



HIGHLIGHTS OF INDIA

Classic Tour | 19 Days | Physical Level 2

Delhi – Agra – Khajuraho – Varanasi – Jaipur – Jodhpur – Udaipur – Bundi –
Ranthambore - Delhi

From the desert forts of Rajasthan, past the magnificent Taj Mahal and on to holy Varanasi – this tour covers many of India's incredible highlights, incorporating an exciting range of destinations that are sure to leave you with a profound sense of respect for this wonderful country.

- Discover the colourful bazaars of Delhi
- Marvel at the magnificent Taj Mahal
- Visit the Imposing Mehrangarh Fort
- Soak up the romance of the city of Udaipur
- Cruise the river Ganges

TOUR MAP



HIGHLIGHTS OF INDIA TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation, train tickets and transfers
- English speaking National Escorts (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides
- India e-visa fees for New Zealand passport holders
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Safe and secure with IATA

The only things you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

CLASSIC TOURS:

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of India on an excellent value group tour whilst travelling with like-minded people. The tours are on a fully-inclusive basis so you'll travel with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

PHYSICAL LEVEL 2:

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. 'Highlights of India' is rated 2 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 trains, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time
- Sightseeing at nearly all the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing several steps, often without handrails
- You will be required to get on and off various trains, rickshaws, domestic flights, boats and safari vehicles throughout the tour
- The tour involves early morning starts and days with particularly long journey times

Of course, our National Escorts and 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.

JOINING YOUR TOUR:

The tour is 19 days in duration including return international flights or 17 days in duration based on 'Land Only'.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour, or when booking pre and post night accommodation with Wendy Wu Tours.

Join the tour on Day 2 in Delhi and end the tour on Day 18 in Delhi. An informal Welcome Dinner will be held on Day 2 of the itinerary. If you miss this due to your arrival time, all information will be provided to you at breakfast the following morning.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1-2: Arrive Delhi

Meals: D

Fly to Delhi for a two-night stay. Your National Escort or Local Guide from Wendy Wu Tours will meet you at the Delhi International Airport in the Arrivals Hall. Together with other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, you will transfer 45 minutes to your hotel and check-in.

Early check-in is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.



Destination Information

Delhi - As the capital of India, Delhi is the third largest city with a population of approximately 18million people. 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 3: Delhi

Meals: B, L,D

This morning the tour introduction will either be held in the hotel or on the coach.

After your breakfast we will embark on a full-day of sightseeing around Old and New Delhi, involving approximately 3 hours on foot.

Travel approximately 40 minutes to Khari Baoli Spice Market and enjoy a rickshaw ride before visiting Jama Masjid.



Next, head to Lakshmi Marayan Hindu Temple, followed by a brief photo stop at India Gate. Drive past Rashtrapati Bhavan and Parliament House. End your day with a visit to Qutab Minar and the Iron Pillar.

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.

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

Rashtrapati Bhavan – The official residence of the President of India.

Quatab Minar – Built in the 12th Century, this tower of victory is gracefully hand-carved along its entire height of 73m.

Day 4: Delhi - Agra

Meals: B, L, D

Drive approximately 4 hours to Agra and discover the magnificent Agra Fort. Sightseeing here involves approximately 60 Minutes on foot with some steps.

Afterwards, pay a visit to the Taj Mahal, where you will board small electric carts to take you to the entrance.

You will have approximately 2 hours here to explore.

Please note, there are 22 steps leading up to the entrance of the main Mausoleum and some smaller steps at the gate and pathways.



For admission to the main mausoleum area, you are required to wear shoe covers (these may be provided on site, but be prepared to bring an additional pair of socks).

This evening, enjoy a live musical drama, “Mohabbat the Taj”, a show depicting the romantic love story of Emperor Shahjahan and his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. This is a true Bollywood experience.

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.

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 favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died in 1631.

Mohabbat The Taj - A mesmerising show, which depicts the immortal love of Shah Jahan for his beautiful wife, Mumtaz Mahal, whose death during childbirth inspired him to build the Taj Mahal.

Day 5: Agra to Khajuraho

Meals: B, L, D

Transfer to the train station to board the Shatabdi Express train to Jhansi station. Your train journey will take approximately 3 hours. From here, drive approximately 3.5 hours to Khajuraho and visit the medieval city of Orchha en-route, where sightseeing will take up to 2 hours. This evening, you will enjoy a cultural dance performance.



Please note: As your train is a day train, your seats will be in an AC Chair Car. More than likely you will not be able to purchase any food or drink on the train, so if you need snacks make sure to pre-purchase them before boarding. The train carriages are shared, so please always be aware of your belongings.

Destination Information

Orchha - A medieval city famous for its palaces and temples built by the Bundela rulers in the 16th century. Jehangir Mahal, a tiered palace, is crowned by graceful cenotaphs, and commands a spectacular view of soaring temple spires.

