coracle. Overnight at the Kabini River Lodge.

Day 6 Nagarhole to Ooty

Morning safari in the park. After breakfast drive into the Nilgiri hills to Ooty (Queen of Nilgiri hills), a popular hill station during the British Raj, with its tea plantations, gardens and bungalows. Remainder of the day at leisure in this picturesque area. Overnight at the Taj Savoy.

Day 7 Ooty to Cochin

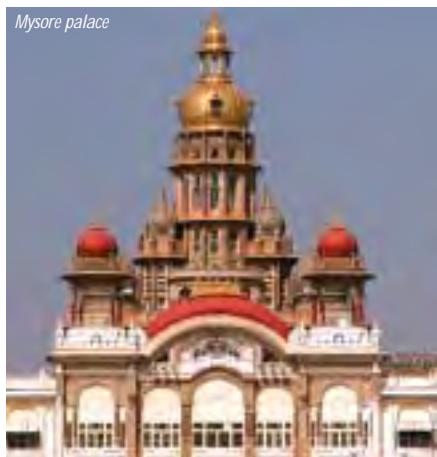
A long but picturesque drive to Cochin through the Western Ghats on the Malabar Coast. Set amidst lagoons and the backwaters, Cochin is also known as the "Venice of the East". Over the centuries Europeans have been trading here for ivory, spices and teak. The British, Dutch and the Portuguese left their cultural influence on this great city. Evening see the famous Kathakali dance performance, a traditional folk dance of Kerala enacting stories from the Hindu epics. Overnight at the Taj Residency.

Day 8 Cochin

Morning city tour visiting the Dutch Palace, with its 17th Century murals of Ramayana, Jewish Synagogue, built in 1568, housing Grand Scroll of the Old Testament. Also visit Fort Cochin and St France's Church, the oldest European church in India. Vasco de Gama, who discovered India, was first buried here. In the evening a sunset harbor cruise to see the Bolgahtty Island and the Chinese fishing nets.



Mysore palace



Meeriakshi Temple - Madurai

Day 9 Cochin to Kumarakum

Drive to Allepy and take a boat cruise to Kottayam. The cruise takes over 2 hours and passes through tranquil palm fringed narrow canals and waterways. Drive to Kumarakum on the shores of the Vembanad Lake. Overnight at the Taj Garden Retreat.

Day 10 Kumarakum to Madurai

After breakfast leave for the ancient city of Madurai, with a recorded history going back to 6th Century. It was well known to Greeks and Romans with whom the city carried on active trade. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Madura Park Inn.

Day 11 Madurai

Morning city tour visiting the Tirumalai Nayak Palace, built in 17th Century on Indi-Saracenic style and the spectacular Shree Meenakshi temple, a superb example of Dravidian temple architecture. It has profusely carved massive gopurams and a 1000-pillared hall. Afternoon at leisure. In the evening return to Meenakshi temple and visit the colourful temple market.

Day 12 Madurai to Tanjore

Drive to the temple town of Trichy, the citadel of Chola dynasty in the medieval period. The city saw wars fought between the British and French in 18th Century. Visit the Srirangam Island, a living example of temple town where the life centers around the temple with 22 magnificent gopurams (gateway towers), the tallest being 236 feet high. Continue onto Tanjore, the granary of Tamil Nadu and the Cultural capital of the region. Overnight at the Oriental Tower Hotel.

Day 13 Tanjore to Covelong

Morning tour of Tanjore visiting the famous 10th Century Brihadeeshwara temple, an engineering marvel and now preserved as a world heritage monument. Tanjore is also famous for paintings. You will see some of famous Frescos depicting myths and courtly pursuits. Drive to Covelong Beach visiting en route the famous shore temple in Mahabalipuram. Overnight at the Fisherman's Cove.

Day 14 Covelong

At leisure by the beach.

Day 15 Chennai to London

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.



International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Options...

Sri Lanka Extend your holiday and visit Sri Lanka. Direct flight from Chennai to Colombo.

Taj Mahal Fly to Delhi and visit Taj Mahal and the Golden Triangle.

Andaman Islands Fly to Port Blair and relax on the sandy beaches of Andaman Island.

KERALAN EXPERIENCE

Kerala, the God's own country, is a land of tranquil palm groves dotted with brilliant green paddy fields, tea, coffee and rubber plantations, pungent spices and miles of narrow canals and waterways. Here is a journey that takes you through varied attractions of Kerala. Stay at the hill resort of Munnar amidst tea and cardamom plantations. The Houseboat cruise in the palm-shaded waterways is both rewarding and relaxing.

Cochin ~ Munnar ~ Periyar ~ Kumarakum Houseboat ~ Alappuzha ~ Kovalam



Day 1 Cochin

Arrive Cochin and transfer to the hotel. Set amidst lagoons and backwaters on the Malabar Coast, Cochin is also known as the 'Venice of the East'. Over the centuries Europeans have been trading here for ivory, spices and teak. The British, Dutch and Portuguese left their influence on this great city. Afternoon a Sunset harbor cruise to see the Bolgahtty Island and the Chinese fishing nets. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 2 Cochin

Morning city tour visiting the Dutch Palace, with its 17th Century murals of Ramayana. Jewish Synagogue, built in 1568, contains Grand Scroll of the Old Testament. Also visit Fort Cochin and St France's Church, the oldest European church in India. Vasco de Gama, who discovered India, was first buried here. Afternoon see the famous Kathakali dance performance (optional), a traditional folk dance of Kerala, enacting stories from the Hindu epics Ramayana and Mahabhartha.

Day 3 Cochin to Munnar

Morning leave by road to Munnar, a hill resort in the midst of Cardamom and tea plantations, on the Western Ghats. Situated on the confluence of three mountain streams, this British summer

retreat of Raj has lakes, reservoirs and lush green forests. Munnar is a major centre for tea industry in Kerala. Afternoon explore the town. Overnight at the Club Mahendra Lake View.

Day 4 Munnar

Morning visit to tea and spice plantations and see the crops grown. Afternoon free. Munnar is close to Anaimudi (2695m), the highest peak in South India and offers plenty of natural walks. Optional visit to the nearby Mattupetty Dam and Evarikulam National park to see the Nilgiri Thar (wild goat). This park is also rich in variety of bird life.

Day 5 Munnar to Periyar

Drive to Periyar National Park, noted for its elephant herds and a rich variety of bird life. Afternoon game viewing by boat. Overnight at the Taj Garden Retreat/Spice Village.

Day 6 Periyar

Morning and afternoon boat ride in the lake Periyar in search of more game.

Day 7 Periyar to Kumarakum

After breakfast drive to Chengnacherry and take a boat Cruise. The cruise takes over 3 hours passing along most picturesque narrow canals. Overnight at the Taj Garden Retreat/Coconut Lagoon.

Day 8 Kumarakum

A day at leisure to relax on the shores of the Vembanad Lake. At your leisure visit the nearby bird sanctuary or a local village.

Day 9 Kumarakum to Backwaters

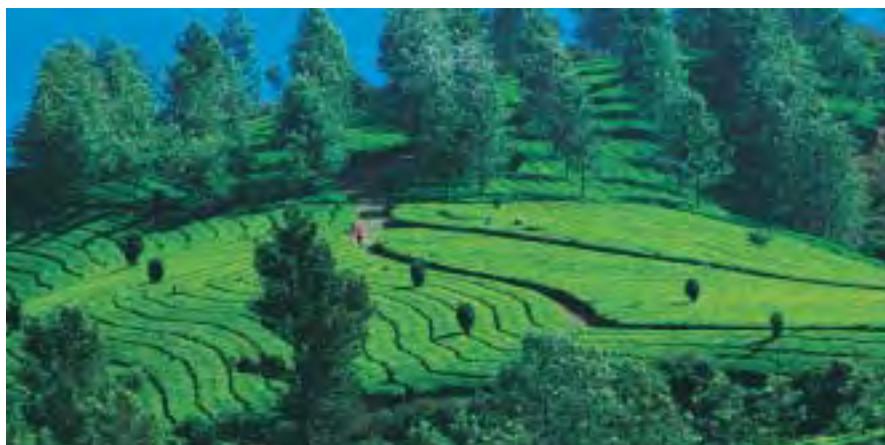
After breakfast join the Riceboat and cruise slowly through the palm-fringed waterways of the Vembanad Lake. Your captain and cook will cruise with you. See the life in the backwaters as you pass through various villages. Overnight on board the Houseboat.

Day 10 Backwaters to Alappuzha

Morning leave the houseboat in Alappuzha (Alleppey), an enchanting backwater destination famous for coir and carpet products, fish and lakes. Every year a boat race is held here and features the gigantic snake-boats of Kerala. Afternoon tour of the town includes visit to a coir factory. Overnight at the Lake Palace Hotel.

Day 11 Alappuzha to Kovalam

Morning train to Trivandrum and transfer to Kovalam, an uncluttered beach of silver sands with rows and rows of tall palm. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Taj Green Cove/Leela Kovalam for 3 nights.



Days 12&13 Kovalam

At leisure. During your stay you will be provided with a day excursion to Kannikumari (Cape Comorin) 'The Lands End of India' where India Ocean, Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal meet, visiting Padmanabhapuram Palace and Suchindram en route. Sunset at the Lands End is spectacular.

Day 14 Depart Kovalam

Transfer to the Trivandrum airport for your onward flight.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Extensions...

Temples Extension

Day 14 Trivandrum to Madurai

Morning drive to Madurai. Afternoon visit Shree Menakshi temple. Overnight at the Madura Park Inn.

Day 15 Madurai to Trichy

After breakfast drive to Trichy. Visit the Rock fort temple and the Shrirangam island complex. Overnight at the Jenny's Residency.

Day 16 Trichy

Full day excursion to Tanjore and visit the Brihadeeshwara temple (world heritage site) and museum. Also visit the temples at Kumbakonam and Darasuram. .

Day 17 Trichy to Chennai

After breakfast drive to Chennai visiting en route Mahabalipuram, famous for shore temple. Overnight at the Ambassador Pallava.

Day 18 Chennai

Morning city tour of Chennai. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 19 Depart Chennai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Sri Lanka Extension

Day 14 Trivandrum to Colombo

Morning flight to Colombo. Afternoon city tour. Overnight at the Taj Samudra.

Day 15 Colombo to Anuradhapura

After breakfast leave for Anuradhapura, the 4th

Century capital of Sri Lanka. Afternoon sightseeing includes the 3rd Century BC rock temple. Overnight at the Palm Garden Village.

Day 16 Anuradhapura to Sigiriya

Morning drive to visit the rock fortress town of Sigiriya. Afternoon visit Polonnaruwa, the 11th century medieval capital of Sri Lanka. Overnight at the Sigiriya Village.

Day 17 Sigiriya

Drive to Dambulla and visit the famous 2000 year old Rock Caved temple complex.

Day 18 Sigiriya to Kandy

Leave for Kandy visiting en route a spice garden and a Batik Factory. Afternoon tour of Kandy visiting the Sacred Temple of Tooth Relic of Buddha. Overnight at the Earl's Regency Hotel.

Day 19 Kandy to Colombo

After breakfast drive to Colombo visiting en route Elephant Orphanage at Pinnawala. Overnight at the Taj Samudra.

Day 20 Depart Colombo

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

Options...

Maldives Direct flight from Trivandrum to Male (Maldives) and relax on the sandy beaches. Return to the UK from Maldives.

Lakshadweep Island Fly to Lakshadweep Island from Cochin.

SOUTHERN SPLENDOUR

This tour provides a comprehensive insight into the Dravidian history, culture and architecture. The combination of visit to magnificent temples, historical French town of Pondichery, game reserve of Periyar and backwaters of Cochin, provides a fascinating theme throughout the tour. The journey offers an experience to stay in Munnar, a hill resort in the midst of tea and cardamom plantation. The tour finally ends with a few days of relaxation at the fine Mararikulam beach.

Chennai ~ Pondichery ~ Swamimalai ~ Tanjore - Trichy ~ Madurai Thekkady ~ Munnar ~ Cochin ~ Mararikulam ~ Trivandrum



Kumbakonam Temple



Day 1 Chennai

Arrive Chennai in the morning. Afternoon tour of the City. Overnight at the Ambassador Pallava.

Day 2 Chennai to Pondichery

Morning drive to visit the Shore temple in Mahabalipuram. Continue on to Pondichery. Afternoon tour visiting the Aurbindo Ashram and the French quarter. Overnight at the Le Dupleix Hotel.

Day 3 Pondichery to Swamimalai

After breakfast leave for Pitchavaram and take a boat ride to see mangroves and Port Nova, a former Portuguese and Dutch port. Continue to Swamimalai visiting enroute Chidambaram. Evening cultural program. Overnight at the Sterling Resort.

Day 4 Swamimalai

Morning visit the town, famous for iconography and craftsmen producing Chola style bronzes. Visit the richly decorated temples at Darasuram and Kumbakonam.

Day 5 Swamimalai to Trichy

After breakfast drive to Tanjore, the cultural capital of the region, famous for Tajore School of painting. Visit the magnificent Brihadeeswara temple complex where you can also see 1000 year old paintings. After lunch drive to Trichy. Overnight at the Jenny's Residency.

Day 6 Trichy to Madurai

Trichy, the land of Three Headed Demon is a living example of a temple town. Early morning drive to Kaveri River to witness the Hindu rituals. Visit the magnificent Shrirangam island temple complex and the Rock Fort Temple. After lunch drive to Madurai. Overnight at the Madura Park Inn.

Day 7 Madurai

Morning city tour visiting the Thirumalai Nayak Palace and Shree Meenakshi temple, an excellent example of Dravidian architecture. Afternoon at leisure. Evening return to Meenakshi temple and visit the colourful temple market.

Day 8 Madurai to Thekkady

Drive to Thekkady. Afternoon game viewing by boat in the Periyar National Park, noted for its Elephant herds and a rich variety of bird life. Overnight at the Taj Garden Retreat Spice Village.

Day 9 Thekkady to Munnar

Early in the morning game viewing. Drive to Munnar, a hill resort in the midst of Cardamom and tea plantations. Munnar is a major centre for tea industry in Kerala. Afternoon explore the town. Overnight at the Club Mahendra Lake View.

Day 10 Munnar to Cochin

Morning visit tea and spice plantations. Later drive to Cochin. Evening see the Kathakkali dance performance. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 11 Cochin

Morning tour of Cochin, known as the Venice of the East. Visit the Dutch Palace, Jewish Synagogue, Fort Cochin and St France's Church. In the evening a Sunset harbour cruise to see the Bolgahatty Island and the Chinese fishing nets.

Day 12 Cochin to Mararikulam

Drive to Allepy and take a boat to Kottayam. The cruise takes over 3 hours passing along most picturesque narrow canals and waterways. Drive to Mararikulam. Overnight at the fine Marari Beach Resort.

Days 13&14 Mararikulam

At leisure by the beach.

Day 15 Mararikulam to Trivandrum

Drive to Trivandrum. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Muthoot Plaza Hotel.

Day 16 Depart Trivandrum

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

TREASURES OF THE SOUTH

A combination of some of the finest sites in the Western Ghats of South India. This meandering journey begins with Mumbai, the commercial capital of India. You visit the ancient temples of Belur and Halebid and the lovely palaces of Mysore. Continue to India's foremost wildlife reserve and journey through some of the unexploited scenic and breathtaking tropical forests and lush green hill stations of the Northern Kerala, amidst tea and coffee plantations. Cruise through the palm dotted backwaters and end with a few days of relaxation on the glorious Varkala beach.

Mumbai (Bombay) ~ Bangalore ~ Hassan ~ Coorg ~ Mysore Nagarhole ~ Vythiri ~ Trissur ~ Cochin ~ Riceboat



Day 1 Arrive Mumbai

Arrive Mumbai. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Ambassador Hotel.

Day 2 Mumbai

Morning visit Elephanta caves by boat in the Arabian Sea. Afternoon city tour of Mumbai, once a group of seven islands, named after the goddess mother Mumba Devi. Visit the Gateway of India, which commemorates the visit of King George in 1911, Marine drive, Prince of Wales museum, Dhobi ghat and Hanging gardens.

Day 3 Mumbai to Bangalore

Morning flight to Bangalore, noted for its gardens, tree-line avenues and Gothic churches. Afternoon tour of the city visiting the Tipu Sultan's palace and fort, Bull temple, Botanical garden and impressive Vidhan Sabha. Overnight at the Capitol Hotel.

Day 4 Bangalore to Hassan

After breakfast leave for Hassan. En route visit Sravanabelagola, with its huge monolithic statue of Gomatheshwara (175 ft tall). Visit the Hoysala temples at Belur and Halebid. Overnight at the Southern Star Hotel.

Day 5 Hassan to Coorg

Drive to Coorg, set in tropical forest amidst coffee, orange and spice plantations. Afternoon walking tour and bird watching. Overnight at the Orange County Resort.

Day 6 Coorg

Morning tour of the plantations. Afternoon boat ride on the lake. Optional visit to the nearby tribal villages.

Day 7 Coorg to Mysore

Drive to Mysore, once the capital of a princely state and renowned for sandalwood, teak and incense. Overnight at the Southern Star Hotel.

Day 8 Mysore

Morning city tour of Mysore visiting the City Palace of the Maharaja of Mysore, Chamundi hill where a huge statue of Nandi Bull overlooks the city. Explore the colourful Devraja fruit and vegetable market. Afternoon visit Srirangapatnam to see Tipu Sultan's summer palace and fort.

Day 9 Mysore to Nagarhole

Morning drive to the Nagarhole National Park, noted for herds of elephant, tiger, leopard, sambar deer and variety of birdlife. Afternoon safari by elephant, jeep or coracle. Overnight at the Kabini River Lodge.

Day 10 Nagarhole to Vythiri

Early morning safari then drive to Vythiri, a delightful resort for nature lovers, amidst coffee plantations. Afternoon free for independent explorations. Overnight at the Tree House.

Day 11 Vythiri to Trissur

Morning leave for Trissur visiting en route Beypore, where you will see making of Dhows, and the elephant stables at Guruvayoor. Later explore the town. Overnight at the Casino Hotel.

Day 12 Trissur to Cochin

After breakfast leave for Cochin, also known as the "Venice of the East". In the evening a sunset harbour cruise to see the Bolgahtty Island and the Chinese fishing nets. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 13 Cochin

Morning city tour visiting the 17th century Dutch Palace, Jewish Synagogue built in 1568, Fort Cochin and St France's Church. In the evening enjoy Kathakali dance performance.

Day 14 Cochin to Backwaters

Drive to Allepy and board your private Riceboat. Cruise through the palm-fringed narrow canals and waterways of the backwaters observing the village life along the banks. Overnight on board the Riceboat.

Day 15 Backwaters to Mumbai

Morning leave the boat, drive to Cochin and fly to Mumbai. Overnight at the Leela Kempinski.

Day 16 Depart Mumbai

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Temples Visit the neighbouring Tamil Nadu to see the magnificent Dravidian Temples.

Island Fly to Lakshadweep Islands from Cochin.

Sri Lanka Combine the tour with a visit to Sri Lanka.

Goa Fly to Goa from Mumbai for a few days of relaxation on the sunny beaches.

KINGDOMS OF DECCAN

This tour provides the glimpses of the lost civilization of the Deccan kingdoms. The region has been witness to many famous battles and the rise and fall of most remarkable empires. The tour starts with Chennai through to the garden city of Bangalore and the princely state of Mysore. Then to the ancient kingdoms of the Deccan Plateau and visits the ruins of mighty Vijayanagar empire, the forts and temples of Badami and Aihole region, magnificent buildings of Bijapur. The journey ends in Hyderabad, home of Nizams, renowned for their outstanding wealth.

Chennai ~ Bangalore ~ Mysore ~ Hosenpet (Hempi) Badami ~ Bijapur ~ Gulberga ~ Hyderabad



Day 1 Chennai

Arrive Chennai in the morning. Afternoon city tour visiting the Fort St George, built by the East India company in 1653, St Mary's church, the first Anglican church in India and the Kapaleeshwara temple which was destroyed by the Portuguese in 1566 and rebuilt 300 years ago. Overnight at the Savera Hotel.

Day 2 Chennai to Bangalore

Morning train Shatabadi Express to Bangalore, noted for its gardens, tree-line avenues and Gothic churches. Afternoon tour of the city visiting the Tipu Sultan's Palace and Fort, Bull Temple, Botanical garden and impressive Vidhan Sabha. Overnight at the Capitol Hotel.

Day 3 Bangalore to Mysore

Morning drive to Srirangapatnam and visit the summer palace and fort of Tipu Sultan who was defeated by the British in 1799. Also visit Sriranganathswamy temple. Continue onto to Mysore, renowned for sandalwood, teak and incense. Overnight at the Southern Star Hotel.

Day 4 Mysore

Morning city tour of Mysore visiting the City Palace of the Maharaja of Mysore built in Indo-Saracenic style and the museum. Drive to visit Chamundi hill where a huge statue of Nandi Bull overlooks the city. Explore the colourful Devraja fruit and vegetable market. Afternoon free.

Day 5 Mysore to Hassan

After breakfast leave for Hassan en route visit Sravanabelagola, with its huge monolithic statue

of Gomatheshwara (17 meters). Visit the Hoysala temples at Belur and Halebid renowned for their fine sculptures and design. Overnight at the Southern Star hotel.

Day 6 Hassan to Hosenpet

After breakfast a long drive to Hosenpet. Overnight at the Mallagi Tourist Home.

Day 7 Hosenpet (Hempi)

Full day sightseeing of Vijayanagar and Hempi ruins that date back to 14th Century. Vijayanagar was one of the largest Hindu Empires in the Indian History spread from Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal and covered all the Deccan Plateau (Peninsular India). The greatness of the city is still evident from the Vitala and the Hazara temples, the stone chariot, Lotus Mahal and Queen's bath etc. In 1565, the Muslim rulers attacked it, giving it the name, the Pompeii of India.

Day 8 Hosenpet to Badami

Drive to Aihole, the cradle of stone temple architecture of the southern Dravidian school, the temples date back to early Chalukya period 5th century A.D. Continue on to Badami visiting en route the temples at Pattadakal, referred by Ptolemy in the 1st century A.D. as Petrigal. Overnight at the Badami Court Hotel.

Day 9 Badami

Morning visit the hilltop temples with rock-cut shrines and the splendid cave temples adorned with carvings.

Day 10 Badami to Bijapur

Depart for Bijapur. Afternoon tour visiting the

magnificent Gol Gombaz and the beautiful tomb of Ibrahim Raza. Overnight at the Adilshahi Hotel.

Day 11 Bijapur to Gulberga

Morning drive to Gulberga. Afternoon sightseeing includes visit to the Jama Masjid with its huge dome. Overnight at the Aditya Hotel.

Day 12 Gulberga to Hyderabad

After breakfast leave for Hyderabad visiting en route the monuments at Bider. Overnight at the Taj Residency.

Day 13 Hyderabad

Hyderabad is the capital of India's fifth largest state of Andhra Pradesh and dates back to 16th century. Morning visit Golconda, once famed for its diamond mines (the famous Kohinoor diamond of the British Crown was mined here), with its imposing 13th Century fort. In the afternoon visit the Charminar, Mecca Masjid and the Salarjung museum.

Day 14 Depart Hyderabad

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Beaches Reverse this itinerary to take in a few days of relaxation on the Covelong Beach near Chennai at the end.

Sri Lanka Fly to Sri Lanka with a direct flight from Hyderabad to Colombo.

Kerala Explore the waterways of Kerala.

GLORIOUS GUJARAT

This journey takes you to the varied attractions of Gujarat. The Sidi mosque with its shaking minarets, the textile cities of Ahmedabad and Patan. The impressive Hindu temples of Palithana, Somnath and Modera. Diu with its Portuguese colonial history reflects the glory of the bygone era. The Asiatic lion of Gir and the last remaining Asiatic wild ass of Runn. Here the tribal life of Rabris, Ahirs, Meghwals and many more is a celebration of music, dance and multicoloured traditions.

Ahmedabad ~ Bhavnagar ~ Diu ~ Sasangir Wankaner ~ Bhuj ~ Zainabad



Day 1 Ahmedabad

Arrive Ahmedabad and transfer to the Taj Residency Hotel. Founded in 1411 and known as the Manchester of the 'East', Ahmedabad is situated on the banks of the river Sabarmati. Afternoon visit museum of utensils.

Day 2 Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad is full of architectural delights with exquisite carved wooden mansions, havelis and labyrinthine lanes. Sightseeing includes visit to Calico museum, Jama Masjid and Sdi mosque, famous for its shaking minarets.

Day 3 Ahmedabad to Bhavnagar

Drive to Bhavnagar visiting en-route 4000 year old excavation site of Harappan era at Lothal. Overnight at the Nilambagh Palace.

Day 4 Bhavnagar to Diu

After breakfast drive to Palitana to visit the impressive hilltop Jain temple complex reached by steep stairs. Continue on to Diu. Remainder of the day leisure. Overnight at the Kohinoor Hotel.

Day 5 Diu

Morning sightseeing of Diu, a Portuguese colony until 1961. Visit the fort built by the Portuguese in

1541. The island has a Mediterranean feel and reflects the Portuguese colonial period architecture. Afternoon at leisure by the sea.

