



The Heart of India





The Heart of India

New Delhi - Agra - Gwalior - Khajuraho - Bhopal - Indore - Mumbai

13 Days / 12 Nights

0 Persons

Date of Issue: 05 April 2026



Introduction

Step into the heart of India's rich cultural and historical legacy on this immersive journey through its most iconic cities and hidden heritage gems. From the grandeur of Delhi and the timeless beauty of the Taj Mahal to the intricate temple artistry of Khajuraho and the spiritual depth of Sanchi and Ujjain, this itinerary weaves together royal history, architectural brilliance, and living traditions. Concluding in the dynamic metropolis of Mumbai, this journey offers a seamless blend of India's past and present, crafted for a deeply enriching and comfortable travel experience.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
ITC Maurya Hotel	New Delhi	B&B	2 Nights
ITC Mughal, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Agra	Agra	B&B	1 Night
Taj Usha Kiran Palace	Gwalior	B&B	1 Night
The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho	Khajuraho	B&B	3 Nights
Taj Lakefront Bhopal	Bhopal	B&B	2 Nights
Indore Marriott Hotel	Indore	B&B	2 Nights
Taj Santacruz, Mumbai	Mumbai	B&B	1 Night

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

Day 1 ITC Maurya Hotel, New Delhi

New Delhi

India's capital, New Delhi, lies on the Indo-Gangetic Plain, within the National Capital Territory of Delhi. Made up of the ancient walled city of Old Delhi and the more modern sector, New Delhi, the city encompasses a staggering array of beautiful buildings, including three UNESCO World Heritage Sites – the grand, sandstone Red Fort, striking Qutab Minar, and fascinating Humayun's Tomb. Architecture enthusiasts will delight in the iconic Lotus Temple. Hear 'qawwalis' (devotional music) at the dargah (tomb) of the Sufi saint Nizam-ud-din Auliya; or wander through the 17th century Chandni Chowk marketplace – still one of the city's most popular retail centres today, famous for its traditional jewellery and saris. The gorgeous Sunder Nursery and Lodi Garden provide calm, flower-filled oases for picnicking.

Day Itinerary

Arrive in Delhi, the vibrant capital of India, where tradition and modernity coexist seamlessly. Upon arrival, you will be warmly welcomed and escorted to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure to unwind after your journey.

Overnight: ITC Maurya Hotel

ITC Maurya Hotel is located in New Delhi's prestigious diplomatic enclave, offering refined luxury in the heart of India's capital. Nearby attractions include Rashtrapati Bhavan, India Gate, and the bustling Connaught Place. Guest rooms feature bespoke décor, complimentary Wi-Fi, a personal safe, luxury toiletries, and a well-stocked minibar. Guests can savour award-winning cuisine at Bukhara, Dum Pukht, and the contemporary Avartana. The hotel also boasts Kaya Kalp spa, a serene outdoor pool, a modern fitness centre, and Salon Di Wills. With its LEED Platinum certification, ITC Maurya blends sustainability with elegance, making it a preferred choice for global dignitaries.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 2 ITC Maurya Hotel, New Delhi

Day Itinerary

Embark on a guided exploration of Delhi. Begin with the magnificent Red Fort, a symbol of Mughal grandeur, followed by a walk through the bustling lanes of Chandni Chowk. Continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Qutub Minar and Humayun's Tomb. Conclude with a drive past India Gate, the President's House, and Parliament House, offering a glimpse into the city's colonial and political heritage.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 3 ITC Mughal, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Agra, Agra

