

**Maharajas, Tigers & the Ganges**  
**12 days – 11 nights**  
**Delhi, Samode, Jaipur, Ranthambore, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra, Lucknow, Varanasi**  
**Culture, History, Spirituality**

**Day 1: Delhi**

Upon arrival in Delhi you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel. Overnight at your hotel.

**Day 2: Delhi**

We will start our day by visiting a Sikh Temple, Gurudwara Bangla Saheb, and get some insight into this amazing religion. Then, visit Old Delhi where the Mughal era can still be felt in the air. We will visit Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, built by Emperor Shah Jahan with the opportunity to take a cycle rickshaw ride through its principal street, Chandni Chowk. Continue by driving past massive Red Fort to reach Raj Ghat – the place where Mahatama Gandhi was cremated after his assassination.

After the visit we will drive through New Delhi visiting India Gate (War Memorial), a 137 feet high stone arch featuring the names of 90,000 Indian soldiers who died in the First World War; then, drive past the President's house & government building and continue to visit the Qutub Minar - a tall tower built to call the devout for prayer at an adjoining mosque. After the visit return to hotel to get ready for this evening's welcome dinner. Overnight at your hotel. [B/D]

**Day 3: Delhi, Samode, Jaipur**

After breakfast at your hotel start the drive to Jaipur stopping en-route for lunch and visiting Samode. A splendid example of regal Indo-Saracen architecture, Samode's Palace combines the best of Indian and Mughal styles. The 475-year-old palace is a celebration of the senses, underlined at all times by contemporary luxury and the signature service of Samode hotels – a magical hospitality and rare courtesy. After Lunch drive to Jaipur to check-in and overnight at the hotel. [B/L]

**Day 4: Jaipur**

Enjoy breakfast and proceed for the excursion to Amber Fort with a photo stop at Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) and an elephant ride to climb up to the fort. In the afternoon visit City Palace, a delightful blend of Mughal and traditional Rajasthani architectures and a beautiful palace complex full of treasures now housed in the museum area. Also visit Jantar Mantar or Royal Astronomical Observatory. After the visit explore the local market on your own. Overnight at your hotel. [B]

**Day 5: Jaipur, Ranthambore**

Morning after breakfast proceed for Ranthambore with a stop en route at NGO Jaipur Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) also famous as Jaipur Foot the world's largest organization rehabilitating over 1.55 million disabled. BMVSS provides all its assistance, including artificial limbs, calipers and other aids and appliances totally free of charge. Once in Ranthambore visit the National Park, once the hunting ground of the Maharaja of Jaipur. In 1955, it was declared a game sanctuary and in 1980 it became a national park. Then continue to your hotel for check-in. The rest of the day is free to rest and relax. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/D]

**Day 6: Ranthambore**

At dawn and then in the afternoon you'll enjoy game viewing in the park, one of the best parks in India, populated by the majestic tigers, leopard, nilgai antelope, wild boar, sambar deer, hyena, sloth bear and chital or spotted deer. During your free time in the day you want to visit Dastakar or Ranthambore Fort on your own (requires a stroll of around 1 mile). Lunch, dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

**Day 7: Ranthambore, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra**

After breakfast, proceed to Agra, en-route visit to Fatehpur Sikri. After the tour continue drive to Agra. Upon arrival check in at your hotel. Evening at leisure. Overnight at hotel. [B]

### Day 7: Jaipur, Agra

After breakfast be ready for a drive to Agra with a stop en-route at Abhaneri - Chand Baori, one of the deepest step wells in India, located in the village of Abhaneri. After the visit, continue towards Agra, stopping again at the ancient abandoned city of Fatehpur Sikri. After the tour continue the drive to Agra for check-in at your hotel. Evening at leisure. Overnight at your hotel. [B]

