

# Classic India

Tour | 7 Days | Physical Level 1 Delhi – Agra - Jaipur – Delhi

On this classic tour, you will have the chance to experience different sides of Indian culture; from the contrasts of Old and New Delhi, to the historic city of Agra, and exploring the beautiful palaces and architecture of Jaipur.

- Glimpse India's historic Qutab Minar
- Wander India's oldest spice market
- Marvel at the iconic Taj Mahal
- See magnificent Fatehpur Sikri
- Explore the Maharaja's City Palace

# **TOUR MAP**



# **CLASSIC INDIA PRIVATE TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

- All accommodation
- Meals as stated (B Breakfast / L Lunch / D Dinner)
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Transportation and transfers as per itinerary
- English speaking Local Guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

**NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR:** International flights, visas, drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, meals not included early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

# **PRIVATE TOURS:**

These tours are designed for those who want some independence and flexibility. They offer the choice to explore local cuisine, leisure time for optional activities or excursions, and travel when it suits you. Our Private Tours offer excellent value holidays alongside the assurance that most of your arrangements are taken care of. You will also be accompanied by a dedicated and professional guide whose knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.



# **PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:**

All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights. 'Classic India is rated 1 on the physical level scale. A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

• There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time

Of course, our local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you require any more information about the pace of our tours, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.

#### **ITINERARY CHANGES:**

It is our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.



# **DETAILED ITINERARY**

Day 1: Arrive Delhi Meals N/A

Upon arrival in Delhi, your Local Guide from Wendy Wu Tours will meet you at Delhi International Airport in the Arrivals Hall and transfer you to Delhi for a two-night stay. You will transfer approximately 45 minutes to your hotel and check-in.



# **Destination Information**

**Delhi** - As the capital of India, Delhi is the third largest city with a population of approximately 18 million. Its strategic location along the north-south, east-west route has given it a focal position in Indian history and many great empires have been ruled from here. The monuments and ruins of these are scattered throughout the city, often side by side with modern structures and high-rise towers.

Day 2: Delhi Meals: B

After breakfast you will embark on a full-day of sightseeing around Old and New Delhi, involving approximately 03 - 3.5 hours on foot. Next, travel approximately 30 – 40 minutes to Khari Baoli Spice Market and enjoy a rickshaw ride before visiting Jama Masjid. Continue to Lakshmi Marayan Hindu Temple, followed by a brief photo stop at India Gate. End your day with a visit to Qutub Minar.



# **Destination Information**

**Jama Masjid** - Jama Masjid is the largest mosque in India, with a courtyard capable of holding 25,000 devotees. Built between 1644 and 1658, the mosque was Shah Jahan's final architectural achievement.

**Qutab Minar** - Built in the 12th century, this tower of victory is gracefully hand-carved along its entire height of 73m.

**India Gate** - Located at the end of the Rajpath, India Gate is a moving memorial to the 90,000 Indian servicemen who died in World War 1.



Day 3: Delhi - Agra Meals: B

Depart Delhi this morning and commence the 4 hour drive to the historic city of Agra. After check-in you will visit the magnificent Agra Fort, built from red sandstone and located on the banks of the Yamuna River. Sightseeing at the fort involves approximately 1.5 hours on foot and there are some stairs to walk up.



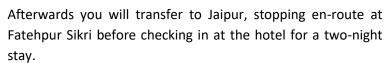
# **Destination Information**

**Agra** - Home to the world-famous Taj Mahal. Agra rose to fame in the medieval period as the capital of the Mughal Empire and was beautified with gardens, waterfalls, bathhouses and canals. In modern times, the city of Agra houses a thriving carpet industry.

**Agra Fort** - Situated on the west bank of the Yamuna River and built by Emperor Akbar between 1565 and 1573. Its imposing red sandstone ramparts form a crescent along the riverfront and encompass an enormous complex of courtly buildings, ranging in style from the early eclecticism of Akbar to the sublime elegance of Shah Jahan. The barracks to the north are British additions from the 19th century. A deep moat, once filled with water from the Yamuna River, surrounds the fort.

