



Best of India 9 Days 8 Nights Delhi, Agra, Bharatpur, Ranthambore, Jaipur

Day 1 Delhi - Arrival

Upon arrival, meet with our local representatives and transfer to the hotel. The rest of the day at leisure.

Accommodation: The Surya or similar

Day 2 Delhi (B)

After breakfast, begin the Delhi tour with a visit to Old Delhi. Here, pass the Red Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take a cycle rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk, the ancient market filled with vibrant colors, the scent of spices, and the sounds of bustling city life. In the afternoon, drive past India Gate and the Secretariat Building, before visiting Humayun's Tomb. This 16th-century UNESCO World Heritage Site was the first garden tomb in Asia and was built by Queen Empress Bega Begum in memory of her husband, Emperor Humayun.

Day 3 Delhi - Agra (B)

After breakfast, depart from Delhi for a scenic 4-hour drive (204 km) to Agra, a city steeped in Mughal history. Located along the Yamuna River, Agra flourished during the 16th and 17th centuries as one of the four capitals of the Mughal Empire. The Mughals, descendants of the Timurids from Central Asia, conquered Delhi in 1526, marking the beginning of their three-century rule, which ended in 1857. Agra, once a thriving center of Mughal power, retains its historical charm despite its modern transformation. Upon arrival, check in at the hotel. In the afternoon, visit Agra Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built from red sandstone along the Yamuna River, this fort was the main residence of Mughal emperors until the capital moved to Delhi. The fort is a testament to Mughal architecture and history. Emperor Shah Jahan was once imprisoned here, and from the tower where he was held, enjoy magnificent views of the Taj Mahal. Later, cross the river to Kachhpura village for a walk through this rural community. The walk provides a unique perspective on village life and offers a stunning view of the Taj Mahal from Mehtab Bagh at sunset. This community-based tour is guided by local youth, providing insight into the village's daily routines, livelihoods, and traditions. The funds raised from this experience directly benefit the Kachhpura community.

Accommodation: Clarks Shiraz or similar

Day 4 Agra – Bharatpur - Ranthambore (B)

Start the day early with a visit to the Taj Mahal, just as the first rays of sunlight bathe this magnificent monument in a soft, golden glow (closed on Fridays). World and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was built in the 17th century by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Marvel at its intricate marble inlay work and stroll through its meticulously landscaped gardens. Afterwards, return to the hotel for breakfast. Check out and begin the journey to Fatehpur Sikri, located an hour away (36 km). Fatehpur Sikri is an abandoned Mughal city, built by Emperor Akbar in the late 16th century. Once serving as the Mughal capital for 15 years, the city was abandoned due to water scarcity. Its well-preserved buildings and grand architecture provide a glimpse into the splendor of a former imperial capital. After exploring Fatehpur Sikri, continue to Bharatpur Railway Station (approximately 30 minutes). From here, board a train bound for Ranthambore, a famous wildlife reserve that inspired Rudyard Kipling's "The Jungle Book". Upon arrival in Ranthambore, transfer to the hotel and enjoy a peaceful evening in the heart of the Indian wilderness.

Accommodation: Ranthambore Regency or similar

Day 5 Ranthambore (B/L/D)

Today, explore the natural beauty of Ranthambore National Park, a renowned destination for its stunning landscapes, rich wildlife, and vibrant biodiversity. Nestled between the Aravali and Vindhyan Hills, the park spans over 150 square miles and is home to Ranthambore Fort, ancient temples, and beautiful pavilions. The dry deciduous forest offers a perfect habitat for tigers, sloth bears, leopards, and various other species. Start the day with an early morning safari through the park. Accompanied by an expert naturalist, venture into the heart of the wilderness in an open-top jeep in search of the park's famous Bengal tigers. Ranthambore is one of the best places in India to spot these majestic creatures in their natural habitat. The guide will also highlight other wildlife, including leopards, sloth bears, and Marsh crocodiles that often bask along the lake banks. The



park is a paradise for birdwatchers, with over 300 species of migratory and domestic birds. Return to the lodge for a relaxing lunch before heading out for the afternoon safari. The cool breeze and golden afternoon light create a magical atmosphere, providing another excellent opportunity to spot wildlife, including rare and elusive creatures. Explore more of Ranthambore's diverse ecosystems, from dense forests to open grasslands, with insights from the naturalist guide on the ecological importance of the park. As dusk falls, tigers become more active, offering another chance to witness these magnificent creatures. After the thrilling safari, return to the lodge for a peaceful evening, reflecting on the unforgettable experiences of the day, perhaps with a local dinner or simply relaxing and listening to the sounds of the wilderness.