Day 6 Diu to Sasangir

Morning drive to Somnath to see the spectacular shore temple. Somnath is the holiest of Hindu pilgrimages, with thousands of years of history. Drive on to Sasangir the home of the Asiatic lion and over 30 species of mammals. Overnight at the Lion Safari Park (Tented accommodation with en suite facilities).

Day 7 Sasangir

Morning and afternoon game viewing in the Sasangir National Park.

Day 8 Sasangir to Wankaner

After breakfast drive to Junagadh and visit 250 BC Ashokan Rock Edicts and the Jain temples studded in the Girnar Hill. Continue on to Wankaner to your hotel Royal Oasis and Residence.

Day 9 Wankaner

Free to explore the palace and the nearby villages. Visit the palace museum housing memorable collection of antiques. View the royal collection of vintage cars.

Day 10 Wankaner to Bhuj

Morning leave for Bhuj, an old walled city with maze like streets and crenellated gateways. Afternoon tour visiting the Ferguson Museum, Rao Pragmalji's Palace made of marble and sandstone. Overnight at the Prince Hotel.

Day 11 Bhuj

Explore the tribal villages, specialising in different forms of handicraft including ahir embroidery, block printing and tie and dye.

Day 12 Bhuj to Zainabad

Drive to Zainabad. Enjoy a game drive in the little Rann of Kutch to see the Asiatic wild Ass. Overnight at the Desert Courser's Camp.

Day 13 Zainabad to Ahmedabad

Morning leave for Ahmedabad visiting en route the Sun temple at Modhera and the city of Patan. Overnight at the Taj Residency.

Day 14 Depart Ahmedabad

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Rajasthan Combine Gujarat tour with a visit to neighbouring Rajasthan. You drive from Ahmedabad to Mount Abu/Udaipur.

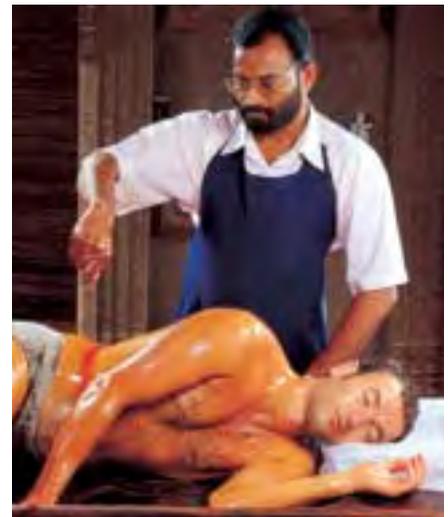
Mumbai Fly to Mumbai to see the commercial capital of India and visit Elaphanta caves.

Kerala Fly to Cochin via Mumbai and explore the waterways of Kerala.

Beaches Relax for a few days on the sandy beaches of Goa.

AYURVEDA - NATURAL WAY OF HEALING

Ayurveda, the science of health, is an intricate system of healing that originated thousands of years ago in India with its roots in Kerala. This is a holistic science aimed at the natural strengthening of one's health. Ayurveda is an alternate form of medicine, based on herbs and herbal extracts, providing prevention and treatment of diseases and inner purification.



The various Ayurvedic therapies are in its traditional and holistic form, allow for a natural, gentle and effective way of keeping the body healthy and toxin free as well as for general health and vitality. Ayurvedic treatment involves various types of massages and natural herbal oil applications, inhalations, diet, and natural medicines as required. The oils are applied to the body to hasten the healing process. Ayurvedic medicines are of plant origin, toxin free, safe and have therapeutic value. Therapies start from general massage, rejuvenation massage to full fledge treatments. Treatment plans and duration depends upon individual requirement. Treatments are done under the guidance of a qualified physician and can be for various ailments such as stress relief, weight loss, arthritis, rheumatism, migraine, back pain to more serious ailments such as paralysis etc.

Ayurveda is becoming increasingly popular and is practiced in many cities and towns. Kerala, with its climate, wealth of herbal and medicinal plants is best suited for creative and restorative packages. In Kerala, Ayurveda is practiced with absolute authenticity and dedication.

Following are some of the popular Ayurvedic treatments:

- **BEAUTY CARE PROGRAMME** – 10 days.
- **SPINE & NECK CARE PROGRAMME** – 10 days.
- **REJUVINATION THERAPY (Rasayana Chikilsa)** – 7 to 14 days
- **INSOMNIA, MENTAL TENSION (Dhara)** – 14 days
- **PSORASIS TREATMENT PROGRAMME (Sidhma Chikilsa)** – 14 days.
- **BODY PURIFICATION THERAPY (Shodana Chikilsa)** – 15 days.
- **BODY IMMUNISATION (Kayakalpa Chikilsa)** – 28 days.
- **SLIMMING PROGRAMME** – 28 days

Short one-time therapies are also available for those who are unable to take a full course. They include:

- **GENERAL MASSAGE**
- **REJUVINATION MASSAGE**
- **MEDICATED STEAM BATH**
- **FACE PACK (MUKALEPAM)**
- **EYES CLEANING (THARPANAM)**
- **EAR CLEANING (KARNA POORANAM)**

We suggest one of the following resorts in Kerala with in-house Ayurvedic facilities.

Coconut Lagoon - Kumarakom

The Coconut Lagoon, in the backwaters, has a dedicated Ayurveda centre. Accommodation consists of heritage bungalows, heritage mansions and private pool villas. It has Yoga centre, a large swimming pool and grows its own organic food. Kumarakom bird sanctuary is nearby. It is reached by boat.

Taj Ayurveda Centre – Calicut

The centre is located at the hotel Taj Residency, 200 kms from Cochin and 26 kms from Calicut airport. Taj Ayurveda Centre offers the perfect combination of comfortable luxury and authentic Ayurvedic treatments. Winner of "Green Leaf Award", it has been rated as the number one Ayurvedic centre in India by the "Guardian".

Kalari Kovilakom - Palakkat

The Kalari Kovilakom in Palakkat is an all suite luxury resort dedicated to Ayurvedic treatment. It offers air-conditioned accommodation and a natural pool in sylvan setting. The resort is former palace of the Vengunad Kings of Malabar, three hours drive from Cochin. It is equipped to handle light cases as well as more serious ailments and strictly adheres to the Ayurvedic philosophy with its no-shoes, meat or wine lifestyle. Treatments vary between 14 to 28 days.

Coconut Bay Beach Resort- Kovalam

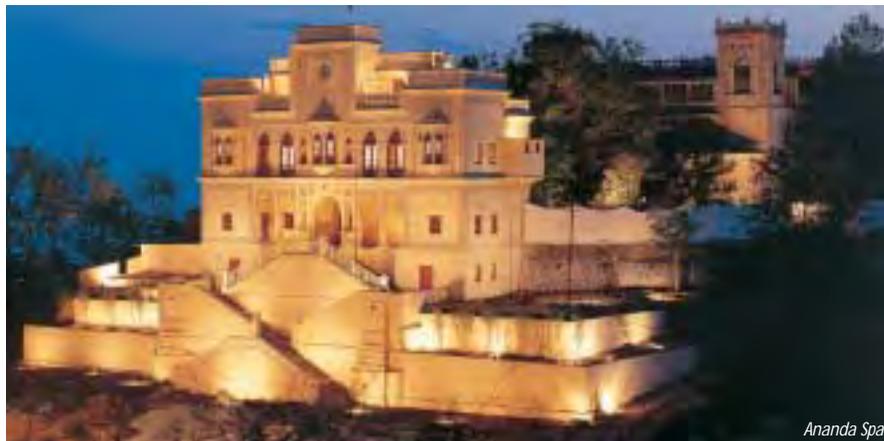
Dedicated Ayurvedic Resort. See details in Beaches & Islands.

Somatheeram Ayurvedic Beach Resort -Kovalam

Dedicated Ayurvedic Resort. See details in Beaches & Islands.

SPA HOLIDAYS

The spa experience strives to achieve the harmony between the physical, mental and the emotional well being of an individual. The Spa breaks are increasing becoming popular in India with some dedicated Spa resorts where traditional Indian science of Ayurveda is integrated with western Spa approach.



Ananda in the Himalayas

Nestled in the foothills of the Himalayas is Ananda, former Palace of Maharaja of Tehri Garhwal, a luxurious resort with a world class destination Spa.

The resort has 20 luxurious Spa rooms offering extensive menu of over 79 body and beauty treatments, including massage and water therapies, integrating the traditional Indian science of Ayurveda and Yoga with the more contemporary Oriental and Western spa approach. The personalised therapy and activity programs are designed to meet individual needs and health goals, which include stress management, rejuvenation, detoxification and weight management. A team of qualified nutritionists, physicians and spa therapists oversee the programmes. Ananda Spa also houses 'Aveda' Beauty Institute.

The Resort has 70 well-appointed deluxe Palace view and valley view rooms, luxury suites and a Vice Regal suite. The facilities include outdoor lap pool, the 16-station life-cycle gym, steam, sauna, jacuzzi, squash court, 6-hole golf course. Opportunities for outdoor adventure activities. The lush green surroundings, fresh mountain air and the mystifying Himalayas, provides an ideal environment for rejuvenation of the body, mind and soul. Programmes start with minimum 3 nights and can extend to 21 nights depending

upon the individual requirement. Package price depends on the activity program you choose and the length of stay.

Ananda is 260 kms by road from Delhi (5 hours drive) and 42 kms from Haridwar, the nearest railway station with good train connection to Delhi (4 hours).

Wild Flower Hall (Mashobara) Shimla

Wild Flower Hall is located at 8,520 ft in the Panoramic Himachal Pradesh; 45 minutes drive from Shimla – the summer capital of the British Raj. Formerly the residence of Lord Kitchener, this luxury Oberoi resort is surrounded by 22 acres of magnificent cedar and pine forests and enjoys breathtaking views of the Greater Himalaya.

The Oberoi Spa by Banyan Tree, a world class Spa, offers holistic treatments based on Ayurvedic, Asian and Western therapies to relax, rejuvenate and inspire with tranquil Himalayan views. Therapies offered by trained therapists include an aromatic massage, Balinese massage, head and shoulder massage, Hawaiian massage, Thai massage and a wild lavender scrub.

The resort has 87 well appointed suites and guestrooms overlooking snow-capped mountain ranges and cedar forests. Facilities include restaurants, bar, well-equipped gym, life fitness exercycle, stepper and treadmill machines. The

heated indoor swimming pool, outdoor jacuzzi, sauna and steam rooms. Billiards room and a library with a large catalogue of books, music and DVDs. More adventurous outdoor activities are available including river rafting, mountain biking, horse riding, trekking and golf (at Naldhera).

Taj Spas

The Taj group has developed their own Spa system, known as 'Jiva' (life force) Spa, based upon the wisdom of the Indian Philosophy of Ayurveda as well as exotic Oriental and contemporary Western philosophies offering a nurturing experience of Harmony and Balance. Each Taj Spa provides an experience of pampering in fresh and contemporary setting. Most of the Taj hotels offer Spa facilities. *See Taj hotel portfolio.*

Oberoi Spas

The Oberoi Spas by Banyan Tree provide an experience of pure pampering and relaxation in beautiful surroundings, using holistic therapies and massages, combining the Eastern and Western practices. Expert in the use of Ayurvedic, Aromatherapy and traditional Western techniques. Many Oberoi hotels offer Spa facilities. *See Oberoi hotel portfolio.*

IMAGES OF INDIA

A fine selection of activities, projects, short tours and extensions. They can be taken separately, combined with each other or added to the tours featured in this brochure. They can provide some interesting ideas for a brief stopover. These are a few of the unlimited possibilities.

GOLDEN TRIANGLE (4 days)

This tour incorporates the sights of Agra including the Taj Mahal and the pink city of Jaipur. Also visit the Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri, a world heritage sight.

Day 1 Delhi to Agra

Drive by car to Agra. Afternoon city tour includes Taj Mahal and the Agra Fort. Overnight at the Jaypee Palace Hotel.

Day 2 Agra to Jaipur

Leave for Jaipur visiting en route Fatehpur Sikri. Overnight at the Mansingh Towers.

Day 3 Jaipur

Morning visit the Amber and ascend the fort on an elephant back. Afternoon city tour visiting City Palace, museum, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) and Janter Manter Observatory.

Day 4 Jaipur to Delhi

Return to Delhi. Assistance on arrival.

GOLDEN TEMPLE (3 days)

Golden Temple is the highest seat of the Sikh religion in the historic city of Amritsar. You will also visit India-Pakistan boarder to witness spectacular retreat of the guards.

Day 1 Delhi to Amritsar

Early morning train "Shatabadi Express" to Amritsar. Afternoon visit Wagah to witness the retreat ceremony of the Indian and Pakistani boarder guards. Overnight at the Ritz Plaza.

Day 2 Amritsar

Visit the holy Golden Temple and Jalian Wala Bagh. Afternoon explore the busy bazaars.

Day 3 Amritsar to Delhi

Afternoon Shatabadi express train to Delhi. Assistance on arrival.



DAY VISIT TO TAJ (1 day from Delhi)

Early morning depart Delhi by Shatabadi Express train. You will be received in Agra for a full day's tour visiting the Taj Mal, Agra fort and the sights at Fatehpur Sikri (world heritage site). Return to Delhi in the evening by Shatabadi Express. Breakfast and dinner included on board the train. *Note: Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays.*



LADAKH (4 days)

Ladakh, deep in the Himalayas (3500 m), with the strong Tibetan Buddhism, has remained culturally unchanged over the centuries. The breathtaking landscape is dotted with monasteries and palaces with art treasures. Ladakh is also base for treks, jeep safaris and rafting on the Indus River.

Day 1 Delhi to Leh

Morning flight to Leh. Transfer to Devachan hotel for 3 nights. Remainder of the day to acclimatize.

Days 2&3 Leh

Sightseeing of the town including the Leh Palace. Visit Stoke Palace and monasteries at Hemis, Shy and Thiksy.

Day 4 Leh to Delhi

Return flight to Delhi. Assistance on arrival.

Season: June to mid October

Options...

- Jeep Safari - Drive from Leh by jeep to Manali and further on to Shimla, crossing spectacular and high altitude passes. Leh to Manali drive takes 3 days. You stay on the camps for 2 nights. Season for jeep safari - Mid July to mid October. Full details on request.

HARIDWAR & RISHIKESH (3 days)

The sacred towns of Haridwar and Rishikesh, north of Delhi, marks the emergence of the holy Ganges from the last foothills at Rishikesh into the plains at Haridwar. Haridwar and Rishikesh are important pilgrimage centres for Hindus. Rishikesh is also base for river rafting.

Day 1 Delhi to Haridwar & Rishikesh

Drive to Rishikesh visiting Haridwar en route. Evening visit Har Ki Podi Ghat at Haridwar to witness the Arti, a spectacular scene. Overnight at the Ganga Kinare.

Day 2 Rishikesh

Morning visit Ghats (waterside steps) to see the rituals being performed. Visit the Ashrams and the Laxman Jula. Rishikesh is also known for Yoga.

Day 3 Rishikesh to Delhi

Return to Delhi. Assistance on arrival.

Options...

- Spa Stay at Ananda Hotel (at a supplement), a luxury Spa Resort near Rishikesh, offering rejuvenation therapies. See Spa holidays page 31.



CAMEL SAFARI - JAISALMER (3 days)

An excellent way to see the rural life in the desert interiors of Rajasthan. The accommodation is at the tented camps and all food is provided. A local guide, camel man and a cook will accompany you.

Day 1 Jaisalmer to Bhoo Village

Morning start camel safari to visit Dhanawa, a 17th Century Brahmin village. After lunch leave for Bhoo village. Dinner under the stars with local music and campfire. Overnight at the camp.

Day 2 Bhoo Village to Hansua Village

Tour of the village. Proceed to Hansua village campsite en route lunch at Rani Ki Dhanni. Dinner with campfire and traditional Rajasthani Music.

Day 3 Hansua Village to Jaisalmer

Morning visit Hansua village. People here live in sand plastered stone houses. See the villagers in traditional colorful dresses. Continue on to Jaisalmer. Lunch at Lakji Ki Dhani, farm house of Bhati Rajput Warriors.

Note: A longer or shorter duration camel safari can also be arranged. A day's safari for those who have less time is possible. Camel safaris can also be arranged from Jodhpur.



BANGALORE, MYSORE & OOTY (5 days)

A fine tour taking in Bangalore noted for tree-line avenues and Gothic churches, the sandalwood country of Mysore with the impressive Maharaja's Palace and the picturesque Ooty (Queen of Nilgiri hills) – a popular summer resort during British Raj.

Day 1 Bangalore

Arrive Bangalore. Tour of the city. Overnight at the Capitol Hotel.

Day 2 Bangalore to Mysore

Morning leave for Mysore. Afternoon city tour includes visit to the impressive Mysore Palace and Devaraja market. Overnight at the Southern Star.

Days 3&4 Mysore to Ooty

Drive to Ooty in the Nilgiri hills. Stay at Taj Savoy for 2 nights. Explore the town. Optional toy train ride to Coonoor.

Day 5 Depart Ooty

Transfer to the Coimbatore airport for your onward journey.

Note: Coimbatore is connected by air with Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Cochin.

TRIBAL TOURS

Untouched by the modern day life, many tribes live in India with their age-old traditions unchanged for centuries. The Meena Tribe is one of the largest in Rajasthan. Orissa has over sixty tribal groups who live mainly in the forests and hilly areas. On Tribal tours accommodation is modest, food will be simple, but delicious and wholesome. A local guide will be your escort. We can tailor make your itinerary to include a tribal visit.

Tribal Tour - RAJASTHAN (3 days)

Day 1 Udaipur to Tekki Margi

Morning leave for Tekki Margi. Afternoon a jeep drive through the scenic countryside to see a Meena village. Overnight at the cottage for 2 nights.

Day 2 Tekki Margi

A full day to explore the area visiting Meena villages, a bird sanctuary and a local temple of Meena's.

Day 3 Tekki Margi to Udaipur

Drive to Udaipur. Assistance on arrival.

Tribal Tour - ORISSA (6 days)

Day 1 Bhubaneswar to Baliguda

Drive to Baliguda en route visiting some typical semi tribal villages. Overnight at the Santosh Hotel.

Day 2 Baliguda to Rayagada

Leave for Rayagada visiting en route Belghar and the tribal villages of Kutia Kondh, living in the forests and mountains. Stay at the Swagath Jyoti Mahal.

Days 3&4 Rayagada to Jaipore

Drive to Chatiko to watch the Dongaria Kondh tribal market, one of most primitive tribes. Continue on to Jeypore en route visit some villages of Paroja tribes. Stay at the hotel Hallo Jeypore for 2 nights. Excursion to Ankadeli and Lampatput to visit the famous Bonda and Gadaba tribal markets. A tribal dance can be arranged at a supplement, prior notice required.

Day 5 Jaipore to Taptapani

Morning drive to Taptapani en route visit some Bada Paroja and Saora villages. Enjoy the nature. A hot spring here is a mark of blessing for the locals. Overnight at the Tourist Bungalow.

Day 6 Taptapani to Bhubaneswar

Drive to Chilika Lake, winter home for migratory birds from Western Europe and Siberia. Continue on to Bhubaneswar visiting en route a primitive textile village. Assistance on arrival.

AJANTA & ELLORA (3 days)

One of the treasures of ancient Indian heritage is the Ajanta and Ellora group of gigantic cave temples discovered accidentally in 19th Century by the British. Ellora houses 34 and Ajanta 29 caves, each depicting a story.

Day 1 Mumbai to Aurangabad

Morning flight to Aurangabad. Afternoon visit Ellora group of caves. Overnight at the Taj Residency for 2 nights.

Day 2 Aurangabad

Full day excursion to Ajanta Caves.

Day 3 Aurangabad to Mumbai

Return flight to Mumbai. Assistance on arrival.

LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS (6 days)

Lakshadweep, the enchanting group of coral islands, is located in the Arabian Sea west of the Indian Peninsular. Bangaram is a breathtakingly beautiful island surrounded by lagoons, blue-green waters and white coral sands. Bangaram can be reached by air from Cochin.

Day 1 Cochin to Lakshadweep

Fly to Agati, and boat transfer to Bangaram Island Resort for 5 nights.

Days 2-5 Lakshadweep

At leisure. The resort offers variety of outdoor pursuits, kayaking, catamaran sailing, snorkeling, deep-sea fishing, excursion to the nearby islands and scuba diving. The resort has Ayurvedic facilities for treatment, or even just a relaxing massage.

Day 6 Lakshadweep to Cochin

Boat transfer to Agati and fly to Cochin. Assistance on arrival.

Note: During monsoon months transfer is provided by helicopter between Agati and Bangaram Island Resort.

BACKWATER CRUISE IN KERALA

Kerala, God's own country, is one of India's enchanting destinations. Its picturesque backwaters, meandering through a series of canals and lakes flanked by palms and settlements, are a unique feature. A cruise in the backwaters in a beautiful setting is both relaxing and rewarding.

**RICE BOAT CRUISE ON BACKWATERS (3 days)**

The houseboats in the backwaters have been converted from or designed after the traditional rice boats. These charming rice boats have one and two bedrooms and a private sit out area. Facilities are modest but they have plenty of ambiance and character. Your own captain and cook will cruise with you and prepare all meals from the locally bought produce.

Days 1&2 Cochin to Backwaters

Transfer by car to Allpey and board the rice boat. Cruise along the waterways and the Vembanad Lake. Overnight on board. (B, L, D).

Day 3 Backwaters to Cochin

Breakfast on board. Arrive at the boat Jetty and transfer to Cochin. Assistance on arrival and continue with your south India tour.

Note: We recommend two nights on board. However, one night on board can also be arranged.

**ANDAMANS (6 days)**

The Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands is located in the Bay of Bengal. The capital Port Blair is well connected by air with Chennai and Kolkatta. Surrounded by coral reefs, white sandy beaches and clear water. It is an excellent place for sunbathing, snorkeling and scuba diving – a perfect tropical paradise.

Day 1 Kolkatta/Chennai to Port Blair

Fly to Port Blair and transfer to the Bay Island Resort.

Days 2-5 Port Blair

At leisure to enjoy the sun, sand and the sea. Optional excursions to the nearby islands.

Day 6 Port Blair to Kolkatta/Chennai

Transfer to the airport for your return flight. Assistance on arrival.

GOA (6 days)

Goa is a land of golden beaches. With its 100km long coastal line, clear blue skies, excellent beach resorts with water sports facilities, good food and lifting music makes it a popular beach destination.

Day 1 Arrive Goa

Arrive Goa, and transfer to the Majorda Beach Resort for 5 nights.

Days 2-5 Goa

At leisure. Optional tour of Old Goa and Panjim (capital of Goa).

Day 6 Depart Goa

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

Note: For more hotel/resort options in Goa, see beaches and islands. Goa is connected by air with Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad. Flights from Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur operate daily to Goa with convenient connection in Mumbai.

LUXURY CRUISE ON BACKWATERS (5 days)

MV Vrinda is a luxury cruise liner (see details in Obeori hotels) owned and operated by the Oberoi Group. This is a four-night tour, which includes three nights on board MV Vrinda and one night at the Trident Hilton in Cochin.

Day 1 Cochin

Arrive Cochin. Afternoon tour of the city and a Sunset cruise by a traditional boat. Overnight at the Trident Hilton.

Day 2 Backwater Cruise

After breakfast transfer to the boat jetty and board the Motor Vessel Vrinda. Sail across the Vembanad Lake to the Alleppey canal. The cruiser sails along the scenic waterways for four hours and returns to the Vembanad Lake in time to watch the sunset. Evening, enjoy highly ritualised "Kathakali" dance performance, that begins with the application of elaborate makeup. The vessel anchors for the night at the Vembanad Lake jetty. Overnight on board. (L, D).

Day 3 Backwater Cruise

MV Vrinda sails towards Alleppey Canal. Cruise through scenic backwaters and observe life along these "water highways" while passing through one of the few areas in the world where farming is done below sea level. The vessel will anchor

near Kanjippadam and transfer to a traditional rice boat to navigate through the narrower sections of the backwaters. Experience a way of life unique to this region. Visit an old temple enroute and a traditional Kerala tharavad (family residence). Return to MV Vrinda and cruise through picturesque stretches of the backwaters. MV Vrinda will anchor for the night at the Vembanad Lake jetty. (B.L.D).

Day 4 Backwater Cruise

Morning sail towards the south. MV Vrinda will anchor near Chambakulam. Transfer to rice boat for a pre-lunch sightseeing excursion. Visit St. Mary's Church, established by St. Thomas in 1721 and Sree Bhagavathy Kshetram – a 100-year old Hindu temple. Explore the Chambakulam snake boat yard, which displays one of the traditional long snake boats used in races. Afternoon cruise through the backwaters to Vembanad Lake. Evening enjoy a "Mohiniattam" dance recital on board. This classical dance form is also called the 'Dance of the Enchantress'. (B, L, D).

Day 5 Cochin

Morning sail North along the main waterway channel to the Vembanad Lake jetty. Breakfast on board. Arrive at the Jetty in the morning and transfer to Cochin. Assistance on arrival. (B).



RELIGIOUS BREAKS

VAISHNOW DEVI (3 days)

Vaishnow Devi, the holy cave shrine tucked in the Trikuta hills, is a bustling religious centre for Hindus, located north of Delhi at 5,200 feet. Katra, 48 kms from Jammu, is base to visit Vaishnow Devi.

