

WILD ABOUT TRAVEL - INDIA



Ref: C1

Classic India Culture Tour

Best time to visit November – March

13 days Delhi – Agra – Bharatpur – Jaipur – Jodhpur – Udaipur – Delhi (Same as C1B, but with different hotels and similar to C2B but without Chambal) *Enjoy some of India's sensational monuments and most famous cities on this classic culture tour. Marvel at the Taj Mahal and visit the famous Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary where storks, cranes and egrets nest. Explore the Pink City of Jaipur and see the famous Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds). Discover the Blue City of Jodhpur, with the impressive Mehrangarh Fort dominating the skyline. Take a boat trip on Lake Pichola and perhaps see Lake Palace as James Bond would have done in the filming of "Octopussy". This enchanting journey is perfect for anyone interested in architecture, culture, wildlife or photography.*

Highlights:

Explore vibrant cities with a wealth of monuments, temples and palaces.

Enjoy the Taj Mahal's beauty; see the Amber Fort from elephant back.

Take rickshaw rides to see colourful and varied wildlife at Bharatpur.

Experience daily life in a Bishnoi community village.

Itinerary

Day 1: Flight (excluded but easily booked via the internet)

Day 2: Delhi

Meals: Payable directly on this day

Arrive at New Delhi airport where you will be welcomed by our representative. Your driver will then take you to your hotel. Check-in at most places is from 12 noon – often earlier if the room is available. Explore Delhi for the remainder of the day (with your driver). From here we recommend you visit Humayun's Tomb and Qutub Minar where you should see Black Kites flying overhead, Purple Sunbirds in the shrubbery and Five-striped Ground Squirrels. If time permits take a drive to see India Gate and the Government buildings. Note: In the big cities there are plenty of places where you can eat out cheaply, or alternatively you can check the menu at your hotel.

Day 3: Delhi – Agra

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast leave for Agra. Expect the journey to take around 4 – 5 hours depending on traffic. In the afternoon visit the Taj Mahal (closed on Fridays) and the rather splendid Agra Fort if time permits. Night at hotel in Agra.

Day 4: Agra – Bharatpur (1 ½ - 2 hrs)

Meals: Breakfast in Agra, lunch and dinner at Bharatpur.

After breakfast your driver will take you to Bharatpur, stopping at the abandoned city of Fatehpur Sikri on the way. Explore this fascinating place with a guide before continuing on to Bharatpur. In the afternoon explore Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary with a guide who will arrange for you to be dropped off inside the park and collected later that day by cycle rickshaw. With your guide you will see many species here, including Black-necked, Painted, Woolly-necked and Open-billed Storks, subject to water levels. Spotted Owlet, Collared Scops Owl, Dusky Eagle Owl, Jungle Cat, Golden Jackal and Nilgai are all present too. Night in hotel at Bharatpur.

Day 5: Bharatpur – Jaipur (3 ½ - 4 hrs)

Meals: Breakfast

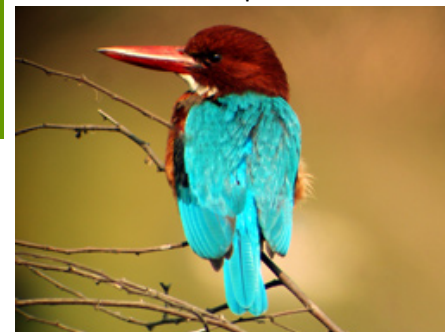
Early morning Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary with a guide (½ a day) who will arrange for you to be dropped off inside the park and collected later that day by cycle rickshaw. Afterwards you will be driven to the Pink City of Jaipur. Relax in the heat of the day



Taj Mahal © K Barnes



Fatehpur Sikri © J Dale



White-throated Kingfisher ©



Palace of the Winds © P Vashistha



Amber Fort, Jaipur © M Addis

and explore locally in the late afternoon/evening. Night at hotel.

Day 6: Jaipur

Meals: Breakfast

Following breakfast you'll explore the impressive Amber Fort (partly on elephant back), followed by a guided tour of Jaipur, including the City Palace and the Observatory. Return to your hotel for the evening.