### Day 8: Agra, Lucknow

Early morning, visit Taj Mahal (closed on Friday). It is fitting to see this extraordinary monument by the first light of day as its exemplary beauty is awe-inspiring and will create an unforgettable memory. Said to be one of the most elegant and harmonious buildings in the world, Taj Mahal was built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan in 1630 AD to enshrine the mortal remains of his beloved Queen Mumtaz Mahal. Taj Mahal manifests the wealth and luxury of Mughal art as seen in architecture and garden design, painting, and calligraphy. The 144-foot double dome of the Taj is capped with a finial and the four minarets each 131-feet high and crowned by an open octagonal pavilion highlighting the perfect symmetry of the tomb. Return to hotel for breakfast. After breakfast drive to Lucknow (205 miles/ 5 hours) the city of Nawabs. Lucknow is a 2500-year-old city of magnificent edifices, gardens, crumbling mausoleums, "imambaras" (tomb of a Muslim priest) and ruins of what were once regal residences. The legacy of the imperial splendor of Lucknow has always fascinated people all over the world. The ambience of Awadh has commonly been associated with the leisurely habits, etiquette, architecture, food and refinement - all a legacy of Nawabi culture. On arrival, check in at the hotel. [B]

### Day 9: Lucknow

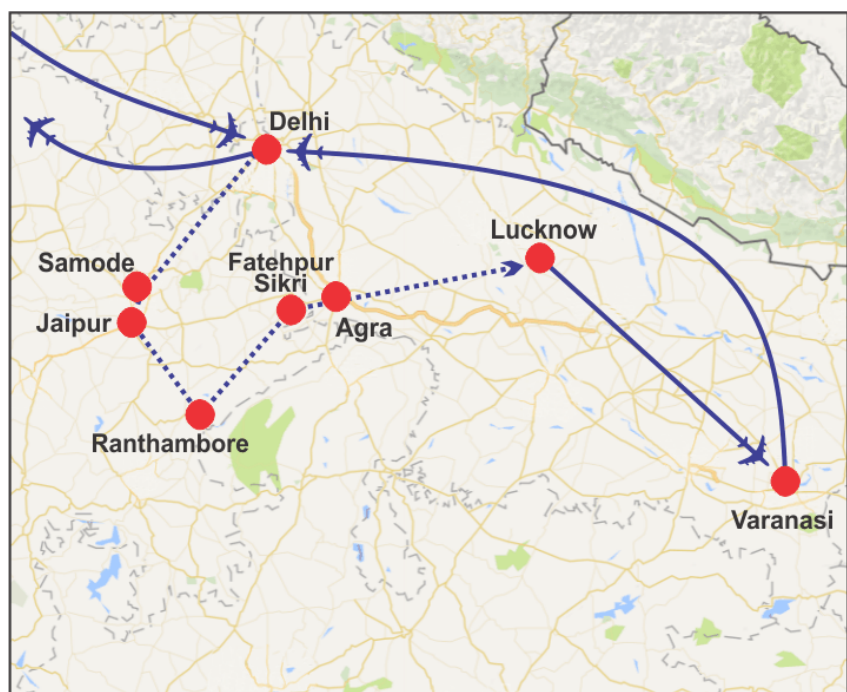
After a leisurely breakfast, spend the morning touring "British Lucknow". Visit the Lucknow Residency where speechless walls are known to speak the gruesome tale of the 1857 mutiny where more than 3000 people were murdered to keep the Union Jack flying. Also visit the graveyard to pay homage to named and unnamed soldiers who gave up their lives in the defense of The Residency. In the afternoon, enjoy a sightseeing tour of Lucknow visiting Bara Imambara. This monument was built as a relief measure for a devastating famine, in order to provide employment to the subjects of the state by Nawab Asif-ud-Daula. This is the world's biggest hall with a 50-foot high ceiling and does not have a single beam to support it. It is known for its simplicity of style, sheer proportion, symmetry and unique acoustic qualities. Also see the 'Rumi Darwaza' or the Turkish Gate and the Asfi Mosque. Also visit the clock tower which is made with a precision similar to Big Ben and Husainabad Imambara, known for its beauty and pieces of décor. The interior is lavishly decorated with huge chandeliers, gilded mirrors, colorful stucco and Tazias in sandalwood, wax and zari. Also drive down to the Husainabad Picture Gallery to view handmade paintings of Nawabs of Oudh. [B/L]

