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# India

## Maharaja Fairy Tale & Tiger Stalking

From the hustle and bustle of the business metropolis Delhi, we quickly springboard to the India of our dreams – Rajasthan. Be mesmerised by the Taj Mahal in the evening glow, discover the Hawa Mahal and the secrets of the ladies behind its windows, feast your eyes on the vibrant colours on every corner, take in the exotic scents at the local bazaars, and observe camels in their natural habitat. Perhaps you'll even catch a glimpse of a tiger in the Ranthambore National Park. India holds countless surprises you've never dreamed of!

- Taj Mahal – a true fairy tale
- Hawa Mahal – “Palace of Breeze”
- Tiger stalking at Ranthambore National Park
- Overnight stay in a desert camp

12 days

1 Nov. – 12 Nov. 2023

from € **1999,-**

# India: Maharaja Fairy Tale & Tiger Stalking

## Day 1, Wed, 01.11.2023: Modern Delhi

Individual arrival in Delhi (flights not included). Upon arrival, you will be greeted by our representative and transferred to the hotel. In the afternoon, you will get to know New Delhi – the capital of India. The first stop will be a UNESCO World Heritage Site – Qutub Minar, the second tallest minaret in the country. Made of red sandstone and marble, the minaret is decorated with intricate carvings and verses from the Koran. Later, we will visit Humayun's Tomb, an impressive monument in Indo-Persian style from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and a precursor to the Taj Mahal. We will end the day with a tour of Imperial Delhi, which includes a scenic drive past India Gate, the 42m-high War Memorial, the Parliament House, the Secretariat Buildings, and the Viceroy Palace (now the official residence of the President of India). B

## Day 2, Thu, 02.11.2023: City tour

Explore the Old Delhi district by rickshaw, and on foot. The tour begins with a visit to Jama Masjid, one of the largest mosques in Asia. More than 5,000 craftsmen built this grand structure made of red sandstone and marble. Later, we will walk to Chandni Chowk, Asia's largest wholesale market. This expansive area full of shops and bazaars is buzzing with people. We will also pass by the Red Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. We will conclude the day with a visit to Raj Ghat, a humble memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. B

## Day 3, Fri, 03.11.2023: Agra Fort & Taj Mahal

After breakfast, we will depart for Agra Fort, which was the seat and stronghold of the Mughal Empire. Surrounded by a moat, the dramatic fort served as a palace for the emperors Akbar, Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb – each of whom made significant contributions to the stunning architecture of the internal buildings. At dusk, we will visit the Taj Mahal, one of the richest specimens of Mughal art in architecture and garden design as well as in painting and calligraphy. Continue to Bharatpur. B

## Day 4, Sat, 04.11.2023: Bharatpur

Bharatpur is known for the UNESCO World Heritage Site Keoladeo Ghana National Park, a wetland and bird sanctuary. Continue to Ranthambore. B/D

## Day 5, Sun, 05.11.2023: Ranthambore

Enjoy a morning and afternoon safari by jeep in Ranthambore National Park, home to an array of fantastic wildlife. Experience the lush forests that are home to tigers, leopards, striped hyenas, sambar deer, chital, nilgai, and over 250 species of birds. B/D

## Day 6, Mon, 06.11.2023: Off to Udaipur

On our way to Udaipur, we stop in Chittaurgarh and visit the fortress complex. Lunch will be served at Padmini Haveli, a typical Indian home where you will be hosted by a local family. Continue to Udaipur. B/L

## Day 7, Tue, 07.11.2023: Udaipur

Our tour of Udaipur begins with the exquisite City Palace, a majestic white monument. Later, we will visit Jagdish Temple, the largest and most impressive temple in Udaipur. After passing Lake Fateh Sagar, we will visit Sahelion-ki-Bari, the Garden of the Maids of Honour, which is home to numerous ornate fountains decorated with finely carved kiosks and elephants. The garden is reminiscent of the royal ladies who once strolled these pathways. Free afternoon. B

## Day 8, Wed, 08.11.2023: Off to Jodhpur

En route to Jodhpur, we will visit a Jain Temple tucked away in a remote valley in the Aravali Mountains of Ranakpur. The temples in this area are known for their remarkable architecture and ornate ceilings, walls, and columns. B

## Day 9, Thu, 09.11.2023: Blue City of Jodhpur

In the Blue City of Jodhpur, we will visit Mehrangarh Fort – one of the most magnificent forts in Rajasthan. It's beautiful gardens and intricately carved facades highlight its grandeur. We will then continue to Bikaner. On the way, we will stop at the famous Rat Temple in Deshnok, which is famous for the large number of rats that occupy the temple complex. Known as "kabbas" or "little children," the rats are fed grain, milk, and coconut shells in large metal bowls. Tonight, you will be sleeping in luxury tents in the Thar Desert and will experience folk dance performances around a campfire. B