Agra

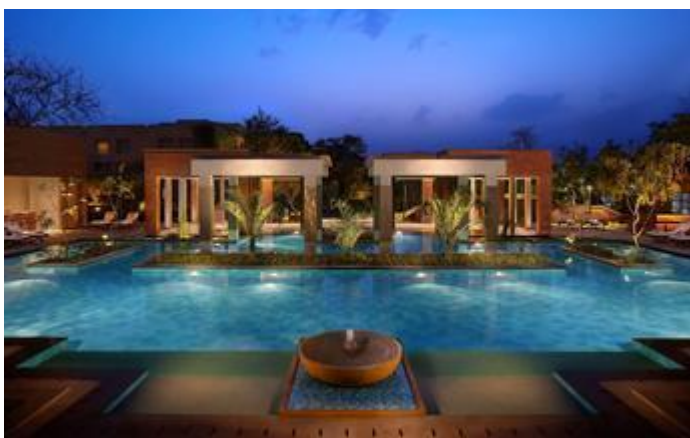
Set on the banks of the Yamuna River in Uttar Pradesh, Agra is a beautiful city famous for its incredible Taj Mahal building, one of the seven wonders of the world. Commissioned by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in the 15th century as a memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, this is an architectural masterpiece of exquisite craftsmanship and perfect proportions. The city boasts numerous other superb attractions, including the red-hued sandstone Agra Fort, built in the 16th century; the Shahi Jama Masjid mosque, a 17th-century congregational mosque located in the historic core of Agra, and Itmad-ud-Daulah's tomb, with its white marble facade embellished with intricate inlaid designs, also called the 'Baby Taj'.

Day Itinerary

Drive to Agra, home to some of India's most iconic monuments. Visit the ethereal Taj Mahal, a masterpiece of white marble and enduring symbol of love. Later, explore the historic Agra Fort, a UNESCO-listed site that once served as the residence of Mughal emperors.

Overnight: ITC Mughal, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Agra

ITC Mughal, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Agra, lies in Tajganj, just a short drive from the Taj Mahal and close to Agra Fort. The opulent rooms, arranged around courtyards and pedestrian bridges, feature air-conditioning, tea/coffee facilities, and complimentary Wi-Fi. Dining venues include a north-west frontier restaurant, an all-day multi-cuisine buffet venue, and a relaxed lobby bar offering light bites and beverages. Leisure facilities encompass a spa, outdoor swimming pool, and a fitness centre.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 4 Taj Usha Kiran Palace, Gwalior

Gwalior

A city brimming with historical sites, Gwalior is a perfect stopover for heritage tourists in Madhya Pradesh and lies in the heart of the state. The painted Man Singh palace and impressive Gwalior fort should top your to-do list, however, don't miss the breathtaking Jain rock sculptures carved into the rock at several points on the plateau, including on the way up from Gwalior Gate. Musicians and singers should head to the Tomb of Tansen, the father of Hindustani classical music in the Old Town. Legend has it that if you eat the leaves from the Tamarind tree in the surrounding area, they will enrich your voice.

Day Itinerary

Journey to Gwalior, a city steeped in history and regal charm. Stroll through the lively Maharaja Bada marketplace before visiting the formidable Gwalior Fort, perched dramatically atop a hill. Continue to the opulent Jai Vilas Palace, now a museum showcasing an impressive collection of royal artifacts.

Overnight: Taj Usha Kiran Palace

Taj Usha Kiran Palace offers a haven of timeless elegance and captivating charm in Gwalior. All the hotel's rooms are luxuriously designed and feature free Wi-Fi, tea/coffee-making facilities, and TVs. Guests can indulge in delicious meals from the on-site restaurants. Other services and facilities include a swimming pool, a bar, a spa, a fitness centre, room service, a business centre, and concierge service.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 5 The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho, Khajuraho

Khajuraho

Located southwest of Kanpur, Khajuraho is considered one of India's seven wonders and is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. The city encompasses the nation's largest array of medieval Hindu and Jain temples, decorated with intricately detailed erotic sculptures and reliefs. The site incorporates close to 100 sacred structures, some of them exquisitely preserved, and each evening, a light and sound show is staged here, covering the history, philosophy and craftsmanship encapsulated in this archaeological goldmine. Other highlights include the vibrant Annual Dance Festival of Khajuraho; the Panna National Park, home to leopards; the Arhanta Yoga Ashram, where visitors can take classical Hatha yoga classes. The city also boasts a wide variety of wonderful shops, markets and restaurants.

