

WELCOME

It gives me immense pleasure to present to you our new India, Nepal and Bhutan brochure.

This edition features several exciting additions – from fascinating train journeys across the Indian plains to thrilling river cruises that bring you closer to the everyday rhythms of local life. Our carefully curated selection of hotels, resorts, and wellness retreats now includes some exceptional new properties; while still honouring the beloved favourites our guests return to time and again.

India, Nepal, and Bhutan continue to enchant with their pristine landscapes, rich heritage, and timeless mystique. From the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas to the vibrant ghats of Varanasi, every moment offers a deeper connection to culture, spirituality, and nature. Imagine soaring past Mount Everest, witnessing a Royal Bengal Tiger in the wild, or losing yourself in the colours and chaos of an Indian festival — experiences that stir the soul and stay with you forever.

To reflect our 20-year evolution in the travel industry, we have rebranded as Soulful Travel Experiences – a name that truly captures the spirit of the journeys we create. It is the experiences – the sights, sounds, and personal moments that give you a real flavour of a country – that make our tours truly unique.

Our commitments to you are simple: Meticulous attention to detail, a deep understanding of your travel aspirations, and the promise of crafting truly unforgettable Soulful Travel Experiences.

I warmly invite you to connect with us virtually or over a call to discuss your travel ideas – we'd love to help plan your perfect journey

Dr. Ravi Mehla

Founder



Infused with Legacy. Driven by Passion. Crafted with Precision.

From the sacred land of Kurukshetra, birthplace of the Bhagavad Gita, rises a travel philosophy rooted in depth, emotion, and timeless connection. I am proud to introduce Ge'Gard Indian Trails — a brand built not only on itineraries, but on insight, integrity, and immersive experience.

With a Gold Medal in Tourism Management and over 25 years of inbound tourism experience across India, Nepal, and Bhutan, I have had the privilege of leading the successful execution of more than 11,000 group journeys and hosting over 150,000 international travelers from across the world. That journey — filled with people, places, and purpose — now flows into every trail we design at Ge'Gard.

Our mission is simple, yet profound: to offer soulful travel experiences that engage all five senses. From the scent of incense in a Himalayan monastery to the echo of temple bells in Varanasi, from the taste of langar in Amritsar to the feel of clay beneath your fingers in a tribal artisan's home — our journeys are crafted to connect, not just transport.

Ge'Gard Indian Trails is not a tour company. It is a curator of meaning — backed by a team of passionate specialists and regional experts who live and breathe the destinations we serve. We continuously revisit, refine, and reimagine our offerings to ensure that every guest walks away with something far greater than a memory — a transformation.

We invite you to explore this brochure not just as a catalogue of destinations, but as an introduction to a different way of seeing, feeling, and knowing India, Nepal, and Bhutan.

Anurag Attri

CEO



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ABOUT
Ge’Gard Indian Trails stands as South Asia’s most emotionally immersive inbound travel brand, with a legacy spanning over 25 years, more than 18,000 bespoke journeys curated, and upwards of 150,000 international travellers hosted across India, Nepal, and Bhutan. We don’t simply operate tours — we design transformational experiences that penetrate the emotional, cultural, and spiritual heart of the subcontinent. Each journey is meticulously crafted to awaken the senses and stir the soul: guests feel India through blindfolded pottery sessions with village artisans; hear India in the ethereal strains of morning ragas beneath a sacred Bodhi tree; taste India in the community kitchens of ancient temples; see India by lantern light as they wander through forgotten ruins; and breathe India in the scent of Himalayan incense and the stillness of forest air. At Ge’Gard, we specialize in special interest and narrative-driven travel — encompassing wellness retreats, tribal immersions, spiritual pilgrimages, culinary expeditions, women-led initiatives, and heritage revival programs. Every experience is intentionally intimate, ethically designed, and emotionally profound. The name ‘Ge’Gard’ derives from ‘Ge’, meaning Earth, and ‘Gard’, symbolizing guardianship — reflecting our deep commitment to preserve, protect, and pass on India’s most sacred landscapes, stories, and traditions. We are not conventional tour operators. We are memory architects, experience curators, and guardians of transformative travel. With Ge’Gard, you don’t just travel to India — you return changed by the journey.

OUR GUIDE PRICES
Each of our sample tours will give you an indicative price for that itinerary. As our expertise lies in designing bespoke itineraries, tailored to your specific requirements: accommodation, departure airport and preferred airline etc. we will work with you and quote for your holiday at the best rates available for each element of your holiday.

YOUR GUIDE PRICE INCLUDES

- All internal/regional flights as per itinerary
- All accommodation and transport as per itinerary
- All sightseeing and transfer by private vehicle
- Services of an English speaking representative for all arrival and departure transfers with assistance at hotel check-in
- Services of English speaking guide during sightseeing as specified in itinerary
- Entrance fees to all monuments as specified in the itinerary

BOARD AND LODGING
Our hotel portfolio is extensive and ranges from super deluxe properties to character, heritage, boutique hotels and more modest guest houses. In off the beaten track locations we have sourced the best available accommodation. We are constantly adding more properties - if the hotel of your choice is not mentioned please ask for it to be included in your tour.
The meal plan for each tour can be adapted to suit your personal requirements. Most hotels offer a section of local and international cuisine.

DRIVERS AND GUIDES
All our drives and guides are English speaking with many years of experiences. Each is a mine of information to regale guests with passionate stories of their beloved homeland!

SPECIALIST TOURS
Our Specialist tours include: Culinary tours savouring the flavours of India, Nepal and Bhutan; Festival tours designed to coincide with the major festivals with home visits to join in the local celebrations.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION
You require a Visa for India, Nepal & Bhutan and your current passport must have at least six months validity upon their return to the UK. It’s your responsibility to ensure you have the correct travel documents for travel.

Please allow plenty of time for the application as during peak periods they can take 6-8 weeks. Alternatively we will undertake to arrange your visa for a small fee.

TRAVEL ADVICE AND DESTINATION INFORMATION
For destination information please call our office to discuss with a Specialist Consultant, in detail, any queries or questions you may have on your selected or proposed tour.
We are certified strategic partners of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, which guarantee our commitment to ensuring that our clients are fully informed of all relevant government travel advice, safety measures and precautions.

HEALTH AND INSURANCE
It is recommended that all clients talk to their Doctor or Health Clinic about the various inoculations and travel precautions to be taken - including DVT and Malaria. Medical care in India is good, and getting better, but when travelling off the beaten track medical facilities can be a few hours away. It’s essential that you take out an adequate travel insurance policy to cover emergencies.

FINANCIAL SECURITY
GEGARD INDIAN TRAILS is a travel division of Gegard Wellness Private Limited. Corporate Identity Number (CIN) : U86900MH2025PTC446379. Registered under: Companies Act, 2013 (Government of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs)



TRAVEL WITHIN INDIA

HRH Hotel Vintage Car Museum

TRAINS

No one should miss a train ride in India. If time allows it's the perfect way to see this amazing land, whether trundling up the steep mountainsides on a delightful 'toy' train, or, careering across the vast expanses of the Indian plains. The views, and, travelling companions, will make it an adventure in itself! The intricate system, criss crossing the length and breadth of India, is the lifeblood of the country carrying millions of passengers and tonnes of freight annually.

Standards vary tremendously from class to class. Third class is congested and often overflowing with humanity. Second class allows for a little more room, but for the comfort of guests, Gegard Indian Trails always uses 1st class a/c day seats where available. Night sleepers are comfortable with pillows and blankets provided, and again, Gegard Indian Trails uses the best available class. Full briefing notes on train travel within India are available on request.

ROADS

Gegard Indian Trails uses the very comfortable Toyota Innova for guests. These modern vehicles are ideal for airport pick-ups, sightseeing and long distance tours. The standard of driving in India remains pretty much the same as ever – chaotic and unpredictable!

However, new roads are constantly being built and gradually the awareness towards other drivers is being addressed. Gegard Indian Trails has hand-picked experienced drivers to ease guest concerns and to allow them to relax and enjoy the beauty of the countryside.

Some journeys may take a morning or longer, but driving through small villages with noisy children waving and smiling, seeing local markets full of colour, or a solitary camel, grazing by the roadside in the deepest desert, makes the trip worthwhile!

AIR

Internal air travel in India is fast becoming very competitive. Standards are rising, but delays are inevitable at peak periods, though, with upgrading of many terminals, hold-ups should be eased.

New airports like Cochin and Bangalore along with the re-development of Mumbai and Delhi airports, are making life easier for travellers. Gegard Indian Trails has selected internal flights connecting for guests convenience and use the best possible airline for the route.

Private Charter services are becoming increasingly popular - please ask for details of helicopter and fixed wing flight.



INDIA

TAJ MAHAL

In 1983, the Taj Mahal became a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the white domed marble Mausoleum... built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan, as a parting gift to his treasured wife Mumtaz Mahal, who tragically died during the birth of their 14th child... has become one of the most iconic landmarks in the world. The marble, at times so finely cut, radiates light... perhaps reflecting back the sad memories, all those years ago, when utterly distraught, Shah Jehan buried his beloved.

Today the Taj Mahal, is considered a work of creative genius - a perfect blending of light and shade, concave and convex, the subtly of the colours, the inlays of precious and semi-precious gems... the Jewel in the Crown of Indo-Islamic architecture. The stunning Mausoleum, built in Agra between 1631 and 1648, on the bank of the Yamuna River, is surrounded by beautiful Mughal gardens. It's actually part of a larger complex - albeit the most magnificent - with a Mosque and Mausoleums for other wives of Shah Jehan. The red sandstone western building is a Mosque, and the opposite building is the jawab - the answer - there to maintain flawless architectural harmony.

Everything about the Mahal is in harmony - reflected wherever you look... from the stunning dome, the four minarets 40 metres high, the vaulted arches to the lovely balconies, all in balance and in perfect harmony. The Persian and Hindu nuances again seamlessly balance. Sadly the gold work and precious and semi-precious stones decorating the building have long since gone.

The sarcophagi in the main chamber are actually false, as the actual graves of Mumtaz Mahal and Shah Jahan are at a lower level - lying in peace, with their faces towards Mecca: together forever...

CLASSICAL GOLDEN TRIANGLE 8 DAYS

This is the quintessential tour of India – the signature of the country. Visit the iconic Taj Mahal, the magnificent Forts of Agra and Jaipur, the beautiful deserted city of the great Emperor Akbar at Fatehpur Sikri and explore the eclectic city of Delhi.

Delhi — Agra — Jaipur — Delhi

www.gegardindiantrails.com



Humayun's Tomb, Delhi

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Morning arrival in Delhi. Afternoon enjoy sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and its back roads, once the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat-Mahatma Gandhi's cremation site, before returning to the hotel. Overnight at Hotel Maidens.

Day 3. To Agra
Morning sightseeing of dynamic New Delhi including the impressive Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Afternoon drive to Agra. Two nights at Hotel Trident.

Day 4. Agra
Breath-taking sunrise visit to the Taj Mahal to watch the sun slowly caress the white marble, awakening the day and distant memories. After breakfast explore Agra Fort seeing the many varied architectural styles of the complex, built by successive Mughal rulers. Also visit the Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah.

Day 5. To Jaipur
Morning drive to Jaipur en route visit Fatehpur Sikri, the beautiful deserted city, built by the remarkable Mughal Emperor Akbar. Pause by the graceful marble Tomb (Mazar) of Salim Chisti in the middle of the Emperor's courtyard, where generations of women have come to pray for a male heir. Also visit en route the Abhaneri Stepwell built in 800 AD. Two nights stay at the Samode Haveli.

Day 6. Jaipur
Morning excursion to Amber Fort slowly meandering up the winding road seated upon a caparisoned elephant. Inside the fort with its austere exterior, there's a delight of murals, frescoes, paintings, wonderful intricate carvings and complex mirror work. Lunch at the historic 1135 AD restaurant. After lunch visit the extraordinary Astronomical Observatory, Palace of Winds and City Palace Complex with its fascinating museum.

Day 7. To Delhi
Unwind in the morning perhaps catching up on shopping or relax by the hotel's swimming pool. Afternoon drive to Delhi. Overnight at Welcome Hotel Dwarka.

Day 8. To London
Morning flight to Heathrow on British Airways or Virgin Atlantic.

Suggested extensions:
Ranthambore National Park

Day 7. To Ranthambore National Park
Morning drive to Ranthambore National Park. Afternoon jeep drive into the wildlife park, one of India's Project Tiger reserves. Two nights at Tiger Den Resort.

Day 8. Ranthambore National Park
Morning and afternoon games drives. Surrounded by the Vindhya and Aravali hill ranges and situated very near to the outer fringes of the Thar Desert, the park offers a diverse range of habitat for leopard, dhole, wild pig, sambar, chital and gaur to roam.

Day 9. To Delhi
Early morning game safari. Afternoon board train to Delhi. Overnight at Welcome Hotel Dwarka.

Day 10. To London
Morning flight to Heathrow on British Airways or Virgin Atlantic.

Goa

Day 7. To Goa via Mumbai
Morning fly to Goa via Mumbai. Four nights at Vivanta by Taj-Holiday Village.

Day 8-10. Goa
At leisure.

Day 11. To London via Mumbai
Fly to Mumbai to connect with British Airways direct flight to Heathrow.

Kerala - God's Own Country

Day 7. To Cochin via Mumbai
Fly to Cochin via Mumbai. Two nights at Spice Fort Hotel.

Day 8. Cochin
Morning city tour of Cochin - the 'Venice of the East' - visit St Francis Church, the Mattancherry Palace and Jewish Synagogue. Also see the intriguing cantilevered Chinese Fishing nets. Evening Kathakali dance performance, arrive early to watch the actors apply their intricate makeup.

Day 9. To Munnar
Wonderful scenic drive to the breathtakingly beautiful hill station of Munnar. Endless expanse of tea plantations, pristine valleys and forest-clad mountains make this the perfect escape. Afternoon visit a Tea museum, to learn about the history of the traditional 'cuppa'. Overnight at either the Windermere or Ambady Estates.

Day 10. To Kumarakom
Morning excursion to the Eravikulam National Park in the Western Ghats, home to the largest population of the endangered Nilgiri Tahr. Later drive through the lush verdant countryside to Kumarakom. Overnight at Backwater Ripples.

Day 11. Houseboat
Spend the day cruising the Backwaters in a traditional rice boat converted into a Houseboat, locally known as Kettuvallam. The waterways are the lifeblood of the area, local commerce revolves around it with boats laden with everything from fish to today's papers, gliding by! The Backwaters are an ornithologist's paradise – look out for glorious multi-coloured kingfishers. Overnight on an air-conditioned houseboat.

Day 12. To Mararikulam
Disembark at Thotapally and drive to Mararikulam for beach stay. Three nights at Marari Beach Resort.

Day 13-14. Mararikulam
At leisure.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country

+91 91 55 31 31 55

RAJASTHAN RURAL & REGAL 16 DAYS

This is a journey of exploration: delve into the life and culture of the people of fascinating Rajasthan. Forts, palaces, awe-inspiring monuments, simple villages all make Rajasthan a vivid and evocative destination. This tour gives a truly comprehensive insight into Rajasthan.

Delhi — Agra — Jaipur — Mandawa — Bikaner — Jaisalmer — Manvar
— Rohetgarh — Rawla Narlai — Udaipur — Mumbai



Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Morning arrival in Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and its back roads, which were the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's cremation site, before returning to the hotel. Overnight at Hotel Maidens.

Day 3. To Agra
Morning sightseeing of vibrant New Delhi including the impressive Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Afternoon drive to Agra. Two nights at Hotel Trident.

Day 4. Agra
Enchanting dawn visit to the Taj Mahal, an eternal symbol of love. After breakfast visit Agra Fort, where Shah Jehan, imprisoned by his son, spent his last days gazing at his beloved's Mausoleum. Also visit the Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daula.

Day 5. To Jaipur via Fatehpur Sikri
Morning drive to Jaipur en route visiting the deserted Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri. This World Heritage Site still retains its magnificence and grandeur. Also see en route the Abhaneri Stepwell built in 800 AD. Two nights at the Samode Haveli.

Day 6. Jaipur
Like Royalty, seated in a howdah, perched upon the back of a stately elephant climb the hill to the magnificent Amber Fort. Built by the warrior Rajputs, the Fort is filled with memories of an ancient and heroic age. After lunch at the historic 1135 AD restaurant visit the City Palace Museum, the Jantar Mantar Observatory, dedicated to the celestial heavens, and the beautiful Palace of Winds.

Day 7. To Mandawa
Morning drive to Mandawa. Afternoon sightseeing of the village with its delightful fresco festooned Havelis once owned by rich Merchants. Overnight at Alsisar Mahal.

Day 8. To Bikaner
After breakfast drive to Bikaner. Afternoon sightseeing includes the magnificent Junagarh Fort - a mighty bastion protecting the land from both invader and the encroaching Great Thar Desert. Overnight at the Laxmi Niwas Palace.

Day 9. To Jaisalmer
Morning drive deep into the heart of the desert to Jaisalmer. Two nights at Taj Rawalkot.

Day 10. Jaisalmer
Morning visit the inhabited hilltop fortress and roam the streets finding hidden corners where the delightful frescoes adorn the beautiful merchant houses. Jaisalmer was a strategic town on the ancient caravan routes and is awash with history and intrigue. Afternoon excursion to the Sam sand dunes, watch the sun disappearing on the horizon and experience a camel ride.

Day 11. To Manvar
Morning drive to Manvar. Afternoon visit a local village to see their unique way of life. Overnight at Manvar Desert Camp.



Basil is a revered plant in India due to its micro-nutritional and medical properties. Importantly considered to aid the cardiovascular system, eyesight and headaches symptoms. Basil Tea is very popular and helps calm the nerves.

Day 12. To Rohetgarh via Jodhpur
After an early breakfast drive to Jodhpur. Visit the 15th C. Meherangarh Fort soaring above the city, with its delightful insight into the life and times of the ruling family. Also visit the quiet Jaswant Thada - a marble memorial built in memory of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. Continue driving to Rohet. Overnight at Rohetgarh Fort.

Day 13. To Rawla Narlai
Morning drive to the charming oasis of Rawla Narlai. In the afternoon wander the streets of the local village. Overnight at Fort Rawla.



Day 14. To Udaipur via Ranakpur
Morning drive to Udaipur en route visiting the beautifully carved marble 15th C. Jain Temples of Ranakpur. The sensitivity of the carving on the 200 hundred pillars is astonishing. Two nights at Hotel Trident.

Day 15. Udaipur
Morning sightseeing of Udaipur includes the City Palace Complex, the Jagdish Temple and the leafy Gardens of Maids of Honour- once only open to royal ladies. Afternoon at leisure to explore this captivating city further.

Day 16. To Mumbai
Morning flight to Mumbai and connect to your country

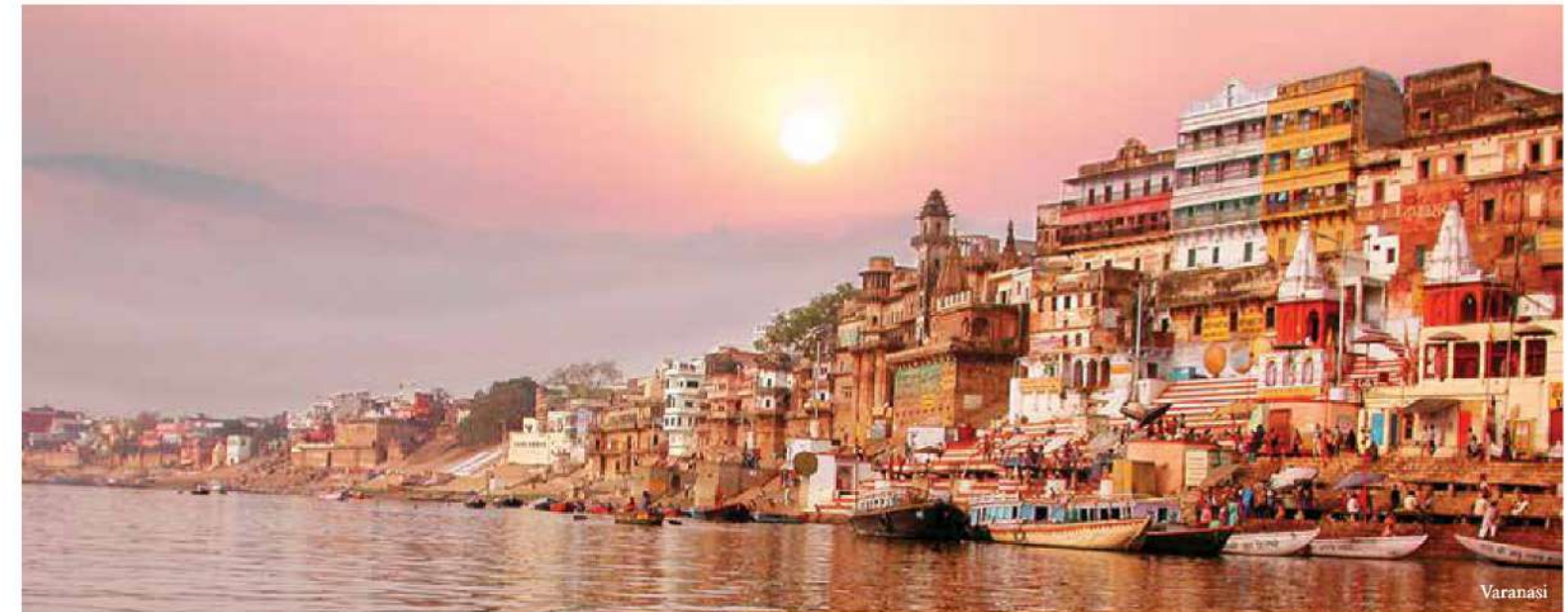
Suggested extensions: Devigarh, Goa, Ajanta & Ellora caves and Mumbai (Various other extensions are available on request)

CLASSICAL INDIA

16 DAYS

Explore the deeply spiritual city of Varanasi, see the carvings of Khajuraho Temples, visit the Taj Mahal- an iconic symbol of love and explore the Forts & Palaces of Rajasthan. Feel the real heartbeat of India travelling on a train and meet the real people.

Delhi — Varanasi — Khajuraho — Orchha — Agra — Fatehpur Sikri
— Jaipur — Jodhpur — Ranakpur — Udaipur



Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Morning arrival in Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and its back roads - once the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's cremation site, before returning to the hotel. Overnight at Hotel Maidens.

Day 3. Overnight train to Varanasi
Morning sightseeing of vibrant New Delhi including the impressive Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Late afternoon board overnight train to Varanasi in 1st a/c sleeper compartment.

