

Premium
Journeys by Bicton Travel
presents

EXOTIC INDIA

WITH DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



INCLUDES
SPECIAL **DIWALI**
CELEBRATION
IN JAIPUR

18 DAY PREMIUM ESCORTED TOUR
DEPARTING PERTH 22 OCTOBER 2016



INSIGHT VACATIONS
The Art of Touring in Style



Tomb of Humayun, Delhi



HOSTED BY HARPAL AHLUWALIA

Harpal was born in India and lived and worked there until he migrated to Australia with his family in 1997. Harpal served in the Indian Defence Forces and has travelled extensively in India. He has a unique insight into the culture and customs of this amazing land. Harpal's home town is Agra and he has some interesting perspectives to that historical town and many of the places on this itinerary. Along with his wife Manjeet, who is a school teacher, he is looking forward to showing the sights and sounds of his birthplace! This tour has been designed with Harpal's valuable input and will be operated by Insight Vacations.

DAY 1: SAT 22 OCTOBER 2016 **Arrive New Delhi**

Le Meridien New Delhi

Fly from Perth to Delhi via Singapore with Singapore Airlines, welcome to India! On arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel. Join your Tour Director for a Welcome Reception with a delicious meal in the evening. (WD)

DAY 2: SUN 23 OCTOBER 2016 **Delhi Sightseeing**

Le Meridien New Delhi

After Breakfast enjoy a rickshaw ride through the lanes of Chandni Chowk bazaar in Old Delhi. See the Red Fort, visit the Gandhi Memorial at Raj Ghat and the Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque. Enjoy lunch at Connaught Place. Later, drive along the broad Rajpath past the India Gate and Parliament House to visit the tomb of Humayun. This evening enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (BB, L, HD)

DAY 3: MON 24 OCTOBER 2016 **Gurgaon Excursion**

Le Meridien New Delhi

Delhi is famous for shopping and this morning, we take you to some well known shopping areas so you can find some bargains and local gifts. Later in the day, visit Kingdom of Dreams in Gurgaon. Kingdom of Dreams is India's first live entertainment, theatre and leisure destination. The destination consists of two theatres, and a cultural and cuisine area known as Culture Gully. Spend time soaking up the atmosphere before attending a show. (BB, D)

DAY 4: TUES 25 OCTOBER 2016 **Delhi – Agra**

ITC Mughal Agra

After breakfast, drive to Agra where the rest of the day is at leisure. Tonight you may

choose to attend an optional spectacular stage musical production which follows 'Saga of Love' that inspired the construction of the Taj Mahal. (BB, D)

DAY 5: WED 26 OCTOBER 2016 **Agra & The Taj Mahal**

ITC Mughal Agra

An early morning visit to the lustrous Taj Mahal, a monument of love and flawless architectural creation, built by an emperor in memory of his beloved queen. We return to the hotel for breakfast. Afterwards, witness the hustle and bustle of everyday life as you make your way through the city to Agra Fort, a powerful fortress of red sandstone. After your tour through the palatial Royal Pavilions and gardens, visit Akbar's tomb at Sikandra, a well maintained monument to one of the greatest emperors of India. Then onto Itmad Ud Daulah. This tomb is another example of great Moghul Architecture in Agra. (BB, D)

DAY 6: THUR 27 OCTOBER 2016 **Agra – Ranthambhore**

Nahargarh

Leaving Agra we head west to the ancient Mughal capital of Fatehpur Sikri, a deserted city full of architectural wonder. Now to the station for the rail journey to Ranthambhore. On arrival transfer to your luxurious hotel. (BB, L, D)

DAY 7: FRI 28 OCTOBER 2016 **Ranthambhore**

Nahargarh

Early morning journey into the former private hunting grounds of the Maharajahs of Jaipur in search of the elusive tiger. More commonly seen in the dry, deciduous forests are the wild boar, monkeys, spotted deer and antelope but if you are ever going to witness tigers in their natural habitat, this is the place. Return to your resort for breakfast and the day at leisure. At dusk, enjoy another

foray into the National Park with an expert naturalist. Besides the wildlife there are also lake palaces, old fortifications and a majestic 1000 year old fort within the park. (BB, L, D)

DAY 8: SAT 29 OCTOBER 2016

Ranthambhore – Jaipur

Fairmont

Early in the morning, embark on yet another exciting game adventure in the territory of the majestic tiger. After an early lunch, drive through the rural countryside to the stunning capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur. (BB, L, D)