Khajuraho - A small village well known for its UNESCO World Heritage listed sculptured temples dedicated to Shiva, Vishnu, and Jain religions.

Day 6: Khajuraho to Varanasi

Meals: B, L, D

This morning, drive approximately 15 minutes to the Khajuraho temples. You will spend 3 hours here exploring the Vamana Temple and the Javari Temple before boarding your flight to Varanasi.



Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel for check-in. This evening, enjoy rickshaw ride through the streets of Varanasi to the ghats of the River Ganges, where you will witness the Puja Ceremony of Ganga Aarti. Please be prepared for many crowds through the streets, especially leading up to the ghats, and remember to wear closed toe shoes. Aarti at the River Front involves approximately 60 Minutes on foot with some steps.

Please note it would be unwise to wander around Varanasi without your National Escort or Local Guide at night as there have been reports of pickpockets operating in the area. Always speak to your National Escort or Local Guide before making your own arrangements in Varanasi.

Destination Information

Western Group of Temples - The Khajuraho temples were built by the Chandella rulers between AD 900 and 1300 and are scattered over 23km sq. Originally a group of 85, they are the largest group of Hindu and Jain temples in the world, although only about 25 of them remain today. Tour the Western Groups of temples, the most important is the Kandariya Mahadevo Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva.

Eastern Group of Temples - The Eastern group represent some of the finest Jain temples including Parsvanatha which is known for its carvings of celestial beauties (sura-sundaris), along with the Adinath and Ghantai temples. We also see the Hindu temples including the Vamana Temple, dedicated to Lord Vamana, the dwarf incarnation of Lord Vishnu, as well as the Javari Temple.

Varanasi - The religious capital of Hinduism, Varanasi is the oldest living city in India as well as one of the world's most ancient cities. Colourful and chaotic, Varanasi is a fascinating city to discover. Located along the western banks of the Ganges, devotees travel to the city to pray and wash away their sins in the holy river.

Puja Ceremony of Ganga Aarti - An evening ceremony conducted on the banks of the river Ganges. Aarti means divine light, and this ceremony is filled with song, prayer and ritual.

Day 7: Varanasi**Meals: B, L, D**

Rise early and board your 1 hour cruise on the River Ganges to view the ghats at sunrise. Afterwards, return to your hotel for breakfast then spend the remainder of the day with some leisurely sightseeing around Varanasi.

Visit the Bharat Mata Mandir, Durga Temple and Vishwanath Temple before driving past Banaras Hindu University, the largest residential university in Asia.



This afternoon, travel approximately 40 minutes to Sarnath to visit the Buddhist sacred sites. Sightseeing today involves approximately 3 hours on foot.

Destination Information

Ghats of Varanasi - The ghats are the long stretch of steps leading down to the water on the western banks of the River Ganges. Most are used for bathing, but there are some 'burning ghats' where public cremations are held. Please note that it is inappropriate to take photos of any burning ghats, as this is a funeral ceremony.

Bharat Mata Mandir - A unique temple dedicated to Bharat Mata (Mother India) which houses a relief map of India, carved out of marble.

Durga Temple - Also known as the monkey temple due to the large number of monkeys that have made the temple their home, the Durga Temple is one of the most important temples in Varanasi. Dedicated to the Goddess Durga, the temple was built in the 18th century and is stained red with ochre.

Sarnath - Sarnath is the fabled place where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon to his disciples expounding the principles of Buddhism. The ruins here date back as far as the 3rd century BC.

Day 8: Varanasi to Jaipur

Meals: B, L, D

Transfer to the airport today for your flight to Jaipur.

Upon arrival, transfer approximately 45 minutes to your hotel for check-in. Dinner will be served at a local restaurant this evening along with a traditional dance performance. (Depending on the flight timing for Varanasi – Jaipur sector this dinner in Jaipur might get shifted to next day and on this day dinner would be arranged at the hotel)

**Destination Information**

Jaipur - Known as the 'Pink City' for the colour of the buildings in the old town. 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.

Day 9: Jaipur

Meals: B, L, D

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 the impressive Amber Fort. Please note that sightseeing here will be approximately 2 hours and there are several steps inside the fort.

Later you will visit the Maharaja's City Palace and Jantar Mantar. Sightseeing today will be approximately 2 hours on foot and there are a number of steps within the Palace.

Go on to take part in a turban tying experience before paying a visit to a nearby craft centre for the opportunity to try your hand at block printing and carpet weaving.

Destination Information

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 built in the 16th century by Raja Man Singh. Inside the fort we 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 10: Jaipur to Jodhpur

Meals: B, L, D

Drive approximately 7 hours to Jodhpur this morning and check-in to your hotel on arrival. The afternoon will be at leisure, followed by an early evening walking tour of Subzi Mandi spice market.



