

MERRYGO TRAVELS Pvt. Ltd.

3, MUNICIPAL MARKET, PLAZA OUTER CIRCLE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI – 110001 (INDIA)

PHONES:- (0091) 78 27 25 0010- 11 - 12 TELE/FAX:- (0091-11) 2334 8294

USA- (001) 718 360 2363, UK- (0044) 207 096 0602

Email:- info.merrygo@gmail.com

Web site:- www.merrygotravels.in

Starts - Delhi

Ends - Delhi

Duration – 16 Days/ 15 Nights

Places Covered - Delhi, Varanasi, Agra, Jaipur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Pushkar, Jodhpur & Jaisalmer

“About Delhi: India a land of snake charmers and magicians and the capital of this land of mysteries is Delhi. Delhi is just not a city but a book-- a book which narrates the history of India. The city was built and destroyed seven times and has been witness to the various events which has brought India through the history books. Seven times this city went through the pain of being built and rebuilt. Today as the capital of India Delhi is the seat of administration and the monuments which tell the saga of a bygone era stand there. These icons are testimony to the grandeur of past and also an attraction for the tourists. With an area of 1483 sq. Kms, Delhi is all set to acquire full statehood. The charm of Delhi has attracted Emperors, Conquerors and poors equally. It is correctly said that Delhi is a land of 'Dilwalas' that is for people with heart. This phrase acquires a true color when one goes around the lanes of Delhi. Delhi-- a window to the kaleidoscope that is India.”

Day 01:- Arrive Delhi, meet & assist at the airport & transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Delhi hotel.

Day 02:- After breakfast visit the ancient capital city, with its magnificent Red Fort the pageant of Indian History, from its origin around 1200 BC, through the periods under the Sultans in the 10th century and Mughals from the 14th Century. Then in afternoon visit New Delhi where ornate buildings recall the days when India was jewel in the crown of the British empire. Visit Qutab Minar, India Gate, Humayun's Tomb, Safdarjung Tomb, The President's House, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial, Lotus Temple & Laxmi Narayan Temple. In evening drop at the train station you're your onward train to Varanasi. Overnight in train.

“About Varanasi: Chaotic, Colorful, Charismatic and Claustrophobic- Varanasi's ancient alleyways and the bathing Ghats (river banks) leading to the holy River Ganges are an essential part of India. This is India's Hindu spiritual heartland, a place of pilgrimage, daily devotion and death. Also known s Kashi and Benares, the city of Shiva may be an auspicious place to die, but it is bursting with life.”

Day 03:- Arrive Varanasi. Pickup from the station and transfer to the reserved accommodation. Evening visit the Ghats of River Ganges for a mesmerizing Aarti (Prayer), where every evening at dusk, thousands of devotees and tourists gather on the steps of Dasaswamedha Ghat (River Bank) for

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the Ganges Aarti (Fire worship) ceremony. As the darkness descends, it's a highly charged spiritual extravaganza where oil lamps are lit, bells clang, incense burns and bhajans (devotional prayers) are chanted. Many devotees light a small basket of flowers and set it adrift on the Ganges. Overnight in Varanasi hotel.

Day 04:- Dawn boat ride on Ganges – Of all the experiences in Varanasi, there is nothing quite as humbling as an early morning boat ride on the Ganges. Set your alarm for a pre dawn start. The driver takes you to the Dasaswamedha Ghat or Assi Ghat for the ride. Sitting in your rickety wooden rowing boat, there's an eerie sense of peace on the river until the sunrise bathes the river banks in gold and reveals the moving theater of spiritual devotion. All along the river banks, crowds of people are bathing, performing praying ceremony, praying to the Sun god and washing away the sins of Life. During the day city tour like Vishwanath temple, Banaras Hindu University, Archaeological museum etc. & the Sarnath Temple tour which is 10 kms north east and is a thriving center for Buddhists. During the evening, transfer to the train station for your onward journey by train to Agra. Overnight in Train.

*“**About Agra:** Agra is famous as being home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World - Taj Mahal. The architectural splendor of the muslims, the fort and the palaces are vivid reminders of the opulence of the legendary Mughal empire, of which Agra was the capital in the 16th and early 17th centuries. Though its significance as a political center ended with the transfer of the capital to Delhi in 1634 by the emperor at that time - Shah Jahan, its architectural wealth has secured its place on the international map. A pleasant town with a comparatively slow pace, Agra is known for its superb inlay work on marble and soapstone by craftsmen who are descendants of those who worked under the Mughals. The city is also famous for its carpets, gold thread embroidery and leather shoes.”*

Day 05:- Arrive Agra, transfer to the reserved hotel. Freshen up to witness a whole new city of traditions. Afternoon visit the Red Fort – The rusty Majestic Red sand stone fort of Agra standing on the banks of river Yamuna. The construction was started by Emperor Akbar in 1566. Later at the sunset visit the Magnificent TAJ MAHAL- One of the 7 wonders of the world & surely the most extravagant expression of love ever created. It was built by Emperor Shah Jehan for his beloved wife Mumtaz. Overnight in Agra hotel.

