



The Golden Triangle & Ranthambore

11 days from only £2,095 per person

India is a country which defies description – a vibrant, mesmerising land teeming with energy and life, whose rich history and unique culture make for a truly memorable holiday experience. The Golden Triangle is an area of Northern India which encompasses all that makes India so special – majestic palaces and forts, colourful, bustling cities, abundant wildlife and ravishing scenery.

Our 11-day Golden Triangle & Ranthambore tour explores the classic Golden Triangle cities of Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, home to the iconic Taj Mahal. An included two night stay at Ranthambore National Park provides the opportunity to search for the elusive, majestic Bengal Tiger. Distant Journeys will also take you beyond the iconic sights as we enjoy a walking food tour through the streets of Old Delhi, experience a rail journey between Delhi and Agra on board the Gatimaan Express and dine with a local family in Jaipur.

With the option of adding an extension to the tour in either Shimla, Varanasi or Amritsar, the Golden Triangle & Ranthambore tour is the perfect introduction to India.



Your holiday includes

Small group touring

- Maximum only 24 passengers

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights
- Fly with Virgin Atlantic from London Heathrow
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- First class and deluxe hotels in great locations
- All hotel portage
- Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals worth £346 per person

- 9 breakfasts
- 3 lunches
- 9 dinners

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Delhi, Agra and Jaipur
- Evening food walk in Old Delhi
- Rail journey onboard the Gatimaan Express
- Visit the iconic Taj Mahal
- Tour of Chand Baori Step Well, Abhaneri
- Interactive cookery lesson and lunch at Umaid Lake Palace
- Tiger talk with naturalist in Ranthambore
- Two safaris in Ranthambore National Park
- Jeep ride and tour of Amber Fort, Jaipur

On the ground

- Services of an experienced local Tour Manager
- All overseas transfers
- Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

100% Confidence

- Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise*
- Your holiday is covered by our Covid Guarantee*
- Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 112-115.



Amber Fort, Jaipur



Ranthambore National Park



Jaipur

The Golden Triangle & Ranthambore

Days 1 to 9: UK - Delhi - Agra - Ranthambore - Jaipur

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart with Virgin Atlantic from London Heathrow for our overnight flight to Delhi. Please note, flight schedules and airline carriers are subject to change. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2: Delhi, 2 nights

On arrival into Delhi, we transfer to the impressive ITC Maurya Hotel. In the evening, we meet our Tour Manager and fellow travellers for a welcome drink, where we will have the opportunity to become better acquainted for our adventures ahead. Dinner will follow in the pleasant surroundings of the hotel. **In-flight meals and drinks and dinner included**

Day 3: Delhi

Delhi, a city combining the very best of old and modern India, is a wonderful introduction to this mesmerising country. Following breakfast this morning, we embark on a fascinating rickshaw ride through Old Delhi, taking in sights as we ride through its streets, including the Red Fort – famed for its opulence, and being the palace of the Mughal Empire in the 1500's. We also visit Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, as well as the lively old-city market, Chandni Chowk. Later, witness the imposing India Gate and striking Parliament House, and further explore New Delhi. Visits include Qutub Minar, a 13th century red sandstone and white marble minaret measuring 75 metres tall, as well as the UNESCO heritage site, Humayun's Tomb, where the 16th century Mughal Emperor lies. It's an action-packed day, concluding with an evening food walk in Old Delhi, where we shall explore the cultural mesh of flavours and Dilli recipes on offer in its many eateries. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 4: Agra, Overnight

This morning, we make our way to the railway station where we board India's historic and first semi-high-speed train, the Gatimaan Express, to Agra. On arrival, we visit Agra Fort, an historical fort which remained the main residence of the Mughal emperors until 1638, before travelling to our hotel, the delightful ITC Mughal Hotel. Located within close proximity of the Taj Mahal, the hotel sits in beautifully landscaped gardens, offering the perfect retreat from the city.

Tour Highlight

This evening, as the sun sets, we venture out to see India's most iconic attraction and testament of love, the Taj Mahal. Commissioned in 1632 by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, to house the tomb of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, this breath-taking complex is said to have been constructed on the banks of Agra's Yamuna River by over 20,000 stone carvers, masons, and artists from across India, Turkey and Iraq. We witness this magnificent monument for a sunset like no other.

