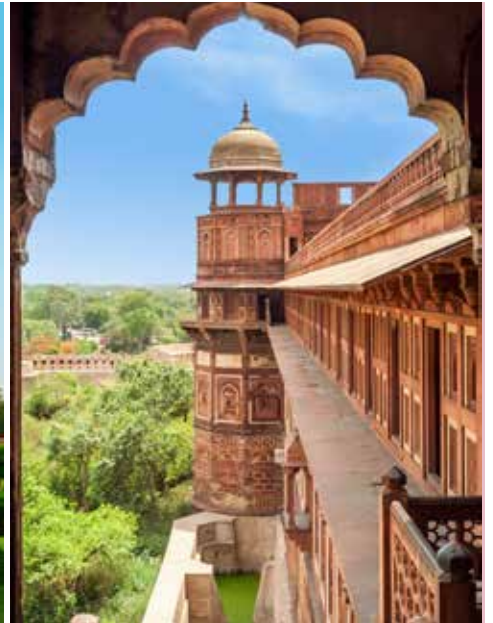


## Beyond India's Golden Triangle



### TRIP OVERVIEW

Experience the marbled memorials, gilded domes and elegant minarets of India's lavish Mughal-era architecture as you explore the ancient palaces and forts of the north. Journey from the Golden Triangle to the cities of Jodhpur and Udaipur, visiting the historic sights of Delhi, four spectacular forts and the iconic Taj Mahal on this 11-day tour of the subcontinent's royal residences.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip to India. Please take the time to read this dossier to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our tour. It includes important information such as visa requirements.

#### Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

#### DAY 1: UK to Delhi

Depart London on your scheduled, overnight flight to Delhi.

#### DAY 2: Delhi L/D

On arrival in Delhi, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. An afternoon tour of India's lively capital visits the wartime monument of India Gate, the gilded domes of Bangla Sahib Sikh Temple and the cremation grounds of Mahatma Gandhi. Return to your hotel for dinner.

#### DAY 3: Delhi to Udaipur B/L/D

Take in the sights of historic Old Delhi on this morning's tour, stopping at the ornate mosque of Jama Masjid before a rickshaw carries you through the winding lanes of Chandni Chowk market and past the vermillion walls of the Red Fort. Later, transfer to the airport for your flight to Udaipur.

#### DAY 4: Udaipur B/L/D

Explore the legacy of Udaipur's Royals as you visit the City Palace, Jagdish Temple and the Sahelion Ki Bari gardens. Drive around Fateh Sagar Lake then walk through the city's bustling old market. An optional excursion later today takes you on a boat cruise around Lake Pichola.

#### DAY 5: Udaipur to Jodhpur B/L/D

Depart Udaipur this morning, travelling first to the beautiful temple complex of Ranakpur Jain in Ranakpur. Continue onward to Jodhpur for your overnight stay, arriving in time for an evening walk around the colourful Clock Tower market.

#### DAY 6: Jodhpur B/L/D

This morning's tour of Jodhpur takes you to the vast Mehrangarh Fort and its magnificent palaces. Explore the marbled pavilions of Jaswant Thada before an afternoon at leisure. Alternatively, visit the Bishnoi Village to experience rural Rajasthan.

#### DAY 7: Jodhpur to Jaipur B/L/D

Journey to Jaipur where you will have the rest of the day at leisure. Alternatively, take an optional evening trip to Birla Temple to witness a prayer ceremony.

#### DAY 8: Jaipur B/L/D

This morning, a brief stop at Hawa Mahal allows you to take pictures of the 952 windows of this elaborate, pink palace. Next, take a jeep ride to the Amber Fort whose rugged exterior walls shield a lavishly bejewelled interior. This afternoon, explore another monument of the Maharajas at the City Palace.

#### DAY 9: Jaipur to Agra B/L/D

Depart Jaipur this morning for your journey to the city of Agra, stopping en route at Chand Baori, an 8th century structure which features 3,500 symmetrical steps leading to the bottom of a well. On arrival, check into your hotel and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

#### DAY 10: Agra B/L/D

See India's most iconic landmark bathed in an early morning glow on a sunrise visit to the spectacular Taj Mahal. After breakfast, wander the imposing red stone battlements of the Agra Fort. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure or take an optional excursion to the tranquil garden complex of Mehtab Bagh.

