

Earthbound Expeditions

Golden Triangle India

6 days, from US$880 per person

Duration	Group size	Country
6 days	**15 people**	**India**

Golden Triangle India Overview

India, Nepal, Tibet and China tour

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This 23-day journey through South Asia begins in Delhi, India, where you visit Agra (the Taj Mahal) and Varanasi (the Ganges). You then travel to Kathmandu, Nepal, and continue overland to Lhasa in Tibet on one of the most scenic highways in the world. The tour ends in Beijing, which you reach on the highest train journey in the world, with a tour of Xi'an included.

This tour saves you time and money and lets you visit three countries in one trip. We designed it for travellers who want to see three distinct Asian countries, India, Nepal and Tibet (China), on a single journey.

On one trip, you see the Taj Mahal and the Ganges at Varanasi in India, the Living Goddess Kumari in Kathmandu, Nepal, and UNESCO World Heritage Sites such as the Great Wall of China, Mount Everest and the Potala Palace in Tibet.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Delhi

Our representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, arrival day Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: None

Day 2

Delhi sightseeing

Today you visit the main sights of Delhi, the Indian capital, including the following. • Red Fort: the Red Fort (Lal Qila) is the finest example of Mughal architecture and combines Hindu, Timurid and Persian traditions. It was built in the mid-17th century by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. Its walls are of red sandstone, and it took almost ten years to complete. Inside are palaces, entertainment halls, projecting balconies and a mosque. The best-known part of the fort is the Hall of Public Audience. • Jama Masjid: this mosque stands above Old Delhi and is the largest mosque in India. It is built of red sandstone and white marble in the architectural style of the Mughal Empire. More than 5,000 artisans worked on it, and it took six years to complete. Among its main attractions are its many relics, including footprints and a red hair from the beard of the Prophet Muhammad. • Raj Ghat: a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi on the banks of the Yamuna River. It is a black marble platform built on the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated. • Chandni Chowk: one of the oldest markets in Old Delhi and a good place to experience the culture of the old city. The street is always crowded with people shopping for spices, dried fruit and saris. You can walk past historic buildings and decorated shops and try the local food. • India Gate: a war memorial to the 70,000 soldiers of the British Indian Army who died between 1914 and 1921 in the First World War. The memorial is built as an arch, and the names of the soldiers who died are engraved on it. It is lit up at night. • Rashtrapati Bhavan: the residence of the President of India, the world's largest democracy. The building was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and was built by thousands of labourers. It opened to the public in August 2012, and visitors can now see its many halls and gardens. It has also hosted many important occasions.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: Breakfast

Day 3

Delhi to Jaipur

After Delhi, we drive to Jaipur, known as the City of Forts. The drive takes about 5 hours through attractive countryside. Jaipur is the largest city in the Indian state of Rajasthan, and its forts are of great architectural and cultural importance. We visit Amer Fort, about 11 km from the outskirts of Jaipur. The fort is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, built of red sandstone and marble, and its palace was once home to the Rajput Maharajas and their families. We also visit the Hawa Mahal, known for its honeycomb pattern of finely carved windows. The Hawa Mahal is best seen early in the morning, when the sunlight falls on its front.

Altitude: 430 m On foot: None, 5 hr drive Night: Hotel, Jaipur Meals: Breakfast

Day 4

Jaipur to Agra

From Jaipur, we drive to Agra, the city of the Taj Mahal. The drive takes about 4 hours 15 minutes. In Agra, you visit Agra Fort, a large fort with a long history. It stands 2.5 km from the Taj Mahal and was built by the Hindu Sikarwar Rajputs.

Altitude: 170 m On foot: None, 4 hr drive Night: Hotel, Agra Meals: Breakfast

Day 5

Agra to Delhi

After breakfast, we drive back to Delhi, which takes about 3 hours 50 minutes. In Delhi, you have dinner with a cultural show.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, 4 hr drive Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 6

Departure

Our representative will take you to the international airport for your flight home.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, departure day Night: No overnight Meals: Breakfast

What's included

- Accommodation at the listed hotels or similar
- Daily breakfast at hotels
- Hotel accommodation in India on a bed and breakfast basis
- An Earthbound Expeditions representative on arrival and departure
- All transport in India by private car and tourist coach or bus
- An English-speaking local guide for sightseeing
- All currently applicable taxes
- All entrance fees and permits
- Guide

Not included

- International and domestic airfares, visa fees, airport taxes and insurance of any kind
- Personal expenses such as drinks, laundry, telephone calls, tips and camera fees
- A car or sightseeing on free days, unless listed above
- Early check-in or late check-out at any hotel, unless listed above

- Costs arising from changes to the itinerary for reasons beyond our control, such as changes to flight and train schedules,
- cancellation of flights or trains, political disturbances and natural events
- Personal expenses such as gratuities, telephone charges, laundry, spa treatments and drinks
- Tips for drivers, guides, hotel staff and representatives
- Porterage at hotels for luggage on arrival and departure
- Camera and video camera fees at monuments
- Anything not listed above as included

Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: earthbound.rajansimkhada.com/golden-triangle-india