Destination Information

Jodhpur - The second largest city in Rajasthan is located at the entrance to the Thar Desert in a region called Marwar. The old city, founded in 1459, is surrounded by a 10km-long wall and situated on a 125m-high hill. The massive Mehrangarh Fort overlooks the city and the red sandstone palaces within the fort form one of the most impressive complexes in Rajasthan.

Day 11: Jodhpur

Meals: B, L, D

Visit the imposing Mehrangarh Fort this morning, which involves approximately 2 hours on foot and some steps of varying difficulty. The coach will drop off and collect passengers at the same point, so anyone unable to complete this portion of the tour may return and wait for the rest of group.

Continue to Jaswant Thada before enjoying an auto-rickshaw ride to a local restaurant in time for lunch. The rest of the afternoon will be at leisure.



Destination Information

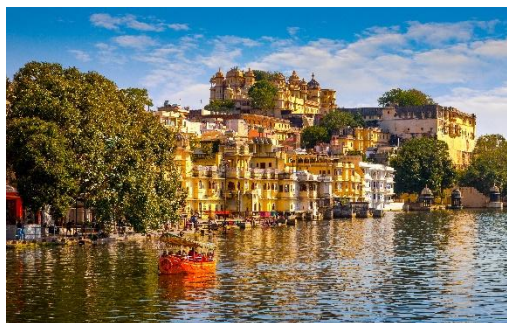
Mehrangarh Fort - Raised 120m above the city's skyline, Mehrangarh Fort is one of the most magnificent and best-preserved forts in India. Within the fort are some magnificent palaces with meticulously carved panels, latticed windows known as Jarokhas. The chambers of Moti Mahal, Phool Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, the Sileh Khana and the Daulat Khana are noteworthy for the splendour and glamour of a bygone era.

Jaswant Thada - A 19th century royal cenotaph built in honour of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II, the 33rd ruler of Jodhpur.

Day 12: Jodhpur to Udaipur

Meals: B, L, D

Drive approximately 6 hours to Udaipur. Afterwards, proceed to your hotel for check-in and spend the remainder of the day at leisure.

**Destination Information**

Udaipur - The origins of Udaipur are based on a legend, which tells of a holy sage that Maharaja Udai Singh encountered while hunting in the foothills of the Aravalli Range in Mewar. The sage told the King to build a palace in that exact spot and it would be well protected and so with this advice, Maharaja Udai Singh built his residence there. Today, the City Palace of Udaipur is still home to Maharaja Udai Singh's descendants who remain rulers of this independent state.

Day 13: Udaipur

Meals: B, L, D

After breakfast, take a drive around the Fateh Sagar Lake and visit the Sahelion Ki Bari Gardens, the Folk Museum and Mewar Art Gallery.

Afterwards, spend approximately 2 hours exploring the City Palace on foot. Please note that some steps at this location are without handrails, so please be cautious.



Go on to embark on a relaxing cruise along Lake Pichola, admiring the city's palaces from the water.

Destination Information

Fateh Sagar Lake - An artificial lake built in 1678 embellished with 3 islands, one which houses a garden café.

Sahelion Ki Bari Gardens - A delightful 18th-century garden retreat in the north of the city built for the Queen of Udaipur, whose dowry included 48 maids.

City Palace - The spectacular City Palace was built in 1725 by Maharana Udai Singh and overlooks Lake Pichola. The Palace comprises of 11 palaces including the Dilkhush Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Moti Mahal and the Palace of Lord Krishna, all of which are ornately decorated. The City Palace also houses the world's largest private collections of crystals.

Lake Pichola - The 4km long Lake Pichola is fringed with hills, palaces, havelis, ghats and temples. The Lake Palace, formally known as Jag Niwas, was built between 1734 and 1751. It was once a royal summer retreat and is now one of the world's greatest hotels. It is also a popular location for film shoots, including James Bond's Octopussy.

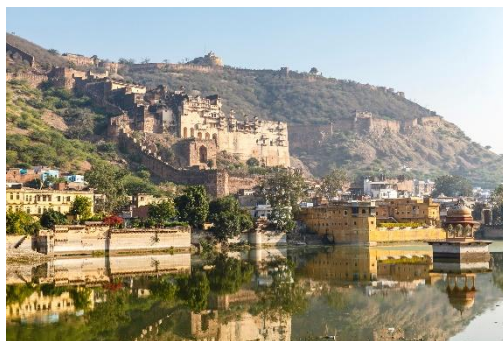
Day 14: Udaipur to Bundi

Meals: B, L, D

Drive approximately 7 hours to Bundi, stopping en route to explore Chittor Fort and Vijay Stambh. One of the largest forts in India, Chittor sprawls across a hilltop overlooking the town of Chittorgarh.

