

Small
Group Tours

from the UK's leading Asia specialist

2024/25

TRANSINDUS.COM



Welcome to TransIndus

For over three decades, TransIndus has blazed new trails across Asia, devising innovative itineraries and facilitating meaningful interaction with local people across the continent.

Proud recipients of several awards, we are a family-owned business committed to providing exciting journeys for discerning travellers. Our tours reflect a deep knowledge of Asia's multi-faceted culture, history and cuisine – an understanding derived in part from our own Asian heritage.

To help travellers develop a more rounded understanding of their destinations and host communities, the routes we create combine the must-see sights of a region with carefully selected, off-track gems. Drawing on continual on-the-ground research, our in-depth knowledge is the main thing that sets us apart from other tour operators. It means we are able to offer inspirational experiences that linger in the memory of our guests long after their journey ends. Expert guides and tour leaders take care of the logistics, allowing you to focus on enjoying every aspect of your award-winning TransIndus holiday.

Why not put us to the test? Call to speak with one of our team or drop in at our refurbished Victorian fire station in South Ealing to discuss your next holiday to Asia over a cup of coffee or glass of wine.



Amrit Singh - MD

Contents

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| Welcome to TransIndus | 2-7 | Jordan Group Tour | 42-43 |
| India Group Tours | 8-27 | Saudi Arabia Group Tour | 44-45 |
| Sri Lanka Group Tours | 28-31 | Taiwan Group Tour | 46-47 |
| Nepal Group Tour | 32-33 | South Korea Group Tour | 48-49 |
| Bhutan Group Tour | 34-35 | Luxury Train Travel in Asia | 50-55 |
| Uzbekistan Group Tour | 36-37 | Luxury River Cruising in Asia | 56-61 |
| Vietnam Group Tour | 38-39 | Traveller Information | 62 |
| Indochina Group Tour | 40-41 | How to Book | 63 |



Discover Asia with TransIndus

Booking a holiday is one of the most important decisions of the year. Most of us spend a great deal of time researching potential destinations and aim to ensure that our effort pays dividends. We wish to return from our holiday feeling invigorated and refreshed, and hopefully a little bit better informed about the world.

At TransIndus, we understand what you are looking for: adventure, comfort, security and inspirational experiences. We are confident that we can help you find the trip most likely to fulfil your expectations. We take great pride in our destination knowledge and expertise, and great care in handling the logistics of each trip to provide a seamless experience.

Our highly-trained travel consultants, each with an absolute passion for all things Asian, also have a developed understanding of the needs of British travellers. All of this helps us to design and operate enjoyable and memorable holidays time after time. We are very proud to say that 98% of our clients give us a perfect satisfaction rating, and that well over half choose to holiday in Asia with TransIndus again. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing our expertise.



Travelling on a Small Group Tour

The small size of our groups (maximum 12) ensures a stimulating tour with a close-knit atmosphere as you and your co-travellers have the full attention of your local guides and tour leaders. If you seek inspiring journeys and enjoying experiencing new ways of life, then one of these itineraries may well be the trip you are looking for. Our clients are drawn from a broad span of age ranges and backgrounds, but all have a passion for exploring the destinations they visit. Some travel as a couple, or with family members and friends; others solo. But they all value the sense of discovery and knowledge-building on a TransIndus tour, and the conviviality that comes with travelling as part of a group.

Small Group Size

We maintain a maximum group size of 12, which means you never have to travel in one of those large parties trailing behind a guide waving a flag!

Knowledgeable Tour Escorts

All of our trips are accompanied by a knowledgeable, qualified, well-trained, English-speaking tour leader/guide, usually drawn from the country you're travelling in, who will be available 24/7.

Smooth Travel

Whether a short ride across town or a full day's drive, overland travel on our group tours is always comfortable. We only use new vehicles that are air-conditioned, clean and well maintained.

Comfortable Accommodation

We personally check the quality of all the hotels and guest houses to ensure they meet an acceptable standard, and wherever possible we use small, good value heritage hotels in central locations.

Great Food

We know from experience what a difference a decent meal makes to a day's travel, and go to great lengths to ensure our groups are served high-quality cuisine.

Lower Costs

Small group travel is more easily affordable. Because we block-book the accommodation and vehicles we use a year or more in advance, we're able to offer our trips at a generous discount.

Flexibility

On a TransIndus group tour, you are never obliged to join in the day's planned excursions or activities, and can explore alone and at your own pace, or simply laze back at the hotel, if you prefer.

Scheduled Flights

To give you flexibility, our tours are planned without international flights. However if you would like us to organise your flights we would be happy to do so, and we will only use reputable airlines.

Extension Options

Group tours follow a fixed itinerary but you can personalise your holiday by adding pre- and post-tour extensions. Recommended options appear alongside each tour featured in this brochure.

Private Travel Option

If you are keen on a more personal experience as a couple or with family and friends, we would be happy to set up a private departure to fit your preferred dates.



Accommodation in Asia

Finding great places for our clients to stay is at the heart of what we do as a company and we put a great deal of effort identifying the best accommodation choices. The small heritage properties and centrally-located hotels we choose are designed to make your experience more pleasurable and provide convenient access to principal sights.

We check the quality of every property to ensure they meet our exacting standards for cleanliness, service delivery and health safety. In remote regions and destinations where tourism is still in its infancy, availability of rooms can be limited but we nevertheless endeavour to always use the best accommodation available.

All city-based hotel rooms have private en-suite bathrooms, air-conditioning and heating. Most have at least one restaurant and usually a bar. Other leisure facilities might include a gym, swimming pool and spa. Some larger hotels may additionally offer a foreign exchange, business centre and complimentary WiFi.

Suggestions for hotel upgrades are offered with every tour, and our consultants would be happy to discuss these in more detail with you.



Asia on a Plate

Discovering regional specialities is one of the great joys of travelling around Asia, and there is a great diversity across the continent. Whether it be the refined Mughlai cuisine in north India or delicate coconut-based, fresh seafood dishes in the south, Vietnamese street food or a Chinese hotpot, we encourage you to sample authentic local experience wherever possible, recommending local restaurants.

If you have particular dietary requirements or suffer from an allergy of any sort, do let us know so that we can ensure the hotels and restaurants cater for you.



Responsible Travel

Each year we choose to work with a number of projects across Asia that we feel are working towards these same goals. In order to give back a little to the societies that host us and our clients, we like to support smaller charities undertaking valuable work at a local level. A few of the causes we support are:

Wildlife

With so many of Asia's wild animals under threat, we support every endeavour that seeks to keep endangered species from the brink of extinction. Most countries have a programme of conservation and have created national parks in order to protect the country's natural habitats. It is gratifying to be able to report a rise in the numbers of Royal Bengal tigers and Asiatic one-horned rhino in recent years, causes we have supported throughout the years.

Waterharvest

This non-profit organisation helps provide safe drinking water in rural villages in Rajasthan & Gujarat. In 2018, TransIndus pledged five WaterHarvest systems to provide safe, clean, sustainable water for five families in the Barmer area of Rajasthan. We chose this pledge because we wanted to make a difference to the destination that has given the company and its guests so much. We also wanted to help protect its delicate rural community.

And at our annual Summer Garden Party in 2019, thanks to the generous donations of our guests, we raised £287 through a charity raffle prize draw. TransIndus matched this money raised for a total donation of £575 to WaterHarvest.

The Jaipur Virasat Foundation

The Jaipur Virasat Foundation (JVF) is a charitable trust, set up in September 2002 to conserve Jaipur's heritage, and brings together traditional arts and craft skills with modern market requirements to generate employment. We encourage our clients to visit JVF workshops as part of their tours, and donations from TransIndus travellers help to sustain the foundation's programme.



Glimpse of India

Delhi - Agra - Jaipur - Delhi

This short but comprehensive journey through India's Golden Triangle is a great introduction to the country.

8 days from £1,045



Highlights

- Visit Old and New Delhi
- Marvel at the Taj Mahal
- Explore Fatehpur Sikri
- Visit the Amber Fort at Jaipur
- Discover astronomical methods at the Jantar Mantar Observatory

Special Experiences

- Take a thrilling cycle rickshaw ride through the narrow lanes of Old Delhi
- See the changing colours of the Taj Mahal with a visit at sunrise
- See the impressive 9th Century Chand Baori step well at Abhaneri

Accommodation

- Delhi - Suryaa Hotel
- Agra - Grand Mercure
- Jaipur - Shahpura House

Popularly known as the Golden Triangle, this tour takes in the most popular sights of the country and is a true introduction to India. Start in the city of Delhi with the tree-lined boulevards of Lutyen's New Delhi and the hustle and bustle of the Old City. Move on to Agra to admire one of the most iconic and beautiful buildings in the world, the Taj Mahal, as well as the impressive Agra Fort with its Diwan-i-Am & Diwan-i-Khas (halls of public and private audience) and lastly, the Pink City of Jaipur, with its stately forts, sprawling palaces and colourful bazaars.



Itinerary

Day 1: Delhi

Greeted on arrival in Delhi and transferred to the Suryaa Hotel or similar for two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure, with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant in the evening.

Day 2: Delhi

Explore Delhi starting with a tour of Old Delhi with a cycle rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk and visits to Jama Masjid, Raj Ghat. After lunch, drive past Lutyen's Delhi and visit the tomb of Humayun and the lofty Qutab Minar.

Day 3: Delhi - Agra

Drive to Agra (4-5 hours) for an overnight stay in the Grand Mercure or similar. In the afternoon visit Agra Fort, the tomb of Itamudud- Daula and enjoy a heritage walk of Agra.

Day 4: Agra - Jaipur

Visit the Taj Mahal at sunrise and returning to your hotel for breakfast before continuing to Jaipur (6-7 hours). Enroute visit Emperor Akbar's abandoned City of Fatehpur Sikri and the impressive Chand Baori step well at Abhaneri. Stay at Shahpura House or similar for three nights.

Day 5: Jaipur

Visit the hilltop fort of Amber and its sparkling Mirror Palace. Later, visit the City Palace including, the museum, Jantar Mantar astronomical observatory and the Hawa Mahal.

Day 6: Jaipur

Day at leisure or take one of our optional excursions. This evening enjoy a colourful cultural performance and dinner at an ethnic restaurant.

Day 7: Jaipur - Delhi

Drive back to Delhi this afternoon (5 hours) for an overnight stay at an airport hotel.

Day 8: Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

Suggested Extensions

Ganges at Varanasi - 2 nights

Day 7: Jaipur - Varanasi

Transfer to the airport for a short flight to Varanasi. Transfer to the Radisson Hotel for two nights.

Day 8: Varanasi

Varanasi is the oldest continuously inhabited places on earth. Streams of Hindu worshippers still come here today to bathe in the sacred waters. Enjoy a peaceful early morning boat ride on the Ganges. The afternoon is spent visiting Sarnath, the site of Buddha's first public discourse. In the evening we head back to the Ganges to witness ceremonial worship with oil lamps.

Day 9: Varanasi - Delhi

A midday flight back to Delhi. On arrival, transfer to an airport hotel for the night.

Day 10: Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Golden Temple Amritsar - 3 nights

Day 8: Delhi - Amritsar

Take the early morning Shatabdi Express (6 hr train journey) to Amritsar for a two night stay at Ranjit Vilas. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 9: Amritsar

Visit the Golden Temple complex, one of the holiest shrines of the Sikh faith and Jallianwala Bagh. In the afternoon drive to the Wagah border to see the indulgent joint 'retreat' ceremony of the Indian and Pakistani guard.

Day 10: Amritsar

Fly back to Delhi. On arrival, transfer to an airport hotel for the night.

Day 11: Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|--|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 10-Mar-24 | Sun | £1,045 | £475 |
| 31-Mar-24 | Sun | £1,045 | £475 |
| 27-Oct-24 | Sun | £1,145 | £535 |
| Diwali Special - Dinner in Jaipur on 1 Nov | | | |
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £1,095 | £535 |
| 01-Dec-24 | Sun | £1,095 | £535 |
| 12-Jan-25 | Sun | £1,095 | £535 |
| 02-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,095 | £535 |
| 16-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,095 | £535 |
| 09-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,145 | £535 |
| Holi Special - Holi in Jaipur on 14 Mar | | | |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,095 | £535 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 4 and 5
- Dinner on days 1 and 6

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 7 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort, when minimum group size is achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extensions

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Ganges at Varanasi | £645 | £145 |
| Golden Temple Amritsar | £595 | £195 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Golden Triangle & Tigers

Delhi - Agra - Ranthambore - Jaipur - Delhi

An exciting tour of India's classic Golden Triangle and Ranthambore National Park to see the elusive Bengal tiger.

9 days from £1,445



| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit Old and New Delhi • Marvel at the Taj Mahal • Explore Fatehpur Sikri • Safaris in Ranthambore • Visit the City Palace and Amber Fort in Jaipur | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a cycle rickshaw ride through the narrow bazaars of Old Delhi • See the Taj Mahal at sunrise • Enjoy a traditional Rajasthani dinner over a cultural performance • Search for the elusive tiger in Ranthambore | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delhi - The Eros Hotel, Nehru Place • Agra - Grand Mercure • Ranthambore - Ranthambore Kothi • Jaipur - Narain Niwas Palace |
|---|--|--|

Ideal for first time visitors who want to explore a little of India's nature along with the big hitting sights. We start a tour of Old Delhi, including the Jama Masjid and the Red Fort, and explore the bazaars of Old Delhi by cycle rickshaws before driving through Lutyens' Delhi to Humayun's Tomb and head towards the iconic 2000year Qutab Minar. In Agra we visit the iconic Taj Mahal and Agra Fort. Our foray into nature takes us to Ranthambore for where we seek out the tiger and lastly, the Pink City of Jaipur, with its stately forts, sprawling palaces and colourful bazaars.



Itinerary

Day 1: Delhi
Greeted on arrival in Delhi and transferred to the The Eros Hotel Nehru Place or similar for two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure, with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2: Delhi
Explore Delhi on a full day sightseeing tour. Start with a tour of Old Delhi in the morning: enjoying a cycle rickshaw ride in the bustling lanes of Chandni Chowk followed by a visit to see the Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in India, and the Raj Ghat, a memorial built for Mahatma Gandhi, a prominent figure in India's struggle for freedom. In the afternoon, drive past Lutyen's Delhi. Visit the tomb of Humayun and the lofty Qutab Minar, an early Mughal structure made of red sandstone and white marble.

Day 3: Delhi - Agra
Drive to Agra (4-5 hours) for an overnight stay in Grand Mercure or similar. In the afternoon, visit the impressive Agra Fort whose buildings, made of red sandstone and marble, are a mix of Hindu and Islamic architecture followed by a visit to the ornate tomb of Itamud-ud-Daula. Finish the day with a heritage walk of Agra.

Day 4: Agra - Ranthambore
Visit the Taj Mahal at sunrise. After breakfast back at your hotel, continue to Ranthambore (6-7 hours) with an en route stop at Fatehpur Sikri, the red sandstone city built by Emperor Akbar that was abandoned after just 14 years. We stay for two nights at Ranthambore Kothi, your base to explore Ranthambore National Park.

Day 5: Ranthambore
Enjoy morning and evening game drives in Ranthambore National Park in search of the elusive Royal Bengal tiger. Other animals include leopard, sloth bear, sambar deer, chital, nilgai, black buck, langur and macaque.

Day 6: Ranthambore - Jaipur
Enjoy a morning game drive. Later drive to Jaipur (4-5 hours). Stay at Narain Niwas Palace or similar for two nights.

Day 7: Jaipur
Visit the 17th century hilltop fort of Amber and the sparkling Mirror Palace. In the afternoon visit the City Palace complex including its museum and the 18th century Jantar Mantar astronomical observatory. Drive through the busy bazaars for a photo stop at the recently restored Hawa Mahal, one of the most famous buildings in Jaipur.

Day 8: Jaipur - Delhi
Drive back to Delhi this afternoon (5 hours) for an overnight stay at an airport hotel.

Day 9: Delhi
Today you will be transferred to Delhi International airport for your onward flight.

Suggested Extensions

Shimla Hills - 4 nights

Day 9: Delhi - Kalka - Shimla
Board the early morning Shatabdi Express to Kalka. Journey onward, on the narrow gauge railway towards Shimla. On arrival, check-in at Radisson Jass Hotel for three nights.

Day 10: Shimla
A morning's sightseeing tour of Shimla includes a visit to the Vice Regal Lodge, Mock Tudor Library and, Jakhu Temple as well as a walk down the busy Mall Road to see the Gaiety Theatre and Christ Church. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 11: Shimla
Your day is at leisure to explore the neighbouring towns of Kufri, Naldhera and Chail or enjoy a walk in the picturesque mountains.

Day 12: Shimla - Delhi
Drive to Kalka to board the Shatabdi Express back to Delhi. Stay overnight at Lemon Tree Premier or similar.

Day 13: Delhi
Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Ganges at Varanasi - 2 nights

Day 8: Jaipur - Varanasi
Transfer to the airport for a short flight to Varanasi. Transfer to the Radisson Hotel for two nights.

Day 9: Varanasi
Varanasi, one of the oldest continuously inhabited places on earth. Streams of Hindu worshippers still come here today to bathe in the sacred waters of the Ganges. We will enjoy a peaceful boat ride on the Ganges early this morning before returning to the hotel for breakfast. Our afternoon is spent visiting the nearby town of Sarnath, the site of Buddha's first public sermon, where the museum is particularly spectacular. Evening we head back to the banks of the Ganges to witness ceremonial worship with oil lamps.

Day 10: Varanasi - Delhi
A midday flight back to Delhi. On arrival, transfer to an airport hotel for an overnight stay .

Day 11: Delhi
Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|--|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 16-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,445 | £675 |
| 27-Oct-24 | Sun | £1,495 | £675 |
| Diwali Special - Dinner in Jaipur on 1 Nov | | | |
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £1,445 | £675 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £1,445 | £675 |
| 02-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,445 | £675 |
| 16-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,445 | £675 |
| 16-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,445 | £675 |
| 06-Apr-25 | Sun | £1,445 | £675 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 5 and 6
- Dinner on days 1, 4 and 5

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 8 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides and naturalist
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Game drives & nature activities in Ranthambore
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extensions

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Shimla Hills | £855 | £475 |
| Ganges at Varanasi | £645 | £145 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Rajasthan, Land of Kings

Delhi - Agra - Jaipur - Khimsar - Jaisalmer - Dechu - Narlai - Udaipur

Focusing on India's royal heritage, this popular two week tour follows a classic route through Rajasthan.