## Day 10, Fri, 10.11.2023: Off to Jaipur

After breakfast, we will visit Junagarh Fort. Built by Raja Rai Singh in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the fort is famous for its magnificent architecture, design, and decoration. Afterwards, you will be driven to Jaipur or the "Pink City". In Rajasthan, pink is the colour of hospitality and in 1876, the city was painted this colour in preparation for the visit of Crown Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales. B/D

## Day 11, Sat, 11.11.2023: Pink city

Today we will explore the Pink City. Amber Fort, with its ramparts, gates, and cobbled paths, sits at the head of Maota Lake. In the afternoon, we will visit the City Palace, which exhibits a combination of Mughal, European, Rajput, and Shilpa Shastra (traditional Indian) architectural elements. The palace is a fascinating complex of palaces, pavilions, gardens, and temples. The most well-known buildings in the complex are the Chandra Mahal, Mubarak Mahal, Mukut Mahal, Maharani Palace, and the Shri Govind Dev Temple. Jantar Mantar features a collection of architectural astronomical instruments. Hawa Mahal, also known as "Palace of Breeze", which allows the royal ladies to be able to watch any activities on the street without being seen by the public. B/D

## Day 12, Sun, 12.11.2023: Free time

Free time in the morning. In the afternoon, we will drive back to an airport hotel in Delhi where rooms have been booked for you to freshen up. After our farewell dinner, you will be transferred to the Delhi airport to board your flights home (flights not included). B/D

## EXTENSION

### Day 12, Sun, 12.11.2023: Flight to Goa

You will be transferred to the airport Jaipur to catch your flight to Goa. On arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. B

### Day 13-15, Mon-Wed, 13.11.-15.11.2023:

#### Make the most of paradise!

Use these days to freely plan any activities you desire. B

### Day 16, Thu, 16.11.2023: Departure

Free time in the morning (check-out by 12:00 p.m.). In the afternoon, transfer to the Goa airport to board your flight home (flights not included). B

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

## Flights

International flights are not included.

## Hotels

Place	Nights	Hotel	Category	Subject to change
Delhi	3	Radisson Blu Dwarka	*****	
Bharatpur	1	Chantra Mahal	***	
Ranthambore	2	Shergargh	****	
Udaipur	2	Shahpura Dev Panache	***	
Jodhpur	1	Devi Bhawan	***	
Bikaner	1	Raisar Camp	-	
Jaipur	2	Traditional Haveli	***	
Goa	4	Cidade de Goa	*****	

## Entry requirements and vaccinations

All foreign nationals entering India must be in possession of a valid international travel document in the form of a national passport with a valid visa obtained from an Indian Mission or Post abroad (not included). Please check with the appropriate consulate. Vaccinations are not required.

## Included in the tour price

- Transfers, excursions and round trip in a standard local air-conditioned coach
- 12 nights in a single room
- Breakfast, 4x dinner in hotel
- Lunch with an Indian family
- Farewell dinner at a local restaurant\*
- 2 game drives in Ranthambore National Park
- Entrance fees as per programme
- Room to freshen up in Delhi on day 12\*
- English-speaking Marco Polo tour guide in India

\* These items are not included for participants who book the extension.

## Included in the tour price/extension

- Domestic flight (economy) from Jaipur to Goa
- Flight/security fees
- Transfer to airport - hotel - airport
- 4 nights in a single room
- Breakfast

## Price per person from €

12 days	Main tour		Extension	
	SGL	DBL- discount	SGL	DBL- discount
01.11.-12.11.23	1999	600	1349	450

**Minimum number of participants:** Minimum 6, maximum 16 participants. Extension: minimum 1 participant. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, the Tour Operator may cancel the travel contract no later than 21 days before the start of the tour. **Tour Operator:** Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, 80992 Munich, Germany.

**General travel conditions and suitability of the tour for people with reduced mobility:** www.agb-mp.com. **Payment/secured payment certificate:**

Payment is due upon presentation of the secured payment certificate (*Sicherungsschein*) (sent with tour confirmation) within the meaning of Section 651r (3) of the German Civil Code (BGB). Upon conclusion of the contract, a deposit of 10% of the tour price, up to a maximum of €500 per person, is due. The outstanding amount is due 20 days before departure or at the latest upon receipt of the travel documents. **Travel insurances:** No travel insurances are included in the tour price.

**Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) as well as to advertise its own offers (Art. 6 para. 1 lit. f GDPR). Detailed information and contact details of our Data Protection Officer: www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz. You may object to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, 80992 Munich, Germany, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: sondergruppen@marco-polo-reisen.com

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