Day 4. Varanasi
Morning arrival in Varanasi. Afternoon excursion to see the numerous Stupas, ancient & modern Temples and the Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath where Buddha preached his first discourse. Two nights at The Gateway Hotel Ganges.

Day 5. Varanasi
Early morning boat ride on the Ganges. As the mist slowly rises, quietly watch the devout perform their timeless rituals in the holy waters. After breakfast visit important sites including the Vishwanath Temple, Durga Temple and Banaras Hindu University. In the evening experience a cycle rickshaw ride to the ghats.

Day 6. To Khajuraho
Early afternoon flight to Khajuraho. Delightful evening Light and Sound Show in the Gardens of the Temple. Overnight at Taj Chandela.

Day 7. To Orchha
Morning sightseeing of the exotically embellished Khajuraho Temples. Originally 85 Temples were built although only 22 remain today. The Chandela Rajput rulers built the Temples roughly between 950-1050AD. Afternoon drive to Orchha. Overnight at Amar Mahal.

Day 8. To Agra
Orchha is a timeless medieval city - morning visit will include the exquisite Jehangir Mahal, Raj Mahal and Laxminarayan Temple - look out for the glorious world famed murals from the Bundela School of painting. Board evening Shatabdi express train from Jhansi to Agra. Two nights at Hotel Trident.

Day 9. Agra
Breath-taking sunrise visit to the Taj Mahal to watch the sun slowly caress the white marble, awakening the day and distant memories. After breakfast explore Agra Fort seeing the many varied architectural styles of the complex, built by successive Mughal rulers. Also visit the Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah.



Black pepper has great medicinal value: in East India, a daily dose of black pepper and honey is taken as a preventive medicine. Pepper is used for numerous Ayurvedic treatments including asthma, indigestion and obesity.

Day 10. To Jaipur
Drive to Jaipur via the magnificent deserted city of Fatehpur Sikri built by the Emperor Akbar in the second half of 16th C. The complex of monuments are all built in a uniform architectural style- including one of the largest mosques in India the 'Jama Masjid'. Stop en route to see the Abhaneri Stepwell built in 800 AD. Two nights at the Samode Haveli.

Day 11 Jaipur
Morning drive to the outstanding Amber Fort. Climb the steep winding road on a stately caparisoned elephant. Don't miss the Hall of Mirrors - it's said one small candle could light the whole room with its reflection dancing from mirror to mirror. Dine at the historic 1135 AD restaurant for lunch then take a city tour visiting the City Palace complex, amazing Jantar Mantar Astronomical Observatory and the delightful Palace of Winds.

Day 12. To Jodhpur
Drive to Jodhpur. Two nights at Ajit Bhawan Palace.

Day 13. Jodhpur
Morning visit the 15th C. Meherangarh Fort soaring above the city, with its charming insight into the life and times of the ruling family. Also visit the quiet Jaswant Thada- a marble memorial built in memory of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. Afternoon at leisure with an optional jeep safari to nearby Bishnoi tribal villages.

Day 14. To Udaipur
Drive to Udaipur stopping en route at Ranakpur to see the intricately carved Jain Temples. Two nights at Hotel Trident.

Day 15. Udaipur
Morning sightseeing of the City Palace and Museum with its fascinating insight into the lives of the Maharajas. Later stroll in the delightful Garden of the Maids of Honour. Remainder of day at leisure.

Day 16. To Mumbai
Morning flight to Mumbai and connect to your country

Suggested extensions: Devigarh, Goa, Ajanta & Ellora Caves and Mumbai (Various other extensions are available on request)

WILDLIFE

Blessed with well-maintained National Parks, India, Bhutan and Nepal are home to a rich and diverse variety of species. Back in 1935 India inaugurated its wildlife protection programmes. To date around 600 have been created including wildlife sanctuaries, national parks and wetland sites. The choice for visitors is superb.

Many are internationally famous including the initial Park... Corbett National Park where the first Project Tiger programme was started. Down in the Sundarbans Park the majestic Bengal Tiger has become an accomplished swimmer! Birders will find a paradise in Bharatpur with over 300 species of Indian birds.

Another wonderful park is Ranthambore, once the hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur, and today, a Project Tiger stronghold with frequent sightings of the magnificent animals. Kanha National Park, with its spectacular scenery is best known for the Barasingha and Tiger. It was Rudyard Kipling's inspiration for 'The Jungle Book'.

Don't miss Pench Tiger Reserve and Bandhavgarh, often called the 'Tiger Land' of India as sightings are so frequent. In Central India visit Satpura to see leopards and bears. At Tadoba, another Project Tiger Reserve - also known as the 'Jewel of Vidarbha', the lake is an excellent destination for Birders.

Lesser known parks include, in Kerala, Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary, a haven for waterfowls, cuckoos, owls and migratory Siberian Cranes. See the Indian Lion at Gir, Blackbuck at Velavadar Blackbuck Sanctuary, Kaziranga with its rhinos... the list is endless!

Bhutan has numerous parks including Bomdeling with rare and endangered species including the Himalayan black bear, musk deer, blue sheep and snow leopard. Birders will revel in the sighting of black-necked cranes.

In Nepal the famous Chitwan National Park became a World Heritage Site in 1984 and is now a sanctuary for tiger, rhino and Gangetic dolphin. Other places to visit include the Annapurna Conservation area with its collection of 38 species of orchids and home to cloud leopards. Kanchenjunga Conservation Area has magnificent springtime displays of rhododendrons. Red panda, red billed magpie and musk deer all live here.

Gegard Indian Trails has an exciting collection of wildlife tours to all the major - an off the beaten track - wildlife sanctuary's. Tailor-made tours can be arranged upon request - specialist Bird tours for example with an expert Naturalist.



TIGER TRAIL 14 DAYS

This tour is a superb opportunity to explore some of the main and lesser visited Nature Reserves in India - Bandhavgarh, a prime tiger project reserve. Kanha, an outstanding park that inspired Kipling. Pench again with tiger and finally Satpura, a lesser known Park. Feel the thrill of being up close to one of nature's most stunning, and, indeed dangerous creatures whilst on safari. Journey through different habitats - all home to the tiger, leopard, dhole, porcupine, sambar, crow pheasant and red vented bulbul!

Delhi — Bandhavgarh — Kanha — Pench — Satpura — Delhi



Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. On Board Train
Arrive Delhi in the morning. Relax in Colonel's Retreat Boutique Homestay for a few hours, before boarding a train to Katni. Overnight 1st class train compartment.

Day 3. To Bandhavgarh National Park
Arrive Katni in the morning. Drive to Bandhavgarh National Park. The Park has 30 species of mammals and about 240 species of birds. Afternoon game drive to get an initial flavour of the park. The park was a former hunting reserve of the Maharaja of Rewa, today, a sanctuary, with more than 40 tigers roaming the jungle. Two nights Tiger Den Resort.

Day 4. Bandhavgarh
Enjoy morning & afternoon game drives. Bandhavgarh is considered to be the finest Park for tiger sightings. The broken hilly terrain, grassy swamps and forested valleys provide ideal concealment for this most predatory of beasts.

Day 5. To Kanha National Park
After an early breakfast drive to Kanha National Park - a dedicated Tiger reserve. Kanha and the nearby forests provided inspiration for Rudyard Kipling's delightful Jungle Book. Imagine the mighty Sher Khan prowling close by as you watch and wait, secreted in your 'hide'! Kanha is an outstanding National Park with about 30 species of mammals and 225 species of birds. Afternoon game drive. Three nights at Tuli Tiger Resort.

Day 6. Kanha
Morning and afternoon game drives. The variety of habitat gives rise to a wonderful mix of animals to spot - the grassland plateau is home to the Gaur (Indian bison) and four-horned Antelope, whilst in dense clumps of forest shy jungle cat and civet roam. Here Project Tiger is actively pursuing conservation projects in the Park, increasing the chance to see Tiger.

Day 7. Kanha
Another day of morning and afternoon game safaris looking sloth bear, swamp deer, bison and the elusive leopard. Feel the echoes of Kipling's

books as you wander through the lightly wooded grassland where wolf and dhole lie in wait.

Day 8. To Pench National Park
Morning drive to Pench National Park to seek out the wary tiger. Other animals include leopard, porcupine, hyena and barking deer. There are over 210 species of birds - including peafowl, magpie robin and crimson breasted barbet. Afternoon game drive. Two nights at Pench Jungle Camp.

Day 9. Pench
Morning and afternoon game drives. Pench lies at the foot of the Satpura range with undulating terrain - small hills, open grass meadows and dense forests. Other wildlife found in the park includes sloth bear, gaur, nilgai, wild dog, chausingha, jackals, rhesus macaque and flying squirrels.

Day 10. To Satpura National Park
After an early breakfast drive to Satpura National Park. Evening boat safari on River Denwa listening to the cries of the creatures of the night. Three nights at Denwa Backwater Escape.

Day 11. Satpura
Morning and afternoon game drives either perched high on an elephant or using a traditional jeep. Satpura is one of the least visited of

India's Parks, yet offers some of the best safari experiences - including kayaking and walking. The landscape is rugged with narrow gorges, deep ravines, dense forests and supports a vast number of mammals including the tiger, leopard, bison and wild dog.

Day 12. Satpura
Another full day with morning and afternoon game drives. For Birders November to March is an exciting time with a plethora of migratory birds visiting the Tawa reservoir. Look out for sloth, wild boar, nilgai and sambar.

Day 13. To Delhi
Morning drive to Bhopal. Board afternoon Shatabdi Express train to Delhi. Overnight at The Royal Plaza Hotel.

Day 14. To Your Country
Fly to your country

*Suggested extensions: Goa and Maheshwar
(Various other extensions are available on request)*

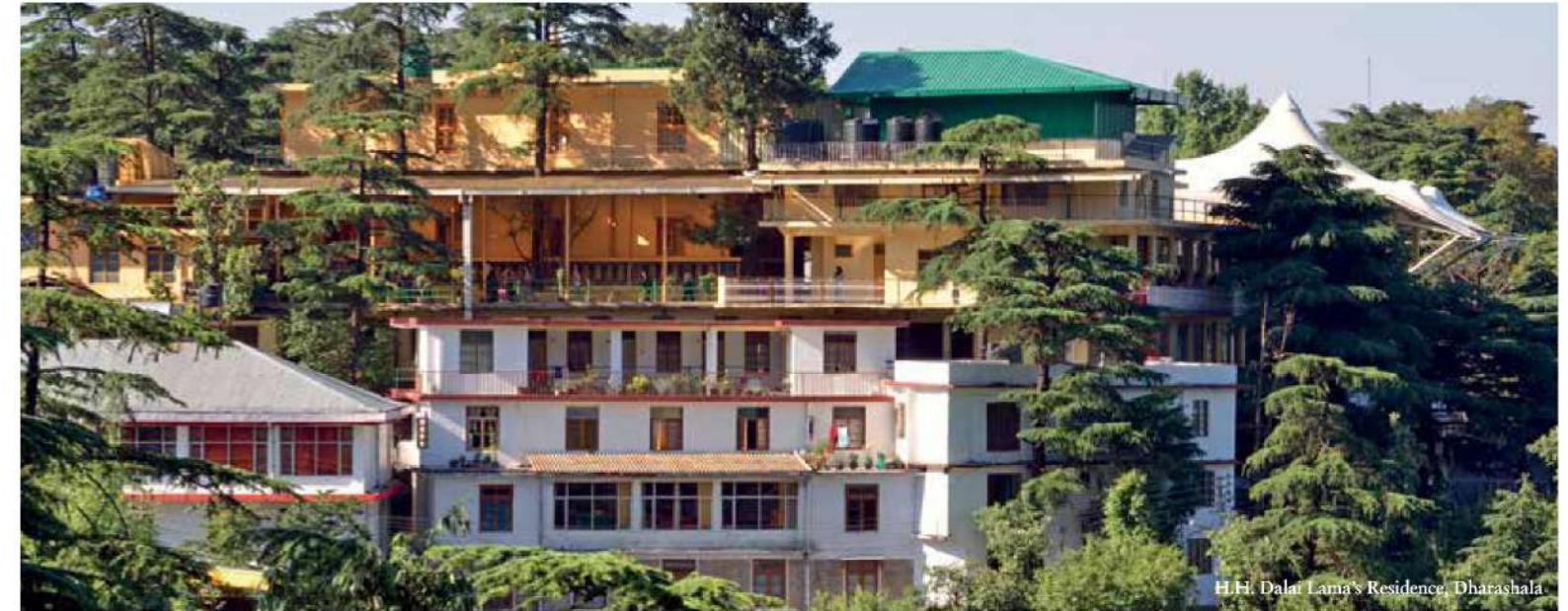


GOLDEN TEMPLE

MONASTERIES & MOUNTAINS 13 DAYS

Visit Amritsar - the home to the Golden Temple and spiritual & cultural centre of Sikhism. Explore the abode of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala. Wander through the exhilarating Kangra Valley and unwind at the British Raj summer capital of Shimla.

Amritsar — Dharamsala — Pragpur — Shimla — Delhi



H.H. Dalai Lama's Residence, Dharamsala

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. To Amritsar
Arrive Delhi in the morning with connecting flight on Jet Airways to Amritsar. Evening visit the Golden Temple and witness the very moving Sukh Aasan Ceremony. Two nights at Hotel Hyatt.

Day 3. Amritsar
Morning visit the Golden Temple & the Jallian Wala followed by a drive through the ancient city. Late afternoon drive to witness - the Indo-Pakistan border to witness the electrifying 'Changing of the Guard Ceremony'.

Day 4. To Dharamsala
Morning drive to Dharamsala. Afternoon at leisure. Dharamsala is often called 'Little Lhasa', as it's the Headquarters of the Tibetan Government in exile. Two nights at Chonor House.

Day 5. Dharamsala
Early morning walk to the town of McLeodganj to see the devotees engrossed in their morning prayer. After breakfast visit the Buddhist sites including the Namgyal Monastery, where the Dalai Lama has his residence and administrative offices. Rest of the day at leisure.

Day 6. To Pragpur
Morning drive to Pragpur. Afternoon at leisure perhaps to walk in the lovely 12 acre orchard of the hotel. Two nights at the Judge's Court.

Day 7. Pragpur
Day to explore the delightful Heritage Village of Pragpur where time has stood still. There are many beautiful houses, some over 300 years old, accessible through narrow cobbled streets. Local silversmiths sell charming handcrafted trinkets.

Day 8. To Shimla
Delightful picturesque drive up the winding mountain road to Shimla once a summer capital of the British Raj. Three nights at the Oberoi Cecil.



Cardamom Pods are made into aromatic essential oil, whilst the seeds are used extensively in cooking - an ingredient of garam masala. Tea infusions aid indigestion, give relief to coughs and naturally warms the body.



Shimla market

Day 9. Shimla
Morning sightseeing includes Viceroy's Lodge and highlights of the Mall including the Gaiety Theatre and Christ's Church. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 10. Shimla
Day at leisure.

Day 11. To Delhi
Morning Toy train to Kalka. Change for the Shatabdi express train to Delhi. Two nights at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 12. Delhi
Full day sightseeing of Old and New Delhi

including the Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk bazaar, India Gate, Humayan's Tomb and the Qutab Minar.

Day 13. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Agra & Jaipur, Ranthambore National Park, Udaipur and Goa (Various other extensions are available on request)

LUXURY TRAINS

Thunder across the vastness of the Indian plains in a leviathan crossing the mighty continent - first class of course! Chug up the precipitous mountain sides in tiny toy trains for thrilling experiences, but be sure not to miss the sheer luxury and decadence of the Indian Royal Trains where elegance and extravagance are by words! Relax on the unique 'Palace on Wheels' exploring the heritage of regal Rajasthan or slightly off the beaten track take the luxurious 'Deccan Odyssey' to discover the rich cultural heritage of Goa and Maharashtra.

MAHARAJA EXPRESS

Live a life of unparalleled luxury and pampering aboard the Maharaja Express - winners of the 'World's Leading Luxury Train' award in 2012 and 13 presented by the World Travel Awards. Sumptuous dining and elegantly appointed en suite cabins are complemented by the relaxed Lounge and well stocked Bars. The train meanders through the rich cultural heart of India offering a variety of tours to experiences the eclectic Indian heritage: with a plethora of excursions including watching Elephant Polo, seeing the stunning caves of Ajanta, and at the icon of love - The Taj Mahal - see the sun softly set.

ROYAL RAJASTHAN ON WHEELS

The Royal Rajasthan on Wheels, epitomises the luxurious lifestyle lived by Royalty whilst journeying through the magnificent ever-changing Rajasthani landscape; filled with magnificent Forts, regal Palaces and wild wind swept desert. Then travel onwards to see the erotic sculptures of Khajuraho, the Ganges at Varanasi and the Poem to Love - the Taj Mahal, all creating memories that will last forever. The ensuite cabins are exquisitely furnished, lavish and opulent. In the splendidly adorned dining cars banquet in splendour upon the finest of fare. Savour a soothing drink in the Bar or relax in the Spa.

PALACE ON WHEELS

Live the lifestyle of the fabled Maharajahs whilst explore the fascinating North-West of India - and the lovely Taj Mahal - from the luxury of an extravagantly designed train were 'opulence' is the key! Lavishly decorated the cabins are perfect retreats and throughout the train the furniture, painting and soft furnishings reflect the local cultural. Dine on mouth-watering fare, relax in the well -stocked Bar or totally unwind in the Spa. Visit the Amber Fort, lookout for Tigers at Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, Camel ride in the Sam Sand Dunes and take a boat ride on Lake Pichola.

THE DECCAN ODYSSEY

The train is beautifully appointed with rich and lavish furnishings, reflecting the lifestyle of Indian Royalty, so come aboard and take a 'Royal Progress' exploring the beauty and heritage of the former Maratha Empire from the comfort of the train. Dine on delicious cuisine, relax in the spa, unwind in bar, and sleep serenely in a plush appointed en suite cabins. Explore the pristine beauty of the Konkan coast, the stunning World Heritage sites of Ajanta and Ellora and magnificent Forts of Maharashtra.

THE GOLDEN CHARIOT

The interior of the train is inspired by the intricately carved Hosalya Temple architecture. The ensuite cabins are regal with gorgeous hand woven silk covers. Dining is exotic with special offerings of authentic local cuisine and an international menu to delight a Maharaja. Relax in the Lounge Bar or unwind in the Gym perhaps with an Ayurvedic massage. Explore the 'City of Palaces' - Mysore, the wildlife reserve at Kabini and the magnificent World heritage sites of Hassan and Hospet. Wander the beaches of Goa.

THE FOOTHILLS OF THE HIMALAYAS 15 DAYS

Lying in the lap of the Great Himalayas, the beauty of the Kumaon region is unsurpassable - dotted with lakes of crystal clear waters, vast forests of pine and deodar, tumbling rivers, ancient Temples and relaxing Hill Stations. This tour ventures into beautiful unspoilt virgin territory. The experience is enhanced with a visit to the famous Tiger Reserve at Corbett.

Delhi — Ramgarh — Ranikhet — Kausani — Binsar — Corbett National Park — Delhi



Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Arrive Delhi in the morning. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and its back roads, once, the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's moving cremation site. Two nights at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 3. Delhi
Sightseeing of New Delhi includes the India Gate, Humayun's Tomb and the Qutab Minar. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 4. To Ramgarh
Early morning train to Kathgodam. Transfer to Ramgarh a beautiful Hill Station with glorious unobstructed views of the snow-capped Himalayas. Delight in picture-perfect sunrise and sunsets. Two nights at the Writer's Bungalow.

Day 5. Excursion to Nainital
Morning visit to Nainital - the area is often called the 'Lake District of India'. Visit the beautiful Governor's House and Jim Corbett's former home - Gurney House. Lunch at the famous Sakley's restaurant.

Day 6. To Ranikhet
After breakfast drive to Ranikhet. Later explore the town. Here in 1869, the British established the headquarters of the Kumaon regiment, using the Hill Station as a retreat from the heat of the Indian summer. The views are pristine with snow peaks shimmering in the clear sunlight: pine and towering deodar trees, brilliant green, intensify the already dramatic back drop. Overnight at Chevron Rosemount.

Day 7. To Kausani
Morning drive to Kausani another incredibly beautiful Hill Station, where Mahatma Gandhi stayed and was dazzled by its beauty. The views of the Nanda Devi group of mountains are particularly stunning at sunrise. Overnight at Chevron Mountain Villa.

Day 8. To Binsar
Morning drive to Binsar, en route visit the Baijnath Temples on the banks of Gomti River built during the 12th-13th C. by the Katyur dynasty. Early evening historical tour of the hotel - the Grand Oak Manor - once the home of Sir Henry Ramsey, a famous Commissioner of Kumaon. Dine with the family, who now own the property, tasting the delights of Kumaoni cuisine. Three nights at Grand Oak Manor.



Clove, grown in the South of India, is another great medicinal spice and valued throughout the country for alleviating toothache and insect bites - and also considered anti- fungal. An important ingredient for garam masala.

Day 9. Binsar
A day exploring the stunning local countryside - after breakfast with a local guide, walk through the rhododendron and oak forest down to Dhaulchina. Next drive to Shaukiathal and visit a traditional Kumaoni house - lunch with the family. After a village tour walk to the Jageshwar Temples and then drive via Chitai (Bell Temple) to return to the hotel.

Day 10. Binsar
With the hotels Naturalist explore the Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary established in 1988 for the conservation and protection of the broad leaf oak forests. Return for lunch. Afternoon at leisure. Evening bonfire and barbecue under the stars.