DAY 9: SUN 30 OCTOBER 2016

Diwali Day & Jaipur Sightseeing

Fairmont

Celebrate Diwali, Festival of Light today in Jaipur. Start the day ascending to the Amber Fort by jeep and marvel at its royal halls decorated with intricate ivory, mirrors, glass and exquisite paintings. On a Jaipur city tour, see the intricate 'Hawa Mahal' (The Palace of the winds) and visit the city Palace – now a museum holding a fabulous collection of Rajasthan and Mughal art. A final stop allows you to see the famous Jantar Mantar, the observatory, constructed between 1727 and 1734 by Maharajah Jai Singh II. The rest of the day is free for you to enjoy the Diwali activity including lighting up diyas (lamps and candles), attend puja (prayers) and fireworks along with dinner. (BB, D)

DAY 10: MON 31 OCTOBER 2016

Jaipur – Bikaner

Laxmi Niwas Palace

Depart Jaipur and head northwest. We visit Samode Palace, the restored ancestral residence of the Royal Family, now an exclusive heritage hotel. Enjoy lunch at the Palace before continuing to the fortified desert city of Bikaner. (BB, L, D)

DAY 11: TUES 01 NOV 2016

Bikaner

Laxmi Niwas Palace

Your sightseeing today includes the Junagarh Fort, an unassailable fortress comprising of various palaces, pavilions and a museum containing priceless art and antiques. We also visit the Camel research and breeding farm to learn about the indispensable 'ships of the desert'. (BB)

DAY 12: WED 02 NOVEMBER 2016

Bikaner – Jaisalmer

Suryagarh

Depart Bikaner after breakfast and continue through the Great Thar Desert to the trade route town of Jaisalmer, crowned by its hill-top fortress. On arrival, check into our hotel where the rest of the day is at leisure. (BB)

DAY 13: THUR 03 NOVEMBER 2016

Jaisalmer

Suryagarh

This morning, embark on a city tour of Jaisalmer, visiting Garhi Sagar Lake and the fort, built in 1156 but still in use today. Pass the local market where you can witness desert life at its best. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure. No visit to Jaisalmer is complete without a trip into the Kanoi Sand Dunes, complete with a camel trek and dinner at the dunes. Under a perpetual sky scattered with stars, it's an amazing experience. (BB, HD)

DAY 14: FRI 04 NOVEMBER 2016

Jaisalmer – Jodhpur

ITC Welcome Hotel

Follow the ancient silk routes to the 'Blue City' of Jodhpur. On arrival, check into your hotel. Later, journey to Rohet for a village safari where you are welcomed into the homes of the local bishnoi people to share a slice of their life. (BB, D)



DAY 15: SAT 05 NOVEMBER 2016

JODHPUR SIGHTSEEING

ITC Welcome Hotel

After breakfast, see the Jaswant Thada, an architectural landmark located in Jodhpur. It is a white marble memorial built by Maharaja Sardar Singh of Jodhpur State in 1899 in memory of his father. Then visit Mehrangarh Fort, set on a cliff a hundred feet above the City skyline. Return to your hotel where the rest of the day is at leisure. (BB, D)

DAY 16: SUN 06 NOVEMBER 2016

Jodhpur – Udaipur

The Leela Hotel

Drive to Ranakpur, the temple town of Rajasthan. Explore the elaborate carvings and classic architecture of the sprawling Jain temples, which are regarded as perhaps the best in the country. Gain an insight to the tastes of India with an introduction to Indian Spices and a cooking demonstration at Mana, Ranakpur. Continue onto Udaipur, the beautiful 'city of Lakes'. Enjoy dinner in a local restaurant tonight. (BB, HL, HD)

DAY 17: MON 07 NOVEMBER 2016

Udaipur

The Leela Hotel

In the morning your sightseeing includes the City palace complex, the private residence of the King of Kings. Wander through the markets and bazaars to visit the Jagdish Temple and Gardens of the Maids of the Honour. Visit the beautiful Leela Palace (subject to permission). In the evening, enjoy a boat cruise on the serene waters of Lake Pichola followed by a special Celebration Dinner with drinks – (BB, CD).