Day Itinerary

Transfer to the railway station for your train to Jhansi, followed by a scenic drive to Khajuraho. Renowned for its exquisite temple architecture, Khajuraho is a UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring intricately carved temples categorized into Western, Eastern, and Southern groups.

Overnight: The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho

The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho sits opposite the Circuit House in Khajuraho, just a short stroll from the Western Group of Temples. These UNESCO-listed monuments, as well as the Lakshman Temple, lie within easy reach. Rooms are equipped with LCD TVs, minibars, and free Wi-Fi. Dining is available at an all-day, multi-cuisine restaurant called Panna, alongside the Mahua Bar, which offers light fare and cocktails in a serene setting by the pool. Guests may also enjoy wellness options, including a spa, outdoor swimming pool, and fitness centre.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 6 The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho, Khajuraho

Day Itinerary

Explore the remarkable temples of Khajuraho. Begin with the Eastern Group, known for its serene ambiance and detailed carvings, followed by the Western Group, famed for its grand scale and artistic brilliance.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 7 The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho, Khajuraho

Day Itinerary

Enjoy a day excursion to Orchha, a hidden gem frozen in time. Once the capital of the Bundela dynasty, Orchha boasts stunning architecture and spiritual landmarks. Visit the Ram Raja Temple, Jahangir Palace, and the picturesque cenotaphs (chhatris) lining the Betwa River.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 8 Taj Lakefront Bhopal, Bhopal

Bhopal

Known as the City of Lakes, Bhopal is the capital city of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. The city is famed for its exquisite landscapes characterised by lush forests, green hills and several natural and artificial lakes. While the old part of the city features a maze of narrow winding alleyways lined with grand old mosques, ancient palaces and bustling bazaars, the newer part contains some excellent museums and galleries, manicured parks and gardens, and upmarket hotels and restaurants. Bhopal serves as a gateway to the nearby UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sanchi, one of Asia's most impressive Buddhist monuments. Other must-see attractions in the area include the Van Vihar National Park, home to tigers, lions and leopards, and the State Museum, displaying fossils, paintings and rare Jain sculptures.

Day Itinerary

Transfer to Jhansi railway station to board your train to Bhopal. Upon arrival, begin exploring this culturally rich city set amidst natural surroundings. Visit the grand Taj-ul-Masjid, one of Asia's largest mosques, followed by Bharat Bhawan, a renowned multi-arts complex. Conclude with a visit to the State Archaeological Museum, home to an impressive collection of sculptures.

Overnight: Taj Lakefront Bhopal

Taj Lakefront offers guests luxurious accommodations overlooking the upper lake in Bhopal. All rooms are elegantly designed with TVs, tea/coffee-making facilities, Wi-Fi, air conditioning, and hairdryers. Guests can indulge in delicious meals from the on-site restaurant. Other services and facilities include a bar, a spa, a swimming pool, a fitness centre, a concierge, meeting rooms, and a tennis court.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 9 Taj Lakefront Bhopal, Bhopal

Day Itinerary

Take a day trip to Sanchi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient Buddhist stupas built by Emperor Ashoka. Continue to Vidisha, one of India's oldest cities, and explore the Udayagiri Caves, known for their historical significance and scenic hilltop setting.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 10 Indore Marriott Hotel, Indore

Indore

Set on the southern edge of the Malwa Plateau and home to majestic palaces that co-exist with striking modern structures, Indore is the business capital of Madhya Pradesh. The Holkar dynasty once ruled over this centuries-old city, thereby introducing several developmental changes and reforms, which contributed to its position today as a commercial and military centre. History enthusiasts and culturally curious travellers can visit iconic landmarks, namely the Rajwada Palace, the Gandhi Hall, the Lal Baag Palace and other historical monuments and religious places. Due to its thriving food culture, it is commonly regarded as the 'Street Food Capital of India' as passionate foodies flock to Chhappan Dukan and Sarafa Bazar to indulge in local specialities, North Indian, South Indian, Chinese and Italian cuisines.