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“About Jaipur: *The capital of Rajasthan is popularly known as the Pink City. It was founded in 1727 AD by one of the greatest rulers of the Kachhawaha clan, the astronomer king Sawai Jai Singh. The pink color was used at the time of making to create an impression of red sandstone buildings of Mughal cities - and repainted in 1876, during the visit of the Prince of Wales. With broad avenues and spacious gardens, this capital of Rajasthan – Jaipur, is steeped in history and culture. Here the past comes alive in magnificent forts and palaces, blushed pink, where once lived the Maharajas (The Kings). The bustling markets of Jaipur, famous for Rajasthani jewellery, fabric and shoes, possess a timeless quality and are surely a treasure-trove for the shoppers. This fascinating city with its romantic charm takes you to an epoch of royalty and tradition.”*

Day 06:- After breakfast drop at the train station to catch you onward train to Jaipur – the fabled “Pink City” of the desert. Arrive Jaipur and transfer to the reserved hotel. In evening, visit the Pink city, Water Palace, Jaigarh Fort & its famous Pink Markets, locally known as Badi Chopar and Choti Chopar. Overnight in Jaipur hotel.

Day 07:- After breakfast visit the famous Amber fort. Ride up on the elephant back to the former capital of the Royals set against the back drop of the wooded hills see the luxurious and decorated rooms of the kings and queens also called as Sheesh Mahal. Later visit the Palace of Winds (Hawa Mahal) an architectural gem which is having hundreds of big & small windows which were used by the queens to greet and see their kings in older days of Purdah system (The women were not allowed to step out in public). Then visit the Jantar Mantar, City Palace and the stone observatory. Overnight in Jaipur hotel.

“About Udaipur: *Udaipur is the jewel of Mewar - a kingdom ruled by the Sisodia dynasty for 1200 years. The foundation of the city has an interesting legend associated with it. According to it, Maharana Udai Singh, the founder, was hunting one day when he met a holy man meditating on a hill overlooking the Lake Pichhola. Overlooking the aquamarine expanses of the Lake Pichhola stands the splendid City Palace - a marvel in granite and marble. This city of Dawn, Udaipur is a lovely land around the azure water lakes, hemmed in by the lush hills of the Aravalis drenched in romance and beauty. Udaipur is a fascinating blend of sights, sounds and experiences - an inspiration for the imagination of the poets, painters and writers. Its kaleidoscope of fairy-tale palaces, lakes, temples, gardens and narrow lanes strewn with stalls, carry the flavor of heroic past, epitomizing valor and chivalry.”*

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Day 08:- After breakfast drop at the train station to catch a train to Udaipur – The city of Lakes & Palaces. Arrive Udaipur and transfer to the reserved Hotel. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 09:- After breakfast morning city tour covering The Lake Palace, City Palace museum, Jagdish Temple, Sahelion ki Bari (Queen's resort for their friends), Bhartiya lok Kala Mandir & the Pratap Memorial. Overnight in Hotel.

“About Ajmer:- Ajmer is an oasis wrapped in the green hills. The city was founded by Raja Ajay Pal Chauhan in the 7th Century A.D. and continued to be a major centre of the Chauhan power till 1193 A.D., when Prithviraj Chauhan lost it to Mohammed Ghauri. Since then, Ajmer became home to many dynasties. Today, Ajmer is a popular pilgrimage centre for the Hindus as well as Muslims. Especially famous is the Dargah Sharif-Tomb of the Sufi Saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti, which is equally revered by the Hindus and Muslims. Ajmer is a centre of culture and education. The British chose Ajmer for its prestigious Mayo College, a school exclusively for Indian nobility. At the foot of a barren hill, is situated India's most important pilgrimage center for people from all faiths. It is the splendid tomb of the Sufi saint Khawaja Moinuddin Chisti more popularly known as Khawaja Saheb or Khawaja Sharif. The shrine is next only to Mecca or Median for the Muslims of South Asia. Emperor Akbar used to make a pilgrimage to this Dargah from Agra once a year. Adhai-Din-Ka Jhonpara - One of the finest examples of Indo-Islamic architecture, this mosque was a Sanskrit college in the 12th century.”

“About Pushkar: Pushkar is a sacred town for the Hindus, situated 11 kms. to the North-West of Ajmer. Pushkar boasts temples, though few are as ancient as you might expect at such an important pilgrimage site. Since many of them were destroyed by Aurangzeb (A Mogul king), but subsequently rebuilt. The most famous is the Brahma Temple, said to be the only temple in the world dedicated to this deity. It stands on a high plinth with the Marble steps leading up to it. A silver turtle is set on the floor facing the Sanctum-Sanctorum. Around the turtle the Marble floor is inset with hundreds of silver coins. Coins engraved with donors names are also embedded in the walls. Peacocks adorn the temple walls as they are supposed to be the vehicle of lord Brahma's consort Saraswati. A small image of the milkmaid Gayatri, flanks the four-faced image of lord Brahma and is called Chaumurti The sanctuary has silver doors inside a carved marble gateway.”