Day 4: Agra - Jaipur Meals: B

Begin the day by viewing the Taj Mahal in all its glory. To reach the Taj Mahal, you will board small electric carts, taking you to the entrance. You will have approximately 90-120 minutes here to explore. For admission to the main mausoleum area, you are required to wear shoe covers (this may be provided on site – be prepared to bring an additional pair of socks)





# **Destination Information**

**Taj Mahal** - One of the most recognisable monuments in the world, the Taj Mahal is a white marble monument found on the southern bank of the Yamuna River. The Taj Mahal was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan between the years 1631 -1648 in memory of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died in 1631.

**Fatehpur Sikri** - Located 34km from Agra, Fatehpur Sikri was built by Emperor Akbar in 1569 after it was prophesised that the then childless Akbar would have sons if he moved his capital to the site. At great expense to the empire, the capital was moved here but sadly only occupied for 14 years before slowly being deserted and ruined after Akbar left the city due to a scarcity of water



Day 5: Jaipur Meals: B

After breakfast, make a brief photo stop at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) from the outside. Tourists are unable to enter so you will view it from the busy road opposite. Next, take a jeep ride from the bus park to the entrance of Amber Fort. Please note that sightseeing here will be approximately an hour and a half and there are a number of steps inside the fort.



This afternoon, pay a visit to Maharaja's City Palace and Jantar

Mantar, followed by a visit to a nearby craft centre for the opportunity to try your hand at block printing and carpet weaving.

# **Destination Information**

Jaipur - Some parts of the road are very rough so the journey takes most of the afternoon. Jaipur was founded in 1727 as Mughal power within India was declining. The then Maharaja Jai Singh moved his capital from Amber Fort down onto the plain below. The city is now the capital of Rajasthan State and commonly called the 'Pink City' because of the pink paint on all the buildings in the old city area. This was apparently done to imitate the magnificent, red sandstone buildings of the Mughals and in an attempt to impress the Prince of Wales when he visited Jaipur in 1876.

**Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds)** - A five-story palace erected in 1799 by the Sawai Pratap Singh so that the veiled ladies of his harem could observe, unnoticed, the lively street scenes below.

**Amber Fort** - Built from yellow and pink sandstone and white marble, Amber Fort was constructed in the 16th century by Raja Man Singh. Inside the fort visit the Hall of Victory, which houses the famed Sheesh Mahal.

**Maharaja's City Palace** - A former royal residence located in the heart of the Old City. Part of the building has been converted into a museum, while the royal family of Jaipur still uses the remaining sections of the palace as a private residence.

**Jantar Mantar Observatory** - The largest stone and marble crafted observatory in the world is located just outside the City Palace. The observatory has 17 large instruments, many of them still in working condition.

Day 6: Jaipur - Delhi Meals: B

After breakfast, transfer approximately 06 hrs back to Delhi check-in to your hotel upon arrival.





Day 7: Depart Delhi Meals: B

Today after breakfast, you will be transferred to Delhi airport for your onward flight.





# **CLASSIC INDIA - TRAVEL INFORMATION**

# **VISAS:**

New Zealand passport holders currently do require a visa to enter India. Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. Your passport needs to be valid for at least six months beyond your intended return date to New Zealand.

Please note: The India Visa cost is not included in our Private Tours pricing. Please contact our reservations team if you would like the Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department to assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. Full details will be advised by Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department.

Please note the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate; Wendy Wu Tours acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa. Your travel consultant will inform you if any changes are applicable prior to your departure.

### **INSURANCE:**

We strongly recommend that you take out a policy as soon as you pay your deposit. Wendy Wu Tours cannot in any way be made liable for any additional cost incurred by the customer on any tour due to the customer not having adequate travel insurance.