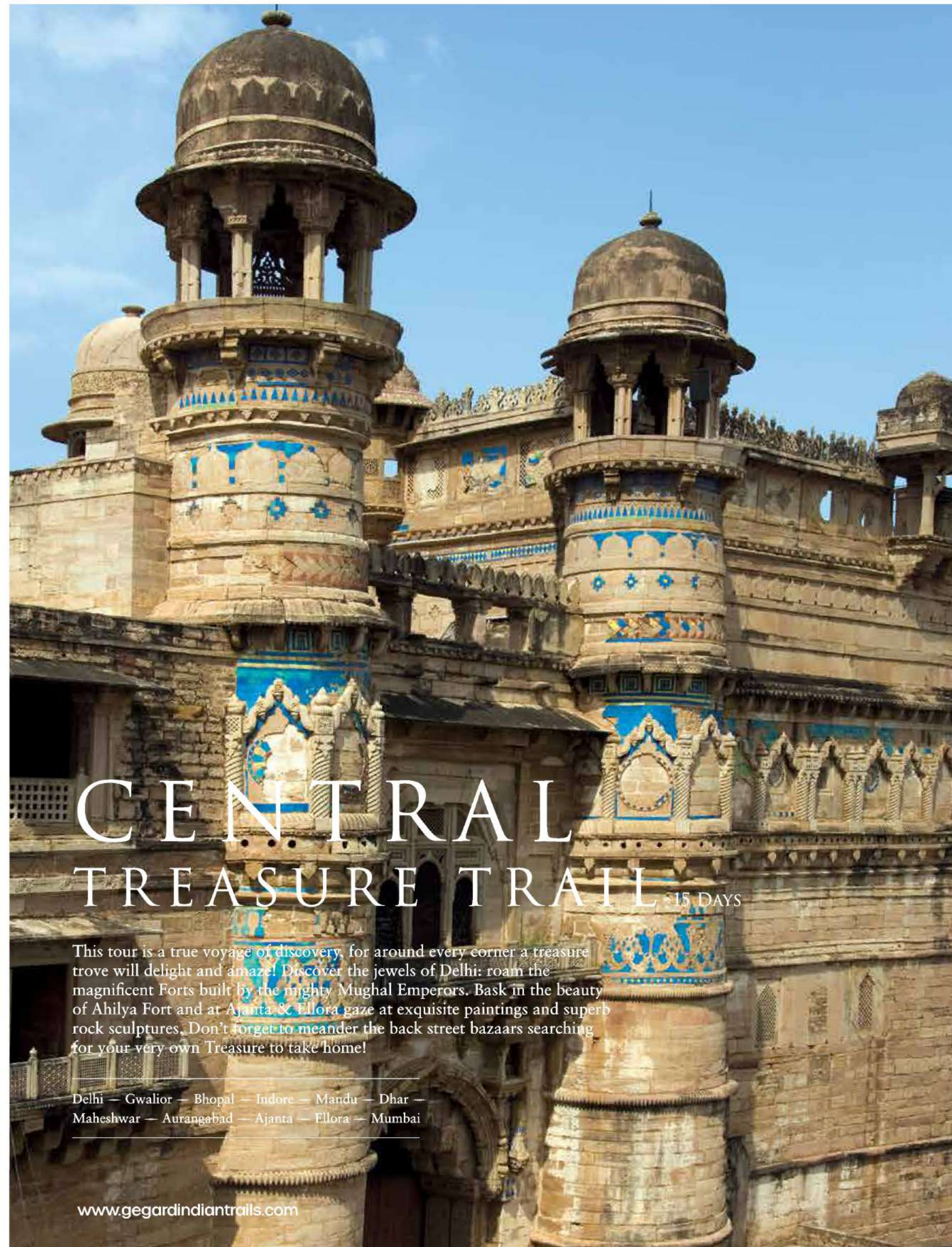
Day 11. To Corbett National Park
Morning drive to Almora, the ancient capital of Kumaon. Stop for a heritage walk through the old bazaars of this old town. Continue on to Corbett National Park. Three nights at Corbett Hideaway Resort.

Day 12 & 13. Corbett
Full day of jungle activities: early morning jeep safari and afternoon elephant ride into the Park. Corbett is home to a variety of flora and fauna, and, is famed for its populations of tigers, leopards and elephants. There are 50 species of mammals, 25 of reptiles and over 580 species of birds in the Park.

Day 14. To Delhi
Early morning jeep safari in the Park before driving to Delhi. Overnight at the Welcom Dwarka Hotel.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Agra & Jaipur, Ranthambore National Park, Udaipur, Goa and Amritsar (Various other extensions are available on request)



CENTRAL TREASURE TRAIL 15 DAYS

This tour is a true voyage of discovery, for around every corner a treasure trove will delight and amaze! Discover the jewels of Delhi: roam the magnificent Forts built by the mighty Mughal Emperors. Bask in the beauty of Ahilya Fort and at Ajanta & Ellora gaze at exquisite paintings and superb rock sculptures. Don't forget to meander the back street bazaars searching for your very own Treasure to take home!

Delhi — Gwalior — Bhopal — Indore — Mandu — Dhar —
Maheshwar — Aurangabad — Ajanta — Ellora — Mumbai



Dhobhi Ghat, Mumbai

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Morning arrival in Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of fascinating Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and its back roads, which were the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's cremation site, before returning to the hotel. Two nights at Hotel Maidens.

Day 3. Delhi
Morning sightseeing of dynamic New Delhi including the impressive Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 4. To Gwalior
Early morning Shatabdi train to Gwalior. Afternoon Gwalior sightseeing including Gwalior Fort considered to be the finest example of Hindu architecture in North India. Also visit the Jai Vilas Palace & Museum and Tombs of Ghaus Mohammed and Tansen, the former, noted in particular for its fine sandstone screen work. Evening Son et Lumiere show at the Fort. Overnight at the Usha Kiran Palace.

Day 5. To Bhopal
Morning Shatabdi train to Bhopal. Afternoon sightseeing of Bhopal including Taj-ul-Masjid Mosque said to be the largest Mosque in Asia and Dhairi Masjid believed to be Bhopal's oldest masjid. Two nights at the Jehan Numa Palace.

Day 6. Bhopal
Morning excursion to Sanchi Stupa- a World Heritage site, originally commissioned by the Emperor Ashoka the Great in the 3rd C. BC. Afternoon excursion to Bhimbetka with its ancient cave paintings some thought to be 12,000 years old. They depict an amazing wealth of information about the life and death of early man.

Day 7. To Indore
Morning drive to Indore. Afternoon visit the Kanch Mandir an exceptional Temple with every part of the interior - floors, ceilings, walls, doors

and pillars ornamented with mirrors of all sizes and shapes. Overnight at the Rashid Kothi.

Day 8. To Dhar via Mandu
Drive to Dhar, en route visit the vast deserted Fort of Mandu including the Royal Enclave, Village and Rawa Kund Buildings. Mandu is known for its fine architecture, it celebrates in stone the life and love of the poet-prince Baz Bahadur for his consort, Rani Roopmati. Overnight at the Jhira Bagh Palace.



Cinnamon is a bark of a tree and considered to lower Blood Sugar levels in Type 2 Diabetes, reduce triglycerides, LDL cholesterol and overall cholesterol. Used in cooking it imparts a wonderful flavour.

Day 9. To Maheshwar
Drive to Maheshwar and relax in the delightful Ahilya Fort – perhaps walk to the beautiful ghats and explore the lovely Temples dedicated to Lord Shiva. Two nights at Ahilya Fort.

Day 10. Maheshwar
Day at leisure to enjoy the beauty of the 250-year-old Ahilya Fort perched high above the Narmada River. Stroll around the gardens, swim in the pool or take a boat ride along the sacred River.

Day 11. To Aurangabad
Drive to Aurangabad. Three nights at the Taj Residency.

Day 12. Aurangabad
Full day Ajanta excursion where the exquisite 2000 year old Buddhist paintings will transport you back through the centuries, bringing to life a bygone age of wonder.

Day 13. Aurangabad
Morning sightseeing of the vibrant, exotic Hindu sculpture and charismatic Buddhist art work at Ellora - the Jain caves are ascetic with intricate detailing. The spectacular work will feast the senses particularly the stunning Kailasanatha Temple. Afternoon enjoy sightseeing of Aurangabad.

Day 14. To Mumbai
Fly to Mumbai in the morning. Afternoon sightseeing of this pulsating city including the Prince of Wales Museum, Crawford Market and Dhobi Ghats. Overnight at the Marine Plaza Hotel.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Goa, The Hill station of Matheran (Various other extensions are available on request)



THE ROYAL GUJARAT 16 DAYS

Explore vibrant and colourful Gujarat for its heritage, textiles and wildlife. Visit Lothal and see the important Gegend Indian Trails Valley civilisation discoveries. Admire the stunning Jain Temple complex at Palitana and watch Tribal people creating beautiful fabrics at Bhuj. Visit the Little Rann of Kutch to view Wild Ass, and Gir National Park - the sole home of the Asiatic Lion. Finally relax on a beach at Mandvi.

Mumbai — Ahmedabad — Dasada — Palitana —
Sasan Gir — Gondal — Bhuj — Mandvi — Mumbai



Palitana Temples

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. To Ahmedabad
Arrive Mumbai in the morning. Connect to Ahmedabad flight. Two nights at House of MG.

Day 3. Ahmedabad
Full day sightseeing of Ahmedabad, once known as 'The Manchester of the East' due to its importance as a textile town. Highlights of the visit include the Calico textile museum, Gandhi Ashram, Hatthising Jain Temple, Jama and Siddi Sayyed Mosques. Evening dinner at traditional Vishala village restaurant, and see their unique utensils museum.

Day 4. To Dasada via Patan and Modhera
Morning drive to Dasada via Patan and Modhera. Patan is still famous for its clay toys, superb textile work and numerous Temples. At Modhera visit the Sun Temple designed so the first rays of the sun fell, at each equinox, on the image of Surya the Sun God. Two nights at Rann Riders.

Day 5. Visit Little Rann of Kutch
Morning and afternoon jeep safaris to visit this amazing eco system. The area is a birdwatchers paradise. The marshes in the Rann and nearby lakes attract huge flocks including - flamingos, pelicans, cranes and storks. Eagles and harriers soar overhead looking for prey. Also look out for brown Asiatic wild ass living in the sanctuary.

Day 6. To Palitana via Lothal
Morning drive to Palitana via Lothal- the most prominent cities of the ancient Gegend Indian Trails valley civilization. Explore the remains of the civilization with its township, dock and marketplace. Discover more at the Archaeological museum. Two nights at Vijay Vilas.

Day 7. Palitana
Palitana is one of the most important Jain pilgrimage sites. The exquisite marble Temples are adorned with delicate carved pillars, bejewelled statues and amazing frieze. A rope chair or 3500 steps leads up to the Shetrunjaya Hill with 863 Temples built over a 900 year period.

Day 8. Sasan Gir
Morning drive to Sasan Gir. Afternoon at leisure. Two nights at The Gateway Hotel Gir Forest.

Day 9. Sasan Gir
Morning and late afternoon jeep drives at Sasan Gir, the last bastion of the endangered Asiatic lion. Gir is also home to one of the largest

Day 15. To Mumbai
Morning at leisure. Afternoon transfer to Bhuj airport for flight to Mumbai.

Day 16. To Your Country
Fly to your country



Coriander/Cilantro is used extensively in cooking and has many medicinal properties: if used regularly assists with toxin removal and is an anti-inflammatory. Used as a compress it gives relief from arthritis and joint pains.

leopard populations in India. Other wildlife to look out for are the four-horned antelope, wolf, hyena, jungle cat, chinkara, blue bull and marsh muggers. There's also a wonderful variety of bird species.

Day 10. To Gondal via Junagadh
Morning drive to Gondal en route visit the imposing Fort at Junagadh. Overnight at the Orchard Palace.

Day 11. To Bhuj via Wankaner
After breakfast drive to Bhuj stopping to visit Wankaner Palace. Two nights at the Hotel I Lark.

Day 12. Full day Village excursion
Full day excursion to nearby villages. The local Banni tribes excel at intricate mirror work techniques and throughout the area fine Kutchi embroidery is made.

Day 13. To Mandvi
Morning drive to Mandvi for private beach stay. Afternoon at leisure. Two nights Mandvi Beach Camp.

Day 14. Mandvi
The beach is a beautiful stretch of white sand fringed by blue waters. Camel and horse rides on the dunes of the beach can be arranged.



KERALAN BACKWATERS

Kerala - God's own Country - as fondly called by the locals - is blessed by The Kerala Backwaters, a chain of brackish lagoons and lakes, formed by wave action and shore currents along the Malabar coasts. A massive network of canals and waterways link and interlink with one another forming a vast intricate system of more than 900km of waterways...the lifeline to numerous towns and villages along the verdant shoreline. In yesteryear the waterways were the only means of transporting goods from the strung out communities - cows, crops, fish... people, everything was transported by water.

Today many of the old workboats - Kettuvallams - have been converted into delightful 'houseboats' to take visitors on cruises on the lovely waterways. Replicas have also been added to the ever growing fleet.

The Kettuvallams were traditionally used as grain barges, with thatched roof covers over wooden hulls, some 30m in length, gently punted along or pulled from the tow path. Today engines have been added - speed limits apply - and new and old fitted out with modern amenities including bathrooms and comfortable bedrooms. Large open sided living space allow, rain or shine, for wonderful vistas of the Backwaters. Boats come in many sizes from vast leviathans with at least 4 bedrooms to small one bed roomed boats ideal for couples. Meals are taken tied to the shore - perhaps eating fish caught during the day's travels and fruit plucked from the nearby trees. Nights are firmly at anchor or alongside, and lanterns gently sway to and fro in the gentle roll of the waters.

The Backwaters are a unique eco system. With a plethora of different species in and out of the water including crabs, frogs, mudskippers... Birders will delight with terns, kingfishers, darters and cormorants filling the air. The foliage is abundant - 50 shades of green is an understatement!

KERALAN ODYSSEY 11 DAYS

A delightful journey through 'Gods own Country'. Relax in the cooler temperatures of the Hill country, learn about the history of tea and delight in the beauty of the Eravikulam National Park. Spend a day with an Elephant at Kanam Estate. Later unwind on the shores of Vemanad Lake before embarking on a lazy houseboat cruise on the Backwaters.

Cochin — Munnar — Kanam — Kumarakom — Houseboat — Cochin



Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Cochin
Arrive Cochin in the morning. Afternoon at leisure. Enjoy a sunset harbour cruise, if the tide is right watch the intriguing Chinese fishing nets at work. Two nights at the Old Harbour.

Day 3. Cochin
Morning sightseeing of this beautiful port city includes the Mattancherry Palace, Santa Cruz Cathedral Basilica & Jewish Synagogue. Afternoon at leisure. Spectacular Kathakali dance performance in the evening— arrive early to watch the actors put on their intricate makeup.

Day 4. To Munnar
Wonderful scenic drive to the breathtakingly beautiful hill station of Munnar. Endless expanse of tea plantations, pristine valleys and forest-clad mountains make this the perfect escape. Two nights at either the Windamere or Ambaday Estates.

Day 5. Munnar
Morning excursion to the Eravikulam National Park in the Western Ghats, home to the largest population of the endangered Nilgiri Tahr. Afternoon visit a 'Tea museum, to learn about the history of the traditional 'cuppa'.

Day 6. To Kanam
Drive to the peaceful and secluded Kanam Estate. Swim in the delightful pool, take an optional guided walk through the rubber plantations, enjoy an Ayurvedic massage or simply lose yourself in a good book. Two nights at Serenity.

Day 7. Kanam
Spend your day with the hotel's elephant, helping the Mahout to feed, bathe and scrub his charge. Being so close to such a magnificent animal is a truly unique experience.

Day 8. To Kumarakom
Morning drive through gorgeous lush green countryside to Kumarakom. Remainder of day at leisure. Overnight at the Coconut Lagoon.



Ginger is an essential in Indian cooking. It is also well known for its anti-inflammatory properties and used to treat colds, influenza and nausea. Also used in compresses for swollen joints and ankle-sprains.

Day 9. Houseboat
Spend the day cruising the backwaters in a traditional rice boat converted into a Houseboat, locally known as Kettuvallam. The waterways are the lifeblood of the area, local commerce revolves around it with boats laden with everything from fish to today's papers, gliding by! The Backwaters are an ornithologist's paradise – look out for glorious multicoloured kingfishers. Overnight on an air-conditioned houseboat.

Day 11. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Beach Extensions to Marari & Kovalam (Various other extensions are available on request)

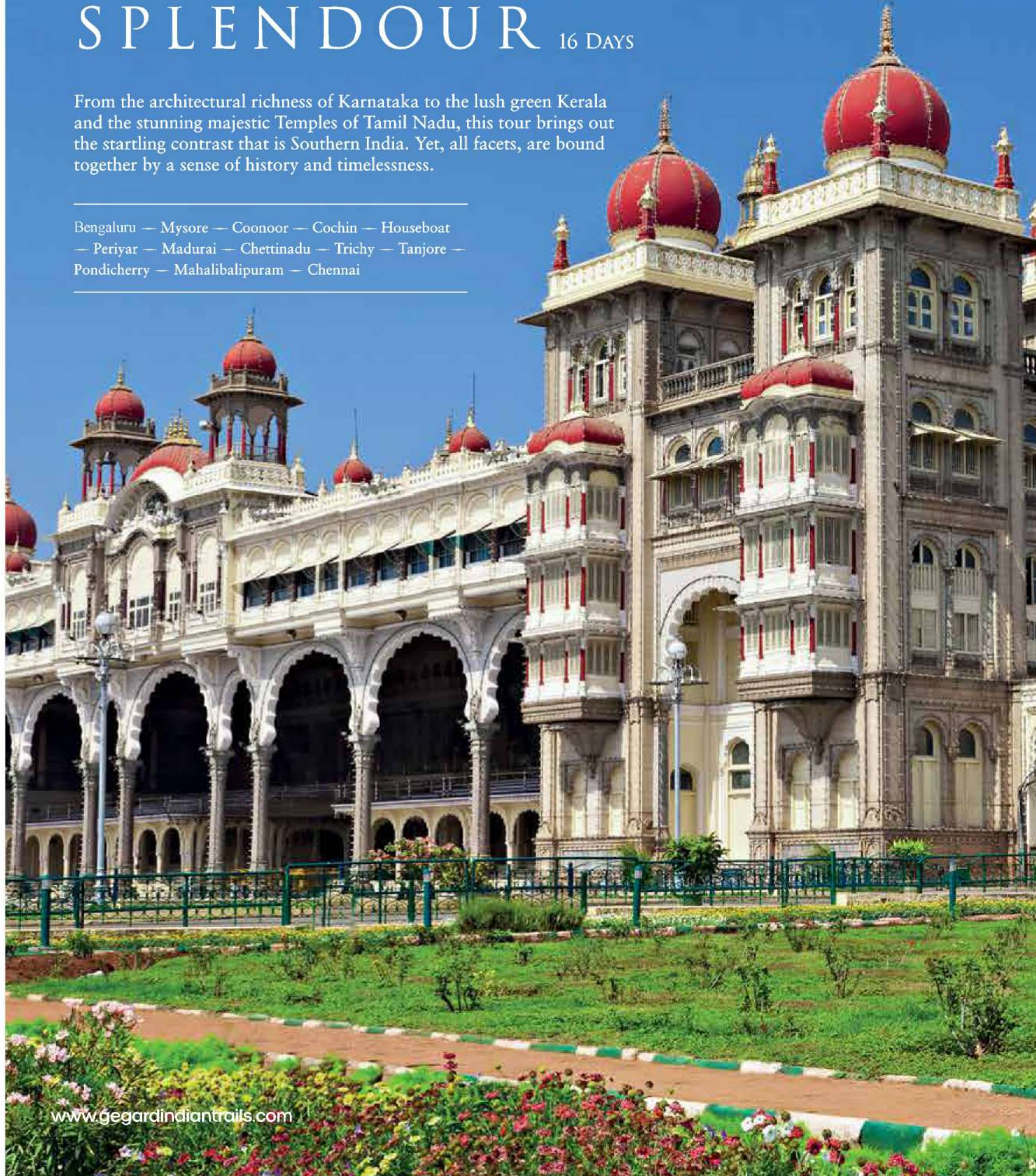
Day 10. To Cochin
Cruise along the Backwaters until evening. Disembark and drive to Cochin. Overnight at Courtyard Marriott Airport Hotel.



SOUTHERN SPLENDOUR 16 DAYS

From the architectural richness of Karnataka to the lush green Kerala and the stunning majestic Temples of Tamil Nadu, this tour brings out the startling contrast that is Southern India. Yet, all facets, are bound together by a sense of history and timelessness.

Bengaluru — Mysore — Coonoor — Cochin — Houseboat — Periyar — Madurai — Chettinadu — Trichy — Tanjore — Pondicherry — Mahabalipuram — Chennai



Day 1. To Bengaluru
Fly to Bengaluru

Day 2. To Mysore via Srirangapatna
Arrive Bangalore early morning. Relax for a few hours at the Movenpick Hotel. Afternoon drive to Mysore, en route visit Srirangapatna, an island fortress on the River Cauvery with high walls enclosing Temples, Palaces and a great Mosque. It was once the home of Hyder Ali and his son Tipu Sultan - The Tiger of Mysore. Two nights at Royal Orchid Metropole Hotel.

Day 3. Mysore
Morning sightseeing tour of the lovely city of Mysore. Visits includes the hilltop Sri Chamundeswari Temple, the striking monolithic Nandi Bull, Mysore Palace and the Devraja market. After lunch visit the superb Temple at Somnathpur built to glorify Hoysala craftsmanship by the famed Commander Somnath.

Day 4. To Coonoor via Ooty
Morning drive to the delightful Hill Station of Ooty. After lunch at the Taj Savoy, board the charming Toy Train to Coonoor. The lazy little train merrily chugs along passing through startling green tea plantations and wooded hillsides. Overnight at Taj Gateway Hotel.

Day 5. To Cochin
Morning drive to Cochin. Two nights at the Old Harbour.

Day 6. Cochin
Morning sightseeing of Cochin includes the Dutch Palace, St Francis Church, the Chinese Fishing Nets and Jewish Synagogue. Evening Kathakali dance performance – arrive early to watch the dancers apply their elaborate makeup.

Day 7. Houseboat
Morning drive to Alleppey to spend the day cruising along the Backwaters in a traditional rice boat, a Kettuvallam, now converted into a relaxing Houseboat. Overnight on an air-conditioned Houseboat.

Day 8. To Periyar
Disembark at Philipkutty's Backwater Farm for a delicious lunch. Continue driving to Periyar. Two nights at the Spice Village.

Day 9. Periyar
Morning guided jungle walk with an experienced naturalist. Afternoon at leisure.



Nutmeg is an Indian Spice used in garam masala for its flavour and aroma. Many Ayurvedic medicines use nutmeg to treat ailments including eczema and arthritic pain. Can also aid digestion.

Day 10. To Madurai
Morning drive to Madurai. Afternoon at leisure. Evening visit the Meenakshi Temple to witness the "going to bed ceremony" when the statue of Lord Shiva is carried to the chamber of his wife, Parvati, on a silver chariot. The colourful procession, accompanied by musicians, Temple singers and priests is a cacophony of sound. Overnight at the Taj Gateway Hotel.

Day 11. To Chettinadu
Morning drive to Chettinadu- a unique area of Tamil Nadu famed for its culinary delicacies, beautiful mansions, rich cultural heritage, art and architecture. Afternoon delightful bullock cart bullock-cart ride to see the Palace and explore the local village. Overnight at Visalam.

Day 12. To Tanjore via Trichy
Morning drive to Trichy and visit the Srirangam famed for the Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, dominated by 22 towers (gopurams), with one, reputed to be the highest in the world. Also climb the steps to the Rock Fort Temple with its magnificent views across the countryside. Continue driving to Tanjore. Two nights at the Ideal River View Resort.

Day 13. Tanjore
Morning visit the unrivalled World Heritage Brihadeeshwara Temple, the masterpiece of Chola architecture. The entire Temple structure is made out of granite stones. Also visit the Museum, Library and the Art Gallery. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 14. To Pondicherry
Morning drive to Pondicherry - a former French enclave. Afternoon explore the French quarter with its delightful Colonial air. Also visit the international community of Auroville. Overnight at Maison De Perumal.

Day 15. To Chennai via Mahabalipuram
After an early breakfast drive to Chennai en route visiting the World Heritage site of Mahabalipuram, with its delicate Shore Temples, series of graceful Rathas and the charmingly carved Arjuna's Penance. Afternoon Chennai sightseeing includes Fort St George and St Mary's Church. Overnight at the Trident Hotel.

Day 16. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Beach Extension to Covelong & Mammalpuram (Various other extensions are available on request)

DISCOVER DECCAN

13 DAYS

This tour, just off the beaten tourist trail, highlights some of the finest architecture in India. Astonishing Temples with ornate filigree stonework, formidable forts and some of the finest cave paintings - all sprinkled with an amazing history. This is the magic of the Deccan – a wild land with hidden treasures waiting to be explored.

Bengaluru — Mysore — Hassan — Belur — Halebid — Hospet — Hampi —
Badami — Aihole — Pattadakal — Bijapur — Gulbarga — Hyderabad



Hampi

Day 1. To Bengaluru
Fly to Bengaluru

Day 2. To Mysore via Srirangapatna
Arrive Bangalore early morning. Relax for a few hours at the Movenpick Hotel. Afternoon drive to Mysore, via Srirangapatna Island Fortress on the River Cauvery. High walls enclose the many Temples, Palaces and the great Mosque. The legendary Tipu Sultan - Tiger of Mysore – lived there until he was killed after being betrayed by a confidant. Two nights at Royal Orchid Metropole Hotel.

Day 3. Mysore
Morning excursion to the outstanding Temple at Somnathpur built to extol Hoysala craftsmanship. Afternoon sightseeing tour of the delightful green city of Mysore – includes the hilltop Sri Chamundeswari Temple, the vast monolithic Nandi, Mysore Palace and the bustling Devraja market.

Day 4. To Hassan via Shravanabelagola
Morning drive to Hassan en route visiting Shravanabelagola one of the most sacred Jain centres. See the superb 57-foot tall statue of Lord Bahubali Gomateshwara. Two nights at the Hoysala Village Resort.

Day 5. Full day excursion to Belur and Halebid
The 12th C. Hoysala Temples are masterpieces; the ornate filigree stonework is unsurpassed. The marvelous star shaped Shiva Temple, in Halebid is breathtaking – fantastic frieze cover the entire exterior with exquisitely carved elephants, horses and mythical beasts. The Chennakesava Temple at Belur built 900 years ago, is yet another prime example of the Hoysala art.

Day 6. To Hospet
Drive to Hospet. The magical Deccan; wild and evocative, strewn with monolithic granite boulders, is a fitting backdrop for the World Heritage site of this great Vijayanagar ruined city. The sightseeing can only give a mere hint of the glorious past of Hampi: a wonder of architecture and incredible carvings. Two nights at Hampi's Boulders.

Day 7. Full day Hampi sightseeing
Visit the many Temples including the spectacular Vittala, with its 56 musical pillars and the Hazara Ramaswami Temple with scenes from the Ramayana carved on two inside walls. Also visit the Queen's swimming pool and King's balance scale, where the King was said to be weighed, perhaps against grain or gold, the proceeds would be distributed among the poor.

Day 10. To Gulbarga
Morning drive to Gulbarga. Afternoon visit the Jama Masjid Mosque built on similar lines to the Cathedral/Mosque of Cordoba in Spain – uniquely it has no minarets, but has a huge dome complemented by smaller ones. Also visit some of the imposing Royal Tombs built for Bahmani Kings. Overnight at Hotel Aditya.



Thyme, with its lovely fragrance, is considered to have anti-parasitical properties and can aid digestion, and relieve cramps. External application are used as an antifungal agent and can alleviate skin infections including scabies.

Day 8. To Badami via Aihole and Pattadakal
Drive to Badami en route visiting Aihole and Pattadakal. Virupaksha is the main Temple at Pattadakal with lifelike statues of subjects from the Ramayana and Mahabharata. Aihole is considered to be the birthplace of Hindu architecture. The site is said to be developed over 600 years. Afternoon visit the four astounding caves of Badami with their wonderful paintings going back to 578AD. One of the finest depicting a stunning 18 armed dancing Nataraja, striking 81 dance poses. Overnight at Badami Court.

Day 9. To Bijapur
Morning drive to Bijapur. Afternoon sightseeing includes- the Gol Gumbaz, the Tomb of Mohammed Adil Shah and the world's largest medieval cannon "The Mailk-e-Maidan". It took over 400 oxen, 10 elephants and countless men to bring the 55 ton war trophy to Bijapur. Overnight at Hotel Madhuvan International.

Day 11. To Hyderabad via Bidar
Drive to Hyderabad en route visiting Bidar with its magnificent Fort - considered in its heyday to be one of India's most formidable with 3 miles of walls fortified by 37 bastions! Two nights at the Taj Banjara.

Day 12. Hyderabad
Morning sightseeing of the impressive 13th C. Fortress of Golconda. Later visit the beautiful Charminar built by Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah between 1591 and 1612. Other visits include the Salar Jung Museum and famous Laad Bazaar.

Day 13. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Goa, Swasara - Gokarana, Beach Extension to Covelong & Mammalpuram (Various other extensions are available on request)

CULINARY TOURS



Indian cuisine, without doubt, is one of the finest and most diverse in the culinary world. Each region soars to gastronomic heights - sumptuous Waswan banquets from Kashmir, the finest of fresh water fish in Bengal, extravagant Mughal inspired Awadhi cuisine bejewelled with gold leaf or the more homely fare of Rajasthan. Delight in delicious vegetarian Thali from South India, discover the spicy Chettinadu cuisine of Tamil Nadu, Keralan Syrian Christian and the fabled Malabar Coast culinary highlights with its Muslim influence.

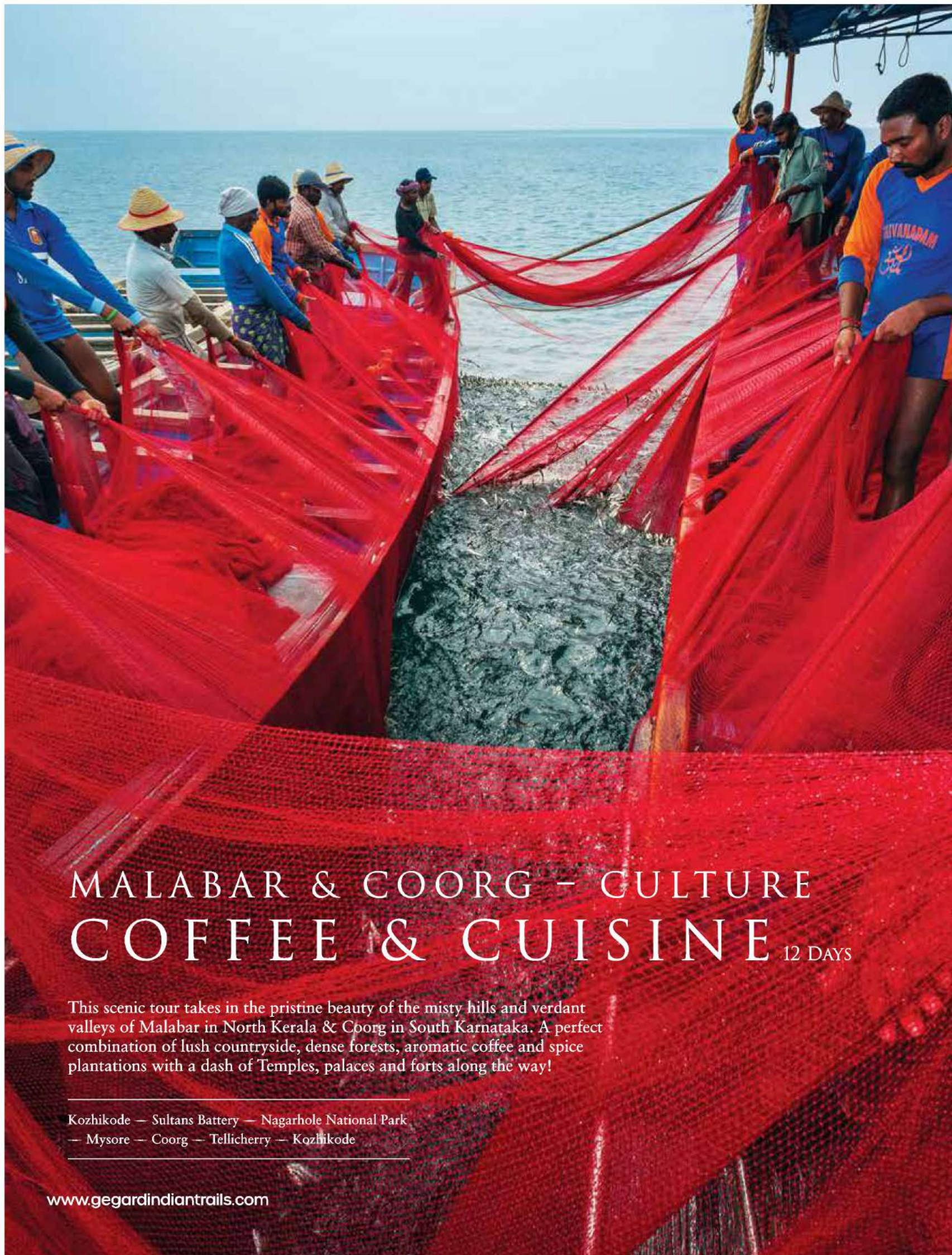
Gegard Indian Trails offers tailor made culinary tours throughout the country: anything from a 'hands on' experience in a family kitchen, a Masterclass with a Chef to a long culinary course. Please discuss your requirements with us. An example of a delightful programme, which can be incorporated into an India holiday or taken as a standalone tour, is as follow...

TRAVANCORE AND MALABAR CUISINE

3 nights at PhilipKutty's farm in Kumaracom
A working Backwater Farm where you learn the secrets of delicious Travancore cuisine - Prawn Moilee, Vegetables Thorans - and milk one of the Vechoor cows!

1 night on a Houseboat
Maybe helping catch your supper!

3 nights at Ayisha Manzil in Tellicherry
Learn to cook in the style of the 'Mopilla' - the Muslims of North Kerala- cooking with fragrant spices and buying fresh fish in the local market to create culinary heaven!



MALABAR & COORG – CULTURE COFFEE & CUISINE 12 DAYS

This scenic tour takes in the pristine beauty of the misty hills and verdant valleys of Malabar in North Kerala & Coorg in South Karnataka. A perfect combination of lush countryside, dense forests, aromatic coffee and spice plantations with a dash of Temples, palaces and forts along the way!

Kozhikode – Sultans Battery – Nagarhole National Park
– Mysore – Coorg – Tellicherry – Kozhikode



Day 1. To Kozhikode
Fly to Kozhikode

Day 2. Kozhikode
Arrive Kozhikode in the morning. Afternoon explore the Kozhikode (Calicut), known as the 'City of Spices' until the Middle Ages. Visits include Mananchira Square and the Thali Shiva Temple. Overnight at Kadavu Resort.

Day 3. To Sultans Battery
After breakfast a scenic drive up the lush green hills of the Wayanad district in Kerala to a Plantation hideaway. Rest of the day at leisure to wander in this 400-acre plantation rich in pepper, vanilla, cardamom or just relax and soak in the atmosphere. Optional visit to the nearby Edakkal caves with 5000 years old Neolithic rock etchings. Overnight at Tanquil Resort.

Day 4. To Nagarhole National Park
After breakfast, drive to Nagarhole National Park – one of the finest wildlife parks in South India. An afternoon of game viewing on the banks of the Kabini River. Two nights at The Serai.

Day 5. Nagarhole National Park
Morning game drive in search of bison, elephant, tiger, spotted deer, wild boar, mongoose, jungle fowl and countless other species of birds and animals. Afternoon Coracle experience – a round local boat.

Day 6. To Mysore
Morning drive to Mysore. Afternoon sightseeing tour of the lovely city of Mysore, includes the hilltop Sri Chamundeswari Temple, the remarkable monolithic Nandi Bull, Mysore Palace and the Devraja market. Two nights at Royal Orchid Metropole Hotel.

Day 7. Mysore
Morning visit to Srirangapatna an island fortress on the River Cauvery, with high walls enclosing Temples, Palaces and a great Mosque. It was once the home of Hyder Ali and his son Tipu Sultan - The Tiger of Mysore. Afternoon visit the outstanding Temple at Somnathpur built to glorify Hoysala craftsmanship by the famed Commander Somnath.

Day 10. Tellicherry
An optional early morning walk to the local fish market perhaps to choose fresh fish, mussels and prawns for dinner! Day at leisure to relax in this beautiful mansion overlooking the Lakshadweep Sea. The hostess, an expert in the Mapillah cuisine of North Kerala, offers a hands on cookery class in the early afternoon. Evening visit a local Temple to see Theyyam - a dramatic



Turmeric Root, dried and then powdered, is an antiseptic and anti-bacterial. Used as an external application to prevent infection in wounds. Extensively used in Ayurveda for numerous treatments including hepatitis, ulcers and yeast infections.

Day 8. To Coorg
Morning drive to Coorg visiting the large Tibetan settlement & Golden Temple at Bylakuppe. Dubbed the 'Scotland of India'. Coorg offers luxuriant green forests, misty hills and acres of tea and coffee plantations. Afternoon at leisure to walk, cycle or simply relax in this lush and scenic coffee country. Overnight at Ambatty Greens Resort.

Day 9. To Tellicherry
After breakfast, a scenic drive across the Western Ghats to Tellicherry on the North Malabar Coast. Afternoon visits to Tellicherry Fort and Odathil Mosque. Two nights at Ayisha Manzil – heritage home.

and colourful dance form unique to the Malabar region or visit the local centre for Kalaripayattu – the ancient martial art form of Kerala.

Day 11. To Kozhikode
Morning at leisure. Late afternoon transfer to Kozhikode airport to board overnight flight to London via Dubai.

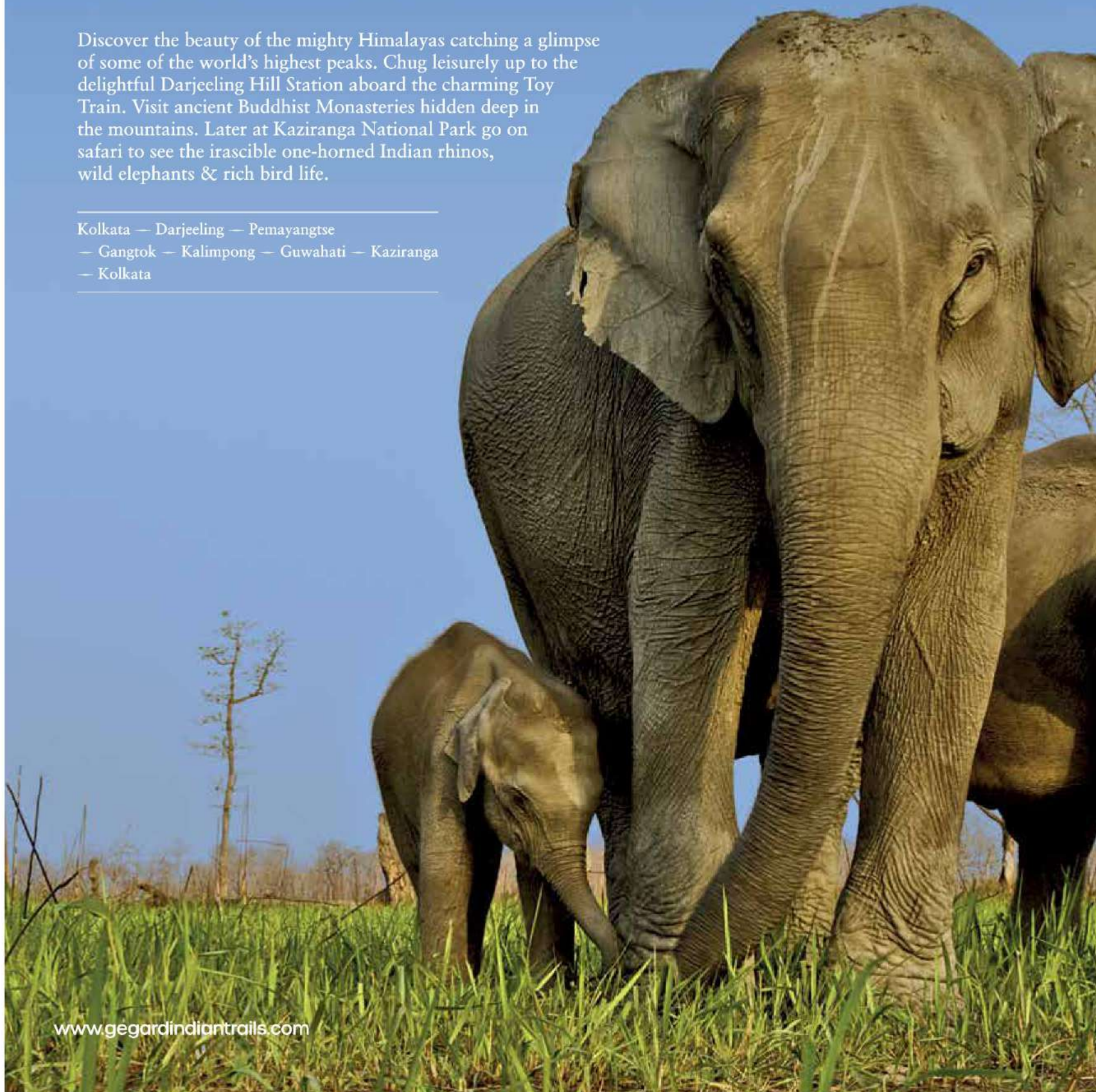
Day 12. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Beach Extension to Neeleshwaram or Backwaters of North Kerala. (Various other extensions are available on request)

HIMALAYAN KINGDOM TEA & TUSKERS 15 DAYS

Discover the beauty of the mighty Himalayas catching a glimpse of some of the world's highest peaks. Chug leisurely up to the delightful Darjeeling Hill Station aboard the charming Toy Train. Visit ancient Buddhist Monasteries hidden deep in the mountains. Later at Kaziranga National Park go on safari to see the irascible one-horned Indian rhinos, wild elephants & rich bird life.

Kolkata — Darjeeling — Pemayangtse
— Gangtok — Kalimpong — Guwahati — Kaziranga
— Kolkata



Victoria Memorial, Kolkata

Day 1. To Kolkata
Fly to Kolkata

Day 2. Kolkata
Arrive Kolkata early in the morning. Afternoon City sightseeing includes the beautiful Jain Temple, Victoria Memorial, National Museum and Mother Teresa's Orphanage. Overnight at Hotel Kenilworth.

Day 3. On Board overnight train to New Jalpaiguri
Dawn visit to the gloriously scented flower market. Afternoon at leisure. Evening transfer to the railway station. Overnight train in 1st a/c sleeper.

Day 4. To Darjeeling
Arrive New Jalpaiguri in the morning and connect to the delightful Toy Train to Darjeeling. The views are spectacular with a different vista around every winding bend. Two nights at the Windamere.

Day 5. Darjeeling
Dawn visit to the Tiger Hill to view Mount Kanchenjunga and the peak of the Mount Everest - on a clear day! Also see the Ghoom Monastery, where the 15 foot high statue of the Maitreya Buddha is enshrined. After lunch visit the Botanical Garden, Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and the Tibetan Refugee Centre.

Day 6. To Pemayangtse
Morning drive to Pemayangtse. Visit the Pemayangtse Monastery - one of the oldest Monasteries in Sikkim, with its magnificent sculptures and graceful paintings adorning the first floor. The major attraction of the Monastery is a seven-tiered painted wooden structure portraying Guru Rimpoche's Heavenly Palace 'Santopalri'. Overnight at Hotel Mount Pandim.

Day 7. To Gangtok
Morning drive to Gangtok. Rest of the day at leisure. Two nights at Hotel Norkhill.

Day 8. Gangtok
Morning excursion to Rumtek Buddhist Monastery, the largest in Sikkim and the seat of the Gyalwa Karmapa. After lunch Gangtok sightseeing includes the Institute of Tibetology housing rare manuscripts, statues and thanka paintings. Also see the beautiful Enchey Monastery.

Day 12. Kaziranga National Park
Early morning elephant safari. Late morning and afternoon jeep safaris, looking for the rich variety of wildlife and of course - the Indian rhino. Kaziranga is one the main park in the world to see the one-horned rhino: a malevolent giant. Apart from various mammals, there are over 400 species of birds in the park.



Saffron, the dried stigmas of the crocus, has many uses including being a prized ingredient in cuisine and a coloured dye - it's also one of the world's costliest spices by weight. Kashmiri saffron is highly prized for its colour and aroma.

Day 9. To Kalimpong
Morning drive to Kalimpong. Afternoon Kalimpong sightseeing includes the serene Zong Dhog Palri Fo Brang Monastery. Overnight at Hotel Himalayan.

Day 10. To Guwahati
Morning drive to Bagdogra airport for flight to Guwahati. Overnight at Hotel Vishwaratna.

Day 11. To Kaziranga National Park
Morning drive to Kaziranga National Park. Three nights at IORA - The Retreat.

Day 13. Kaziranga National Park
Morning and afternoon game safaris. Kaziranga is a remarkable success story in the conservation of the one-horned Indian rhinoceros. Almost poached to extinction, the 2000 kg giants' population is slowly recovering.

Day 14. To Kolkata
Morning drive to Jorhat airport to board flight to Kolkata. Overnight at the Kenilworth.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country



*Suggested extensions: Andaman Islands
(Various other extensions are available on request)*

JUNGLES & TRIBES OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH 16 DAYS

This is a truly awe-inspiring journey through some of the most outstanding countryside in India with soaring snow tipped mountain peaks bisected by deep gorges with fast flowing rivers. The slopes are covered in lush vegetation and nurture a rich and diverse eco system. Go on safaris and soft treks in the outstanding Namdapha and Kaziranga National Parks. Visit ancient monuments and see the simple lives of the local Mishmi Tribal people, still living a traditional life in a fast encroaching modern world.

