



India's Cultural Heartland: Rajasthan to Goa

15 Days / 14 Nights

From Royal India to the Sacred Ganges and the Shores of Goa

Imagine beginning your journey in Delhi, where your first evening in India is marked by the light of an Aarti ceremony and the traditional tika—a symbolic welcome to the experiences ahead.

Then India begins to unfold.

Travel to Jaipur, the Pink City, where magnificent forts rise above the landscape and centuries-old traditions are still part of everyday life. Participating in a Hawan fire ceremony, wander through colorful markets and textile workshops, and end the day with Aarti at Birla Temple followed by a traditional dinner and the rhythms of Rajasthani folk dance.

From Jaipur, the road leads toward one of those moments you may have imagined long before arriving in India: standing before the Taj Mahal.

But this journey doesn't stop at India's most famous places. Continue deeper into the country to Orchha, with its palaces, temples and quiet streets, and then to the extraordinary temples of Khajuraho. Here, the experience becomes more personal as you spend time with a local Hindu family, discover village life and share a traditional cooking experience.

And then, the rhythm changes.

You travel north to Rishikesh, where the Himalayan foothills meet the sacred Ganges. For three nights, yoga and meditation become part of your experience. Visit ashrams, experience sacred river bathing and traditional offerings, walk through Ram Jhula, and as evening arrives, stand beside the Ganges for the glow, sounds and movement of the Ganga Aarti ceremonies at Triveni Ghat and Parmarth Niketan.

After the cities, forts, temples, trains, rituals and sacred river, one final side of India awaits: Goa.

Fly south and exchange the Himalayan foothills for the coast. Settle into your beachfront hotel and spend three nights with time relaxing beside the sea, continue your yoga and meditation practices, and absorb everything you have experienced along the way.

Fifteen days take you through very different worlds of India—from royal heritage and the Taj Mahal to local traditions, Rishikesh and the sacred Ganges, before ending on the shores of Goa.

Journey Highlights

Delhi — Where the Journey Begins: Discover Old and New Delhi, Raj Ghat, India Gate, Bangla Sahib and Akshardham, with an Aarti ceremony and traditional tika marking the beginning of your journey.

Jaipur — Royal Heritage & Living Traditions: Explore Amber Fort, participate in a Hawan ceremony, discover local markets and textile traditions, and end with Aarti and a traditional dinner accompanied by folk dances.

The Taj Mahal: Travel through Abhaneri to Agra and stand before the Taj Mahal, one of India's most celebrated architectural treasures.

Orchha & Khajuraho: Discover Orchha's royal heritage and the UNESCO-listed temples of Khajuraho, followed by a local Hindu family, village and traditional cooking experience.

Rishikesh & the Sacred Ganges: Spend three nights in the Himalayan foothills practicing yoga and meditation, experiencing sacred river traditions, visiting ashrams and attending Ganga Aarti ceremonies.

Three Nights in Goa: Complete your journey beside the sea with time to relax and continue your yoga and meditation practices, with optional opportunities to explore Anjuna Beach or historic Old Goa.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1 — Arrival in Delhi

Your Journey Begins in India

Arrive at Delhi International Airport, where you will be welcomed at the Arrivals Terminal and transferred to your hotel.

As you travel from the airport, your first impressions of India begin to unfold. Delhi is a city where ancient heritage and contemporary life exist side by side, with historic monuments, broad avenues, gardens and modern buildings sharing the landscape.

In the evening, experience your first Indian tradition with an Aarti ceremony, receiving blessings for health, peace and a positive beginning to your journey. You will also be introduced to the tradition of the tika, the sacred mark placed on the forehead.

It is a meaningful beginning to the fifteen days ahead.

Overnight: Delhi | Meals: Breakfast

Day 2 — Delhi

Discover Old and New Delhi

After breakfast, begin discovering India's capital and the different worlds contained within it.

Explore Old Delhi and visit Raj Ghat, the memorial dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi. Continue through the Rashtrapati Bhavan district, home to major government buildings and Parliament, and pass India Gate.

Visit the Salt March Memorial and experience the energy of Connaught Place before continuing to Bangla Sahib, a Sikh temple known for its peaceful atmosphere.

Conclude the day at Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple, experiencing another expression of India's religious and architectural traditions.

Overnight: Delhi | Meals: Breakfast

Day 3 — Delhi to Jaipur

Watch the Landscape Change

After breakfast, leave Delhi and travel approximately 256 km toward Jaipur.

The road provides time to watch India change outside your window and to speak with your guide about the culture, traditions, rituals and history you will encounter during your journey.

Arrive in Jaipur, Rajasthan's celebrated Pink City—a place of royal palaces, forts and centuries of history. Check into your hotel and enjoy time to rest before tomorrow's exploration.

Overnight: Jaipur | Meals: Breakfast

Day 4 — Jaipur & Amber

Rituals, Forts, Markets & Traditions

Begin the morning by participating in a Hawan ceremony, a traditional Hindu fire ritual.

Then travel to magnificent Amber Fort, where Mughal and Hindu architectural traditions come together within a complex of palaces, courtyards, temples and gardens.

Later, return to Jaipur and explore its local markets and textile workshops, discovering some of the craftsmanship and traditional designs associated with the city.

As evening approaches, attend Aarti at Birla Temple. The day concludes with a traditional dinner accompanied by the folk dances of Jaipur.

An optional elephant or jeep ride for the ascent to Amber Fort may be available, subject to regulations.

Overnight: Jaipur | Meals: Breakfast

Day 5 — Jaipur to Abhaneri to Agra

The Road to the Taj Mahal

After breakfast, leave Jaipur and travel toward Agra, stopping along the way at Abhaneri.

Continue to Agra, where one of the defining moments of your journey awaits. In the afternoon, enter the grounds of the Taj Mahal.

Built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal, the white-marble monument took 22 years to complete. Take time to absorb its scale, symmetry and craftsmanship and experience for yourself a monument you may have seen in photographs countless times before.

Afterward, settle into your hotel in Agra. The Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays.

Overnight: Agra | Meals: Breakfast

Day 6 — Agra to Jhansi to Orchha

Deeper Into India's Cultural Heartland

After breakfast, transfer to the railway station and board the Shatabdi Express, scheduled to depart at approximately 8:10 AM and arrive in Jhansi around 10:45 AM.

From Jhansi, continue by road to Orchha.

Here the atmosphere changes again. Explore a historic town shaped by the Bundela Rajputs, with palaces, temples, cenotaphs and rustic streets that reveal another chapter of India's architectural and royal history.

Overnight: Orchha | Meals: Breakfast

Day 7 — Orchha to Khajuraho

Temples, Village Life & Local Connection

After breakfast, travel to Khajuraho and discover its UNESCO-listed temple complex.

Explore temples including Kandariya Mahadeva, Chitragupta, Vishwanath, Lakshmana, Vishnu Garuda and Chausath Yogini, observing the intricate sculptures for which Khajuraho has become internationally known.

In the afternoon, the experience becomes more personal. Visit a local Hindu family, experience village life, learn about the caste system and participate in a traditional cooking session.

It is an opportunity to encounter India not only through monuments, but through people and everyday life.

Overnight: Khajuraho | Meals: Breakfast

Day 8 — Khajuraho to Delhi

One Last Morning in Khajuraho

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before spending the morning visiting local markets and temples.

In the afternoon, prepare to board the train to Delhi, scheduled to depart at approximately 2:40 PM and arrive around 11:00 PM.

Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel and rest. Tomorrow, the journey changes direction as you travel toward the Himalayan foothills.

Overnight: Delhi | Meals: Breakfast

Days 9–11 — Delhi to Rishikesh

Where the Ganges Meets the Himalayan Foothills

Leave Delhi early in the morning and travel approximately five hours toward Rishikesh, internationally known for its association with yoga and situated beside the sacred Ganges River.

These three nights introduce a very different rhythm to your journey.