Day 1 Delhi to Jammu & Katra

Fly to Jammu and drive to Katra to your hotel Asia Vaishnow Devi. Afternoon start your journey, on foot, to the shrine (you can also hire ponies). The 14km uphill track has been tiled and facilities are available en route.

Day 2 Vaishnow Devi

Return to your hotel in Katra. Remainder of the day at leisure for much needed rest and relaxation.

Day 3 Katra to Delhi

Morning drive to Jammu and fly to Delhi. Assistance on arrival.

Option...

Golden Temple You can combine Vaishnow Devi visit with the Golden Temple. Amritsar is a pleasant 6-hour drive from Jammu.

TIRUPATI (1 day from Chennai)

Situated amidst the exotic Seven Hills in Andhra Pradesh, the temple town of Tirupati and Tirumala is an important Hindu pilgrimage. Tonsuring—the act of shaving head to propitiate God is a long-standing ritual here. Devotees offer their hair to the Lord, which symbolizes effacing of the ego. Tirupati is 130 kms from Chennai, about 3 hours drive.

AJMER & PUSHKER (2 days)

Ajmer, 138 kms from Jaipur is an important Muslim pilgrimage. Pushker, 11 kms from Ajmer, is famous for sacred Pushker Lake and the Hindu temple, the only temple dedicated to Lord Brahma. A 2-day visit from Jaipur is recommended to see both the places.

Day 1 Jaipur to Ajmer

Morning leave for Ajmer. Afternoon visit the tomb of Saint Moinuddin Chisti. Overnight at the Mansingh Palace.

Day 2 Ajmer - Pusker to Jaipur

Drive to Jaipur visiting en route Pushker. Assistance on arrival.

Note: Every year in November a 4 day camel and cattle fair takes place in Pushker that attracts thousands of people all over the world. See price insert for details on fairs and festivals.

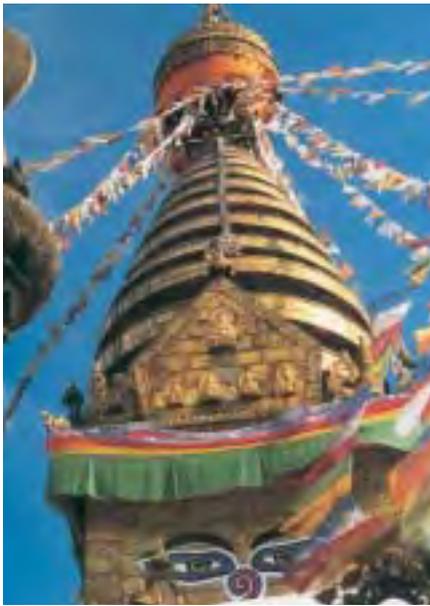
BOLLYWOOD TOURISM

India remains the largest film producer in the world, producing an average of 1000 films a year in 30 languages. Bollywood, the Indian equivalent of Hollywood, is one of the most glamorous industries with a large worldwide audience.

A visit to Bollywood for a day can be a very interesting experience. You can visit a studio and see the post-production lay out and how this is done. Interact with performers, directors and technicians from Bollywood.

Watch a likely hit movie or television serial of tomorrow being shot at the location and get a feel of the film and the television industry. However, this totally depends if there is a shooting in that studio on that day. You may see one of the popular television or film stars and perhaps have a glimpse of the super star Amitab Bacchan, rated the most popular film star in the world by a BBC survey, whose statue is on display at the 'Madam Tussads' wax museum in London. There might be some small time actor also.

A visit to Bollywood can be included in your itinerary, please ask at the time of booking.



NEPAL *Gateway City: Kathmandu*

The kingdom of Nepal is a landlocked country draped along the greatest heights of the Himalaya and sandwiched between India and Tibet. It is rich in scenic splendour and cultural treasure. It has ancient cities, medieval towns, historic Hindu and Buddhist temples, highest mountains, tropical jungle wildlife, rivers and above all friendliest people. Nepal is also known as the trekking capital of the world.

Kathmandu valley shares its treasures with three of its ancient cities Kathmandu (capital), Patan (ancient of the three) and Bhaktapur each with their own Palace Square (Durbar Square). Pagoda system of architecture, which Nepalese claim to have developed, can be seen in these cities, full of palaces, wooden carved buildings, shrines and magnificent temples.

A short drive from Kathmandu are the hilltop retreats of Dhulikhel and Nagarkot ideal for short nature walks, rest and relaxation and to view the sunrise over the great Himalayan peaks. Short distance from Dhulikhel is a world heritage site

Changunarayan that can be visited on the way to or from Kathmandu.

Pokhara valley lies towards the northwest of Kathmandu in the foothills of mighty Annapurna Himalaya offering magnificent views of Dhaulagiri, Himalchuli, Macchapuchere (Fishtail) and five peaks of Annapurna. Pokhara is base for many shorter and longer duration treks in the Annapurna Himalaya. Pokhara valley has three lakes, the prominent being Lake Phewa in the town.

The Royal Chitwan National Park in the Tarai region of Nepal is rich in animal and bird life including tiger and one horned rhino. Safaris are done on an elephant back and in some resorts by jeep. A Visit to a local Tharu village can be rewarding.

Rafting is another aspect of a holiday in Nepal. Rafting in Nepal's glacier fed rivers is a thrilling experience. From Kathmandu rafting on Trisuli/Naraini rivers can be done, just for an experience, for a day or for a longer duration down to Chitwan National Park.

BHUTAN *Gateway City: Paro*

The Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, The land of thunder Dragon, is nestled in the eastern Himalayas. The people of Bhutan are spiritually and culturally pure. Their age-old culture and traditional lifestyle is still intact. From traditional woven garments to the prayer flags on the mountain slopes, from fairs and festivals to the religious mask and folk dances, their cultural heritage is proudly evident and offers a unique cultural setting. Buddhism has been their religion since the 7th Century.

Bhutan is divided into three distinctively different regions due to high mountain ranges giving it different topographical features. Its scenic valleys Paro, Thimpu, Punaka, Wandgu Phodrang etc are separated by spectacular high altitude passes. The pristine rivers flow through its valleys with rice paddy fields and orchards. The

panoramic Bumtand valley has forts, monasteries and weaving villages. Phobjikha valley with rolling hills and green meadows is ideal for nature walks.

Bhutanese have traditionally lived in harmony with nature and have managed to safeguard their natural environment. Hundreds of different species of birds and over 50 species of rhododendrons thrive in Bhutan. To safeguard their natural environment and culture, despite opening up to tourism, Bhutan has adopted a controlled tourism policy. This is a land of ancient monasteries, palaces, fairs and festivals and warm-hearted people untouched by time. The best season to visit is October to May. In the winter months the nights are cold but the skies are generally clear. In this brochure we present a comprehensive tour of this magnificent land. Druk Air flies to Bhutan from Kathmandu, Delhi and Kolkatta.

TIBET *Gateway City: Lhasa*

The historical Tibet 'A real Shangri-la' lies beyond the mighty Himalayas, on the highest plateau of the world. The average height of the whole region is more than 4,000 meters above sea level, for which Tibet is known as "Roof of the World. It is a land of awesome landscape, artistic monasteries, majestic mountains, spectacular passes, rolling plains, rivers, tropical rain forests, vast open grasslands and pastures where horses, yak and sheep roam freely. Tibetans have a unique culture of their own and follow Tibetan Buddhism known as Lamias. Monks clad in robes and yellow hats are seen everywhere.

In the east of Tibet lies the Yarlung river valley, the cradle of Tibetan civilization, dotted with temples, monasteries, castles and sacred peaks. The historic Lhasa, the Forbidden City, is an important pilgrimage centre for Tibetans. It has cobbled bazaars and numerous sacred monasteries. The splendid Potala palace, an administrative,

religious and political complex, built in 17th Century by the 5th Dalai Lama dominates the city.

Tibetans are very skilful in arts and crafts and specialise in Thangkas, paintings of Buddha, carpets, rugs and golden and silver containers with sculptures. Fairs and festivals with mask dances are part of Tibetan culture. Almost in every month there is a fair/ festival. Archery, horse racing and shooting are their popular sports.

This mysterious land has appealed to many explorers, pilgrims and adventurers in the past. The holy peak of Mt Kailash (6714 mts), the Lake Mansovar (4560), in the western Tibet and Mt Qomolangma (Mt Everest) draws travellers from all over the world.

Most roads and towns in Tibet are at high altitude and visiting requires a good state of health. Our brochure program starts with a flight to Lhasa from Kathmandu and return by road crossing the Friendship Bridge on the Tibet/Nepal border.

BEST OF NEPAL

Nepal is a fascinating country with its medieval towns and villages, highest mountain, historic temples, enchanting cultures, tropical jungle wildlife, rivers and most of all the friendliest people. This tour begins with the exploration of the three ancient cities of Kathmandu valley Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur. The journey continues to the tropical lowland jungles of Chitwan National Park where you will search for the Royal Bengal Tiger and the one-horned rhino, on an elephant back. The journey ends in the lakeside town of Pokhara in the foothills of Annapurna Himalaya.

Kathmandu ~ Nagarkote ~ Chitwan ~ Pokhara



Pashupatinath Temple

Day 1 Kathmandu

Arrive Kathmandu and transfer to the Yak and Yeti Hotel for 3 nights. Kathmandu, the capital of the Himalayan kingdom of Nepal, is a city of temples, shrines and living Gods.

Day 2 Kathmandu

Morning city tour visiting the Durbar Square noted for its temples, shrines and palaces including the Khasta Mandap, the wooden temple which gave Kathmandu its name, and the temple of Living Goddess or Kumari. Here you will see much evidence of pagoda style of architecture. Visit Syambunath Stupa with all seeing eyes of Buddha overlooking the valley.

Day 3 Kathmandu

Morning tour of Patan. Also known as Lalitpur, Patan is oldest of the three major cities in the Kathmandu valley famous for Buddhist monuments and Hindu temples. Visit Durbar Square, built by Malla King in 1917 where most of the buildings have intricate woodwork, and the Tibetan refugee centre. Afternoon free.

Day 4 Kathmandu to Nagarkote

After breakfast visit Bodhnath, one of the world's largest stupa, and Pashupatinath, a pagoda style temple. Also visit the medieval city of Bhadgaon,

one of the ancient cities of Nepal, noted for wooden carved buildings. The main City Square contains many temples including the five-storied Nyatapole Pagoda and Golden Gate. Continue on to Nagarkot (7200ft), which offers a complete panoramic view of the mighty Himalayas from Mount Everest in the east to Dhaulagiri in the west. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the Club Himalaya.

Day 5 Nagarkote

Early in the morning view the sunrise over the Himalayas. On a clear day you can see Mount Everest. Remainder of the day at leisure to enjoy the spectacular view of the mountains. Nagarkot also has plenty of short walks to offer. A gentle 1 hour walk to see the Tamang culture (Optional).

Day 6 Nagarkote to Chitwan

After breakfast drive to Chitwan National Park, home to one horned rhinoceros, sloth bear, wild boar, gaur, crocodiles, the elusive Royal Bengal Tiger and variety of bird and reptile species. Afternoon safari on elephant back. Overnight at the Gaida Wild Life Camp.

Day 7 Chitwan

Early morning and afternoon jungle safaris.



Day 8 Chitwan to Pokhara

Early morning game viewing. After breakfast a picturesque drive to the lakeside town of Pokhara in the foothills of the mighty Annapurna Himalaya. Pokhara offers the magnificent views of Dhaulagiri, Himalchuli, Machhapuchhre and five peaks of Annapurna. Overnight at the Shangrila Village.

Day 9 Pokhara

Morning sightseeing tour of Pokhara valley visiting the city, new market, Seti Gorge, Gupteshwar cave, Devi Fall and Tibetan Camp. Visit Thakali Basti to see Thakali culture. Afternoon at leisure or take a boat ride on the beautiful Phewa Lake.

Day 10 Pokhara to Kathmandu

After breakfast drive to Kathmandu. Afternoon free. Overnight at the Yak and Yeti Hotel.

Day 11 Depart Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Mountain Flight The Mountain flight gives a breathtaking view of the mighty Himalayan panorama. This is one-hour flight cruising at 25,000 feet and going within 5 nautical miles of Everest. Along with Everest you can also view host of other giant peaks including Shisha, Pangma, Choyu, Pumori and Makalu. Operational daily between September and May in the early morning. A must for those visitors to Kathmandu who do not have the time to trek in the Himalaya. The success of the flight depends on the weather conditions.

Trekking & Rafting Combine the main tour with one of the trekking/rafting itineraries.

India Fly to India & take in one of the tours as listed or make your own itinerary.

Bhutan & Tibet Combine the Nepal itinerary with a visit to Bhutan/Tibet.

NEPAL ADVENTURES

Nepal has wealth of unique activities for those inclined towards the great outdoors and adventure. Experience the thrill of river rafting on the Trisuli / Narayani river with some gentle rafting to the Idyllic River Camps. A few days of trekking in the Kathmandu valley / Annapurna Himalaya offers an insight into the lives of the local hill people and their villages together with some memorable views of the Himalayas. We offer a choice of treks ranging from one day short walks to the long expeditions.

KATHMANDU VALLEY TREK

This is one of the many short treks in the Kathmandu valley hills. This trek is very popular with those who have a limited time or do not want to take strenuous treks.

Day 1 Kathmandu to Mulkharka

Morning drive to Sunderjal (1 hour) and trek for 5 hours to Mulkharka (2400m) to your overnight camp. Wonderful sight of snow capped peaks and the rural scenery. You will pass through rural villages and see country life. Overnight in camping tents.

Day 2 Mulkharka to Shivpuri

Enjoy the spectacular sunrise over the Himalayas. After breakfast trek for 6 hours to Shivpuri (2715m) to your overnight camp, with a fine view of the valley.

Day 3 Shivpuri to Kathmandu

From Shivpuri descent through the forest to Nagse Monastery, lunch stop at Nagse. Another 2 hours descent to Budhanilkantha and drive to Kathmandu.



THE ROYAL TREK

The 'Prince of Wales' took this route during his visit to Nepal, hence the name 'Royal Trek'. Although this is an easy trek, it does require some effort as you encounter, on occasion, some descents and steep climbs. This is a four-day trek from Pokhara.

Day 1 Pokhara to Kalikathan

Drive to the banks of Bijapur River, and trek to Kalikathan. You will pass through Chhetri and Brahmin villages. Fine views of the Himalayas from Dhaulagiri in the West to Manaslu in the East. Overnight in camping tents.

Day 2 Kalikathan to Syaglung

Trek to Syaglung, a beautiful Gurung village. A pleasant trek in the morning becomes a bit strenuous in the afternoon. Overnight in camping tents.

Day 3 Syaglung to Chisopani

Start your trek to another beautiful campsite in Chisopani. Depending on your strength a straightforward descent or more challenging route can be taken to arrive at the same lunch spot. Overnight in camping tents.

Day 4 Chisopani to Pokhara

Morning trek to Begnas Bazaar. After lunch drive to Pokhara.

Note: You may stay in Pokhara for a few days to relax or fly drive to Kathmandu for your onward destination.

THE CHANDRUNG TREK

A moderate trek for 6 days covering the Pokhara valley with Gurung village all along. Gurkha forces, serving in British and India armies, live in these villages. Ghandrung, at 2040m, is one of the largest Gurung villages in Nepal. This trek offers panoramic views of the Annapurna Himalaya. This trek is operated using tented camps Ker and Downey trekking lodges, on your request. Ker and Downey trekking lodges in Pokhara valley are small and intimate lodges managed by former Gurkha service men.

SHORT VISIT TO JOMSOM

Jomsom, high in the Himalayas (2713m) has enchanting views. The towering peaks of Dhaulagiri and Nilgiri form an attractive backdrop. This is the last village of the local inhabitants of the region known as 'Thakalis' and the ones further north are Tibetan. Visit to Jomsom is rewarding.

Day 1 Pokhara to Jomsom

Fly to Jomsom. Sightseeing around Jomsom. Visit typical Sherpa/Tibetan village. The Kaligandaki valley here is called the Thakkhola, after the native Thakalis, who are distantly related to the Tibetans. Overnight at the Jomsom Mountain Resort.

Day 2 On Trek

A gentle day trek to Kagbeni (2810m), a medieval looking village with a Tibetan feel. This is also the checkpoint of entry to Upper Mustang.

Day 3 Jomsom to Pokhara

Return flight to Pokhara.

Note: Stay in Jomsom region can be extended by two days to visit Muktinath (3,800m) 5-hrs walk from Kagbeni. Overnight stay in Muktinath. From Muktinath you trek back to Jomsom for 6 hours. Alternatively take in 9 days Pokhara – Jomsom trek. This is an easy to moderate trek. Dossier on request. For longer trekking expeditions, please ask for details.

RAFTING ON TRISULI/NARAYANI (from Kathmandu)

Day 1 Kathmandu to Fislin

Drives to the raft put in point and begin rafting the Trisuli River, spend the day within its canyon, bird watching, photographing and visiting local villages. Easy day rafting fun-filled rapids. Overnight camping on a beach.

Day 2 River Trip

Raft down to Deoghat. The valley broadens and the raft passes through small villages, beautiful sandy beaches and

easy rapids. Stop at Deoghat, a small serene village. Camp on one of the islands below Narayanghat.

Day 3 Kathmandu

Drive back to Kathmandu.

Note: A one-day rafting is also possible on the Trisuli river for those who have limited time or who just want to experience a river trip. A longer duration river trips down to Chitwan National Park are also possible. Please ask for details.

RAFTING ON SETI/TRISULI (from Pokhara)

A 3-day river trip from Pokhara is both exciting and rewarding. Drive to the banks of Seti or Trisuli River and start your river trip to the Chitwan National Park. You run some exciting rapids with stretches of slower waters. Pass through beautiful gorges and small villages perched on the hillsides. The river slows down on the second & third days as you approach the plains of the Chitwan National Park. Overnight camps on the beaches.

Note: While on trekking and river rafting your own Sherpa guide, porters and cook, will accompany you. All accompanying staff is fully insured. Meal plan is full board. Along with camping equipment, sleeping bags are also provided though you are welcome to bring your own.



BHUTAN

The Kingdom of Bhutan, the Land of the Thunder Dragon, is nestled in the Eastern Himalayas. Virtually unspoilt, it is traditional, ancient and so complete and culturally intact that it seems almost unreal. This is perhaps the world's last remaining Mahayana Buddhist kingdom. The panoramic views, amazing monasteries, colourful festivals with mask dances and above all its people make Bhutan a special destination.

Kathmandu ~ Thimpu ~ Punakha Trongsa ~ Bumthang ~ Gantey ~ Paro



Day 1 Kathmandu

Arrive Kathmandu. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Yak and Yeti Hotel for 2 nights.

Day 2 Kathmandu

Morning city tour includes visit to Darbar Square, the Kastha Mandap, the temple of living goddess and Syambunath. In the afternoon visit the ancient city of Patan and Tibetan Handicraft centre.

Day 3 Kathmandu to Thimpu

Fly by Druk Air to Paro and drive (65kms) to Thimpu, the capital of Bhutan. Evening walk through Thimphu's main commercial areas. Overnight at the hotel Nor-Thung/Riverview.

Day 4 Thimpu

Full day sightseeing of Thimphu valley visiting Memorial Chorten built in the memory of late king Jigme Dorji Wangchuk, National Library, Painting School, Traditional Medicine Institute, Tashichhodzong, the seat of national government, and Handicrafts Emporium.

Day 5 Thimpu to Punakha

After breakfast leave for Punakha across Dochu La pass (3,050m) with panoramic scenery of the Himalayan ranges. Afternoon visit Punakha Dzong, the 17th Century fortress. Overnight at the hotel Meri Puensum Resort/Zangtho Pelri.

Day 6 Punakha to Trongsa

Early morning drive to Trongsa via Wangdue to view the Wangdue Phodrang Dzong located on

the spur of a hill. The road descends to Pele La pass (3,300m). Visit en route Chendebji Chorten. Overnight at the hotel Yangkhil Resort/Norling.

Day 7 Trongsa to Bumthang

After breakfast visit Ta-Dzong (watchtower) containing original Mangol armory, Trongsa Dzong, the ancestral home of the present Royal family. Later proceed to Bumthang across Yotong La pass (3,400m). Afternoon free to explore the picturesque valley of Bumthang. Overnight at the Mephram Guest House.

Day 8 Bumthang

Sightseeing of the spectacular Bumthang valley with its forts, monasteries, farming and weaving villages. Visit Jakar town, Jambay Lhakhang, Kurje monastery with amazing woodwork on the windows and Tamshing Lhakhang. Explore the villages to see their traditional ways of life.

Day 9 Bumthang to Gantey

After breakfast proceed to Gantey (3000m), a beautiful place of rolling hills and green meadows. From Gantey you can closely view the picturesque Black Mountain ranges as well as the high glacial valley of Phobjikha, the winter home of the black-necked crane. Overnight at the Dewachen Hotel.

Day 10 Gantey to Thimphu

Morning visit Gantey Monastery, perched atop a small hill that rises from the valley floor, surrounded by a large village inhabited mainly by

the families of the 140 Gomchens (Lay monks). Drive to Thimphu. Overnight at the hotel Nor-Thung/Riverview.

Day 11 Thimphu to Paro

Leave for Paro, enroute visit Simtokha Dzong. After lunch visit Kyichu Lhakhang, Ta-Dzong (National Museum), Rinpung Dzong and Paro's market. Overnight at the hotel Jor-Yangz/Olathang.

Day 12 Paro

After breakfast visit the ruins of the Drukgyel Dzong, built in 1664 to commemorate victory over Tibetan invaders. Afternoon excursion to view the famous Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) monastery.

Day 13 Paro to Kathmandu

Fly to Kathmandu and transfer to Yak and Yeti for 1 night.

Day 13 Depart Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.

Small duration tours to Bhutan from 4-6 days, for those who have less time, can be arranged from Kathmandu, Delhi and Kolkatta.

Options...

India You can combine India with Bhutan. Druk Air has flights to Paro from Delhi and Kolkatta.

TIBET

Tibet 'the Rooftop of the World' is an unforgettable land of curious nomads, mysterious gompas and vast breath taking panoramas. This is an immensely historic land with unrivalled culture. Visit Yarlung valley, the cradle of the Tibetan civilization, Lhasa, the Forbidden City. Experience the timeless and most holy Jokhang temple and see the legendary Potala Palace. Travel over Pang La to see the spectacular mountain desert landscape.

Kathmandu ~ Tsedang ~ Lhasa ~ Gyantse Shigatse ~ Xegar ~ Rongbuk ~ Zhangmu



Day 1 Kathmandu

Arrive Kathmandu. Meet and assist upon arrival and transfer to the Yak and Yeti Hotel.

Day 2 Kathmandu

Morning city tour of Kathmandu includes visit to the temple of living goddess (Kumari), Kastha Mandap and Syambunath stupa with all seeing eyes of Buddha. Afternoon visit the ancient city of Patan and the Tibetan Handicrafts centre.

Day 3 Kathmandu to Lhasa and Tsedang

Trans Himalayan flight to Lhasa (3650m.), the capital city of Tibet. You will be met by our Tibetan representative and transferred to Tsedang. Overnight at the Tsedang Hotel.

Day 4 Tsedang

Full days sightseeing includes visit to the Yumbulakang Fort, the oldest building in the region built in 2 BC, overlooking the fertile Yarlung valley, birthplace of the Tibetan civilization. The valley is dotted with temples, monasteries, castles and sacred peaks. Visit the Samye Monastery, the first Monastery in Tibet.

Day 5 Tsedang

Drive to Lhasa visiting en route Mindrolling Monastery, the learning centre for the Nyingma School of Tibetan Buddhism. Overnight at the Lhasa Hotel.

Days 6&7 Lhasa

Two days of sightseeing includes visit to the Potala Palace that dominates the city. Built originally in 640 AD, it was destroyed in 9th Century and re-build by the 5th Dalai Lama in 17th Century. Norbulinka Palace, Drepung and Sera monastery.

Jokhang Temple, the holiest Tibetan pilgrimage and the spiritual centre of Tibet. Visit Barkhor bazaar, a maze of cobbled streets, in the heart of Lhasa circling the Jokhang Temple.

Day 8 Lhasa to Gyantse

Morning leave for Gyantse, crossing the Kamba La (4794m) and Karo La (5010m) pass via the Lake Yamdrok-Tso. Gyantse, now a third largest city of Tibet, was a scene of a battlefield in 1904, when British invaded Tibet. Overnight at the Gyantse Hotel.

Day 9 Gyantse to Shigatse

Morning visit the Khumbum Stupa with several chapels full of frescos and Phalkor Monastery designed in the shape of a three-dimensional mandala, representing a microcosmic model of the Buddhist universe. Later a pleasant two hour (90km) drive to Shigatse (3900m), once the capital city of Tibet. Afternoon visit the Tashilunpo Monastery, built by 1st Dalai Lama in 1447, and the free market. Overnight at the Shigatse/Mansarovar Hotel.

Day 10 Shigatse to Xegar

A long but scenic drive (244k) along the Friendship highway, marvelling the barren yet the spectacular landscape, to Xegar (4050m). Overnight at the Xegar Guest House.

Day 11 Xegar to Rongbuk

Drive south over the Pang La (5105m) towards the main Himalayan range with incredible and uninterrupted views, to the village of Dza Rongbuk (4920m) 68k. Overnight at the Rongbuk Lodge.

