



### **Mahatma Gandhi – (1869 – 1948)**

One of the pivotal figures, if not the main figure who shaped India's history up to independence in 1947

"Be the change you want to see in the world."

## **INDIA SPIRITUAL TOUR**

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INDIA...a land for all seasons - History goes back to 3,200 BC when Hinduism was first founded. Land of temples, land of the devout. Land of everlasting love. Enchanting life and lifestyles. Nature's splendor. Timeless legends. Charming myths. Eternal truth. Emperors. And Gods .....

#### **Itinerary:**

**DAY 01 : Welcome to India** at New Delhi Indira Gandhi International Airport. Transfer to hotel. India's capital, major gateway to the country, metropolis combines ancient and modern with its strategic location and prime reason why dynasties chose it as seat of power. It is not surprising then, that what constitutes Delhi today is a conglomerate of seven cities.



**DAY 02: NEW DELHI – JAIPUR.** Half day Delhi tour, includes visits to monuments:

- **Red fort :** Opulent fort and palace of Mughal Empire;
- **Qutab Minar :** 11th century victory tower rises to height of 73 metres;
- **India Gate :** memorial in honour of India Troppos who fought in the Afghan war 1919
- **President and Parliament Houses,** official residence of President of India.

**DAY 03 : JAIPUR :** Tour Amber fort in ancient capital of Jaipur state. Construction of the palace in 1592 by Raja Man Singh and later extended and completed by Jai Singh before he moved to Jaipur. Elephant ride up and jeep ride down. Sightseeing Pink City to visit monuments and sites.

- **City Palace Museum:** imposing blend of traditional Rajasthan and Mughal art, collection of robes of Royal Princes, in an accurate observatory built in 1726 AD.
- **Hawa Mahal (Palace of Wind):** 5-storied wonder. Spectacular pyramid façade, overhanging windows with latticed screen, domes and spires.
- **Jantar Mantar:** Observatory, built by Jai Sing in 1728. Overnight at hotel in Jaipur



**DAY 04: JAIPUR – AGRA.** En-route visit Fatehpur sikri, deserted sandstone city built by emperor Akbar, most perfectly preserved complete Mughal palace city of all. Although only ruined walls remain, the magnificent palace complex still stands. Elaborately carved red sandstone is almost as it was 400 years ago. Agra has long been renowned as the city of Taj. Royal Mughal City has many magnificent monuments epitomizing high point of Mughal architectural achievement with a heritage of architectural cultural splendor. Afternoon visit to Taj Mahal and Agra Fort.

- **Taj Mahal:** Built by Shah Jehan for his queen Mumtaz Mahal. Construction believed to have taken 22 Years to complete with over 20,000 craftsmen toiling round the clock.
- **Agra Fort:** Ramble around unkempt high walls and a wide moat, up and down staircases and through palace rooms. Spectacular view of Taj Mahal from the Octagonal Tower. Overnight at hotel in Agra.



#### DAY 05 : AGRA – JHANSI – KHAJURAHO

Transfer to Railway Station to connect with train 2002 Bhopal Shatabdi Express. Arrive at Jhansi Junction Railway Station, drive to Khajuraho with an en-route visit to Orchha. Once the capital of Bundela rulers, now a village set among a wonderful complex of well-preserved palaces and temples dating back to 16th century. Many temples, still in use, are visited by devotees to worship at shrine of Rama.

- **Jahangir Mahal :** Impressive size with views of the countryside from the upper levels.
- **Raj Mahal:** The Residents Mahal (Palace).
- **Ram Raja Temple:** Turned into a temple when an image of Rama, temporarily installed, proved impossible to move.
- **Chaturbhuj Temple:** Behind silver doors. Continue to Khajuraho. Check in at hotel. Khajuraho, famous for temples that are India's unique gift to the world, representing, as they do, a paean to life, to love, to joy, perfect in execution and expression. Life, in every form and mood, captured in stone, testifying not only to craftsmen's artistry but extraordinary breadth of vision of the Chandela Rajputs, under whose rule temples were conceived and constructed. Overnight in Khajuraho.

#### DAY 06 : KHAJURAHO – VARANASI -

Visit Eastern and Western Temples.

- **Parsunath Temple :** Jain temple.
- **Ghantai Temple :** depicts 16 dreams of Lord Mahavira's mother.

- **Adinath Temple :** dedicated to Jain Saint Adinath, lavishly embellished with sculptures. *Western Temples*
- **Kandariya Mahodeo :** largest most typical of Khajuraho temples, dedicated to Shiva.
- **Chausath Yogini:** only surviving granity temple period (900 A.D) dedicated to Goddess Kali.