15 days from £2,445



| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tour Old and New Delhi • Visit the Taj Mahal at sunrise • Explore the 'Pink City' of Jaipur • Venture into the desert fort of Jaisalmer • Enjoy a night in a tented desert camp • Visit the 'Blue City' of Jodhpur • Relax around the lakes of Udaipur | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay in elegant period palaces • Experience a night in a desert camp • Dine under the stars with folk music • Enjoy a scrumptious high tea while cruising Lake Pichola, Udaipur | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delhi - Suryaa Hotel • Agra - Grand Mercure • Jaipur - Narain Niwas • Khimsar - Khimsar Fort • Jaisalmer - Rawal Kot • Dechu - Samsara Camp • Narlai - Rawla Narlai • Udaipur - Fateh Vilas |
|---|--|--|

Focusing on Rajasthan's royal heritage, including the Taj Mahal and other great monuments of the 'Golden Triangle', this popular two-week tour follows a classic route around northwest India's more regal and opulent locations: from the Mughal wonders and packed bazaars of Delhi to Akbar's ghost city at Fatehpur Sikri, Jaipur (the 'Pink City') and the fairy-tale desert citadel of Jaisalmer. From there, you head across the sandflats to Jodhpur, the 'Blue City' and end the tour beside the shimmering waters of Lake Pichola at Udaipur. Along the way, we spend time in some rural locations and stay in elegant palaces.



Itinerary

Day 1: Delhi

Greeted on arrival in Delhi and transferred to the Suryaa Hotel or similar for two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure, with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2: Delhi

Explore Delhi on a full day sightseeing tour. Start with a tour of Old Delhi in the morning: enjoy a cycle rickshaw ride in the bustling lanes of Chandni Chowk followed by a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in India, and the Raj Ghat, a memorial built for Mahatma Gandhi, a prominent figure in India's struggle for freedom. Drive through Lutyen's New Delhi in the afternoon. Visit the tomb of Humayun and the lofty Qutb Minar, an early Mughal structure made of red sandstone and white marble.

Day 3: Delhi - Agra

Drive to Agra (4-5 hours) for an overnight stay at Grand Mercure or similar. In the afternoon visit the impressive Agra Fort whose buildings, made of red sandstone and marble, are a mix of Hindu and Islamic architecture. This is followed by a visit to the ornate tomb of Itamud-ud-Daula, and a heritage walk of Agra.

Day 4: Agra - Jaipur

Visit the Taj Mahal at sunrise. After breakfast back at your hotel, continue to Jaipur (6-7 hours) with a stop at Fatehpur Sikri, the red sandstone city built by Emperor Akbar that was abandoned after just 14 years. Closer to Jaipur, stop to see the impressive 9th Century Chand Baori step well at Abhaneri. Stay Narain Niwas or similar, for two nights.

Day 5: Jaipur

Visit the 17th century hilltop fort of Amber and the sparkling Mirror Palace. In the afternoon visit the City Palace complex including its museum and the 18th century Jantar Mantar astronomical observatory, a UNESCO World Heritage monument. Drive through the busy bazaars for a photo stop at the recently restored Hawa Mahal, one of the most famous buildings in Jaipur.

Day 6: Jaipur - Khimsar

Leave the "Pink City" in the morning and head towards rural Khimsar (5-6 hours). Arrive and check-in to traditionally decorated rooms at the Khimsar Fort hotel for an overnight stay. The afternoon is at leisure to relax by the pool or explore this 16th century fort and village. Bikes are available or a camel cart ride can be arranged.

Day 7: Khimsar - Jaisalmer

Drive west for 5-6 hours towards the lone city of Jaisalmer, at the edge of Thar desert. The old part of the city was built almost entirely of yellow sandstone, lending to the settlement being affectionately termed "The Golden City". Stay at the Rawal Kot or similar for two nights.

Day 8: Jaisalmer

In the morning, visit Jaisalmer Fort, which dominates the local landscape. This impressive structure comprises a maze of alleyways and narrow lanes that lead to various Havelis or merchant homes and Jain temples, all enclosed within the fort. Also visit the Gadisar Tank, once the sole water supply of the city and now a repository of small temples and shrines.

Day 9: Jaisalmer - Dechu

Drive towards Dechu (5 hours) for a royal experience complete with dining under the stars and unwinding as local folk musicians play out the night at the Samsara Tented Camp.

Day 10: Dechu - Jodhpur - Narlai

Turning eastwards, the morning's drive (2 hours) brings us to 'The Blue City' of Jodhpur. Stop here for a visit to the imposing Mehrangarh Fort. Drive on to the village of Narlai (3 hours) for a two night stay at the Rawla Narlai.

Day 11: Narlai

Today is free to explore this authentic Rajasthani village which is dotted with curious temples. There is also the option of a jeep safari or a dinner on the edge of the 1100 year old step-well.

Day 12: Narlai - Udaipur

Heading south, traverse the Aravalli Hills to Ranakpur, home of an intricately and painstakingly carved Jain Temple complex. Continue to Udaipur where we stay for two nights at Fateh Vilas or similar.

Day 13: Udaipur

A morning city tour takes in the City Palace, a complex of 11 palaces, all with intricate stone work and interiors featuring glass mirror and ornamental tile. Also visit Sahelion Ki Bari, the old city and the Jagdish Temple. The afternoon is at leisure to browse through the markets. Enjoy a sunset high tea cruise on the lake in the evening.

Day 14: Udaipur

Fly back to Delhi for overnight at the Lemon Tree Premier or similar.

Day 15: Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Suggested Extension

Beaches of Goa - 3 nights

Day 14: Udaipur - Mumbai - Goa

Take a set of flights via Mumbai to Goa, arriving mid afternoon. Transfer to the Hyatt Centric Calangute or similar (upgrades available) for three nights.

Days 15 & 16: Goa

At leisure.

Day 17: Goa

Transfer to the airport.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|---|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 03-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |
| 17-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |
| 20-Oct-24 | Sun | £2,495 | £1,295 |
| Diwali Special - Dinner in Udaipur on 1 Nov | | | |
| 03-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |
| 09-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |
| 02-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,495 | £1,295 |
| Holi Special - Holi in Udaipur on 14 Mar | | | |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,445 | £1,295 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 4, 5, 10 and 12
- Dinner on days 1 and 9

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 14 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort, when minimum group size is achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Beaches of Goa | £555 | £295 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Classic India

Delhi - Varanasi - Khajuraho - Orchha - Agra - Jaipur - Jodhpur - Udaipur

Experience India's highlights and religious sites on this heritage tour travelling across the north of the country.



15 days from £2,945

Highlights

- Explore British Heritage in India's capital
- Visit the erotic temples at Khajuraho
- See the changing hues of the Taj Mahal
- Explore Jaipur, The 'Pink City' of Rajasthan
- Visit Jodhpur's Mehrangarh Fort
- See the Jain temples of Ranakpur
- Relax on the banks of Lake Pichola, Udaipur

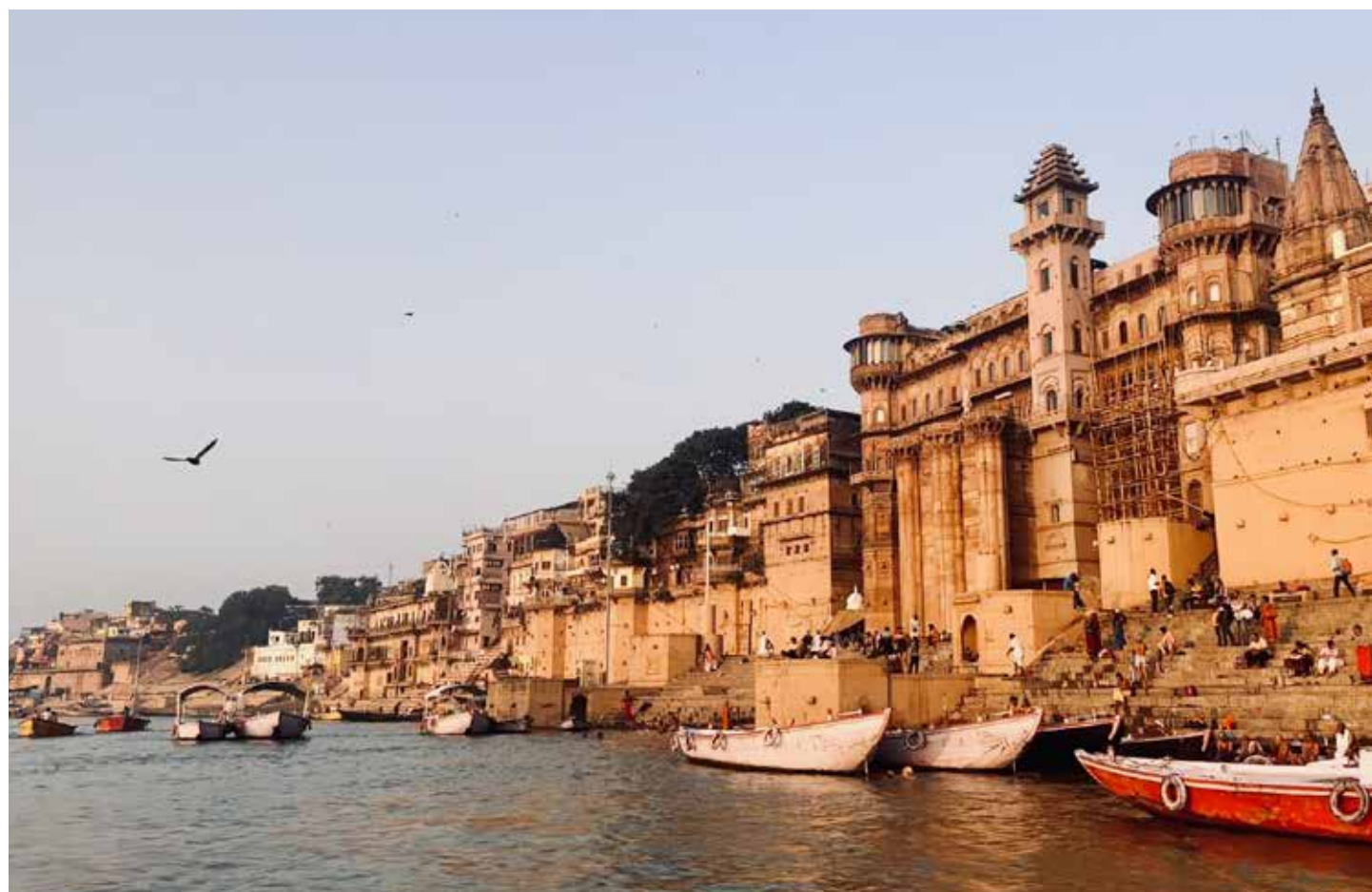
Special Experiences

- Visit the pilgrimage site of Sarnath where Buddha gave his first sermon in 530 B.C.
- Witness the pre-dawn rituals on the River Ganges at the holy town of Varanasi
- Explore the atmospheric chattris in Orchha
- Enjoy a traditional Rajasthani meal as private guests of a local family in Jodhpur

Accommodation

- Delhi - The Eros Hotel, Nehru Place
- Varanasi - Taj Gateway Hotel Ganges
- Khajuraho - LaLit Temple View
- Agra - Double Tree by Hilton
- Jaipur - Marriott Jaipur
- Jodhpur - Fairfield by Marriott
- Udaipur - Fateh Vilas

Staying in five-star hotels, you will experience some of India's most prominent cultural and sacred sites on this two-week tour of northern India's historic highlights. Spanning 2,500 years, this loop from Delhi across the Gangetic Plains to Varanasi and southern Rajasthan weaves between the region's iconic forts, temples and palaces, culminating with a stay in the dreamy lakeside city of Udaipur. Over the course of the tour, you get to walk in the footsteps of the Buddha, experience the erotic intensity of Khajuraho's tantric stone carving, watch the sun rise over the Ganges and experience the Taj Mahal, the fabulous medieval wonder of the world.



Itinerary

Day 1: Delhi

Greeted on arrival in Delhi and transfer to The Eros Hotel, Nehru Place or similar, for two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure, with a welcome dinner at a restaurant in the evening.

Day 2: Delhi

Explore Delhi on a full day sightseeing tour. Enjoy a cycle rickshaw ride in the bustling lanes of Chandni Chowk in Old Delhi followed by a visit to Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in India and the Raj Ghat, a memorial built for Mahatma Gandhi, a prominent figure in India's struggle for freedom. In the afternoon, drive past Lutyen's New Delhi. Visit the tomb of Humayun and the lofty Qutb Minar, an early Mughal structure made of red sandstone and white marble.

Day 3: Delhi - Varanasi

Take a short flight to Varanasi, one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world and, for Hindus, one of the holiest places in India. Stay at Gateway Hotel Ganges or similar for two nights. The afternoon is at leisure. Witness the spectacular Ganga Aarti (spiritual worship) this evening on the ghats of the Ganges River.

Day 4: Varanasi

A peaceful early morning boat ride on the Ganges to see devotees at prayer at the waters' edge. Visit Sarnath, the site of Buddha's first public discourse and now home to many magnificent stupas and monasteries. Afternoon stop by at one of Varanasi's famous silk workshops.

Day 5: Varanasi - Khajuraho

Take a midday flight to Khajuraho and transfer to the LaLit Temple View or similar for an overnight stay. Enjoy an afternoon tour of the temples of Khajuraho, renowned for their erotic art.

Day 6: Khajuraho - Orchha - Agra

A morning drive (4 hours) to the unhurried settlement of Orchha to see the 16th century temples and palaces. A short drive to Jhansi, after lunch, to board an express train to Agra, arriving in the evening. Stay at Double Tree by Hilton or similar for two nights.

Day 7: Agra

A half day sightseeing tour of Agra starts with a visit to the Taj Mahal, regarded as one of the finest examples of Mughal architecture. Followed by a visit to the impressive Agra Fort whose buildings, made of red sandstone and marble, are a mix of Hindu and Islamic architecture. Finally, see the ornate tomb of Itamud-ud-Daula. The afternoon is at leisure.

Day 8: Agra - Jaipur

A full day drive to Jaipur (6-7 hours) with a stop at Fatehpur Sikri, the red sandstone city built by Emperor Akbar and abandoned after just 14 years. Closer to Jaipur, stop to see the impressive 9th century AD Chand Baori step well at Abhaneri. Stay at Marriott Jaipur or similar for two nights.

Day 9: Jaipur

Visit the 17th century hilltop fort of Amber this morning and the sparkling Mirror Palace. In the afternoon visit the City Palace with its museum and the 18th century Jantar Mantar astronomical

observatory. Drive through the busy bazaars for a photo stop at the recently restored Hawa Mahal, one of the most famous buildings in Jaipur.

Day 10: Jaipur - Jodhpur

A long drive (6-7 hours) through the heartland of this desert state to Jodhpur. Stay at Fairfield by Marriott or similar for two nights.

Day 11: Jodhpur

Enjoy a half day sightseeing tour of Jodhpur focussed on the majestic Mehrangarh fort. Also visit the Jaswant Thada, a marble cenotaph and take a walk through the Sadar Bazar to see its Clock Tower. Afternoon at leisure. In the evening, enjoy dinner at the residence of a local family.

Day 12: Jodhpur - Udaipur

Head to the scenic beauty of the Aravalli Hills and the town of Ranakpur (3 hours) to visit the intricately carved Jain temples before continuing on to Udaipur (3 hours). Stay at Fateh Vilas or similar for two nights.

Day 13: Udaipur

A morning city tour takes in the City Palace, a complex of 11 palaces, all with intricate stone work and interiors featuring glass mirror and ornamental tile. Also visit the gardens of Sahelion Ki Bari, the old city and the Jagdish Temple. The afternoon is at leisure. **Optional:** Sunset champagne hiking.

Day 14: Udaipur - Delhi

Fly back to Delhi for overnight stay near the airport.

Day 15: Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Suggested Extensions

Laid-back Kerala - 5 nights

Day 14: Udaipur - Mumbai - Cochin

Take a set of flights via Mumbai to Cochin, arriving mid afternoon. Transfer to the Fragrant Nature or similar for two nights. In the evening, take a sunset cruise in the harbour for views of the landmark Chinese fishing nets.

Day 15: Cochin

Sightseeing of historic Fort Cochin includes a visit to the Dutch Palace, the Jewish Synagogue and St Francis, the oldest church in India. Attend a Kathakali dance performance.

Days 16 - 18: Cochin - Kumarakom

Drive to Kumarakom. Stay at the Rhythm for three nights; days at leisure.

Day 19: Cochin

Transfer to Cochin airport.

Beaches of Goa - 3 nights

Days 14 - 16: Udaipur - Mumbai - Goa

Take a set of flights via Mumbai to Goa, arriving mid afternoon. Transfer to Hyatt Centric Calangute or similar (upgrades available) for three nights. Spend your days at leisure.

Day 17: Goa

Transfer to the airport.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|---|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 03-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,945 | £1,095 |
| 20-Oct-24 | Sun | £3,025 | £1,395 |
| Diwali Special - Dinner in Udaipur on 1 Nov | | | |
| 10-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,995 | £1,395 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £2,995 | £1,395 |
| 09-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,995 | £1,395 |
| 02-Mar-25 | Sun | £3,025 | £1,395 |
| Holi Special - Holi in Udaipur on 14 Mar | | | |
| 06-Apr-25 | Sun | £2,995 | £1,395 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12
- Dinner on days 1 and 11

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 14 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort, when minimum group size is achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extensions

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Beaches of Goa | £555 | £295 |
| Laid-back Kerala | £795 | £475 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a nominal price you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Golden Temple & the Himalayas

Amritsar - Dharamsala - Pragpur - Shimla - Delhi

This tour ventures off-track to take in the Golden Temple at Amritsar and the summer capital of the British Raj, Shimla.