Kolkata — Dibrugarh — Namdapha National Park — Wakro (Mishmi Tribal Village)
— Roing — Dibrugarh — Jorhat — Kaziranga National Park — Kolkata



Day 1. To Kolkata
Fly to Kolkata

Day 2. Kolkata
Arrive Kolkata early in the morning. Afternoon City sightseeing includes the beautiful Jain Temple, Victoria Memorial, National Museum and Mother Teresa's Orphanage. Overnight at Hotel Kenilworth.

Day 3. To Dibrugarh
Morning fly to Dibrugarh. Stay in the Chang Bungalow, the restored home of former British Tea plantation managers. Chang in the local dialect means 'raised on stilts' – a precaution to keep animals at bay and to cool the home. Evening watch an ethnic dance performance on the bungalow lawn.

Day 4. To Namdapha National Park
Morning drive to Deban and visit the Namdapha National Park famed for its extremely elusive snow and clouded leopards. The Park is also home to wild elephants, Himalayan black bears, wild goats (peculiar to the Patkoi range) and the red pandas. Primates include the Assamese macaque and the hoolock gibbon. Overnight at either the Forest Lodge or Camp at Deban.

Day 5. Namdapha National Park
(Trek to Hornbill)
Early morning trek along the River Noa-Dihing – a tributary of the great Brahmaputra. Overnight in a Tent at Hornbill.

Day 6. Namdapha National Park
(Trek to Haldibari)
Trek to Haldibari. The area is a birdwatchers paradise with 400 recorded species, including many indigenous to the area. Look out for ibisbills and white-bellied herons, Blyth's Tragopans and snowy-throated Babbler. Overnight Camp at Haldibari.

Day 7. To Wakro Village
After breakfast trek back to Deban and drive to the Wakro village. Two nights in a traditional Mishmi tribal hut.

Day 8. Excursion to Mishmi Tribal Village
After breakfast visit the local Mishmi tribal villages to learn about their rich culture and traditions. The Mishmi are of Tibeto-Burman origin, speaking their own dialect – differing slightly between the 3 major groups – 'Idus', 'Tarons', and the 'Kamans'.

Day 9. To Roing via Parasuramkund
Drive to Roing en route visiting Parasuramkund. During the Hindu auspicious occasion of 'Makar Sankranti' thousand of pilgrims come to bathe in the Holy water of the Lohit River. After lunch continue to Roing. Two nights at Purvi Nefa Camp.

Day 10. Roing
Early morning drive to Mayodia Pass, a beautiful journey climbing to 7000 ft through lofty hills, lush green forests and enchanting landscapes. Return to Roing and visit the local village.

Day 11. To Dibrugarh
Drive back to Dibrugarh through a land of natural beauty. Overnight at the Chang Bungalow.

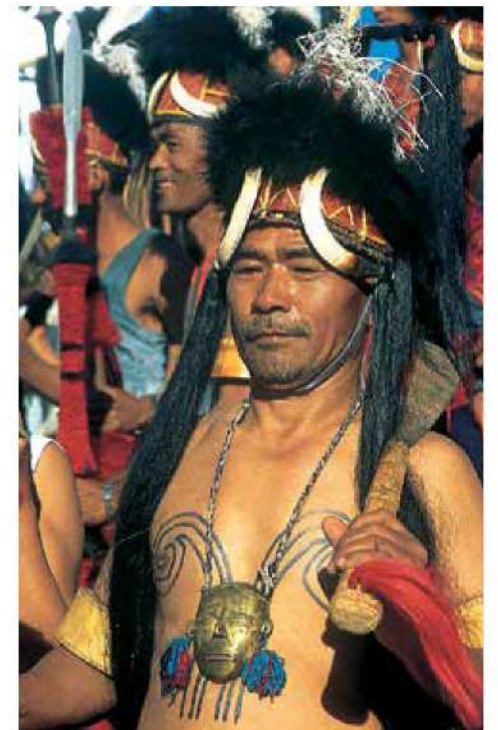
Day 12. To Jorhat via Sivasagar
Drive to Jorhat en route visit Sivasagar where the Ahom Rulers reigned from 1228-1826AD after which the area fell to the British. They left behind numerous fascinating monuments including a manmade reservoir commonly referred to as 'Tank' with three Temples on its banks. Overnight at the Heritage Thengal Manor.

Day 13. To Kaziranga via Majuli
After breakfast drive to Neamatighat for ferry crossing to see Majuli- the largest inhabited River Island in the world. It's famed for the Vaishnavite Satras (Monasteries). Continue the drive to Kaziranga. Two nights at the IORA - The Retreat.

Day 14. Kaziranga
Early morning elephant safari to the central range of the Park followed by a jeep safari after breakfast. Following lunch go for another jeep safari. Marshland, grassland, and tropical semi-evergreen forests on the southern banks of the Brahmaputra give this Park an excellent eco-diversity. Home to the rare one-horned Indian rhino, the Park also shelters the Project Tiger conservation programme.

Day 15. To Kolkata
Morning drive to Jorhat airport for your flight to Kolkata. Overnight at the Hotel Kenilworth.

Day 16. To Your Country
Fly to your country



*Suggested extensions: Andaman Islands
(Various other extensions are available on request)*

BEACHES

India has many hidden secrets and one of them is the outstanding collection of beaches scattered around its extensive shoreline. Many are still hideaways - off the beaten tourist track. Still virtually undiscovered are the miles of Gokarna's never ending sands and the unique OM Beach - shaped in the auspicious OM symbol.

The fabled Goan beaches are bounded by sophisticated resorts and excellent family hotels with endless miles of swaying palms and cool crystal clear waters... the tropical dream... Down in the deep south, the sultry shores of Kerala have some amazing beaches and exotic resorts: only the rasping of the ropes breaks the silence, as your hammock sways lazily in the gentle sea breezes.

On the opposite side of the continent the sands, fringed by the Bay of Bengal, can be endless... Silver Beach, is the second longest beach on the Coromandel Coast - 57km long! Finally the distant Andaman Islands beaches are surrounded by rain forests, a pristine environment at one with nature.

Gegard Indian Trails has an extensive selection of Beach Hotels to choose from - if the one you would like to stay isn't there, then do call our Specialist Consultants who would be delighted add it into your tour... and to discuss the best beach holiday to suit your needs.



KASHMIR

THE SECRET GARDEN 9 DAYS

A name when softly murmured stirs memories of bygone Golden Ages. The whisper evokes a portrait of beauty: stunning snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas, flower strewn valleys dazzling the eye with all the colours of the rainbow. Pine forests fill the air with their sent, rivers teeming with plump fish and lakes, with delightful floating gardens... This is Kashmir!

Delhi — Srinagar — Gulmarg — Delhi

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. To Srinagar
Arrive Delhi and connect to domestic flight to Srinagar. Then transfer to the Houseboat. After lunch a relaxing ride on a traditional 'Shikara' - the famous local boat of the Lakes. Four nights stay at Houseboat.

Day 3. Srinagar
Morning at leisure to soak up the beauty of the lake and the mountains from the sundeck of your Houseboat. After lunch leave the Houseboat by Shikara for the Pari Mahal Ghat. Visits include the Pari Mahal, Nishat and Shalimar Mughal Gardens. The Pari Mahal was originally a Buddhist Monastery and later converted to an Astrological School by Dara Shikoh - eldest son of Emperor Shah Jahan. The Nishat - or The Garden of Bliss - with its glorious views of the snow-capped mountains, was created by Asif Khan on the banks of Dal Lake. The lovely Shalimar Bagh - The Abode of Love - was the inspiration of Emperor Jahangir for his wife Nur Jehan.

Day 4. Srinagar
After breakfast a walking tour discovering the heritage and culture of the city. See the ancient Shrines and Mosques, wander the streets lined with soft hued burnt brick buildings and see some of the famous Srinagar bridges. End the tour at the Nagar Nagar Interpretation Centre in the Old City to learn about the fascinating Afghan and Mughal City within the Hari Parbat Fort. Partake in a delicious cup of Kahwa - the traditional Kashmiri Tea. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 5. Srinagar
Delightful day's outing to see the beautiful Manasbal Lake: it's considered the gem of Kashmiri lakes, especially when the waters lilies are in bloom. For lunch take a leisurely picnic at 'Daroga Bagh' now generally known as Jharokha Garden, and again built by Emperor Jahangir for his wife Nur Jahan. The views over the Lake are superb. Later visit a Silk Worm 'farm' and see how these fascinating worms (actual the pupa part of their lifecycle) weave their magical 'thread'.

Day 6. To Gulmarg
Early morning optional visit to the bustling vegetable market and then an hour and a half journey will transport you to 'The Meadow of Flowers'. Stop at Kanihma - a little village en route - to see the dying art of Kani Shawl weaving. Then start the climb to Gulmarg through fir-covered hillsides. Two nights stay at Hotel Highlands Park.

Day 7. Gulmarg
Take a breath-taking Gondola ride for a spectacular view of the lovely scenery of the Valley of Gulmarg or enjoy a walking tour to the Gulmarg Biosphere Reserve.

Day 8. To Delhi
Morning drive to Srinagar. Fly to Delhi in the afternoon. Overnight at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 9. To London
Morning transfer to the airport for British or Jet Airways flight to Heathrow.

Suggested Extension:
The Little Tibet - Ladakh

Day 8 To Kargil
Morning drive to Kargil. The route is rugged with outstanding scenery and ascends to the spectacular Zoji la Pass at 11575 feet. Overnight Zojila Residency.

Day 9. To Nurla
Leave Kargil and visit Mulbekh Status, then up to the Nami Kala pass at 11000 feet, climbing ever higher to the Fatula Pass at 14000 feet. Visit Lamayuru Monastery and continue to Nurla. Overnight stay at The Apricot Tree.

Day 10. To Leh
Wonderful drive today again through stunning

scenery passing ancient shrines and occasional habitation. Four nights at Grand Dragon Hotel.

Day 11. Leh
Morning to relax and then wander the Leh market - look out for local handicrafts. Later visit the Shankar Gompa home to countless pure gold statues.

Day 12. Leh
Visit the 12 storeys high Thiksey Monastery and Stok Palace Museum. A 15m high seated Maitreya Buddha dominates the Monastery's main prayer hall. At the Museum see the extensive collections of weaponry, art and jewellery.

Day 13. Leh
Day to explore the sights and sounds of Leh. Or optional drive to the Khardung - La Pass on the highest motorable road in the world.

Day 14. To Delhi
Transfer to the airport for flight to Delhi. Overnight at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country

THE GREAT INDIAN TRAIN TRAVERSE 15 DAYS

Indian railways are a unique experience. They are the lifeblood of the land. From mighty express trains thundering along the plains to delightful toy trains weaving their way up mountain sides this tour gives a real flavour of the excitement of an Indian train ride! It also encompasses some of the essential sights and sounds of this incredible country.

Kolkata — Darjeeling — Varanasi — Agra — Shimla — Delhi



Day 1. To Kolkata
Fly to Kolkata.

Day 2. Kolkata
Arrive Kolkata early in the morning. Afternoon sightseeing includes the Jain Temple, Victoria Memorial, Kali Temple and Mother Teresa's Orphanage. Overnight at Hotel Kenilworth.

Day 3. On board Train to New Jaipaguri
Dawn visit to the colourful flower market. Rest of the day at leisure. Evening board the train to New Jaipaguri. Overnight train in 1st a/c sleeper.

Day 4. To Darjeeling
Arrive New Jaipaguri in the morning. Change for the delightful Toy Train to Darjeeling, which slowly weaves its way up the mountain sides amidst glorious scenery. Two nights at the Hotel Windamere.

Day 5. Darjeeling
Dawn visit to the Tiger Hill to view Mount Kanchenjunga and the peak of the Mount Everest - on a clear day! Also see the Ghoom Monastery, where the 15 foot statue of the Maitreya Buddha is enshrined. After lunch visit the Botanical Garden, Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and the Tibetan Refugee Centre.

Day 6. On board Train To Varanasi
Morning drive to New Jaipaguri station to board Rajdhani Express to Mughalsarai station. Overnight in 1st a/c sleeper on train.

Day 7. Varanasi
Arrive Mughalsarai station early in the morning. Morning at leisure. Afternoon excursion to Sarnath where Lord Buddha preached his first sermon, see the beautiful Buddhist Stupas and the interesting Museum. Evening cycle rickshaw ride to the Ghats to see the moving religious ceremony. Two nights at Taj Gateway Ganges.

Day 8. On board Train to Agra
Dawn boat ride on the Holy River Ganges to watch the religious rituals performed by the devout. Rest of the day at leisure. Evening



Darjeeling Toy Train

transfer to Mughal Sarai station to board train to Tundla. Overnight in 1st a/c sleeper.

Day 9. Agra
Arrive Tundla station in the morning. Drive to Agra. Afternoon sightseeing of the city includes the majestic Agra Fort- a World Heritage site, created by successive Mughal Emperors. The Fort is a statement of their power and majesty. Also visit the Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah. Overnight Taj Gateway.

Day 10. On board Train to Kalka
Breath-taking sunrise visit to the Taj Mahal to watch the sun slowly caress the white marble, awakening the day and distant memories. Afternoon transfer to the railway station to board train to Kalka. Overnight in 1st a/c sleeper.

Day 11. To Shimla
Arrive Kalka early in the morning. Change for Toy Train to Shimla. Relax and enjoy the stunning views as the little train chuffs and puffs up the winding track. Two nights at the Oberoi Cecil.

Day 12. Shimla
Morning sightseeing includes Viceroy's Lodge and highlights of the Mall including the Gaiety Theatre and Christ's Church. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 13. To Delhi
Morning at leisure. Afternoon drive down to Kalka station to board the Shatabdi express train to Delhi. Two nights at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 14. Delhi
Full day Delhi sightseeing includes the Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk bazaar, India Gate, Humayan's Tomb and the Qutab Minar.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extensions: Ranthambore National Park, Udaipur, Goa, Amritsar, Maheshwar, Shimla and Nepal (Various other extensions are available on request)

RIVER CRUISING

River Cruising gives a totally different perspective of a country to the traveller, life slows down as days laze into one another but... all is not relaxation! Excursions include exciting mini voyages of discovery - including tiger spotting, bird watching, local sightseeing and cultural highlights. In India travel the mighty Brahmaputra; sail down the Hugli River between Calcutta and the Ganges, or relax aboard a 'kettuvallam' - a traditional Kerala rice barges - many of which still ply the waterways in time honoured fashion.

GANGES VOYAGER

The grace and comfort of the Ganges Voyager is reminiscent of the bygone era of elegance favoured by the British Raj. The Maharajahs suite is truly opulent. All suites delightfully epitomising gracious living - yet with modern amenities including a flat screen TV and iphone docking! Dine on delicious cuisine, meet new friends in the Governors Lounge, while the day away on the Observation Deck or be pampered in the Spa. Gently glide along the Sacred River stopping to see the Hoogly Imambara, take a rickshaw ride to the captivating Rajbari Temple complex, visit Hazarduari Palace with over a thousand real and false doors! At French colonial Chandernagor see the Sacred Heart Church and French bakery still baking fresh baguettes.

M V MAHABAABU

Explore the mighty Brahmaputra River aboard the elegant MV Mahabaahu relaxing in quietly stylish cabins or suites - many with private balconies. Unwind on the Sundeck, be energetic in the Pool or pampered in the Spa. Dine upon the freshest of local produce created into mouth-watering dishes by the Chefs, before relaxing and watching an evening cultural show. On board experience the bliss of yoga, be captivated by a fleeting glimpse of a Gangetic dolphin or raptor in the skies. Fascinating excursions include the Kamakhya Temple devoted to the eternal feminine, a leisurely walk in a Tea Plantation or an unforgettable safari in the UNESCO Kaziranga National Park seeking out the short-tempered Greater One-Horned Indian Rhinoceros and elusive Tiger.

GANGES & BRAHAMAPUTRA CRUISES WITH ASSAM BENGAL NAVIGATION

Sail the Brahmaputra, Ganges and Hugli aboard the Assam Bengal Navigation boats exploring the mighty waterways. Choose the journey from a variety of tours in Assam including visits to the superb Parks of Kaziranga and Manas, Majuli Island and Sibsagar, the old capital of the Ahom kings. Whilst in Bengal tours include the Bengali Terracotta Temples, the Buddhist Monastery and Stupa at Nalanda and Varanasi. Aboard the cabins are quietly stylish with a subtle hint of Colonial elegance with the liberal use of wood (on some boats laminated bamboo is used to conserve India's forests) and cosy rattan furniture. Spacious decks allow for excellent viewing whilst sailing. Good well stocked bars and relaxed dining with the occasional mid-river sand island barbeque!

NEPAL

As the early morning mists rise from the valleys stunning vistas appear: a landscape framed by majestic Himalayan Mountains, their peaks snow bound and glowing softly in the dawn. Precipitous slopes covered with forest or high pasture where Yaks lazily graze. Narrow winding tracks linking remote villages, with chimney smoke hazily mingling with the ethereal mist, bask in the soft rays.

Then deeper into the country tortuous paths appear, from the gloom of the night, leading to some of the most spectacular trekking country in the world, Temples, pagodas, palaces: all breathtakingly beautiful vie for the eye.

Nepal is a treasure trove of Medieval Architecture and deep Spiritual meaning particularly in the Kathmandu Valley. The architectural gems of the Newars is exceptional – the Durbar Square in Kathmandu is just one example. Significant listed religious sites include Swayambhunath and Boudhanath with Nepal's largest stupa.

Nature lovers will not be disappointed. Chitwan National Park for example is a UNESCO natural treasure – home to one of the last populations of single-horned Asiatic rhinoceros and refuge for the majestic Bengal tiger. Birders are in paradise!

You don't need to be an ultra-fit mountaineer or even a youthful back packer to enjoy some of the glorious hikes/treks... although a good standard of health and fitness is required as the terrain can be challenging!

There's a magic and a mystique in the air luring the traveller to return time and time again to the beauty, culture and welcoming people of Nepal.

THE ESSENCE OF NEPAL 10 DAYS

This is a delightful tour discovering the very essence of this stunningly beautiful land. It takes travellers to the soaring heights of the magnificent Himalayas and to the depths of the jungle seeking out the majestic Royal Bengal Tiger. Take a hike to the revered Namobuddha, and feel the spiritual heart of the land exploring the sacred site of Swayambhunath. Discover the fascinating heritage of the fabulous architect of the Newar Artisans and the beauty of Patan.

Kathmandu — Chitwan National Park — Pokhara
— Dhulikhel — Kathmandu

Day 1. To Kathmandu
Fly to Kathmandu.

Day 2. Kathmandu
Arrive Kathmandu. Meet, assist and transfer to Hotel. Two nights Shangri-La Hotel.

Day 3. Kathmandu
At Swayambhunath see the 'Monkey Temple', considered one of the oldest shrines in the world. The four sides are painted with the compassionate eyes of Buddha. Newar artisans in Kathmandu have created a fascinating architectural history for posterity with superb Temples and Monasteries. Visit the Durbar Square and Teleju Temple. Afternoon tour Patan- the City of Arts and Architecture renowned for its fine works in bronze, silver and copper. Visits include the Durbar Square, Patan Museum and Hiranya Verna Mahabihar.

Day 4. To Chitwan National Park via Bharatpur
Drive to the airport for flight to Bharatpur. On arrival transfer to hotel. Later experience a village tour and then explore the unique jungle sights and sounds accompanied by an expert



Naturalist. Chitwan was granted the status of a World Heritage Site in 1984. Sightings of over 500 species of birds and 43 species of mammals have been documented. The one horned rhino population appears to be recovering. Two nights at the Barahi Jungle Lodge.

Day 5. Full Day of Jungle Activities
Go on safari looking out for the famed one-horned rhino or maybe catch a glimpse of the majestic Royal Bengal tiger, wild boar, shy leopard, honey badgers and bison. Birders can revel in the abundance of bird species. Keep an

eye out for the endangered gharial and marsh mugger crocodiles.

Day 6. To Pokhara
After an early morning safari, drive through stunning countryside to Pokhara. Evening a short boat ride on the delightful Fewa Lake. Two nights at the Temple Tree Resort & Spa.

Day 7. Pokhara
Early morning sunrise visit to Sarangkot overlooking Fewa Lake and the lovely Pokhara valley. On a clear see day the magnificent Annapurna and Dhauligiri ranges. After breakfast, hike or drive to the Peace Pagoda built by Nipponzan Fujii, a Japanese Buddhist monk, who, inspired by meeting Mahatma Gandhi in 1931, decided to devote his life to promoting non-violence. Afternoon visit Devi's Fall – also called Hell's Fall. See the Seti River flowing wildly through its deep gorge. Explore the Old Bazaar and visit the important shrine of Bindhyabasini Mandir, dedicated to the Goddess Bhagwati.

Day 8. To Dhulikhel via Kathmandu
After breakfast drive to Pokhara airport. Fly to Kathmandu. On arrival transfer to Dhulikhel.

The small quiet town of Dhulikhel is known for traditional Newari crafts. Later climb a little to see the mountains, from Cho Oyu in the east to Himalchuli in the west. Two nights at Dhulikhel Mountain Resort.

Day 9. Dhulikhel
After breakfast hike to Namobuddha - a sacred site steeped in legend. The hike starting point is Tudhikhel from where a rough trail climbs steeply to Kavre, passing through forested areas and scattered villages. In clear weather see peaks including Gang Chenpo and Dorje Lhakpa. After a further two-hour gradual uphill walk, the ancient Buddhist pilgrimage site of Namobuddha is reached. The hilltop is adorned with prayer flags, chortens (chaityas) and a Monastery. Legend has it that a Bodhisatva sacrificed himself to a starving tigress to feed her and her cubs.

Day 10. To Your Country
Fly to your country



WILDERNESS NEPAL 12 DAYS

For Nature and Bird lovers this tour, traversing west to east along the Terai plains below the snow-capped Himalayas, will be unforgettable. Surrounded by outstanding natural scenery, with glimpses of the towering Mount Everest at Koshi Tappu on a clear day, travellers can revel in the rich diversity of wildlife and birdlife at four outstanding National Parks and Reserves – each a jewel in the crown of Nepalese wildlife conservation. Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve - Bardia National Park – Chitwan National Park - Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. Excursions also take travellers to meet with the locals living in and around the Parks.

Kathmandu — Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve — Bardia National Park — Chitwan National Park — Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve — Kathmandu

Day 1. To Kathmandu
Fly to Kathmandu.

