

# North India Tour

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Exploring north India through railways is a novel experience of a lifetime. A storehouse of culture, traditions, regality, North India is a wishful retreat coupled with a rail journey. Beginning from the city of contrasts Delhi, the trail traverses to royal Rajasthan through the expansive golden sand land of Jaisalmer.

Furthermore the trip moves to the sites where time left its indelible traces. The ruined legacy of Osian, the city painted in cool blue – Jodhpur, the utopia of Udaipur where dreams intermingle with reality along with the capital city of forts, Jaipur in Rajasthan. Then, the entourage moves towards east in Uttar Pradesh where the Taj Mahal adorns Agra along the heritage city of victory – Fatehpur Sikri. The Jewel Set in the Crown of India, a journey through North India will bring nostalgic memories to cherish for a lifetime.

## Itinerary

### **Day 01: Arrive in Delhi**

On arrival at Delhi airport our representative having a placard displaying your name will meet you to pick you up and transfer to your hotel. Overnight at a hotel in Delhi. Tour of Delhi, including India Gate and Rashtrapati Bhawan .

### **Day 02: Delhi – Sikandra – Agra 205km / 5 hours**

After breakfast you will proceed on a sightseeing tour of New Delhi. Visit the Rashtrapati Bhawan, the residence of the President of India. At the foot of Raisina Hill is the India Gate, a war memorial arch which Lutyen built in honor of 60,000 soldiers who died in World war first. Next stop is at the Parliament House; it was here that the constitution of independent India was drafted. Later visit to Qutub Minar, the longest stone tower in India. Later you will drive to Agra. En route visit Sikandra. Continue to drive to Agra. Arrive and Check in to the hotel. Overnight at a hotel in Agra. Early morning visit to the Taj Mahal .

### **Day 03: Agra – Fatehpur Sikri – Abhaneri – Jaipur 235km / 6 hours**

Early morning visit the Taj Mahal. It was built by Shah Jahan as a token of his love for his deceased wife, and is undoubtedly the most romantic burial site in the world. Return to the hotel for breakfast and then a short visit to Agra fort. After the visit I will drive to Jaipur. En route you'll come to stunning Fatehpur Sikri. The great ruler Akbar set up his capital here, and built a grand city, but after only 40 years the water supply became too difficult to maintain in this dry area, so all of the inhabitants packed up and moved on. They left behind a phenomenal collection of grand temples and palaces, with the ruins of old houses standing between them. Now it is an atmospheric ghost city, full of green parrots and monkeys. After the visit I will continue driving towards Jaipur. En route you will visit Abhaneri. Abhaneri – The City of Brightness is a small town village, situated 95km before from Jaipur. Originally Abhaneri was named as Abha Nagri, which means the city of brightness, but due to mispronunciation of the term, it changed to the present name. Today, the city is in ruins; yet it still attracts tourists from across the globe. Arrive in Jaipur in the evening. Overnight at a hotel in Jaipur. Elephant ride in Jaipur.

#### **Day 04: Jaipur visit**

Breakfast at the hotel and proceed to Amber fort. Here you will enjoy an Elephant ride. Visit the Amber fort and later return back to Jaipur city for sight seeing of other prominent monuments. Visit the Palace of Winds also known as Hawa Mahal, this elaborate building, now little more than a façade, is encrusted with delicate screens and carved balconies from which the royal ladies, confined to their quarters, could sneak views of the outside world. Also visit City Palace, where you can see Chandra Mahal, Shri Gobind Deo Temple and the City Palace Museum; also visit Jantar Mantar, a royal observatory with masonry astronomical instruments. In the evening you can visit the famous rug factory and gem factory, where you can see skilled artisans doing intricate work of gem cutting and polishing. Overnight stay at a hotel in Jaipur.

#### **Day 05: Jaipur – Pushkar 150km / 4 hours**

After breakfast drive Pushkar. Arrive and check in to the hotel. Afternoon free at leisure. In the evening visit the town and the lake. Overnight stay at a hotel in Pushkar.

#### **Day 06: Pushkar – Udaipur 305km / 6 hours**

Morning drive to Udaipur. Arrive and check into the hotel. Rest of the day is free at the hotel. In the evening stroll in the colourful market of Udaipur city. Overnight stay at a hotel in Udaipur.

#### **Day 07: Udaipur**

Breakfast at the hotel and proceed to a city tour of Udaipur. The City Palace and Museum is considered as the largest palace complex in Rajasthan. The Pratap Memorial-it has the

bronze statue of Maharana Pratap, the legendary warrior king of Udaipur. Jagdish Temple which was built in 1651 AD. Saheliyon Ki Bari is a small ornamental garden. Late afternoon enjoy boat-rides on Lake Pichola visiting many Ghats (banks) of washing, bathing etc and enjoy excellent views of the Lake Palace and City Palace. Overnight at a hotel in Udaipur.

**Day 08: Udaipur – Ranakpur – Jodhpur 270km / 6 hours**

After breakfast, leave from Udaipur to Jodhpur. En route visiting the Jain temples at Ranakpur. The cluster of temples, made of intricately sculpted white marble, come across as a marvelous feat of architecture. It would take anyone by surprise to learn that they were built in 1460, so well preserved & sparkling is the marble. The main temple is supported on 1,444 pillars – none of which is similarly carved.

After the visit, continue driving to Jodhpur. Arrive and check in to the hotel. Evening free at leisure. Overnight at a hotel in Jodhpur.

**Day 09: Jodhpur – Bikaner 240km / 5 hours**

Breakfast at the hotel and drive to Bikaner. En route visit Karni Mata Rat Temple at Deshnokh. Further drive to Bikaner and visit the Junagarh fort. Overnight at hotel in Bikaner.

**Day 10: Bikaner – Fatehpur – Mandawa 200km / 4 hours**

Breakfast at the hotel and drive to Mandawa. En route visit the Havelis (Mansions) of Fatehpur town. Then continue driving to Mandawa. On Arrival check in to the hotel. Overnight at a hotel in Mandawa.

**Day 11: Mandawa – Delhi 275km / 6 hours**

After breakfast visit the frescoed Havelis. The painted Havelis of Mandawa that belong to its rich merchants including the Chowkhani Haveli, Gulab Rai Ladia Haveli and Mohanlal Saraf Haveli and most of the paintings and frescoes have local deities and daily desert lifestyle as its main theme.

After the visit to Mandawa village drive to Delhi. Arrival in Delhi and visit to Shikh Temple of Gurudwara Bangla Sahib. Also stroll in the Janpath market of Connaught Place. In the evening you will be taken to a local city restaurant for farewell dinner. After the dinner transfer to the international airport to board the flight back to your country.