11 days from £1,645

Highlights

- The Golden Temple at Amritsar
- Experience a 'beating-the-retreat-ceremony'
- Visit McLeod Ganj a Buddhist conclave
- Walk the cobbled streets of Pragpur Village
- Explore Shimla, the summer capital of British India
- Ride the famous 'Toy Train' to Kandaghat

Special Experiences

- Experience the Golden Temple and participate in preparation of food for the daily communal feeding (langar) of thousands of devotees
- Enjoy a picnic lunch and visit a tea plantation
- Visit Dharamsala, the Dalai Lama's residence

Accommodation

- Amritsar - Hyatt Amritsar
- Dharamsala - JuSTA Birding Resort
- Pragpur - Judges Court
- Shimla - WelcomeHeritage Elysium Resort
- Delhi - Lemon Tree Premier

his fascinating, off-the-beaten-track tour invites you to Amritsar, the sacred home of Sikhism and the impressive Golden Temple, situated within the shimmering waters of a holy tank where we experience one of the largest voluntary kitchens in the world that feeds thousands every day. Driving through picturesque scenery, you head for the foothills of the Himalayas into Buddhist country towards Dharamsala and McLeod Ganj, the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, to visit the monastery and the cultural Norbulinka Institute. We head onto the Kangra Valley and Shimla, the summer capital of the British Raj, where some spectacular architecture of the period survives.



Itinerary

Day 1: Amritsar

Met on arrival in Amritsar and transferred to the Hyatt Amritsar or similar for two nights. The rest of the day is free for relaxation with a welcome dinner this evening.

Day 2: Amritsar

A full day of sightseeing starts with a walk through the bustling lanes of the old city followed by a visit to Jallianwala Bagh. Visit the majestic Golden Temple complex, one of the holiest shrines of the Sikh faith. Take part in the communal lunch (langar) where thousands share a free meal every day. In the afternoon drive to the Wagah border to see the indulgent joint 'beating-the-retreat' ceremony of the Indian and Pakistani guard.

Day 3: Amritsar - Dharamsala

Heading north, leave the plains of the Punjab and reach the town of Dharamsala (4-5 hours), the residence of His Holiness The Dalai Lama, in the foothills of the Himalaya. Stay for two nights at JuSTA Birding Resort or similar. In the afternoon visit the nearby Norbulinka Institute, built in the style of the Dalai Lama's former summer residence in Lhasa (Tibet).

Day 4: Dharamsala

A morning sightseeing tour through the Tibetan Buddhist enclave of McLeod Ganj with visits to the Namgyal Monastery, the Kalachakra Temple and the Bhagsunath Temple. In the afternoon, relax in one of the many inviting cafes or explore some of the smaller local monasteries.

Day 5: Dharamsala - Pragpur

Drive down to the heritage village of Pragpur (3 hours) with the option of a ride on the Kangra heritage railway line. Two nights are spent at the Judges Court.

Day 6: Pragpur

Enjoy a walk through Pragpur's intriguing medieval narrow stone-cobbled streets. A picnic lunch is followed by a visit to a tea plantation.

Day 7: Pragpur - Shimla

Leaving Pragpur, drive through picturesque countryside ending with a steep and spectacular climb through the Shivalik Hills to the hill station of Shimla (6 hours). Stay at WelcomeHeritage Elysium Resort for three nights.

Day 8: Shimla

The morning's sightseeing tour of Shimla includes a visit to the Vice Regal Lodge, Library and Jakhu Temple and a walk along the busy Mall Road to see the Gaiety Theatre and Christ Church. In the afternoon take a ride on the affectionately named 'toy train' to Kandaghat.

Day 9: Shimla

Day at leisure, with an option to play golf at the picturesque, Naldehra Golf Course.

Day 10: Shimla - Delhi

Drive down to Kalka for the express train back to Delhi, staying overnight at Lemon Tree Premier or similar.

Day 11: Delhi

Transfer to the airport.

Suggested Extension

Yoga in the Himalaya - 5 nights

Days 10: Shimla - Rishikesh

Drive to Rishikesh. Stay five nights at the Veda5, renowned for yoga and Ayurveda.

Days 11-14: Rishikesh

At leisure.

Day 15: Rishikesh - Delhi

Return to Delhi by train and stay overnight at Lemon Tree Premier.

Day 16: Delhi

Transfer to the airport for your onwards flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|--|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 10-Mar-24 | Sun | £1,645 | £795 |
| 31-Oct-24 | Thu | £1,695 | £795 |
| Diwali Special - Dinner in Amritsar on 1 Nov | | | |
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £1,645 | £795 |
| 09-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,645 | £795 |
| 09-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,695 | £795 |
| Holi Special - Holi in Pragpur on 14 Mar | | | |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,645 | £795 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 6 and 8
- Dinner on day 1

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road and rail
- Accommodation for 10 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Yoga in the Himalaya | £575 | £355 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Land of Tigers

Delhi - Pench - Kanha - Bandhavgarh - Delhi

The ultimate tour for wildlife enthusiasts, visit three of India's national parks in search of the tiger and experience the biodiversity of the parks.

11 days from £2,395



| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore India's best National Parks for Tiger Observe the contrasting ecosystems Stay in cottages and tented suites on the edge of the jungle Enjoy alfresco, lantern lit dinners listening to the sound of nature | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoy evening lectures by resident experts on India's flora and fauna Visit local villages and schools Learn about wildlife conservation projects | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delhi - The Suryaa Hotel Pench - Pench Jungle Camp Kanha - Kanha Jungle Lodge Bandhavgarh - Bandhavgarh Jungle Lodge Delhi - Lemon Tree Premier |
|--|---|---|

Join TransIndus on a trip to the wild heart of central India, covering three of the country's most remote and successful parks for their valuable conservation work. This group tour gives you the best chance of sighting tigers and other magnificent and rare animals, including leopards, nilgai (blue bull), bison, sloth bears, civet and pangolins. A luxurious journey that stays in comfortable wildlife resorts that reflect the natural surroundings of the parks, deep the jungle interiors. The parks' success is in part dependent on tourism, both in increasing awareness and spreading the message of conservation as well as raising funding.



Itinerary

Day 1: Delhi
On arrival, the group will be met by TransIndus's representative in Delhi and escorted to The Suryaa hotel, where we'll stay for one night. Spend the remainder of the day recovering from the journey, perhaps venturing out later for a stroll around the nearby Lodi Gardens.

Day 2: Pench
After breakfast transfer to the airport, for a morning flight to Nagpur. Travelling onwards from there to Pench National Park. Stay at Pench Jungle Camp or similar for two nights. In the evening enjoy an introductory talk on the local flora and fauna, followed by supper.

Day 3: Pench
Morning and afternoon game drives account for most of your third day on tour, with the screening of a wildlife documentary in the evening before supper. Between safaris, enjoy the luxury facilities of the camp, which include a large, oval pool screened by stately old mahua and teak trees.

Day 4: Kanha
A final game drive at Pench in the morning, followed by a long journey northeast to Kanha National Park in the afternoon, where we'll spend three nights at Kanha Jungle Lodge or similar.

Day 5: Kanha
Your first full day at Kanha features morning and evening safaris, beginning at 5am (an earlier start than usual is recommended in order to get the paperwork done and gain a head start on other vehicles entering the park) and at 2.30pm.

Day 6: Kanha
Enjoy another safari in the morning. In the afternoon, the group will have the choice between a second game drive, or visiting the local village and school.

Day 7: Bandhavgarh
After an early breakfast, the group will travel to Bandhavgarh National Park in time for lunch and an afternoon safari. We stay for three nights at Bandhavgarh Jungle Lodge or similar. This is the largest of the three parks we visit. It boasts a wide variety of animals including sloth bear,

antelope, several varieties of monkey and an array of birdlife.

Day 8: Bandhavgarh
Enjoy a day full of jungle activities including morning and afternoon drives in the park.

Day 9: Bandhavgarh
Your final day of park safaris begins with the usual early morning wake-up call at around 5.15am, when a tray of 'bed tea' will be brought to your cottage. Breakfast will be served in the park during the drive.

Day 10: Delhi
Depart for Jabalpur airport, where we'll catch a flight back to Delhi. Stay at Lemon Tree Premier or similar for the night.

Day 11: Delhi
After breakfast transfer to the terminal building of nearby Delhi international airport for your return flight back home.

Suggested Extensions

The Taj Mahal - 1 night

Day 11: Delhi - Agra - Delhi
Take the early morning express train to Agra. Spend the day in Agra visiting the Taj Mahal, the impressive Agra Fort whose buildings, made of red sandstone and marble, are a mix of Hindu and Islamic architecture and the ornate tomb of Itamud-ud-Daula. Return to Delhi by train and stay at the Lemon Tree Premier or similar.

Day 12: Delhi
After breakfast transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

Beaches of Goa - 3 nights

Day 11: Delhi - Goa
Fly from Delhi to Goa, arriving mid afternoon. Transfer to the Hyatt Centric Calangute or similar (upgrades available) for three nights.

Days 12 & 13: Goa
At leisure.

Day 14: Goa
Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 10-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 07-Apr-24 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 20-Oct-24 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 10-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 09-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 02-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,395 | £825 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily in Delhi
- Full Board in national parks

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road and air
- Accommodation for 10 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides and naturalist
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Game drives and nature activities in national parks
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extensions

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| The Taj Mahal | £295 | £145 |
| Beaches of Goa | £555 | £295 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person
For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Golden Triangle & Kerala Backwaters

Delhi – Agra – Jaipur – Mumbai – Cochin – Periyar – Rice Boat – Kovalam

This comprehensive tour combines the highlights of North India and Kerala.

14 days from £2,395



| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the contrasts of Old & New Delhi • Marvel at The Taj Mahal and Agra Fort • Visit Jaipur, home to the Amber Fort • Explore the Dutch Port of Cochin • Cruise the backwaters on a rice barge • Relax on the beaches of Kovalam | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ride through busy markets of old Delhi • Taj Mahal at sunrise • Explore Mumbai's Colaba and Fort districts • Overnight cruise on rice barge • Walk through Periyar nature reserve | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delhi - Suryaa Hotel • Agra - Grand Mercure • Jaipur - Shahpura House • Mumbai - The Leela Mumbai • Cochin - Fragrant Nature • Periyar - Cardamom County Resort • Overnight cruise on a converted Rice Barge • Kovalam - Travancore Heritage |
|--|---|---|

One of the questions clients most frequently ask about their first trip to India is 'whether to go north or south'. This two-week group tour neatly sidesteps the dilemma by combining the highlights of both. Beginning with a whistle-stop round of the Golden Triangle and Rajasthan's monuments – including the Taj Mahal, Delhi's Jama Masjid and the "Pink City" of Jaipur – it uses Mumbai's ultra-efficient flight connections as a stepping stone to the far southern state of Kerala, whose lush, tropical backwaters and tea plantations provide the perfect counterpoint. As always with TransIndus group tours, accommodation is comfortable, often in luxurious period properties where possible.



Itinerary

Day 1: Delhi
Greeted on arrival in Delhi and transferred to the Suryaa Hotel or similar for two nights. Enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2: Delhi
Explore Delhi today starting with Old Delhi in the morning: enjoy a cycle rickshaw ride in the bustling lanes of Chandni Chowk followed by the Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in India, and the Raj Ghat, a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. In the afternoon, drive past Lutyen's New Delhi and visit the tomb of Humayun and the Qutb Minar.

Day 3: Delhi - Agra
Drive to Agra (4-5 hours) for an overnight stay in the Grand Mercure or similar. In the afternoon, visit the impressive Agra Fort, a mix of Hindu and Islamic architecture followed by a visit to the ornate tomb of Itamud-ud-Daula. Finish the day with a heritage walk of Agra.

Day 4: Agra - Jaipur
Visit the Taj Mahal at sunrise. After breakfast back at your hotel, continue to Jaipur (6-7 hours) visiting Fatehpur Sikri en route. Closer to Jaipur we stop at the impressive 9th century step well at Abhaneri. Stay at Shahpura House or similar for two nights.

Day 5: Jaipur
Visit the 17th century hilltop fort of Amber and the sparkling Mirror Palace. In the afternoon visit the City Palace complex including its museum and the 18th century Jantar Mantar astronomical observatory. Drive through the busy bazaars for a photo stop at the Hawa Mahal Palace, one of Jaipur iconic locations.

Day 6: Jaipur - Mumbai
Take an early morning flight to Mumbai and transfer to The Leela Mumbai or similar for an overnight stay. This afternoon visit the Gateway of India. Drive past Mumbai High Court and the ornate Victoria Terminus. Drive along the Marine drive and visit the Hanging Gardens, offering a splendid view of the city.

Day 7: Mumbai - Cochin
Take a morning flight to Cochin. Transfer to Fragrant Nature or similar for two nights.

Day 8: Cochin
Spend the morning taking in the sights of historic Fort Cochin. Explore the colonial street and St. Francis, the oldest church in India. Visit the

Suggested Extension

Kovalam Beach Extension – 3 nights

Days 14 - 16: Kovalam
Stay for an additional three nights at the Travancore Heritage.

Day 17: Kovalam - Trivandrum
Transfer to Trivandrum airport for your onward flight.

Dutch Palace, with its murals of the Ramayana. In the evening, enjoy a sunset cruise on the harbour, a signature Kerala experience, for views of the landmark Chinese fishing nets, which provide a spectacular photo opportunity at dusk.

Day 9: Cochin - Periyar
Drive along meandering roads through lush, green countryside ascending into the 'Western Ghats' at Periyar (5 hours). Enjoy lunch at a rubber plantation. Stay at the Cardamom County Resort or similar for two nights. In the evening attend a Kathakali performance, a traditional dance drama in which the dancers wear elaborate costumes and make up.

Day 10: Periyar
This morning take a walk in Periyar Nature Reserve with tribal trackers, in search of wildlife. Afternoon visit a spice plantation which offers an interesting insight into how various spices such as cardamom, cloves and cinnamon are grown, cultivated and processed.

Day 11: Periyar - Rice Boat
Drive back down through the hills and plantations towards the backwaters to board a rice boat for an overnight cruise through Lake Vembanad and the backwaters. This is a region that not only shelters some unique animal and bird life, but also lush paddy fields. This is one of the few places in the world where farming is done below sea level.

Day 12: Rice Boat - Kovalam
Drive to the southern coastal town and the inviting beaches at Kovalam. Stay at the local styled Travancore Heritage for two nights.

Day 13: Kovalam
Day at leisure

Day 14: Kovalam - Trivandrum
Travel to Trivandrum airport for your onward journey.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 10-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,395 | £995 |
| 31-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,395 | £995 |
| 27-Oct-24 | Sun | £2,495 | £1,095 |

Diwali Special - Diwali in Mumbai on 1 Nov

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|--------|--------|
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,425 | £1,095 |
| 01-Dec-24 | Sun | £2,425 | £1,095 |
| 12-Jan-25 | Sun | £2,425 | £1,095 |
| 02-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,425 | £1,095 |
| 16-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,425 | £1,095 |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,425 | £1,095 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 11
- Dinner on days 1 and 11

Group Size
4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 13 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Escorted walks in Periyar
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options
Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Kovalam Beach Extension | £235 | £150 |

Private Travel Options
£95 per person
For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Essence of Kerala

Cochin - Periyar - Alleppey (Rice Boat) - Kovalam

A leisurely exploration of the lush and tropical state of Kerala, 'God's own country'.

8 days from £1,125



Highlights

- Explore the historic sites of Fort Cochin
- Witness a Kathakali dance performance
- Visit rubber and spice plantations
- Spend a night on a traditional rice barge
- Relax on the beaches of Kovalam

Special Experiences

- Lunch at a rubber plantation near Periyar
- Learn how rubber is tapped
- See cultivation of pineapple and tapioca
- Join a tribal tracker and ranger on an early morning walk through Periyar National Park

Accommodation

- Cochin - Fragrant Nature
- Periyar - Cardamom County Resort
- Overnight on a traditional rice barge
- Kovalam - Travancore Heritage Hotel

At the southern tip of India lies the state of Kerala, aptly referred to as "God's Own Country" for its miles of golden sandy beaches dotted with coastal villages, verdant landscapes of the Western Ghats, fragrant spice, tea and coffee plantations and a vibrant culture. Our Essence of Kerala tour commences with sightseeing in the historic Fort Cochin and Jew Town to see influences left by the Chinese, English, Dutch and Portuguese settlers. It also enjoys sweeping views of beautiful tea country, National Parks, spice plantations and sandy beaches. The highlight is so often an overnight cruise on the backwaters on traditional rice barges.



Itinerary

Day 1: Cochin

Greeted on arrival in Cochin and escorted to the Fragrant Nature Hotel or similar for two nights.

Day 2: Cochin

Spend the morning taking in the sights of historic Fort Cochin. Explore the colonial streets and St Francis, the oldest church in India. Visit the Dutch Palace, with its murals of the Ramayana. In the evening take a sunset cruise on the harbour, a signature Kerala experience, for views of the landmark Chinese fishing nets, which provide a spectacular photo opportunity at dusk.

Day 3: Cochin - Periyar

Drive along meandering roads through lush, green countryside ascending into the 'Western Ghats' at Periyar (5 hours). Enjoy lunch at a rubber plantation. Stay at the Cardamom County Resort or similar for two nights. In the evening attend a Kathakali performance, a traditional dance drama in which the dancers wear elaborate costumes and make-up to enact the story of the Mahabharat epic.

Day 4: Periyar

This morning take a walk in Periyar Nature Reserve with tribal trackers, in search of wildlife. In the afternoon visit a spice plantation which offers an interesting insight into how various spices such as cardamom, cloves and cinnamon are grown, cultivated and processed.

Day 5: Periyar - Rice Boat

Drive back down through the hills and plantations towards the backwaters to board a rice boat for an overnight cruise through Lake Vembanad and the backwaters. This is a region that not only shelters some unique animal and bird life, but also lush paddy fields. This is one of the few places in the world where farming is done below sea level.

Days 6 & 7: Rice Boat - Kovalam

Drive to the southern coastal town and the inviting beaches at Kovalam. Stay at the local styled Travancore Heritage or similar for two nights.

