

Lotus Destination Management Company

2019–2021 Tour Series



Don't Miss the Best of India's Heartland



**Designed as a
10-day experience,
this tour includes the
following:**

- ▶ 9 overnight hotel stays in our tour cities (Delhi, Jaipur, Agra, Khajuraho, and Varanasi)
- ▶ Group arrival and departure transfers
- ▶ Breakfast daily and bottled water during car transports
- ▶ All transportation and sightseeing/entrance fees
- ▶ English-speaking tour guide throughout the tour and extension
- ▶ Government royalty

Experience the Heart & Soul of India

Uttar Pradesh, also known as “the heartland of India,” is one of the richest historical and cultural regions of India and, arguably, the world. As guests travel from one city to another, they are sure to enjoy the treasures that remain from the reign of the Mughals and maharajas. Blended within these world-famous destinations, travelers will find a rich cross-section of Indian culture, dialects, architecture, spiritual influence, music, dance, art, cuisine, and experience.

We welcome guests to explore this region considered the cultural cradle of India. It is the birthplace of Lord Rama and Krishna and home to the holy site where Buddha delivered his first sermon. Several of India's oldest cities and many of India's most well-known monuments are located here.

Join us for this must-see adventure!





“To other countries, I may go as a tourist, but to India, I come as a pilgrim.” ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

■ DAY 1

Guests arrive in **Delhi**, one of the oldest cities worldwide.

■ DAY 2

In the morning, guests will enjoy a half-day guided tour of **Old Delhi** including the Red Fort, Jama Masjid, and a short bicycle rickshaw ride through Kinari Bazaar. On the way to **New Delhi** for lunch, visit the Raj Ghat, the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi. Following lunch, the tour continues into New Delhi with stops at Humayun’s Tomb, Qutab Minar, the President’s House, and the India Gate.

■ DAY 3

Following breakfast, guests depart for the 5-hour ride to **Jaipur**. Upon arrival in Jaipur, check in at the hotel with the afternoon and evening spent exploring the city.

■ DAY 4

Following breakfast at the hotel, guests will tour the Amber Fort, a visit that includes an elephant ride. In the afternoon, they will visit the **Pink City**’s famous City Palace and the Observatory.

■ DAY 5

Following breakfast, guests depart for the 4-hour ride to **Agra**. En route, guests will stop at the Fatehpur Sikri. Built between 1569 and 1585, Fatehpur Sikri was intended to be the joint capital with Agra. However, it was soon discovered that the water system could not support any residents. It remained untouched for over 400 years.

■ DAY 6

Following breakfast, take a guided tour of the Taj Mahal, “the epitome

of love.” Mughal emperor Shah Jahan built this monument in memory of his beloved wife. Later in the day, visit the Agra Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

■ DAY 7

Following an early breakfast, guests will transfer to the railway station to board a train for **Jhansi**. Upon arrival, they will begin the 5-hour drive to **Khajuraho**. En route, we will visit Orcha, home of the impressive Ram Raja Temple.

■ DAY 8

Following breakfast, guests will enjoy a morning tour of **Khajuraho**, including stops at some of the most beautiful medieval temples in India. In the afternoon, guests will transfer to the airport for the flight to **Varanasi**. Upon arrival, they will visit the Dashaswamedh Ghat for the glittering aarti ceremony as lamps

are set ablaze at the edge of the holy Ganges River. Here, guests can also visit the local markets to shop for spices, souvenirs, and the work of local artisans.

■ DAY 9

Following an early breakfast, guests will take a boat ride on the Ganges River to observe people praying and bathing. This will be followed by a walk along the southernmost embankment of the Ganges, a mystical spot of sacred temples and holy ponds. Later in the day, guests will visit Sarnath, the location where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. In the afternoon, transfer to the airport for the return flight to **Delhi**.

■ DAY 10

Guests will transfer to the **Delhi** airport for their return flights.

Lotus Destinations Pvt. Ltd.

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