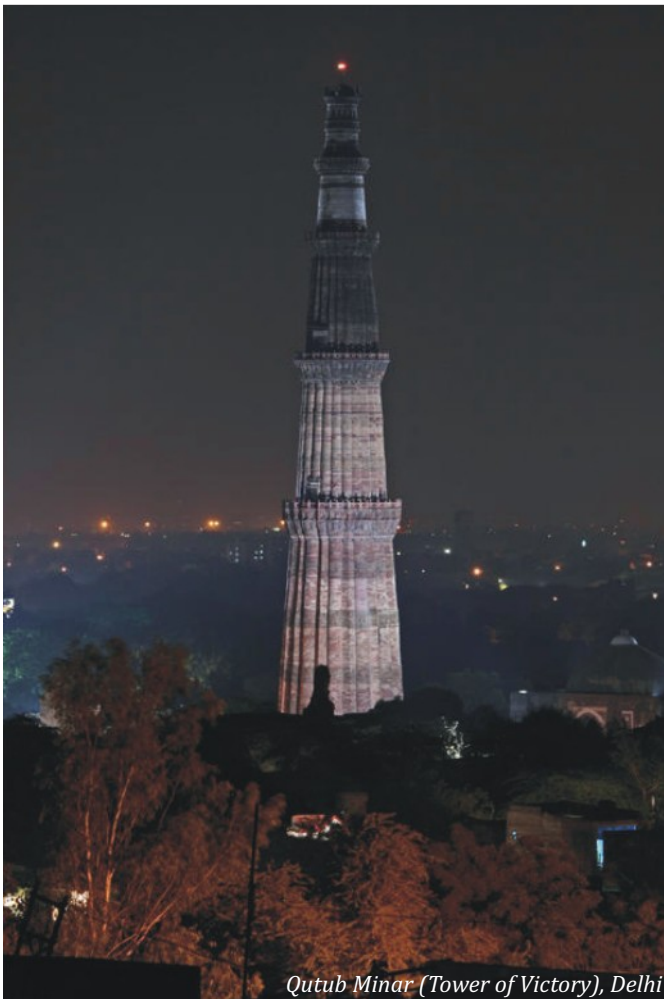


Highlights of India



Cave 26, Ajanta Caves, near Aurangabad, Maharashtra



Qutub Minar (Tower of Victory), Delhi

India is a vast country with varied culture and traditions shaped by many religions. Indian architectural heritage encompasses a wide variety of geographically and historically spread structures, and was transformed by the long history of the entire Indian subcontinent. The result is an evolving range of architectural production which retains a certain amount of continuity across history.

From BC to AD, our Highlights of India tour features an insightful journey which encapsulates the Hindu, Buddhist, Jain and Muslim heritage of India.

For a first time traveller to India, the overdose of history might seem daunting. Fittingly, we sign off the tour at Goa with its laid back colonial latin culture and amazing beaches of glorious sunsets.

DELHI

In Delhi, the capital of India, history brushes shoulders with modernity quite casually, and this endows it with an ancient soul with a unique appeal. The city, or rather the seven cities of Delhi prior to Lutyens Delhi has also witnessed the rise and fall of many empires. The majestic monuments in Delhi reflect its rich, glorious and troubled past in stones for you to see...and also hear.



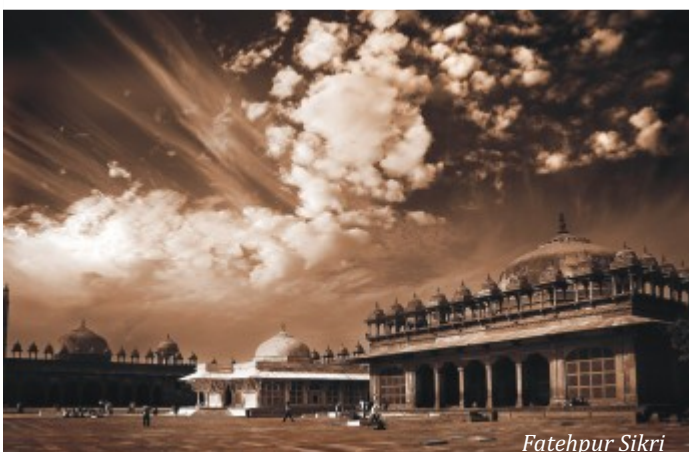
Inimitable 'Taj Mahal', Agra

AGRA

Agra is famous as being home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World - the "TAJ MAHAL", the mausoleum of mughal emperor Shah Jahan's favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal. The architectural splendour of the monuments is a vivid reminder of the opulence of the legendary Mughal Empire. Its architectural wealth has secured its place on the international map. Agra is know for its superb inlay work on marble and soapstone by craftsmen who are descendants of those who worked under the Mughals. The city is also famous for gold thread embroidery and leather shoes.

