



ENCHANTING INDIA CELEBRATE DIWALI IN INDIA

With **EMIRATES
AIRLINES**

10 DAYS IN INDIA

CANADA | DELHI | MANDAWA | PUSHKAR | JAIPUR | BHARATPUR | AGRA | DELHI | CANADA

DEPARTURE: 05 NOV 2018

TOUR PRICES:

on twin sharing basis:

CAD 2199

TOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation at above hotels or similar
- Buffet breakfast daily
- Diwali celebration with dinner
- Farewell Dinner
- Airport transfers
- Sightseeing & Entrance fees as per the itinerary
- English speaking tour director
- Transportation by Deluxe Air-conditioned vehicle
- International flights from Toronto with Emirates Airlines
- All taxes & surcharges
- Return transportation Peterborough to Toronto Pearson International



TOUR LODGING INFO:

PLACE	NIGHTS	DELUXE HOTELS
Delhi	02	The Grand
Mandawa	01	Desert Resort
Pushkar	01	Pushkar Resort
Jaipur	02	Holiday Inn City Center
Bharatpur	01	Laxmi Vilas Palace

TOUR PROGRAM

Day 1: 05 NOV CANADA - DELHI

Depart Peterborough and head to Toronto Pearson International to board your overnight flight to India.

Day 2: 06 NOV DELHI

Welcome to Delhi, India! a monumental city with a vibrant mix of old and new teeming bazaars, stately British boulevards, powerful Mughal palaces and forts, and intricate, ethereal towers, temples and tombs. Today, the twin cities of Old and New Delhi still intrigue Indians and tourists alike as the cultural and political capital of the largest democracy in the world. On arrival at Delhi International Airport you will be met and assisted by our company executive and transferred to your hotel for check in. Overnight in Delhi.

Day 3: 07 NOV DELHI

Our adventure begins in Old Delhi, the Mughal capital established by Shah Jahan in 1638. At the famous Red Fort, where Jawaharlal Nehru unfurled the flag of newly-independent India on August 15, 1947, we trade our modern transport for bicycle rickshaws. Weaving through the warren of crooked, congested alleys off Chandni Chowk, one of India's oldest and busiest bazaars, we will see that the traditional workmanship for which India is well known still thrives. Visit the **Jama Masjid**, one of the largest mosques in India. Shah Jahan's last architectural extravagance, the Jama Masjid towers over Old Delhi and is India's largest mosque. Commissioned by Shah Jahan in 1650 the mosque took six years to be constructed and was completed in 1656. The massive courtyard of the Jama Masjid can hold up to twenty-five thousand worshippers. Visit **Raj Ghat** where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated. It is a black marble platform that marks the spot of Mahatma Gandhi's cremation. It is left open to the sky while an eternal flame burns perpetually at one end. Later get transferred to New Delhi, built in a typically British colonial style with tree-lined avenues and colonial bungalows. See India Gate, the 42 m high War Memorial Arch. Drive past the **Parliament House**, the Secretariat buildings and the Vice Regal Palace, now the official residence of the President of India. Afternoon at leisure.

In the evening get together for **Diwali celebration & dinner**. One of the most significant festivals in Indian culture, Diwali, the festival of lights, sees millions attend firework displays, prayers and celebratory events across the world every autumn. The festival is celebrated as a triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. To celebrate, houses are decorated with candles and colourful lights and huge firework displays are held while families feast and share gifts. The Celebration

will culminate with sumptuous Indian dinner. **Overnight in Delhi (B, D)** You may choose below optional activities during your leisure time.

Optional: Visit Qutab Minar @ CAD 60 per person: The Qutab Minar, a stunning 240-foot minaret – the tallest in the world – surrounded by an elaborate complex built in the Indo-Islamic architectural tradition. It is a soaring, 73 m-high tower of victory, built in 1193 by Qutab-ud-din Aibak immediately after the defeat of Delhi's last Hindu kingdom. The tower has five distinct storeys, each marked by a projecting balcony and tapers from a 15 m diameter at the base to just 2.5 m at the top.

Optional: Visit Humayun's Tomb @ CAD 60 per person: Humayun's tomb is one of the best preserved Mughal monuments. This spellbinding mausoleum is the first example of Mughal architecture in India. After a century from its construction Humayun's tomb inspired the construction of the more famous Taj Mahal. Thanks to the initiative of his widow Hamida Banu Begum, who commenced the construction of a mausoleum for her deceased husband in 1565, nine years after his death. The construction was finished in 1572.

Day 4: 08 NOV DELHI - MANDAWA DRIVE (230 KMS/5 HRS)

Drive to Mandawa - The compact and busy little town of Mandawa was established in the 18th century and was fortified by some dominant merchant families. Upon arrival check into your hotel. The mystery and the romance of the desert are captured in the intimate and exquisite design of this hotel – offering world class relaxation with a fascinating glimpse of the native culture. Set amidst acres of natural landscape is an unbelievable mix of opulence and nature that promises elite captivating experience and utmost luxury amid breathtaking views.

Afternoon visit the town. It has some of the finest **painted Havelis** in the region and is a perfect place for wandering at random. Go around the Havelis or residential buildings of Mandawa built in a typical Rajasthani style. The major themes found in the murals are Hindu mythology, history, folk tales, eroticism, and even foreigners and their inventions like telephones and cars.