Day 8: Kovalam - Trivandrum

Travel to Trivandrum airport for your onward flight.

Suggested Extension

Kovalam Beach Extension - 3 nights

Days 8 - 10: Kovalam

Stay for an additional three nights at the Travancore Heritage. Remain at leisure.

Day 11: Kovalam - Trivandrum

Transfer to Trivandrum airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 16-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,175 | £525 |
| 06-Apr-24 | Sat | £1,125 | £475 |
| 02-Nov-24 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 23-Nov-24 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 07-Dec-24 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 18-Jan-25 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 08-Feb-25 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 22-Feb-25 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 15-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |
| 05-Apr-25 | Sat | £1,235 | £575 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 3 and 5
- Dinner on day 5

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 7 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Escorted walks in Periyar
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Kovalam Beach Extension | £235 | £150 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Kerala Adventure

Cochin - Thattekad - Munnar - Periyar - Alleppey (Rice Boat) - Varkala

Designed for the mildly active, this tour ventures off track to take in Kerala's abundant birdlife and wildlife.



12 days from £1,945

Highlights

- Enjoy a sunset cruise of Cochin Harbour
- Enjoy birdwatching in Thattekad
- Walk up the region's second highest peak
- Spend a night on a traditional rice barge
- Relax on Varkala Beach

Special Experiences

- Spend two nights on a remote tea plantation, only accessible by 4WD
- Hike and raft through Periyar National Park
- Spend a night on board a traditional rice barge as you cruise Lake Vembanad and Kerala's backwaters

Accommodation

- Cochin - Fragrant Nature Hotel
- Thattekad - Bird's Murmur
- Munnar - Fragrant Nature Resort
- Periyar - Cardamom County Resort
- Overnight on a traditional rice barge
- Varkala - The Taj Gateway Hotel

TransIndus was among the first operators to offer group tours to Kerala in the early 1990s and continues to devise some of the most innovative and compelling itineraries - as this tour vividly demonstrates. Designed for the active traveller looking to experience not merely the main sights of Kerala but also enjoy a myriad of offbeat experiences that take you from coastal villages to the mountains bungalows, as you enjoy wildlife treks through forests led by a tribal tracker, kayak on the waters of Periyar River, hike the region's second highest peak, birdwatch through the countryside and enjoy remote tea plantation only accessible by 4WD.



Itinerary

Day 1: Cochin

Greeted on arrival in Cochin and escorted to Fragrant Nature Hotel or similar for two nights. Take a sunset cruise in the harbour, a signature Kerala experience at dusk.

Day 2: Cochin

Tour historic Fort Cochin in an auto rickshaw in the morning. Explore the colonial streets and take in the Dutch Palace with its murals of the Ramayana and St Francis, the oldest church in India. Visit the Kumbalangi village in the afternoon interact with fishermen for a demonstration of oyster and prawn harvesting.

Day 3: Cochin - Thattekad

Drive to Thattekad in the morning. Check in to Bird's Murmur for the night. The afternoon is at leisure with opportunities to go on a birding walk or take a kayak trip across the river.

Day 4: Thattekad - Munnar

Drive to Munnar (4-5 hours) for three nights at the Fragrant Nature Resort or similar. Remainder of the day is at leisure to enjoy the surroundings or take one of the many walks available.

Day 5: Munnar

Take a four-hour hike with a naturalist and guide through tea estates and villages. Visit the tea factory which is reputed to be amongst the highest in the world that produces tea using orthodox processes from the times of the British Raj.

Day 6: Munnar

A full day moderate trek to Meesapulimala, one of the highest peaks in southern India, with picnic lunch.

Day 7: Munnar - Periyar

Take the scenic road through the Western Ghats towards Periyar National Park. Stay at the Cardamom County Resort or similar, for two nights. A late afternoon tour of a spice garden offers an interesting insight into how cardamom, cloves, cinnamon and other spices are grown, cultivated and processed.

Day 8: Periyar

Explore some of the richest forest tracks of Periyar National Park on a full day of hiking and bamboo rafting inside the park.

Day 9: Periyar - Alleppey

Travel to the bustling canal side town of Alleppey. Check in to a rice boat for an overnight cruise on the picturesque backwaters and Vembanad lake.

Day 10: Alleppey - Varkala

Drive to the southern coastal town of Varkala in the morning. Check in to The Taj Gateway Hotel or similar, for two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 11: Varkala - Trivandrum

Day at leisure: Sightseeing and cycling trips can be arranged locally for a supplement.

Day 12: Varkala

Transfer to Trivandrum airport for your onward flight.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 03-Mar-24 | Sun | £1,945 | £835 |
| 20-Oct-24 | Sun | £1,995 | £895 |
| 10-Nov-24 | Sun | £1,995 | £895 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £1,995 | £895 |
| 09-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,995 | £895 |
| 02-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,995 | £895 |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,995 | £895 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2 - 6, 8 and 9
- Dinner on days 3 - 6 and 9

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road and air
- Accommodation for 11 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides and naturalist
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Game drives and nature activities in national parks
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.



Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Southern Explorer

Mamallapuram – Pondicherry – Kumbakonam – Madurai – Periyar – Kumarakom – Alleppey (Rice Boat) – Cochin

Journey across southern India taking in UNESCO Sites, colourful temples and picturesque backwaters.

13 days from £2,055



Highlights

- Visit the ancient Shore Temple
- Explore the French colony of Pondicherry
- Experience the ornate Meenakshi Temple
- Search for herds of wild elephant in Periyar
- Cruise overnight on the Kerala backwaters
- Explore the Dutch heritage of Fort Cochin

Special Experiences

- Enjoy a traditional Tamil thali lunch
- Marvel at the rituals of Brihadeeshwara Temple
- Explore Airavateshwara Temple at Darusaram
- Travel over the picturesque Western Ghats

Accommodation

- Mamallapuram - Ideal Beach Resort
- Pondicherry - Residency Towers
- Kumbakonam - Mantra Koodam
- Madurai - GRT Regency
- Periyar - Cardamom County Resort
- Kumarakom - Rhythm Kumarakom
- Overnight on a traditional rice boat
- Cochin - Fragrant Nature Hotel

Covering some of the finest sights of the southernmost states of India, our Southern Explorer tour commences with the atmospheric temple towns of Tamil Nadu, including Mamallapuram and its beautiful shore temples and bas-relief. After an overnight stop at the uniquely French city of Pondicherry, we drive to Thanjavur to see the UNESCO World Heritage temples of Brihadeeshwara and the bustling Meenakshi temple at Madurai. Crossing the Western Ghats into Kerala at Periyar, we enjoy a boat ride on tranquil Lake Periyar and experience a night under the stars sailing the backwaters on a traditional rice boat before visiting Colonial Fort Kochi.



Itinerary

Day 1: Chennai - Mamallapuram

Greeted on arrival in Chennai and transfer to the Ideal Beach Resort at Mamallapuram or similar for two nights. Enjoy a restful day at the beach followed by a welcome dinner.

Day 2: Mamallapuram

Morning sightseeing of Mamallapuram includes the ancient Shore Temple and its impressive rock carvings and reliefs. The afternoon is at leisure.

Optional: Chennai city tour.

Day 3: Mamallapuram - Pondicherry

Drive south to the former French colony of Pondicherry (3 hours) and explore the city on foot. Spend the night at Residency Towers or similar for the night.

Day 4: Pondicherry - Kumbakonam

A day's drive inland to Kumbakonam (5 hours), via Darusaram, home of the UNESCO World Heritage Airavateshwara Temple. Stay at the Mantra Koodam or similar for two nights.

Day 5: Thanjavur

Today is a full day of sightseeing in Thanjavur, including the Brihadeeshwara Temple complex and enjoy a traditional Tamil thali lunch.

Day 6: Kumbakonam - Madurai

Drive onwards to Madurai (5-6 hours), to visit the stunning Meenakshi Temple with its vast colourful gopuram (towers). Stay overnight at the GRT Regency or similar.

Day 7: Madurai - Periyar

In the morning, drive across state borders into Kerala arriving at Periyar National Park, for two nights at the Cardamom County Resort or similar.

Day 8: Periyar

This morning take a walk in Periyar Nature Reserve with tribal trackers, in search of wildlife. Afternoon visit a spice plantation which offers an insight in the cultivation and processing of cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, pepper and more.

Day 9: Periyar - Kumarakom

Today we descend through the Western Ghats towards Kumarakom (4 hours), a sleepy village on the shores of Lake Vembanad, for an overnight stay at the Rhythm Kumarakom or similar. The afternoon is at leisure.

Day 10: Kumarakom - Rice Boat

Late morning, board a rice boat for an overnight cruise on Lake Vembanad - a region of amazing animal and bird life along its calm serene waters.

Day 11: Cochin

Depart after breakfast for Cochin (2 hours). Check-in at the Fragrant Nature or similar for two nights. In the evening, take a sunset cruise on Cochin harbour.

Day 12: Cochin

Spend the morning taking in the sights of Fort Cochin and exploring its colonial streets. In the evening, enjoy a Kathakali dance performance.

Day 13: Cochin

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Suggested Extension

Ooty and Mysore - 5 nights

Day 13: Cochin - Hillgrove

A long drive (6-7 hours) from the coast, through paddy fields and up to Hillgrove for a two nights' stay at the Kurumba Village Resort.

Day 14: Hillgrove

A day to relax in your pretty surroundings with options for a tribal village visit, bird watching excursions or walking.

Day 15: Hillgrove - Mysore

In the morning, take the Nilgiri Mountain railway to Ooty, through scenic villages and beautiful mountain landscapes. Journey onward by car to Mysore (4-5 hours) and spend two nights at the Radisson Blu Hotel.

Day 16: Mysore

A full day of sightseeing in Mysore commences with a visit to Srirangapatna to see Tipu Sultan's Palace. Drive up into the Chamundi hills for stunning views of the surrounding area and a visit to the monolithic Nandi Bull. Spend time at the grand Mysore Palace and visit the colourful Devaraja market.

Day 17: Mysore - Bangalore

A morning drive (4-5 hours) to Bangalore: a city that is popularly known as the IT hub of India. The afternoon is at leisure. Stay at the Fortune Hotel or similar for one night.

Day 18: Bangalore

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 03-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,055 | £865 |
| 20-Oct-24 | Sun | £2,245 | £935 |
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,295 | £995 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £2,245 | £935 |
| 02-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,295 | £995 |
| 02-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,245 | £935 |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,245 | £935 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 3, 4, 5 and 10
- Dinner on days 1 and 10

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 12 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Escorted walks in Periyar
- Accompanying tour escort, when minimum group size is achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Ooty and Mysore | £825 | £255 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Emerald Isle - Sri Lanka

Colombo - Habarana - Kandy - Nuwara Eliya - Yala - Bentota

Experience the best of Sri Lanka including the Cultural Triangle, tea plantations and Yala National Park.



13 days from £1,795

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive tour of Sri Lanka's key attractions Explore the ancient capital of Anuradhapura Smell the flowers at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Kandy Visit the verdant landscapes in Tea Country Relax on the golden sands at Bentota | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go in search of leopard and sloth bears on a thrilling safari at Yala National Park Walk to 'World's End' - a spectacular, vertigo-inducing, 900-metre drop with far-reaching views across the southern hills Watch the pilgrims as they present flowers and offerings to the Temple of the Tooth Relic in Kandy | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colombo - Galle Face Hotel Habarana - Cinnamon Lodge Kandy - Cinnamon Citadel Nuwara Eliya - Blackpool Hotel Yala National Park - The EKHO Safari Hotel Bentota - Cinnamon Bey |
|---|--|---|

Experience the very best Sri Lanka has to offer on this luxury group tour, combining the principal sights of the Cultural Triangle, visiting the ancient capitals of Anuradhapura, Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa and a handful of less well-known locations hidden among tea plantations of the interiors. The tour also visits Kandy, Sri Lanka's cultural capital, the famous Yala National Park, in search of wild Leopards and ends with a two-night beach stay on the southwest coast. Whether this is your first trip or you're an old hand, we're confident you'll find plenty of inspiration in our varied, carefully devised trip around South Asia's Emerald Isle.



Itinerary

Day 1: Colombo

On arrival at Colombo's Bandaranaike International Airport, you will be met by the TransIndus team and escorted to the Galle Face Hotel or similar. In the afternoon enjoy an orientation tour of the capital, followed by a welcome dinner in the evening.

Day 2: Colombo - Habarana

After breakfast, drive four hours inland to Habarana, in the Cultural Triangle region, where the group will be spending three nights at Cinnamon Lodge or similar. Enjoy a guided village walk in the afternoon.

Day 3: Habarana

After breakfast, enjoy a guided tour of the ancient Sinhalese capital of Anuradhapura, a forty-minute drive away from the hotel, and Mihintale, the birthplace of Buddhism in Sri Lanka.

Day 4: Habarana

In the morning, we visit the UNESCO-listed site of Sigiriya. Accessed by a steep 600 feet hike up to the ancient natural rock fortress that dominates the surrounding landscape. After lunch, head to Polonnaruwa the most compelling of the ancient capitals. From the 11th to 13th centuries, a succession of ancient kings developed an immense city here.

Day 5: Habarana - Kandy

Today morning drive to Kandy, Sri Lanka's second largest city in the Central Highlands, stopping to see the beautiful Dambulla Caves en route. In Kandy stay at the Cinnamon Citadel or similar for two nights.

Day 6: Kandy

The Royal Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya will be the first stop on today's tour. Later, we'll visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic before attending a music and dance performance at the neighbouring Kandyan Cultural Centre.

Day 7: Kandy - Nuwara Eliya

A long but scenic drive takes us in the morning from Kandy to the undulating tea country of Nuwara Eliya, where we'll spend a couple of nights at the Blackpool Hotel or similar. Visit Pedro Estate for a tea plantation and factory tour.

Day 8: Nuwara Eliya

Enjoy an early excursion to the Horton Plains, site of the famous World's End viewpoint, followed by a tour of Nuwara Eliya's sights in the afternoon.



Day 9: Nuwara Eliya - Yala

The tour continues with another half-day journey, this time to Sri Lanka's deep south, to visit the island's premier wildlife reserve, Yala National Park. You'll be staying at the EKHO Safari Hotel or similar, 20 minutes from the park gates.

Day 10: Yala

Enjoy morning and evening game drives in the park. Between safaris, relax in the pool and grounds of your hotel, located beside a lake that is home to the leopard and herds of wild elephant as well as compelling variety of birdlife.

Day 11: Yala - Galle - Bentota

Today drive along the coastal highway to the World Heritage city of Galle. Enjoy lunch before a tour of the town's main sights, including the Dutch Museum, Groot Kerk (Great Church) and the National Maritime Museum. Later, drive onward 90-minute to Bentota, where you'll be spending the last two days of your trip. Stay at the Cinnamon Bey or similar for two nights.

Day 12: Bentota

Spend the day enjoying Bentota's magnificent golden sand beach.

Day 13: Bentota - Colombo

Time to bid farewell to Sri Lanka as you transfer to the airport for your return flight home.

Suggested Extensions

Bentota Beach - 3 nights

Day 13: Bentota

Stay an additional three nights at Cinnamon Bey.

Days 14 & 15: Bentota

Days at leisure.

Day 16: Bentota

An early start back to the Bandaranaike International airport for your onward flight.

Sinharaja Rainforest - 2 nights

Day 13: Bentota - Sinharaja

Drive to Deniyaya, a large reserve of virgin rainforest inside Sinharaja National Park. Check in to the Rainforest Edge eco retreat for a two nights.

Day 14: Sinharaja

Day at leisure

Day 15: Sinharaja - Colombo

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 10-Mar-24 | Sun | £1,845 | £625 |
| 07-Apr-24 | Sun | £1,845 | £625 |
| 13-Oct-24 | Sun | £1,795 | £585 |
| 10-Nov-24 | Sun | £1,925 | £675 |
| 12-Jan-25 | Sun | £1,925 | £675 |
| 02-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,925 | £675 |
| 23-Feb-25 | Sun | £1,925 | £675 |
| 16-Mar-25 | Sun | £1,925 | £675 |
| 06-Apr-25 | Sun | £1,925 | £675 |

Meal Plan

- Half Board

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 12 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides and naturalist
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Game drives and nature activities in national parks
- Accompanying tour escort, when minimum group size is achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extensions

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bentota Beach | £345 | £295 |
| Sinharaja Rainforest | £495 | £115 |

Private Travel Options

£235 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Sri Lanka Wildlife Tour

Colombo - Negombo - Anuradhapura - Kandy - Sinharaja - Udawalawe - Yala - Galle - Colombo

A comprehensive holiday exploring the rich wildlife and amazing natural beauty of this island nation.



13 days from £2,345

Highlights

- Bird watching in Waikkal, Sinharaja and Bundala
- Elephant Transit Home in Udawalawe
- Leopards of Yala National Park
- Whale watching in Mirissa
- Turtle Hatchery in Kosgoda

Special Experiences

- Exciting safaris to spot Leopards, Sloth Bears, Wild Elephants and other wildlife
- Nature walks to observe rich bird life in Sri Lanka
- Expeditions to spot Blue Whales, Sperm Whales
- Try stilt fishing in Koggala

Accommodation

- Negombo - Jetwing Lagoon
- Anuradhapura - The Lake Forest
- Kandy - Cinnamon Citadel
- Sinharaja - Rainforest Ecodge
- Udawalawe: Centauria Wild
- Yala - Cinnamon Wild Yala
- Galle - Le Grand Galle

Discover the remarkable natural diversity of Sri Lanka, from its ancient history to the huge variety of birds and reptiles in the rainforests to large mammals in the National Parks to the abundant marine life of its waters off the south coast. Starting from the Waikkal biosphere, renowned for its endemic birds, this tour visits the national parks of Wilpattu, Udawalawe and Yala in search of wild leopards, elephants, sloth bears and more. You continue to the west of the island in search of blue whales and sperm whales off the coast of Galle and experience turtles hatching in Kosgoda before returning to Colombo.



Itinerary

Day 1: Colombo - Negombo

Greeted on arrival at Bandaranaike International Airport and transferred to your hotel in Negombo. Stay overnight at Jetwing Lagoon or similar. Late afternoon enjoy a boat ride on Negombo lagoon to observe the bird life.