FATEHPUR SIKRI

Fatehpur Sikri is regarded as Emperor Akbar's crowning architectural legacy. Its numerous palaces, halls, and masjids (mosques) display his creative and aesthetic impulses, typical of Mughals. The city is a World Heritage site. Architect or layperson, this city captures the imagination and wonder of all who experience its urban spaces and see its buildings. It is here, that the legends of Akbar and his famed courtiers, the nine jewels or navaratnas, were born. Eventually, it is believed that water sources dried up and the fort city had to be foresaken.



Fatehpur Sikri



Interior courtyard of the City Palace, Jaipur

JAIPUR

The fabled "Pink City" of Jaipur is the vibrant, bustling and immensely colourful capital of Rajasthan. The "pink" is derived from the rich hues of the architecture, constructed from rare coloured sandstone. Structured in a nine-grid plan, it has City Palace in its centre, with mansions and markets emanating outward from this core.

JODHPUR

Set at the edge of the Thar desert, the imperial city of Jodhpur echoes with tales of antiquity in the emptiness of the desert. Once the capital of the princely state of Marwar, Jodhpur is now the second largest city of Rajasthan. The Meherangarh Fort dominates the skyline of Jodhpur where alleys are filled with vibrant colours and bustling bazaars offer silver, antiques, woodwork and textiles galore.



Meherangarh Fort, Jodhpur

UDAIPUR

A magical city of lakes and palaces, Udaipur is India's most romantic town. This centre for artists, dancers and musicians offers plenty to do and some great roof-top cafes to chill out in.



Lake Palace, Udaipur

AURANGABAD

The city is a tourist hub, surrounded with many historical monuments including the Ajanta and Ellora World heritage sites. Aurangabad is said to be a 'City of Gates'.

GOA

Renowned for its beaches, temples and world heritage architecture, Goa is visited by hundreds of thousands of international and domestic tourists each year. It also has rich flora and fauna, owing to its location on the Western Ghats range, which is



Anjuna Beach, Goa

BASIC ITINERARY

- DAY 1 - Arrive Delhi. Overnight in Delhi.
- DAY 2 - City tour of Old and New Delhi. Overnight in Delhi.
- DAY 3 - Drive to Agra. Visit the Taj Mahal and Agra Red Fort. Overnight in Agra.
- DAY 4 - Drive to Jaipur enroute visiting Fatehpur Sikri. Arrive Jaipur. Overnight in Jaipur.
- DAY 5 - Morning visit to the Amber Fort outside Jaipur. Afternoon visit to the City Palace and Jantar Mantar.
- DAY 6 - Drive to Jodhpur. Overnight in Jodhpur.
- DAY 7 - Morning afternoon city tour. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Jodhpur.
- DAY 8 - Morning drive to Udaipur enroute visiting Ranakpur Jain temple complex. Overnight in Udaipur.
- DAY 9 - Morning, proceed on an excursion to Eklingi and Nagda. Afternoon tour of the city. Overnight in Udaipur.
- DAY 10 - Morning fly to Aurangabad via Mumbai. Overnight in Aurangabad.
- DAY 11 - Full day excursion to the Ajanta Caves. Overnight in Aurangabad.
- DAY 12 - Full day excursion to the Ellora Caves. Overnight in Aurangabad.
- DAY 13 - Fly to Goa via Mumbai. Overnight in Goa.
- DAY 14 - Day at leisure for independent activities. Overnight in Goa.
- DAY 15 - Day at leisure for independent activities. Overnight in Goa.
- DAY 16 - Morning at leisure for independent activities. Afternoon flight to Mumbai. Evening depart by international flight.

TAILOR MADE TRAVEL

Our private tailor made journeys offer complete freedom of choice. The itineraries shown are designed to give you a flavour of what is possible and can be tailored to suit your preferences. Prices vary according to selection of accommodation and season.