

LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

# Taj Mahal & the Treasures of India

14 days from \$8,695 | Limited to 18 guests

## Nepal & Kathmandu

4-day Post-Tour Extension from \$1,695

Explore India's greatest treasures as you visit the timeless Taj Mahal, seek the graceful Bengal tiger and witness a holy rite beside the sacred Ganges – all while staying in royal palaces-turned-luxury hotels.

### & A&K ADVANTAGES

- ▶ Stay in former palaces, including iconic royal residences such as the lavish Taj Lake Palace in Udaipur and the grand Rambagh Palace in Jaipur
- ▶ Embark on a private sunset boat cruise on Lake Pichola, your palace hotel seemingly floating on the water beneath an orange-hued sky, and cap it off with a refreshing cocktail
- ▶ Behold the glorious Taj Mahal at sunrise and sunset
- ▶ 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
- ▶ Observe priests performing an *aarti* ceremony on the banks of the Holy Ganges in Varanasi
- ▶ Experience the diverse appeal of India's great cities, from colorful, fast-paced Mumbai, the innovative commercial heart of the country, to Delhi, a center for politics and, with its enduring British influence, a blend of old and new

#### 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 | The Gateway of India

Explore the city's classic sites, including the Gateway of India, an 85-foot-high arch whose design 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. **The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai | Meals: B D**



#### DAYS 3-4: Udaipur | Cruise to Jag Mandir

Fly to Udaipur 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. Then, admire the vibrant sunset from your island hotel on a Scenic Sundowner followed by dinner. 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 the hotel. **Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur | Meals: B D (Day 3); B L (Day 4)**

#### DAYS 5-6: Jaipur | Design Your Day

Fly 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 so the women of the royal household could 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.

- ▶ **Visit 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.





Marvel at how sunlight plays upon the Taj Mahal during visits at dusk and at dawn

- **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: B D (Day 5); B L (Day 6)

**DAYS 7-8: Agra** | Visions of the Taj Mahal

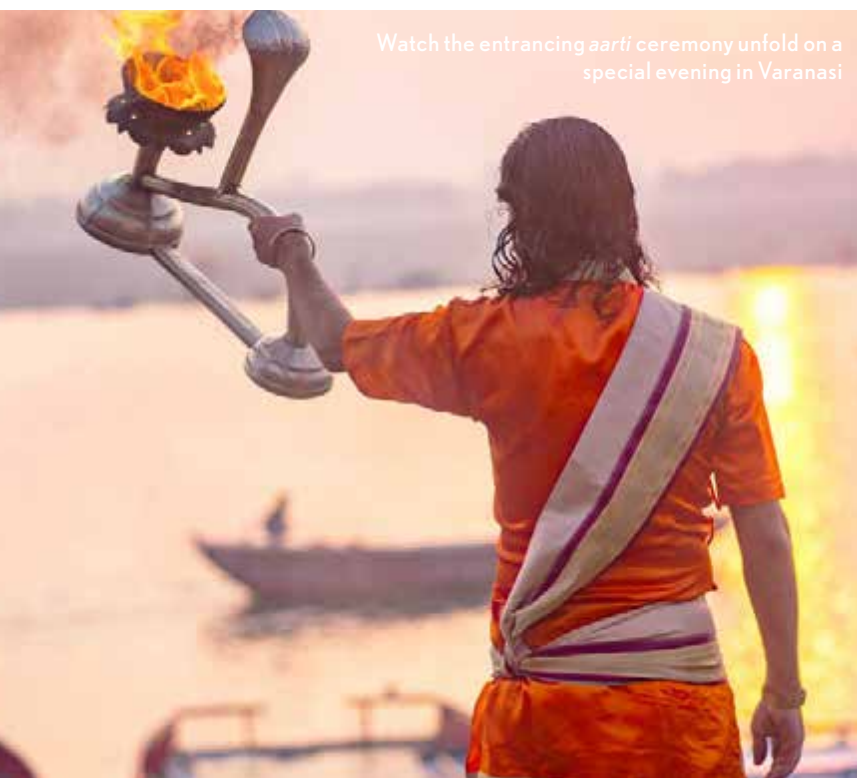
Drive to Agra, observing the colorful rural life of Rajasthan on your journey. Upon arrival, catch your first glimpse of the breathtaking Taj Mahal from your luxurious room. Visit the Taj Mahal in the late afternoon, as the setting sun bathes it in a soft orange glow. Return the next morning, when the 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: B L (Day 7); B D (Day 8)