#### DAY 11: Agra to the UK or extension B

Transfer to Delhi airport for your return flight to the UK or continue on to your chosen extension.



### ACCOMMODATION DETAILS & MAP

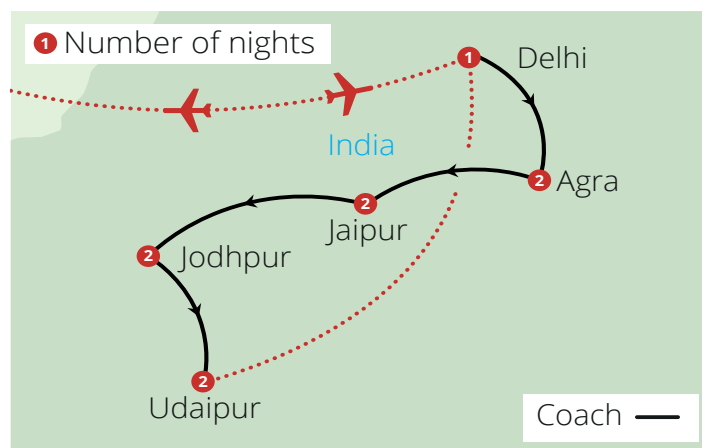
#### Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience, location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to leisure hotels. Hotel accommodation is generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note there is no international classification system for hotels, and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and India. All group tours hotels have private bathroom facilities and air-conditioning, where needed. Rest assured that all accommodation used by Mercury Holidays is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs. If you have booked a triple share please note that your room will be a twin room with a rollaway bed or sofa bed added. This may limit the floor space in the room.

**Final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.**

#### Meals

Breakfast is always western style and served in the hotel each morning. Lunch and dinner where stated will be taken at local restaurants or at your hotel. A variety of restaurants are visited giving you the chance to experience a range of dishes.



### ON YOUR ARRIVAL

On your arrival in Delhi you will be met by a representative from our local agent, **Earthen Experiences**, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/Earthen Experiences, representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. Your national guide will be on hand 24 hours a day should you have any queries. However, if you need to contact your representative during your stay the details are:

#### Earthen Experiences

Earthen Experiences, 2 DDA Commercial Complex, Panchsheel Park, New Delhi 110017  
Telephone Number: 0091 11 4921 1000 (09:30 – 18:00)  
E-mail: [info@earthenexperiences.com](mailto:info@earthenexperiences.com)

#### Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details for Earthen Experiences:  
Mr. Mohammad Kaushar – General Manager:  
24 hour number: 0091 98 9974 0800  
E-mail Address: [mohammad.kaushar@earthenexperiences.com](mailto:mohammad.kaushar@earthenexperiences.com)  
Mr. Anuj Negi – Director: 24 hour number: 0091 99 1085 9004  
E-mail Address: [anuj.negi@earthenexperiences.com](mailto:anuj.negi@earthenexperiences.com)

### WHAT TO PACK

- Insect repellent and sun cream
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Waterproof lightweight jacket
- Sunglasses and hat
- Ruck sack
- Binoculars
- Camera and charger
- Loo paper for public WCs
- Long sleeve shirt and long trousers

- Swimwear
- Anti-bacterial hand sanitiser
- Personal toiletries and first aid kit containing travel pills, rehydration powder, plasters, stomach settlers, antiseptic creams, aspirin etc
- An electric plug converter – The voltage in India is 220 volts with plugs and sockets having either grounded 3 pin connections or ungrounded 2 pin connections. Should you plan to use your own hairdryer, travel iron, video camera, battery charger, electric shaver etc, it is advisable to bring a multi-adaptor

### WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

#### Visas

A visa is required for entry into India. British Citizen Passport Holders will need to obtain a tourist visa. We work closely with The Travel Visa Company who will be able to arrange your visa on your behalf. Please call them on 01270 250 590 and quote "Mercury Holidays". The Travel Visa Company can only apply for this 120 days before your proposed travel date. When calling the Travel Visa Company they will advise you of any changes to the fees or the procedure, they will also advise you of all information they will require in order to apply for the visa. Alternatively you can visit The Indian Visa Application Centre in London: 142-148 Goswell Road, London, EC1B 7DU. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months before you enter India. Visa requirements are subject to change and obtaining a visa is the responsibility of the traveller and not Mercury Holidays. We recommend you check with your destinations' Tourist Board or Embassy prior to departure for the most up to date guidelines regarding visas and passport validity.