We also encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the original

# **EATING IN INDIA:**

Indian cuisine is one of the most influential, diverse, and flavoursome culinary styles in the world. Indian dishes incorporate many spices and seasoning to create an explosion of flavours. Though Indian cuisine can vary greatly from the Indian food we get in New Zealand, it is important to keep an open mind and be adventurous. Breakfast is included in this tour, and there are plenty of options for you to choose from when it comes to lunch and dinner.

Dishes served in restaurants are varied. Some will be vegetable-based with meat mixed in, and a few will be meat-based. Most restaurants are aware of the western palate – there are plenty of non-spiced options.

Please read your travel guide, which you will receive with your final documents for more information about eating in India. We recommend that when it comes to Indian food, you stay open minded and try to be adventurous!



### **ACCOMMODATION:**

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort, or character, and can range from business hotel in one city to a family-run guesthouse in a smaller town or a heritage-type hotel. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality may exist between New Zealand and India. All hotels have private western bathroom facilities and air conditioning where needed. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Guide.

Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

#### **SOUVENIRS:**

We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs, so we include some stops at museums or exhibitions that demonstrates a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places that hold local interest. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance.

# **TIPPING POLICY:**

Tipping in India is customary and an expected element in the tourism industry today as recognition of great service and India is no exception. Many passengers are often uncertain of how much to tip, so we have listed below recommended tipping amounts (also payable in local currency):

Guide: US \$10.00 per person, per day. Driver: US \$5.00 per person, per day.

Porterage: US \$1.00 per usage.

Restaurants: 10% of bill if no service charge is applied

#### **APPROPRIATE DRESS:**

When visiting temples or mosques, both men and women should dress in conservative, non-revealing clothing. Full-length trousers with a shirt or t-shirt for men; and trousers or skirts well below the knee with a top that covers the shoulders and upper arms for women. Women might also consider carrying a 'modesty shawl' in their daypack — this could be a sarong or light scarf — which they can wear over their shoulders and heads to feel more comfortable while sightseeing at mosques. When visiting Jain temples, you must not wear or take in any leather items such as belts, watches, camera straps, purses and shoes.

Religious sites and homes throughout India – for Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Muslims, or Buddhists to name a few – require all visitors to remove their shoes to enter. Even if you then need to walk outdoors, over hot, or rough ground, you will not be allowed to wear shoes. You will often find shoe storage



rooms near the entrance of a site where it is customary to leave your shoes near the entrance. Occasionally there are 'shoe minders' who will offer to keep your shoes safe for a 'tip' — this is not compulsory so each customer can choose to tip for this service or not. If you do not want to remove your shoes, you will have to remain outside. We recommend shoes that easily slip on and off, and carry a pair of thick, old socks in your daypack, which you can wear to protect your feet from any rough or hot surfaces.

## **TRANSPORT:**

Cars: Main and inner-city roads in India have a reputation for being very congested. For this reason, it may not always be possible to return to your hotel after sightseeing to freshen up before going to the restaurant for dinner. Roads in India have generally been improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road - not just one or two kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the sections above are approximations only.

#### LUGGAGE:

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20 kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

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# **VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:**

We recommend that you contact either your Doctor or Health centre for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Safetravel has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful <a href="https://www.safetravel.govt.nz">www.safetravel.govt.nz</a>

# **BEFORE YOU LEAVE:**

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with <a href="www.safetravel.govt.nz">www.safetravel.govt.nz</a> as in the event of an emergency, New Zealand Consular assistance will be more readily available.

Up until the day you travel, it is vital you keep up to date and familiarised with the entry requirements as these can change at short notice. You are personally responsible for completing any entry forms, conducting any covid tests (if necessary), etc and adhering to countries' specific entry requirements.

You can also access the New Zealand Government's travel advisory service for up-to-date information about your destination on the same website.

# **AFTER YOUR BOOKING:**

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice including a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Please note that it can take 2-7 business days to confirm a Private Tour. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

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