### Day 10: Lucknow, Varanasi

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before being transferred to the airport to board your flight to Varanasi. Upon arrival you'll be transferred to the hotel. In the evening witness an Aarti ceremony at the Assi Ghat, the westernmost stairs leading to the Ganges River, to witness a Hindu Aarti ceremony. Return to the hotel for overnight. [B]

### Day 11: Varanasi

Early morning take a boat ride on the holiest of holy rivers - The



Ganges. Return to the hotel to have breakfast. After breakfast visit Bharat Mata Temple (Mother India Temple) and BHU (Benaras Hindu University). Continue to Sarnath a major Buddhist center. After achieving enlightenment at Bodhgaya, Buddha - the 'Awakened One' - delivered his first sermon here. Return to the hotel for overnight. [B]

**Day 12: Varanasi, Delhi, USA**

Enjoy your breakfast and relax or continue discovering the city. AT the appointed time transfer to the airport to board a flight to Delhi where you'll board your connecting flight home. [B]

[B] = Breakfast | [B/L] = Breakfast and Lunch | [B/D] = Breakfast and Dinner

**Your Tour includes:**

- All arrival and departure transfers
- Railroad transfers
- Assistance at airports and railroad stations
- 11 Nights accommodation:
  - Delhi – 2 nights
  - Jaipur – 2 nights
  - Ranthambore – 2 nights
  - Agra – 2 nights
  - Lucknow – 1 night
  - Varanasi – 2 nights
- Meals:
  - Breakfast Daily
  - 3 lunches
  - 2 dinners
- English speaking local guides during the tour.
- Sightseeing/Excursion by A/C vehicle
- Half-day city tour of Agra (Taj Mahal & Agra Fort)
- Elephant ride at Amber Fort (subject to elephant availability)
- Two jungle safari rides at Ranthambore in shared Jeep or Canter

- Camel safari at Abhaner
- Rickshaw rides in Delhi and Varanasi
- Aarti ceremony in Varanasi
- Varanasi boat ride at dawn
- 1 Bottle of Mineral water daily per person.
- All local tax and service tax, as applicable at present

**Price does not include:**

- International or Domestic airfares
- Any taxes and surcharges relating to airfares
- Travel insurance
- Wi-Fi at hotels
- Camera fees at the monuments (if applicable)
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out
- Expenses of personal nature

**Hotels in your Tour:**

City	Hotel Name	Room Type	Tripadvisor
<b>First Class</b>			
Delhi	Royal Plaza	Deluxe	3.5
Jaipur	Clarks Amer	Deluxe	4
Ranthambore	Abhayaran	Superior	5
Agra	Crystal Sarovar Premier	Superior City view	4
Lucknow	Fairfield by Marriott	Superior	4.5
Varanasi	Rivatas by Ideal	Standard	4
<b>Deluxe</b>			
Delhi	Hyatt Regency	King	4
Jaipur	Hilton	Hilton Guest	4
Ranthambore	Vivanta by Taj	Superior Charm	4.5
Agra	Double Tree Hilton	Guest	4.5
Lucknow	Vivanta by Taj Gomti Nagar	Superior Charm	4.5
Varanasi	Radisson	Superior	4

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

**Tour Prices:**

Season	2-3 Pax		4-6 Pax		7-9 Pax	
	Double	Single	Double	Single	Double	Single
<b>First Class</b>						
Jan-Mar	\$1,969	\$2,639	\$1,649	\$2,315	\$1,635	\$2,305
Apr-Sep	\$1,809	\$2,305	\$1,485	\$1,979	\$1,465	\$1,965
<b>Deluxe</b>						
Jan-Mar	\$2,879	\$4,309	\$2,565	\$3,995	\$2,545	\$3,973
Apr-Sep	\$2,249	\$3,149	\$1,919	\$2,815	\$1,899	\$2,795

Prices are per person, are valid until Sep '20 and may change without notice.

**Airfare supplement**

Routing	Fare
Lucknow/Varanasi	\$99

\* The domestic air portion may be cheaper if calculated as part of the international ticket. Ask your Travel Agent or HWDT to calculate your total fare.

**Tour Code:** IN03DEL20TC