#### Insurance

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call 0800 781 4237 and quote 'WK830' for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

#### Health and Vaccinations

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general

information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk), [www.travelhealthpro.org.uk](http://www.travelhealthpro.org.uk), [www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk), your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic

#### Physical Accessibility

This tour is accessible to most people with a good level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves climbing of steep stairs and getting on and off coaches. This tour is not suitable for anyone with walking difficulties. All our tours feature a "Tour Pace" to help find the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights, climb stairs and get on and off coaches and boats. The tour pace for Beyond India's Golden Triangle is Intermediate. A good level of fitness is required as you may be on your feet for approximately four hours in a day, though this will be interspersed with regular breaks and will vary from day to day. You will be walking around the sights, and may be getting on and off coaches, trains and boats and climbing steps which may be irregular. You will stay in variety of hotels throughout the tour.

Our guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

#### Tour Guides - National Guide

This is a fully escorted tour, meaning that you will be met on arrival by your Tour Manager who will remain with you for the duration of your trip, ensuring that you have first-hand knowledge at all times.

#### Private Tour

If you have booked a private tour then you will be accompanied by a Driver Guide or a Driver and Local Guides. These will be available to you during all scheduled sightseeing. Private Tours can depart on any day of the week depending on flight and train schedules and the opening days of the attractions. They will follow the itinerary as described in the brochure

unless you have been advised otherwise and you will still have all of the same meals, sightseeing and local excursions included.

### Tipping

It is customary to tip your guide and driver. This is at your discretion, but we recommend tipping £15 per person in general plus £36 per person for your guide and driver, totalling approximately £51 per person per tour. It is asked that you tip in pounds and not local currency. Please do not give coins as these are difficult to exchange.

### Group Size

The minimum number of travellers in your group will be 10, and the maximum will be 35. If in the unlikely event there are less than 10 people booked on your tour date, we will endeavour to reduce any disruption to your holiday and try to operate your tour with lower passenger numbers. If we are not able to operate your departure date, then you may be asked to change to a different date and a full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable.

### Currency Exchange

The currency in India is the Rupee or Rs. The Rupee is a closed currency and officially you are not allowed to take any cash out of India. US Dollars and GBP are also widely accepted in India should you wish to keep an alternative currency on you. There are restrictions on taking Indian rupees into India. Visitors, including tourists, are not permitted to take any amount of Indian currency into the country. You can take cash or travellers' cheques (in pounds sterling or another foreign currency) and/or a bank card with you and exchange or withdraw rupees once in India.

We recommend that you exchange your currency before you leave the UK. It is important that you budget carefully and ensure you have the right form of currency before you arrive in the country. Cash machines will also be available throughout the tour in order to withdraw money in your local currency.

### Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry, any meals not included in the itinerary as well as drinks and any additional snacks. Approximately £500 per person will be sufficient for the duration of the tour. It is a good idea to try and maintain a supply of small notes and change in the local currency for tipping or small purchases.

### Credit Card Information

As normal practice you will be asked for your credit card details on check-in at the hotel in order to cover any extras incurred during your stay. If you do not have a credit card you may be asked for a cash deposit. American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted in hotels.

### Itinerary Changes

The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. The schedules of the domestic airlines in country are subject to frequent changes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your local guide will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Some road construction &/or weather conditions may lengthen the driving times. Our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.