Day 2: Negombo - Wilpattu - Anuradhapura

Drive to Wilpattu National Park in time for an afternoon game drive. The park has a rich bird life and wildlife including spotted deer, barking deer, wild boar, wild buffalo etc. Wilpattu also has a healthy population of Sri Lankan sloth bears. Later drive on for another hour to Anuradhapura and stay for two nights at The Lake Forest of similar.

Day 3: Anuradhapura (Wilpattu)

Rise early this morning and head to Wilpattu National Park for another game drive in the morning. In the afternoon enjoy a guided tour of Anuradhapura - the ancient Sinhalese capital.

Day 4: Anuradhapura - Kandy

Drive to Kandy this morning and stay overnight at Cinnamon Citadel. Explore the Royal Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya in the afternoon. Later visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic.

Day 5: Kandy - Sinharaja

This morning's drive brings you to Sinharaja Rainforest Reserve, the largest forest reserve in Sri Lanka and a UNESCO Natural Site. Stay overnight at Rainforest Eco Lodge or similar. Enjoy a bird watching walk in the evening. The forest is home to rich birdlife including exotic species like Sri Lankan Blue Magpie and Red faced Malkoha as well as a large variety of mammals, insects, butterflies, reptiles and rare amphibians.

Day 6: Sinharaja - Udawalawe

Another bird watching walk this morning before driving to Udawalawe National Park. Stay for two nights at Centauria Wild or similar. Visit Elephant Transit Home in the afternoon.

Day 7: Udawalawe

Enjoy morning and afternoon safaris in the park. Udawalawe National Park is a wonderful place to

see wild Asian elephants in their natural habitat. The park is home to approximately five hundred elephants. Other wildlife includes sambar deer, water buffalo, jackals and monkeys including the grey langur and the endemic toque macaque. A total of 183 species of birds have been recorded here, some of which are resident and the others, migrant. The endemic Sri Lanka jungle fowl, brown-capped babbler, Malabar pied hornbill and the Sri Lanka spurfowl are all excellent sightings for birdwatchers. Of the water birds, the rare osprey and Indian cormorant are also of note.

Day 8: Udawalawe - Yala

After a leisurely breakfast, drive to Lunugamwehera National Park for a game drive. Drive on to Yala National Park and stay for two nights at Cinnamon Wild or similar.

Day 9: Yala

Enjoy morning and afternoon safaris in Yala Park. One of Sri Lanka's oldest and largest national parks, Yala covers an area of 1500 sq km and has one of the highest densities of leopards in the World. The park is home to variety of wildlife including spotted deer, crocodiles, wild boar, wild buffaloes, langurs, peacocks and over 200 species of birds.

Day 10: Yala - Galle

Visit Bundala National Park this morning, before driving to Weligama to see stilt fishing, a tradition unique to Sri Lanka. Later drive on to Galle. Stay for three nights at Le Grand Galle.

Day 11: Galle

Today we have an option to visit Mirissa for a whale watching expedition (November to April) or cycling tour through Eluvila bird sanctuary. In the afternoon visit a turtle hatchery at Kosgoda. In the evening enjoy a walk through Galle city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to visit Galle Fort, Maritime Museum, the old Church, the Sun and the Moon bastions and the lighthouse.

Day 12: Galle

Day at leisure.

Day 13: Galle - Colombo

Today morning we drive to Colombo airport in time to board our return flight home.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 03-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,445 | £925 |
| 31-Mar-24 | Sun | £2,445 | £925 |
| 20-Oct-24 | Sun | £2,345 | £855 |
| 17-Nov-24 | Sun | £2,525 | £995 |
| 19-Jan-25 | Sun | £2,525 | £995 |
| 09-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,525 | £995 |
| 23-Feb-25 | Sun | £2,525 | £995 |
| 09-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,525 | £995 |
| 30-Mar-25 | Sun | £2,525 | £995 |

Meal Plan

- Half Board

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 12 nights as listed
- English-speaking chauffeur-guide and naturalists
- Entrance fees at the monuments
- Game drives and nature activities in national parks

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a nominal price you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Nepal Experience

Kathmandu - Bandipur - Pokhara - Chitwan - Kathmandu

An exciting tour of Nepal including the Kathmandu city, Himalayan ice peaks, lakeside villages and wild rhinoceros.



10 days from £1,345

Highlights

- Visit Boudhanath, Nepal's largest stupa
- Explore the Tibetan border town of Bandipur
- Relax lakeside at Pokhara
- Rhinoceros and tiger in Chitwan
- Visit Swayambhunath Temple for sunset

Special Experiences

- Enjoy a seven-course Nepali banquet at the famous Bhojan Griha restaurant in Dillibazar
- Take the cable car to Pokhara's Peace Pagoda overlooking the dramatic Himalayan mountains
- Optional: Enjoy a scenic flight over Mount Everest

Accommodation

- Kathmandu - Nepali Ghar
- Bandipur - Old Inn Hotel
- Pokhara - Temple Tree Resort
- Chitwan - Machan Country Villa

A compelling mix of landscapes, religious monuments and vibrant Nepali cultures are showcased on this group tour through the Himalayan foothills of the Kathmandu Valley. It starts in the capital, with visits to Durbar Square and the historic town of Bhaktapur, the site of the country's best preserved medieval temples, before heading west to Bandipur, where you'll get your first really spectacular view of the Himalayan ice peaks. We go on to Pokhara, whose surrounding ridges offer more astounding panoramas, before visiting Chitwan National Park in search of wild rhinos and other rare animals. A final night in Kathmandu, visiting the famous stupa of Swayambhunath.



Itinerary

Day 1: Kathmandu

Greeted on arrival in Kathmandu and transfer to the Nepali Ghar or similar for two nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure. In the evening, enjoy a traditional seven-course dinner at the Bhojan Griha.

Day 2: Kathmandu

Morning excursion to Patan, one of three Royal cities in the valley. Afternoon explore Kathmandu's renowned Durbar Square, visit Swayambhunath stupa and take a rickshaw ride through Thamel market.

Day 3: Kathmandu - Bandipur

An early start for a four-hour, winding drive to the breathtaking mountain village of Bandipur. Stay overnight at the Old Inn hotel or similar. Spend the afternoon at leisure.

Day 4: Bandipur - Pokhara

Explore the streets of this delightful village, known for its medieval, rustic charm and take a cable car ride to see the local temple which is perched on a hill. Mountain views from this vantage point are tremendous. In the afternoon, drive three hours to Pokhara. Check in at the Temple Tree Resort or similar for two nights.

Day 5: Pokhara

The day is at leisure. For those keen to do a bit of walking and trekking on their own, there are several short trekking routes in this area which offer stunning views of the Himalaya. Optional: Sunrise tour of the town. Afternoon trekking.

Day 6: Pokhara - Chitwan

A long drive (5-6 hours) through the countryside towards Chitwan National Park. Check in at the Machan Country Villa or similar for two nights.

Day 7: Chitwan

A full day of jungle activities including a jeep safari, canoe ride and nature walk. Also visit the local Tharu villages and a co-operative that uses elephant dung to make paper.

Day 8: Chitwan - Kathmandu

In the morning, there is the option of a cycle ride around Sauraha or another safari in the park. Later drive to Kathmandu (5-6 hours). Stay at Nepali Ghar or similar for two nights.

Day 9: Kathmandu

Morning take up an excursion to the ancient and beautifully crafted Newari city of Bhaktapur. Afternoon visit Boudanath Stupa and Pashupatinath.

Day 10: Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 09-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,345 | £455 |
| 21-Sep-24 | Sat | £1,345 | £455 |
| 19-Oct-24 | Sat | £1,345 | £455 |
| 16-Nov-24 | Sat | £1,345 | £455 |
| 08-Feb-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £485 |
| 08-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £485 |
| 29-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £485 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on days 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9
- Dinner on days 1, 3, 6, 7, 9

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road and air
- Accommodation for 8 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides and naturalist
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Game drives and nature activities in national parks
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Essential Bhutan

Kathmandu - Thimphu - Gangtey - Punakha - Paro - Kathmandu

Discover the mystery of Bhutan on this tour of the country's highlights, including Thimphu, Gangtey, Punakha and Paro.



10 days from £2,775

Highlights

- Visit Durbar Square in Nepal's capital
- Explore the sites of Thimphu, including the Folk Museum and Buddhist Painting School
- Visit the 17th-century dzong at Gangtey
- Discover the spectacular Punakha monastery complex, set on the confluence of two rivers

Special Experiences

- Set at 3,100 metres, admire the breathtaking scenery as you travel over the dramatic Dochu La Pass
- Learn about the black-necked cranes at a sanctuary deep in the Phobjikha Valley
- Climb to the top of Tiger's Nest Monastery perched on a cliff

Accommodation

- Kathmandu - Kantipur Temple House
- Thimphu - Osel Hotel
- Gangtey - Dewachen Resort
- Punakha - Zingham Resort
- Paro - Paro Eco Lodge

Discover the magic and mystery of the Land of the Thunder Dragon, Bhutan, on this interesting tour covering the incredible sights of Paro and Thimphu and taking in the astonishing fortified monastic complexes at Punakha, including the Tigers Nest Monastery. The tour also included the beautiful valley of Gangtey, famous for its population of migrant, black-necked cranes that make an excellent base for walks through the valley. The tour is bookended with short stays in the magical capital city of Nepal, Kathmandu, where you will have the opportunity to experience some of its principal sites and do a spot of souvenir shopping between returning home.



Itinerary

Day 1: Kathmandu

Greeted on arrival in Kathmandu transfer to Kantipur Temple House or similar for an overnight stay. The afternoon is at leisure to explore the bustling Thamel quarter on your own.

Day 2: Kathmandu - Thimphu

Take a short flight on Druk Air, Bhutan's national carrier, landing in Paro. Greeted on arrival and driven to Thimphu, the capital city, for your two nights' stay at Hotel Osel or similar.

Day 3: Thimphu

A full day is spent visiting the sights of Thimphu. This includes an impressive dzong, a fortified monastic building found in nearly all of Bhutan's main settlements as well as the King's Memorial, the Painting School where students undergo a 6-year training in Bhutan's 13 traditional arts and crafts, Simply Bhutan Museum, Textile Museum, Buddha Point and a local craft bazaar.

Day 4: Thimphu - Gangtey

Begin the journey eastward with a morning's drive up to the Dochu-la pass (3,088 metres). Continue on to Gangtey and the valley of Phobjikha. Two nights are spent at the simple Dewachen Resort or similar.

Day 5: Gangtey

The valley is considered sacred to the Bhutanese as it is the winter residence of a small but significant black necked crane population that migrate over the Himalaya from Tibet. Visit the black necked crane centre to learn more about these birds and the significant place they hold in local folk lore.

Day 6: Gangtey - Punakha

Drive to Punakha in the morning for one night at the Zingham Resort or similar. Visit the beautiful Punakha Dzong this afternoon, considered to be one of the finest examples of dzong architecture in Bhutan. Later take a short excursion to Chimi Lhakhang also known as 'Fertility Temple'.

Day 7: Punakha - Paro

Drive in the morning to Paro (4-5 hours). En route visit Simtokha Dzong, the oldest fortress of the country, which now houses the School for Buddhist studies. Stay at Paro Eco Lodge or similar for two nights. Afternoon visit Ta Dzong,

which houses the National Museum and the Rinpung Dzong. **Optional:** Experience a local hot stone bath.

Day 8: Paro

This morning take an arduous walk up to the famous Taktsang ('Tiger's Nest') monastery, which rest precariously on a rocky hillside overlooking a wide forested valley. Afternoon is at leisure.

Day 9: Paro - Kathmandu

Fly back to Kathmandu for an overnight stay at Kantipur Temple House or similar.

Day 10: Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport.

Suggested Extension

Enchanting Nepal - 4 nights

Day 9: Paro - Kathmandu

Fly back to Kathmandu. On arrival, check in at Kantipur Temple House for two nights. Later visit the vibrant Durbar Square.

Day 10: Kathmandu

A full day's sightseeing includes the Buddhist Stupa of Swayambhunath and the city of Bhaktapur.

Optional: Everest flight: For those keen on viewing Mount Everest you have the option of taking a 45 minute round trip flight in a 14-seater Beechcraft. It can be booked locally since it is dependent on weather conditions.

Day 11: Kathmandu - Pokhara

Take a short flight to Pokhara. Check in at the Temple Tree Resort for two nights. Afternoon at leisure to take a stroll around the lake for brilliant views of the Annapurna mountain range.

Day 12: Pokhara

The day is at leisure. For those keen to do a bit of walking and trekking, there are several short trekking routes in this area which offer stunning views of the Himalaya.

Day 13: Pokhara - Kathmandu

Take an early afternoon flight to Kathmandu for an overnight stay at Kantipur Temple House.

Day 14: Kathmandu

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 08-Mar-24 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |
| 05-Apr-24 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |
| 06-Sep-24 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |
| 04-Oct-24 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |
| 01-Nov-24 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |
| 07-Mar-25 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |
| 04-Apr-25 | Fri | £2,775 | £395 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily in Kathmandu
- Full board in Bhutan

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- International flight: Nepal and Bhutan
- Visa fees for Bhutan
- Accommodation for 9 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Enchanting Nepal | £895 | £325 |

Private Travel Options

£95 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Uzbekistan Discovery

Tashkent - Khiva - Bukhara - Samarkand - (Shakhrisabz) - Tashkent

Travelling into the heart of the ancient Silk Road, in the footsteps of Alexander the Great we explore three of the world's oldest cities and much more.



11 days from £1,995

Highlights

- See the great architectural masterpieces of the ancient Silk Road
- See the world's oldest handwritten Qurans
- Explore the open-air museum city of Khiva
- Be awed by Shakhrisabz
- Visit the magnificent Registan Square

Special Experiences

- Discover the crafts of the Timurid Dynasty that influenced so much of Asia
- Visit the 7th century ruins of Afrosiab
- Lunch at a traditional pottery

Accommodation

- Tashkent - Ichan Qala Hotel
- Khiva - Orient Khiva
- Bukhara - Sasha & Sons
- Samarkand - Emirkhan Hotel

Join TransIndus for an escorted Group Tour to Uzbekistan, a country whose cultural legacy span more than three millennia. Marvel at the emerald, lapis blue and wax-yellow patterns adorning Samarkand's Registan Square - one of the great wonders of the Islamic world and savour the desert as you cross the Oxus Delta in the footsteps of Alexander the Great and Marco Polo. The itinerary has been carefully devised to showcase the architectural genius of the Timurids and their successor. Along the way, you'll meet local people, experience traditional music and dance, watch ceramicists, carpet weavers and embroiderers at work, and shop for fabulous, locally-made silk garments.



Itinerary

Day 1: Tashkent

On arrival in the Uzbek capital, the group will be met at the airport by our local TransIndus representative and driven to our hotel. Spend the rest of the morning recovering from the journey. Later, enjoy an afternoon of guided sightseeing of this beautiful city.

Day 2: Tashkent - Khiva

Early morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Khiva, via Urgench. Enjoy an introductory tour of Khiva.

Day 3: Khiva

A full day's guided sightseeing in Khiva today focusses on the principal highlights of the old walled city, the Itchan-Kala, which has been beautifully restored and is traffic free. As well as monuments, there are lots of crafts stalls and workshops to browse around the backstreets.

Day 4: Khiva - Bukhara

A long drive across the Kyzyl Kum desert to Bukhara takes up most of today. En route, we'll traverse the Amu Darya River, known in the time of Alexander the Great (who crossed it twice) as the 'Oxus'.

Day 5: Bukhara

Enjoy a full day's tour of Bukhara's medieval monuments today, covering the mighty Poi-i-Kalan, the Lyabi Hauz complex, with its shimmering pond, and mausoleums of Ismail Sami and Kashma Ayub.

Day 6: Bukhara

On the morning of your second day in Bukhara, we visit the Ark fortress, at the northwest side of the old walled town, followed by the iconic Chor Minor Madrassa. In the afternoon you'll be free to explore and shop at your own pace, with or without your guide.

Day 7: Bukhara - Samarkand

Continue east through the green belt lining the Zeravshan River to Samarkand, pausing for lunch at a traditional pottery. On arrival, visit Timur's azure-domed tomb, the Gur-i Amir.

Day 8: Samarkand

A memorable excursion awaits today as you visit the oasis town of Shakhrisabz, on the far side of the Gysar Mountains. Later, enjoy the superb tilework and sociable atmosphere of the Shah-i-Zinda tomb complex back in Samarkand.

Day 9: Samarkand

The ninth day of the tour starts with a visit to the magnificent Registan, the greatest ensemble of buildings surviving from Timurid times, followed by Bibi Khanum mosque and nearby Siab market.

Day 10: Samarkand - Tashkent

Visit the site of ancient Samarkand in the morning, followed by a tour of Ulugbeg's famous observatory in the afternoon, ahead of your return by high-speed train to Tashkent in the evening.

Day 11: Tashkent

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 16-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 06-Apr-24 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 20-Apr-24 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 21-Sep-24 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 19-Oct-24 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 15-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 05-Apr-25 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |
| 19-Apr-25 | Sat | £1,995 | £395 |

Meal Plan

- Full board

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 10 nights as listed
- Local English-speaking tour leader
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.



Private Travel Options

£199 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Vietnam Experience

Hanoi - Halong Bay - Hue - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City

Travelling from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City visiting en route Halong Bay, Hue and Hoi An, journey through Vietnam, one of Southeast Asia's most diverse countries.