Day 2. Kathmandu
Arrive Kathmandu. Meet, assist and transfer to Hotel. Overnight at Shangri-La Hotel.

Day 3. To Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve
Morning fly to Dhangadhi and drive to the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve nestled in the remote far west Terai of Nepal. Suklaphanta Reserve protects some of the richest and most extensive grasslands in Asia, as well as Sal and Riverine forest supporting an estimated 27 tigers. Ornithologists will delight with over 400 species of birds including Bengal florican, Hodgson's bushchat and Finn's weaver. There're excellent chances of seeing tiger, leopard, Asian elephant, Indian rhinoceros - plus marsh mugger crocodiles and Indian rock python. After dinner a discussion and briefing for the next day's programme. Two nights at Suklaphanta Wildlife Tented Camp.

Day 4. Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve
After an early breakfast jungle drive in the Reserve to explore water holes, marshes, ponds and grassland. In the afternoon continue the exploration, perhaps from one of the strategically placed watchtowers.

Day 5. To Bardia National Park
After early morning activities & breakfast drive to Bardia National Park. A personal itinerary is arranged to suit individual interests. Suggestions include an elephant safari, a nature walk,

Landover drive or boating down the Karnali River to see Gangetic dolphin. Two nights Karnali Lodge.

Day 6. Bardia National Park
Another day with morning and afternoon wildlife activities to continue the discovery of this beautiful and varied habitat. The rich wildlife of Bardia includes swamp deer, barking deer, monkey, elephant, tiger, leopard, crocodile and over 300 species of birds. One of the highlights of a trip to Bardia is a visit to the nearby Tharu villages providing an insight into the culture, farming and crafts of the Tharu people.

Day 7. To Chitwan National Park
After early morning activities and breakfast drive to Chitwan. The Park was established in 1973 and was granted World Heritage status 1984. It's located in the subtropical Inner Terai lowlands of south-central Nepal. Two nights at Barahi Jungle Lodge.

Day 8. Chitwan National Park
A varied day with safaris and cultural visits to discover the amazing bio diversity of this beautiful Park. Accompanied by experienced naturalists seek out the Royal Bengal tiger, the irascible one-horned rhino, wild boar, bear, leopard and bison. A village tour will provide a fascinating insight into the culture and lifestyle of local indigenous communities.

Day 9. To Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve
After early morning activities and breakfast drive to Koshi Tappu. On arrival the Naturalist briefs

guests on the facilities of the camp and safari activities. The Reserve was established 1976 with the aim of protecting the last remaining population of Asiatic buffalo in Nepal. Koshi Tappu is also considered one of the finest birding site in Asia. Indeed, more than half of Nepal's birds have been recorded here living amidst the extensive marshlands, pools and grasslands. On a clear day the majestic Mount Everest can be glimpsed from certain parts of the Reserve. Two nights Koshi Camp.

Day 10. Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve
After breakfast full day bird watching walk with a packed lunch. Principal habitats visited include wetlands, grasslands and small patches of riverine forest. The thin Indian rosewood forest provides excellent habitat for warblers, flycatchers, and raptors. Look out for Asiatic buffalo and the elusive Gangetic dolphin. Dinner will be followed by discussion of the day's experiences.

Day 11. To Kathmandu
Morning depart for Biratnagar for flight to Kathmandu. Evening Nepalese restaurant Farewell Dinner with Cultural programme. Overnight Shangri La Hotel.

Day 12. To London
Transfer to the airport for the international flight back to London.



THE GURKHA HEARTLAND 10 DAYS

The Annapurna or 'The Goddess of Harvest', north of Pokhara, is the first and largest conservation area in Nepal and one of the world's best trekking areas. Numerous excellent trails wind through beautiful countryside with the magnificent mountains as a perfect backdrop. The remote small Himalayan villages are home to the 'Gurung' people; the fearless Gurkhas of the British Army. Trekkers stay mainly at picturesque lodges relaxing in relative comfort with private baths with hot running water! Food is served 'family-style' in the Lodge's traditional dining rooms. Treks are led by local Gurkha guides, committed to exploring the mountains respectfully and adhering to strict conservation guidelines. Their intimate knowledge of the land – of Nepalese hill cultures and traditions - makes this trek a fascinating off the beaten path experience.

London — Kathmandu — Pokhara — Trek — Kathmandu — London

Day 1. To Kathmandu
Fly from London Heathrow on a non-direct flight to Kathmandu.

Day 2. Kathmandu
Arrive Kathmandu. Meet, assist and transfer to Hotel. Two nights Shangri-La Hotel.

Day 3. Kathmandu
In Kathmandu, with its remarkable Newar architecture, the tour includes the glorious Durbar Square and Teleju Temple with its gilded roofs. Wander the bazaar and labyrinthine back streets of the old city. Visit Swayambhunath - the 'Monkey Temple' - considered to be the oldest shrine in the world. Afternoon visit Pashupatinath: the most sacred of all Hindu Temples in Nepal, dedicated to Lord Shiva. Later visit Boudhanath as see the vast Stupa deeply venerated by Buddhists and Hindus alike.

Day 4. To Sanctuary Lodge (1143m/3750')
via Pokhara
Morning flight to Pokhara. On arrival transfer by road with guides and porters to trek start point. Trek a ridgeline in the lower foothills of the Annapurna's then drop down to the Modi River Valley to the Lodge with its magnificent views of the sacred Fishtail Mountain – Machapuchare. After lunch optional walk to the village of Birethanti. Overnight Sanctuary Lodge.

Day 5. To Himalaya Lodge, Ghandruk (2011 m/6600')
Following the Modi River Valley gradually climb out of the valley and upwards to the mountains. Trek past small hamlets with their spectacular mountain and forest views. Snacks are provided and lunch served at the Lodge early afternoon. Overnight Himalaya Lodge.

Day 6. Trek to Gurung Lodge, Majgaun (1410 m/4620')
After breakfast walk through the Gurung village of Ghandruk. Watch out for mule trains bringing goods to the local Ghurkha villages. Continue descending to Shauli Bazaar. Then follow the Modi River to Sanctuary Lodge. After lunch ascend again - partly on well-paved steps and partly on switch-backs. Overnight Gurung Lodge.

Day 7. Trek to Pokhara (830 m/3080')
Trek through the unspoilt village of Patleket. Later stop at Porthana where many Tibetan traders live and sell their souvenirs. Trek to the Basanta Lodge in Dhampus with its sweeping views of the entire Annapurna Range. After lunch trek along the ridge and descend through the wooded hillside and farmland to the valley floor. Finally drive to Pokhara. Two nights at Temple Tree Resort & Spa.

Day 8. Pokhara
Morning tour to see the Devi's Fall, Tibetan Village and Seti River with its impressive gorge. See the important Binda Basini Temple, the Old Bazaar selling everything from gold to cosmetics to 'must have' souvenirs! Finally on Fewa Lake take a short boat ride and see the mountains reflecting in the waters. Afternoon at leisure.

Day 9. To Kathmandu
After breakfast transfer to Pokhara airport for flight to Kathmandu. Transfer to hotel. Remainder of day at leisure. Evening Farewell Dinner at a Nepalese restaurant with a Cultural show. Overnight at Shangri – La Hotel.

Day 10. To Your Country
Fly to your country

BHUTAN

LAND OF THE THUNDER DRAGON 15 DAYS

Bhutan- a land steeped in rich tradition, deep spirituality and culture. It's a magical, mysterious place landlocked by the Himalayas. Monasteries cling precariously on sides of impossibly steep valleys, mountain peaks with glacial valleys bisect the land and the alpine meadows are home to a hospitable and charming people. Bhutan is one of the last remaining bastions of Tantric Mahayana Buddhism.

Delhi — Thimphu — Gangtey — Bumthang
— Punakha — Paro — Delhi

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Arrive Delhi in the morning. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and it's back roads, once the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's cremation

site, before returning to the hotel. Overnight at Hotel Shangri-La Eros.

Day 3. To Thimphu via Paro
Morning fly to Paro. Met by a local representative and drive to Thimphu. Two nights at Hotel Phuntsho Pelri or similar.

Day 4. Thimphu
Full day sightseeing of the capitol city includes the Trashichhodzong- the beautiful medieval fortress/Monastery, the National Library which houses an extensive collection of Buddhist literature, Institute for Zorig Chusum, the National Memorial Chorten, the government-run Handicrafts Emporium and privately owned crafts shops, the folk Heritage and National Textile Museums.

Day 5. Gangtey
After an early breakfast drive to Gangtey en route visiting Wangduephodrang Dzong and the local market. Afternoon visit the Gangtey Monastery- the biggest Nyingmapa Monastery in Bhutan. Two nights at Dewachen Resort or similar.

Day 6. Gangtey
Full day explore beautiful Phobjikha valley- the winter home of black necked cranes. The valley boasts two beautiful meandering rivers, Nakay Chhu and Gay Chhu.

Day 7. To Bumthang
Morning drive to Bumthang en route visit the Chendbji Chorten- patterned on Kathmandu's Swayambhunath Stupa, with eyes painted facing the four cardinal directions and Trongsa Dzong, built in 1648. Three nights at Wangdichholing Lodge or similar.

Day 8. Bumthang
Bumthang is the general name given to combination of four valleys – Chumey, Choekhor, Tang and Ura with altitude varying from 2,600m to 4,000m. It is home to many of prominent Buddhist Temples and Monasteries.

Full day to explore the Monasteries & local area.

Day 9. Bumthang
Enjoy an excursion to Ura Valley.

Day 10. Drive to Punakha
After breakfast drive to Punakha through the delightful countryside. Two nights at Zangtho Pelri or similar.

Day 11. Punakha
Morning visit the Punakha Dzong, built strategically at the junction of Pho Chhu and Mo Chhu rivers in 1637 by Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal to serve as the religious and administrative centre of the region. Also visit

the Chimi Lhakhang, situated on a hillock in the centre of the valley.

Day 12. To Paro
Morning drive to Paro. Afternoon visit the Ta Dzong, originally as a Watch Tower, houses the National Museum. Then follow the trail down to Rinpung Dzong. Two nights at Olathang or similar.

Day 13. Paro
After breakfast in the hotel, drive to Drukgyel Dzong, a ruined fortress from where Bhutanese warriors fought Tibetan invaders centuries ago.

Along the way, see the 7th C. Kyichu Lhakhang- one of the most sacred shrines in the country. Visit also includes the Taksang Monastery (approx 4 hours steep walk) famously known as the Tiger's Nest.

Day 14. To Delhi
Morning fly to Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of dynamic New Delhi including the impressive Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Overnight at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 15. To Your Country
Fly to your country





HERITAGE TRAIL 13 DAYS

Discover another world - a world steeped in folk lore and traditions, a land of outstanding natural beauty, a land bejewelled with solemn Monasteries clinging to precipitous cliff edges, astounding fortresses and Temples standing fast against the ravages of the weather and above all a land of generous hearted people living life the traditional way in harmony with their environment. This tour explores the authentic Bhutanese way of life and the astounding heritage they still preserve and nurture.

Delhi — Paro — Haa Valley — Thimphu — Punakha — Paro — Delhi

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Arrive Delhi in the morning. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi includes a cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the lively Chandni Chowk - once the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in Mughal times. Continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's poignant cremation site. Overnight at Hotel Shangri-La Eros.

Day 3. To Paro
Morning fly to Paro. Without doubt the panoramic views of the Himalayas are sensational with glimpses of Mount Everest - on a clear day! The approach through the Bhutanese foothills and descent into the Paro Valley is awe-inspiring. In the evening walk around Paro town and valley. Three nights stay at The Village Lodge or similar.

Day 4. Paro
After breakfast, excursion to Taktshang Monastery: the primary lhakhang was built surrounding Guru Rimpoche's Meditation Cave in 1684 by Gyaltse Tenzin Rabgay. The uphill hike takes roughly two - three hours. Afternoon sightseeing includes the Ruins of the Drukgyal Dzong: where the Bhutanese finally defeated the invading Tibetans.

Day 5. Paro
After breakfast sightseeing includes Ta Dzong: an imposing ancient watchtower and now home to the National Museum of Bhutan. Also visit Paro Rinpung Dzong built in 1646. In the afternoon

visit Kyichu Lhakhangone of the oldest Buddhist Temples in Bhutan.

Day 6. To Haa Valley
After breakfast, drive to the Haa Valley via Chelela Pass. Hike to Kila Gompa - about an hour - to a Nunnery perched on a steep cliff face, with 7 small Temples. After lunch at Kila Gompa descend back to the road. Then drive over the prayer flag strewn pass and down into the Haa Valley. Two nights at Lechuna Heritage Lodge.

Day 7. Haa Valley
Drive to Yotong - a group of village homes clustered together in the valley by the Haa Chhu River. An old trail leads 150m uphill to the Gompa, dedicated to the Guru Rimpoche and his 8 manifestations. The 300-year structure was built by the 16th Je Khempo. After picnic lunch walk along the riverside to Haa town.

Day 8. To Thimphu
After breakfast hike the lower road following the rivers to Thimphu. En route stop at Dogar Dobji Dzong, a 16th C. structure, built by the brother of the Divine Madman, Drukpa Kinley. In Thimphu, visit The Institute of Zorig Chusum, the national Library and the Textile Museum. See also Trashichho Dzong (Fortress of the Glorious Religion). The Dzong is the seat of the national government and the central Monastic Body. Finally see the Takin, the national animal of Bhutan, at the Takin Reserve Centre. Overnight at Peaceful Resort or similar.

Day 9. To Punakha
After breakfast, visit the scenic Buddha Point

and Memorial Chorten. Later drive to Punakha via Dochula Pass with its spectacular views. Also see Chimi Lhakhang Temple of Fertility built by Lama Drukpa Kuenley in the 15th C. After Lunch explore Punakha Dzong. Two nights at The Shengana Lodge or similar.

Day 10. Punakha
After breakfast excursion to Talo village, whose women are renowned beauties. The lovely farm houses have their own flower gardens, whilst on the hill sides corns and sweet peas are grown. After lunch excursion to Khamsum Yulley Monastery, built on behalf of Her Majesty, the Queen Mother.

Day 11. To Paro
After breakfast short hike to Rinchen Gang Village. Return to Paro, with lunch at Dochula cafeteria with its fabulous mountain views. Next visit Simtokha Dzong, the oldest fortress in the country - it now houses the School for Buddhist studies. Overnight at The Village Lodge or similar.

Day 12. To Delhi
Morning fly to Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of vibrant New Delhi includes the remarkable Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and India Gate. Overnight at Shangri-La Eros Hotel.

Day 13. To Heathrow
Fly to Heathrow on British Airways or Virgin Atlantic flight.

Guide price: £2,935pp



SPIRITUALITY AND SCENERY 9 DAYS

Bhutan still lives and breathes its ancient tradition and culture - life is bound by deep spirituality, indeed Bhutan is one of the last bastions of Tantric Mahayana Buddhism. The glory of the scenery takes the breath away... majestic snow clad mountains, mist shrouded and mysterious, lush Alpine meadows and virtually impenetrable glacial valleys vie for beauty. Above all the people are hospitable and charming. Top class hotels complement the tour: selected to give the traveller a truly memorable stay.

London — Delhi — Thimphu — Punakha — Paro — Delhi — London

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly direct from Heathrow to Delhi on British Airways or Virgin Atlantic flight.

Day 2. Delhi
Arrive Delhi in the morning. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and it's back roads, once the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's cremation site. Overnight at Imperial Hotel.

Day 3. To Thimphu via Paro
The flight to Paro is one of the most spectacular in the entire Himalayas with stunning birds' eye views of the magnificent Himalayan range. Upon arrival drive to Thimphu - a unique city with an unusual mixture of old and new side by side. Evening exploratory walk around Thimphu main street and market area. Two nights at Taj Tashi Hotel.

Day 4. Thimphu
Morning sightseeing in Thimphu valley includes the National Library, housing an extensive collection of priceless Buddhist manuscripts, and the Institute for Zorig Chusum. Later visit the Textile Museum and 'Simply Bhutan', a living museum encapsulating the cultural heritage of the Bhutanese people. After lunch visit the King's Memorial Chorten - continuously circled by people, murmuring mantras and spinning their prayer wheels. Next see the Trashichhoedzong, 'Fortress of the

Glorious Religion'. Later drive to Buddha Point for an excellent viewpoint and see largest statue of the Lord Buddha in the country.

Day 5. To Punakha
Morning drive to Punakha via the Dochula Pass. Afternoon visit Punakha Dzong (Palace of Great Happiness) with its six-story, gold-domed tower built 1637. It still reflects the depth of history and spiritual tradition of Bhutan within its walls. Later visit Chimi Lhakhang - the Temple of Fertility - then short walk to the hamlet of Pana for a glimpse of village life. Overnight at Uma by COMO.

Day 6. To Paro
After breakfast drive back to Paro descending back down from Dochu La, along the dramatic Wang Chhu and Paro Chhu River valleys. En route visit Simtokha Dzong now a school for the study of the Dzongkha language. Afternoon visit Ta Dzong, originally built as a Watchtower and now the National Museum. The extensive collection includes antique thangkha paintings, weapons and armour. Walk to Rinpung Dzong with its fine wall paintings illustrating Buddhist lore. Two night at Uma Paro.

Day 7. Paro
After breakfast trek to Taktshang Monastery (approx. 5 hours walk). It's one of the most sacred of Bhutan's Monasteries and visited by all Bhutanese at least once in their lifetime. Perched 900m above the Paro valley floor, it is said that Guru Rinpoche arrived here on the back of a tigress - hence its name - 'Tiger's Nest'. On

the way back visit Drukgyel Dzong, a ruined fortress where Bhutanese warrior's centuries ago fought Tibetan invaders. Also see the 7th C. Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the 108 Temples built in the Himalayas by Tibetan King, Songtsen Gampo. The building of this Temple marks the introduction of Buddhism in Bhutan. Evening exploratory walk around the town.

Day 8. To Delhi
Morning fly to Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of dynamic New Delhi including the impressive Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Overnight at Imperial Hotel.

Day 9. To Your Country
Fly to your country



JOURNEY THROUGH INDIA, NEPAL & BHUTAN 19 DAYS

This is a breath taking tour of discovery encompassing some of the finest sights and sounds of India, Nepal and Bhutan. Starting in pulsating Delhi the tour journeys to the soft beauty of the Taj Mahal, the mighty monuments of the Mughal Emperors and Rajput's in India, before flying to Nepal to see the superb Newari architecture and stunning Buddhist shrines - next experience the thrill of a Tiger expedition in Chitwan. Finally explore the Land of the Thunder Dragon - Bhutan.

Delhi — Agra — Jaipur — Kathmandu — Chitwan National Park — Pokhara — Kathmandu — Thimphu — Paro — Delhi

Day 1. To Delhi
Fly to Delhi.

Day 2. Delhi
Morning arrival in Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing of Old Delhi including an exhilarating cycle rickshaw ride to the Jama Masjid through the bustling Chandni Chowk and it's back roads, once the centre of the city Shah Jehanabad in the Mughal times. Finally continue onto the moving Raj Ghat- Mahatma Gandhi's cremation site, before returning to the hotel. Overnight at Colonel's Retreat Homestay.

Day 3. To Agra
Morning sightseeing of vibrant New Delhi including the imposing Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the India Gate. Afternoon drive to Agra. Two nights at Hotel Mansigh Palace.

Day 4. Agra
Breath-taking sunrise visit to the serene Taj Mahal to watch the sun slowly caress the white marble, awakening the day and distant memories. After breakfast explore Agra Fort built by successive Mughal rulers to show their power and might! Notice the many varied architectural styles

Also visit the lovely Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daulah.

Day 5. To Jaipur
Morning drive to Jaipur en route visit Fatehpur Sikri, the beautiful deserted city, built by the remarkable Mughal Emperor Akbar. Pause by the graceful marble Tomb (Mazar) of Salim Chisti in the middle of the Emperor's courtyard, where generations of women have come to pray for a male heir. Also visit en route the Abhaneri Stepwell built in 800 AD. Two nights stay at the Diggi Palace.

Day 6. Jaipur
Morning excursion to Amber Fort slowly meandering up the winding road seated upon a caparisoned elephant. Inside the fort with its austere exterior, there's a delight of murals, frescoes, paintings, wonderful intricate carvings and complex mirror work. Lunch at the historic

1135 AD restaurant. Afterwards visit the extraordinary Astronomical Observatory, Palace of Winds and City Palace Complex with its fascinating museum.

Day 7. To Kathmandu via Delhi
Early morning flight to Delhi. Connect to flight to Kathmandu. Evening walking tour of Pashupatinath, followed by a tour of Boudhanath. Two nights at Kathmandu Guest House.

Day 8. Kathmandu
Morning Kathmandu sightseeing including Durbar Square & Swayambhunath. Remainder of day at leisure.

Day 9. To Chitwan National Park
Morning fly to Bharatpur. Transfer to Chitwan National Park. Afternoon jungle safaris seeking out the elusive tiger and one horned rhino. Two nights at Jungle Villa Resort.

Day 10. Chitwan
Full day of jungle activities.

Day 11. To Pokhara
Morning drive to Pokhara. Evening a boatride on Lake Phewa watching the flickering images of the mountains in the waters. Two nights at Temple Tree Resort.

Day 12. Pokhara
Early morning drive to Sarangkot for incredible sunrise. After breakfast Pokhara sightseeing.

Day 13. To Kathmandu
Drive to Kathmandu through stunningly scenic countryside. Overnight at Kathmandu Guest House.

Day 14. To Thimphu via Paro
Morning fly to Paro. Met and transferred to Thimphu. Two nights at Hotel Phuntsho Pelti or similar.

Day 15. Thimphu
Full day sightseeing of the capitol city includes the Trashichhodzong - the beautiful medieval fortress/Monastery, the National Library which

houses an extensive collection of Buddhist literature, Institute for Zorig Chusum, the National Memorial Chorten, the government-run Handicrafts Emporium and privately owned crafts shops, the Folk Heritage and National Textile Museums.

Day 16. To Paro
Morning drive to Paro. Afternoon visit the Ta Dzong, originally as a Watch Tower, houses the National Museum. Then follow the trail down to Rinpung Dzong. Two nights at Olathang or similar.

Day 17. Paro
After breakfast in the hotel, drive to Drukgyel Dzong, a ruined fortress from where Bhutanese warriors fought Tibetan invaders centuries ago. Along the way, see the 7th C. Kyichu Lhakhang- one of the most sacred shrines in the country. Visit also includes the Taksang Monastery (approx 4 hours steep walk) famously known as the Tiger's Nest.

Day 18. To Delhi
Morning fly to Delhi. Afternoon at leisure. Overnight at Colonel's Retreat.

Day 19. To Your Country
Fly to your country

Suggested extension: Goa

TAJ HOTELS

Taj Hotels, Resorts and Palaces offer some of India's most opulent grand Hotels and Palaces filled with treasures. Unwind in luxurious guestrooms and suites, dine in splendour on gourmet cuisine and experience unsurpassed service. The Taj contemporary resorts and hotels offer chic relaxation & with modern twists.

TAJ MAHAL PALACE

Mumbai

A member of the Leading Hotels of the World, the iconic flagship Taj hotel is an outstanding fusion of old world elegance and contemporary style. 560 rooms and suites are indulgent. Dining a gastronomic experience. Unwind in the pool or divine Jiva Spa.



LAKE PALACE

Udaipur

One of the world's most romantic and iconic hotels literally 'floating' on Lake Pichola, a Leading Small Hotel member, it has delightful 66 rooms and 17 suites with a stunning view. Dine on the finest of cuisine from classic to contemporary. Gorgeous Jiva Spa.

VIVANTA

by Taj Bekal

Perfectly bounded by sun-drenched shores and languid Backwaters, the delightful villas and rooms are inspired by the local Kettuvallam. Exciting multi-cuisine restaurant with Keralan highlights. BBQ by the lovely pool. Superb fitness centre and relaxing Jiva Spa.



TAJ FALAKNUMA PALACE

Hyderabad

The 'Mirror of the Sky', built in the clouds, nestles in 32 beautiful acres. 60 unashamedly opulent guestrooms and suites. Indulge on gourmet cuisine from bygone days and contemporary tastes. Unique Library. Royal Jiva Spa for holistic renewal.



RAMBAGH PALACE

Jaipur

Serenely sitting amidst beautiful gardens the Rambagh Palace, a member of the Leading Hotels of the World, offers 79 luxurious rooms and superbly appointed suites. Opulent fine dining and legendary bars. Unwind at Jiva Grande Spa.



VIVANTA

by Taj Srinagar

Perched on Kralasangri Hill with wonderful panoramic views of the Dal Lake, delightful accents of Kashmir adorn the 82 elegant rooms and suites. Dine on Kashmiri delicacies or flavours of East and West. Sip Kehwa in the Tea Lounge.



UMAID BHAWAN PALACE

Jodhpur

High above the city set in 26 acres of lush gardens the Leading Hotels of the World member, has 64 striking Art Deco rooms and suites. Dine on impeccable Indian and Continental cuisine or indulge at a Royal BBQ! Gorgeous pool and beautiful Jiva Spa.

LEELA HOTELS

The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts are a collection of superbly located hotels, highlighted with Indian opulence. Staying is an experience to savour: offering the best in service; eclectic dining choices, sybaritic spas and elegant guest rooms and suites. The acclaimed 'Royal Club' suites offer an exceptional stay.



THE LEELA *Goa*

On a lovely beach, nestling in acres of tropical splendour - with 12 hole golf course - the hotel is an impeccable Goan destination, with outstanding guestrooms and suites. Dine on flavours of India, Italy, the sea, multi-cultural and afternoon teas... dance at Aqua, chill at the Pool Bar. Outdoor pool. Gym. Wonderful Spa with Ayurvedic Doctor.



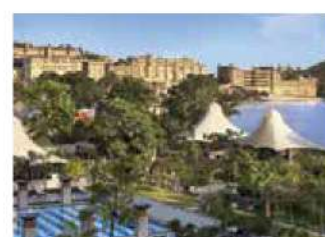
THE LEELA *Kovalam*

Nestled in luxuriant grounds, on a cliff top, the hotel offers quiet luxury and exclusive sea view 'Club' suites and rooms. Dine on local Keralan, Indian, flavours of the sea, Europe and the Orient. Great Sky Bar. Infinity pool, fitness centre. Divya Spa with Ayurvedic Doctors and therapists to rejuvenate the body.



THE LEELA PALACE *New Delhi*

The imposing flagship hotel is a landmark of the city. Suites are utterly lavish - Royal Club are opulent whilst Royal Premier and Deluxe rooms simply luxurious! Wonderful flavours showcase French, Italian and Japanese cuisine. Relax in the Library Bartake tea in the Edwardian Lounge. Fitness studio and rooftop pool. Sybaritic ESPA spa.



THE LEELA PALACE *Udaipur*

The Leela Palace, delightfully overlooking the romantic Lake Pichola, has an air of timeless elegance. Intricate craftsmanship highlights the sumptuous suites and luxurious rooms - contemporary and tradition seamlessly interwoven. Dining is superb. Elegant Library Bar. Beautiful outdoor pool. Soothing ESPA - be pampered in beautiful surroundings.



THE SERAI GROUP

The Serai is a unique secluded hideaway nestled in the heart of nature. From coffee estate to thick jungles. The Serai offers three exquisite resorts in India which pride themselves as promoters of tryst with nature. Whether it is a beautiful resort bordering Belur and Halebidu (deemed UNESCO world heritage sites) in Chikmagalur, a wilderness resort in Bandipur National Park or a stunning locale on the river banks of Kabini, an unforgettable experience awaits at The Serai.

THE SERAI *Chikmagalur*

Breathe in fresh air scented with coffee. Engulf your senses and get personal with the picturesque hills. Experience the land of endless beauty. Watch the silver oaks sway to the wind. Take a plunge in the private pool, get drenched in freshness. Along with the sheer freshness and the unpolluted atmosphere and ambience, the resort offers exclusive luxury and absolute privacy. Indulge to rejuvenate the mind, body and spirit, set in the soothing environs of a verdant coffee estate. Marvel at the experience of the life time. Life Awaits at The Serai at Chikmagalur.



THE SERAI *Kabini*

Watch nature's own theatre unfold in its raw and original form in the mesmerising scenic beauty of the backwaters. Away from the materialistic world be immersed in the lap of nature. Bask in an unforgettable experience at Kabini of luxury, tranquillity and calm. Dream on the river, safari through the woods, with picturesque glimpses of elephants and wild animals. Here, you'll find an extraordinary oasis... Life Awaits at The Serai Kabini.



THE SERAI *Bandipur*

Feast your eyes on the spectacular view of the Nilgiri Hills. Delve deep into the mysterious woods on a jungle safari. Seek out tigers prowling in the forest. Enjoy fascinating glimpses of majestic elephants and spotted deer. Dawn brings a wakeup call as hundreds of birds that fly by, whilst nights, under the canopy of stars, resound with the call of a lone leopard or the chirpy cicadas. Fall in love with the nature's most beautiful pristine countryside. Life Awaits at The Serai Bandipur.

CARNOUSTIE AYURVEDA & WELLNESS RESORT



On the soft sun drenched shores of the Arabian Sea, nestled amidst verdant tropical greenery, the 32 chic villas with private pools and timber decking are havens of escape: perfect fusions of traditional Kerala architecture and design with soothing colours and clean clear lines. Dine on tempting morsels at IDA the multi-cuisine restaurant or CHIMAERA for sea-food specialities on ingredients grown in the resorts gardens-fruits, vegetables, spices and Ayurvedic herbs.

The Resort is a perfect retreat to rejuvenate and revitalise with treatments based on the 5000 year old legacy of Ayurveda, combined with the natural healing benefits of yoga all under the guidance of highly trained Doctors and therapists. Guests are treated as honoured individuals with personalised programmes designed to restore the body, mind and soul.

Delightful menu of activities includes the lovely Swimming Pool, library, beach with sunbeds and umbrellas, Games Room, Yoga Meditation Centre, Yoga Classes, Gymnasium, Water Sports, Bicycles and Houseboat for lunch and sunset cruises on the Backwaters.

KUMARAKOM LAKE RESORT



Set in 25 acres of Kerala tranquillity on the languid shores of Lake Vembanad the acclaimed, elegantly stylish heritage Resort, impeccably blends traditional Kerala heritage with luxurious contemporary amenities. The 59 rooms and villas are either original or sensitive reconstruction of manas, the 16th C. homesteads of Kerala - each a lavish retreat.

Dine in the elegance of Ettukettu... a gourmet's paradise on fragrant Kerala cuisine and wonderful Continental, Chinese, Mughlai or North Indian choices. Superb Vembanad Seafood bar nestles on the lakeside. Relax at the lovely Poolside Pavilion or Thattukada for teas and snacks.

Find harmony using nature's ways at Ayurmana Spa... feel the healing power of Ayurveda through personalised programmes that reach deep within and heals the very being. Divine infinity pool. Ultra-modern fitness centre. Lake activities.



SPICE FORT

Nestled in the heart of Fort Cochin, once the residence of the famous Jewish Koder family and now a Heritage Boutique Hotel, the 27 contemporary guestrooms are stylish decorated with high ceilings and charming courtyard views. Each room is delightfully named after the most commonly used spices. The property is inspirationally stylish, decorated with uncluttered lines and vivid splashes of red. Dine on a profusion of Seafood at the Poolside, organic Indian and International cuisine or relax in the lounge. The organic ingredients for the meals are grown on their own farms. Food is made to order - no canned or ready frozen - Saffron restaurant also offers healthy choices including Ayurvedic, Low carb or Gluten free. Delightful garden with swimming pool.

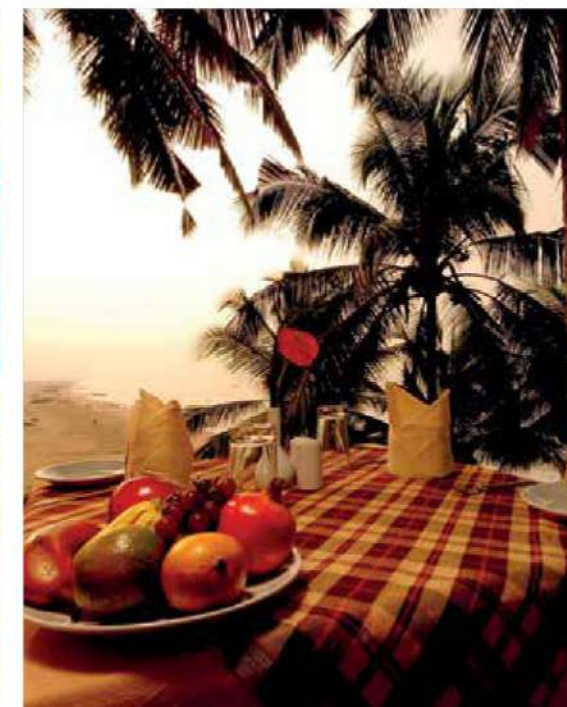


AYURVEDIC RESORTS

Ayurvedic Medicine is based on over 5000 years of study in India of meticulous observations on the human body and plants: a healing Science devoted to treating the whole person - not just the symptoms. At the Manaltheeram and Somatheeram there's a focus on balancing the body and mind through diet & lifestyle using Ayurvedic therapies applied by professional Ayurvedic Doctors and therapists.

SOMATHEERAM AYURVEDA RESORT

Beautifully located on the shimmering sea shore the Somatheeram was the World's First Ayurveda Resort. The cottages, houses and suites are quietly and relaxingly decorated: some with a/c. The sea facing restaurant has an excellent choice of Ayurvedic vegetarian dishes, non-vegetarian, multi cuisine food - plus a buffet selection. Live cooking demonstrations showcase the aromatic fare. Immerse in a holistic experience at Somatheeram, under the guidance of skilled Doctors. The Ayurvedic treatments and therapies include massages, Pizhichil, Njavarakizhi, Sirodhara, Vasthi, Sirovasthi, Udvarthanam and Abhyangam. The wonderful herbal garden has over 600 varieties of herbs and provides ingredients for numerous Ayurvedic medicines used at the Somatheeram. Yoga classes, led by an experienced guru, enhance the wellbeing of the body and mind.



MANALTHEERAM AYURVEDA BEACH VILLAGE

Ayurveda Beach Village gently takes guests to a world of holistic healing with Ayurveda and meditation to revitalise life's equilibrium. Yoga classes help maintain the balance. Everything here balances so accordingly the eco-friendly rooms, cottages and houses are restful and inviting... some with a/c. Dine in the delightful open air restaurant on special therapy diets - as recommended by the Doctor - or on a choice of 250 different vegetarian dishes.

Treatments are prescribed by experienced Ayurvedic Doctors after extensive consultation with the patient and include rejuvenation, slimming, stress management, body immunization and body purification. Soma Ayurvedic Beauty Clinic offers a wide variety of treatments including manicures and hair care.

OBEROI HOTELS

The internationally acclaimed Oberoi Hotels are dedicated to unrivalled luxury with impeccable personalised service and outstanding cuisine. Striking architecture skilfully blends into the landscape of inspiring locations. Unwind in the sybaritic Oberoi Spa's... pure havens of peace. Cool in delicious pools or rev up in state of the art fitness centres.



THE OBEROI,

The Oberoi reflects traditional and contemporary sophistication highlighted by exquisite interiors. The luxurious hotel guestrooms have delightful views over the Golf course or Humayan's Tomb. Exciting fine cuisine includes Oriental and Italian fare. The Spa is a sanctuary. Lovely pools and excellent fitness centre.



OBEROI RAJVILAS,

Recreating the romance and grandeur of Rajasthan amidst 32 acres of landscaped gardens, pavilions and reflection pools, the hotel has premier rooms, luxury tents and sublime villas. Savour Indian & Global flavours. Intimate Library bar. Gorgeous pool. Utterly divine Spa.



OBEROI GRAND,

The Oberoi Grand, fondly called the 'Grande Dame of Chowringhee' is a classically striking Heritage hotel - a sanctuary in the heart of Kolkata. Rooms are elegantly appointed and dining includes International and Thai influences. The Spa is tranquil and swimming pool a soothing oasis.



THE OBEROI,

The quietly opulent Oberoi exudes a contemporary luxurious air. 73 suites and 214 rooms are havens of elegance, many with stunning ocean views. Dining includes refined Indian and Italian fare. Champagne Lounge. Eau Bar. Beautiful outdoor pool, lovely Oberoi Spa.



THE OBEROI CECIL,

The quiet elegance of the Grand Heritage hotel, 7000 feet up in the Himalayas, reflects its exacting restoration work complete with wood floors, period furniture and crackling fires. Built around a beautiful atrium, the rooms offer splendid views of the mountains and valleys. Heated swimming pool, billiards rooms, revitalising Spa. Perfect for nature walks.



THE OBEROI VANYAVILAS (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), Ranthambore

Splendidly indulgent jungle resort in harmony with the nature's beauty. Luxury tents have finely embroidered canopies and private walled gardens. Dine on Western, Thai and Indian cuisine. Inviting pool, Fitness tent and lovely revitalising Oberoi Spa. Fascinating Jungle drives.



OBEROI UDAIVILAS,

With stunning views over Lake Pichola, the hotel echoes the grand Mewar style. The exquisite guestrooms and suites - some with private pools - are elegantly appointed. Fine dining on Rajasthan and International cuisine. Delightful pools. Gym. Revitalising Oberoi Spa.



OBEROI AMARVILAS,

The Oberoi Amarvilas is gracious and refined - guestrooms rooms and suites have Taj Mahal views. The architecture reflects Moorish and Mughal elegance with pools and pavilions. Fine International dining and flavours of India. The Spa is self-indulgent and pool -superb!

DELHI THE IMPERIAL

One of the iconic hotels of Asia, the majestic Imperial seamlessly blends the classic style of the Raj with modern refined luxury. Relax in sophisticated elegance in one of the 190 guest rooms or 45 suites, furnished in soothing muted shades with a luxurious bathrooms.

Dine in world-class restaurants serving acclaimed cuisine: The Spice Route - in the Conde Nast world's top ten: Nostalgia at 1911 - Brasserie with flavours of Western fare from days gone by... Italian delicacies, watch Live Shows at Daniell's Tavern or take High Tea. Unwind in charismatic Bars. Revive at the famed Imperial Spa with holistic treatments. Visit the stylish Salon. Plunge into the lovely pool or energise in the Health and Racquet Club.



INDIA HOTELS



ITC MUGHAL Agra

Nestling in over 35 acres of luxuriant gardens, close to the Taj Mahal, the hotel is the only Indian hotel to have won the prestigious Aga Khan Award for Mughal architecture. The 233 lavish rooms and suites are quintessential contemporary Mughal. Dine on flavours of the North West Frontier, refined Asian and International cuisines. Retreat to the Bagh-E-Bahar Lounge, unwind by the pool or for pure relaxation revive at the sybaritic Royal Spa.



INDIA HOTELS



TAJ GATEWAY,

Surrounded by glorious mountains the hotel is a blend of colonial architecture and contemporary amenities. The 32 rooms and suites have a cottage style atmosphere - some with fireplaces. The 24 hour Kitchen is dedicated to local produce with Regional or International flavours. Relax in the panelled Hampton Bar. Energise in the Fitness centre. Rejuvenate with Ayurveda.



ORANGE COUNTY RESORT, *Coorg*

Set amidst 300 acres of coffee and spice plantations the Resort is a haven of luxury highlighted by ethnic touches. The Pool Villas evoke the Planters lifestyle and Kodava architecture. Dine on gourmet fare, grills, kebabs or fine vegetarian dining. Divine infinity pool. Sybaritic Vaidyasala Ayurvedic Spa.



VIVANTA BY TAJ MADIKERI, *Coorg*

Unwind in 180 acres of natural rainforest in one of the 63 rooms and villas inspired by traditional Coorg houses: stylish, calm - designed with harmony. Dine on multi cuisine flavours, Coorg specialities or Wellness options. Poolside Grill. Chill at Hive Bar, plunge into the pool, excellent Fitness centre. Simply relax at Jiva Grande Spa.



ALILA DIWA & DIWA CLUB *(BEACH PROPERTY),*

Amidst a landscape of lush, verdant rice plantations old Goan charm blends seamlessly with contemporary luxury. The 153 rooms and suites are havens of space and comfort. Exclusive Diwa Club. Oriental, Indian, Mediterranean and Middle Eastern highlights. Stylish Bar and Lounge. Movie theatre. Pools. Health Club. Wonderful Spa.



TAJ EXOTICA (BEACH **PROPERTY),** *Goa*

Set amidst fifty-six acres of lush gardens, the Exotica is a haven of relaxation. Dining options include a taste of Goa and China. From spacious rooms to presidential suites the accommodation is an elegant blend of Portuguese and Goan style. Delightful pool and excellent beach activities.



WINDAMERE HOTEL, *Darjeeling*

Straight from the days of the British Raj in India this charming, centrally located hotel, overflows with colonial olde worlde charm. Delightfully furnished in period furniture, it's a relaxing uncomplicated hotel full of history. Dine by candlelight in the cosy restaurant and sip a soothing drink in the bar. Tea and cucumber sandwiches are still served!



CLARIDGES, *Delhi*

Built in 1952, the hotel, in the heart of New Delhi is a delightful blend of olde world elegance and contemporary style. Guestrooms and suites are quietly relaxed with a gentle refined air. Dine at the rustic Dhaba on aromatic Indian cuisine. Or be tempted by Spanish, Indian or Continental cuisine. Aura Vodka Bar. Unwind by the pool or gym revitalise in the Spa.



SHANGRI-LE EROS,

In the heart of New Delhi the luxurious hotel sprawls amidst a blaze of green. The 320 stylish modern guestrooms and suites are beautifully appointed with contemporary Asian furnishings. A wealth of dining includes Indian, Mediterranean, Asian and Italian specialities. Island Bar. Beautiful pool, excellent gym and lovely holistically influenced Spa.



DEVIGARH PALACE BY LEBUA, *Devigarh*

The future meets the past in the hotel with imaginative contemporary design showcasing the magnificent building. The 39 suites are unique. Authentic home cooking includes delicious fusion creations. Relax in the Bar. Lovely pool, gym and soothing Spa.

INDIA HOTELS



HIGHLANDS PARK,

The Highlands Park Mountain resort hotel, in the beautiful 'Meadow of the Flowers', overlooks the highest golf club in the world. The en suite bedrooms are well furnished. It's a comfortable and relaxed place in an area of outstanding beauty. Enjoy Kashmiri and multi-national cuisine.



USHA KIRAN PALACE,

The Taj Heritage Palace hotel, set amidst beautiful gardens, was originally built as a Royal Guesthouse. The 40 guest rooms, suites and villas are spacious, sophisticated with an indulgent Royal 'air'. Dine on signature cuisine of Maratha and Nepal Royalty, or select Continental, Asian & Indian delights. Play billiards in the Bada Bar. Totally rejuvenate in the therapeutic Jiva Spa.



KINGS LODGE (WILDLIFE **PROPERTY),** *Bandhavgarh*

The lodge, in a natural forested estate, has 10 cottage and 8 stilt cottage rooms furnished with charming wood furniture in honey hues. Dine in the multi-cuisine dining hall, the BBQ or Bush dinner area. Swimming Pool. Lovely Spa. Safari, walking, cycling experiences with knowledgeable Naturalists.



TAJ KRINSHA,

The luxurious, stunningly designed hotel is opulently styled. The magnificent sweeping staircase leads to the 261 beautifully furnished guestrooms and suites. Delicious dining choices include International, Schezwan and Indian fare. Seasons Bar and Lounge. Pool. Health club and lovely Jiva Spa.



HYATT, *Amritsar*

Conveniently located in Amritsar the 248 elegantly decorated rooms and suites have a sleek contemporary air. Dine sumptuously on authentic Thai, Italian and Chinese fare. Teppanyak/ Tempura stations, open wood-fired cooked pizzas. Pastry Shop. Cocktails or Afternoon Tea in the Lounge Bar. Energise in the Fitness Centre, cool down in the pool or indulge in the Spa.



SAMODE HAVELI,

Samode Haveli lies in the heart of Jaipur. The original décor is a sheer delight. Guestrooms and suites are bejewelled with mosaics and frescoes. Dine on Indian, Oriental and Continental cuisine in the eclectic dining room. Superb swimming pool.



TAJ JAI MAHAL PALACE, *Jaipur*

Set amidst 18 acres of beautiful Mughal gardens the stunning hotel has 100 rooms and suites. Rooms reflect the elegance of Royalty with delightful touches of Rajasthan. Suites are unashamedly opulent. Unique dining experience exploring the nuances of the finest Indian and International cuisines. Gym, pool and lovely Jiva Spa.



TAJ GATEWAY HOTEL **RAWALKOT,** *Jaisalmer*

A lovely hotel, with wonderful views of Jaisalmer Fort, has 31 stylish modern rooms. Cuisine from around the world and 'backyard'! Pool, Health club and revitalising Spa.



THE SERAI,

A luxurious desert Camp and Spa, close to Jaisalmer, with 21 beautifully appointed tents - some with sunken heated dip pools. Dining Tent offers a daily changing menu with local delicacies and Western fare. Comfortable Bar. Unique swimming pool and totally sybaritic SUJÁN Spa.

