



VARANASI & BODHGAYA: SACRED HEART OF INDIA

10-Day India Journey Through Delhi, Agra, Varanasi & Bodhgaya

Delhi • Agra • Varanasi • Bodhgaya • Delhi

Discover a Different Side of India

There are places you visit that you can see — and others you remember for what you felt while you were there.

Varanasi & Bodhgaya: Sacred Heart of India takes you across 10 remarkable days from the energy and contrasts of Delhi to Agra and the Taj Mahal, then deeper into India to the sacred banks of the Ganges in Varanasi and the historic Buddhist pilgrimage center of Bodhgaya.

This is a journey through India's history, culture, traditions and sacred places.

Experience Delhi's many faces. Stand before the Taj Mahal. Participate in traditional Aarti and Hawan ceremonies. Watch evening rituals unfold along the Ganges. Return to the river in the quiet of the early morning. Walk through the ancient lanes of Varanasi. Visit Sarnath, where Buddha gave his first sermon, and continue to Bodhgaya, where Siddhartha Gautama attained enlightenment beneath the Bodhi tree.

Along the way, the program also introduces traditions and experiences included by our local operator, such as yoga or meditation, mantra practice, opportunities for acts of compassion and volunteering, energy circles, and optional astrology or numerology readings.

You are not coming to India simply to move from one monument to another.

You are coming to experience its people, traditions, history and sacred places — and to discover a side of India that cannot be understood from photographs alone.

See India. Experience India. And discover what stays with you long after you return home.

Trip Details

Duration	10 Days
Route	Delhi → Agra → Varanasi → Bodhgaya → Delhi
Group Size	Minimum 10 travelers
Meals	Breakfast daily
Transportation	Private luxury vehicle
Guide	English & Spanish-speaking guide

Your Journey Includes

- 9 nights of accommodation in planned hotels or similar
- Daily breakfast
- Private luxury transportation with driver
- Airport assistance, welcome with garlands and hotel transfer
- Entrance fees for visits included in the itinerary
- English & Spanish-speaking guide
- 24/7 assistance in Spanish
- One bottle of mineral water per person, per day
- Rickshaw experience through the traditional streets of Old Delhi
- One dinner with traditional Indian dances
- Transportation from Agra to Varanasi
- Village visit to learn about Hindu caste traditions
- Hindu cooking class
- Visit with a Hindu family
- All applicable taxes and tolls

Domestic flights from Bodhgaya to Delhi included

Journey Details

Day 1 — Arrival in Delhi

Your First Encounter with India

Arrival at Delhi International Airport, where you will be welcomed and transferred to your hotel.

As you make your way into India's capital, your first impressions begin to unfold. Delhi is a city where different eras exist side by side — modern buildings and bustling streets alongside monuments and reminders of an ancient past.

Your journey begins with an Aarti ceremony, a traditional way of asking for blessings, good health and tranquility at the beginning of a journey or new undertaking.

During the ceremony, a tika — a sacred mark traditionally made with kumkum, colored powder or sandalwood paste — may be applied to the forehead.

It is your first introduction to one of the many traditions you will encounter as you travel through India.

Accommodation: Radisson Blu Dwarka or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 2 — New Delhi

History, Culture & Living Traditions

After breakfast, begin discovering the contrasts of India's capital.

Explore Old Delhi and some of the city's important historical and cultural landmarks before visiting Raj Ghat, the memorial dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi.

Continue through the Rashtrapati Bhavan district, home to important government buildings and Parliament, and see India Gate and the Salt March monument.

Visit Connaught Place, one of Delhi's best-known commercial centers, before experiencing another side of the city at Bangla Sahib, the beautiful Sikh temple where visitors encounter an important part of India's living religious traditions.

The day concludes with a visit to the remarkable Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple, an extraordinary expression of Indian architecture, culture and tradition.

Accommodation: Radisson Blu Dwarka or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 3 — Delhi to Agra

Toward the City of the Taj Mahal

After breakfast, leave Delhi and continue toward Agra.

In the afternoon, visit Mother Teresa's Mission and take a walk through the traditional markets of Old Agra.

Beyond its famous monument, Agra is a living city filled with everyday rhythms, markets and traditions — an opportunity to experience another side of India before tomorrow's visit to one of the world's most celebrated landmarks.

Accommodation: Royal Sarovar or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 4 — Agra

Tradition & the Timeless Taj Mahal

The morning begins with a Hawan ceremony, a traditional Hindu fire ritual included as part of your experience in Agra.

Later, one of India's most unforgettable sights awaits.

Visit the magnificent Taj Mahal, the white-marble monument created by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal.

Its perfect symmetry, carved domes, intricate inlay work and luminous marble have made it one of the world's most recognized architectural masterpieces.

Yet standing before it is completely different from seeing it in photographs.

Take your time. Look at the details. Walk through the grounds. And experience for yourself the monument that has become one of the enduring symbols of India.