12 days from £1,455

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the Colonial buildings of Hanoi • Cruise scenic Halong Bay - a UNESCO World Heritage Site • Experience a water puppet show, a tradition dating back to the 11th-century • Squeeze through the Cu Chi Tunnels • See the Reunification Hall and visit the War Museum in Ho Chi Minh | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spend the night on a traditional junk boat • Enjoy a sunset cruise on the Thu Bon River, Hoi An • Enjoy a walking tour through the old town of Hoi An • Explore the Mekong Delta | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hanoi - Silk Path Luxury • Halong Bay - Peony Cruise • Hue - Eldora Hotel • Hoi An - Hoi An Central Boutique Resort • Ho Chi Minh City - Northern Charm |
|--|---|---|

On this introductory tour of Vietnam, one of Southeast Asia's most diverse and enjoyable countries, you start in Hanoi, the capital city, and explore buildings and shaded boulevards redolent of its French colonial past. Visit scenic Halong Bay, a World Heritage Site, and spend the night on a traditional junk boat. Travel south to the historic cities of Hue and Hoi An to see their charming old towns, pagodas and merchant homes, and colourful market stalls brimming with local specialities. Ho Chi Minh City is the last stop with an excursion to the Mekong Delta with its beautiful riverside landscapes.



Itinerary

- Day 1: Hanoi**
Arrive in Hanoi and transfer to Silk Path Luxury or similar for two nights.
- Day 2: Hanoi**
Visit Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and Museum, the One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature - Vietnam's first university, established in the 11th century. Afternoon visit the Ngoc Son temple, on the Hoan Kiem Lake. Later take a walk through Hanoi's Old Quarter to glimpse the bustling local life. In the evening enjoy a Water Puppet show.
- Day 3: Hanoi - Halong Bay**
A morning drive to the World Heritage Site, Halong Bay. Board the Peony Cruise or similar for an overnight cruise. As you set sail into the bay, pass limestone islands and visit Sung Sot cave. Enjoy trekking and swimming at Titov island.
- Day 4: Halong Bay - Hue**
Visit Luon cave in the morning, disembark and transfer back to Hanoi. Stop at a pottery village and enjoy some snacks and tea. Take the evening flight to Hue and check in to Eldora Hotel or similar for two nights.
- Day 5: Hue**
Visit the Imperial tombs of Tu Duc, the longest reigning Vietnamese Emperor, and Khai Dinh, the last monument of the Nguyen dynasty. The afternoon sightseeing includes a tour of the Old Imperial City, which is modelled after the Forbidden City in Beijing. Also visit the Thien Mu Pagoda before taking a boat back to the hotel on the Perfume River.
- Day 6: Hue - Hoi An**
In the morning drive to Danang (3-4 hours), crossing the picturesque Hai Van pass. Also have the chance to visit the Cham Museum which houses the finest examples of Cham art. Continue the drive south to Hoi An, past the Marble Mountains and numerous villages, before checking in at Hoi An Central Boutique Resort or similar for three nights.
- Day 7: Hoi An**
Enjoy a walking tour of Hoi An in the morning. The buildings and street plan of this formerly

prosperous trading post are a mix of local and colonial influence, recognised today as a World Heritage site. Enjoy a sunset cruise in the evening.

- Day 8: Hoi An**
Day at leisure.
- Day 9: Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City**
Fly from Danang to Ho Chi Minh City, the largest of the Vietnamese cities. Visit the Cu Chi Tunnels. Stay at the Northern Charm or similar for three nights.
- Day 10: Ho Chi Minh City**

Enjoy a morning walking tour of Chinatown. In the afternoon take a city tour to see the former Presidential Palace now known as the Reunification Hall, the War Museum and the Notre Dame Cathedral.

Day 11: Ho Chi Minh City
A full day out to Mekong Delta. Explore the smaller waterways and canals by local boat, visiting orchards and local cottage industries.

Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City
Transfer to the airport.

Suggested Extension

Temples of Angkor Wat - 3 nights

Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City - Siem Reap
Fly to Siem Reap this morning and check at The Aviary Hotel. In the afternoon, visit Angkor Thom, the ancient royal city of the Khmer Empire with its centre piece, the Bayon temple.

Day 13: Siem Reap
Visit the Ta Phrom temple and Banteay Srei temple, one of Angkor's most significant structures built in the 10th century. In the afternoon see the well-preserved carvings at Angkor Wat. Witness the spectacular sunset in the countryside.

Day 14: Siem Reap
Day at leisure to explore Siem Reap on your own.

Day 15: Siem Reap
Transfer to the airport.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 16-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,455 | £555 |
| 13-Apr-24 | Sat | £1,455 | £555 |
| 09-Nov-24 | Sat | £1,455 | £555 |
| 11-Jan-25 | Sat | £1,525 | £575 |
| 08-Feb-25 | Sat | £1,525 | £575 |
| 01-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,525 | £575 |
| 29-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,525 | £575 |

- Meal Plan**
- Breakfast daily
 - Lunch on day 3
 - Dinner on day 3

Group Size
4 to 12 people

- Included in the price**
- Arrival and departure transfers
 - Internal travel by road and air
 - Accommodation for 11 nights as listed
 - English-speaking guides
 - Entrance fees at monuments
 - Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options
Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Suggested Extension

| Name | Price pp from: | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Temples of Angkor Wat | £755 | £215 |

Private Travel Options
£395 per person
For a nominal price you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Discover Indochina

Phnom Penh - Siem Reap - Luang Prabang - Hanoi - Halong Bay - Hue - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City

From the grand temples of Angkor to the islands of Halong Bay, our Discover Indochina tour promises to be the trip of a lifetime.



18 days from £3,095

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wander through the ancient temples at Angkor Explore the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi Visit the ancient temples at Luang Prabang Visit the Imperial tombs of Tu Duc at Hue Enjoy a walking tour of Hoi An | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoy a Phare Cambodian Circus - a mix of traditional and modern theatre Spend the night on a traditional junk as you cruise the World Heritage Site of Halong Bay See the variety of Buddha statues at the Pak Ou Caves Visit the Cham Museum with its art reflecting 1,000 years of Hindu influence | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phnom Penh - Anik Palace Siem Reap - The Aviary Hotel Luang Prabang - Villa Santi Hanoi - Silk Path Luxury Halong Bay - Peony Cruise Hue - Eldora Hotel Hoi An - Hoi An Central Boutique Resort Ho Chi Minh City - Northern Charm |
|--|--|--|

From the grand temples of Angkor and the laid-back town of Hoi An to the islands of Halong Bay, vast stretches of the Mekong Delta and ancient monasteries of Luang Prabang, our Discover Indochina tour promises to be the trip of a lifetime. Start at Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, and then on to Siem Reap, your base for Angkor Wat. Continue to Luang Prabang, Laos and go onto scenic Vietnam, where you visit Hanoi, overnight cruise in Halong Bay, travel southward to the charming towns of Hue and Hoi An and finally Ho Chi Minh City to explore fine art and architecture.



Itinerary

Day 1: Phnom Penh

You will be met at Phnom Penh airport and transferred to the Anik Hotel or similar for two nights.

Day 2: Phnom Penh

Explore the sights in and around this capital city, set on the banks of the mighty Mekong River which has the atmosphere of a provincial French town. Visit the Royal Palace and its silver-tiled pagoda. See Khmer art and sculpture from different periods of Cambodian history in the National Museum. Later visit the Central Market. In the afternoon visit the Genocide Museum and Killing Fields.

Day 3: Phnom Penh - Siem Reap

Fly to Siem Reap in the morning. Check into The Aviary Hotel or similar hotel for three nights. In the afternoon, visit Banteay Srei temple, one of Angkor's most significant structures, built in the 10th century.

Day 4: Siem Reap

Visit Ta Phrom temple in the morning. In the afternoon see the well preserved carvings at Angkor Wat. Witness the spectacular sunset in the countryside.

Day 5: Siem Reap

In the morning, we will visit Angkor Thom, the ancient royal city of the Khmer Empire with its centre piece, the Bayon temple. The afternoon is at leisure. Enjoy the performance of the Phare Cambodian circus, with dinner in the evening.

Day 6: Siem Reap - Luang Prabang

This morning take a short drive through the countryside to Tonle Sap Lake, stopping to visit a local village en route. Board a local boat to see floating schools, police stations and markets. Late afternoon fly to Luang Prabang. On arrival, transfer to Villa Santi or similar for two nights.

Day 7: Luang Prabang

Visit Talat local market and explore this veritable treasure-trove of beautiful temples and historical monuments including its many pagodas and the National Museum, formerly the Royal Palace. In the afternoon take a walk through the town to see its beautiful French-colonial buildings and the local market. View the town and its surroundings atop Mount Phousi at sunset.

Day 8: Luang Prabang - Hanoi

An excursion by boat to the Pak Ou caves today, located in the limestone cliffs at the confluence of the Mekong and Nam Ou rivers. These caves are full of Buddha images of various styles and sizes that have been collected over centuries. Take an evening flight to Hanoi, the capital city of Vietnam. Transfer to Silk Path Luxury or similar.

Day 9: Hanoi

A full day tour starts with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Museum, the One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature - Vietnam's first university, established in the 11th century. Also visit the Ngoc Son temple, on the Hoan Kiem Lake. In the afternoon take a walk through

Hanoi's Old Quarter to glimpse bustling local life. Enjoy a Water Puppet show in the evening.

Day 10: Hanoi - Halong Bay

A morning drive to the World Heritage Site of Halong Bay. Board a traditional junk for an overnight cruise (Peony Cruise or similar). As you set sail into the bay, pass limestone islands and visit Sung Sot cave. Trekking and swimming at Titov island.

Day 11: Halong Bay - Hue

Visit Luon cave in the morning, disembark and transfer back to Hanoi. Stop at a pottery village and enjoy some snacks and tea. Take the evening flight to Hue and check in to Eldora Hotel or similar.

Day 12: Hue

Visit the Imperial tombs of Tu Duc, the longest reigning Vietnamese Emperor, and Khai Dinh, the last monument of the Nguyen dynasty. The afternoon sightseeing includes a tour of the Old Imperial City, which is modelled after the Forbidden City in Beijing.

Also visit the Thien Mu Pagoda before taking a boat back to the hotel on the Perfume River.

Day 13: Hue - Hoi An

In the morning drive to Danang (3-4 hours), crossing the picturesque Hai Van pass. Also have the chance to visit the Cham Museum. Continue the drive south to Hoi An, past the Marble Mountains before checking in at the Hoi An Central Boutique Resort or similar for two nights.

Day 14: Hoi An

Enjoy a morning walking tour of Hoi An, once a prosperous trading post. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 15: Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City

Fly from Danang to Ho Chi Minh City, the largest of the Vietnamese cities. Visit Cu Chi Tunnels, outside the city. Stay at the Northern Charm or similar for three nights.

Day 16: Ho Chi Minh City

Enjoy a morning walking tour of Chinatown. In the afternoon take a city tour to see the former Presidential Palace now known as the Reunification Hall, the War Museum and the Notre Dame Cathedral.

Day 17: Ho Chi Minh City

A full day out to the Mekong Delta. Tour the Cai Be floating market and explore the smaller waterways and canals by local boat, visiting orchards and local cottage industries.

Day 18: Ho Chi Minh City

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 13-Mar-24 | Wed | £3,095 | £875 |
| 10-Apr-24 | Wed | £3,095 | £875 |
| 13-Nov-24 | Wed | £3,095 | £875 |
| 08-Jan-25 | Wed | £3,195 | £895 |
| 12-Feb-25 | Wed | £3,195 | £895 |
| 12-Mar-25 | Wed | £3,195 | £895 |
| 02-Apr-25 | Wed | £3,195 | £895 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily
- Lunch on day 10
- Dinner on days 5 and 10

Group Size

4 to 12 people

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road and air
- Accommodation for 17 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at monuments
- Accompanying tour escort when minimum group size achieved

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Options

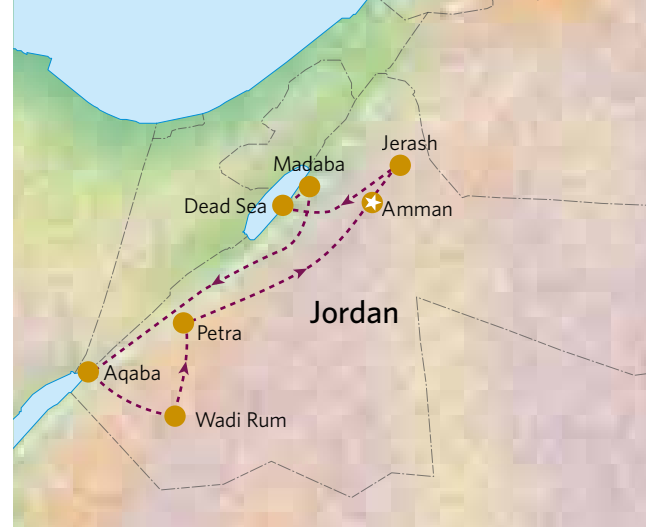
£575 per person

For a supplement you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you will have private use of chauffeur-driven cars for transfers and travel as well as your own English-speaking private guides. If minimum group tour numbers are not achieved, you can still travel by paying this supplement.

Jordan Experience

Amman - Dead Sea - Aqaba - Petra - Amman

An exhilarating tour covering the highlights of Jordan starting from Amman to Petra through Dead Sea and Aqaba.



8 days from £995

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jerash - the Jewel of the North Madaba - the city of Mosaics Mount Nebo Red Rose City of Petra Moonscape of Wadi Rum Desert Castles of Amman | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic buildings in Amman's Citadel Bustling downtown of Amman Floating in nourishing waters of the Dead Sea 4x4 jeep ride through stunning moonscape of Wadi Rum Petra by Night Show | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amman - Liwan Hotel Dead Sea - Ramada Resort Dead Sea Aqaba - City Tower Hotel Petra - Petra Palace Hotel |
|--|---|--|

Join us on this compelling 8-day tour of Jordan's scenic and cultural highlights, featuring the cream of the country's extraordinary desert landscapes and Greco-Roman ruins. It begins in the capital, Amman, with a visit to Citadel to see the still beautiful ruins of the city's Roman and Byzantine periods and the sublime colonnaded Forum at Jerash before proceeding to the Dead Sea for a spa break. From there, we continue to Aqaba and the moonscapes of Wadi Rum before arriving at Petra to visit the incredible 'Rose City' built by the ancient Nabateans. We return to Amman for further sightseeing of Desert Castles before returning home.



Itinerary

Day 1: Amman

You will be met at Amman airport and transferred to Liwan Hotel or similar for two nights' stay.

Day 2: Amman

Start your sightseeing at Citadel which houses several impressive structures like the Temple of Hercules, Umayyad Palace, Byzantine church, Archaeological Museum, and the Folklore Museum. In the afternoon visit downtown Amman to see the Roman Theatre.

Day 3: Amman - Jerash - Dead Sea

After breakfast, start your day with a visit to Jerash, 'the Jewel of the North' - one of the largest and most well-preserved sites of Roman architecture in the world outside Italy. Continue to the Dead Sea, one of the most spectacular natural and spiritual landscapes in the world and the lowest point on Earth, at 400m below sea level. Stay overnight at Ramada Resort or similar.

Day 4: Dead Sea - Madaba - Aqaba

Spend some time at the Dead Sea before driving to Madaba, 'The City of Mosaics'. See the 6th Century map of the Holy land laid out on the floor of the church of St George. Proceed to Mount Nebo, known as the burial place of Prophet Moses. Drive on to Aqaba for overnight stay at City Tower Hotel or similar.

Day 5: Aqaba - Wadi Rum - Petra

This morning, drive to Wadi Rum, Jordan's vast and echoing desert. Enjoy a Bedouin 4x4 jeep ride exploring the stunning moonscape. Visit the Seven Pillars of Wisdom, walk through narrow canyons and climb up the large rocks for views of this spectacular area. Drive on to the "Rose Red City" of Petra - a treasure trove of the ancient world- rediscovered in 1812. Stay overnight at Petra Palace Hotel or similar. Evening enjoy the 'Petra by Night' show.

Day 6: Petra - Amman

After breakfast, visit 'Al-Beidha' - also known as the Little Petra. It was an important suburb of the City of Petra and the entry point for trade routes to the north and north-west. Later drive to Amman and stay at Liwan Hotel or similar for two nights.

Day 7: Amman

This morning, visit the Desert Castles - the spectacular early Islamic art complexes with their fine mosaics, frescoes, stone and stucco carvings inspired by the best Persian and Greco-Roman culture. Remainder of the day at leisure.

Day 8: Amman

Transfer to Amman airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 09-Mar-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 30-Mar-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 06-Apr-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 20-Apr-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 18-May-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 15-Jun-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 13-Jul-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 17-Aug-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 14-Sep-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 05-Oct-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 26-Oct-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 09-Nov-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |
| 07-Dec-24 | Sat | £995 | £225 |

Meal Plan

- Half Board

Group Size

This tour is operated by our partners in country. The group size may vary from 2 people to 25 or more.

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 7 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at the monuments

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Option

For a supplement, you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you have a private chauffeur-driven cars and dedicated English-speaking private guides. Please contact us for more details and for a supplement price.

Jewels of Arabia

Jeddah - AIUla - Hail - Riyadh

A richly rewarding journey discovering the hidden gems and ancient culture of this desert kingdom.

8 days from £3,695



Highlights

- King Fahd's fountain in Jeddah
- The floating mosque in Jeddah
- World Heritage Sites of Hegra, Jubbah, Ad Diriyah
- Elephant Rock in AIUla
- Lion tombs of Dadan
- Bustling souks of Hail

Special Experiences

- Visit Al-Masjid An-Nawabi Mosque in Medina.
- 4x4 jeep ride to visit the "Edge of the World".
- Witness the pre-historic polygraphs and rock art.
- Stroll on the Kingdom Tower Sky Bridge in Riyadh

Accommodation

- Jeddah - Centro Salama
- AIUla - Shaden Resort
- Hail - Millenium Hotel
- Riyadh - Centro Olaya by Rotana

This 8-day tour of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia traverses through some of the world's most spectacular desert scenery and mountainous landscapes including, the 'Edge of the World'. The birthplace of Islam, the Kingdom is also home to historic sites of Babylonian Roman and Ottoman settlements. Discover the UNESCO-protected sites with prehistoric inscriptions and rock art, grand tombs of ancient Arabian Kingdoms of Dadan and Nabataean Hegra (the modern Mada'in Saleh) at AIUla.



Itinerary

Day 1: Jeddah

You will be met at Jeddah airport and transferred to Centro Salama or similar hotel for two nights' stay.