Day 6 Ranthambore – Jaipur (B)

Rise early for the final safari through Ranthambore National Park, one last chance to experience the park's incredible wildlife and scenic beauty. Capture the essence of the wilderness as the forest comes to life in the soft light of dawn. After the safari, return to the hotel for a delicious breakfast and some time to relax. Following breakfast, engage in a unique opportunity to meet with key members of a local conservation organization. This group works closely with local tribes, particularly those once involved in poaching. Learn about their rehabilitation efforts, focusing on educating younger generations and helping them reintegrate into society. The organization has also established a residential school for children from the community, aiming to provide a brighter future while promoting tiger conservation and protecting the park's biodiversity. This interaction will give valuable insights into the challenges of conservation and how local communities are being actively involved. After the meeting, embark on a scenic drive to Jaipur, the capital city of Rajasthan, often called the "Pink City" due to its distinctive terracotta architecture. A journey through vibrant rural India, with sights of colorful trucks, bustling markets, and busy streets filled with a mix of locals and travelers. Witness authentic village life—camel carts, tractor taxis, and rural scenes unfold along the way. Upon arrival in Jaipur, be welcomed and transferred to the hotel for check-in. In the afternoon, take some time to relax and unwind after the journey.

Accommodation: Clarks Amer or similar

Day 7 Jaipur (B)

The day begins with a visit to Jantar Mantar, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an extraordinary 18th-century observatory built by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II. This fascinating complex houses a collection of astronomical instruments, including the world's largest sundial, known as the Samrat Yantra. Insights into the astronomical significance of these instruments and their role in timekeeping and celestial observations during the 18th century will be shared. Next, the City Palace, another architectural marvel in Jaipur, is explored. The palace, still serving as the residence of the royal family, houses a museum showcasing some of Jaipur's most precious royal treasures. Wander through the courtyards and opulent rooms, admiring the blend of Rajasthani and Mughal architecture, while learning about the princely history that shaped the city of Jaipur. In the afternoon, an eco-friendly tuk-tuk (auto-rickshaw) tour of Jaipur's walled city offers a unique experience. The ride is driven by empowered women from local communities, part of an initiative by a local NGO that helps women from humble households become skilled drivers. As the vibrant streets of Jaipur are explored, secrets of the Pink City, including its ancient lanes, bustling markets, and hidden gems, will be shared. The colorful energy of the city and its rich history will come to life. Later, visit the Amber Fort on the outskirts of Jaipur, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Perched on a hill with a view of Maota Lake, the fort is beautifully illuminated at night, creating a magical atmosphere. Explore its expansive courtyards and halls, which showcase a mix of Hindu and Mughal architecture. The Sheesh Mahal (Hall of Mirrors), with thousands of tiny mirrors reflecting light, is a highlight. Walking through the fort offers a glimpse into the grandeur of the royal court that once lived there.

Day 8 Jaipur (B/D)

After breakfast, depart for a delightful excursion to Bagru, a small village located about 20 km outside of Jaipur. Bagru is renowned for its traditional block printing technique, which has been practiced for centuries. The village artisans specialize in creating intricate designs on cotton fabrics using wooden blocks and natural dyes. During the visit, gain a hands-on experience of the block printing process. Learn how natural dyes are made from plants and minerals, and try creating a small piece of textile art. A small souvenir can be printed and taken home as a memory of this unique experience. In the evening, enjoy a special cooking demonstration followed by a home-hosted dinner with a local family. This experiential tour offers a deeper understanding of Indian culinary traditions. Insights into the cultural importance of food and family life in Indian society will be



shared. After the fun and educational cooking session, enjoy a delicious meal, savoring the flavors of the dishes that were prepared.

Day 9 Jaipur - Delhi – Departure (B)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and travel back to Delhi for the evening homebound flight.

B – Breakfast

L – Lunch

D - Dinner

TOUR PRICE PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY – minimum 2 person.

DAILY DEPARTURE	Land Package From	Single Supp.
2025: April – September	1840	470
2025: October – December	2100	650
2026: January – March	2030	610

HOTEL BLACKOUT DATES and FAIR/SEASONAL SURCHARGE may apply.

~~ ALL PRICES ARE IN CANADIAN DOLLARS AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE ~~

Tour Package Includes:

- Return private transfer between airport and hotel.
- Superior 4-star hotel accommodation with daily breakfast.
- Sightseeing tours with admission and meals as per itinerary.
- Professional English-speaking local guide service.

Tour Package Does NOT Include:

- International airfare from Canada to India.
- Any applicable weekend and other surcharges imposed by airlines.
- Any taxes, airport fees and fuel surcharge.
- Travel/Medical/Cancellation/ insurance, visa and all personal expenses.
- Tipping and gratuities to local guides, drivers, and hotel staff.
- Any items not specified as included.

Tour Highlights:

- Explore Old Delhi with a cycle rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk and visit the Red Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Visit the iconic Taj Mahal, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, and enjoy a scenic view of it from Mehtab Bagh in Agra.
- Discover Fatehpur Sikri, a former Mughal capital abandoned due to water scarcity.
- Embark on exciting wildlife safaris in Ranthambore National Park, home to Bengal tigers and diverse wildlife.
- Explore Jaipur's architectural marvels, including Jantar Mantar, City Palace, Amber Fort, and the vibrant streets of the Pink City.
- Experience traditional block printing in Bagru and enjoy a home-hosted dinner with a local family.

Good to Know:

- The Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays, so plan your visit accordingly. Arriving early in the morning helps avoid the crowds and gives you the chance to see the monument bathed in soft morning light.
- India can be hot and humid, especially during the day. Wear light, breathable clothing, and carry sunscreen and water to stay hydrated. It's also a good idea to dress modestly when visiting temples and historical sites.