Sightseeing today involves approximately 3 hours on foot and there are a number of steps at the Fort

On arrival in Bundi, take a leisurely stroll through the town and discover the unique stepwells before checking-in to your hotel for an overnight stay.

**Destination Information**

Bundi - A town that is dominated by its immense fort. Within the fort walls is a beautiful palace, Badal Mahal, famous for its painted murals.

Day 15: Bundi to Ranthambore National Park

Meals: B, L, D

Commence the 3 hours drive to Ranthambore National Park. On arrival, check-in to your hotel and spend the rest of the afternoon at leisure.

**Destination Information**

Ranthambore National Park - Is one of the prime examples of Project Tiger's conservation efforts in Rajasthan. The forest around Ranthambore was once the private hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur and is one of the largest national parks in Northern India. Ranthambore National Park is renowned for its tiger population, however you may also come across other wild animals such as leopard, nilgai, wild boar, sambar, hyena and sloth bear.

Day 16: Ranthambore National Park

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy morning and afternoon canter safaris in the national park for the chance to spot the local wildlife. Each safari involves 3 hours driving on uneven and unsealed tracks.

Please bear in mind that there will be no bathroom breaks during the canter safaris. You will need to bring your passport each day to gain access to the park.



Please note: You will need to bring your passport each day to allow entry into the park.

Day 17: Ranthambore National Park to Delhi**Meals: B, L, D**

Catch the early morning train to Delhi, with the journey taking approximately 5 hours. On arrival, transfer to your hotel for an overnight stay and spend the rest of the day at leisure before a farewell dinner tonight.



Day 18-19: Depart Delhi**Meals: B**

This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight back to New Zealand.

Any time before your flight is at leisure. You will be transferred from your hotel to the airport, according to the departure time of your international flight.

Late check-out is not included. Additional nights' before and after your tour can be arranged. Please contact our Reservations team to book.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 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. We will supply you with all paperwork if applicable and submit the visa application on your behalf. Your passport needs to be valid for at least six months beyond your intended return date to New Zealand.

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.

All guests travelling to India must complete a mandatory digital e-Arrival card 72 hours prior to their arrival. The form can be completed and submitted online at indianvisaonline.gov.in/earrival/. Once completed, Travellers will receive a QR code to display upon arrival.

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.

GROUP SIZE:

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by both a National Escort and local guides. On Classic Tours, there will be no more than 28 passengers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu groups while you are travelling. Dedicated Solo Departures have a maximum group size of 18 passengers.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 10 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so. For groups fewer than 10 travellers, departures will operate with local guides only.

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 the NEW ZEALAND, it is important to keep an open mind and be adventurous. All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our classic group tours, from dinner on the arrival day until breakfast on the day of departure. Please be aware that dishes selected for your meals reflect the cooking styles and signature dishes of the local area you are in.

Dishes served in restaurants on our group tours are varied. Some will be vegetable-based with meat mixed in, and a few will be meat-based. Our restaurants are well aware of the western palate – there are plenty of non-spiced options. When eating meals on group tours, you will usually be seated around a large table with other tour members. Dishes will be served in the traditional ‘family style’; meaning that various dishes will be laid out in the centre of the table. These dishes are intended to be shared amongst the group – there is always more than enough to feed everybody.

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!

RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK SAFARI:

To ensure your safari booking at Ranthambore National Park we will require a scanned copy or photocopy of the bio page in your passport along with your deposit. Wendy Wu Tours cannot confirm your safari arrangements without this information.

DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA:

Although India is developing quickly, it still lacks the international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. Concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in the NEW ZEALAND. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in the NEW ZEALAND; for example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade. All of our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and follow advice from your National Escort or Local Guides.

ACCOMMODATION:

Your accommodation has been selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family-run guesthouse in a smaller town or a heritage-type hotel. In remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but do please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the NEW ZEALAND and India. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards are met.

All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and a telephone. 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 National Escort or Local Guide.

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 while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and India is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time. In order to avoid any inconvenience Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your national escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed amongst your main service providers (for example local guides and drivers) throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the national escort.

Any other tipping, such as tips for bathroom attendants or hotel porters that are taking luggage to your room, is at your discretion based on satisfaction of services received, as are gratuities for additional requested special services.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour

TRANSPORT:

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. 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.

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.

LUGGAGE:

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms due to domestic flight luggage restrictions. Excess luggage can be paid locally. 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.

VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

Wendy Wu does not give specific health advice, but we do recommend you see your doctor at least six weeks prior to travel for advice and to allow time for any necessary vaccinations. Please remember to take your itinerary with you. Safe travel has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.safetravel.govt.nz

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.safetravel.govt.nz 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.

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.

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. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

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