



LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

Taj Mahal & the Treasures of India - Pushkar Fair 2020

16 days from \$11,795

Limited to 18 guests

Explore kaleidoscopic India, seeing contrasting Old and New Delhi, holy Varanasi and — if luck has it — the elusive Bengal tiger in Panna National Park. Behold the peerless Taj Mahal at sunrise and sunset, attend the colorful Pushkar Fair, and privately cruise placid Lake Pichola in Udaipur.

A&K Advantages

Enjoy two days at the Pushkar Fair to experience its vibrant spectacle

Experience the glorious Taj Mahal at sunrise and sunset during a two-night stay in Agra

Stay in former palaces, including iconic royal residences, such as the lavish Taj Lake Palace in Udaipur and the grand Rambagh Palace in Jaipur

Set out on private safaris in Panna National Park, home to the elusive Bengal tiger, and enjoy an exclusive talk on conservation by a member of the local Pardhi community

Enjoy a Scenic Sundowner after a private sunset boat cruise on Lake Pichola in Udaipur

Observe priests performing an Aarti ceremony on the banks of the Holy Ganges

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE MUMBAI, INDIA

Arrive in Mumbai, where an A&K representative meets and transfers you to your iconic hotel.

The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai

DAY 2 MUMBAI | BUSTLING ENVIRONS

After a morning at leisure, explore the city's classic sites, including the Gateway of India, an 85-foot-high arch with a design that reflects India's Muslim and Hindu traditions. Visit the Prince of Wales Museum and Mani Bhawan, a museum dedicated to the life and works of Mahatma Gandhi. Next, see the Dhobi Ghat, the largest open-air laundry in the world and a wonderfully colorful spectacle to behold. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner alongside fellow guests.

The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAYS 3-4 UDAIPUR | CRUISE TO JAG MANDIR

Fly to Udaipur this morning and settle into your stunning palace hotel set in the middle of scenic Lake Pichola. Relax this afternoon before embarking on a private cruise past Jag Mandir, a marble palace on an island in Lake Pichola, followed by a Scenic Sundowner and dinner at your hotel. The next morning, visit the stunning City Palace, a marble complex that offers unforgettable views of the lake and its surroundings. Continue to the Crystal Gallery in Fateh Prakash Palace. Stroll through the Sahelion Ki Bari (Garden of the Maids of Honor) before returning to your hotel.

Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (Day 3), Breakfast, Lunch (Day 4)

DAYS 5-6 PUSHKAR | A VIBRANT FAIR

Early this morning, drive to the otherwise quiet, secluded desert town of Pushkar, sharing the road with camels, trucks, cattle, water buffalo and rickshaws as you approach. Spend the next two days experiencing the bustling Pushkar Fair, a colorful whirl of activity drawing people from all around the globe. See painted and adorned camels and cattle being traded; peruse stalls selling camel tassels and woven gypsy dowry bags; and witness Hindu devotees as they throng the *ghats* around Pushkar Lake in order to bathe, cleanse their sins and attain a place in heaven.

The Gateway Resort, Ajmer | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAYS 7-8 JAIPUR | DESIGN YOUR DAY

Travel overland to Jaipur and check in to your hotel, the former residence of the Maharajah of Jaipur. Later, explore the City Palace, a unique and arresting complex of several palaces, pavilions, gardens and temples. Located within the palace's gates is the Mubarak Mahal, or "Auspicious Palace," which contains textiles including the royal formal costumes, sanganeri block prints, Kashmiri pashminas and silk saris. Then, visit Jantar Mantar, an open-air array of astronomical instruments. The next day, view the Palace of the Winds — built for the women of the royal household to observe street life without being seen. Proceed to explore the beautiful Mughal-style Amber Fort. This red sandstone and marble palace is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This afternoon, enjoy one of these **Design Your Day** activities:

Tour the Gyan Museum, exploring its private collection of antiques and art.

Visit Digantar Vidyalay to interact with the students at an innovative school supported by A&K Philanthropy.

Discover the Bazaars of Jaipur, taking in the vibe of local life and shopping for keepsakes from your journey. Return to your hotel for an evening at leisure.

Rambagh Palace, Jaipur | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (Day 7) Breakfast, Lunch (Day 8)

DAYS 9-10 AGRA | MONUMENTS OF EMPERORS

Drive to Agra, observing the colorful rural life of Rajasthan on your journey. Upon arrival, catch your first glimpse of the breathtaking Taj Mahal from your luxurious room. Visit the Taj Mahal in the late afternoon, as the setting sun bathes it in a soft orange glow. Return the next morning, when the rising sun lends a warm pink tint to its marble face. Visit the Agra Fort, once the prison of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, who built the Taj Mahal after the death of his beloved wife.