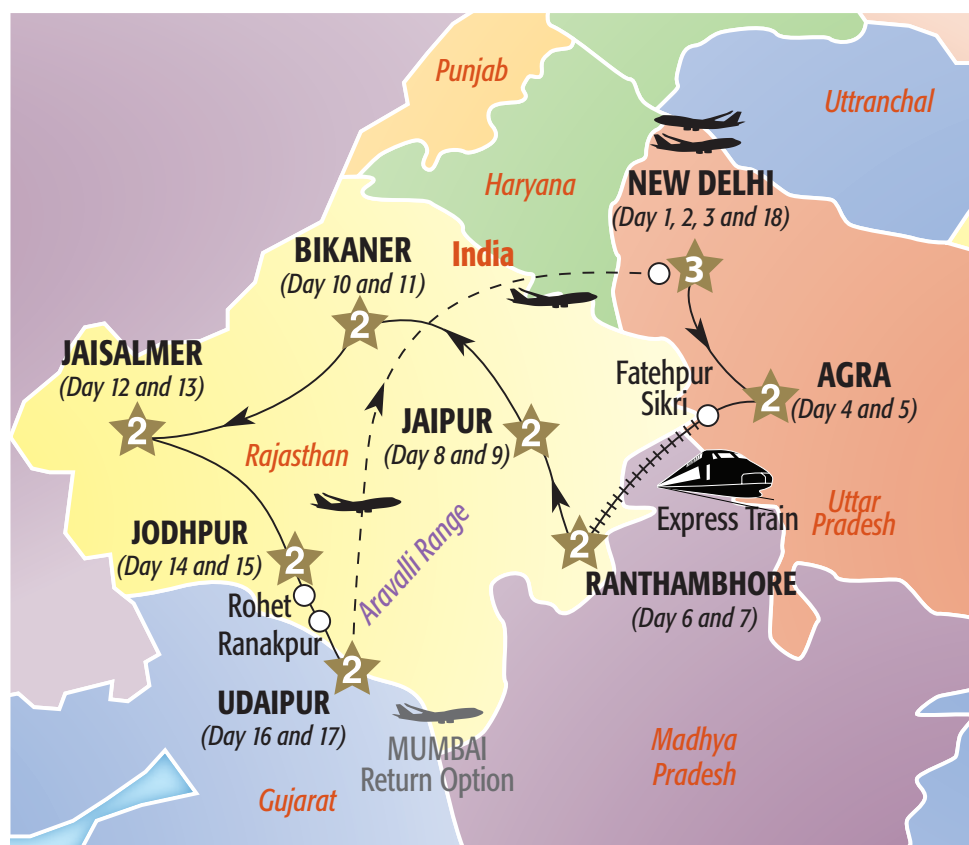
DAY 18: TUES 08 NOVEMBER 2016

Udaipur – Delhi – Onwards

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to Delhi to connect with your Singapore Airlines flight from Delhi to Perth via Singapore, arriving Wednesday 09 November 2016.

MEAL KEY: (BB) = Buffet Breakfast, (D) = Hotel Dinner, (HD) = Local Restaurant Dinner (L) = Lunch, (HL) = Highlight Lunch, (CD) = Celebration Dinner, (WD) = Welcome Dinner

Hotels are a guide and are subject to change. Should the indicated hotel not be available,



