GOLDEN TRIANGLE TOUR - 08 DAYS

TOTAL DURATION – 07 NIGHTS / 08 DAYS 03 NIGHTS DELHI / 02 NIGHTS AGRA / 02 NIGHTS JAIPUR

PROPOSED ITINERARY

DAY 01: DELHI

Morning Arrival at Delhi Airport, Assistance upon arrival, transfer to hotel / resort in Delhi, get freshen up and move for **Sightseeing/Visits as per the timings**

The capital city of India, a fine blend of ancient and modern, Delhi city of over 15 million people located on the banks of the river Yamuna in northern India, one of the oldest continually inhabited cities in the world. This city has been the seat of power for several rulers and many empires for about a millennium. Many times the city was built, destroyed and then rebuilt. Interestingly, a number of Delhi's rulers played a dual role, first as destroyers and then as creators. City's importance lies not just in its past glory as the seat of empires and magnificent heritage monuments, but also in the rich and diverse cultures. Delhi's culture has been influenced by its lengthy history and historic association as the capital of India.



This is exemplified by many significant monuments in the city. The Archaeological survey around 1200 heritage buildings and 175 monuments as national heritage sites. Delhi houses to Three UNESCO world heritage sites, and several British Monuments reminiscent of British colonial architecture. In Delhi, you will discover that the city is sprinkled with dazzling gems: captivating ancient monuments, fascinating museums and art galleries, architectural wonders, a vivacious performing-arts scene, fabulous eating places and bustling markets

Outub complex the world heritage site, the layers of cultural, religious, and political history converge in the Qutub archaeological complex. In its beautiful gateways, tombs, lofty screens, and pillared colonnades is a record of a centuries-long history of artistic vision, building techniques, and patronage. It was commissioned by Qutub-ud-din Aibak, founder of the Mamluk or Slave dynasty, who later became the first "Sultan of Delhi". It is important for our understanding Delhi Sultanate is a collective term that refers to the Islamic dynasties that ruled, one after the other, from Delhi. Established in the beginning of twelfth century, a period when new rulers would seek to cement their authority and legitimacy. Apart from the famous Qutub Minar there are many structures in the complex known for remarkable architectural heritage, these



includes the Quwwat ul-Islam Mosque, Alai Darwaza, the Alai Minar, the Iron pillar, the tombs of Iltutmish, Alauddin Khalji and Imam Zamin. The Quwwat-ul-Islam (*Might of Islam*) mosque, also known as the Qutub Mosque of Delhi. It was probably the first mosque built Delhi after the Islamic conquest of Delhi and the oldest surviving example of Ghurids architecture in Indian subcontinent. The iron pillar within Qutub complex is one of the world's foremost metallurgical curiosities. The pillar, 7.21-metre high and weighing more than six tonnes, was originally erected by Chandragupta II Vikramaditya (375–414 AD) around 402 AD, and in the 10th century the pillar shifted to its present location

Qutub Minar "the victory tower", named after the religious figure Sufi Saint Hazrat Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiar Kaki, was begun by Qutb-ud-din Aibak. It was continued by his successor Iltutmish (a.k.a. Altamash), and finally completed much later by Sultan Firoz Shah Tughlaq, a Sultan of Delhi from the Tughlaq dynasty in 1368 AD. Many subsequent rulers, including the Tughlaqs, Alauddin Khalji and the British added structures to the complex. The Qutub Minar was probably inspired by the Minaret of Jam in Afghanistan; an important example Indo-Islamic art architecture. The Minar is 72.5 m (239 ft) high, making it the tallest minaret in the world built of bricks. It has five distinct storeys, each marked by a projecting balcony carried on mugarnas corbel and tapers from a diameter 14.3 m at the base to 2.7 m at the top, which 379 steps away. It is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site along with surrounding buildings and monuments