Practice yoga and meditation beside the Ganges, experience sacred river bathing and traditional offerings to the Sun and Lord Shiva and visit local ashrams. There may also be opportunities to meet spiritual gurus, subject to their availability.

Explore Ram Jhula and local markets, observing the everyday life that unfolds around this spiritual center.

In the evenings, experience Ganga Aarti ceremonies at Triveni Ghat and Parmarth Niketan, where fire, prayer and the flowing river create one of Rishikesh's most distinctive traditions.

Here, you have time not simply to see Rishikesh, but to experience its relationship with the river, yoga and India's living spiritual traditions.

Overnight: Rishikesh | Meals: Breakfast

Days 12–14 — Rishikesh to Goa

From the Sacred Ganges to the Sea

After a healthy breakfast, transfer to Dehradun Airport for your flight to Goa via Delhi.

Within the course of a day, the landscape changes dramatically. The Himalayan foothills and sacred Ganges give way to India's western coast. Upon arrival in Goa, transfer to your beachfront hotel and settle into a completely different rhythm.

Spend the following days relaxing along the seashore, enjoying the beauty and tranquility of Goa's beaches while continuing your yoga and meditation practices.

After the temples, cities, rituals and experiences of the previous days, these final nights offer time for relaxation, introspection and cultural exploration.

Optional experiences at additional cost include water sports at Anjuna Beach or an excursion to Old Goa to discover its historic churches and monuments.

Overnight: Goa | Meals: Breakfast

Day 15 — Goa to Delhi

One Last Look at India

After breakfast, transfer to Goa Airport for your domestic flight to Delhi.

Upon arrival, proceed to Terminal 3 for your international connection home.

Your journey has taken you from Delhi and the royal heritage of Jaipur through the Taj Mahal, Orchha and Khajuraho; from the sacred Ganges and yoga traditions of Rishikesh to the shores of Goa.

Fifteen days. Many different faces of India. One journey connecting them all.

Meals: Breakfast

Your Journey Includes

- 14 nights accommodation with daily breakfast
- Airport assistance and transfers
- Private air-conditioned transportation with driver
- Entrance fees according to the itinerary
- English-speaking guide; guided touring is not required in Goa
- Daily bottled mineral water
- Rickshaw ride in Old Delhi
- One traditional dinner with cultural dances
- Agra–Jhansi Shatabdi Express train ticket in Executive Chair Car
- Hindu cooking class and village/family experience
- Yoga and meditation experiences in Rishikesh
- Aarti and Hawan experiences according to the itinerary
- Ganga Aarti experiences in Rishikesh
- Applicable taxes and tolls

✈ Includes domestic flights Dehradun–Goa / Goa–Delhi

What's Not Included

- Beverages not specifically mentioned
- Excess baggage charges
- Tips and portage
- Personal expenses
- Optional activities in Goa
- Costs arising from cancellations or circumstances beyond the operator's control
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Proposed Hotels

Destination	Nights	Hotel
Delhi	2	Park Plaza Shahdara or similar

Jaipur	2	Sarovar Premiere or similar
Agra	1	Royal Sarovar or similar
Orchha	1	Amar Mahal or similar
Khajuraho	1	Syna Heritage or similar
Delhi	1	Park Plaza Shahdara or similar
Rishikesh	3	Vasundhara Palace or similar
Goa	3	La Cabana or similar

Hotels are subject to availability. If a proposed hotel is unavailable at the time of booking, a hotel of a similar category may be provided.

Before You Travel

- The Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays.
- Akshardham Temple is closed on Mondays.
- Hotels are subject to availability.
- Standard hotel check-in is 2:00 PM and check-out is 12:00 PM.
- Early check-in is subject to availability.
- Travel times are approximate and may vary.

India Visa

Travelers are responsible for obtaining the appropriate visa for India. Visa requirements and processing times may change, so please review current requirements and apply through the official Government of India e-Visa website before travel.

Official Government of India e-Visa: indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html

Ready to Experience the Many Layers of India?

Journey from India's cultural heartland to Rishikesh and the sacred Ganges, then complete your experience on the shores of Goa.