- **Vishwanath Temple:** houses 4-headed image of Brahma.

Transfer to Khajuraho Airport flight to Varanasi Airport. Transfer to hotel.

Varanasi, one of the holiest cities, important pilgrimage site and religious capital of Hinduism since the beginning of time. On banks of sacred Ganges, Varanasi has been a center of learning and civilization for more than 2,000 years. Written records of Skanda Purana and Mahabharata mention its existence as long as 3,000 years ago. Afternoon excursion Sarnath, where Lord Buddha preached his first sermon after enlightenment to reveal the eight fold path, the Buddhists doctrine. Visit Chaukhandi Stupa, Ashok Pillar, Dhamek Stupa, Dharamika Stupa, Dhamek Stupa, Archaeological Museum. Return to Varanasi. Overnight at hotel in Varanasi.

#### DAY 07 : VARANASI

Early morning to Bharat Mata Temple. Take a cycle Rickshaw Ride to Ghat. Sunrise boat ride on river Ganges. Witness Aarti ceremony. Highlight of any trip to Varanasi is multitudes of devotees at the river to pay homage to the Sun God. Ride back to Bharat Mata Temple by cycle Rickshaw.

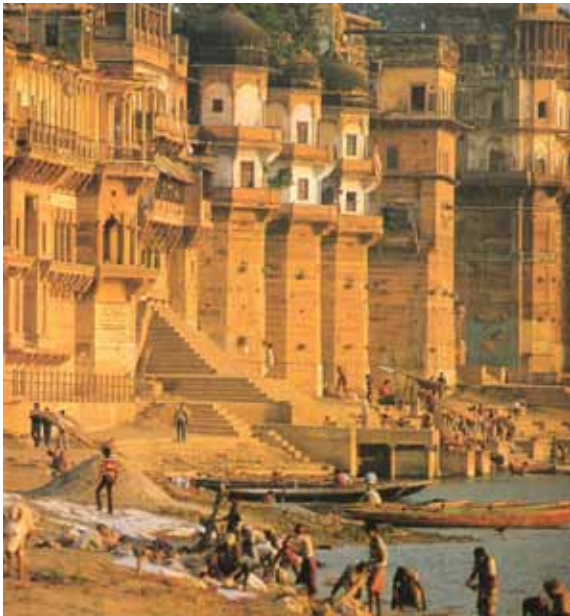
- **Bharat Mata Temple:** Dedicated to Mother India.

- **Kashi Vishwanath Temple:** Dedicated to Lord Shiva, known as golden Temple. Benaras Hindu University. largest and oldest university in north India. Spread over 2,000 acres, university established by Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya. Overnight Varanasi.



**DAY 08 : VARANASI – NEW DELHI**

Flight to New Delhi. Transfer to hotel. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Delhi.



**DAY 09 : DELHI – RISHIKESH.** Drive to Agra. Rishikesh, scenic town located on banks of river Ganges, important access point to famous pilgrim spots of the Himalayas - Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri. Various spiritual centers, and yogic ashrams located here have earned this town the title of "world capital of yoga". Tourists seek spiritual enlightenment and enjoy natural treasures.

Major highlights : Lakshman Jhula, Bharat Mandir, Triveni Ghat, Rishikund, Geeta Bhawan, Swarga Ashram, Trayambakeshwar Temple. Evening at leisure. Overnight at Ashram in Rishikesh.

**DAY 10 - 12 : Rishikesh.** Practice Yoga Meditation Sessions. Overnight Ashram Rishikesh

**DAY 13 : RISHIKESH - DELHI**  
Afternoon at leisure. Overnight in Delhi.

**DAY 14 : DELHI – Back to Home**  
Transfer to Airport for flight home.

**Price Includes:**

13 nights - Sharing Accommodation. HB Basis. Transfers, sightseeing, transport, entrance fees at city monuments as per programme. Service of English speaking local guide. Two daily yoga sessions in Ashram, Rishikesh. Tonga ride to entrance of Taj Mahal, Agra. Elephant Ride (subject to operation). Failing Jeet Ride at Amber Fort Jaipur. Boat ride on River Ganges, Varanasi. Arrival/departure assistance at airports and hotels. Government service tax.

**Price excludes:**

Tips to Driver and/or guide. Any insurance coverage. Expenses of a personal nature – laundry, refreshments or anything not include above. International Airfares

Price: From US\$ 1 100,00 per person sharing  
Single Supplement: US\$ 460,00  
Airfare: Khajuraho – Varanasi – Delhi  
From US\$ 250,00 Dependant on flights and availability.

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