Safdarjung's Tomb sandstone and marble mausoleum in Delhi. It was built in 1754 for the statesman Safdarjung. The monument has an ambience of spaciousness and an imposing presence with its domed and arched red brown and white coloured structures. Safdarjung was made prime minister of the Mughal Empire (Wazir-ul-Mamlak-i-Hindustan)

when Ahmed Shah Bahadur ascended the throne in 1748. The Safdarjung tomb, the last monumental tomb garden of the Mughals. It was planned and built like an enclosed garden tomb in line with the style of the Humayun's tomb. The main entry gate to the tomb is two-storied and its facade has very elaborate ornamentation over plastered surfaces and is in ornate purple colour. There is an inscription in Arabic on the



surface and its translation reads "When the hero of plain bravery departs from the transitory, may he become a resident of god's paradise"

Lodi Gardens spread over 90 acres, the beautiful gardens dotted with beautiful monuments and tombs, belonging to the Sayyid, Lodi and Mughal dynasties. With its undulating walking paths and fringed with ancient trees, colorful shrubs and flowering plants, the garden's historical past is evidence of how the city's present encompasses within itself a rich past. It contains Mohammed Shah's Tomb, the Tomb of Sikandar Lodi, the Shisha Gumbad and the Bara Gumbad, the unique architectural works of the 15th century by Lodis who ruled parts of northern India and Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of modern-day Pakistan, from 1451 to 1526



DAY 02: DELHI

After breakfast move for **Sightseeing / Visits in Delhi –** We will take you to some different kind of tour **Walking and Car Tours in Delhi.** These tours have been designed by people with a deep understanding of the 'Real' Delhi.

The Masjid-i Jahān-Numā (*Jama Mosque of Delhi*) The principal mosque of Old Delhi. Commissioned I and best-known mosque in India. Construction beg name, Jama Masjid. The courtyard of the mosque car foundation of the historic Jama Masjid was laid c Emperor of India, Shahjahan, on Friday, October 19,7 the result of the efforts of over 6,000 workers, over a *New* Delhi, which stands opposite the Jama Masjid

Old Delhi the walled city has been the capital of numerous empires that ruled India, where you will get the sights of eye-catching monuments and unique structures and sounds of the colourful bazaars. You will experience at one the busiest and oldest areas of the world. This ancient part of the city is a labyrinth of tiny lanes crowded with rickshaws and lined with crumbling 17th-century

haveli, temples and mosques. While walking the lanes of old Delhi you realize every wall has a story to tell. The of these tours theme is the pre-Shahjahanabad period and we will introduce you to the culture, food and people, as well as a look at and feel of some valuable ancient traditions. Visit at Old Delhi Market Chandni Chowk (Moonlight Square) Visit By Cycle *Rickshaws* One busy market that was established centuries ago most known and popular Moonlight Square Market OR Chandni Chowk, when Mughal Emperor Shahjahan shifted his capital from Agra to Delhi. His daughter Jahanara constructed this market square, around which a busy market grew lies in the heart of Shahjahanabad





and established in the 17th century. During this walk, we will explore not just the bazaar, but also the cultural landscape of this area, from Chandini Chowk to Kinari Bazaar (*Wedding Market*) see the real picture of Indian wedding dresses style and jewellery style having long past continue till date. The colourful and interesting street food in this market caters to the preferences of this community (SUNDAY CLOSED)

Palace fort of his capital Shahjahanabad, famous for its massive red sandstone walls, which stand 75 feet (23 metres) high. The fort's construction was completed over a span of ten years, between 1638 and 1648. This monument represents the grandeur of the Mughal Court, which was constructed during the 17th century. Lal Qila was once the residential area of the Imperial Family of India. It was the capital of the Mughal rulers until 1857, when Bahadur Shah Zafar II went in exile after he was defeated by the Britishers. In 2007, Red Fort was designated as a UNESCO world heritage site. The construction of this fort took over 10 years to complete the work in 1648. It was originally called as 'Qila-i-Mubarak', Meaning "The Blessed Fort" (MONDAY CLOSED)

World heritage site The Humayun's Tomb The Tomb of Emperor Humayun the second Mughal ruler to ascend the throne stands as a magnificent testament to the style of Mughal royal mausoleums. This tomb, built in 1560, is of particular cultural significance as it was the first garden-tomb on the Indian subcontinent. It inspired several major architectural innovations, culminating in the construction of the Taj Mahal. The construction of this tomb was commissioned by Humayun's wife Hamida Banu Begum, with the patronage of Humayun's son, the great Emperor Akbar. The grand tomb complex was designed by Mirak Mirza Ghiyas, a Persian architect whom the Begum herself chose. Persian and Indian craftsmen worked together to build the garden-tomb, it is the excellent example of Indo-Islamic architecture. It is far grander than any tomb built before, in the Islamic world. Humayun's garden-tomb is also called the 'dormitory of the Mughals' as in the cells are buried over 150 Mughal family members. The tomb and its surrounding structures are substantially in their original state, Makbara-e -Humayun is one of the best preserved Mughal



monuments and declared as UNESCO world heritage site in 1993

Evening timings get another picture of Delhi with modern culture and traditions. New Delhi OR Modern Delhi, the capital of British India, was built after 1911 AD as a symbol of British dominance over the Indian subcontinent. The intent was to create a grand, monumental, larger-than-life city space, which would inspire awe and be symbolic of the implied socio-cultural, architectural and political superiority of the British Empire few of them are War Memorial India Gate, Passing by President House, Parliament Street and Raj Path

Connaught Place one of the main financial, comme nightlife and tourist spot in New Delhi. The area w third son of Queen Victoria of Britain, Prince Arth elite class living in the New Delhi area which was developed as a showpiece of Delhi. Connaught I Royal Crescent in the city of Bath" England, that d built between 1767 and 1774, which is among the g in the United Kingdom



DAY 03: DELHI – AGRA (210kms / 03hrs Approx.)

After breakfast drive to "Indian Heritage City Agra" – Arrival at Agra and move for Sightseeing / Visit at Agra as per the timings,

Heritage city Agra the prominent tourist destination, one of the most visited places in the world, home of three world heritage sites and one of those heritage sites which the world has chosen to be the "Wonder of the World". Symbolising the eternal love, incredible paragon of Indo-Islamic architecture and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage "The Taj Mahal" millions of travellers visit Agra from all across the world to see the beauty of majestic Taj Mahal and other historical and architectural landmarks lying in the city, the city is primarily witness of Mughal architectural excellence and



their love for structural designs, No trip to India can be considered as complete without visiting this heritage city of India. Agra was founded in the beginning 16th century by Sultan Sikandar Lodī, the ruler of the Delhi Sultanate. After the Sultan's death, the city passed on to his son, Sultan Ibrāhīm Lodī. He ruled his Sultanate from Agra until he fell fighting to Mughal Emperor Bābar in the battle of Panipat fought in 1526

The golden age of the city began with the Mughals. It was known then as Akbarabād and remained the capital of the Mughal Empire under the Emperors Akbar, Jahāngīr and Shāh Jahān. Since it was one of the most important cities in India under the Mughals. Babar, the founder of the Mughal dynasty, laid out the first formal Persian garden on the banks of river Yamuna. The garden is called the Arām Bāgh or the Garden of Relaxation. His grandson Akbar the Great raised the towering ramparts of the Great Red Fort, besides making this city a centre for learning, arts, commerce and religion. Akbar also built a new city on the outskirts of Agra called Fatehpūr Sikrī. Akbar's son Jahāngīr had a love of flora and fauna and laid many gardens inside the Red Fort. Landmarks with historical and architectural significance The Tomb of Mughal Emperor Akbar and Tomb of Itmad-Ud-Daulah was completed during the time of Badshah Jahāngīr, and his son Shāh Jahān, known for his keen interest in architecture, gave Akbarabād its most prized monument, the Tāj Mahal. Built in loving memory of his wife Mumtāz Mahal, the great mausoleum was completed in 1653

Taj Mahal "The Jewel of Indo-Islamic architecture" and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage". Described by Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore as "the tear-drop on the cheek of time", it is regarded by many as the best example of Mughal architecture and a symbol of India's rich history. It was declared a winner of the New 7 Wonders of the World (2000–2007) initiative. Construction of the Taj Mahal began in 1632. The imperial courts documenting Shah Jahan's grief after the death of Mumtaz Mahal illustrate the love story held as the inspiration for Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal complex is believed to



have been completed in its entirety in 1653 at a cost estimated at the time to be around 32 million rupees, which in current times would be over 70 billion Indian rupees. (about 1 billion US Dollar) The construction project employed some 20,000 artisans under the guidance of a board of architects led by the court architect to the emperor, Ustad Ahmad Lahauri (CLOSED ON FRIDAY)

DAY 04: AGRA

Morning Visit at Taj Mahal and get an amazing view at Sun rise, The cool breeze with shade of sun lighht on white Taj Mahal get you the wonderful view of Taj Mahal, drive back to hotel / resort get freshen up and After breakfast move for **Sightseeing / Visit in Agra as per the timings**,

Agra Red Fort world heritage site listed by UNESCO sprawling over an area of 380,000 sq m, the great fortress is situated on the right bank of river Yamuna. This amazing monument linked with many rulers and wars. After the first battle of Panipat in 1526, Babur stayed in the fort, in the palace of Ibrahim Lodi. He later built a baoli (step well) in it. His successor, Humayun, was crowned in the fort in 1530. He was defeated at Bilgram in 1540 by Sher Shah Suri. The fort remained with the Suris till 1555, when Humayun recaptured it. Realizing the importance of its central situation, Akbar made it his capital and



arrived in Agra in 1558. The historian, Abul Fazl, recorded that this was a brick fort known as 'Badalgarh'. It was in a ruined condition and Akbar had it rebuilt with red sandstone. Architects laid the foundation and it was built with bricks in the inner core with sandstone on external surfaces. Some 4,000 builders worked on it daily for eight years, completing it in 1573. Mughal Dynasty holds it until 1638, when the capital was shifted from Agra to Delhi. It was also known as the "Qila-i-Akbari"

Among the major attractions in the fort i palace for his son Jahāngir. It is the larg constructed by Shah Jahān, is a tranqu marble. The Hall of Private Audience (I famous Peacock Throne was once kept t Tower (Musamman Burj), the residence Public Audience (Diwan-i-ʿAm), the emp elegant marble walls of the Khas Mahal depicted by precious gems. Located to it walls and ceilings inlaid with thousand probably used as baths and possibly as a

Itmad-ud-Daulah Tomb one of the most beautiful Mughal tombs. Constructed during the reign of



Emperor Jahangir, this tomb comprises cenotaphs of Mirza Ghiyas and Asmat Begum, who were parents of Mughal Empress Nur Jahan. The mausoleum is named after Mirza Ghiyas, who was given the title Itmad-ud-Daulah, which literally means 'pillar of the state', constructed between 1622 and 1628. The tomb is primarily built in white marble with mosaic and lattice. The tomb stands 21 metres high and features 12 metres tall dome-roofed octagonal minaret at each corner. The main chamber of the tomb is adorned with mosaics and semi-precious stones that are inlaid in white marble. Many believed this monument is considered to be the inspiration behind the Taj Mahal. For this fact it is known as the "Baby Taj Mahal"

Sikandra Tomb the mausoleum of Mughal Emperor Akbar. Interestingly Akbar himself selected the site of the tomb, planned the structure, completed and laid out a beautiful



garden during his lifetime. However, the topmost portion of mausoleum in marble was constructed by his son, Mughal Emperor Jahangir; the shape of tomb is pyramidal and consists of five storeys. The entire tomb is constructed of red sandstone but for the top storey which is constructed in white marble. The

ground floor is surrounded by cloisters except at the centre on the southern side. These cloisters are divided by massive arches and piers divisible into many bays



DAY 05: AGRA – FATEHPUR SIKRI / BAHARTPUR – JAIPUR

After breakfast drive to Ranthambhore, *En-route Visit at UNESCO world heritage sites Fatehpur Sikri* and *Keoladeo National Park*, drive continue – Arrival at Jaipur, free for leisure at hotel / resort

Just around 40 km west of Agra, Fatehpur Sikri (the city of victory) a world heritage site listed by UNESCO, an exceptional testimony to the prime destinations for the excellence of Indo-Islamic architecture founded by Badshah (Emperor) Akbar in 16th century. Its form and layout strongly influenced the evolution of Indian town planning; the capital of the Mughal Empire for around 10 years. The complex of monuments, all in a uniform architectural style, is the typical Mughal walled city, with well-defined private and public areas and imposing gateways. Badshah Akbar had planned this city as his capital but shortage of water compelled him to abandon the city

It is believed that Mughal Emperor Akbar visited the village of Sikri to consult the Sufi saint Hazrat Shaikh Salim Chishti, who predicted the birth of an heir to the Mughal throne. When the prophecy came true, Akbar built his new capital here, complex of monuments, including one of the largest mosques in India and three palaces and many other architectural wonders, Akbar began the construction of a religious compound in honor of the Hazrat Sheikh Salim Chishti. A unique white marble encased tomb of the Hazrat Sheikh Salim Chishti, within the Jama Masjid's courtyard. The single-storey structure is built around a central square chamber, within which is





the Mazar of the Hazrat Sheikh Salim Chishti, under an ornate wooden canopy encrusted with mother-of-pearl mosaic

includes Diwan-I-Am, The complex Diwan-khana-I-khaas, Turkish Sultana's House, The Treasury, Daulat khana-I-khas, Palace of Jodha Bai, Hawa Mahal and Nagina Masjid, The Jami Masjid, and unique Buland Darwaza Buland Darwaza (High Gate) 180 ft high, from the ground, gradually making a transition to a human scale in the inside, it carries inscriptions in the archway, which reads "Isa, Son of Mariam said: The world is a bridge, pass over it, but build no houses on it. He who hopes for an hour may hope for eternity. The world endures but an hour. Spend it in prayer, for the rest is unseen" Jesus was advising his followers not to consider the world as a permanent home and hope for (script) along the top

The heritage town of Fatehpur Sikri, sits on rocky ridge, predominantly in Red Sandstone, three km in length and one km wide and palace city is surrounded by six km wall on three sides with the fourth bordered by a lake. The city is generally organized around this forty meters high ridge, and falls roughly into the shape of a rhombus. The general layout of the ground structures, especially the "continuous and compact pattern of gardens and services and facilities" that characterized the city leads urban archaeologists to conclude that Fatehpur Sikri was built primarily to afford leisure and luxury to its famous royal residents

Just around 60 km west of Agra, on the way to Jaipur, Keoladeo National Park formerly known as the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, recognised as one of the world's most important bird breeding and feeding grounds. It originated in as a royal hunting reserve during the 1850s and was a game reserve for Maharajas and the British. In fact, Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India from 1936 to 1943, shot over thousands of ducks with his hunting party in a single day! In 1982, Keoladeo was declared a national park and then later listed as UNESCO world heritage site in 1985. The park is home to over 370 species of birds and animals such as the basking python, painted storks, deer, nilgai and more. Noted Indian ornithologist and naturalist

worldly things, as human life is of short duration. Verses from the Quran have been carved in the Naskh







Salim Ali used his influence to garner government support to create Keoladeo National Park. It was also known as the breeding ground for the rare and elusive to spot Siberian crane. Keoladeo National Park offers well-defined treks which can be covered on either foot, or cycle or rickshaws. In fact, the park management has trained the rickshaw pullers in bird watching and they make for extremely knowledgeable guides.

DAY 06: JAIPUR

After breakfast move for Sightseeing / Visits in Jaipur - Evening Visit at Chokhi Dhani Village

What UNESCO said about Jaipur

Jaipur's town planning shows an 'interchange of ancient Hindu, Mughal and contemporary Western ideas' that shaped the city, UNESCO statement had earlier noted. The city houses various architectural styles, an example of the amalgamation of cultures

The walled city of Jaipur the gateway of Royal Kingdom Rajasthan, known globally as the Pink City, listed as UNESCO world heritage city. Maharaja Jai Singh, also known as Sawai Jai Singh II, ruled the state from 1743 and 1699 to was a famous mathematician and astronomer. During his rule, India's first planned city founded in 1727, every tiny detail was considered before laying the foundation stone, from the orientation of gates to the manuscript scrawled above each shop, and now this place is only the second Indian city to feature on the prestigious list of world heritage sites. The cuisines, marvellous architecture, natural beauty and loving nature of townsmen would be enough to make Jaipur a unique spot. There are much more to see in this city, packed with rich culture, live history and magical colors at every turn and corners