18 DAY TOUR PRICE

\$9,595 per person twin share

\$12,870 per person single share

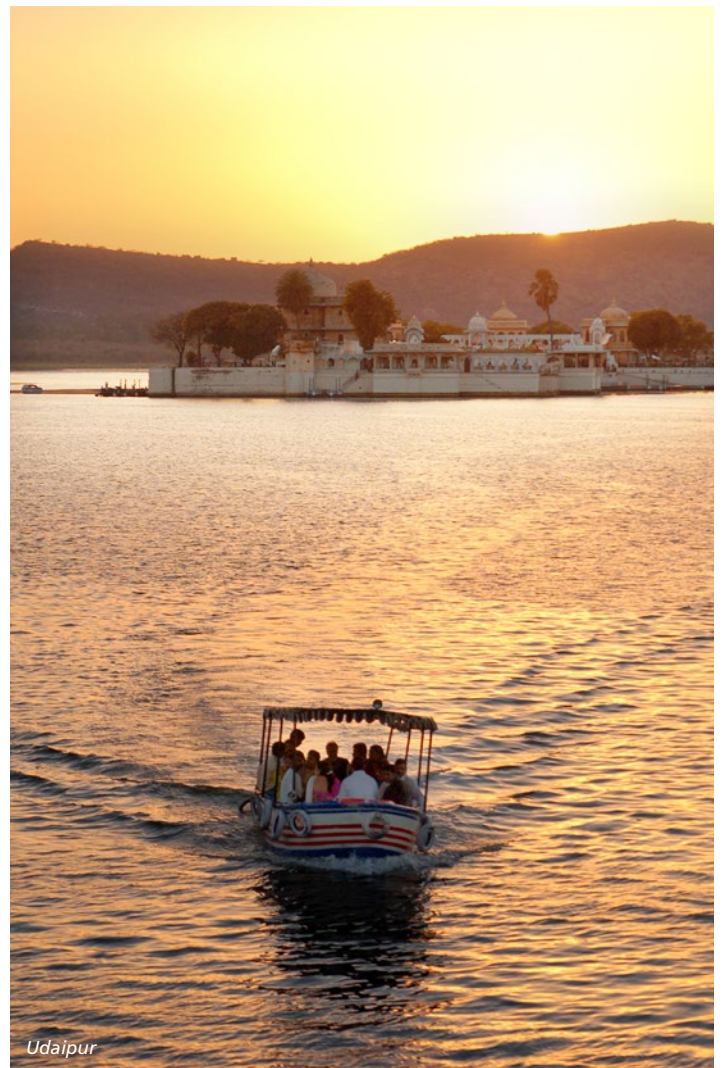
TOUR INCLUSIONS

Included in price:

- Return economy class flights from Perth to Delhi flying Singapore Airlines.
- Accommodation in first class hotels for 17 nights.
- Most meals as outlined in the itinerary.
- A wide range of sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary, including all applicable entrance fees.
- Drinks during welcome & farewell dinners and mineral water on coaches.
- Portage and gratuities throughout the tour.
- Services of an accompanying English speaking professional Indian Tour Director throughout the tour.
- Transportation in air conditioned coach throughout, or by rail where indicated.
- Internal flight Udaipur – New Delhi on Day 18.

Included Signature Experiences:

- **Delhi:** Enjoy a rickshaw ride through the bustling streets.
- **Gurgaon:** Enjoy an evening at Kingdom of Dreams.
- **Agra:** Visit the Taj Mahal, a monument of love, built by a king in everlasting memory of his beloved queen.
- **Agra:** Admire the fairytale palaces of the Agra Fort.
- **Fatehpur Sikri:** Visit the deserted imperial city.
- **Jaipur:** Ascend by jeep to the Amber Fort and stroll through the sprawling complex of courtyards and halls.
- **Jaipur:** Join in the Diwali celebrations in Jaipur.
- **Ranthambhore:** Venture inside this former royal hunting ground and enjoy three game safaris.
- **Bikaner:** Enjoy a visit to the Junagarh Fort.
- **Jaisalmer:** Visit Garhi Sagar Lake and Fort.
- **Jaisalmer:** Enjoy a camel trek and dinner under the stars at Kanoji Sand Dunes.
- **Ranakpur:** Enjoy a cooking demonstration at Mana, Ranakpur.
- **Udaipur:** Visit the city palace complex, a testimony to the Rajput passion for art and architecture.
- **Udaipur:** Enjoy a boat cruise on the serene waters of Lake Pichola.



TERMS & CONDITIONS:

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED – passports and applicable VISA fees, laundry, phone calls, items of a personal nature, beverages unless specified, meals and sightseeing not detailed in the itinerary, excess baggage, travel insurance. Please note that travel insurance is highly recommended. Please see Bicton Travel for further details.

Offers are subject to availability and may be withdrawn without notice.

An initial non-refundable deposit of \$1000 per person is due within 7 days of booking. Airfares may be ticketed at this stage so any changes will incur fees.

Final payment is due 01 Aug 2016

Accommodation and airline/routing is at the discretion of Bicton Travel and minimum numbers are required for the tour to operate.

Please note a Visa will be required for India which is an additional cost.

ITINERARY CHANGES – Insight Vacations reserves the right to vary itineraries should circumstances dictate, as well as cancel or reschedule any tour departure in accordance with operating requirements, or circumstances beyond its control. For full Terms & Conditions refer to Insight Vacations India brochure 2015/16.

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FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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