Day 12 Everest Base Camp

Excursion to the Everest base camp, the north face of Mount Everest.

Day 13 Rongbuk to Zhangmu

Drive to the highway to cross the rolling plains of the Tibetan Plateau and head down to the spectacular Sun Kosi Gorge to the Tibet/Nepal border at Zhangmu. Overnight at the Sherpa/Zhangmu Hotel.

Day 14 Zhangmu to Kathmandu

Drive through the Friendship Bridge to Kathmandu. Overnight at the Yak and Yeti.

Day 15 Depart Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Note: Accommodation in Tibet except in Lhasa is basic and some long drives are required.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Mount Kailash & Lake Mansarovar The famed holy peak of Mt Kailash (6714m) in the western Tibet has long been an object of worship for Hindus, Buddhists and the ancient Bon religion of Tibet for whom Mt Kilash was a nine storey Swastika Mountain. Sprawling below Mt Kailash is the sacred Lake Mansarovar (4560m), where a ritual bath will deliver a pilgrim to God's paradise and a drink of its water relinquishes the sins of a lifetime. The 53km Kailash circuit, the holiest of Tibet's pilgrimages, draws travellers from all over the world. This is a 14 day tour from Kathmandu to Kathmandu and involves 3 days of trekking (5 -7 hours per day). Operational between April to early October. Full details on request.

BEACHES & ISLANDS

India has some of the most beautiful beaches in the world spread across its vast coastline of over 3500 kms and a group of off shore exotic tropical islands. From well developed resorts with a full range of water sports, secluded palm fringed beaches, to the beautiful atolls in the azure blue ocean, India can provide it. Here we describe some of the possibilities that can be taken as a total holiday or combined with any of the tours before, in the middle or at the end of your holiday.



GOA

Goa, with its 100km long coastline, is a land of golden beaches against a backdrop of coconut palm and green rice fields. A former Portuguese colony, Goa offers some of the finest beaches in the world. There still exists a Mediterranean atmosphere. The glorious sun and the golden sands, good food, lifting music and endless beaches for swimming are part of the Goan scene. Goa has several beach resorts with excellent water sports facilities.

Taj Beach Resorts (Deluxe)

Location: Sinqerim Bardez - 45kms from the airport, 10kms from Panjim. One of India's premium beach resorts built on hillside overlooking the breathtaking Calangute beach and the 17th Century Portuguese Fort of Aguada. The Taj Group offers three different types of accommodation - **Fort Aguada Beach Resort** (main building), **Taj Holiday Village** consists of variety of rooms in cluster of cottages and the super-deluxe **Aguada Hermitage** with exclusive villas and private gardens. All three properties operate as separate units and have excellent facilities, which include beach, pool, choice of restaurants, sports, and fitness facilities.

Taj Exotica (Deluxe)

Location: South Goa - 30km from the airport, 38km from Panjim. One of Taj Group's exotic beach resorts set in 55 acres of land and offers unrestricted views of the Arabian Sea. The facilities include water sports, fitness centre, multi cuisine restaurants, tennis and 9-hole golf course.

Leela Palace (Deluxe)

Location: South Goa - Cavelossim Beach 48km from the airport, 55km from Panjim. A deluxe hotel in South Goa set amidst 75 acres of lush gardens and lagoons. The facilities include swimming pool, water sports, 9 hole golf course, fully equipped fitness club and spa offering India Ayurvedic herbal massage and multi cuisine restaurants.

Ramada Caravela Beach Resort (Deluxe)

Location: The Resort is 30 kms from the Airport. This five star deluxe resort is located in fabulous palm tree plantations, adjacent to the white sandy beach of Colva. The resort has 202 rooms, suites and villas all with modern facilities, multicuisine restaurants and bars. Ayurvedic rejuvenation, water sports facilities, nine hole golf green, two tennis courts, yoga and meditation centre.

Park Hyatt Goa Resort & Spa (Deluxe)

The resort hotel is located in the most idyllic area of South Goa and is a 15-minute drive from the Airport. Park Hyatt Goa Resort and Spa with world class facilities is set on 45 acres of lush beachfront gardens. The hotel has 251 rooms, 5 restaurants and an excellent spa.

Marriott Resort (Deluxe)

Located on Miramar Beach on the Aguada bay, 33km. from airport and 16km from railway station. Designed on Goan architecture with a Mediterranean touch, the hotel has 168 elegantly appointed rooms with all modern facilities, 24 hour room service, tea/coffee maker in the room, multi cuisine restaurant and bar.

Cida-de Goa Beach Resort (First Class)

Location: Situated on **Vainguinim Beach** 22km from the airport, 6km from Panjim. The resort offers rooms with sea view, two swimming pools, choice of restaurants, poolside barbecue, bars, health club and water sports.



Majorda Beach Resort (First Class)

Location: Located in **South Goa**, on the beautiful sands and set amidst 20 acres of well maintained gardens and with direct access to the beach, 22 kms from the airport & 8 km from Panjim. The facilities include indoor and outdoor swimming pool, four multi cuisine restaurants and three bars. There is a health club with gym, sauna, beauty and massage parlor.

Heritage Village Club (Standard)

Location: **South Goa** Arossim Beach 10kms from the airport. A good three star property ideally located with swimming pool, Ayurvedic health center, billiards, jogging track, badminton court, bar and choice of restaurants.

Sun Village Resort (Standard)

Location: **Baga Beach** A good four star property with large rooms, large swimming pool and sun beds. Facilities include health club, massage parlor, hairdressing salon, and multi cuisine specialty restaurant. Poolside bar, buffet restaurant, open air snack service, pub with pool table, second swimming pool in secluded and terraced garden.

KOVALAM

Kovalam, one of India's most popular beaches, lies 16 kms south to the capital city of Trivandrum and is one of the finest beach stretches in Kerala dotted with palm trees. It is an evergreen and pleasant climatic beach with several resorts to suite all budgets. Ayurvedic massage parlors with treatment facilities, yoga centres and water sports facilities, make Kovalam a popular destination.

Taj Green Cove Resort (Deluxe)

Located on Kovalam beach, 12km from the airport and 14km from the station. This luxury Taj hotel is spread across 10 acres of land, offering a view of the backwater, lush landscapes, coconut palms and unspoiled beaches. The property comprises of tastefully decorated rooms, suites and cottages with all modern facilities. Choice of restaurants, a bar, swimming pool, Ayurvedic centre and tropical Jiva spa.

The Leela Kovalam Beach (Deluxe)

The Leela Kovalam Beach is located 15km south of Trivandrum city. Perched on a hillock and set in 44 acres of scenic landscape with a beachfront. This property has 196 tastefully decorated rooms. The facilities include 2 swimming pools, 2 restaurants, bar, yoga and Ayurveda centre, catamaran and boat rides. The 42 Pavilion Wing rooms at sea level have their own pool, bar and restaurant.

Somatheeram Ayurvedic Beach Resort (First class)

Somatheeram is on the picturesque Malabar Coast 21km from Trivandrum. It is the combination of a Beach Resort with Ayurveda and yoga. Sitting atop a hill, it is spread over 15 acres of lush greenery. Accommodations are widely scattered down the contoured hills amongst the verdant coconut groves.

Udai Samudra (First Class)

Located at Samudra beach, 16km from the city centre. The beach is just about 50m away from the hotel. Individually air conditioned and beautifully furnished rooms and suites with attached private facilities. All rooms have attached balcony overlooking the Arabian Sea and swimming pool. Multi cuisine restaurant, barbecue and Ayurvedic health centre.

Travancore Heritage (First class)

Set amidst landscaped gardens and coconut groves, this seaside resort is located at Chowara, south of Kovalam, on a cliff overlooking the Arabian Sea with a wide expanse of silvery white sands in front. It has 43 rooms in heritage villas, multi cuisine restaurant, a swimming pool, and facilities for Ayurveda and yoga. There is a lift to get down to the beach.

Coconut Bay Beach Resort (Standard)

Coconut Bay is a secluded beach resort nestled amidst a lush coconut grove with its own private beach with comfortable cottages in a tranquil environment. The accommodation is in air conditioned or air cooled cottages. The resort has dedicated Ayurvedic and yoga centre.



VARKALA

A one-hour drive to the north of Trivandrum, lies Varkala, which is very well known beach of South Kerala.

Taj Graden Retreat (First Class)

A deluxe accommodation overlooking a palm fringed sandy beach. The facilities include 30 tastefully decorated rooms, multi cuisine restaurant, bar swimming pool, Ayurvedic massage and fitness centre.

MARARIKULAM

Mararikulam is an hour's drive from Cochin on the Malabar Coast. It is a fabulous stretch of soft sandy golden beach fringed with palm.

Marari Beach Resort (First Class)

Set in 25 acres of coconut palm leading down to the vast expanse of Marari Beach. The resort has 52 air-conditioned cottages built in the style of a traditional fishing village with private verandah and open en suite bathroom. The facility include swimming pool, Ayurvedic centre, bar and restaurant serving excellent seafood. Deluxe villas have private plunge pool.

COVELONG & MAHABALIPURAM

Covelong is a fishing settlement with a fine beach, 20km north of Mahabalipuram, famous for the Shore temple. Covelong and

Mahabalipuram are on the East Coast, Coromandel Coast, in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Taj Fisherman's Cove (Deluxe)

A five star deluxe hotel on the Covelong beach set amidst whispering palm 40km from the capital Chennai. The property has 88 elegantly appointed rooms and cottages including some sea view cottages, with modern facilities. The spacious cottages have a private sit-out and garden. The facilities include seafood restaurant, bar and swimming pool. A crocodile farm and fishing village is nearby to visit.

Ideal Beach Resort (Standard)

Located 50km from the capital Chennai close to the 7th Century Shore temple and rock carvings in Mahabalipuram. The resort has spacious air conditioned cottages. The facilities include multicuisine restaurant serving excellent seafood, bar and swimming pool.

ORISSA

Toshali Sands Puri (First Class)

Spread over an area of 30 acres of lush green lawns. The resort is located on the Balighai Beach. Accommodation is in tastefully decorated rooms, villas and cottages. Facilities include restaurant, bar, swimming pool, gym, tennis court and indoor games.

Swosti Palm Beach (Standard) Gopalpur on Sea

A modern 30 rooms hotel on the fairly undisturbed beach, offering air conditioned rooms, a restaurant and bar.

THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS

Bay Island Resort (Standard)

The richly forested tropical islands in the Bay of Bengal lie between India and Myanmar. The majority of the islands are still uninhabited. Most are surrounded by coral reefs, and have white sandy beaches and clear water, the perfect tropical paradise. An excellent place for sunbathing, scuba diving and snorkelling. Port Blair, the administrative capital, is accessible by air from Chennai and Kolkata. Bay Island Resort offers 45 split level rooms. The facilities include seawater swimming pool, restaurant and bar.

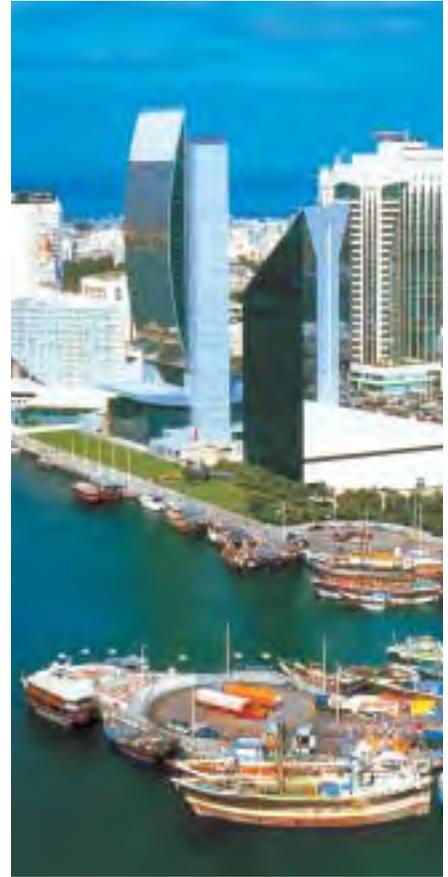
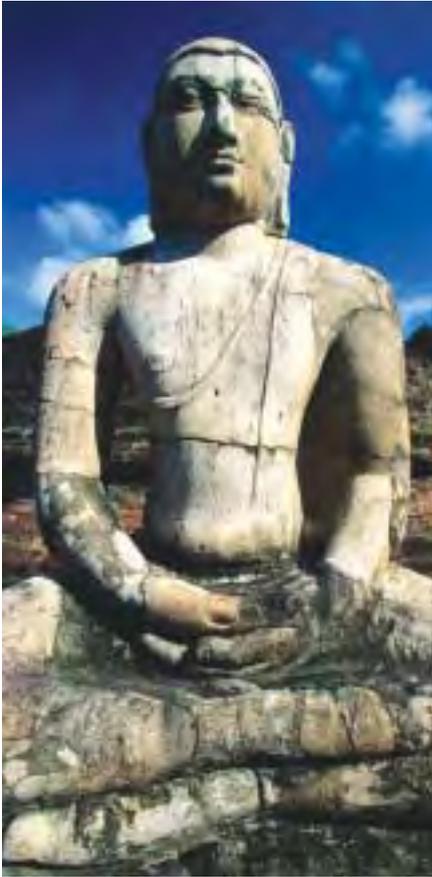
Wild Orchid Resort (Standard)

Situated on the Havelock Island with a sugary white sandy beaches lapped by turquoise water. Havelock Island is reached by Jetty from Port Blair. The resort offers comfortable Cottages, multi-cuisine restaurant with seafood specialty and a well stocked bar.

LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS

Bangaram Island Resort (Standard)

Lakshadweep Islands are situated in the Arabian Sea, to the west of Cochin and accessible by air. Among the several Islands, only Bangaram Island is open for the tourists. It is surrounded by dense coconut groves and coral reef. The flight from Cochin comes to Agatti from where there is one-hour boat transfer. This eco-friendly hotel offers comfortable accommodation in 30 hutment's built in traditional style with furniture made of cane bamboo. The facilities include running hot and cold water, telephone, TV, tea/coffee maker. Activities include wind surfing, scuba diving and snorkelling.



SRI LANKA *Gateway City: Colombo*

Sri Lanka, described by Marco Polo as the finest island of its size in the world, has a wealth of attractions. Mystical ancient cities, gleaming Buddhist temples, delightful colonial period hill stations, tea plantations, tropical white sandy beaches and charming friendly people. It offers a fascinating blend of culture drawn from the east and west. Sri Lanka has a long history of contact with foreign merchants. Buddhist, Tamils, Arabs, Romans, Portuguese, Dutch and British have influenced this beautiful country.

Explore the cultural triangle of Sri Lanka; visit the world heritage sights of Anuradapuram and Polonnuruwa the medieval capitals of Sri Lanka, the rock fortress town of Sigiriya. The rock caved temple complex of Dambula, with its five sanctuaries, is the best-preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. Located almost

in the centre of the country is the lakeside town of Kandy, site of the sacred Temple of Tooth Relic. Explore its national parks with lakes, forests and open grasslands that host variety of animal and bird life. Migratory birds from Western Europe and Siberia flock here during winter. The colonial period hill station of Nuwara Eliya in the tea country has spectacular valleys and forests. Here you can see 18th Century Victorian house, parks and gardens and. Visit the lush green hill resort of Bandarawela and the Gem city of Ratnapura. The old port town of Galle, founded by Portuguese in 16th Century, is another historically interesting place to visit. Old Fort built by Dutch still exists here. Complete your holiday with a relaxing stay at one of the Sri Lanka's many excellent beach hotels along the Southwest coast. The Maldives, Dubai and the south Indian cities of Chennai, Trivandrum, Hyderabad and Cochin are just a short flight away.

MALDIVES *Gateway City: Male*

The Republic of Maldives lies towards the south west of Sri Lanka and Peninsular India, in the Indian Ocean. It consists of over 1000 small islands spread over 26 coral atolls of different depths, scattered like string of pearls. The capital Male, a small island and the seat of government, is located in the middle of the atoll chain.

Maldives is blessed with tropical white sandy beaches sparkling in the sun, crystal clear lagoons, dazzling blue and turquoise underwater coral reefs of infinite shades,

that makes it an ideal place to spend a perfect relaxing holiday. It is considered to be the paradise for the honeymooners. The transfer to the resort from Male Airport is by speedboat, seaplane or by Dhoni (traditional motor boat). Various water sports activities and cultural excursions are available at different resorts. Maldives can be taken as a total holiday or combine it with India, Sri Lanka and Dubai. Male has direct flights from Trivandrum in South India, Colombo and Dubai.

DUBAI *Gateway Cities: Dubai & Abu Dhabi*

Dubai, the pearl of Arabian Gulf, is the second largest of the seven emirates that make up the United Arab Emirates. Dubai is a fascinating destination with the contrasts of a modern, vibrant city, vast desert interiors and sparkling beaches with endless sunshine.

Jumeirah beach is a top class, international beach resort with year round sunshine, endless blue skies, extensive beach coastline and warm waters of the Arabian Gulf. It is a paradise for sun worshippers and water sports enthusiasts alike.

Dubai boasts some of the most impressive hotels you will find anywhere with plenty of leisure facilities. It has superb choice of nightclubs, bars and restaurants serving International cuisine. A wide range of tours and excursions are available in Dubai. Most popular are safaris into the desert, Dhow dinner cruises and City tours, visit to a traditional Bedouin village and have a camel ride. For children a visit to the Wild Wadi Water Theme Park is a must. Dubai is also shopper's paradise. It has souks and traditional markets. Mina bazaar in Bur Dubai is one of the famous shopping areas.

SRI LANKAN ODYSSEY

Sri Lanka is a land of happy surprises, legendary beauty, contrasts and varied places of interests. Fabulous ancient cities, Buddhist shrines, tea plantations, delightful hill stations and palm fringed golden beaches. Its rich history offers a fascinating blend of culture drawn from the East and the West. The Portuguese, Dutch and the British all have influenced this beautiful country.

Colombo ~ Anuradhapura ~ Sigiriya ~ Kandy ~ Nuwara-Eliya ~ Bandarawela



Day 1 Colombo

Arrive Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, and transfer to the hotel Taj Samudra. Afternoon city tour visiting the Colombo Fort, the lakeside Temple, Independence Square with its Traditional style pavilion and the Old Town Hall, a fine specimen of British colonial period architecture. Overnight at the hotel Taj Samudra.

Day 2 Colombo to Anuradhapura

After breakfast leave for Anuradhapura, the ancient capital of Sri Lanka founded in the 4th Century BC, home of two world heritage sites. Afternoon sightseeing includes the temples with giant Pagodas, Isurumuniya rock temple (3rd Century BC) known for its rock carvings, Samadi Buddha statue, Sacred Boo Tree, oldest historically documented tree in the world. Overnight at the hotel Palm Garden Village.

Day 3 Anuradhapura

Morning visit the Wilpattu National Park with natural lakes, forests, open grasslands and coastal belt. The park is rich in variety of animal and bird life including elephant, leopard, sloth bear mugger crocodiles, spotted deer and serpent eagle. Afternoon proceed to Mihintale, the cradle of Buddhism in Sri Lanka. Climb the rock, with a grand stairway of 1,840 steps, riddled with shrines and rock dwellings.

Day 4 Anuradhapura to Sigiriya

Morning drive to the rock fortress town of Sigiriya. Afternoon visit the rock fortress of King Kashyapa and view the famous 5th Century frescoes in a sheltered pocket of the rock. Nearby is the Lion platform from where it is possible to climb between the gigantic clawed paws to the summit. Overnight at the hotel Sigiriya Village.

Day 5 Sigiriya

Today visit Polonnaruwa, the medieval capital of Sri Lanka. Sightseeing includes visit to the 11th Century ancient city, Gal Vihara complex, Shiva devalaya and the remains of a former Temple of the Tooth Relic. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 6 Sigiriya

Drive to Dambulla and visit the famous 2000 year old Rock Caved temple. This is a complex of five caves with over 2000sq. meters of painted walls. It contains over 150 images of the Buddha of which the largest is the colossal figure of the Buddha carved out of rock and spanning 14 meters. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 7 Sigiriya to Kandy

After breakfast leave for Kandy visiting en route a spice garden and a Batik factory at Matale. You will see spices grown & processed. Afternoon tour of Kandy visiting the Sacred Temple of Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha, a gem museum and market place. In the evening see a cultural dance performance. Overnight at the Earl's Regency Hotel.

Day 8 Kandy

Morning leave to Peradeniya to visit the Royal Botanical garden with amazing variety of trees, plants and flowers. Thereafter proceed to Pinnawela and visit the Elephants Orphanage and see the baby elephants go on their daily routine. Return to Kandy and drive around the upper lake.

Day 9 Kandy to Nuwara-Eliya

After breakfast drive through spectacular valleys and forests to Nuwara Eliya visiting a tea factory and a tea plantation en-route. Nuwara-Eliya is a hill resort at 2000 metres. The British came here in 18th Century and built Victorian houses, parks and gardens. Overnight at the Grand Hotel.

Day 10 Nuwara-Eliya

Morning leave for Horton Plains, formerly a British hunting ground situated on high windswept saddle at 7000ft, for a hike to the Baker's fall and World's End, with a vertical drop of 4000ft.

Day 11 Nuwara-Eliya to Bandarawela

After breakfast leave for a lush green hill resort of Bandarawela. Enroute visit the Hakgala Botanical Gardens, the pleasure gardens of King Ravana of the well known epic "Ramayanaya". Overnight at the Bandarawela Hotel.

Day 12 Bandarawela to Colombo

Drive to Ratnapura, "City of Gems". Visit a gem mine and museum. Continue on to Colombo. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at the hotel Taj Samudra.

Day 13 Depart Colombo

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

International Flights: *We would be pleased to assist you in arranging very competitive flights from the UK including regional airports.*

Options...

Wild Life Extend your stay to visit Yala National Park on the South coast 190kms from Nuwara Eliya (Choose your length of stay- Recommended minimum 2 nights).

Beach Extend your stay to relax by the sea. You will drive direct from Ratnapura, on day 12, to your chosen beach hotel.

Kerala Fly to Trivandrum/Cochin to explore the waterways of Kerala.

Temples Fly to Chennai to see spectacular Dravidian temple architecture.

SRI LANKA BEACH HOTEL PORTFOLIO

Mt Lavinia Hotel ****

Location: This colonial hotel is located at Mt Lavinia south to Colombo, 35kms from the airport and 15kms from Colombo city.

Facilities: Extensive beach frontage, 4 restaurants, terrace bar, tropical bar, night club, conference facilities, banqueting hall, swimming pool, shopping arcade, business centre, sports facilities and Indoor games

Accommodation: 275 well appointed rooms with sea view and private balcony. Attached toilets with bath tub, hair dryer, 24 hour satellite TV, telephone with IDD, mini bar and room service.



The Blue Water ****

Location: Located South of Colombo at Wadduwa, 65km from the International Airport and 27kms from Colombo City.

Facilities: Large swimming pool and kids pool, fully equipped Gym, tennis and squash courts, badminton, table tennis, billiards. 24 hour coffee shop, restaurants and bars including poolside bar and sport bar serving International cuisine. Evening program with live entertainment, theme nights, night club, hair and beauty salon, doctor on call, business centre, gem and jewelry shop and in house movies.

Accommodation: All 100 rooms and suites are well appointed with sea view and private balcony or terrace. Central air conditioning with individual temperature control. Channelled music, fan, satellite television, telephone, mini bar, bath and shower, personal safe and 24 hour room service.



Golden Sun Hotel ****

Location: Located at Kultara, 43km south of Colombo and 77km from airport.

Facilities: Two restaurants serving International cuisine. The "Blusz Bar" and pool bar, beauty salon, shopping arcade, conference and banquet facilities. The other facilities include outdoor swimming pool with jacuzzi, kids pool and playground. Fully equipped gym, sauna, massage facility, floodlit tennis court, squash court, volleyball, pool table and variety of indoor games.

Accommodation:

Air conditioned rooms attached baths. Hot and cold water, piped music, mini bar, hairdryer, safe, telephone with IDD facility, television, radio, 24hr room service and laundry service.





Eden Resort & Spa ****

Location: Eden Resort and Spa is located on the south west coast of Sri Lanka, 96km from the International airport and 58kms from Colombo city, in the outskirts of Beruwela town.

Facilities: A choice of three restaurants, two bars, large freshwater Swimming pool with a kid's pool, Spa and ayurveda centre, hairdressing salon, conference hall, outdoor Jacuzzi, squash court, billiards, pool games room and children's play area, aerobics and water polo. Water sports facilities include surfing, traditional catamaran, scuba diving, snorkeling and deep-sea fishing.

Accommodation: Elegantly appointed 158 rooms and suites with private balconies or terraces overlooking the garden and sea. Individually controlled air-conditioning, piped music, satellite television, hairdryer, in-room safe, tea and coffee making facilities, mini bar and 24-hour room service.

Neptune Resort ***

Location: Beruwela, 58kms south of Colombo City and 90kms from the airport.

Facilities: Restaurants with theme nights, Pizzeria, 4 bars, 2 swimming pools, health centre, beauty salon, library, mini shopping arcade, occasional evening entertainment, TV lounge, flood lit tennis court, badminton and indoor games.

Accommodation: Air-conditioned rooms and private bungalows. The rooms have a terrace or balcony with a view of the sea or garden. The private bungalows have a sitting room and garden area, attached bath/shower with hot and cold water, telephone, radio and piped music.