**DAY 9: 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 Panna



Watch the entrancing *arti* ceremony unfold on a special evening in Varanasi



Explore Panna National Park on game drives, seeking the elusive Bengal tiger



Look out at Lake Pichola on a visit to the stately City Palace in Udaipur

National Park with the Bengal tiger, on an A&K-exclusive experience. Pashan Garh, Panna National Park | Meals: B L D

#### DAY 10: 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 savor a Chef's Table experience, featuring an Indian cooking demonstration, as your lodge's chef prepares local delicacies for lunch. Enjoy an afternoon game drive before returning to Pashan Garh for dinner.

Pashan Garh, Panna National Park | Meals: B L D

#### DAY 11: 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: B L D

#### DAY 12: Varanasi & Delhi | Private Sunrise River Cruise

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 for a farewell dinner. The Oberoi, New Delhi | Meals: B D

#### DAY 13: Delhi | Exploring the Old & the New

Visit the great Jama Masjid, the most important mosque in India. Completed in 1656, its two minarets each stand 131 feet tall. Then, Ride Like a Local by rickshaw through the narrow alleys 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: B L

#### DAY 14: Depart Delhi

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

### CELEBRATE THE PUSHKAR FAIR



Experience India at its most vibrant on two special departures that feature two extra nights in Pushkar to attend the Pushkar Fair, a beloved and colorful festival centered around an annual livestock sale. Contact Wyllys Professional Travel for more details.

### TRAVEL PRIVATELY WITH A&K

This itinerary is available as a private journey, *Signature India & the Taj Mahal*. Priced from \$9,295. Contact Wyllys Professional Travel for more details.



## INSPIRING ACCOMMODATIONS



### Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur

Historic palace on Lake Pichola, a *Condé Nast Traveler* Gold List hotel.



### The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra

*Condé Nast Traveler* Gold List hotel with views of the nearby Taj Mahal.



### The Oberoi, New Delhi

Iconic luxury hotel conveniently located in the heart of the city.



### Rambagh Palace, Jaipur

Once residence of a maharaja, now a *Travel + Leisure* World's Best hotel.



### Pashan Garh, Panna National Park

A luxury lodge with 12 cottages in Panna National Park.



### The Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai

*Condé Nast Traveler* Gold List hotel located next to the Gateway of India.



### Taj Ganges, Varanasi

Contemporary hotel set on 12 acres of elegantly landscaped gardens.

## EXTEND YOUR JOURNEY



### Nepal & Kathmandu Post-Tour Extension

4 days from \$1,695 | Internal air from \$795  
Available on select departures.

Fly to Kathmandu, Nepal. Discover its mix of Hindu and Buddhist heritage, visiting sites key to each faith. Immerse yourself in local life with a cooking lesson in a local home. Board an aircraft for awe-inspiring views of Mount Everest.

## DATES & PRICING

Guaranteed Departure Dates	Double Occupancy	Single Supplement
Jan 10-23, Jan 24-Feb 6, Jan 27-Feb 9, Feb 3-16, Feb 10-23, Feb 21-Mar 6, Mar 14-27	\$9,995	\$4,595
Apr 4-17	\$8,695	\$2,995
Oct 6-19, Oct 13-26, Oct 20-Nov 2, Nov 3-16, Nov 17-30, Dec 5-18	\$9,995	\$4,595
Dec 22-Jan 4, 2022	\$12,995	\$6,695
Pushkar Fair Departures: Nov 7-22, Nov 9-24	\$11,795	\$5,995

**Internal Air:** Economy class from \$1,250  
Mumbai/Udaipur/Jaipur; Khajuraho/Varanasi/Delhi

### Journey Details

This journey contains some active elements.  
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 5:00 p.m. on Day 13.  
Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Contact Wyllys Professional Travel for up-to-date information on dates, pricing, extensions and special offers.