Day Itinerary

Drive to Indore, stopping en route at Ujjain, one of India's most sacred pilgrimage sites and host of the Kumbh Mela. Visit the revered Mahakaleshwar Temple, one of the twelve Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva, before continuing to Indore.

Overnight: Indore Marriott Hotel

At the Indore Hotel Marriott, guests have a variety of luxury rooms and suites to choose from. All rooms are equipped with high-speed internet access as well as a work desk. The Indore Baking Company Coffee House has fresh bakes and cakes on offer, and the Indore Indian Restaurant focuses on Indian, Italian and Asian delicacies. The hotel also has a spa and a fitness centre.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 11 Indore Marriott Hotel, Indore

Day Itinerary

Discover Indore, a city shaped by the legacy of Rani Ahilyabai Holkar. Visit the elegant Lal Bagh Palace, the iconic Bada Ganpati Temple, and the Central Museum, which houses an excellent collection of historical artifacts.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 12 Taj Santacruz, Mumbai, Mumbai

Mumbai

Formerly known as Bombay, the bustling city of Mumbai sprawls along India's West Coast and is the largest city in the country. This thriving metropolis is a go-to destination for travellers curious to experience a modern Indian city. It serves as the heart of India's world-renowned film industry, the incomparable 'Bollywood', and offers a kaleidoscope of culture, colour and flavours to enjoy. Lapped by the Arabian Sea, this urban seaside peninsula is a melting pot of old and new India. Towering office blocks and shiny apartment buildings shoulder crumbling grand dames of architecture. People play cricket in the leafy central parks, taxis navigate the jam-packed streets, and families stroll along the seaside promenades of Mumbai. Visitors can look forward to viewing the iconic Gateway of India stone arch at the Mumbai Harbour waterfront, visiting the ancient cave temples on the nearby Elephanta Island or hopping on a tuk-tuk tour to experience the magic and madness of this incredible city.

Day Itinerary

Enjoy a relaxed morning before transferring to the airport for your flight to Mumbai. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight: Taj Santacruz, Mumbai

Taj Santacruz, Mumbai, is conveniently located near Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. The property features 258 rooms and 21 suites equipped with modern amenities such as air conditioning, minibars, hairdryers, and private bathrooms. Guests can enjoy facilities such as an outdoor swimming pool, three restaurants, and a bar lounge. Activities available include visiting nearby attractions like Anandi Bai Keskar Park and Versova Beach.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 13 End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Transfer to the airport for your onward journey, carrying with you memories of India's rich cultural and historical tapestry.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
	Schedule d		Indore Marriott Hotel		Taj Santacruz, Mumbai			

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
		Indira Gandhi International Airport [DEL]	ITC Maurya Hotel		Transfer
		ITC Maurya Hotel	ITC Mughal, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Agra		Transfer
		ITC Mughal, a Luxury Collection Resort & Spa, Agra	Taj Usha Kiran Palace		Transfer
		Taj Usha Kiran Palace	The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho		Transfer
		Taj Lakefront Bhopal	Indore Marriott Hotel		Transfer
		Taj Santacruz, Mumbai	Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport [BOM]		Transfer

Journey Information

Date	Train	Agency	Departure Platform	Time	Arrival Platform	Time	Class	Ref
	Train		The LaLiT Temple View Khajuraho		Taj Lakefront Bhopal			

Travel Information



Vast, diverse, deeply spiritual and utterly unforgettable, India is unlike anywhere else on earth – a melting pot of ethnicities and religions, a treasure trove of history and culture, and a curious mixture of chaos and serenity. Stretching across more than three million square kilometres, it encompasses a staggering array of landscapes, vistas and environs, and offers unparalleled travel experiences – from the beautiful beaches of Goa, to the compelling craziness of Kolkata, the sacred Ganges river banks of Varanasi, the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas in Kashmir and the ancient, exquisitely crafted temples dotted across the entire country. Not to mention the vibrant, friendly people, and the incredible cuisine.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Local currency: Indian Rupee

Symbol: ₹

ISO code: INR

Subunit: The Indian Rupee is divided into 100 paise, but since 2011, only the 50-paise coin is still accepted as valid currency.