Breakfast and dinner included

Day 5: Ranthambore, 2 nights

We leave Agra behind and journey to Abhaneri. Unique to India, Chand Baori at Abhaneri is a 13 storey, 1,300-year-old stepwell, constructed with mind-blowing geometry and aesthetics. Our next stop is Umaid Lake Palace, a tranquil organic retreat nestled in 20 acres of rustic countryside, where we shall venture out with one of the palace's chefs to pick the fresh vegetables required for the day. We shall turn our hand to cooking local delights in their interactive kitchen, and take lunch in the palace's serene surroundings. Afterwards, we continue to Ranthambore, for our next two nights at the charming Ranthambore Regency Hotel. Situated close to Rajasthan's premier national park and surrounded by flourishing green forests, it provides the perfect base from which to explore the park. This evening experience a tiger talk with a local naturalist and learn more about Ranthambore's most famous and imposing inhabitant. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 6: Ranthambore

An early start as we journey into Ranthambore National Park, a former private hunting ground of India's great ruler, the Maharaja. The park is famed for its majestic and elusive tigers, and celebrated for its wildlife conservation. Keep an eye out for marsh crocodiles, sloth bears, monkeys, leopards, sambar deer, and over 250 bird species – all of which inhabit this incredible part of the world. We board our open shared canter vehicle for our first safari, prior to breakfast. We embark on our second safari in the afternoon, to explore a different area of the park in our search for the incredible wildlife roaming the lands and waters of this eminent park. Dinner this evening is at our hotel, when we can reflect on the day's adventures. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 7: Jaipur, 3 nights

Enjoy a leisurely morning at the hotel. Following lunch, we journey to the opulent 'Pink City' of Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan. Our accommodation in Jaipur is the ITC Rajputana Hotel, located in the heart of the city and inspired by the architecture of Rajasthan's traditional havelis. The evening is ours to enjoy in the most perfect surroundings. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 8: Jaipur

Following breakfast, we travel a short distance to meet our waiting jeeps, which will take us to yet another UNESCO World Heritage Site – the magnificent Amber Fort. Set amidst dramatic pink hills and overlooking Maota Lake, the nostalgic Amber Fort is a fabulous example of Rajput architecture. Later this evening enjoy the unique delight of a cookery demonstration, and an exclusive insight into Rajasthani family life with dinner at a family home. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 9: Jaipur

This morning we enjoy a tour of the delightful sights of City Palace, including its complex maze of gardens, courtyards and impressive buildings. We also visit Jantar Mantar, the ancient equinoctial sundial, and stop for a photo opportunity at Hawa Mahal, Jaipur's amazing pink sandstone palace. The rest of the day is ours to spend as we please. In the evening, why not take an optional guided walk and visit the old stables which were converted into a market? Closely observe the gathering of local milk-sellers, promoting their products for the production of delicious Indian sweets, or meander through the neighbouring eateries serving local delicacies. **Breakfast and dinner included**



Hawa Mahal, Jaipur



Presidential Residence, Delhi

The Golden Triangle & Ranthambore

Days 10 to 11: Delhi - UK

Day 10: Delhi, Overnight

Following breakfast, we bid farewell to wonderful Jaipur and journey to Delhi and our overnight stay at the Novotel Aerocity Hotel. We spend our final night in India with new-found friends, sharing tales of our adventures, as we dine together one final time. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 11: Depart Delhi / Arrive UK

We depart this morning for Delhi Airport for our morning flight with Virgin Atlantic, arriving in London later today. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Holiday Extensions from only £545 per person

Why not extend your Golden Triangle & Ranthambore holiday with a stay in the hill station of Shimla? Or perhaps visit Amritsar – home to the spectacular Golden Temple, or even Varanasi – the spiritual capital of India.

Amritsar - from £545 per person

Home to the magnificent Golden Temple, Sikhism's holiest shrine and a worthy rival to the Taj Mahal as India's most spectacular monument, Amritsar offers a beautiful blend of culture, history and tradition.



Shimla - from £745 per person

Sitting in the foothills of the Himalays, Shimla, a thriving hill station, was known as the 'Queen of the Hills'. Travel on the iconic 'Toy Train' to this former summer retreat, which still retains a certain romance for British visitors.



Varanasi - from £695 per person

Situated on the banks of the Ganges, Varanasi is the spiritual home of India and is one of the oldest and holiest cities in the world. A city filled with enchanting mysticism, astonishing temples and sacred waters, Varanasi is both magical and powerful.



Please see pages 56-60 for more details

Departure Dates & Prices

2023 Departures

20 September 2023	£2,195 per person
25 October 2023	SOLD OUT
01 November 2023	SOLD OUT

2024 Departures

25 January 2024	£2,195 per person
04 February 2024	£2,195 per person
21 February 2024	£2,195 per person
06 March 2024	£2,195 per person
15 March 2024	£2,195 per person
07 April 2024	£2,095 per person

Private Touring Supplements

2 guests	£445 per person
3-4 guests	£345 per person
5-9 guests	£245 per person
10-14 guests	£145 per person
15+ guests	No extra charge

Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single occupancy supplement
£495.

Deposit

£500 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,000 per person if travelling Premium Economy and £1,500 per person for Business Class.

Flight upgrades

Virgin Atlantic upgrade to Premium Economy from £995 per person return, or Business Class from £2,795 per person return.

Private touring

Guests choosing a private tour may select their own departure date. Please note, alternative airlines may be considered or further supplements may apply in certain periods when international flight prices are higher.

Visa information

You are required to obtain a Tourist Visa before travelling. For more information on applying for your visa and the associated costs, please refer to our Important Information on pages 108-111.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 112-115.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3731

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.
Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk

