

# Experience North India in 13 Days

(TRAVEL 6 CITIES & 2 TOWNS IN 4 STATES BY PLANE, RAIL, CAR AND BOAT!)

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The following F&E private itinerary was specially created and tailored to my requirements. Travel group size was 4 paxs, including transportation & (85% of) meals. For more information, do feel free to contact me or my ever-reliable India tour operator (Tour Master India).

## DAY 1 :

DELHI - PUSHKAR (travel time @ approximately 7 hours)

### *Highlights:*

- ♥ *Visit the Brahma Temple & make offerings like the locals*
- ♥ *Explore Pushkar Lake & City & admire the beautiful architectures & bustling streets*
- ♥ *Sunset Camel Ride (Highly recommended!)*
- ♥ *Shopping at Night Market*

## DAY 2

PUSHKAR - JODHPUR (travel time @ approximately 5 hours)

### *Highlights:*

- ♥ *Indulge in the beautiful heritage of the Mehrangarh Fort & Royal Cenotaphs (Highly recommended!)*
- ♥ *Explore the Moti Mahal, Phool Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Sileh Khanna & Daulat Khana*
- ♥ *Be awed by the Jaswant Thada (an imposing marble cenotaph)*
- ♥ *Stroll along the Clock Tower Market & purchase some spices*

## DAY 3

JODHPUR – JAIPUR (travel time @ approximately 6.5 hours)

### *Highlights:*

- ♥ *Enjoy an evening visit to the famous Birla Temple (& admire a beautiful India sunset if you are lucky)*
- ♥ *Experience a soothing (authentic) Ayurvedic massage at the local spa*
- ♥ *Haggle like a local for value-goods at various night markets*
- ♥ *Hop on a trishaw for a “feel” of local transport*

## DAY 4

JAIPUR (Full Day)

### *Highlights:*

- ♥ *Photo stop at Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) along a busy street by the road where vehicles zoom.*
- ♥ *Visit Amber Fort, the once ancient capital of Rajput Empire*
- ♥ *Take in the view of Maota Lake at the forefront of Amber Fort*
- ♥ *Don't miss the Sheesh Mahal, Dewan-e-Khas & Dewan-e-Aam inside the Fort*
- ♥ *Enjoy an Elephant Ride (optional)*
- ♥ *Visit the bookstore & purchase a copy of Kama Sutra / whatever catches your eyes ☺*

## DAY 5

**JAIPUR - AGRA** (travel time @ approximately 5.5 hours)

### **Highlights:**

♥ *Dance along the Massive Agra Fort (built over 1565-73AD) and wave hello to Taj Mahal from a distance*

*(The prominent edifices inside include Jahangiri Mahal, Khas Mahal, the vineyard Anguri Bagh, the ornamental bath Shish Mahal and Masumman Burj.)*

♥ *Explore Taj Mahal - one of the 7 Wonders of the World and note how the setting sun changes the look of the magnificent architectural every few minutes!*

## DAY 6

**AGRA – VARANASI**

### **Highlights:**

♥ *Wait with the locals at the Tundla Railway station (approximately 1 hr from hotel)*

♥ *Hop on a Day train to Mughal Safari (Varanasi) 0948/1810*

♥ *Admire beautiful countryside scenery outside of the rumbling train while eating cup noodles*

♥ *Explore the streets of Varanasi by night (try to avoid an onslaught of moths/flies!)*

## DAY 7

**VARANASI – DELHI** (by flight)

### **Highlights:**

♥ *Morning boat excursion on Ganges River & enjoy a sunrise (if you are lucky)*

♥ *See the Bathing/Cremation Ghats & walk through narrow streets*

♥ *Enjoy a cuppa Masala Chai at a local tea shop & visit the Kashi Vishwanath Temple*

♥ *Visit Sarnath (where Lord Buddha delivered his 1<sup>st</sup> sermon) includes the temple, ruins & museum*

♥ *Explore the book store at Varanasi airport & get a book or two*

## DAY 8

**DELHI**

### **Highlights:**

♥ *Morning tour of Old & New Delhi*

♥ *Visit Qutab Tower (12 century AD) – one of the most perfect tower in the world*

♥ *Discover the ruins of Quwat-ul-Eslam Mosque and the Iron pillar that does not rust*

♥ *Drive past the India Gate (war memorial), Embassy area, President House, Parliament House etc.*

♥ *Visit Raj-Ghat (cremation sites of Mahatma Ganhi) & drive past the Red Fort*

♥ *Explore India's finery at the Kingdom of Dreams (highly recommended!)*

♥ *Watch a Bollywood style musical at the Kingdom of Dreams (highly recommended!)*

## DAY 9

**DELHI – SRINAGAR** (By flight)

### **Highlights:**

♥ *Experience a slice of paradise & check into a luxury Houseboat*

♥ *Enjoy apple tea & delicious cookies while appreciating the lake scenery*

♥ *Have a picnic by the garden & play with local kids*

♥ *Go on an idyllic Shikara Boat ride on the Lake (if you are lucky, you might see rainbow and receive a bouquet of lotus flowers like we did!)*

## DAY 10

### **SRINAGAR –GULMARG – SRINAGAR**

#### **Highlights:**

- ♥ *Catch the sunrise over the lake with the Himalayan mountains as a backdrop*
- ♥ *Visit Gulmarg (lying at 2591m with snow peaks year round) – it might be a winter ski resort/summer meadow of flowers*
- ♥ *Go on a Gandola Cable Car / Pony / Sledge ride*
- ♥ *Enjoy picnic lunch at a secret spot amid the beautiful highlands*
- ♥ *Indulge in the luxury Houseboat or visit a local handicraft workshop that sells quality Kashmiri cashmere*

## DAY 11

### **SRINAGAR**

#### **Highlights:**

- ♥ *Take a stroll in the famous Mughal Gardens (Nishat Bagh & Shalimar Bagh)*  
*Nishat Bagh is the most majestic of the gardens and Shalimar Bagh, the garden of love, is the most closely associated with the Emperor Jehangir and his Queen Nur Jehan, whose love for the valley was legendary.*
- ♥ *Visit the local markets to do some shopping or pray at the local mosque*
- ♥ *Relax on the luxury houseboat – read a book on the verandah / play some card games*
- ♥ *Buy some souvenirs/snacks from visiting boat vendors (imagine a 7'eleven boat with unlimited supplies of chips & apple tea)*
- ♥ *Get a haircut/massage from the boat vendor if you are game enough*

## DAY 12

### **SRINAGAR–DELHI**

#### **Highlights:**

- ♥ *Note the tight security at the airport*
- ♥ *Check out the Srinagar airport bookstore & get a book or two*
- ♥ *Visit the supermarket of Delhi for some great snacks to buy home*
- ♥ *Explore Delhi streets, do some shopping or get a Henna Tattoo (like we did!)*
- ♥ *Gorge/binge on local Indian cuisine on this last night of tour*

## DAY 13

### **DELHI**

#### **Highlights:**

- ♥ *Say goodbye to the bustling streets of India & head for the airport*
- ♥ *Enjoy a cuppa tea/coffee or shop at the Delhi International Airport*