Banknotes: ₹5, ₹10, ₹20, ₹50, ₹100, ₹200, ₹500

Coins: ₹0.50 (50 paise), ₹1, ₹2, ₹5, ₹10, ₹20

₹500 and ₹1000 banknotes of Mahatma Gandhi series issued up to November 08, 2016, have ceased to be Legal Tender with effect from the midnight of November 8, 2016.

Banking

Card Transactions: Yes

ATMs: Yes

Mastercard: Yes

Visa: Yes

American Express: Limited acceptance

Diner's club: Limited acceptance

Banking Hours:

Weekdays: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Weekends: Limited hours or closed, check with local banks.

Public Holidays: Yes (Varies, typically reduced hours)

Foreign exchange services: Yes

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Air:

Main airlines: Air India, IndiGo, SpiceJet, Vistara

International Airports: Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL), Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport

(BOM), Kempegowda International Airport (BLR), and others
Domestic Airports: Numerous, including Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, and Patna.

Road:

Driving on the: Left
Tar roads: Yes
Gravel roads: Limited
Valid International Driver's License needed: Yes
Car hire available: Yes
Taxis: Yes
E-hailing services: Yes

Bus:

Inter-city bus services: Yes
Local city bus networks: Yes

Rail:

Railway system: Extensive
Subway System: Limited (in select cities)

Water:

Ferries: Limited
Water taxis: Limited
Leisure cruises: Limited

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice**Food and water safety:**

Can you drink the tap water: No
Fresh fruit and veg: Wash thoroughly or peel
Ice: Use commercially produced ice
Meat: Ensure it's well-cooked
Street food: Yes

Local cuisine: Indian cuisine is diverse and varies greatly by region. Highlights include dishes like biryani, curry, dosa, chaat, and tandoori specialties. Vegetarian options are plentiful.

Drinks: Chai, lassi, sugarcane juice, and various regional beverages like coconut water. Alcoholic beverages are available, with beer and whiskey being popular choices.

Tipping: Generally 5-10% in restaurants; tipping for other services is discretionary.

Climate and Weather

Annual rainfall: Varies greatly by region, 500 mm-4,000 mm

Average temperature: Varies greatly by region, 15°C-30°C

Summer:

Average highs: 25-45°C
Average lows: 20-30°C

Winter:

Average highs: 10-25°C
Average lows: 5-15°C

Best time to visit: The best time to visit India depends on the region and your preferences. Generally, the winter months from October to March offer milder temperatures and are ideal for exploring most parts of the country.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Spring and Summer

Cool, light, breathable and comfortable: Yes

Lightweight warm clothes: No

Winter and Autumn

Jerseys, cardigans, sweaters, jackets: Recommended

Heavyweight clothing and boots: No

General

Umbrella and raincoat: Yes

Warm gloves, hat and scarf: No

Swimming costume (bathing suit): Yes

Hat, sunglasses and sunblock: Yes

Walking shoes: Yes

Casual: Yes

Smart-casual attire: Yes

Internet Availability

Internet cafes: Limited, mobile data or Wi-Fi in accommodations and cafes available.

Accommodation options: Yes

Restaurants: Yes

Cafes: Yes

Shopping malls: Yes

Public parks: Limited

Libraries: Limited

Electricity and Plug Standards

Plug Type: Type C, Type D, Type M

Voltage (V): 230

Frequency Hertz (Hz): 50

*Travel plug adapter and voltage converter might be necessary depending on your appliances.