Day 7: Jaipur - Jodhpur

Meals: Breakfast

Spend a final few hours exploring Jaipur then drive (6 hours) to Jodhpur, the Blue City, located on the edge of the Great Thar Desert. You could, if you wish, visit Pushkar en-route. On arrival at Jodhpur check in to your hotel and spend the rest of the day at leisure, admiring views dominated by Meherangarh Fort or perhaps visiting the Clock Tower and colourful Sardar Market in the old part of the city.

Day 8: Jodhpur

Meals: Breakfast

Following breakfast enjoy a morning excursion by jeep with guide to the local villages of the Bishnoi community. You'll be able to experience the daily life of this tribe, visit the local school, the shepherd and his family, a weaver and a potter. Often you can see Demoiselle Cranes, Indian Gazelle (Chinkara) and Blackbuck locally. Drive back to Jodhpur around lunch time and in the afternoon take a guided tour of the impressive Meherangarh Fort and Jaswant Thada, the latter being a memorial to Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. Spend a second night at your hotel.

Day 9: Jodhpur - Udaipur

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast drive to Udaipur (6 – 7 hours) and check in to your hotel. Relax for the remainder of the day in what is reputed to be one of the most romantic cities in India with Lake Pichola at its centre. Udaipur has many temples, palaces and havelis to explore. The James Bond movie Octopussy helped bring extra fame to Lake Palace Hotel, along with both Shiv Niwas Palace and Monsoon Palace where many of the scenes were filmed. Night at your hotel.

Day 10: Udaipur

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast spend the morning on a guided tour of City Palace and the beautifully carved Indo-Aryan Jagdish Temple and in the evening take a boat ride on Lake Pichola (by shared boat). Night at the same hotel.

Day 11: Udaipur – Kumbhalgarh Fort and Ranakpur – Udaipur

Meals: Breakfast

A full day excursion to Kumbhalgarh Fort and Ranakpur Jain temples. The drive from Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh is approx. 2 hours. You'll have plenty of time to explore the Fort before continuing for another 1 hour to Ranakpur where you can expect to be in awe of one of India's most important Jain temples. The main temple here, often referred to as the Four-Faced Temple, dates back to 1439. Drive to Udaipur (approx. 1 ½ hrs) and relax for the remainder of the day. Night at your hotel.

Day 12: Udaipur – Delhi

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast your driver will take you to the airport for an internal flight back to Delhi (excluded from price). You will be met outside the airport by your driver and transferred to your hotel in Delhi. Night at your hotel in Delhi.

Day 13: Delhi and away

Meals: Breakfast

On this day we have included a departure transfer to the airport to connect with your international flight home (flight to be booked by you directly).

Tour ends



Jodhpur from Meherangarh Fort

© P Vashistha



Ranakpur Jain Temple © P Vashistha



Lake Palace, Udaipur © P Vashistha



Humayun's Tomb, Delhi © P Clarke



Dewan-i-Aam, Delhi Red Fort © P Clarke

Price per person (valid till 31 March 2012) on twin-share basis:

For two travelling: £1165 for standard accommodation, £1280 for deluxe accommodation

For three travelling: £1095 * for standard accommodation, £1210 * for deluxe accommodation

For four travelling: £1020 for standard accommodation, £1135 for deluxe accommodation

For six travelling: £940 for standard accommodation, £1060 for deluxe accommodation

Single room supplement: £370 for standard accommodation, £470 for deluxe accommodation

* Single room supplement to be applied for extra room.

Reduction in price available on request if you'd prefer to pay directly for entrance fees and monument guides.

Budget and luxury options available on request.

Supplements may apply for the Christmas/New Year period (20th December – 5th January). Please enquire for details.

The booking of this itinerary is with Wild About Travel and their booking terms and conditions apply.