Overnight in Mandawa **(B)**

Day 5: 09 NOV MANDAWA - PUSHKAR DRIVE (250 KMS/ 4 HRS)

Drive to Pushkar - lies on the edge of the desert. At its heart is one of India's most sacred lakes. There are 52 ghats around the lake, and numerous temples. The Brahma temple, especially, attracts pilgrims all year round. Being a religious town, alcohol and non-vegetarian food are taboo. Upon arrival check in at your hotel.

Afternoon **visit the ghats**. Pushkar city houses 52 Bathing Ghats (bathing places). The city also has the only shrine dedicated to Lord Brahma in the whole of India. The sacred Pushkar Lake is also believed to have great healing and purifying powers. In the evening, participate in Pooja ceremony. It is the human nature to be pure, perfect, at peace and successful in life. What should we do then? Only through obeisance and devotion before a holy form – God – One can be assumed of desired purity and perfection. That is why we visit holy river pond, lake or a shrine where we take holy dip perform ritualistic puja, offer prayer and get rid of all our impurities, imperfection, ills and feel fresh, rejoiced and energized. The place of Pushkar was chosen by Lord Brahma while both Vishnu and Shiva attended the said ritual that the former held for the creation of earth.

Overnight in Pushkar **(B)**

Day 6: 10 NOV PUSHKAR - JAIPUR (140 KMS/ 3 HRS)

After breakfast drive to Jaipur. Jaipur (City of Victory) was founded by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II in 1727. It is the only city in the world symbolizing the nine divisions of the Universe through nine rectangular sectors sub-dividing it. The architect who formalized the city's plans on the Shilpa Shastra, the epic Hindu treatise on architecture, mixed it with the sublimity of the Mughal and Jain influences of those times. The city was painted pink in 1853 in honour of the visit by Prince Albert. Except for the busy traffic of bicycles, cars and buses, little seems to have changed. Jaipur is an excellent place to enjoy unparalleled shopping and people watching. Spend time in the **oldest and busiest of markets** in the walled city at Johori Bazaar, a true feast for the senses. Aromatic spices fill the air, while oxcarts, rickshaws, cows, bejeweled women and men with shocking pink turbans jostle through the labyrinthine streets. Afternoon at leisure. You may pick some of the below optional activities.

Optional: Half day tour of Jaipur: CAD 65

Take a look at the grand Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds). This magnificent structure was built to allow the royal ladies of the palace to discretely watch the grand processions along the main street, then visit the City Palace and the impressive Jantar Mantar, an astronomical observatory built in the early 1700s by Maharaja Jai Singh II, the great warrior-astronomer to which this city owes its name.

Optional: Visit Elephant village: CAD 95: Drive to haathi gaon (Elephant village) surrounded by the wilderness with no urban civilization in the vicinity, just a few hamlets housing the local villagers occupied by farming on their fields. Then you will be introduced about Elephant, you will feed them, cuddle them and more. Later take a ride on bare elephant through the farm land. Return to the elephant home and do painting on this beautiful creature. Finally you will give bath to your friend Elephant before saying good bye.
Overnight in Jaipur (B)

Day 7: 11 NOV JAIPUR

After breakfast your tour starts with an exhilarating excursion to **Amber Fort** perched on top of a hill. Perched on a hillside on the outskirts of town, the palace was constructed in the 1590s by Maharaja Man Singh, the commander of Akbar's army, and was largely motivated by the highly

defensible location. This is a beautiful and very well preserved structure, built on four levels and surrounded by ruins, which served as the backdrop for the Mira Nair movie "Kama Sutra: A Tale of Love."

You may pick some of the below optional activities.
Overnight in Jaipur (B)

Optional: Dinner with Jaipur at Night tour: CAD 90

Day 8: 12 NOV JAIPUR - BHARATPUR DRIVE (185 KMS/ 4 HRS)

Afternoon drive to Bharatpur. Upon arrival check in at your hotel. The hotel's hospitality goes beyond the narrowly appointed rooms, period decor and antique furniture. The best of creative style is equally distinguished by warmth & personal involvement of their attention to various intangibles that define the rich & varied heritage culture. Each of Hotel room is unique in its own style, and is elegantly & luxuriously furnished.

Overnight in Bharatpur (B)

Day 9: 13 NOV BHARATPUR - AGRA - DELHI (220 KMS/ 4 HRS)

Drive to Agra - the city of **Taj Mahal**. Often considered the pinnacle of Mughal art in India, the Taj was built by Emperor Shah Jahan for his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. The construction of the Taj Mahal started in 1631. It took 20,000 artisans 22 years to complete this poignant mausoleum that blends subtlety with grandeur, and a massive overall design with immaculately intricate execution. When declaring it a world heritage site, UNESCO described it as "the jewel of Muslim art in India". There are few words that can describe the magnificence of this monument.

Enjoy a farewell dinner before transferring to Delhi airport to connect to onward flight (B/D)

Optional: Early morning Visit the bird sanctuary in Bharatpur: CAD 60 per person. Once the hunting estate of the Maharajas of Bharatpur, the 29 sq km piece of marshland with over 360 species is one of the finest bird sanctuaries in the world. A handful of Siberian cranes arrive here annually. Commonly seen birds include egrets, ducks, storks, kingfishers, cranes, spoonbills, falcons, etc. There are also animals like deer, hyenas, wildcats, wild boars, and rock pythons.

Day 10: 14 NOV DELHI - CANADA

Board your flight to Canada and arrive same day. After arrival transfer to Peterborough.

(END OF OUR SERVICES)