## FLIGHT INFORMATION

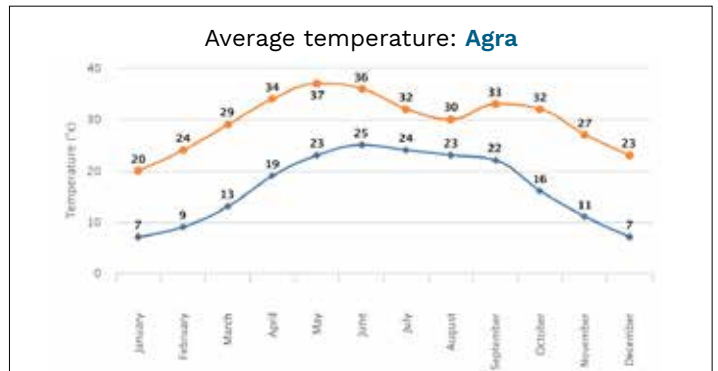
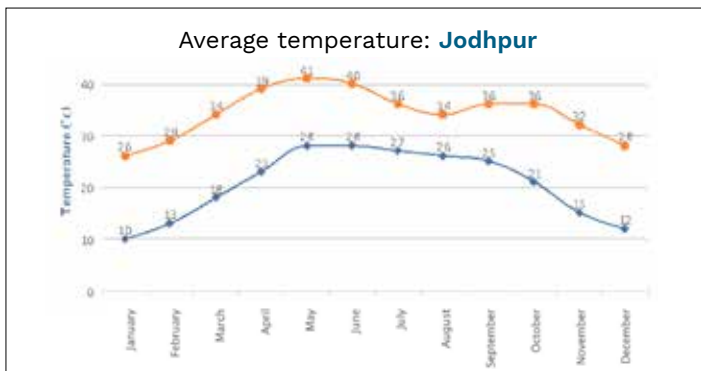
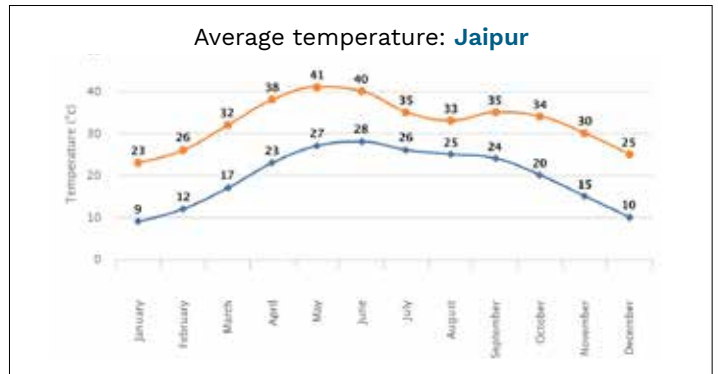
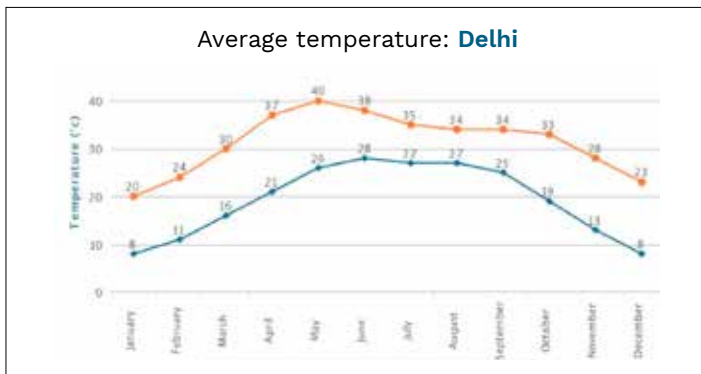
**IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details, including terminal, airline and baggage allowance, will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure. A printed E-ticket is no longer required at check-in, all you need to do is present your passport to the staff at the desk and your boarding pass will be given to you.**

### Airport Extras

If you wish to arrange Airport car parking or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras on 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

## WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.





## Tigers of Ranthambore extension

*If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522*



### TRIP OVERVIEW

Once a famous hunting ground for the gallant rulers of Jaipur, Ranthambore National Park is spread over 1,344km<sup>2</sup> and is one of the biggest national parks in India. Choose this extension to experience a variety of wildlife including tigers, leopards, deer and much more.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your Ranthambore extension.

#### Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

#### Day 11 : Agra to Ranthambore B/L/D

Journey to Ranthambore for a wildlife experience of a lifetime. Ranthambore National Park is renowned for its stunning array of wildlife including tigers, leopards, striped hyenas, sambar deer, sloth bears and black buck.