Day 2: Jeddah

Explore the ancient port city of Jeddah, starting at Al Balad, a treasure trove of 19th century tower houses with unique architecture and intricate woodwork. Later visit Tayebat City Museum and Floating Mosque before ending the day at Jeddah Corniche.

Day 3: Jeddah - Medina - AIUla

Take a morning high-speed train to Medina, the second holiest city for Muslims after Mecca. Visit Al-Masjid An-Nabawi, the second largest mosque in the world housing the tomb of the Prophet. Later driven on to AIUla. Stay at Shaden Resort or similar hotel for two nights.

Day 4: AIUla

Drive into the desert to visit Hegra (Mada'in Saleh), a UNESCO Heritage-listed site. Also visit Dadan, to see the tombs cut into a cliff-face and Jabal Ikmah to see prehistoric rock art. Stop at Elephant rock to admire some of the desert's natural wonders. End the day with a visit to AIUla's old town.

Day 5: AIUla - Jubbah - Hail

This morning, drive to Jubbah - a UNESCO World Heritage Site with fascinating, exceptionally well-preserved petroglyphs, inscriptions, and rock art. Then drive on to Hail. Nestled between Mount Shammer and Mount Salma, Hail was once the capital of Arabia and served as the gateway to Al Nafud Desert. Stay overnight at Millenium Hotel or similar.

Day 6: Hail - Riyadh

This morning explore the markets of Hail with an array of Souq. Also visit the hilltop A'arif Fort and the Al Qishlah castle. In the afternoon take a high-speed train to Riyadh, the political and historical heart of the Kingdom. Stay for two nights at Centro Olaya by Rotana or similar hotel.

Day 7: Riyadh

Enjoy a full day exploration of Riyadh including Al-Masmak Fortress - a National Museum displaying a unique collection of Kingdom's history, King Abdulaziz Historical Centre, and Kingdom Tower Sky Bridge, showcasing the modern-day architecture of the city. Later visit UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ad Diriyah, historic home of the Saudi State.

Day 8: Riyadh

Transfer to Riyadh airport for your onward flight.



Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 23-Feb-24 | Fri | £3,695 | £1,355 |
| 19-Apr-24 | Fri | £3,695 | £1,355 |
| 17-May-24 | Fri | £3,695 | £1,355 |
| 04-Oct-24 | Fri | £3,995 | £1,495 |
| 01-Nov-24 | Fri | £3,995 | £1,495 |
| 29-Nov-24 | Fri | £3,995 | £1,495 |

Meal Plan

- Full Board

Group Size

This tour is operated by our partners in country. The group size may vary from 2 people to 25 or more.

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road and train
- Accommodation for 7 nights as listed
- English-speaking guides
- Entrance fees at the monuments

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Option

For a supplement, you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you have a private chauffeur-driven cars and dedicated English-speaking private guides. Please contact us for more details and for a supplement price.

Taiwan Experience

Taipei - Sun Moon Lake - Kaohsiung - Taitung - Hualien - Taipei

A scenic road journey admiring spectacular landscapes and abundant natural beauty of the island while staying in some of Taiwan's best hotels.



9 days from £1,285

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesmerising beauty of Sun Moon Lake Tainan - the oldest city in Taiwan Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Monastery Spectacular landscape of Kenting National Park Breathtaking scenery of Taroko Gorge | <p>Special Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the indigenous village of Thao tribe. Change of Guards ceremony at Martyrs' Shrine Rejuvenating hot spring bath at Zhiben Explore the tunnel of Nine Turns A walk across Buluowan suspension bridge at Taroko Gorge | <p>Accommodation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taipei - Regent Taipei or Palais de Chine Sun Moon Lake - Fleur De Chine Hotel Kaohsiung - Grand Hi Lai Kaohsiung Taitung - Royal Chihpen Taitung Hualien - Silks Place Taroko |
|--|---|--|

This trip around Taiwan showcases the best the island has to offer, with a vast range of scenic and cultural attractions. Take in the frenetic city of Taipei, explore the spectacular Sun Moon Lake before continuing to Tainan, the oldest city in Taiwan. Visit Fo Guang Shan monastery, one of the largest in the region. Explore Kenting - Taiwan's oldest National Park, soak in the hot springs of Zhiben before proceeding to the picturesque Taroko Gorge. Return to Taipei for two nights before you travel home.



Itinerary

- Day 1: Taipei**
You will be met at Taipei airport and transferred to Regent Taipei or Palais de Chine or similar hotel for two nights' stay.
- Day 2: Taipei**
Take an orientation tour of Taipei exploring historic landmarks like Presidential Office Building and Grand Hotel Taipei. Visit Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall, National Palace Museum and Martyr's Shrine. Afternoon is at leisure.
- Day 3: Taipei - Sun Moon Lake**
Drive to Sun Moon Lake, home to indigenous Thao people. Stay overnight at Fleur De Chine or similar hotel. Afternoon visit It Thao - the indigenous village to learn the history of Thao tribe. Later visit Ci'en Pagoda, Xuanzang Temple and Wanwu Temple.
- Day 4: Sun Moon Lake - Tainan - Kaohsiung**
Drive to Tainan - the oldest city in Taiwan with a plethora of historic buildings.. Visit Fort Zeelandia - a Dutch Fortress destroyed by British Army, rebuilt by the Japanese. Drive on to Kaohsiung for an overnight stay at Grand Hi Lai or similar hotel. Afternoon visit Fo Guang Shan - the biggest Buddhist monastery in Taiwan, housing one of the tallest Buddha statues in the world.

- Day 5: Kaohsiung - Kenting - Taitung**
Drive to Kenting National Park, renowned for extraordinary geological formations, scenic landscapes, and rich marine biodiversity. Drive on to Taitung for an overnight stay at Royal Chihpen or similar hotel. Zhiben region in Taitung is renowned for hot springs with rejuvenating properties.
- Day 6: Taitung - Hualien**
This morning's drive to Hualien visits some of the most scenic places in Taiwan including Xiaoyehliu, Sanxientai, Shitiping and Fanshuliao. Stay overnight at Silks Place Taroko or similar hotel.
- Day 7: Hualien - Taroko Gorge - Taipei**
This morning drive to Taroko National Park, renowned for its dramatic gorges, diverse wildlife, unique geological formations, and particularly, its towering marble cliffs, which can reach heights of up to 1,100 meters. Explore some of the park's most famous attractions, including Cimu Bridge, the Tunnel of Nine Turns, Buluowan Suspension Bridge, Eternal Spring Shrine (Changchun Temple), Swallow Grotto Trail, and Qingshui Cliff. Drive on to Taipei and stay for two nights at Regent Taipei or Palais de Chine or similar hotel.
- Day 8: Taipei**
Day at leisure.
- Day 9: Taipei**
Transfer to Taipei airport for your onward flight.



| Dates & Prices 2024/25 | | | |
|------------------------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
| 09-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,285 | £825 |
| 30-Mar-24 | Sat | £1,285 | £825 |
| 13-Apr-24 | Sat | £1,285 | £825 |
| 04-May-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 20-Jul-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 27-Jul-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 03-Aug-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 17-Aug-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 05-Oct-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 26-Oct-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 09-Nov-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 30-Nov-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 21-Dec-24 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 18-Jan-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 01-Feb-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 15-Feb-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 01-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 15-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |
| 29-Mar-25 | Sat | £1,395 | £965 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily

Group Size
This tour is operated by our partners in country. The group size may vary from 2 people to 25 or more.

- Included in the price**
- Arrival and departure transfers
 - Internal travel by road
 - Accommodation for 8 nights as listed
 - English-speaking guides
 - Entrance fees at the monuments

Flight Options
Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Option
For a supplement, you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you have a private chauffeur-driven cars and dedicated English-speaking private guides. Please contact us for more details and for a supplement price.

Highlights of South Korea

Seoul - Daegu - Gyeongju - Busan - Seoul

An exciting tour with a hearty mix of the swanky metropolis and laid-back traditional villages while exploring world heritage sites and unique cuisine.



8 days from £1,795

| Highlights | Special Experiences | Accommodation |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Korean Folk Village in Seoul Yangnyeongsi Museum of Oriental Medicines World Heritage Sites of Gyeongju Beopjusa Temple with the tallest Buddha statue in Korea Busan Tower at Yongdusan Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cable car ride to the top of N Seoul Tower Street food at Gwangjang market of Seoul Foot Massage at Daegu Museum of Herbal Medicines Buddhist sites of Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto Examine the Royal Tomb at Royal Tumuli Park in Gyeongju | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seoul - Ibis Insadong Daegu - Grand Hotel Gyeongju - Commodore Hotel Busan - Tower Hill Busan |

This whistle-stop tour covers the major attractions of South Korea. Starting in the bustling metropolis of Seoul, you travel to historic cities of Daegu and Gyeongju - studded with ancient temples and tombs before returning to Seoul taking in the abundant natural beauty on the way.



Itinerary

Day 1: Seoul

You will be met at Seoul Incheon airport and transferred to Ibis Insadong or similar hotel for two nights' stay.

Day 2: Seoul

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Seoul today. Start at the World Heritage Sites of Changdeok Palace and Huwan. Later, visit the Gwangjang traditional market. Proceed to the National Museum of Korea. End the day at N Seoul Observatory Tower for a bird's eye view of the city.

Day 3: Seoul - Daegu

This morning visit Korean Folk Village to learn about traditional lifestyles. Then drive to Mt. Songnisan and visit Beopjusa Temple housing the tallest Buddha statue in Korea. Later, drive on to Daegu for overnight stay at Grand Hotel or similar.

Day 4: Daegu - Gyeongju

This morning explore the sights of Daegu including the Yangnyeongsi Museum of Oriental Medicines. Yangnyeongsi Market has been a popular herbal medicine market since the 17th century. Later, visit the historic Seomun Market, one of the three markets from the Joseon dynasty. Later, drive to Gyeongju - ancient capital of Silla Kingdom. This historic city with 52 designated sites is called the 'Open-air

Museum'. Stay for two nights at Commodore Hotel or similar. In the afternoon, visit the Astronomical Observatory and Royal Tumuli Park housing Royal Tombs.

Day 5: Gyeongju

Continue sightseeing of Gyeongju today, including the World Heritage Sites of Bulguksa Temple and Seokguram Grotto containing a monumental Buddha statue which is considered a masterpiece of Buddhist art. Later visit the four-faced Buddha statue at Gulbulsaji and Gwaeneung Royal Tomb. End the day with a drive around Guryongpo Port soaking in the coastal scenery.

Day 6: Gyeongju - Busan

This morning, visit Unmoonsa Temple before driving to Busan, the second largest city of South Korea. Stay overnight at Tower Hill Busan or similar hotel. Afternoon visit Jagalchi Fish Market, Nampodong Market. End the day by visiting Busan Tower at Yongdusan Park for panoramic views of the city.

Day 7: Busan - Seoul

Drive back to Seoul today for an overnight stay at Ibis Insadong or similar hotel.

Day 8: Seoul

Transfer to Incheon airport for your onward flight.

Dates & Prices 2024/25

| Departure | Day | Price per person | Sgl Supp pp from |
|-----------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| 18-Mar-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 01-Apr-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 15-Apr-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 13-May-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 20-May-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 10-Jun-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 17-Jun-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 08-Jul-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 22-Jul-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 05-Aug-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 19-Aug-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 02-Sep-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 23-Sep-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 07-Oct-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 21-Oct-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 04-Nov-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 18-Nov-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 02-Dec-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |
| 09-Dec-24 | Mon | £1,795 | £495 |

Meal Plan

- Breakfast daily

Group Size

This tour is operated by our partners in country. The group size may vary from 2 people to 25 or more.

Included in the price

- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal travel by road
- Accommodation for 7 nights as listed
- English-speaking tour guide
- Entrance fees at the monuments

Flight Options

Tour prices do not include international flights. We'll be happy to help secure flights on a carrier of your choice in your preferred cabin class.

Private Travel Option

For a supplement, you can upgrade to a private tour, for which you have a private chauffeur-driven cars and dedicated English-speaking private guides. Please contact us for more details and for a supplement price.



Luxury Train Travel in Asia

Indulge in the epitome of opulence as TransIndus invites you to experience the romance and sophistication of a bygone era through our exclusive luxury train journeys. Picture yourself immersed in the grandeur of meticulously decorated train carriages, a hallmark of aristocratic travel in India and beyond.

Originating with the visionary Maharajahs, who commissioned bespoke carriages adorned with Belgian crystal chandeliers, French tapestries, and Persian carpets, our luxury trains offer a glimpse into a world of unparalleled elegance and extravagance. Be transported back to the glamour of the Orient Express, which set the standard in the 1880s and has inspired our curated journeys across Asia.

These meticulously designed trains seamlessly blend classic charm with modern comforts, ensuring a journey that transcends expectations. Imagine spacious, air-conditioned cabins with private en-suite facilities, providing the perfect sanctuary for a restful night's sleep. Complemented by 24-hour concierge service, complimentary Wi-Fi, and refined dining experiences, our trains redefine luxury on the move. Some even feature entertainment options like game rooms, cinemas, libraries, and spa facilities, elevating your travel experience to unprecedented heights.

Beyond the sheer luxury, these journeys offer a unique exploration of countries, allowing you to wake up in new destinations without the hassle of packing and unpacking. Start your day with a scrumptious breakfast and join experienced, local, English-speaking guides for unforgettable sightseeing adventures.

Discover iconic monuments and remote, beautiful landscapes that are typically challenging to access. Most of our trains operate between September and April, providing the perfect window for your unforgettable adventure.

Don't miss the opportunity to tailor your dream luxury journey with TransIndus. Speak with our dedicated consultants, and let us craft a route that aligns perfectly with your interests, duration, and budget.

Elevate your travel experience – because luxury is not just a destination; it's a journey with Trans Indus. Speak to our travel specialist who will help you identify the best routing to suit your interests, duration and budget.

The Maharaja's Express

The Maharajas Express, a Luxury train journey, hardly needs an introduction; its reputation precedes any mention and is by far the best-known. It is considered to be one of the top two luxury train journeys in India. Its 14 state carriages recreate a world of grace, elegance, and romance for travellers, taking inspiration for its regal decor from its namesake Maharajas and delivering a world-class service onboard as well as the daily excursions.

Departing every Sunday from either Delhi or Mumbai, its four select journeys combine the best-known historical highlights and wildlife of northern India, venturing into parts of Rajasthan, the Golden Triangle, and North India.

Departing every Sunday from either Delhi or Mumbai - You can check out the itineraries below or speak with our team to find out more

Maharaja Express Journeys - Delhi Departures

Maharajas Express - Treasures of India

5-day tour covering
Delhi, Agra, Ranthambore, Jaipur, Delhi
Prices from £4,995 pp

Maharajas Express - Indian Splendour

9-day tour covering
Delhi, Agra, Ranthambore, Jaipur, Bikaner,
Jodhpur, Udaipur, Mumbai
Prices from £7,925 pp

Maharajas Express - Indian Panorama

9-day tour covering
Delhi, Jaipur, Ranthambore, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra,
Orchha, Khajuraho, Varanasi, Delhi
Prices from £7,795 pp

Maharaja Express Journeys - Mumbai Departures

Maharajas Express - The Heritage of India

9-day tour covering
Mumbai, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaipur,
Ranthambore, Agra, Delhi
Prices from £8,275 pp

The Deccan Odyssey

The newest crop, Deccan Odyssey, differentiates itself by focusing principally on less accessible parts of Western and Central India. Departing every Saturday, it offers a range of itineraries incorporating the highlights of Rajasthan and the Golden Triangle.

The one we most often recommend approaches the region from the south via Mumbai and showcases the unique landscapes, wildlife, and historical sites of Maharashtra, including the great cave temples of Ellora and Ajanta, explore the vineyards of Nasik and opportunities to spot tigers in the wild in the Pench National Park.

Departing every Saturday from Delhi or Mumbai. You can check out the itineraries below or speak with our team to find out more.

Deccan Odyssey - Delhi Departures

Heritage Odyssey

10-day tour covering
Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Ranthambore,
Udaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Delhi
Prices from £5,995 pp

Indian Odyssey

10-day tour covering
Delhi, Ranthambore, Agra, Jaipur, Udaipur,
Vadodara, Ajanta Caves, Mumbai
Prices from £6,195 pp

Cultural Odyssey

10-day tour covering
Delhi, Ranthambore, Jaipur, Agra, Gwalior,
Orchha, Khajuraho, Varanasi, Delhi
Prices from £5,995 pp

Deccan Odyssey - Mumbai Departures

Indian Sojourn

10-day tour covering
Mumbai, Vadodara, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Ranthambore,
Agra, Jaipur, Delhi
Prices from £6,195 pp

Maharashtra Splendour

10-day tour covering
Mumbai, Nashik, Ellora & Ajanta Caves, Kolhapur,
Goa, Sindhudurg, Mumbai
Prices from £6,325 pp

Maharashtra Wild Trail

10-day tour covering
Mumbai, Ellora Caves, Aurangabad, Pench,
Tadoba, Ajanta Caves, Nashik, Mumbai
Prices from £6,325 pp

Check our website for dates of departures. All prices are based on twin-share and include an overnight hotel accommodation at either end.

Check our website for dates of departures. All prices are based on twin-share and include an overnight hotel accommodation at either end.



The Palace on Wheels

Launched in the early 1980s, the pioneering Palace on Wheels luxury train of the first of its kind remains the most popular, covering a route that ticks off a fantastic number of stops in just a week. While some of the furnishings are beginning to show slight signs of age, this doesn't detract from the overall experience, delivered by a highly trained, unfailingly courteous staff and a genuine experience of India.

The seven-night PoW route begins in Delhi every Wednesday and proceeds to Jaipur and the tiger reserve of Ranthambore. From there, you head south to the region's largest fort, Chittaurgarh, then to Udaipur before crossing the Thar Desert to Jaisalmer. The Blue City, Jodhpur, is next, followed by the world-famous bird reserve at Keoladeo and Agra, where you visit the Taj Mahal.

Palace on Wheels Itinerary

10-day tour covering
Delhi, Jaipur, Ranthambore, Chittorgarh, Udaipur,
Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bharatpur, Agra, Delhi.

Prices from £5,425 pp

Check our website for dates of departures.
All prices are based on twin-share and an overnight hotel
accommodation at either end.



