

Exploring India

Royal India - 6 Nights/7 Days

Day 1: Arrive Delhi and overnight.

Day 2: In Delhi - Enjoy a full day sightseeing tour of Old and New Delhi visiting The mighty Red Fort, Friday Mosque - Jama Masjid, The silver street of Chandni Chowk, Raj Ghat -- the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi, The Hindu temple - Birla Mandir, The India Gate - a 42 m high war memorial, The Rashtrapati Bhawan – the President's House, The tomb of Emperor Humayun, Qutab Minar - a 73m high victory tower and The Bahai Temple, shaped like a lotus flower and a proof of India's secularism.

Day 3: Drive Delhi-Agra (220 kms/04 hrs). Take a drive to Agra and upon arrival, check into the hotel.

Day 4: Agra - Set off on a half day sightseeing tour of Agra visiting the world famous Taj Mahal, one of the wonders of the world - a monument of love created by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal and perhaps the most perfect architectural monument of the world; the Agra Fort - the red sand stone fort, a testament to the rise and fall of the Mughal empire built by Emperor Akbar in red sand stone over 400 years ago.

Day 5: Drive Agra-Jaipur (250 kms/05 hrs) Drive to Jaipur en-route visiting Fatehpur Sikri - the deserted capital of Emperor Akbar approximately 35 kms outside Agra. Built in the 16th century, this city was abandoned 12 years later due to a scarcity of water. The entire city of Red sand stone (sand stone palaces and temples) is virtually intact and a site worth seeing is the 54 m high main entrance - The Buland Darwaza, The gate of victory constructed to commemorate Akbar's victory in Gujarat. Continue drive to Jaipur.



Day 6: Jaipur - Enjoy a full day sightseeing tour of Jaipur. The tour of 'Pink City' takes you to the Hawa Mahal -- The Palace of Winds, the facade of which is all pink windows and filigree screens, The Jantar Mantar - the largest and best preserved 18th century stone observatory, The City Palace - still the home of the former royalty H.H Bhawani Singh Ji of Jaipur housing an extensive collection of art, carpets and old weapons. You will also visit the Amber Fort, situated 11 kms away from Jaipur, Amber was once the ancient capital of Jaipur state. The Fort is a superb example of Rajput architecture, stunningly situated on a hillside and overlooking a lake, which reflects its terraces and ramparts. The climb to the fort is on gaily-bedecked Elephants.

Overnight in Jaipur.

Day 7: Drive Jaipur-Delhi (265 kms/05 hrs)

Breakfast. Drive back to Delhi Airport for your flight home.

From US\$746 pp - Land Only

Ex Johannesburg from R10 778 pp (approx taxes R4 143)

Ex Durban from R11 229 pp (approx taxes R4 852)

Ex Cape Town from R11 455 pp (approx taxes R4 852)

Best of Kerala - 6 Nights/7 Days

Day 1: Arrive Cochin

Day 2: Cochin - Enjoy a half day sightseeing tour of Cochin. This harbour city presents a contrast of sorts with its British, Dutch, Portuguese, Chinese & Jewish influence. Your tour takes you to the Cochin harbor terminus where the Chinese fishing nets present a wonderful sight. Mattancherry Dutch palace - built by the Portuguese & presented to The Raja of Cochin in 1555, The Jewish synagogue - built in 1568, destroyed by the Portuguese in 1662 & rebuilt by the Dutch two years later, St Francis church - the oldest Protestant church built in 1510, Vasco da Gama who died in 1524, was buried here.

Day 3: Drive Cochin-Periyar (200 kms/05 hrs) Take a drive to Periyar and upon arrival, check into the hotel.

Day 4: Periyar. Enjoy an early morning boat ride into the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, home to some 35 species of mammals, 265 species of birds and hundreds of species of butterflies, reptiles and plant life, Periyar is quite exclusive. Afternoon, visit to the Spice Plantation.

Day 5: Drive Periyar-Kumarakom (170 kms/03 hrs) Enjoy a drive to Kumarakom and upon arrival, check into the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure.

Day 6: Kumarakom-Houseboat. Take a transfer to jetty to board the Houseboat. A private boat trip along the beautiful backwater canals of Kerala is a highlight of any visit to the South. These converted rice barges or "Kettuvallams" sail along shallow, palm-fringed lakes and narrow canals where coconut and cashew is loaded onto dugouts.



You pass villages built on narrow spits of land, stopping to visit local markets by bullock-cart, or to marvel at craftsmen engaged in centuries-old boat-making tradition.

Day 7: Houseboat-Cochin

Disembark the Houseboat in Alleppey and drive to Cochin airport (80 kms/02 hrs) in-time to board flight for onward destination.

From US\$660 pp - Land Only

Ex Johannesburg from R10 069 pp (approx taxes R4 075)

Ex Durban from R10 520 pp (approx taxes R4 784)

Ex Cape Town from R10 746 pp (approx taxes R4 784)