The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch (Day 9) Breakfast, Dinner (Day 10)

DAY 11 PANNA NATIONAL PARK | INTO THE WILD

Depart by express train to Jhansi. After lunch, continue to remote Panna National Park, a haven for India's wildlife, and check in to your wilderness lodge. Then meet with a member of the nomadic Pardhi community to learn about their role in the continuing effort to repopulate Pannation National Park with the Bengal tiger, an exclusive insider access moment.

Pashan Garh, Panna National Park | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 12 PANNA NATIONAL PARK | TIGER TRACKING

Rise early this morning for a game drive in Panna National Park aboard a four-wheel-drive vehicle, spotting crocodiles or perhaps the elusive Bengal tiger. Learn how a successful conservation program has grown the park's tiger population, increasing the odds of a sighting. Return to the lodge to enjoy an Indian cooking demonstration, as a chef prepares local delicacies for lunch. Enjoy an afternoon game drive before returning to your lodge for dinner.

Pashan Garh, Panna National Park | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 13 KHAJURAHO & VARANASI | INDIA'S HOLIEST CITY



Drive to Khajuraho to see all of life — joy, love, divinity, war — depicted in detail on every inch of its 85 Hindu and Jain temples. Then, fly to Varanasi, a city of more than a thousand temples and shrines, sacred to Hindus and Buddhists. At dusk, beside the Ganges River, witness the Aarti ceremony. Chanted prayers and rhythmic drumming fill the air as you watch lantern-bearing priests bid the gods and goddesses a restful slumber.

Taj Ganges, Varanasi | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 14 VARANASI & DELHI | SUNRISE CRUISE ON THE GANGES

Rise early for a private sunrise cruise on the Ganges River to observe activity along the *ghats* (stone steps leading down to the river), where locals and pilgrims cleanse themselves, literally and spiritually. Later, fly to Delhi and settle into your hotel, where you later gather for a farewell cocktail and dinner.

The Oberoi, New Delhi | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 15 DELHI | EXPLORING THE OLD & THE NEW

Visit the great Jama Masjid, the most important mosque in India. Completed in 1656, its two minarets, made from red sandstone and white marble, each stand 131 feet tall. Then, set off on an exciting rickshaw ride through the carts and stalls of Chandni Chowk bazaar, one of the oldest and busiest markets in Old Delhi. Like Jama Masjid, it dates to the era of Shah Jahan, and today is a vital part of everyday life here — frequented by locals and a must-see destination for visitors. After lunch, tour New Delhi, including Humayun's Tomb, the last resting place of an esteemed 16th-century Mughal emperor and an architectural precursor of the Taj Mahal.

The Oberoi, New Delhi | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 16 DEPART DELHI

Transfer to the airport early this morning for your flight home, or begin your post-tour extension to Kathmandu.

Extensions



Post-Tour Extension: Nepal & Kathmandu

Visit Kathmandu's temples and squares, and behold Mount Everest by air.

4 days from \$1,595
Single Supplement from \$995
Internal air from \$725
✈ Delhi/Kathmandu

Available to add to select departure dates.

[See Dates & Prices For Details >](#)

Day 1

Fly from Delhi to Kathmandu, Nepal. Transfer to your hotel and, if time allows, explore.

Dwarika's Hotel, Kathmandu

Days 2-3

Set out to see Durbar Square and Taleju Temple. Continue to Swayambhunath, one of the world's oldest Buddhist shrines. The next day, see Pashupatinath Temple, the most sacred Hindu temple in Nepal. Walk with Tibetan pilgrims at Boudhanath *stupa*. Explore Bhaktapur, the "City of Devotees." View Mount Everest by air. Tonight, gather for dinner.

Dwarika's Hotel, Kathmandu | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Dinner (Day 2) Breakfast, Lunch (Day 3)

Day 4

Transfer to the airport to depart Kathmandu.

Dates & Prices

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

Dates	Prices	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Nov 16 - Dec 01, 2020	\$11,795	\$5,995	\$985	Limited Availability
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.</i>				
Nov 20 - Dec 05, 2020	\$11,795	\$5,995	\$985	Available
<i>Optional post-tour extension available on this departure.</i>				

Journey Details

Mumbai/Udaipur; Khajuraho/Varanasi/Delhi

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 12:00 p.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: end of sightseeing at 6:00 p.m. on Day 15.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Internal and international air not included. See complete terms and conditions [here](#).