Belmond Eastern & Oriental Express

Embark on an unparalleled adventure with the Belmond Eastern & Oriental, a fabled luxury rail journey seamlessly blending classic glamour, impeccable service, and thrilling exploration through Southeast Asia. Revel in the epitome of opulence as Pullman carriages transport you from Singapore to Malaysia, a journey crafted for discerning travelers seeking an extraordinary experience.

Step into wood-paneled interiors adorned with embroidered silks, a harmonious fusion of old-world charm and modern luxury. Indulge in state-of-the-art cabins that transform into lavish living spaces during the day, accompanied by a 24-hour private butler for your every need. Three opulent dining cars, curated by internationally renowned chefs, promise gastronomic delights for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, while the Piano Bar offers a nostalgic ambiance.

Commencing with a signature Singapore Sling at Raffles Hotels' iconic Long Bar, each Monday unfolds a captivating journey along Malaysia's west coast. Choose from four distinct routes, each tailored for different seasons, ensuring a unique and unforgettable experience every time. Elevate your travel aspirations with the Belmond Eastern & Oriental—where luxury meets exploration.

Belmond Eastern & Oriental Express journeys

Essence of Malaysia

7-day tour covering
Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Langkawi and Penang, Singapore

Prices from £4,495 pp

Wild Malaysia

7-day tour covering
Singapore, Taman Negara National Park, Penang, Singapore

Prices from £4,495 pp

Belmond Eastern & Oriental Express journeys

Festive Malaysia

7-day tour covering
Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Langkawi, Johor, Singapore

Prices from £5,095 pp

Malaysia Celebration

7-day tour covering
Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Langkawi, Johor, Singapore

Prices from £5,095 pp

Check our website for dates of departures. All prices are based on twin-share and include 2-night hotel accommodation in Singapore before the train journey and 1-night accommodation after the train.

The Golden Chariot

The Golden Chariot, the only luxury train to operate in Southern India, beautifully connects some of the important and historically and architecturally significant sites of the region in the most efficient way and with the utmost comfort in your beautifully appointed cabins. Onboard facilities include an Ayurvedic spa, a bar and two restaurant cars serving carefully prepared delectable cuisine.

Departing every Saturday from Bangalore, The Golden Chariot offers three exciting journeys into different parts of the south Indian peninsula, venturing into Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.

The Golden Chariot Journeys

Pride of Karnataka

8-day tour covering
Bangalore, Nanjangud, Mysore, Halebidu, Chikamgaluru,
Hospet, Goa, Bangalore

Prices from £4,885 pp

Jewels of the South

8-day tour covering
Bangalore, Mysore, Kanchipuram, Mahabalipuram, Thanjavur, Chettinad,
Karaikudi, Cochin, - Chertala, Mararikulam, Bangalore

Prices from £4,885 pp

Glimpse of Karnataka

6-day tour covering
Bangalore, Nanjangud, Mysore, Hospet, Bangalore

Prices from £3,375 pp



Check our website for dates of departures.
All prices are based on twin-share and include an overnight
hotel accommodation at either end.



Luxury River Cruising in Asia

Travel in Asia doesn't necessarily have to mean "trains, planes and automobiles". Cruising Asia's extensive and impressive waterways is a wonderfully elegant, sociable, and relaxed way to travel, and what we love the most is that it enables you to visit places some of the most fascinating, remote, and untouched villages and sites few overland travellers get to see.

TransIndus offers a range of epic journeys along the great Mekong and Red Rivers of Southeast Asia, traversing through Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos to the mighty waterways of Northeastern India along the Sacred Ganges and the formidable Brahmaputra and Hooghly. Each journey can be combined with tours of the country's principal sights.

All prices quoted on the following pages are based on twin shares and include one night's accommodation in Kolkata at either end of the tour and transfers to and from the hotel to the boat. With the exception of a few, Most sailings operate between September and April and have set departures.

Speak with your TransIndus Consultant, and we will help you identify the best routing to suit your interests, duration and budget.

Assam Bengal Navigation Company, India

The pioneering Assam Bengal Navigation (ABN) operates a fleet of six tastefully crafted colonial-style steamers, combining the elegance and charm of steam cruisers with modern-day comforts. Their small and elegant ships have just 12-22 cabins for intimate cruising with a few people. Arranged over two decks, the cabins all each look out across the water and come complete with extensive onboard facilities, including atmospheric restaurants, retro-style bars, and a well-stocked library.

ABN offers a range of journeys along two principal routes, which predominantly start from the effervescent city of Kolkata and take the less-trodden path with onshore excursions, visiting some of the most historic places in the region, many of which are associated with British India.

Cruises follow The Brahmaputra River through Assam, pausing at wildlife parks, historic towns, riverine Islands, tea plantations and craft villages, taking in some of the most spectacular countryside and The Sacred Ganges and Hooghly Rivers through Eastern India, showcasing rural life on the banks and visiting a string of remote, historical, and cultural sites alongside several abandoned cities of great importance.

Here is a small selection. Please speak to your Transindus consultant about other options.

Brahmaputra Itineraries

Brahmaputra Taster

6-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £1,625 pp

Rhinos and More

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £2,945 pp

River Island Cruise

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £2,945 pp

Brahmaputra Maximum

13-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £3,995 pp

Ganges and Hoogly Itineraries

Bengal Memories

6-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £1,365 pp

Historic Hoogly (Lower Ganges)

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £2,695 pp

The Holy Ganges

9-day tour from Kolkata to Delhi (or vice versa)
Prices from £2,475 pp

City of Light: Varanasi

10-day tour from Delhi to Delhi
Prices from £2,895 pp

Pandaw Cruising, India & Southeast Asia

The Scottish-owned Pandaw Company spearheaded river cruising in South Asia and continues to set the benchmark with its fleet of seventeen 1940s-style steamer ships whose polished brass and varnished teak enhance the romantic colonial feel. Their elegant, air-conditioned cabins and staterooms are enlivened with silk furnishings and tasteful décor and complement the sleek, shared areas right from the lounges restaurants through to the cocktail bar, where you can kick back and on the semi-shaded sun deck with a long drink in hand, as the river views unfold.

Pandaw offers several journeys of different durations along the length of the Mekong River, starting from Northern Laos, through Cambodia to the Delta in Southern Vietnam, plus some exciting expeditions along the Red River and Halong Bay. A great favourite with TransIndus clients, Pandaw also operates along the Ganges, Hooghly, Bhagirathi Rivers, and Brahmaputra Rivers with various sailings.

Here is a small selection. Please speak to your Transindus consultant about other options.

Pandaw - India Cruising

The Mighty Brahmaputra River

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £3,845 pp

The Full Brahmaputra

13-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £5,695 pp

The Lower Ganges

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £3,825 pp

The Upper Ganges

10-day tour from Kolkata to Delhi (or vice versa)
Prices from £4,625 pp

Pandaw - Southeast Asia Cruising

Classic Mekong

10-day tour from Ho Chi Minh City to Siem Reap
Prices from £3,645 pp

The Laos Mekong

13-day tour from Vientiane to Chiang Mai
Prices from £4,495 pp

Halong Bay & Red River

13-day tour from Hanoi to Hanoi
Prices from £3,695 pp

Saigon & Phnom Penh

6-day tour from Ho Chi Minh City to Phnom Penh
Prices from £2,095 pp

Check our website for dates of sailings. All prices are based on twin-share and include 2-night accommodation on shore, one at either end.

Check our website for dates of sailings. All prices are based on twin-share and include 2-night accommodation on shore, one at either end.



Antara Cruising, India

Considered the most luxurious ships in India, Antara operates a fleet of varying sizes, including catamarans, small private cruise ships and some richly appointed triple-deck ships that offer luxurious living and a choice of suites, fine-dining, including Michelin-inspired menus, and excellent service.

The newest of their ships, the MV Ganga Vilas, has been specially designed to navigate a range of waters, making them capable of impressive sailings, including a 51-day journey crossing 27 river systems and several regions of India, including the Sundarbans as well as Bangladesh. While Antara operates a few regular sailing, unlike others, Antara specialises in one-off journeys to celebrate major festivals such as Holi, Diwali, Easter, Christmas and New Year or venture into remote regions and circuits that are otherwise difficult to access by road, rail or air like the Sundarbans, the princely state of Murshidabad or the Buddhist circuit.

Here is a small selection. Please speak to your Transindus consultant about other options.

Regular Departures

Varanasi Special Cruise

6-day tour from Delhi to Delhi
Prices from £1,155 pp

Kolkata Epic Cruise

22-day tour from Kolkata to Delhi
Prices from £9,585 pp

Special Departures

Holi/ Diwali / Easter Special Cruise

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £3,675 pp

Treading the Buddha's Trail

13-day tour from Kolkata to Delhi
Prices from £5,175 pp

Princely Murshidabad

10-day tour from Kolkata to Kolkata
Prices from £3,675 pp

Heritage Line Cruising, Southeast Asia

Heritage Line, one of Southeast Asia's principal river cruise lines, operates luxury sailing along the Upper and Lower Mekong with an impressive fleet of boutique, five-star ships specially designed to navigate the changing waters of the Mekong, navigating through Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

The Jayavarman, inspired by French steamers of the French Indochine era, incorporates suave Art Deco sophistication blended with touches of exquisite Khmer woodcarving and lacquerwork. The ship offers an onboard pool, a 1930s-inspired bar and a dining hall. Its 27 staterooms feature panoramic floor-ceiling windows and private balconies and bathrooms.

The Jahan, on the other hand, is a floating palace reminiscent of the style the Maharajas and Viceroy's may have enjoyed. Its 26 staterooms also feature panoramic floor-ceiling windows and private balconies and bathrooms. The upper deck of Jahan features the largest pool of any Mekong cruiser.

The Anouvong, the most intimate and our favourite blends traditional Laotian artwork with French-Colonial finesse throughout the small 10-stateroom vessel, capable of navigating the upper, relatively quiet stretch of Mekong lined with exciting villages and unspoilt natural beauty few have experienced.

Here is a small selection. Please speak to your Transindus consultant about other options.

Lower Mekong - Vietnam & Cambodia

Lower Mekong, Javavarman

10-day tour from
Ho Chi Minh City to Siem Reap (upstream & down)
Prices from £3,795 pp

Lower Mekong, Jahan

10-day tour from
Ho Chi Minh City to Siem Reap (Upstream & down)
Prices from £4,245 pp

Upper Mekong - Laos

Upper Mekong

10-day tour Chiang Rai to Vientiane
Prices from £4,855 pp

Upper Mekong - Short Cruise

6-day tour from Chiang Rai to Luang Prabang
Prices from £2,495 pp

Check our website for dates of sailings. All prices are based on twin-share and include 2-night accommodation on shore, one at either end.

Check our website for dates of sailings. All prices are based on twin-share and include 2-night accommodation on shore, one at either end.



TransIndus Traveller Information



■ Passport & Visa Information

All travellers are required to hold a passport valid for at least six months after the return date of your trip. It should also be endorsed with all the visas required for your journey. Failure to obtain visas, for whatever reason, does not entitle you to cancel the holiday without applicable cancellation charges.

Travcour is our preferred partner for all visa-related services. They will be able to assist you with the application process. Visit www.travcour.com for more information.

■ Travel Insurance

We recommend you take out a comprehensive travel insurance policy providing financial protection from the time of your booking to the end of the holiday, including the journey to and from your destination. Such cover should provide cover for:

Any unforeseen occurrences (such as accidents or illness) that may require the cancellation of your holiday prior to departure; cover for costs incurred by accidents, illness, medical expenses or repatriation while abroad

If you require help obtaining cover you can contact HOLIDAY EXTRAS, our insurance partners on their free UK helpline at 0800 093 1900 quoting reference: TRANSINDUS.

Please note: Transindus Limited is not responsible in any respect if you fail to arrange appropriate cover for your entire holiday.

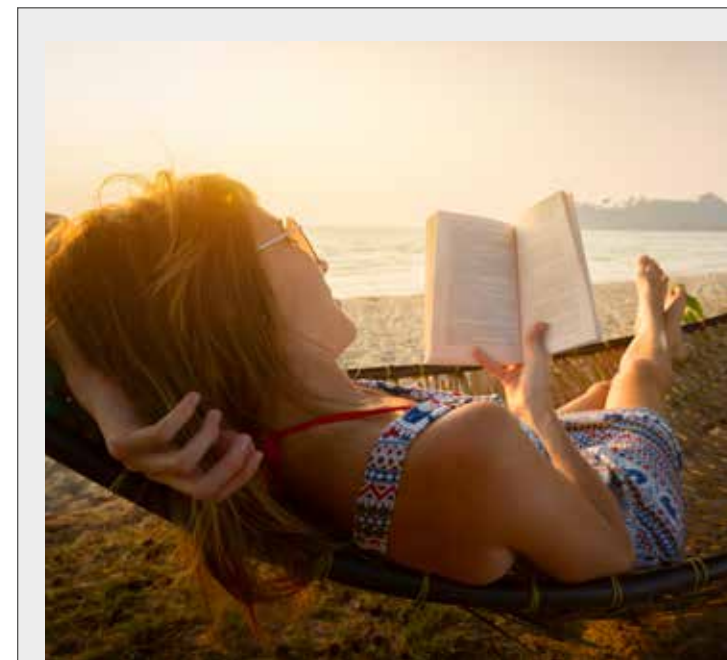
■ Health Advice

There are no mandatory vaccinations for entry into any of the countries we take clients to, unless you are arriving in Asia from a territory infected with yellow fever (in which case you will need an inoculation and paperwork to prove you've had it). It is advisable to check/refresh vaccinations. Please consult your doctor at least 6 weeks prior to departure, and bear in mind that some vaccinations require several doses for effective cover.

■ Fitness to Travel & Special Needs

All sightseeing excursions and transfers require some walking over short distances on easy ground. Monuments, places of interest and ancient sites may include more walking, occasionally on uneven ground or on inclines.

While most of Asia is very accessible and a great deal of assistance can be sought it is essential that you advise us of any mobility limitations in walking or of special needs so we can advise you correctly and help you choose the right holiday.



Financial Protection

All our clients are financially protected. When booking with TransIndus, you can rest assured that, should your travel arrangements be disrupted by circumstances beyond your control, you will be looked after.

Flight inclusive holidays are covered by our Air Travel Organiser's License (ATOL 3429) issued by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), while those without flights are protected by our financial bond with the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust (ABTOT 5510). In addition, we are proud members of the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO), whose 'Client's Charter' assures you receive the highest standards of service.



How to Get in Touch



Phone 020 8566 3739 Email enquiries@transindus.com

Address 75 St Mary's Road & The Old Fire Station Ealing London W5 5RH



How to Book Your Holiday

Congratulations! You've selected your Transindus holiday - you can now secure your booking by paying a deposit on our website www.transindus.co.uk or call us on 0208 566 3739. The deposit is £500 per person for trips under £2,000 per person or 20% of the holiday price for group tours over £2,000 per person. The balance payment is due 70 days prior to departure. We suggest you familiarise yourself with our Booking Terms and Conditions.

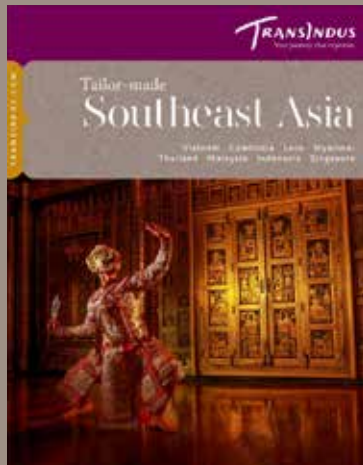
Visit us at the Old Fire Station

Planning a holiday is as much fun as the experience itself. We look forward to meeting our clients in person during the planning stages and hope you will feel free to drop by our office, at the Old Fire Station in Ealing, London, to discuss your holiday over a glass of wine, tea or coffee and we will help you select the tour that's just right for you. You are welcome to visit us between 10am and 5pm in weekdays and on Saturdays by appointment. It is best to make an appointment by calling us on 0208 566 3739, to ensure the right specialist is available to meet you.

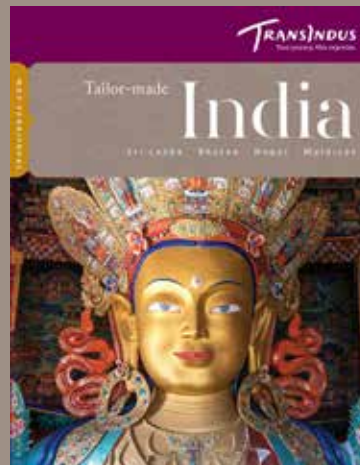
TRANSINDUS

Your journey. Our expertise.

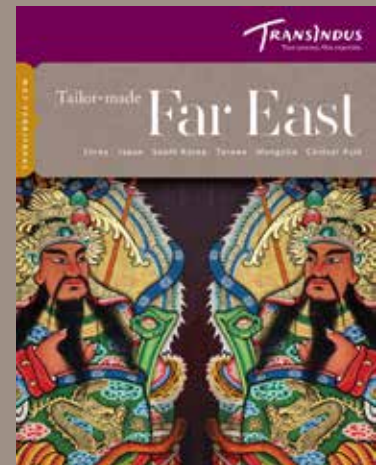
Inspiring journeys through Asia for three decades



Southeast Asia



Indian Sub-Continent



Far East Asia



“ Thank you for recommending a superb tour for us in India. it was a great trip, very well organised from first meeting to last goodbye at the airport. A great bunch of guides and an excellent driver, all of us really enjoyed the fortnight. Thanks again and look forward to our next trip.”

Trevor and Heather
(booked through Travellers World),
Golden Triangle and Tigers
March 2023



“ It was absolutely fantastic! We cannot fault anything. Thanks to you and everyone at Trans Indus – I would not hesitate to recommend you and use your company again.”

Helen,
Rajasthan, Land of the Kings
November 2023



TransIndus Winner - Top 10 Specialists, 2023

To book and for more information

Call: 020 8566 3739
Email: enquiries@transindus.com
Visit: www.transindus.com

TransIndus Limited 75 St Mary's Road & The Old Fire Station, Ealing, London W5 5RH
Registered: 2311988