Accommodation: Royal Sarovar or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5 — Agra to Varanasi

Welcome to Varanasi

After breakfast, continue your journey from Agra to Varanasi, one of India's most extraordinary cities.

By sunset, make your way to the banks of the Ganges River.

Board a boat as the ghats begin to fill with pilgrims, worshippers and the sounds of evening prayer.

Then experience the beautiful Ganga Aarti, one of Varanasi's most important rituals.

Light, movement, prayer and devotion transform the riverfront as a centuries-old tradition unfolds before you.

From the boat, observe the ghats, rituals and pilgrims gathered along the Ganges.

The evening concludes with a rickshaw ride along the ghats, allowing you to experience the energy of Varanasi from another perspective.

Accommodation: Om Vilas or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 6 — Varanasi

Sunrise on the Ganges

Before the city fully awakens, return to the Ganges River for an early-morning boat ride.

From the water, witness the ghats, ritual bathing areas and cremation grounds as Varanasi begins another day.

Millions of pilgrims come to the Ganges to participate in traditions that have been practiced for generations. From the river, you have the opportunity to observe a side of India where faith and everyday life exist together.

Continue on foot through the narrow lanes of Varanasi's old city.

After returning to the hotel for breakfast, travel to Sarnath, where Buddha gave his first sermon after attaining enlightenment.

Visit the ruins, Stupa, Buddhist Temple and Museum and discover a place that was an important center of Buddhist learning for centuries.

Accommodation: Om Vilas or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Days 7 & 8 — Varanasi to Bodhgaya

Where Buddha Attained Enlightenment

After breakfast, continue toward Bodhgaya.

Here you arrive at one of the world's most important Buddhist pilgrimage destinations.

Bodhgaya is the place where Siddhartha Gautama attained enlightenment beneath the Bodhi tree and became the Buddha.

During your time here, visit the Mahabodhi Temple and other temples in this historic pilgrimage center.

After the movement and intensity of Delhi, Agra and Varanasi, Bodhgaya offers another perspective on India's extraordinary cultural and religious heritage.

Take time to explore, observe and experience a place that continues to welcome visitors and pilgrims from around the world.

Accommodation: Marasa Sarovar or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 9 — Bodhgaya to Delhi

Returning to Delhi

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your domestic flight from Bodhgaya to Delhi.

Upon arrival in Delhi, transfer to your hotel, check in and rest.

Your journey has now brought you from India's capital to the Taj Mahal, along the sacred Ganges and to one of Buddhism's most significant destinations.

This evening offers time to rest before your journey home.

Accommodation: Radisson Blu Dwarka or similar

Meals: Breakfast

Day 10 — Delhi to Your Home Country

Until We Meet Again

After breakfast, transfer to the airport according to the schedule of your international flight.

Ten days earlier, you arrived in Delhi ready to discover India.

You leave having experienced the contrasts of the capital, stood before the Taj Mahal, watched ancient traditions unfold along the Ganges in Varanasi, explored Sarnath and walked through Bodhgaya — a place visited by pilgrims from around the world.

The journey ends here.

The memories, encounters and experiences travel home with you.

Bon voyage.

Planned Hotels

City	Nights	Hotel
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Delhi	2	Radisson Blu Dwarka or similar
Agra	2	Royal Sarovar or similar
Varanasi	2	Om Vilas or similar
Bodhgaya	2	Marasa Sarovar or similar
Delhi	1	Radisson Blu Dwarka or similar

Hotels listed are planned accommodations and are subject to availability at the time of booking. If a listed hotel is unavailable, accommodation of a similar category will be provided. Base-category rooms are planned unless otherwise confirmed.

What's Not Included

- Beverages other than those specifically included in the itinerary
- Excess baggage charges
- Porter gratuities at hotels and airports
- Personal expenses and services not included in the program
- Expenses resulting from cancellations or circumstances beyond the control of the local operator

Things to Keep in Mind

- The Taj Mahal is closed every Friday.
- The Red Fort in Delhi is closed every Monday.
- Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple is closed every Monday.
- The boat ride on the Ganges may be cancelled if river conditions or flooding make navigation unsafe.
- Hotels listed are planned accommodations. If unavailable, another hotel of a similar category will be confirmed.
- Hotel classifications follow Indian standards.
- Standard hotel check-in is at 2:00 PM and check-out at 12:00 PM.
- Pricing is based on rates and conditions applicable at the time of quotation. Changes in rates, taxes, service charges or currency fluctuations may affect the final price.
- Additional services requested during the journey must be paid for by the traveler.
- Driving times are approximate and depend on road and traffic conditions.

Experience the Sacred Heart of India

This journey brings together places many travelers dream of seeing — and places that reveal a very different side of India.

From Delhi and the Taj Mahal to the rituals of Varanasi and the Buddhist heritage of Bodhgaya, every destination adds another chapter to the experience.

Come to explore India. Leave with your own story to tell.