#### Day 12 : Ranthambore B/L/D

Enjoy an early morning jungle safari followed by breakfast back at your hotel. After relaxing at the hotel, take a second safari trip later this afternoon for another chance to spot Ranthambore's wild inhabitants.

#### Day 13 : Ranthambore to Delhi B/L/D

Depart Ranthambore and catch the train to Delhi. The remainder of your day within the Indian capital is at leisure.

#### Day 14 : Delhi to UK B

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.

#### Hotel Information

Your stay in Ranthambore will take place at one of the following hotels:

##### 4★ Ranthambore Regency Hotel (2 nights):

Address: Ranthambore Rd, Saptar, Sawaimadhopur, Rajasthan 322001, India  
Contact number: 0091 7462 221 176

This family-run hotel offers guests a peaceful and comfortable stay with well-appointed garden or poolside rooms and excellent service. Ranthambore has one of the best tiger habitats in the world and this, together with the hotel staff's local knowledge, provides the best chance of spotting tigers in the wild.

OR

##### 4★ Spree Jungle Vilas Resort, Ranthambore (2 nights):

Address: Village Khilchipur, Ranthambore, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan 322001, India. Contact number: 0091 94611 53755

Set in 10 acres of natural forest in the buffer area of Ranthambore National Park, this modern styled and exclusively designed resort has a lot to offer. You can relax by the pool or treat yourself to a spa treatment during your free time between safaris, rent a bicycle to explore the area, play badminton or just unwind in your stylish and comfortable room.

Your stay in Delhi will take place at the following hotel:

##### 5★ Metropolitan Hotel & Spa (1 night):

Address: Bangla Sahib Rd, Sector 4, Gole Market, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India  
Contact number: 0091 11 4250 0200

### FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

A 5-minute drive from Connaught Place, The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa New Delhi features an outdoor pool and 3 dining options. Situated in New Delhi's city centre, it also offers a fitness centre and spa. The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa is 0.6 miles from New Delhi Railway Station, 550 yards from Airport Express Metro Station (Shivaji Stadium) and 7.5 miles from Delhi International Airport. Room facilities include LED flat screen TV, free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee maker and safe and have a choice of a pool or city view.

**If the hotels listed are unavailable an alternative will be used of a similar standard.**

#### Personal Expenses

You will need to take some extra money with you to cover any meals not included, drinks and personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry, and any extra snacks.

#### Tour Guides

This is a partially escorted extension. A rep will be available during your transfers and throughout check-in and check-out. Otherwise, please speak to reception or contact Earthen Experience using the contact details in 'Emergency Contact Information' in case of any queries. You will be accompanied by a naturalist while on the safari. Please note the safaris are a shared service due to the number of vehicles allowed into the reserve at one time.

#### Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details while you are in Ranthambore;

#### Earthen Experiences

Mr. Mohammad Kaushar – General Manager:

24 hour number: 0091 98 9974 0800

E-mail Address: mohammad.kaushar@earthenexperiences.com

Mr. Anuj Negi – Director: 24 hour number: 0091 99 1085 9004

E-mail Address: anuj.negi@earthenexperiences.com

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**

## Shimla Extension

*If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522*



### TRIP OVERVIEW

As capital of the state of Himachal Pradesh, the engaging town of Shimla is a popular resort for tourists and local vacationers alike. This former British summer capital still retains much of its colonial heritage and is the perfect extension to your tour of India.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

*This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your add-on in Shimla.*

#### Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

#### DAY 11: Delhi B

You will be met on arrival in Delhi and taken to your hotel for the rest of the day at leisure.

#### DAY 12: Delhi to Shimla B

This morning you be transferred to the station in Delhi to board a train to Kalka. On arrival you will be met and start your journey to Shimla on the famous Toy Train. Set amidst the snow-capped Shivalik mountain range, the hill town holiday resort displays many examples of its colonial past including charming iron lamp posts and hand-painted signs.

#### DAY 13: Shimla and Kufri B

Just 30 minutes drive from Shimla is the beautiful town of Kufri, surrounded by dense forest and stunning mountain scenery. After lunch in a local restaurant you will be taken on a tour of Viceregal Lodge, the impressive former summer residence of the British Raj leader who governed the entire Indian subcontinent until 1946. Following some time learning about some of the significant decisions made within the viceroy, you will be transferred back to your hotel in Shimla.