INDIA HOTELS



JAWAI LEOPARD CAMP (WILDLIFE PROPERTY),

In the heart of wilderness, where leopards roam, the eco-conscious camp's 10 luxurious private tents are contemporary yet timeless stylish with canvas, leather and steel accessories. Organic fare with local and global highlights. Lovely pool. Idyllic Spa. Leopard safaris with Naturalist. Birding. Walk with Rabari herdsmen.



TAJ HARI MAHAL,

Set amidst 6 acres of lovely grounds the hotel's grand architecture is majestically imposing. The charming guestrooms and suites with pool or garden views are perfectly relaxing. Experience modern Rajasthani, Continental, authentic Cantonese and Szechuan cuisines. Chill out at Ola Bar. Super pool and excellent Fitness centre.



THE RAAS,

Stunningly nestled beneath the Mehrangarh Fort, the 39 rooms and suites are chic: elegantly understated - the majority with superb fort views. Light and space echo throughout the restored building. Dine upon Indian and Continental cuisine - no set meal times. Delightful heated pool. RAAS Spa pampers and rejuvenates.



KANHA EARTH LODGE (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Kanha*

In 16 acres of natural forest the eco-conscious Lodge has 12 stylish luxury bungalows inspired by Gond tribal architecture using local stone and plaster. A multi-cuisine dining hall serves Indian and Continental cuisine. Outdoor barbeque. Infinity pool. Jeep, Bird and walking safaris.



TAJ BANJAARA TOLA (WILDLIFE PROPERTY),

Idyllically perched on the edge of the Banjaara River, the eco-conscious Lodge with two elegant camps - nine tented suites of contemporary chic - each with Pool. Dine on Jungle Banquets and Regional specialties - ever changing menu. Library. Lovely Spa. & beyond Taj Safari guides for nature walks, jeep safaris.



TAJ CHANDELA,

Enveloped within 11 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens, the 94 stylish modern rooms and suites are elegantly comfortable and relaxing. Explores the nuances of the finest Indian and International cuisines, serving traditional and contemporary favourites. Exotic Sura Sundari Bar. Dip in the Pool. Fitness centre.



SAMODE SAFARI LODGE (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Bandhavgarh*

A Relais & Chateaux Property, the Lodge has 12 luxuriously furnished villas. Wonderfully comfortable lounge - with outside deck. Gourmet dining, Campfire BBQ's, Bush dinners and picnics. Heated open air swimming pool. Relaxing Spa. Safaris accompanied by local tracker.



TAJ BENGAL,

A member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World', the 229 rooms and suites are superbly appointed with modern décor highlighted with traditional accents. From fine dining, Italian, Indian, Mediterranean to High Teas - the choice is endless Pool and Fitness centre. Taj Spa & Salon for rejuvenation.



NIRAAMAYA SURYA SAMUDRA KOVALAM (BEACH PROPERTY), *Kovalam*

Enveloped in lush greenery and fringed by the Arabian Sea, the 31 heritage cottages are a perfect balance of contemporary and old world charm - some with stunning sea vistas. Indulge in International flavours and Eastern spice. Cocktails at Madira. Infinity pool. Globally acclaimed Spa.

INDIA HOTELS



VIVANTA BY TAJ KOVALAM (BEACH PROPERTY),

In luxuriant grounds the 59 hillside cottages with elephant-grass thatched rooftops are totally relaxed, some with garden or sea view and lap pools. Stylish Keralan/Balinese ambience. Exciting restaurants include Seafood, curries and multi-cuisine. Coffee Shop and lively Bar. Stunning freeform pool, Fitness centre and divine Jiva Spa.



COCONUT LAGOON, *Kumarakom*

Coconut Lagoon, accessed only by boat, is a unique recreation of a traditional Keralan village, criss-crossed with canals. The Heritage Bungalows, villas and 'mansions' are soothingly stylish. Dine on delicious Keralan and International cuisine. Relaxing infinity pool. Ayurvedic Spa, Kalarippayattu Practice, Yoga, Cookery Demo



MELISSAR MAHAL,

The regal magnificence of the Heritage Hotel's architecture and wonderful antique furniture bear testimony to the days of Royal splendour. Each of the 51 rooms reflects this grandeur with lovely antique furnishings. Dine on Indian, Chinese, Continental and Rajasthan cuisine. Relax in the bar, reading room or massage centre. Swimming pool.



BEACH SYMPHONY (BEACH PROPERTY), *Mararikulam*

On the beach, in a natural garden, snuggled in a tropical coconut grove, the cottages are individually decorated - quietly stylish and totally relaxing - some with pools and sea views. For dining Chef consults with guests and cooks to order. Swimming pool. Local walks, toddy tapping.



MARARI BEACH RESORT (BEACH PROPERTY), *Mararikulam*

On golden, palm fringed shores, the spacious thatch-roof villas in the CGH Earth resort nestle amidst a coconut grove, some with private pools: each cool and soothing. Sample traditional fisher folk fare or dine on International menu. Pool. Ayurvedic centre.



OLD HARBOUR,

At the heart of ancient Fort Cochin, the 300 year-old building built in the Dutch style with hints of Portugal is now an elegant boutique hotel - with a delightful arty air. The 13 spacious guest rooms and suites are cool and calm. Dine on the freshest of organic vegetables - be tempted with local fish at the nightly barbeque. Delightful gardens with lovely pool and restful Ayurvedic Spa.



WINDERMERE ESTATE,

The Cardamom estate at Windermere is a unique biosphere. The charming garden and cottage rooms and Planters villa, with waxed floors and teak furniture, have breath-taking views of gardens, hills and valleys. Delicious dining with Malayali, Oriental, Continental and delicious family recipes. Plantation walks, cycling, jeep safaris.



ROYAL ORCHID METROPOLE, *Mysore*

Built by the former Maharaja of Mysore in 1920 for distinguished guests, the Heritage hotel has a delightful old world charm. The spacious suites and guestrooms are quietly stylish. Dining options include BBQ's, Local fare and cosy High Teas. Vibrant bar. Swimming pool and Fitness centre.



PENCH JUNGLE CAMP (WILDLIFE PROPERTY),

Surrounded by acres of lush foliage, the eco-friendly jungle camp offers a sanctuary to unwind and relax with nature. Spacious rustic tents, cottages and premier rooms. Dine on Indian, Continental and Chinese cuisine. Well stocked library. Pool. Forest Spa Resident Naturalist. Jungle and night safaris, horse riding. Birding.

INDIA HOTELS



TAJ BAGHVAN (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Pench*

On the edge of the Park, the Lodge has 12 charming suites lying by a picturesque nullah with a diverting '50s ambience and machan. Interactive kitchen - flavours of Central India, afternoon teas. Sip cocktails under Banyan tree. & Beyond trained Naturalist: Jeep and Elephant safaris, birding. Pool. Ayurvedic massages.



MAISON PERUMAL, *Pondicherry*

In the Tamil Quarter of Pondicherry the lovely property seamlessly blends old-world Tamil and French architectural styles. 10 quietly stylish rooms are delightfully relaxing. Lovely verandahs and quiet sit out areas. Delicious sea food and International cuisine with a local 'makeover' and French nuances!



PALAIS DEYMAHE,

A little gem in Pondicherry's French Quarter. The grand, spacious rooms transport guests to the era of French power, on the Coromandel, with fine period inspired furnishings, high ceilings and deep verandahs. Delightful comfy guestrooms. Savour Indo-French cuisine. Charming pool.



KHEM VILLAS (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Ranthambore*

Perfectly in tune with the surrounding natural environment the lovely cottages, tents and rooms, each gracefully and stylishly decorated, are perfect retreats. Indian, Oriental and Western vegetarian cuisine at its best. Relaxed bar. Connect with nature at Age Veda Spa.



SHERBAGH (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Ranthambore*

At one with nature the luxurious 12 hand-stitched canvas tents evoke the 1920's. Stylish Edwardian campaign style furniture embellishes the camp. Home grown ingredients. Live cooking, Western fare and Clay Ovens for aromatic Indian. Library Bar. Lovely pool. Energising Spa under ancient Peepal tree.



TAJ MAHUA KOTHI (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Bandhavgarh*

Nestled in 40 acres of lovely grounds Mahua Kothi is the Taj's first Safari hotel, a delight of 12 luxurious rustic cottages. From picnics to spit roasts to khud cooking dining is a gastronomic delight. Sip fine Indian wines. Relaxing pool, divine Spa. Superb safari experiences with Expert Naturalists.



ANANDA IN THE HIMALAYAS, *Rishikesh*

Ananda is a world class Destination Spa - quite sublime: offering guests the finest of treatments including rejuvenating and revitalising Wellness retreats. Dining is superb with emphasis on delicious organic Spa cuisine with International flavours. The villas, suites and rooms are havens, soothing and restful. Yoga, swimming pool, gym.



DENWA BACKWATER ESCAPE (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Satpura*

Nestled in 10 acres overlooking the backwaters of a dam, the 8 deluxe cottages and 2 Tree Houses are stylishly appointed with unique leather safari furniture. Savour Local, Indian and Continental cuisines. Eco-friendly Pool. Day, night & boat Safaris. In house Naturalists.



RENI PANI JUNGLE LODGE (WILDLIFE PROPERTY),

The beautifully designed conservation wildlife lodge, in 30 acres of forest, features 12 charming luxury cottages secreted amidst the woods, hillside and seasonal nallah. Interactive dining, India BBQ and gourmet International cuisines. Library with Bar. Jungle pool and Massage. Games drives, elephant / horse/boat safari, birding, nature walks.

INDIA HOTELS



VIVANTA BY TAJ CONNEMARA, *Chennai*

The Vivanta is Chennai's only Heritage hotel. The 150 rooms and suites are spacious modern retreats filled with hi-tech electronics. Dine on endless choices of cuisine - Anglo-Indian, Italian, South Indian, Thai, Japanese. Chill at Distil. Plunge in the pool, energise at the Fitness centre or just simply surrender in the Spa.



WILDFLOWER HALL,

High in the Himalayas is a fairy-tale luxury resort, set amidst virgin forests with exceptional mountain and valley views. Elegant rooms reflect the Colonial heritage. Dine upon Indian, Pan-Asian or Continental dishes; delightful Cavalry Bar. Superb Spa, indoor/outdoor pools or Jacuzzi. Walk or horse ride through the stunning countryside.



TRANQUIL RESORT, *Sultan's Battery*

Set in 400 acres of coffee and cardamom the Colonial atmosphere is quietly elegant: beautiful rosewood floors and handsome furniture. Keralan and Continental cuisine, using local produce, is served 'buffer' style. Bedrooms are spacious and very contemporary. Tree house with king sized bed. Delightful swimming pool.



IDEAL RIVER VIEW RESORT, *Tanjore*

The resort is delightfully situated on the banks of the Cauvery. The rooms are decorated in a softly soothing style. Dine on local flavours, Sri Lankan, Chinese and Indian dishes. Unwind in the relaxed Bar. Ayurvedic massage and lovely swimming pool.



SVASARA JUNGLE LODGE & RESORTS (WILDLIFE PROPERTY), *Tadoba*

300 metres from the Kolara gate at Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, the 12 luxury suites in lovely rustic hues of yellow and green are pleasingly relaxed. Dine on local Verhadi, Indian and International cuisine. Sunset picnics. Tiger safaris with experienced local forest guides.



FATEHGARH,

With breathtaking views of Udaipur, the eco-conscious hotel belongs to the Heritage Renaissance School of Building. The 38 spacious rooms and 10 suites are soothing - some with jacuzzi or plunge pool. Dine at Baradari on Indian & local Rajasthani cuisine. Relax at Amritam. Pool. Lovely Sansha Spa.



FATEH PRAKASH PALACE, *Udaipur*

Mewar hospitality and graciousness defines the Grand Heritage Palace, part of the City Palace complex, with its unsurpassed views of Lake Pichola. The stately suites and rooms are decorated with original paintings and period furniture. In superb settings dine on Mughlai, Indian, Continental fare. Lovely pool and rejuvenating Spa.



BRUNTON BOATYARD,

Skilfully converted 19th C. boatyard, the hotel, with 22 sea view bedrooms, owned by CGH Earth, has been imaginatively designed and stylishly decorated - with wonderful antique four poster beds and deep tubs. Excellent selection of restaurants includes a gastronomic tour of Cochin. Sunset cruises and Cookery demos. Relax by the pool or in the Ayurvedic centre.



TAJ NADESAR PALACE, *Varanasi*

Surrounded by mango orchards, marigold and jasmine fields, the Palace's 10 luxurious suites recreate an era of bygone splendour embellished with original pieces of furniture and elegant decor. Dining is simply indulgent. Play a round of golf, take a guided nature walk or revitalise in the Jiva Spa.

NEPAL HOTELS



DWARIKAS, Kathmandu

An intimate Heritage hotel inspired by Newari architecture, the rooms and suites reflect the country's grace and style. Dine on Local and International cuisine. Library, Pool. Fitness centre. Spa.



SHANGRI-LA, Kathmandu

The stylish hotel offers suites and guestrooms furnished in a quietly luxurious contemporary style. Dine on delicious fare from India to China and the Continent. Delightful pool and lovely Spa.



KATHMANDU GUEST HOUSE, Kathmandu

The quietly elegant converted Rana dynasty mansion, set amidst fragrant gardens, offers an excellent range of accommodation: stylish modern suites to affordable backpacker rooms. Great dining options with Local and International cuisine.



TEMPLE TREE RESORT & SPA, Pokhara

A Boutique hotel, nestled close to Phewa Lake, reflects the distinctive architecture and culture of Nepal's Western Himalayas. Delightfully rustic rooms with private balcony/terrace. Dine on Local and World flavours. Infinity pool. Ayurvedic Spa.



SHANGRI - LA VILLAGE RESORT, Pokhara

Set amidst beautiful gardens, the hotel, with delightful overtones of Nepal offers guests charming rooms with colonial nuances and magnificent views. Dine on International fare.



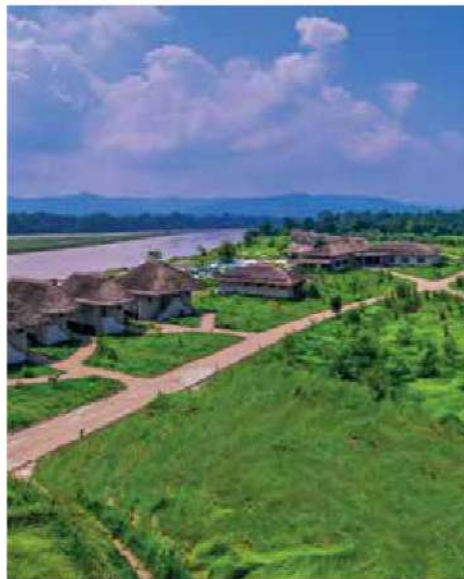
DWARIKA'S RESORT,

In magnificent surroundings the holistic lifestyle retreat has luxuriously rustic suites for perfect harmony. Dine on Dine on Zen, Himalayan and International Cuisine. Himalayan Spa for pure nurturing.



JUNGLE VILLA RESORT, Chitwan

The Jungle resort on the bank of the Rapti River, near Chitwan National Park HQ, offers a cluster of quietly furnished cottages. Dine on Local and International fare. Elephants safaris, bird watch, nature walks with experienced Naturalists.



BARAHI JUNGLE LODGE, Chitwan

Overlooking the Park, Barahi is Chiwan first eco-jungle lodge with delightful deluxe boutique guestrooms. Dine on organic multi-cuisine. Pool with bar. Spa. Elephant and Jeep safaris. Ox-cart rides and Nature walks.



TIGER MOUNTAIN POKHARA LODGE, Pokhara

Dramatically set on a ridge the cosy cluster of cottages, with amazing views, resemble a Nepali Village. Continental and Nepali specialities. Unique Library. Pool. Ayurvedic and shiatsu therapy. Bird walks. Day hikes. Paragliding.



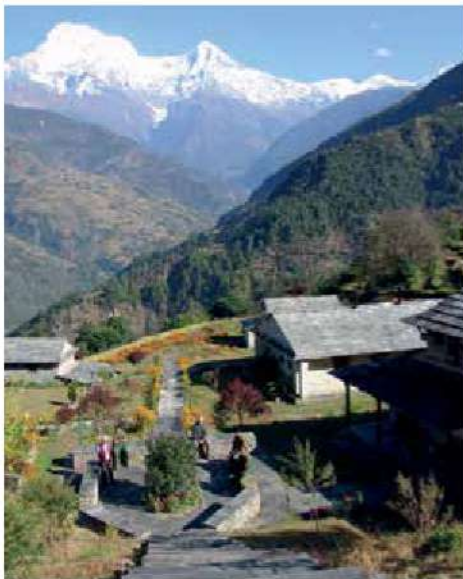
DHULIKHEL MOUNTAIN RESORT, Dhulikhel

With spectacular views of the Gauri Shankar mountain range the comfortably furnished guestrooms in red brick thatched cottages take full advantage of the vista. Dine on and Nepali and International fare.



TIGER TOPS KARNALI LODGE, Bardia

The Lodge is committed to sustainable tourism. Inspired by local culture the guestrooms are calm and soothing. Dining showcases home grown organic ingredients: Nepali and International cuisine. Bar. Wide-ranging safari experiences.



KER & DOWNEY LODGES,

The collection of Lodges in the Annapurna's allow guests to relax after a day's trek in comfort. Delightfully cozy guestrooms with hot water bottles and hot showers! Robust meals served family-style. Bar. Guided trekking.

BHUTAN HOTELS

AMANKORA, *Bumthang*

Amankora Bumthang is stunningly located close to the Wangdichholing Palace amidst wonderful countryside. The 16 suites are chic - almost understated in elegance - each features wood-paneled interiors, a traditional bukhari, king size bed and terrazzo-clad bath. Dine on delicious Bhutanese and Western cuisine. Delightful courtyard area for pre-dinner drinks around a bonfire! Relax in the Spa with its wonderful Holistic treatments; browse the library.



AMANKORA, *Gangtey*

In the charming Phobjikha Valley, nestled atop a forested knoll the delightful Amankora has 8 quietly chic suites - each with an open plan living bedroom with king size bed, terrazzo - clad bath and a window banquette. In the dining room, with its floor to ceiling windows - dine on both Western and Bhutanese fare. Be pampered in the Spa with a Signature Himalayan Hot Stone massage.



UMA BY COMO,

In a wonderful tranquil location the private 29 room resort, featuring the most exclusive villas-nestling in secluded glades in Bhutan - combines local influences with COMO contemporary style. The rooms and suites are quietly elegant. Dine at the Bukhari Restaurant on the finest of fare with Bhutanese highlights. The Shambhala offers holistic, Asian-inspired treatments for pure relaxation.



GANGTEY GOENPA LODGE, *Gangtey*

The beautiful and remote Gangtey Goenpa Lodge has 12 luxurious rooms reflecting the essence of traditional local farmhouses: with hand cut stone heated floors, wood burning stoves and deep baths - and amazing views. Dine on Bhutanese, Asian or Western cuisine. Relax in the lounge with its floor to ceiling windows.



ZHIWA LING,

The majestic hotel uniquely combines the refinement of a Bhutanese guesthouse with up-to-the-minute technology. The 45 suites are elegant - quietly reflecting Bhutanese heritage but with modern conveniences. All day dining at Linka. Gawa for Bhutanese and Western fare. Relax in the Mad Monk Bar or Tea House. Unwind in the Spa with an outdoor Hot Stone Bath.



AMANKORA, *Paro*

With glorious views of forests and snow clad peaks the 24 suites are a delight of rustic and contemporary design: featuring combined lounge/ bedroom with king-size bed, bukhari and bathroom with terrazzo-clad bath. Dine on Indian, Western and Bhutanese cuisine. Relax in the living room with its cosy fireplaces and comfy sofas. Extensive Library and lovely Spa.



NAKSEL HOTEL & SPA,

The hotel was designed with eco living in mind blending old and new ideas: solar panels and mud brick walls! Coolly elegant rooms and suites, with outstanding views, are a dream of wood and quiet soft furnishings. Dine on local specialities, Indian and Western fare. Relax in the Coffee House, Chabchu Bar or the Menchu Himalayan Herbal Spa.

BHUTAN HOTELS



AMANKORA, *Punakha*

Amankora Punakha is accessed by a suspension bridge over the Mo Chu. The 8 suites, housed in rammed-earth buildings feature a combined lounge and bedroom with king-size bed, banquette window-seat and traditional bukhari. En suite terrazzo-clad bath. Incorporated into an existing traditional farmhouse, savour Local and Western fare in the delightful dining room, relax in the Tea Pavilion or unwind in the Shambhala Retreat with a soothing steam bath.



UMA BY COMO,

On a bend on the Mo Chu River the charming property has an air of intimacy and discreet luxury. The superb villas and rooms are quietly understated with magnificent views - even from some baths - and decorated with Sheesham wood furniture and Local art work. Dine on the freshest of fare and feast upon Bhutanese and International cuisine. In a wooded glade experience the bliss of the Spa - Shambha Retreat.



DHENSA BOUTIQUE RESORT, *Punakha*

Overlooking the Punakha River amidst gorgeous scenery the 24 suites, located within 6 cottages are deliberately understated in design - effortlessly blending contemporary with local tradition. Simple pleasures are important here - soaking in a deep tub or dining on seasonal cuisine using organic produce on tastes of Bhutan, Asia and the West. Dhensa Spa is a haven.



AMANKORA, *Thimphu*

In a blue pine forest the architecture of the 16 suite resort is Dzong inspired. Each combined bedroom/lounge has wood panelling, king size bed and terrazzo-clad bath. Outdoor deck has glorious views of the forests. Dine on Local and International cuisine. The living and dining room has soaring ceilings with mellow wood-panelling. The Spa therapies use local herbs.



TAJ TASHI,

The views from the hotel are breath-taking and highlight the elegance of the Taj Tashi with its Dzong inspired architecture. The 66 rooms and suites are adorned with enchanting classical hand drawn murals and luxurious furnishings. Dine on Bhutanese or Western cuisine, sip Suja in the Tea house or relax in the bar. At Jiva Spa find total relaxation.



TERMA LINCA RESORT, *Thimphu*

Nestled idyllically on a curve of Thimphu River the 30 rooms and suites skillfully bend modern amenities with Bhutanese aesthetics and architecture. Dine on fine national, multi-national cuisine and traditional Bhutanese fare. Relax at the River Bar. At the Spa experience pure relaxation with a Hot Stone Bath. Learn to cook Ema Datsi the National dish.