Looking to welcome the Prince of Wales in 1876, the then ruler of Jaipur, Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh II, re-painted the entire city terracotta pink. The color is meant to symbolize hospitality and also mollify the glaring sunlight. "After the Prince came to visit, all the shopkeepers and households maintained famous pink color, and the " The tradition still continues"

World heritage site The Amber Palace

Set in picturesque and rugged hills is a fascina by Raja Man Singh I in 1592 and completed b and white marble. The rugged forbidding ext and architecture. Amber is the classic and ron of the palace depicts expressive painting scen foreground is the Maota Lake providing a brea

Visit at Elephant Village in Jaipur is definitely one of the most interesting activities. The location of the village which surrounded by the Aravali mountain ranges, adds to the fun and makes it an opportunity and one of the best things to do, time spend with this giant animal and a unique and offbeat activity, memorable moments it is not only by engaging in fun activities with Elephants but an opportunity to interact with beautiful and intelligent animal. Elephants understand a certain language & learn some basics of the language to communicate with the Elephants. Feeding them some sugarcane or bananas, W Painting on Elephant like making a fancy experience one can ride on Elephant on special

City Palace of Jaipur located in the heart of the walled city, the City Palace Complex gives you an idea about the farsightedness of the founde of Jaipur Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh. He left magnificent architecture in the city, City Palace is

World heritage site The Jantar Mantar

An astronomical observation site built in the early 18th century. It includes a set of some 20 main fixed instruments. They are monumental examples in masonry of known instruments but which in many cases have specific characteristics of their own. Designed for the observation of astronomical positions with the naked eye, they embody several architectural and instrumental innovations. This is the most significant, most comprehensive, and the best preserved of India's historic observatories. It is an expression of the astronomical skills and cosmological concepts of the court of a scholarly prince



Hawa Mahal (*The Wind Place*) The poet king Sawai Pratap Singh built this palace of winds. The most well-known landmark of Jaipur and is also its icon. Located in the City Palace complex, it is best viewed from the road outside. This five-storey building overlooking the busy Market street is a fascinating example of Rajput Architecture with its delicately honeycombed 953 pink sandstone windows known as '*Jharo Khas*'

Albert Hall Museum consist of Indo saracenic type of architecture and is designed same as the Victoria and Albert museum which is located in London. The building and the assortment beholds the beauty of the site along with the pillars. The courtyards and the arches of the museum are worth seeing. This Albert museum was created in the 19th century, this museum amazingly houses 19,000 historic objects and has various collections like metal ware, ivory work, lacquer work, jewellery, textiles, pottery carved wooden objects, arms and weapons, clay models , sculptures,





educational, scientific and zoological objects, tribal costumes, ceramics, oil and miniature paintings, inlay work, musical instruments, clocks and marble statues. The museum was designed in the year 1876 by Colonel Sir Swinton just to greet King Edward VII as Prince of Wales on his visit to India

An Egyptian Mummy is the main attraction of Albert Hall Museum. A 2,300-year-old Egyptian mummy was among the rare objects of historical interest which were saved from drowning at the Albert Hall Museum. The mummy, named Tutu, a female member of a family of priests, dates back to Egypt's Ptolemic period from early 300 B.C. to 30 B.C. It was excavated from a pyramid in Akhmim area of the ancient city of Panopolis



Evening Visit at Chokhi Dhani Village the mirror of Rajasthani culture since 1989. Spread over 10 acres of beautifully landscaped area for a rustic look, it is dotted with platforms where different folk artists perform concurrently. A village fair is created every evening as an ongoing celebration of the rich & vibrant cultural heritage of Rajasthan. Started as part of ambiance for a restaurant, over the years it has evolved as a tasteful and authentic symbol of ethnic village life of this most colourful state in the country

DAY 07: JAIPUR - DELHI (270kms / 05hrs - 06hrs Approx.)

After breakfast move for *Optional Sightseeing / Shopping Visits in Jaipur* and drive continue – Arrival at Delhi and transfer to hotel / resort as per the timings,

DAY 08: DELHI

After breakfast move for *Optional Sightseeing / Shopping Visits in Delhi* and transfer to Delhi Airport as per the timings,