Day 10:- After breakfast drop at the train station to catch a train to Ajmer Station. It is the station for the famous Pushkar city. Arrive Ajmer, visit the famous Muslim shrine "The Ajmer Sharif" in Ajmer. Then drive to Pushkar, arrive Pushkar, check in the hotel. Then visit the temples of Pushkar (Lord

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Brahma Temple- one & only in the world) & in evening enjoy the sunset at the Pushkar lake .
Overnight in Pushkar hotel.

“About Jodhpur: Set at the edge of the Thar desert, the imperial city of Jodhpur echoes with tales of antiquity in the emptiness of the desert. Once the capital of the Marwar state, it was founded in 1459 A.D. by Rao Jodha-chief of the Rathore clan of Rajputs who claimed to be descendants of Rama - the epic hero of the Ramayana. The massive 15th century A.D. Mehrangarh Fort looms on the top of a rocky hill, soaring 125 Mts. Above the plains. The city is encompassed by a high wall -10 km long with 8 gates and innumerable bastions. A major trade centre of the 16th century A.D. the fortress-city of Jodhpur is now the second largest city of Rajasthan.”

Day 11:- After Breakfast the first half of the day free at leisure and then drop at the train station to catch your onward train to Jodhpur, famously known as the “Blue City”. On arrival, pickup from the station & check in the hotel & evening free at leisure. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 12:- After breakfast morning city tour of the city covering the Mehrangarh Fort situated on a low sandstone hill. Within the fort visit Moti Mahal (Pearl Palace) and Phool Mahal (Flower Palace). Also visit Jaswant Thada, an imposing marble cenotaph built in memory of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II around 1899 & Umaid public gardens. Overnight in Hotel.

“About Jaisalmer: Situated amid picturesque Thar Desert, the Jaisalmer city commands premiere position among the tourist attractions scattered all over Rajasthan. The Jaisalmer city is revered both by Indian as well as foreign tourists. Who would have dreamt in such a vast sand oasis a castle worthy of an ancient throne, such an art in carven work of stone? It is like straight out of an Arabian Nights fable. The name Jaisalmer induces a dramatic picture of utter magic and brilliance of the desert. The hostile terrain notwithstanding the warmth and color of people is simply overwhelming.”

Day 13:- Early morning, drop at the train station to catch your onward train to Jaisalmer, famously known as the “Desert City”. Arrive Jaisalmer, pickup from the station and drive in the famous Sam Dunes (The deserts) and check in a mud hut/ tent in the deserts. Enjoy the traditional folk dances and the Rajasthani meals (Traditional Rajasthani Dinner) in the hut camp in sand dunes. Overnight in hut with cultural programs & bonfire.

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Day 14:- After breakfast go on a camel Safari. In Afternoon drive to the city, check in your reserved hotel and then visit the magnificent Jaisalmer Fort, Patwon ki haveli (Heritage Home) & Salim Singh Ki Haveli with its carved balconies & brackets which are supreme examples of art. Overnight in Jaisalmer city hotel.

Day 15:- After breakfast, first half of the day free at leisure and then in late afternoon drop at the train station to catch you onward train to Delhi. Overnight in the train.

Day 16:- Arrive Delhi and transfer to the Hotel/ Airport/ Railway station as required according to your further itinerary.

INCLUDES:-

- All trains tickets in A/c class as per the itinerary.
- Car with Driver as mentioned in the itinerary for sightseeing and station transfers.
- All fuel costs, state taxes, toll taxes, parking fee, permits.
- All sightseeing at the visiting places as per the itinerary.
- Driver's allowances (like food, accommodations etc.)
- Delhi airport transfers.
- Hotels all places with Air conditioned rooms, breakfast & taxes.
- 1 Elephant ride in Jaipur (Subject to government policies and functioning).
- Overnight Camel Safari in deserts with all meals.
- Sunrise boat ride, Sarnath Temple tour, City tour & return station transfers in Varanasi.

EXCLUDES:-

- Anything not mentioned in the "Includes" column.
- Any personal nature expenses like tips, food (lunch & dinners etc), shopping, laundry, camera charges, Payments for personal charges like liquors, wine, mineral water, telephone charges, Portorage at hotels and airports, insurance etc.
- Entrance fee in monuments/ places of visit.
- Any Visa, Flight Costs.
- Cost incurred due to mishaps, strikes, political unrest etc.
- The prices are subject to change without any prior notice depending on the availability of the hotels/ flights etc unless booked and paid for. We have made no reservations yet.