Taj Exotica *****

Location: Bentota, sprawling along the south coast, 90kms from the airport and 60kms south of Colombo city.

Facilities: Choice of bars, lounges and restaurants serving International cuisine including Indian, Chinese and Sri Lanka cuisine. The other facilities include tennis Court, daily entertainment at the bar, darts, disco, Gym and health club (Sauna Jacuzzi and massage rooms). Outdoor pool, aerobics, water Polo, Yoga, deep-sea fishing, sunset fishing. Water sports and rental centre includes Jet Ski, water ski, banana boat ride and windsurfing.

Accommodation: 160 spacious rooms with spectacular views of the sea or beautiful landscaped gardens. All rooms offer a balcony/terrace as well as large bay windows. The room amenities including minibar, air conditioning, ceiling fan, electronic safe, tea/coffee maker, IDD telephone, Satellite TV and 24-hour room service.

Saman Villas *****

Location: Athuruwella, Bentota, on the West Coast, 65km south of Colombo and 92km from the airport.

Facilities: Choice of restaurants, two bars the lounge/pool bar overlooking the pool and the ocean, and the open air sunset bar, snooker table, spa offering a wide variety of treatments, aromatic sauna and steam shower. The other facilities include a well equipped gym with sauna and steam, conference hall, badminton and table tennis. Evening entertainment programs include ballets, western music, oriental music etc.

Accommodation: 27 luxuriously furnished AC suites with spectacular views of the shoreline and sea. Each suite has a balcony/terrace with day bed and dining table, lounge area, sleeping deck, dressing room, open air bathroom, LCD panels with satellite TV channels, DVD/CD player with home theatre system, data port, telephone, hair dryer, mini bar and safe. Some deluxe suites are available with 22ft long swimming pools.



Browns Beach Hotel ***

Location: Located at Negombo, north of Colombo, 7km from the airport and 35km from Colombo City.

Facilities: Three restaurants serving International cuisine, poolside bar, beach bar, karaoke bar, service bar, nightclub, beauty salon, shopping arcade, conference and banquet facilities. The other facilities include outdoor swimming pool, floodlit tennis courts, two squash courts, beach volleyball, children's pool and playground.

Accommodation: Full air conditioned rooms with private terrace with a view of the sea or garden. Attached bath and shower with hot and cold water, piped music, radio, telephone, 24 hour room and laundry service.



The Beach Negombo *****

Location: Located at Negombo, north of Colombo, 12km from the airport and 35km from Colombo City.

Facilities: Two restaurants, two bars and a wine cellar. The other facilities include two swimming pools and a kid's pool, gym, spa, steam bath, Ayurvedic center, conference facilities, baby sitting, internet facilities, gem and jewellery shop.

Accommodation: Central air conditioning rooms with individual temperature control. Telephone with IDD, mini bar, bath and shower. All rooms with private terrace or balcony with ocean view. Satellite TV, tea/coffee maker, hair dryer, DVD/CD player and safe deposit.



MALDIVES HOTEL PORTFOLIO



Taj Exotica Resort & Spa

Location: Located on Emboodhu Finolhu, South Male Atoll. 20 minutes away by speed boat from the Male Airport.

Facilities: 24-hour Fitness center, Spa, aromatic and rejuvenating treatments, pool and snooker, Indoor games, library, swimming pool, PADI certified dive center. Bar and restaurants. The other facilities include catamaran sailing, water skiing, deep-sea fishing, seaplane photo flights, Sunset cruise and visit to a Local Village.

Accommodation: The hotel has 24 semi-detached Lagoon Villas on the water, 31 private detached deluxe lagoon villas, 4 beach villas, 4 deluxe beach villas (including private plunge pools). Room amenities include minibar, safe, tea/coffee-maker, satellite television, DVD/CD player, Internet connection, and hairdryer.

(Member, Small Leading Hotels of the World)

Soneva Fushi Resort & Spa

Location: Soneva Fushi is located in the Kunfunadhoo Island on the North Baa Atoll. 30 minutes from the airport by sea plane.

Facilities: Facilities include fitness centre, diving school, fully equipped Spa. Water sports facilities include snorkeling, speedboats, canoe, water-skiing, wakeboarding, windsurfing and hob cat sailing. Cultural excursions to nearby villages, desert island retreats, fishing trips, table tennis, board-games and tennis Court. Choice of restaurants and bars with selection of wines in seller.

Accommodation: The accommodation comprises of well-appointed rooms, villas and suites. Room amenities include air-conditioning, room service, hairdryer, min-bar, safe, and quadraphonic hi-fi, TV (optional) and DVD, bath tub and shower and private outside sitting area. Some villas have own private pool.



Hilton Maldives Resort & Spa

Location: Located on South Male Atoll on the Rangali Island, 35-minute by Seaplane from the Male International Airport.

Facilities: Seven restaurants including all-glass undersea restaurant plus 3 bars. The other facilities include aerobics, fishing trips, sight seeing tours, fitness room, jet skiing, jogging track, yoga and meditation, Over-water Spa and Spa retreat, pool table, sailing, scuba diving, tennis court, water skiing and windsurfing.

Accommodation: The Resort is a combination of three luxury resorts on two islands, Rangali and Ranglifinolhu, linked by a 500 metre footbridge and surrounded by a vibrant coral reef and lagoon. The accommodation comprises of five different categories of Beach villas, Water villas and Sunset water villas with all modern facilities.

Kuredu Island Resort ****

Location: Situated on the northern reef of the Lhaviyani Atoll, 80 miles north of the Airport. 40 minutes by seaplane or 4 hours by speed boat.

Facilities: Several restaurants, bars and shops, a dive and snorkel equipment shop, a Golf Pro shop, 6-hole pitch and putt Golf course. Fully equipped gym, an aerobics room, Spa. A flood lit tennis court, badminton, table tennis and darts. Watersports center providing all kinds of sports like windsurfing, kite-boarding, catamaran and dinghy sailing, water skiing and sailing safaris.

Accommodation: The hotel has two resorts with four categories of rooms and suite. Exotic thatched beach bungalow, beach villas, and Jacuzzi beach villas and water villas. The room amenities include spacious open-air bathroom with walk in shower and garden, CD player, tea and coffee making facility, ceiling fan, mini-bar, safe, wooden terrace and sun chairs. The Jacuzzi Beach villas and water villas have a bar, exclusive restaurant and separate check in.



Meeru Island Resort ****

Location: Located in the east of North Male Atoll, 60 minutes from the airport by speedboat.

Facilities: Restaurant, 2 coffee shops and bar. Swimming pool with sun terrace, spa, gym, tennis court with floodlights, volleyball, badminton, water-skiing, windsurfing, catamaran sailing. Dive base, island hopping, night fishing, submarine sightseeing, photo sightseeing flight by seaplane, day sail cruise and regular evening entertainment.

Accommodation: 225 rooms including Land villas, Jacuzzi villas, Water villas and Honeymoon Suites. Standard rooms are in blocks of 4 to 6 rooms with fan, air-conditioning, shower, WC, mini-bar, terrace and safe deposit. Land villas and water villas (individual bungalows) with veranda and have additionally telephone and mini-fridge. Jacuzzi villas have outdoor area, a Jacuzzi for two, a wooden sundeck with chaise lounges, a shade Pavilion, a small tropical garden and a CD player.



Reethi Beach Resort ****

Location: Located on the North East of Baa Atoll, 35 minutes from the Airport by Seaplane.

Facilities: Choice of bars and restaurants serving International cuisine. The other facilities include swimming pool, gym, and sauna. Sports centre with tennis court, Gym, aerobic session with qualified instructors. Squash table tennis and badminton courts. Water sports centre offering variety of sports including catamaran sailing, diving, night fishing trip etc.

Accommodation: The accommodation comprises of elegant and spacious Reethi villas, deluxe villas and water villas. The hotel also has duplex villas for families. Room amenities include air-conditioning, ceiling fan, IDD telephones, mini bar, satellite television, hair dryer, hot and cold water and individual terrace.

Taj Coral Reef Resort ****

Location: Located on Hembadhu, North Male Atoll. 60 minutes by boat from the Male Airport.

Facilities: Bars and restaurants offering International cuisine, swimming pool, diving and sailing centre, doctor-on-call, fax, telephone and email facilities. Gym/fitness centre, indoor games, personal safe deposits, souvenir shop, tea/coffee maker, spa. Water sports include Banana and tube riding, canoeing, catamaran boat rides, coral viewing, deep sea fishing, diving, snorkeling, water skiing, wind Surfing and sea plane excursions.

Accommodation: Lagoon villas are built on stilts over the turquoise waters with private sun decks. Beach Villas are built over smooth white sand with sit-outs, sun decks, hammocks and pen-air garden showers. Guest amenities include IDD, satellite TV, coffee/tea maker, minibar, and a personal safe.



Lily Beach Resort *** plus

Location: Lily Beach Resort is located on Huvahendhoo island at the Southeast Ari-Atoll. 25 minutes from the Airport by sea plane.

Facilities: 2 swimming pools, bar, restaurant, pool bar and coffee shop. Board games, billiards, table tennis, carom darts, Satellite TV, Video and CD library. The other facilities include children's play area, Internet cafe, gym and Spa. Wedding facilities, disco, live band and cultural shows. Water sports centre providing variety of sports like windsurfing, canoes, catamaran sailing, surf bikes. The resort also has diving centre.

Accommodation: The hotel has well appointed superior rooms, water villas and suites. Room amenities include air-conditioning, ceiling fan, music system, Sitting area, telephone, mini fridge and open terrace. Water Villas are partly built over water and have tea/coffee maker.



Thulhaagiri Island Resort *** plus

Location: Located in the center of North Male Atoll, 25 minutes from Male International Airport by speedboat.

Facilities: Resort facilities include variety of sports activities beach volley, badminton, scuba diving, snorkeling, wind surfing, catamaran sailing, canoeing, water skiing, wake boarding, banana riding, 5 star Padi diving school. The other facilities include live band, cultural music shows and disco. Restaurant, coffee shop, souvenir shop, bar and swimming pool.

Accommodation: The resort has 69 rooms in individual thatched beach bungalows and water bungalows. Fully air-conditioned with spacious bathrooms (hot and cold fresh water), mini bar, IDD telephone, satellite TV. The water bungalows have tea/coffee maker, bath tub and deck.



Lohifushi Island Resort ***

Location: Located in North Male Atoll, 19km from the airport. 30 minutes by speedboat and 1 hour 30 minutes by traditional motorised boat (Dhoni).

Facilities: Two swimming pools, multi cuisine restaurants and several bars including pool bar and surf bar, coffee shop. The water sports facilities include catamaran, windsurf boards, canoes, water skies, water-sleigh (banana), fun-tubes, full moon catamaran excursions, power sailing and Sunset photo cruise. The other facilities include bicycle hire, safety lockers, room service, baby sitting, reading lounge, conference room, video games, and Fax and Internet service.

Accommodation: standard, superior, deluxe rooms and Suites. All rooms are equipped with fan, mini bar, IDD telephone, hot and cold water, a terrace with a beach bed and an open air bathroom in traditional style. The standard and superior rooms are located in individual bungalows and blocks of two or three rooms. The superior rooms have air-conditioning, bathtub and a shower. The individual deluxe rooms have tea/coffee maker, satellite TV, hairdryer and a small private garden.



DUBAI HOTEL PORTFOLIO



Royal Suite - Burj Al Arab

Burj Al Arab ***** *Deluxe Deluxe*

Location: Designed to resemble a billowing sail, the hotel soars to a height of 321 metres, dominating the Dubai coastline. Dubai's most prestigious landmark is the largest hotel building in the world. Burj Al Arab sits on its own man made island with a superb view of the Arabian Gulf. About 40 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: Eight restaurants and lounges including Al Mahara, famous sea food restaurant and Al Muntaha, 200 metres above the Arabian Gulf offering panoramic view of Dubai serving European cuisine. Leisure facilities include two swimming pools, two fully equipped fitness studios and an aerobic floor. Treatment rooms, hydrotherapy baths, oriental massage, stand up solarium, sauna, steam rooms and jacuzzi. The other facilities include private banqueting and meeting rooms, ballroom and boardroom.

Accommodation: Burj Al Arab is an all suite hotel with 202 deluxe suites, each one arranged over two floors. Ranging from 169sq m to 780sq m in size, the floor to ceiling glass windows offer views of the Arabian Gulf. Decorated with lavish textures and exuberant colours, each suite features a

living and dining area. An office area complete with laptop, internet access, private fax, printer and copier. Entertainment system, plasma screen, video on demand, DVD system and a variety of cable channels.

(Member of the Leading hotels of the World).



Pool - Burj Al Arab



Assawan Spa - Burj Al Arab



Jumeirah Beach Hotel ***** *Deluxe*

Location: The Jumeirah Beach Hotel, situated on the white sands, enjoys a superb location on the shores of the Arabian Gulf, about 40 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: An excellent selection of restaurants and informal cafe's featuring a variety of world cuisine, plus a range of bars including poolside snacks bar and swim up bar. Leisure facilities include several swimming pools, tennis, squash, and fitness room with equipment, sauna, jacuzzi, massage and a golf driving range. The resort has watersports available from the beach including water skiing, scuba diving, parasailing, windsurfing and sailing. A supervised children's club and playground.

Accommodation: 599 spacious rooms and suites, all with floor to ceiling windows offering full sea view, air conditioning, telephone, television, mini bar, bath and shower. Executive rooms on the top floors of the hotel have the added benefit of pre dinner drinks, private lounge, and VIP service.

(Member of the Leading hotels of the World)



Pool - Jumeirah Beach

Dar Al Masyaf ***** Deluxe

Location: Located on the famous Jumeirah Beach, 40 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: Facilities include exclusive pools, 1km private beach with direct access, Sinbad's Kids Club, The Quay Health Club, 5 floodlit tennis courts and extensive water sports. The other facilities include Souk Madinat Jumeirah with 75 boutique shops and 23 bars and restaurants. World class restaurant with enchanting terraces for al fresco dining, 41 resort wide restaurants, cafes and bars offering an electric array of International cuisine. Six Senses Spa offering European and Asian therapies in 26 private treatment rooms, Madinat Theatre, a 432 seat multi functional venue and Souk Amphitheatre, a 1000 seat outdoor venue.

Accommodation: 29 summer houses comprising 283 rooms and suites with private balconies or terrace areas. In room facilities include private butler service, 24 hour room service, and television with wide choice of satellite channels, minibar, alarm clock radio, fax machine, scanner and photocopier.



Al Qasr ***** Deluxe

Location: Located on the famous Jumeirah Beach, 40 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: Facilities include Premium Leisure Club, large pool areas, 1km private beach, Sinbad's Kids Club, The Quay, Health Club, 5 floodlit tennis courts. Extensive water sports, Souk Madinat Jumeirah with 75 boutique shops and 23 bars and restaurants. Six Senses Spa offering European and Asian therapies in 26 private treatment rooms. Madinat Theatre, a 432 seat multi functional venue, Souk Amphitheatre, a 1000 seat outdoor venue. Three world class restaurants with enchanting terraces for al fresco dining. Two stylish bars and lounges overlooking the waterways and beautiful beach, 45 resort wide restaurants, cafes and bars offering an electric array of International cuisine. Private banqueting and meeting facilities.

Accommodation: 292 rooms and suites with private balconies. 24 hour room service, television with wide choice of satellite channels, minibar, alarm clock radio, fax machine, scanner and photocopier.



Mina A Salam ***** Deluxe

Location: The Mina A Salam has a superb location on the famous Jumeirah Beach. About 40 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: Private open beach with uninterrupted views and connecting boardwalk to the renowned Wild Wadi Water Park. Elevated pool with large terraces, 3000sq.m healthclub with indoor pools, Six Senses Spa offering European and Asian therapies in 28 private treatment rooms, Sauna, aerobic studio, Fully equipped gymnasium, 5 floodlit tennis courts, 2 squash courts. Numerous restaurants, bars and lounges. Souk Madina Jumeirah with 75 boutique shops and 23 bars and restaurants. High speed Internet access. Extensive water sports facilities. Madinat Theatre, Souk Amphitheatre.

Accommodation: This grand boutique hotel has 292 well appointed rooms with balconies. 24-hour room service, air conditioning, telephone and television with wide choice of satellite channels, minibar, alarm clock radio, fax machine, scanner and photocopier.



Atlantis, The Palm ***** Deluxe

Location: Atlantis is the flagship resort on Palm Jumeirah, and the first resort to open on Dubai's revolutionary island. The ambitious Palm project is typical of the bold spirit of Dubai, one of the seven emirates in the United Arab Emirates.

Facilities: Imperial Club, Atlantis Kids Club and Club Rush for teenagers/Two Royal Towers Pools with large decks and pool cabas. Royal Towers Private Beach. The Ambassador Lagoon with 65,000 fish and marine species. Dolphin Bay - an interactive experience with the world's most charismatic animals. The Lost Chambers Atlantean themed archaeological site with unique marine exhibits. A cosmopolitan avenue of over two dozen luxurious retail boutiques, Atlantis Spa with 27 wet and dry treatment rooms.

Accommodation: At Atlantis, the splendour of the accommodation doesn't end with the architecture. Each of our 1,373 spacious guest rooms and 166 suites is designed with subtle oceanic and Arabic influences, overlooking spectacular views of the azure Arabian Gulf or Palm Jumeirah itself. And if guests choose to stay in The Lost Chambers Suites, they won't be over looking the ocean, but looking into it. Floor-to-ceiling windows offer a spectacular view into the Ambassador Lagoon with a cornucopia of exotic marine life gracefully gliding by.



Hilton Dubai Jumeirah *****

Location: Situated on a large white sandy beach about 30 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: An excellent choice of bars and restaurants including a coffee shop and a pool bar. The other facilities including swimming pool, children's club, fitness centre and sauna. Watersports including and jet skiing and water skiing can be arranged locally.

Accommodation: 394 rooms elegantly decorated with air conditioning, satellite television with internet access. Deluxe sea view rooms are with balcony. Executive sea view rooms have superior facilities and amenities, private check in, drinks and snacks throughout the day and guests have access to private club lounge.



Hilton Dubai Creek *****

Location: Located on the Dubai Creek, this stylish boutique hotel is 15 minutes from the airport, 30 minutes to beach and a short distance to the shopping area, golf and yacht club.

Facilities: Rooftop pool, fitness room and a wide range of aromatherapy treatments. Facilities include spa, beauty salon, bar, restaurant, room service, safe deposit box, and laundry, VIP floor. Complimentary shuttle bus service to the Hilton Dubai Jumeirah Beach Club to use the beach and all facilities. The Hilton Dubai Creek offers unique dining concepts with the Glasshouse, a contemporary dining room, and Verre, the hotel's signature fine dining restaurant. The famous Michelin star chef Gordon Ramsay and his team oversee all catering.

Accommodation: 154 guestrooms with a view of the Creek and city. The room amenities include air conditioning, data port, coffee maker, hairdryer, mini bar, satellite TV, safe, clock radio, telephone and bathrobes. Executive rooms are located on the higher floors and offer benefits as a dedicated Club lounge where you can enjoy complimentary snacks and beverages throughout the day. The hotel also offers an impressive penthouse suite, located on the two top floors of the hotel.

Le Royal Meridian Beach Resort & Spa

Location: Located on the Jumeirah Beach opposite the world famous Emirates Golf Course and adjacent to the Jebel Ali Sailing Club. It is 30 minutes from Dubai airport and 25 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: The hotel has a good choice of restaurants including Italian, Lebanese, seafood and a choice of bars including swim up bar. The facilities include sports and recreation club, fully equipped gym, sauna, 2 swimming pools and children's pool. Water sports include water skiing and windsurfing. Deep sea fishing and scuba diving can also be arranged.

Accommodation: 500 rooms superbly furnished with bath, shower, air conditioning, telephone, television, and minibar. Land view rooms overlook desert. Sea view rooms have sea view.



One & Only Royal Mirage ***** *Deluxe*

Location: Nestles in 60 acres of gardens and designed in an Arabic style. This stylish hotel is located on the Jumeirah Beach overlooking the Arabian Gulf, opposite the prestigious Golf Club. 30 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: Private open beach. The Health and Beauty Institute features the Givenchy Spa, a traditional Oriental Hammam, hair salon and centre. Temperature controlled swimming pools. A wide range of sport and leisure activities - tennis, sailing, surfing, windsurfing, diving, snorkelling and much more. Indoor and outdoor children's play areas. Business centre, boardroom, conference centre, and library and the Royal and Feregrine ballrooms. Choice of several restaurants bars and clubs including beach bar and grill, serving International cuisine.

Accommodation: The hotel comprises of three equally distinctive properties, The Palace, The Arabian Court and The Residence and Spa. It has 531 deluxe rooms, suites and villas with private balcony. Room amenities include mini bar, satellite television, personal safe, and room directory. 24 hour room service, air conditioning, telephone and television with wide choice of satellite channels. (Member of the Leading hotels of the World)



La Meridian Mina Seyahi Beach Resort & Marina *****

Location: Located on the beachfront on the famous Jumeirah Beach. It is 30 minutes from Dubai airport and 25 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: Five swimming pools including 2 shaded children's pools and 2 temperature controlled. Fully equipped gym, football pitch, PADI diving centre, sauna and steam room. Water sports facilities - sailing, windsurfing speedboat etc. Choice of restaurants and bars serving International cuisine. The other facilities include barbershop, beauty saloon, business centre and secretarial service.

Accommodation: 211 tastefully decorated rooms and suites. Air conditioning, 24 hour room service, telephone, television, computer dataport and minibar. Land view rooms overlook the desert. Sea view rooms have sea view.



Jebel Ali Golf Resort & Spa *****Deluxe

Location: This multi-award winning luxurious 128 acre beach resort, With its own palmed beach, is 45 minutes from the airport. the resort overlooks golden shores of the Arabian Gulf offering option to stay in one of the two beachfront hotels

Facilities: Private beach, 9 hole par 36 championship golf course and academy, private marina offering fishing trips and sea plane flights. Choice of restaurants & bars serving International cuisine including an award winning Signatures. Three temperature controlled swimming pools, dedicated children's pool, Spa offering 40 treatments & therapies. Diving centre & Aqua Hut featuring water sports. Free wireless internet access in public areas. Peaco children's club & kids activities. The facilities include shooting club, riding stables, tennis, squash & badminton courts.

Accommodation: With 392 rooms and suites, the resort is comprised of two distinctly different properties. The Palm Tree Court & Spa and Jebel Ali Hotel are both located within 128 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens. Room amenities include private safe box, mini bar, tea & coffee making facilities, bathrobes, hairdryer, satellite TV and movie channels. 24 hour room service.

Habtoor Grand Resort & Spa *****

Location: The Habtoor Grand Resort and Spa, formerly Metropolitan Resort and Beach Club, is situated along the famous Jumeirah Beach, 30 minutes from Dubai airport and 20 minutes from the city centre.

Facilities: A choice of bars and restaurants serving International cuisine. Al Marsa, a superb Arabian sea food restaurant, Italian restaurant, Mun Chi serving Chinese, Japanese and Far Eastern cuisine, the beach bar and pool bar. Three swimming pools including children's pool with water slides. The other facilities include children's club, tennis court, squash, gym, spa, sauna and steam room. A range of water sports are available. The Emirates Golf Club is only 5 minutes drive away.

Accommodation: With 442 tastefully decorated pool/garden view and tower rooms and suites, it offers wide variety of luxurious accommodation. Air conditioning, 24-hour room service, laundry, flat screen TV with movie channel, DVD, telephone, mini bar and safety deposit box.



Dubai Marine Beach Resort & Spa *****

Location: Located at the city end of Jumeirah Beach Road, the resort is only 10 minutes drive from the city centre and World Trade Center and 15 minutes from Dubai International Airport. Exclusive shopping malls are within walking distance.

Facilities: Choice of bars and restaurants (12 food and beverage outlets), health club and spa, 2 large swimming pools, children's paddling gymnasium, tennis and squash courts, aerobic and spinning classes. Business centre, conference and banqueting, shopping arcade, money exchange, laundry, baby sitting and dry cleaning.

Accommodation: Set in beautifully landscaped gardens with waterfalls, the complex is made up of 33 villas offering 195 rooms and suites. 24 hour room service, air conditioning, hairdryer, minibar, safe, satellite TV and direct dial telephone. Suites have jacuzzi bath as well.



Grand Hyatt ***** Deluxe

Location: Grand Hyatt Dubai, towers majestically by the edge of Dubai's historic creek, set within a lush oasis of 37 acres of landscaped gardens. It is a 15 minute drive from the airport and close to the city centre.

Facilities: 14 restaurants, bars and cafés offer authentic International dining including Italian, Vietnamese, Singaporean, Lebanese and a fine American grill restaurant, wine and cocktail bars and MIX, a multi leveled nightlife complex. Recreational facilities include Zen inspired Grand Spa, tennis centre, indoor and outdoor swimming pools and jogging track. International Conference Centre with two magnificent conference ballrooms served by a state of the art Media room, and eleven meeting rooms, which include two full sized boardrooms. Purpose built outdoor space for events, conferences and incentives.

Accommodation: 674 hotel guestrooms and suites luxuriously appointed with ultra-modern digital technology and communications. The hotel also has 176 fully furnished apartments.

Oasis Beach Tower ****

Location : The luxurious Oasis Beach Tower is located on the famous Jumeirah Beach in Dubai, with great views over The Palm Jumeirah, Arabian Gulf and Dubai Marina. Our 2, 3 and 4-bedroom luxury hotel apartments in Dubai give you the ideal starting point to explore the true potential of Dubai or relax and take in the beautiful panoramic views.

Facilities: Oasis Beach Tower Apartments offers 180 air-conditioned guestrooms located on 45 floors, all of which have contemporary decor with sleek dark wood furnishings and include balconies with Arabian Gulf or Dubai Marina views, fully equipped kitchens, and separate living areas with LCD satellite television and CD and DVD players.

Accommodation: All of these 5 star apartments feature a spacious kitchen that is fully equipped with modern appliances. The living area includes a state-of-the-art LCD TV and data points are provided in all rooms, enabling guests to connect additional TVs, telephones, computers and other IT equipment. The apartments are divided into 3 categories according to the floor they are on as follows: Deluxe, Superior, Premium





Dhow Palace *****

Location: Hotel is located in the heart of Bur Dubai's commercial district. Its close proximity to the Airport, World Trade Center, BurJuman Shopping Mall and other prominent landmarks makes it ideal for both business, leisure and shopping visitors.

Facilities: Meet and greet at the airport, 24 hours room service, laundry, valet and dry cleaning, Fully equipped business center, Baby Sitting, Personalised grooming, health and spa facilities, Gift shops, Private car transfers, Daily shopping mall/beach shuttle, Interactive TV programmes.

Accommodation: Dubai's first Premium Property in Bur Dubai, is steeped in Arabic traditions and well equipped with the world's finest cuisine, specialty restaurants, Bar Lounge, and an authentic living experience in the most calm, peaceful, and posh residential vicinities



The Taj Palace Hotel *****

Location: Located in the heart of Dubai, this five star hotel is 15 minutes drive from Dubai Airport and 15 minutes to the beach and a short distance.

Facilities: 24 hour fitness centre, swimming pool, kids club and swimming pool, Ayurvedic, Far Eastern and European spa treatments. Perfumery, beauty parlour, pharmacy, shopping arcade, wireless internet access. Banquet and ballroom including Arabic tent shaped ballroom. Business centre, video conferencing, baby sitting, doctor on call. Choice of restaurants and lounges serving International cuisine including Indian, Japanese, Arabic, Turkish and Italian. The hotel does not serve alcohol.

Accommodation: 159 spacious executive rooms and suites. All rooms have private balcony, in room safe, fax machine, interactive TV, tea/coffee maker and 24 hour room service. The hotel also has 90 fully furnished spacious deluxe service apartments with a fully equipped kitchen. Private lobby and maid's room.



Sea View Hotel ****

Location: This spacious brand new hotel is centrally located in the heart of Dubai's financial district Bur Dubai. The hotel is a short distance to the main shopping area including Meen bazaar and the fashionable Bur Juman shopping mall. It is 15 minutes drive from Dubai Airport and World Trade Centre and a short drive away to Jumeirah Beach.

Facilities: Choice of restaurants, Indian, Chinese and Arabic offering traditional entertainment with a wide selection of authentic cuisine. The Philippino Night Club offering Continental and the Philippino food with live band and entertainment, 24-hour coffee shop. The other facilities include roof top swimming pool with sea view, gym, sauna and steam room. Free shuttle service to the Jumeira beach.

Accommodation: 107 well appointed rooms and suites, air conditioning, colour television, telephone, voice mail, minibar, tea and coffee making facilities and in room safe, Laundry and 24 hour room service. Non smoking rooms are available.



Capitol Hotel ****

Location: This spacious hotel is conveniently located within short distance from the World Trade Centre and 12kms from Dubai Airport. The nearby Al Dhiyafa Street with its array of cafes and shopping malls are within walking distance. Jumeirah Beach is short drive away.

Facilities: The facilities include choice of restaurants serving American, Chinese, Lebanese and International cuisine, bars, nightclub, business centre, conference and meeting facilities, same day laundry and 24 hour room service. Rooftop swimming pool, fully equipped fitness and health centre, sauna and steam bath.

Accommodation: 168 spacious and very well appointed rooms including suites. Television with satellite and local channels, IDD telephone, voice mail, mini-bar and in room safe.



Arabian Court Yard ****

Location: Set in the heart of Dubai, walking distance to the famous Dubai Creek and Meena Bazaar opposite the Dubai Museum. The hotel is 15 minutes drive from the airport and a short distance from the World Trade Centre and Sheikh Zayed Road.

Facilities: Restaurants serving Indian, Chinese, Thai, Japanese and International cuisine. English pub with large screen TV, bar, coffee shop, business centre, conference and meeting facilities, currency exchange, laundry, doctor on call. Ballrooms, beauty saloon, barber shop, swimming pool, sun deck, gym, jacuzzi, sauna and steam room.

Accommodation: 172 rooms and suites elegantly appointed in traditional Arabian way with latest amenities and internet access. 24 hour room service, television with satellite and local channels, IDD telephone, voice mail, hairdryer, mini-bar, tea/coffee maker and in room safe.



The Metropolitan Hotel ****

Location: The hotel is located on the Sheikh Zayed Road, 15 minutes from the airport and 15 minutes from Jumeirah beach and very close to the World Trade Centre.

Facilities: Swimming pool, fully equipped gym, massage, jacuzzi, steam and sauna. Banquet rooms, business centre, executive floor and a private lounge. Metroplex food court and cinema complex, internet café, hairdressing salon, photo shop, convenience store with postal service. Choice of restaurants and bars, serving International cuisine, including 24 hour restaurant and Red Lion English pub.

Accommodation: 192 elegantly furnished rooms and 13 suites direct dial telephones, radio and colour television with satellite programming and in house movies. Individually controlled air conditioning, mini bar, express laundry service, 24 hour room service. The executive floor offers a separate fax and internet connection.

Chelsea Tower Apartments****

Location: Located on the prestigious Sheikh Zayed Road within easy reach to the leisure, commercial and entertainment areas of Dubai. Chelsea Tower is 20 minutes drive from the Dubai Airport.

Facilities: The facilities include a large swimming pool with sun beds, restaurant, room service, laundry service, fully equipped gym, steam and sauna. Telephone with IDD facility, T.V with cable connection and DVD player.

Accommodation: The Chelsea Tower, with an awe-inspiring architecture, is 49 stories tall with superb views of Dubai. Tastefully decorated 281 fully furnished modern one, two and three bedroom air conditioned apartments. Fully equipped modern kitchen with all appliances washing machine, fridge, hotplates etc.



Golden Sands Hotel Apartments***

Location: Ideally located within easy reach to the leisure, commercial and entertainment areas of Dubai. These apartments are 15 minutes drive from the Dubai Airport.

Facilities: The facilities include Swimming pool, coffee shop (open 24 hours), room service, fitness centre and sauna.

Accommodation: 365, one-room and 82 two room air conditioned studios. All studios are self-contained with sleeping, living, dining and kitchenette area plus shower room. They are also equipped with washing machine/dryer, fridge, hotplates, satellite T.V and IDD telephone. Two room studios have and an additional bedroom and shower room. Two and three bedroom apartments are also available.

Pearl Residence Hotel Apartments***

Location: These spacious and comfortable apartments are conveniently located within easy reach to the leisure, commercial and entertainment areas of Dubai. These apartments are within short distance from the World Trade centre and 15 minutes drive from the Dubai Airport.

Facilities: The facilities include rooftop swimming pool, coffee shop, room service, multi cuisine restaurant serving Asian, Arabic and International cuisine, fitness centre, steam and sauna room, laundry and 24 hour room service.

Accommodation: 28, studios and 56 one bedroom furnished apartments All apartments are self-contained with sleeping, living, dining and kitchenette. They are also equipped with washing machine/dryer, fridge, hotplates, satellite TV and IDD telephone.



Emirates Palace (Abu Dhabi)

***** *Deluxe Deluxe*

Location: Emirates Palace is conveniently located near major business quarters, shopping malls and local attractions. 38kms from Abu Dhabi International airport and 1km from the city centre.

Facilities: Facilities include coffee shop, choice of several restaurants and bars serving International cuisine. The other facilities include 1.3kms of secluded private beach, 2 swimming pools, 2 state of art fitness centres and shops. Convention, meeting and ballroom facilities.

Accommodation: The hotel has exceptional appointed rooms and suites. They include 302 luxury rooms, 40 splendid Khaleej suites, 4 Presidential suites, 16 Palace suites divisible into a total of 48 individual suites. Inside every room, the decor is a masterful blend of Arabian regal splendour and the latest technology. Room amenities include the most advanced hotel multimedia system, including touch screen control panel that allows full control of all room appliances such as lights, air conditioning and in room entertainment. Interactive TV, high speed internet, games, access to room bill, shopping, room service, telephone directory, videos on request, instant rewind and pausing of programs, 50 inch plasma screens in all rooms, 50 and 61 inch plasma screens in the suites. All suites are equipped with a laptop and a scanner/printer/fax unit.



Movenpick (Dubai) *****

Location: Located in the heart of the city, the Movenpick Hotel Bur Dubai is just 10 minutes from Dubai International Airport and the World Trade Centre, in close proximity to the famous Wafi City for a luxurious shopping and dining experience, the Lamcy Mall and Jumeirah Beach.

Facilities: Choice of multi cuisine restaurants and bars including Italian, Lebanese and rooftop bar. The other facilities include rooftop swimming pool with kids pool, heated out door swimming pool, extensive health club, sauna, jogging track, sun bed and massage parlour.

Accommodation: 232 well appointed air conditioned rooms. 24 hour room service, bathtub/shower, cable TV, IDD telephone, voice mail, hair dryer, high speed internet, mini bar, refrigerator, mini safe, and self controlled heating system.



Beach Rotana Hotel & Towers (Abu Dhabi) *****

Location: Ideally located in the heart of the capital's business and shopping districts, 30 minutes away from Abu Dhabi International Airport and 90 minutes from Dubai International Airport. The hotel is directly linked by an exclusive passageway to the prestigious Abu Dhabi Mall.

Facilities: The hotel has its own stretch of pristine white beach. Choice of restaurants, bars and café's serving International cuisine. It has 10 world class food and beverage venues. Italian, German and French-Polynesian are the specialty restaurants. Bay view restaurant, 2 beach bars, kids outdoor play area, crèche, 3 Floodlit tennis courts, 2 squash courts, gym, temperature controlled adults and kids' pool and water sports.

Accommodation: Elegantly appointed rooms and suites, over 400 hundred, including executive rooms on six dedicated club floors. The hotel also has Beach Rotana suites comprising of fully furnished studios, one, two and three bed room apartments with a café and 24 hour room service.



DUBAI EXCURSIONS



DUBAI CITY TOUR

An ideal way to explore the past and the present of this modern and dynamic metropolis. A half day capsule tour takes you through some of the most spectacular landmarks of the city. The magnificent Jumeirah mosque, Jumeirah beach, Sheikh Saeed's Palace, the Creek, and Bastakiya (wind towers). Take a ride on the Abra (small local boat) and after crossing the Creek, you arrive at the Gold Souk, home to hundreds of Gold shops where bartering is a way of life, close by is Spice souk. Visit the city museum, housed in a 150 year old fort. The museum provides an insight into the region's ancient and recent past.

DHOW CRUISE DINNER

The Dubai Creek is a historic waterway that provided a lifeline to this vibrant city. Evening cruise aboard a majestic Dhow (boat) with the best in local and International cuisine laid out in front of you as the moonlight, lapping of the waves and the sights of the city in the distance work their magic. This picturesque cruise takes about two hours and you capture the breathtaking views of Dubai by night. Tour includes return transfer to your hotel.

DUBAI SHOPPING TOUR

Discover why Dubai is called the Shopper's Paradise, where shopping is fun and bargaining its best part. The tour will take you to some of the famous shopping malls and souks of Dubai. Put your bargaining skills to test at the imposing city centre, Bur Juman and the glittering Gold Souk. The tour promises to leave you with a heady feeling and a 'lighter' pocket.



DESERT SAFARI

No visit to Dubai would be complete without a trip into the desert. These excursions offer a taste of the true heartland of Arabia. The majesty and tranquility of the desert can be experienced with a choice of exciting half day, full day and overnight safaris supported by highly qualified drivers. In the afternoon, our safari guides will transport you by a four wheel drive vehicle, for a thrilling journey over rolling dunes, deep in the heart of the desert. From the crest of a high dune, watch the sunset over the vast expanse of rippling sand around you. As you drive on you will see, in the distance, flickering lights of your camp where a traditional Arabian welcome awaits you.

The encampment conjures up images of the Arabian nights. Relax on comfortable low cushions in Bedu tents and quench your thirst, have your hands painted with intricate henna designs, experience a short camel ride, or just enjoy the aromatic shisha. Enjoy the dinner in a traditional Arabic style under the galaxy of stars. You will be entertained by the bewitching belly dancer swaying to the haunting strains of Arabian music.

OVERNIGHT SAFARI

The ultimate in real life thrill is an overnight desert safari, this adventure will make you thirst for more. Arrive at the campsite as the sun sets in the distance over the dunes. As the moon rises in the horizon, feast on the most delicate local cuisine and enjoy the ambience of the local culture complete with a belly dancer. Spend the night under the blanket of the stars in the silence of the night, waking up at sunrise to a hearty breakfast before leaving for the majestic Hajar Mountains and the wadis of Hatta on your way to Dubai.



SHARJAH & AJMAN TOUR

A half day tour takes you to the twin emirates of Sharjah and Ajman. Ajman museum housed in an ancient fort, gives you an intriguing insight into the lifestyle of the people before oil brought about dramatic changes so visible today. En route pass Sharjah and its spectacular King Faisal mosque, Al Ittihad monument and the imposing Rulers Palace. Stop at the Al Majorrah souk with its intricate mosaics and the golden dome, the 150 year old Al Naboodah House. Explore the Al Arsah souk and the Blue souk selling beautiful carpets, silver antiques, perfumes and many other curios.

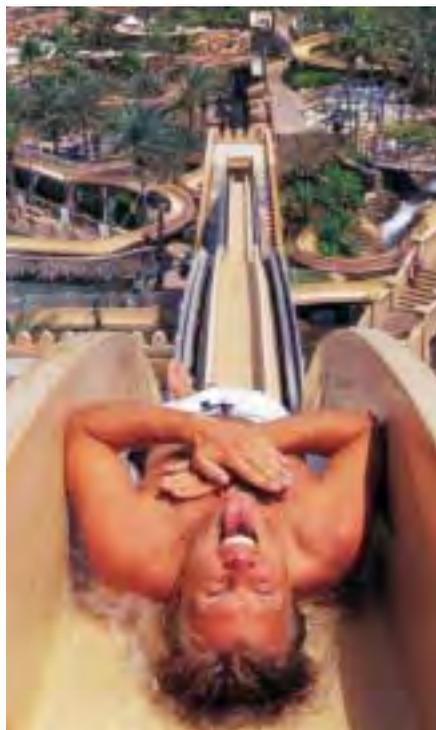
ABU DHABI TOUR

Abu Dhabi, the capital of UAE, is a major centre for oil business and one of the richest cities in the Middle East. En route to this beautiful city lies Jebel Ali, world's largest man made Free Zone Port. Abu Dhabi holds many surprises to whet the curiosity of the visitor. Visit the Petroleum Exhibition, Heritage village and drive along the scenic Corniche with its spectacular volcano fountain. Modern skyscrapers dot the skyline with the break waters stretching out to the sea. The tour passes Sheikh Zayed's Palace (Late President of UAE) and takes you to the Dhow building yard before heading back to Dubai.

WILD WADI WATER PARK

Located near the Jumeirah Beach Hotel, Wild Wadi combines giant rock formations and tropical vegetation to create a dramatic visual re creation of the mountain peaks and deep wadis of the Hajar Mountains. Here, continuous waterborne excitement is yours, with over 20 individual fun filled rides. There's the gravity defying Jumeirah Sceirah (which is not for the faint hearted) and the Master Blasters, a series of stupendous water roller coasters. For a more relaxing view of the park, jump into a hoop and float gently down Lazy River.

At Breakers Bay you will encounter one and a half metre high waves. The kids will love the shallow pools, the cool water jets and mini slides. Flood River creates sudden river rapids and unannounced surges and waves, while Flow Riders offers the ultimate surfing experience. Safety vests are available and professional lifeguards keep a constant vigil.



AL-AIN TOUR

Al Ain, a charming desert oasis better known as "The Garden City of the Emirates". In ancient times this beautiful city at the foot of the magnificent Hajar Mountains was a stop on the caravan trail. Visit the Hili garden dating back more than 5000 years and the museum, where ancient settlements dating back to the Iron and Bronze Age have been discovered. Discover the camel market with its exciting array of local sights. Drive up the winding road of Jebel Hafeet, UAE's highest mountain peak that offers excellent vantage points with spectacular views of the town, surrounding desert and Oman in the distance.



EAST COAST (FUJAIRAH) TOUR

Fujairah, lying on the southern corner of the Arabian Peninsula is the only emirate located on the shores of the Gulf of Oman. It is a narrow coastal strip at the edge of the Hajar Mountains. Miles of unspoilt sandy beaches, aquamarine blue sea teeming with marine life and loads of sunshine. The trip offers excellent opportunities to capture the abundant natural beauty of the emirate. During monsoons on the journey to the Al Bidaya mosque (the oldest mosque in the UAE) you will see mountains draped in greenery with castles, old forts and watchtowers, creating a feast for the beholders eyes.

DEEP SEA FISHING

Fishing trips can be individually planned to meet your tastes. Well equipped boats and experienced skippers take you to some of the most prolific fishing grounds in the area, where the warm waters of the Gulf harbour a wide range of fish and marine life. The diverse marine life of these waters includes Barracuda, Shark, Sailfish, King Fish, Jack, Tuna, Red snapper and Rock cod.



GOLF IN DUBAI

Dubai boasts many world-class golf courses. Both professional and amateur players enjoy world-class golf at any of the UAE's championship courses.

The Emirates Golf Club: Renowned for its spectacular courses and the clubhouse. Its five lakes, the intricate Majlis course and the first grass course in the middle east pose many challenges to players. Players can test their expertise against the natural contours of the desert in the Wadi course.

Dubai Creek Golf & Yacht Club: Spectacularly situated beside the Creek, invites you to pit your skills against water hazards, sand traps and tricky contours of its 18 hole, par 71 tropical course. Play continues long after dark on the floodlit 9 hole, par 3 course.

Nad Al Sheba Golf Club: Flood lit, links style, 18 hole, par 71 course is set in and around a camel and horse racetrack. The undulating hills, the deep pot bunkers and large lakes, are open to desert winds and call for accuracy as a measure of skill.

The Montgomerie Golf Course: Designed by Colin Montgomerie in association with Desmond Muirhead and managed by Troon Golf. The par 72 golf course spans 200 acres, offers 7,308 yards of golf and features holes that vary from the classic to the truly original. The scale of this course is a sheer challenge to golfers of all levels.

Jebel Ali Golf Course: Exotically landscaped 9 hole golf course offers superb views of the Arabian Gulf, with four tees offering different aspects of playability. Alternatively, just enjoy the floodlit driving range and putting green.

DUNE BUGGY

New single and double seater dune buggies especially designed for the desert. You will be taken you on a dedicated roller coaster route through the dunes to explore the wonders of the desert. Protective headgear is provided. This is a great idea for those who love adventure.

TAJ HOTELS

Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces have won international acclaim for its quality hotels, excellence in dining, business facilities, interiors, and world class personalized service. Taj has over 57 hotels in 38 locations across India ranging from authentic Palaces in Rajasthan to the gracing towns and cities, beautiful beaches, historical and pilgrim centres and wildlife destinations.



The Taj Mahal Palace & Towers *Deluxe - Mumbai*

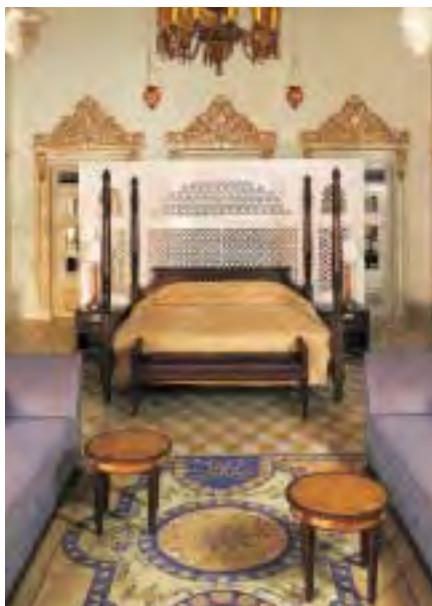
Built in 1903, the hotel is an architectural landmark of Mumbai. Generously appointed 565 rooms and suites with a choice of city or sea facing rooms. Heritage wing rooms overlook the city or pool or face the Arabian Sea. The hotel has 6 restaurants, 2 bars, discotheque, health club and Jive spa.

Taj President *Deluxe - Mumbai*

Located in the downtown area, within easy reach of business and shopping areas. The hotel has 292 well appointed rooms and suites. Coffee shop, 2 speciality restaurants serving Thai and Italian cuisine.

Taj Residency *First Class - Aurangabad*

This palace styled hotel has 40-rooms, a restaurant, bar, pool, fitness centre and tennis. Rooms have balconies.



Taj Residency Ummed *First Class - Ahmedabad*

Located near to the airport, 15 minutes drive to the main shopping and entertainment area. The hotel has 91 rooms and suites, restaurant, coffee shop, pool and fitness centre.



Taj Mahal *Deluxe - Delhi*

This 296 room hotel is located in a most sought after area, 10 minutes drive to commercial and entertainment areas. Facilities include multi cuisine restaurants, bars and lounges. Swimming pool, health club, fitness centre and spa.

Taj Palace *Deluxe - Delhi*

The distinguished hotel, nestled in six acres of lush gardens, is located in the diplomatic enclave 20 minutes drive from the airport. It offers 422 rooms and suites. Facilities include 9 hole putting green, conference and banqueting facilities, swimming pool and spa.

Taj View *First Class - Agra*

Located within 1km from the Taj Mahal, this 100 room hotel has some Taj facing rooms. Facilities include multicuisine restaurant, bar, swimming pool, beauty parlour and spa.

Rambagh Palace *Deluxe - Jaipur*

Centrally located and set amidst 47 acres of gardens. Rambagh Palace, former Royal residence of Maharaja of Jaipur, has 90 luxurious appointed rooms and suites with all modern amenities. Facilities include choice of restaurants, horse riding and tennis.

Jai Mahal Palace *Deluxe - Jaipur*

A magnificent palace hotel set amidst 18 acres of well laid gardens. The hotel has 100 garden or pool view rooms. Excellent service and modern amenities.

The Swai Madhopur Lodge

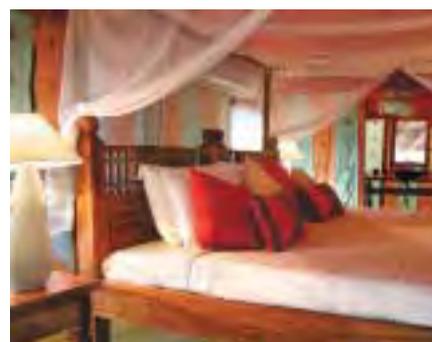
First Class - Swai Madhopur

This 70 year old former hunting lodge of the Maharaja is set amidst 12 acres of lush gardens; 20 minutes drive from the Ranthambore National Park. The lodge has 29 rustic rooms and tents (March to October).

Umaid Bhawan Palace *Deluxe - Jodhpur*

Umaid Bhawan Palace, with its lavish interiors, elegant artwork and exotic murals, is one of the largest and grandest residences in the world and still the home of Maharaja of Jodhpur. This 98 room palace is perched on the hillock with views of the city. It has a palace museum and a library, 3 restaurants, bar, indoor swimming pool and fitness centre.





Taj Hari Mahal Palace *Deluxe* - Jodhpur

Spread over 6 acres of landscaped gardens and located close to the city centre. It is built in Marwar style architecture with 93 rooms and suites. Facilities include multi cuisine restaurant with speciality Marwari and Chinese cuisine, bar, swimming pool, fitness club and spa.

Taj Lake Palace *Deluxe* - Udaipur

In the middle of the Lake Pichola, this 250 year old exquisite white marble palace is one of the most romantic palaces in the world. Originally built as a summer palace for the Maharaja, it offers 84 rooms, swimming pool, bar, shopping arcade and spa.

Rawalkot *First Class* - Jaisalmer

Perched above the town, the hotel has been built in Rajasthani style and offers postcard perfect views of the 12th Century Jaisalmer Fort. This 31 room Taj hotel has modern comfortable facilities.

Taj Ganges *First Class* - Varanasi

Situated in the holy city of Varanasi and set amidst 40 acres, the hotel offers 130 spacious rooms and suites with all modern amenities. Facilities includes restaurant, bar, coffee shop, beauty parlour, swimming pool, yoga and spa.

Taj Chandela *First Class* - Khajuraho

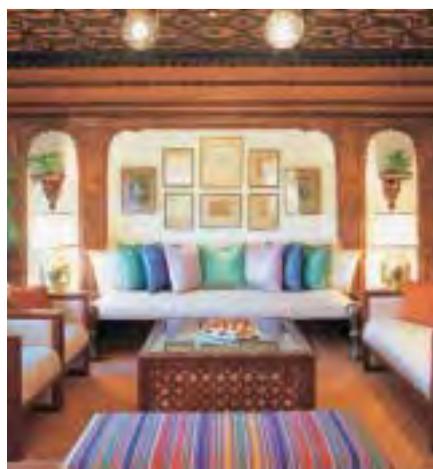
Taj Chandela is within easy access to the world famous Khajuraho temples. Set amidst 11 acres of gardens and with 94 elegantly appointed rooms, this hotel offers modern comforts including swimming pool.

Usha Kiran Palace *First Class* - Gwalior

Rich in history, this 120 year old palace is set amidst sprawling lawns. The hotel has 36 luxury rooms and suites, a restaurant, bar and spa.

Taj West End *Deluxe* - Bangalore

This 122 room luxury Taj hotel is situated near the city centre with 20 acres of landscaped gardens. Multicuisine restaurants serving finest Indian and International cuisine including Labanese, Italian, Mediterranean and Vietnamese. The hotel has 3 bars, pool, health club and spa.



Taj Residency *First Class* - Bangalore

The hotel is centrally located and has 166 rooms with all amenities including 3 restaurants, pool, health club and spa.

The Savoy *First Class* - Ooty

Located on a hill, this colonial period hotel has 40 rooms in spacious cottages. A colonial style bar, multicuisine restaurant, Ayurveda centre and spa.

Taj Malabar *Deluxe* - Cochin

Located on the Willingdon Island with a magnificent view of Cochin harbour, the Taj Malabar has 96 elegantly appointed rooms overlooking the scenic backwaters. The hotel has all amenities including restaurants, a bar, beautiful pool and spa.

Taj Residency *First Class* - Ernakulam (Cochin)

Located minutes away from the city centre and busy commercial area. Taj Residency offers views of the sea and harbour. It has 108 rooms with excellent amenities.

Taj Connemara *Deluxe* - Chennai

The Connemara is a blend of traditional with modern. It has 150 tastefully decorated rooms, 2 restaurants, a bar, pool, fitness centre, beauty parlour and spa.

Taj Garden Retreat *First Class* - Madurai

Perched atop a hill, amidst 62 acres of gardens, this period hotel is a blend of colonial architecture and recent renovations. It offers picturesque views of the Temple City. It has 63 large elegant rooms, restaurant, a bar, pool, spa and a tennis court.

Taj Bengal *Deluxe* - Kolkatta

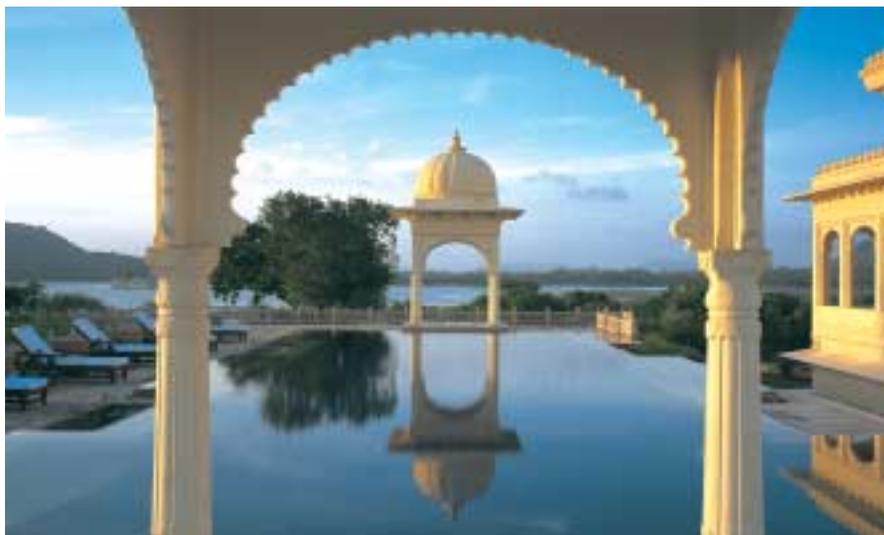
Modern 229 room hotel offering luxurious style and comfort. It has 4 restaurants, a bar, pool, health club, beauty parlour and spa.



OBEROI HOTELS

The Oberoi Hotels & Resorts owns and manages thirty hotels and five luxury cruisers in exotic locations across six countries under the 'Oberoi' and 'Trident' brands. Internationally recognized, the Group have been the recipient of innumerable awards and accolades. The Oberoi group's new luxury resorts "VILAS" have created a reputation for the highest levels of luxury.

Trident Hotels are superior first class International hotels with contemporary facilities offering quality and value.



The Oberoi *Deluxe* - Mumbai

The hotel is centrally located in the heart of the commercial district overlooking the Arabian Sea. A selection of fine restaurants, bars and meeting rooms. All 333 rooms are spacious and tastefully decorated. Facilities include pool, fitness centre and spa.

The Hilton Towers *Deluxe* - Mumbai

Located in the heart of the business district overlooking the Arabian Sea. The hotel has 575 rooms, 3 restaurants, a bar, pool and fitness centre.

The Oberoi *Deluxe* - Delhi

The Oberoi Delhi is a modern, luxury hotel, close to the business and commercial centres. The hotel has 300 rooms elegantly furnished in contemporary Indian style, choice of restaurants including Thai, Chinese and French, 2 bar, open air pool, spa and fitness centre by Banyan Tree.

Maidens Hotel *First Class* - Delhi

Maidens Hotels, set amidst lush gardens, has retained its colonial charm and architecture. It is within easy access to historic monuments and shopping areas. The rooms are spacious with high ceilings. Facilities include restaurant, pool and tennis court.



Amarvilas *Super Deluxe* - Agra

A super deluxe resort within walking distance from the Taj Mahal. Set among lush Mughal inspired pools and terraced gardens with fountains. It has 112 luxuriously appointed rooms and suites with a view of the Taj. Every modern service, including spa facility, is provided in luxury and comfort.

Vanyavilas *Deluxe* - Ranthambor

A luxurious jungle resort, set in 20 acres of landscaped gardens, lakes and fountains, is just a little way from the Ranthambore National Park. Air conditioned luxury tents with own private garden set among trees by a carp filled lake. Facilities include restaurant, bar, heated outdoor swimming pool and a fabulous spa.

Rajvilas *Super Deluxe* - Jaipur

Rajvilas Palace is one of the finest hotels in India set in a thirty two acres of beautiful gardens, pools and fountains. It has 71 rooms including air conditioned tents and pool villas. The facilities include multicuisine restaurant, bar, gym, pool and spa.

Udaivilas *Super Deluxe* - Udaipur

Located on the banks of Lake Pichola, 4km from the city centre. The rooms at the hotel are richly appointed with private walled courtyards. Facilities include 2 restaurants, bar, pool and a spa.

The Oberoi *Deluxe* - Bangalore

Centrally located in the heart of the garden city in the tropical landscaped setting. All 160 spacious rooms are well appointed. The hotel has 3 restaurants, a bar, pool, sports and fitness centre and a spa.

The Oberoi Cecil *Deluxe* - Shimla

A Grand Heritage hotel over 100 years old in the Himalayas. Located to the one end of the mall near Vice Regal Lodge, it has 79 elegantly appointed rooms, centrally air conditioned, restaurant, a bar, pool, health club and a billiards room.



The Oberoi Grand *Deluxe* - Kolkatta

This landmark Victorian style hotel is located in the fashionable area in the heart of the City. It has 213 elegantly furnished rooms, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, beauty parlour, pool, health club and spa.





The Oberoi MV Vrinda
Deluxe - Kerala Backwaters

MV Vrinda is an exclusive cruiser with 8 tastefully appointed air conditioned luxury cabins with wooden floors. Located on the lower deck, all cabins have king size beds and windows overlooking the lake. Each has its own private well appointed bathroom with shower, TV, DVD and safe deposit. The dining room on board offers a selection of both International and regional cuisine. On the upper deck are the lounge and bar. Breakfast on the sun deck at sunrise is just one magical experience of many to remember on this trip. For cruise itinerary see Images of India.

Trident Hilton First Class - Cochin

Located on Willingdon Island, twenty minutes from the business district. The hotel offers contemporary facilities in a relaxed and serene ambience. It has 85 rooms, multicuisine restaurant, seafood grill, a bar, pool and fitness centre.

Trident Hilton First Class - Jaipur

Situated en route to Jaipur's renowned Amer Fort, Trident Hilton has 138 elegantly appointed rooms with balconies overlooking the Mansagar Lake or the Aravalli range. The facilities include a restaurant, bar, swimming pool and a fitness centre.

Trident Hilton First Class - Chennai

Conveniently located close to the airport and the new business districts. This elegant low rise hotel is set in 5 acres of tropical gardens with 167 well appointed rooms including a club floor with modern amenities. The other features are multi cuisine restaurant, a bar, pool and fitness centre.

Trident Hilton First Class - Udaipur

Located on the banks of the Pichola Lake and set in 43 acres of landscaped surroundings. The architecture of the hotel reflects the ancient heritage of Udaipur City. The hotel has 143 well appointed rooms with modern amenities. Facilities include multi cuisine restaurant, coffee shop, a bar and a swimming pool.



Trident Hilton First Class - Agra

A modern hotel set in landscaped gardens. The hotel has 138 elegantly furnished rooms with modern amenities. Facilities include restaurant, coffee shop, a bar and swimming pool.

Trident Hilton First Class - Bhubaneshwar

The hotel is set amidst lush green lawns and fruit orchards. The interiors of the hotel are inspired by the traditional temple architecture. It has 62 rooms, restaurant, bar, pool, tennis court and jogging track.



HOTELS AT A GLANCE



Mughal Sheraton - Agra

AGRA

Mughal Sheraton

This luxury 285 room hotel is spread over 27 acres of gardens. Choice of 4 restaurants, ample leisure facilities - tennis, mini golf club, health club and pool.



Jaypee Palace

Jaypee Palace

A modern 5 star hotel with 350 rooms, pool, fitness centre, beauty parlour, putting green.

Mansingh Hotel

A 100 room centrally air conditioned hotel with a multi cuisine restaurant, coffee shop, a bar and pool. 3km from the down town area.

Howard Park Plaza

A comfortable hotel with 83 rooms. 2 restaurants, bar and swimming pool.

AMRITSAR

Ritz Plaza

Located on the posh Mall Road, this modern hotel has 50 rooms, a restaurant, bar and a pool.

AHMEDANBAD

Cama Park Plaza

A comfortable hotel with 49 centrally air conditioned rooms, restaurant, 24 hour room service, pool and fitness room.

AURANGABAD

Ajanta Ambassador

The excellent 5 star hotel, set amid lawns and fountains. It has 96 well furnished rooms. Facilities include multi cuisine restaurant, 2 bars, pool, tennis court and fitness centre.

BANGALORE

Capitol Hotel

A centrally located modern hotel. It has 135 beautifully appointed rooms and suites equipped with modern facilities. Facilities include bar, restaurant, swimming pool and a fitness room.

BHARATPUR

Laxmi Vilas Palace

A heritage hotel close to the park, with 25 large air conditioned rooms. It has a restaurant and a pool.

BHUBANESHWAR

Hotel Swosti

Located in the heart of the city. Centrally AC hotel with 57 rooms, 2 restaurants and a bar.

BHAVNAGAR

Nilambagh Palace

A heritage hotel with 28 air conditioned rooms, pool and a popular restaurant.

BIKANER

Raj Vilas Palace

This heritage hotel offers 55 well appointed rooms, 24 hour coffee shop, multi cuisine restaurant, a bar, swimming pool, health club, beauty parlour, sauna and steam bath.



Leela Kempinsky

BOMBAY (MUMBAI)

Leela Kempinsky

Set amidst landscaped gardens. This luxury hotel has 423 rooms, 5 restaurants, a bar and a beautiful pool. It is close to the International airport.

Holiday Inn

Located at Juhu Beach, a short drive away from the shopping areas. The hotel has 191 rooms with Arabian Sea/pool views, 3 restaurants, a bar, modern health club and beauty salon.

Hotel Fariyas

Located in the city centre, walking distance to Gateway of India. The hotel features 79 rooms with modern facilities, swimming pool, multi cuisine restaurant, a bar, sauna and beauty parlour.



Oriental Restaurant, Ambassador - Bombay

Ambassador

A modern hotel with 123 rooms. Centrally located close to all amenities. Facilities include 2 restaurants including popular revolving restaurant offering oriental cuisine, a bar and a fitness centre.

BHOPAL

Noor Us Sabah Palace

A palace hotel on a hilltop with excellent views. The hotel has 70 air conditioned rooms with modern amenities including 2 restaurants, a bar and swimming pool.

BADAMI

Badami Court

The hotel features 25 air conditioned double rooms and 2 suites, multi cuisine restaurant, swimming pool, health club and safe deposit.

CHANDIGARH

Taj Chandigarh

Located in the heart of Chandigarh, the hotel has 152 elegantly furnished rooms with contemporary facilities. Facilities include 3 restaurants, a bar, swimming pool, fitness centre and spa.

COCHIN

Casino Hotel

Located on Wellington Island, built in traditional style with 67 rooms, a popular seafood restaurant, a bar and a pool.

Bruntons Boat Yard

Dutch style hotel, with lots of character, overlooking the harbour. Located in Fort Cochin within walking distance to Chinese fishing nets and St Franc's Church. It has well appointed rooms, 2 restaurants, a bar and a beautiful pool.

Hotel Abad Atrium

A charming small hotel with 52 air conditioned rooms, restaurant and a bar, 24 hour room service, swimming pool, health club, steam room, sauna and safe deposit.

COORG

Orange Country Resort

Set amidst coffee plantations, the resort has spacious rooms in cottages with modern facilities. It has 2 restaurants, bar, swimming pool, health club and Ayurvedic centre. Plenty of walks, angling opportunities and boating in the Cauvery river.



Hotel Imperial - Delhi

DELHI

Hotel Imperial

This colonial period hotel is located amidst landscaped gardens in the heart of city. The hotel has 263 rooms, 3 restaurants, 2 bars, swimming pool and a discotheque.

Intercontinental the Grand

Located in the heart of Connaught Place. The hotel has 444 well appointed rooms. Facilities include 7 restaurants, bar, discotheque, pool, beauty parlour, fitness centre, sauna, jacuzzi and spa.



Intercontinental the Grand

Metropolitan Nikko

Metropolitan Nikko

Five star hotel located in the heart of Delhi with 169 well appointed rooms. The facilities include multicuisine restaurant, bar, fitness centre, steam, sauna, jacuzzi, massages, outdoor swimming pool and beauty parlour.

Vasant Continental

A modern five star hotel located in the posh embassy area of Delhi. The hotel offers 119 well appointed rooms, multi cuisine restaurant, bar lounge, gym, aerobic centre, pool, jacuzzi sauna and massage facilities.

The Connaught

A modern 4 star hotel located in the Connaught Place. The hotel offers 80 rooms on 6 floors. The facilities include restaurant, serving Indian and Continental specialities, and a bar.

DHARAMSHALA

Grace Cottage

This 200 year old country manor house is managed by Welcome Heritage hotels. It has well appointed rooms with modern facilities, restaurant serving Continental, Indian and Chinese cuisine, 24 hour room service.



Mansingh Towers - Jaipur

DARJEELING

Windamere

A heritage hotel originally established as a boarding house for English tea planters. The 46 room hotel overlooks the town's main promenade. It has a restaurant, coffee shop, a bar, sun decks and a library.

Mayfair

A modern hotel with well laid gardens, located on the Mall. It has 31 well appointed rooms, a restaurant and a bar.

GANGTOK

Norkhill

Located very close to the town centre above Paljore stadium, this modern hotel has 46 non air conditioned rooms, a restaurant and a bar.

HASSAN

Southern Star

A modern hotel with 48 Rooms, it has 2 multi cuisine restaurants and a bar. Base for visiting Belur and Halibid.

HOSEPET

Malligi Tourist Garden

A well furnished 140 room hotel. Facilities include air conditioning, multi cuisine restaurant, a bar, swimming pool and a library.

Malligi Tourist Home

A modern hotel with 116 rooms, most with air conditioning, a restaurant serving Continental and India food and a bar.

HYDRABAD

Taj Krishna

A modern luxury hotel situated in the Banjara Hills overlooking Hisaain Sagar Lake. The hotel has 260 rooms, swimming pool, 3 restaurants, bar and health club.

Taj Residency

A 140 room hotel, it has a pool, restaurant, 24 hour coffee shop, a bar and tennis.

INDORE

Fortune Landmark Hotel

The Fortune Landmark Hotel (previously known as Taj Residency) has 78 elegantly decorated rooms, 2 restaurants, coffee shop, a bar, swimming pool, beauty parlour, health centre and gym.

JAIPUR

Rajputana Palace Sheraton

A luxury hotel with 216 rooms. It offers all modern amenities including 3 restaurants, a bar, a large swimming pool, health club, yoga and mini golf.

Mansingh Towers

A modern hotel with 53 beautifully designed and furnished rooms and suites. The facilities include a restaurant, a bar, beauty parlour, shopping arcade, health club and swimming pool.

Samode Haveli

A charming heritage hotel with 21 rooms individually designed and furnished containing genuine antiques and fixtures with modern amenities and services. It has a restaurant, a bar, poolside pavilions and well kept gardens.

Holiday Inn

Conveniently located with 72 well appointed rooms, 3 restaurants, a bar, swimming pool and fitness centre.

Park Plaza

Hotel Park Plaza has a convenient city centre location. It offers 83 rooms and wide variety of amenities including 3 restaurants, a pub, swimming pool and a fitness centre.

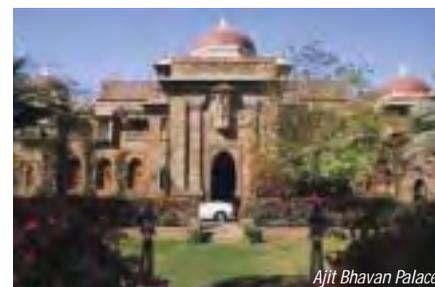
JODHPUR

Fortune Umed

Nestled in the city of Jodhpur, amidst 28 acres of landscaped gardens, the hotel is constructed on the concept of a palace. It has 88 well furnished rooms, restaurant, coffee shop, a well stocked bar and a swimming pool.

Ajit Bhavan Palace

This heritage property has 38 air cooled cottages, each with a different décor, and a few modern air conditioned rooms. It has 3 restaurants, a bar and a swimming pool.



Ajit Bhavan Palace



Coconut Lagoon - Kumarakum

JAISALMER

Rang Mahal

Conveniently located, a short drive to the shopping and commercial area, the hotel has 53 rooms with impressive interiors. Facilities include restaurant, a bar and a swimming pool.

Gorbandh Palace

A well run modern hotel with 65 air conditioned rooms, pool, restaurant and bar.

KOTA

Umed Bhavan Palace

A fine heritage hotel with a mixture of European and Rajasthani architecture designed by Sir Swinton Jacob, with long courtyards, corridors and exquisite paintings on the ceilings. It has a multi cuisine restaurant, a bar and jogging track.

KOLKATTA

Hindustan International

A centrally located 5 star modern hotel with large and spacious rooms. The facilities include 2 restaurants, coffee shop, bar, pool, gym, sauna, health club and beauty parlour.

Kennilworth

Located in the heart of Kolkata within minutes from the business centres and shopping arcades. The hotel has 105 tastefully decorated rooms with the finest colonial era furniture, 2 restaurants, coffee shop, bar, sauna and health club.

KANYAKUMARI

Singaar International

A modern hotel with 76 air cooled/air conditioned rooms, and en suite facilities. Located close to the main attractions and sunrise/sunset point.

KHAJURAHO

Usha Bundela

A modern hotel set in four acres with 66 rooms, multi cuisine restaurant, bar and swimming pool.



Kennilworth - Kolkata

KUMARAKUM

Coconut Lagoon

Built in traditional style, on the bank of the Vembanad Lake, with 42 tastefully decorated rooms including some cottages with private plunge pool. It has a restaurant, an inviting pool and an Ayurveda centre

Whispering Palms

Located on the bank of the Vembanad Lake in natural backwater surroundings. It has 42 air conditioned cottages with ethnic ambience and modern facilities, a restaurant, pool, health club and Ayurveda centre.

LEH

Devachan International

A modern hotel set amidst unspoiled countryside near to the banks of the Indus River. The hotel has 16 tastefully furnished heated rooms and a dining lounge.

MADRAS (CHENNAI)

Ambassador Pallava

Located in the heart of Chennai, close to the commercial areas. The hotel has 120 comfortable rooms spread over 3 acres. It has a restaurant, coffee shop, pool, gym and health club.

Savera Hotel

Modern hotel with comfortably furnished 220 rooms, multi-cuisine restaurant, bar, swimming pool and gym.

Radha Park

Centrally located, the hotel offers 91 comfortable rooms equipped with modern amenities, restaurant, a bar, sauna, and fitness centre.

MADURAI

Madura Park Inn

A centrally located modern hotel with 53 air conditioned rooms and a restaurant.



Orange Country Resort - Coorg

MANALI

Park Inn

Situated on the banks of the Manalsu River, the hotel has 43 rooms with en suite facilities, restaurant, indoor games and pool table.

MOUNT ABU

Connaught House

A charming small heritage property in colonial style. It has 14 rooms with private facilities, running hot and cold water and a restaurant.

MANDAWA

Castle Mandawa

A centrally located heritage hotel. It has 70 rooms with modern facilities, a restaurant and bar.

Desert Resort

Located on the outskirts of the villages and recreated in the style of a Rajasthani village, with 59 cottages and modern facilities, pool, tennis, restaurant and a bar.

MUNNAR

Club Mahindra Lake View

Nestled amidst mountains with its charming Indo-British architecture, the Resort has 93 spacious and ornate rooms, suites and cottages and a restaurant.



Lalita Mahal Palace - Mysore

MYSORE

Lalita Mahal Palace

A former Palace located on the outskirts. This deluxe 55 room hotel offers a mix of modern comforts and Old World charm. It has a swimming pool, health club, tennis court and billiards.

Southern Star

A centrally located modern hotel with 72 rooms, 2 restaurants, swimming pool and a bar.

NALAGARH

Nalagarh Fort

This heritage property has been converted from a 15th Century fort. Run by the royal family, this hotel has 15 elegantly decorated air conditioned rooms, a restaurant and bar.

ORCHA

Orcha Resort

A well managed hotel with 34 rooms, multi cuisine restaurant, swimming pool and health club.

PURI

Thosali Sands

Sprawled over 30 acres with 104 rooms, villas and cottages, 2 restaurants, a bar, swimming pool, health club and games room.

PEMAYANGTSE

Mt Padmin

A basic modern hotel located near the monastery with en suite facilities and excellent Himalayan views.

PONDICHERRY

Le Dupleix

The 18th Century French colonial villa, originally built for the French Governor Marquis Joseph-Francois Dupleix. This luxury 14 roomed heritage hotel has been tastefully restored and modernized. It has a multi cuisine restaurant and a bar.

PARAGPUR

Judge's Court

This turn of the century heritage hotel is located in the heritage village of Paragpur in the Kangra Valley in the midst of fruit orchards. It has 10 simple, elegant rooms and restaurant.

RISHIKESH

Ganga Kinare

A well managed modern 38 room hotel with en suite facilities, restaurant and coffee shop, yoga and meditation.

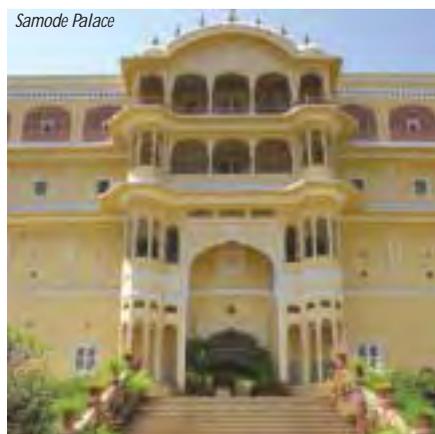


Clarks Hotel

SHIMLA

Clarks Hotel

A colonial style hotel with Old World charm, located near to the Mall. It offers 39 tastefully furnished heated rooms, a bar and restaurant. It is run by Oberoi Group of hotels.



Samode Palace

SAMODE

Samode Palace & Bagh

This 19th century Palace with frescoed walls and ceilings is run by the Royal Family. There are 30 rooms in the Palace and 50 luxury tents in the Bagh amidst well kept gardens, with a swimming pool.



Shiv Niwas Palace

TANJORE

Oriental Towers

Standing majestically, the 11 storey hotel offers 163 rooms with modern amenities. Facilities include restaurant, pub, steam, sauna and swimming pool.

TRISSUR

Casino Hotel

Centrally located, the hotel features 47 well appointed rooms, equipped with modern facilities, multi cuisine restaurant, a bar, pool and Ayurvedic massage on request.

TRICHY

Jenny's Residency

Centrally located modern hotel with 124 rooms, 2 restaurants, a bar and swimming pool.

Hotel Sangam

A modern hotel with 60 well appointed rooms, restaurant, a bar, swimming pool, steam, sauna and health spa.

TRVANDRUM

The Muthot Plaza

This centrally located modern hotel has 58 tastefully decorated rooms, a restaurant and a bar.

THEKKADY

Taj Garden Retreat

Close to the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, the hotel offers 32 charming thatched roof villas built on stilts amid lush foliage. It has a dining room, a bar, swimming pool and massage room.