Place	Standard	Deluxe	No. of nights
Delhi	Justa The Residence, Gurgaon, Superior Room, B & B	Justa The Residence, Gurgaon, Suite Room, B & B	1
Agra	Hotel Raj Mahal, Deluxe Room, B & B	Hotel Trident Superior Garden Room, B & B	1
Bharatpur	Hotel Sunbird, Deluxe Room/Cottage, Full Board	Hotel Sunbird, Suite Room, Full Board	1
Jaipur	Shahpura House, Suite, B & B	Dera Mandawa, Standard Room, B & B	2
Jodhpur	Ratan Vilas, Standard Room, B & B	Ratan Vilas, Superior Room, B & B	2
Udaipur	Udaigarh, Deluxe Room, B & B	Udaigarh, Deluxe Room, B & B	3
Delhi	Justa The Residence, Superior Room, B & B	The Residence at Panchsheel, Deluxe Room, B & B	1

Price includes:

Accommodation in the above mentioned hotels

Meals as per itinerary

Air-conditioned vehicle for all transfers mentioned in the above itinerary

Cycle rickshaw for pick up and drop at Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary for two half days

Local bird guide for 2 half days at Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary.

Elephant Ride at Amber Fort, Jaipur

Half day jeep safari to Bishnoi villages along with local English speaking guide

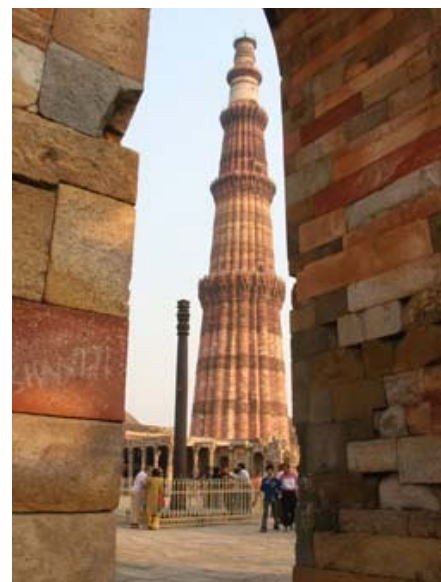
Boat ride (shared) at Lake Pichola, Udaipur

Entrances to the monuments visited as per the above itinerary once a day.

Monument guide as per the itinerary

All currently applicable taxes

Pre-travel information including how to apply for your tourist visa.



Qutub Minar, Delhi © P Clarke

Price excludes:

International flight to/from India including International airport tax.

This tax is often included in the ticket price, but please check

Internal flight

Tourist visa and travel insurance

Meals that are not listed above

Camera and camcorder fee where this is not included in park/monument entrance fee.

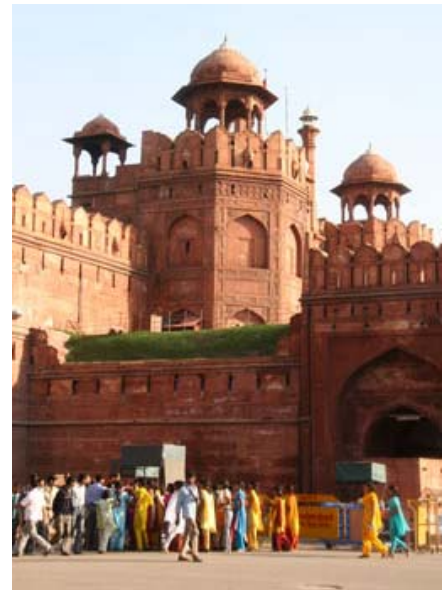
Any increase in entrance fees as per Government of India notifications in future or any additional taxes levied by the

Government of India on the tourism sector in future

Any expenses of a personal nature such as hard/soft drinks, laundry, phone/fax calls, tips etc.

Any item not mentioned above in price inclusions

Costs incidental to any change in the itinerary or stay on account of flight cancellation due to bad weather, ill health, roadblocks and/or any other factors beyond our control.



Delhi Fort © P Clarke

How to book

The booking of this itinerary is with Wild About Travel Limited and their booking terms and conditions apply. Please contact Jo Thomas at Wild About Travel (jo@wildabouttravel.co.uk) / 01480-370593 to register your interest.

To confirm your booking please complete the booking form and send a 25% deposit by £ sterling cheque payable to Wild About Travel via the Wild About Travel Office, 25 Sapley Road, Hartford, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 1YG.

Remaining balance to reach Wild About Travel at least 40 days before tour commencement by £ sterling cheque made payable to Wild About Travel.

For any help or advice please call or email Wild About Travel and we would be happy to assist.

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Email: jo@wildabouttravel.co.uk Visit: www.wildabouttravel.co.uk

Wild About Travel Limited is a company registered in England and Wales.

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Vivid colours of India © C Bradshaw