Spice Village

Set amidst landscaped spice plantations, base for Periyar Wildlife Reserve, the resort comprises of individual cottages. It has excellent restaurant, swimming pool and Ayurvedic treatment facilities.



Spice Village

UDAIPUR

Shiv Niwas Palace

Partly converted into a heritage hotel, offering spectacular views of the Lake Pichola. All 31 royal accommodations include luxurious rooms and lavish suites. Facilities include multi cuisine restaurant, pool, billiards, and squash, bar, spa and swimming pool

Fateh Prakesh Palace

Another heritage hotel, part of the City Palace Complex, situated on the shores of Lake Pichola. and comprises luxurious rooms and suites. It has a restaurant, bar, swimming pool and holistic health centre.

Shikarbadi

A former royal hunting lodge nestles on the foothills of the Aravalli range with ambience of a sanctuary. All the rooms have modern facilities with views of the Deer Park. It has a restaurant, a bar and swimming pool.

VARANASI

Clarks Varanasi

A centrally located, 5 star modern hotel with 135 rooms, 3 restaurants, a bar and swimming pool.

Hotel Kashika

This 40 room modern hotel is located on the Mall, with central air conditioning, 2 restaurants, a bar and swimming pool.



Clarks Varanasi

VYTHERI

Tree House

It is a unique resort in the midst of thick rain forests of Wynad. Accommodation offered is in 11 comfortably furnished Tree Houses in which the access is by means of a fascinating counter weight system or by means of a rope bridge.

PLANNING YOUR HOLIDAY



First time visitor

Our brochure tours are designed for both first time visitor and experienced travellers. We have designed a superb range of itineraries throughout the sub continent after careful research. Usually the first time visitor tends to visit North India 'Golden Triangle' (Delhi, Agra-Taj Mahal and Jaipur) for a shorter duration. For a longer duration combining the Golden Triangle with a visit to the desert state of Rajasthan taking in a game reserve or a visit to the Ganges. Relax at the end on the sun kissed beaches of Goa or in the tranquil mountains of Simla.

In South India, Kerala is an extremely popular destination for its natural beauty. Its waterways, tea and spice gardens, wildlife parks and the beautiful beaches with convenient extensions to the temple cities of Trichy, Tanjore and Madurai in the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu and Karnatka with its palaces, historical sites and the rich flora and fauna in its game parks.

Make your own tour

You may take these itineraries as they are, combine with others or create your own programme including hotels and places not featured in this brochure. Travel in a private chauffeur driven car with a private guide in each destination. Choose your preferred airline, should you have one, and select the date of departure and return that suites you.

Accommodation

Hotels in the sub continent range from deluxe world class hotels, old palaces and heritage properties to more modest accommodation. The hotels are an important aspect of your holiday

and from the wide range available we will help you choose the hotels best suited to you. We use comfortable hotels with character, personalized service and good standard of hygiene. For the brochure itineraries we have used first class hotels or the best available in some of the smaller cities and towns. Most hotels used have air conditioning, modern en suite facilities including the lodges and tents in the game parks.

Special occasions

If you have a special request for any special occasion, please ask at the time of booking and we will be pleased to arrange this for you. Our experienced travel consultants will be pleased to suggest and arrange the most appropriate programme to suit your interests and budget, should you choose one of our brochure itineraries, tailor made to your own requirements or even wish to travel to a part of the sub continent that is not featured in this brochure.

When to book

It is advisable to book your travel arrangements as far in advance of your travel date, in order to help us secure your arrangements. During Christmas and the New Year period, the hotels and the airline seats are in great demand and tend to be booked many months in advance. Occasionally, if the bookings are made at a short notice, the hotels specified in the brochure may not be available. In this case we book alternative hotels of the similar standard.

How to book

You may choose a holiday in the brochure as it is or formulate your own ideas to suit your needs. Our expert travel consultants will be happy to

discuss your travel arrangements and offer any help and assistance to finalize the itinerary. Our call centre is open 24 hours / seven days a week. Based on your specific needs together with our suggestions and recommendations, we will send you the quotation. After agreeing the itinerary and price, please send the booking form together with the appropriate deposit. We will start booking your arrangements and confirm to you in writing.

Office hours

Monday - Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 2:00pm

fax: 0175 363 2383

When to travel

The India sub continent, due to its vast size and geographical variation, is a year round destination, but the main season to travel to the plains is between September and April. However, the season to visit the mountains of Shimla, Darjeeling, Ladakh, Gharwal and for adventurous activities e.g. river rafting, mountaineering, and trekking is between April and September. In Nepal, October to March are the best months to visit, trekking and river rafting are at its best during these months, whilst in Dubai, October to May are the best months to visit.

Passport & Visa

A 10 year Passport, at least valid for six months from the start of your holiday is required for travel to these countries. It must have at least two clean pages for each country to be visited. U.K passports are issued by the U.K Passport Agency,

Clive House, 70 Petty France, London W1. tel: 08705 210 410, or your nearest passport office. They take approximately one month to issue. Visas can be directly obtained from the respective Embassy / High Commission / Consulate, either by a personal visit or through post. Non British passport holders should check with the concerned embassy, as the visa requirements may be different to that of British passport holders. It is the client's responsibility to ensure that they have the appropriate visa for the countries to be visited.

Health

There are no mandatory requirements to visit India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Dubai except an International certificate for yellow fever, on arrival in India, if you have visited an infected area within 6 days of arrival. We recommend you consult your doctor about the immunization and inoculation. In general the following immunization is recommended before visiting India, Nepal and Sri Lanka: Cholera, Typhoid, Polio, Tetanus and Hepatitis. Meningitis immunization is recommended for Nepal. It is also advised to take prophylactics against Malaria from time to time. For current information on health advise you may visit the Medical Advisory Services for Travellers Abroad (MASTA) website www.masta.org or tel: 0906 822 4100

Tour Manager

Our tour managers are carefully selected from the sub continent for their organizational abilities, travel experience and in depth knowledge of the local history and culture. They speak local language that helps in the smooth running of the tour and are always on hand to offer any help and assistance



that may be needed while on tour in the Sub Continent. Although, while travelling on an individual basis you will not be escorted throughout by the tour manager, you will be looked after by experienced local guides and representatives in each place that you visit. However, if you decide to travel as your own small group an experienced Tour Manager will escort you.

Extending your holiday

We will be pleased to arrange the tour extensions in the sub continent either before or after your tour. We have suggested some of the extensions. Should you prefer an extension of your choice or just wish to spend a few extra days at the start or end of the tour, please ask our travel consultants who will be pleased to arrange extra days for you.

Honeymoon

The India Sub Continent on the whole is an ideal destination for Honeymooners. You may choose to stay at the luxurious hotels, Heritage Palace or the rustic lodges of the Game Parks in India and / or Nepal. Alternatively you may prefer to stay on the sun kissed beaches of Goa, Kerala, Kovalam and Covelong. The Tropical beaches of Sri Lanka, the Coral islands of the Maldives or take a desert safari and dine in the desert under the stars while a dancer entertains you and combine this with a few days of relaxation on the crystal clear beaches of Dubai.

Special interest tours

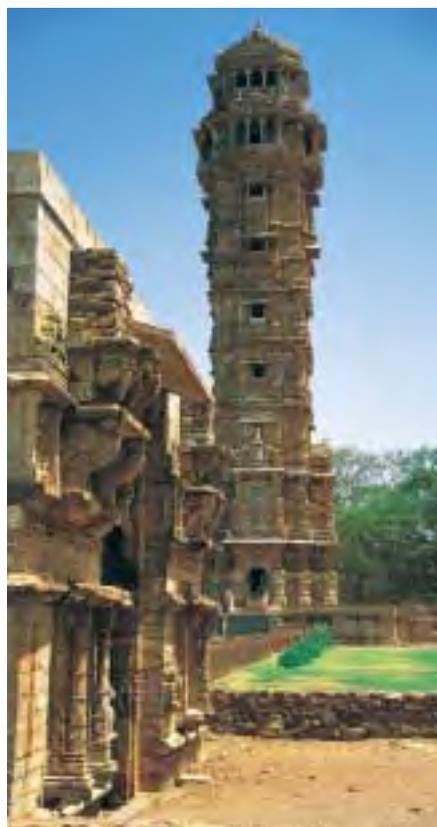
We specialize in arranging wide variety of special interest tours such as school expeditions and study tours, conferences, incentive, cultural, religious, sports, textiles, tribal tours, bird watching, golf, nature, photography and film shooting.

Adventure

Indian Sub Continent is blessed with the great Himalayas, the world's largest mountain range and mighty rivers, which offers the most challenging adventure opportunities anywhere in the world. The Ganges, Trisuli/Narayani (Nepal) and Brahmaputra are ideal for the river rafting and fishing. The trekking along the ancient mountain trails also offers the insight into culture, monuments and the tradition of the people in the region.

What is included in the price

- **Transfers:** Private chauffeur driven car (air-conditioned car between April to October) for all airport and train transfers.
- **Assistance:** The services of local representatives and guides at all places including airports and railway stations. In certain remote areas where guides are not available the driver provides help and assistance.
- **Accommodation:** Standard room hotel accommodation at the first class hotels or the best available in some of the smaller cities and towns. In certain cities it is possible to upgrade to different hotel at a supplement and subject to availability. Please ask for details.
- **Meal Plan:** Most tours have a bed and breakfast arrangement. In game parks and some remote towns, the plan is full board (Breakfast, lunch and dinner).
- **Drives & Sightseeing:** Private chauffeur driven car (air conditioned car between April to October) for sightseeing and inter city drives. Sightseeing includes entry fee to the monuments and the services of an English speaking guide.
- **Domestic Flights:** In economy class. Business class can be arranged at a supplement. First class is not available on domestic sectors.
- **Train travel:** Day journey by air conditioned Chair car and overnight journey in air conditioned sleeper class.
- **Game viewing:** Game viewing is done as per the regulations of the game reserve. This is usually by an open jeep, seating up to five persons, or by canter (large open vehicle) accompanied by a local nature expert. The jeeps are subject to availability as only limited number of vehicles are allowed inside the park. For booking exclusive jeep (subject to availability), a higher charge applies. In certain parks game viewing is done on an elephant back (seating 4-6 persons), coracle and canoe. Bird watching in the reserve is usually done on foot or rickshaw.
- **Trekking and River Rafting Environment Fee:** Services of your own accompanying Sherpa guide, porters and cook, while on trekking and river rafting. Insurance for all accompanying staff. Meal plan is full board. Along with camping equipment, sleeping bags are also provided though you are welcome to bring your own.





Toyota Qualis

What is not included

- **International Flights:** We would be pleased to assist you in arranging your flights from the UK. We have competitive fares for economy, business and first class and connections from the regional UK airports are also available. Please ask for the details.
- **Visa Fee:** It is the client's responsibility to obtain visas for the countries being visited or passing through. We provide the visa application forms for India and Nepal and can obtain a visa on your behalf for a nominal fee.
- **Airport Taxes:** For most of the International flights originating from the UK, taxes are collected together with flight price. However, some airport taxes within the sub-continent may have to be paid locally at the time of departure.
- **Travel Insurance:** It is strongly recommended that you have adequate travel insurance for the holiday. You may arrange this independently or take our comprehensive travel insurance.
- **Personal Expenses:** Expenses of personal nature such as telephone, drinks including mini bar, laundry and meals other than specified.
- **Camera fee:** A fee is charged for taking still and video cameras inside the monuments and game reserves. Fee is payable locally at the entrance.
- **Tips:** This is left to your own discretion, and should of course be based on your satisfaction. We will advise you of the general guidelines before your departure.

Getting there - International Flights

With the opening of aviation sector in India, several airlines operate to India with more gateway cities. The International travel can be on direct or indirect flights. The direct flights do not require change of plane and may or may not be non-stop. The indirect flights require change of plane en route. The flying time with direct flights to Mumbai and Delhi is around 9 hours. Direct flight to Chennai and Kolkatta take about 10 hours. The journey time to Mumbai and Delhi with indirect flights is between 12-15 hours, depending upon the carrier, including the transit time, and slightly longer to South India. Direct flight to Colombo takes around 11 hours.

In India it is possible to arrive in one Gateway City and depart from another with the same carrier. For Nepal there are regular direct and indirect flights from London, Delhi and Kolkatta.

We can assist you in arranging your flights to the Sub Continent from any UK airport. In addition to being one of the UK's leading independent tour operators, we are also one of the largest specialist flight companies offering very competitive prices. We have number of arrangements with many leading airlines for reduced and special fares in economy, business and first class.

Stopovers

Where airline routing permits, we offer stopovers. Some middle east carriers allow you to break the journey in Abu Dhabi and Dubai on your return from the Sub Continent. This allows you to enjoy a desert safari, crystal clear beaches and the shopping opportunity in this Gulf State.

Internal flights

For long distance travel within India, for reasons of time and convenience, we use domestic airlines. All internal flights within India are non smoking and alcohol is not served. In flight catering is complimentary.

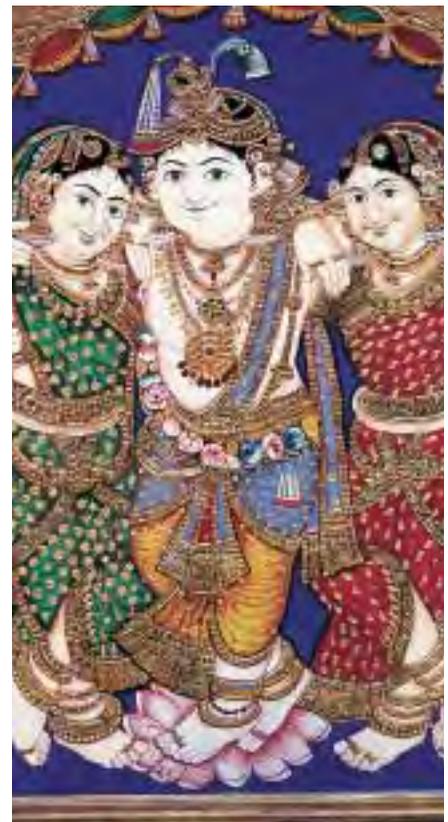


Ambassador Car

Road travel

Travelling by road is both exciting and rewarding as you pass through bazaars and small villages and get the better feel of the country. We normally use Ambassador cars, ideal for the local conditions and accommodates three persons plus driver. For a party of more than 3 persons we use bigger cars, Toyota Qualis, that comfortably accommodates 5 persons plus driver. For larger parties we use small coaches with a seating arrangement for 12 to 18 people.

Air-conditioned vehicles are used between mid April and October. However, in the winter months and during summer in the hills, non air conditioned



transport is used. Our experienced drivers are well trained to drive safely and are well versed with the local conditions. They speak reasonable English.

Train travel

The Indian Railways is the second largest railway system in the world. Millions of people travel by train every day. Railway platforms look like mini-bazaars. Train travel can be enormously enjoyable and a fascinating way of seeing real India. It offers you an opportunity to communicate with the local people. However, the comfort levels can vary. Today, it also offers diverse tourist routes, magnificent hotels on wheels with five-star services – Palace on Wheels and Deccan Odyssey.

India also has narrow gauge steam engine trains popularly known as 'Toy Train' running in Himachal Pradesh in North India, Darjeeling in East India and Ooty in South India. A ride on 'Toy Train' can be enjoyable and can be incorporated in your itinerary. Please ask at the time of booking.

For day journeys we use air conditioned chair car (AC Chair Car). The carriage is air conditioned with individual reclining seats. Some trains do not have chair cars. In that case you travel in normal AC sleeper class. For overnight and long journeys air conditioned sleeper class (AC sleeper) is used. AC sleeper class offers cushioned berths and linen is provided during nighttime. During daytime sleeper gets converted into cushioned bench seats.

Ground arrangements only

You may travel to the Sub Continent from anywhere in the world and take one of our tours or you may arrange your own flights to and from the Sub Continent. We would be pleased to provide you with a competitive quotation for International flights from any UK airport.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

1. The Contract

Bookings are made with The Holiday Team Ltd - (The Company). You agree that the person who signs the booking form does so on behalf of all the persons included on the booking form - (The Client). You also agree that the person who signs the booking form (The Client) is responsible for all payments to the Company. No person may alter these conditions on the company's behalf. We recommend you read the Booking conditions carefully before booking your holiday.

2. Your Financial Protection

We are an ATOL bonded travel agent which is a financial protection scheme for UK travel companies and over 20 million holidaymakers and travellers are protected each year. We Hold ATOL Licence (5553) issued by the Civil Aviation Authority which provides you complete financial protection. The Air Holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL protected. In the unlikely event of our Insolvency, the CAA will ensure that you are not stranded abroad and will arrange to refund any money you have paid to us for an advance booking. Full details can be obtained from the ATOL website (www.atol.org.uk).

3. Acceptance of Booking

Once you choose a holiday and agree the price, please complete the booking form and send it to us together with a non-refundable deposit of £150.00 per person and the insurance premium (if required). In certain cases a higher deposit is payable eg. booking the train Palace on Wheels or Royal Orient. Also some Airlines, hotels, wildlife and Beach resorts, especially during peak season at the Christmas/New year period, require higher deposit or full payment to confirm the booking. We will advise you at the time of booking. On receipt of the deposit and the satisfactorily completed booking form. The company will state the acceptance of the booking in writing; together with an invoice and at this stage contract comes into existence. The Company and the client will then be bound by the booking conditions set out here. Balance payment is due within 8 weeks of departure. If the balance is not received by the due date, the Company reserves the right to cancel the booking and retain the deposit. If the Booking is made within eight weeks of departure, full payment must be sent at the time of booking. Any money paid by the client to a travel agent in respect of a booking with The Company, and held by the travel agent, is held on behalf of The Company at all times. The Company will confirm the booking to the client in writing.

4. Your Holiday Price

After you have booked the tour and we have accepted your booking and issued the invoice, the price of your holiday is subject to surcharge as a result of any Government action such as increase in VAT, transportation cost eg. fuel hike, airline surcharge, schedule airfares, a major fluctuation in exchange rate (adverse currency exchange) or any other government imposed increases. Even in this case we will absorb an amount equivalent to 2% of the holiday price excluding Insurance premium and any amendment charges. If this means paying more than 10% of the holiday price, you will be entitled to cancel your holiday with a full refund of all monies paid except for Insurance premium, amendment charges and any non refundable deposit paid to the suppliers such as Airline, Hotels etc. Should you decide to cancel due to this you need to exercise your rights to do so within fourteen days from the date we advise you of the amount due.

5. Alterations by the Client

Once a booking is made and you wish to alter your arrangements, we will do our utmost, and if possible make these changes. We will, in this case, charge an amendment fee of £25.00 per person, and any other cost we incur in making the alteration. If after the commencement of the tour the client requests any amendments to the agreed arrangements, or accommodation. The Company and/or their agents will do their best to implement such amendments, but cannot guarantee that it will be possible. In the event of any amendment The Client will be liable for any cancellation charges and / or additional costs that may be incurred by The Company and/or their agents.

6. Alterations by Us

In the unlikely event, we may have to make changes to your travel arrangements. Most of the changes will be minor and we will advise you of any such changes. However, we will not materially alter your tour except for reasons of Force Majeure. If we have to make material change to the tour, for any reason whatsoever prior to the departure, or for reasons of Force Majeure. We would inform you without delay. We shall offer you the choice of either accepting the alteration or of cancelling the tour and receiving of full refund of all monies paid. If the material change is made for reasons other than Force Majeure on or after the date on which the payment of the balance of the price becomes due we shall offer the reasonable compensation of £40. Hotels described as First Class or Luxury is deemed so by The Company's judgement and not necessarily by any official grading. The assessment is based on our knowledge of

the establishment, general opinion and the standard of what is available locally. The term used ie. deluxe, luxury suites etc are the same as those by the hotel in question. The Company does not own, manage or control the accommodation that it uses. Sometimes it is possible that the accommodation reserved is not available. In this event The Company and/ or their agent will endeavour to provide accommodation of equal standard. However, if only the accommodation of lesser standard is available we will refund the difference of the Prices on completion of the holiday.

7. Cancellation by the Client

If you cancel the booking for the reasons other than for alteration to the arrangements (clause 6). You may do so in writing by the person who has signed the booking Form. If notification of cancellation is received more than eight weeks before departure, only the deposit will be forfeited. However, in certain cases where an additional deposit is paid as required to confirm the arrangements or the tickets, which are cancelled after being issued 100%, cancellation charges will apply. Notification received within eight weeks of departure, following charges will apply.

29 - 56 days before departure -
40% of the total price of the holiday

15 - 28 days before departure -
60% of the total price of the holiday

1-14 days before departure / After departure -
100% of the total cost of the holiday

Note: If, some, but not all-party members, cancel the holiday or part of it, additional charges may be payable by the remaining members.

8. Cancellation by Us

The Company reserves the right to cancel a holiday on offer including the tailor made holidays, without assigning any reason, at any time over 8 weeks before departure. However in no case we will cancel your holiday less than 8 weeks before departure unless for the reasons outside our control (Force Majeure) or the late/non-payment by you. In case we cancel your holiday (other than Force Majeure, late/non payment by you) we will offer the choice of an alternative holiday, if available, or at your option refund all the monies paid by you except Insurance premium and amendment Charges. In this case The Company shall offer a reasonable compensation as follows:

More than 56 days Nil
43 days to 55 days £10
29 days to 42 days £20
14 days to 28 days £30
Less than 14 days £40

9. Your Responsibility

You are responsible for your arrangements for passports, visas, Vaccination certificates, health documents, foreign exchange for personal requirements etc. This includes all countries to be visited including the countries you may be just transiting through. This also includes all stops made by the aircraft(s) even if you do not leave the aircraft / airport. The visa and health requirements are detailed separately in the section Planning Your Holiday and in the General information in the price insert. You shall be solely responsible, if failure to obtain such documents results in fines, surcharges or other financial penalties being imposed on you. You shall also be responsible to reconfirm your flights 72 hours before departure. Failure to do so will result in cancellation of your flights. The Company accepts no liability whatsoever to you through your failure to do so. It is also your responsibility to comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and the drug regulations of the countries visited. The Company and its representatives reserve the right to cancel your holiday anytime during its operation if you are found to be behaving in a socially unacceptable manner or indulging in illegal activities, without any refund and legal claim against The Company.

10. Our Responsibility

It is our responsibility to ensure that the holiday, which you book with us, is supplied as described in the brochure, or any other literature printed by us. In the unlikely event that any part of the holiday as promised is not provided we will pay you appropriate compensation, if this has effected your holiday. We accept responsibility for the acts and/or omission of our employees, suppliers and sub contractors while acting within the scope of or in the course of their employment with us. In any such case our liability shall be limited to a maximum of twice the values of the original cost of the holiday. We do not accept responsibility in respect of death, bodily injury or illness of any person taking one of our holidays except when caused by the negligent acts and/or omissions of our employees, suppliers or subcontractors while

acting within the scope of or in the course of their employment agency contract of supply or sub-contract. We do not accept any responsibility if any client suffers death, illness or injury whilst overseas arising out of any activity, which does not form part of the foreign inclusive arrangements or excursions, arranged through us. We shall, at our discretion, offer advice, assistance or Guidance but is not liable for the consequences of such independent act.

11. Conditions of Carriage

In respect of carriage by air, sea and rail and the provision of accommodation, in these the liability essentially lays with these providers and we merely act as agents for these providers. Our liability in such cases will be limited in the manner as provided by the relevant International convention or domestic law as applicable. Copies of these are available on request.

12. Force Majeure

Means circumstances beyond our control, such as war or threat of war, civil unrest, riots, terrorism, natural disaster, fire, adverse weather conditions, industrial action (airline strike), government action and all similar events. The Company, in these circumstances, will repay all monies, but is not liable for any compensation. The Company will not cancel the holiday under these circumstances until specifically recommended by the British Foreign Office. Tel No: 0870 606 0290

13. Delayed Departure

In the event of the delay in departure, after check in for a flight, The Client's welfare becomes responsibility of the Airline concerned. In this event The Company, its Representatives and agents will offer as much help & assistance as is possible.

14. Insurance

It is condition of our booking that all passengers have adequate Travel Insurance for the holiday at the same level or better than the insurance we offer. You may take the holiday insurance offered by us or arrange independently. The insurance cover must include cancellation charges, unexpected curtailment of your holiday, medical and repatriation expenses including air ambulance, personal accident, delay, loss or damage to your personal effects. When arranging insurance from the source other than offered by us. You undertake to provide us the written details of your policy, on behalf of yourself and all members of your party, and absolving us and our overseas agents /representatives, of any liability for any costs that may arise which otherwise would have been met by the insurance claim.

15. Claims & Complaints

If you incur any problem with regard to any services or facilities provided during the holiday, it is essential that you bring this to the attention of our suppliers and also to our local agent/representative and to the company staff as soon as it occurs. They can attempt to rectify the matter on spot. Should they not be able to resolve your complaint locally, please write to us within 28 days of the end of your tour. We will not entertain any complaints that are not adhered to these procedures.

16. Travel Documents & Dispatch

It is passenger's responsibility to check all travel documents issued are correct. Documents will normally be dispatched 7 days before departure. For bookings made within 14 days before departure you may have to collect the documents at the airport

17. Jurisdiction

This contract is governed by the English Laws, and any dispute arising between the parties is subject to the sole jurisdiction of the courts of England.