#### DAY 14: Shimla to Delhi B

After breakfast you will drive to Kalka in time to catch the train back to Delhi where you will be met on arrival and transferred to your hotel.

#### DAY 15: Delhi to the UK B

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.

#### Hotel Information

##### Delhi (2 nights): 5★ Metropolitan Hotel & Spa

Address: Bangla Sahib Rd, Sector 4, Gole Market, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India  
Contact number: 0091 11 4250 0200

##### Shimla (2 nights): 4★ Hotel Zion

The Zion - Near Sankat Mochan (Old Muhal Badai), 171006 - Shimla.  
Contact number: 0091 177 283 1455

If the hotels listed are unavailable alternatives will be used of a similar standard.

#### Tour guides

You will be accompanied by a local guide during your sightseeing tour.

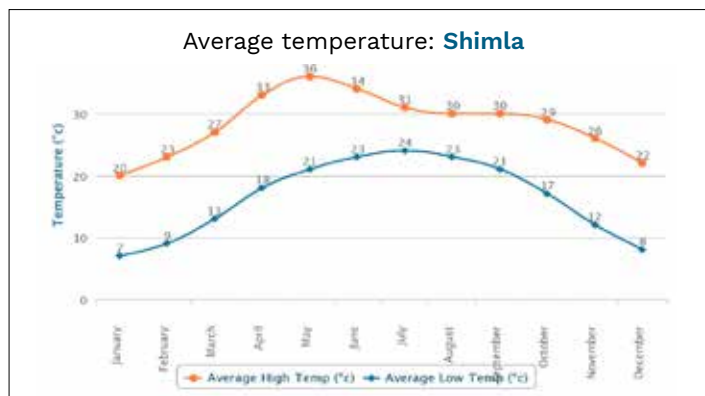
#### Luggage advice

We recommend that you consider packing a smaller bag for your extension and storing your main luggage at your hotel in Delhi. Doing so will facilitate easier manoeuvring during train travel. While this a suggestion and not mandatory, it can enhance your overall travel experience.

#### Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases, such as lunch and dinner plus souvenirs and laundry.

### WEATHER AND CLIMATE



5★ Metropolitan Hotel & Spa

### FLIGHT INFORMATION

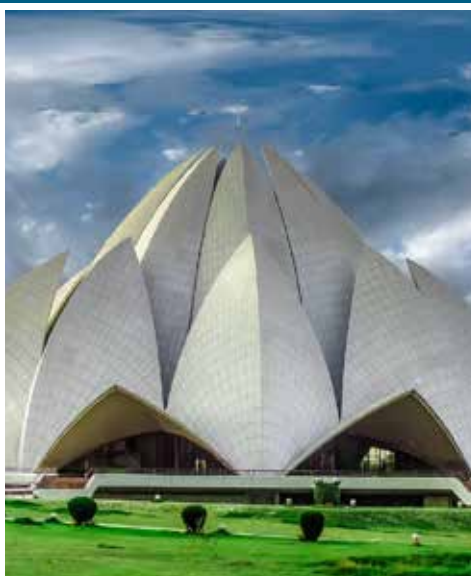
Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**



# Delhi City Stay Extension

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522



## TRIP OVERVIEW

After your Escorted Tour, spend two days at leisure in Delhi, giving you time to explore the historical sites and diverse culture.

## ITINERARY & DETAILS

*This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension in Delhi.*

### Hotel Information

Your stay in Delhi will take place at the following hotel:

**5★ The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa (2 nights)** on Bed & Breakfast  
Address: Bangla Sahib Rd, Sector 4, Gole Market, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India  
Contact number: 0091 11 4250 0200

A 5-minute drive from Connaught Place, The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa New Delhi features an outdoor pool and 3 dining options. Situated in New Delhi's city centre, it also offers a fitness centre and spa. The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa is 0.6 miles from New Delhi Railway Station, 550 yards from Airport Express Metro Station (Shivaji Stadium) and 7.5 miles from Delhi International Airport. Room facilities include LED flat screen TV, free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee maker and safe and have a choice of a pool or city view.

Any alternative hotels or board basis will have been confirmed at booking. Please speak to our reservations department if you are unsure.

**Please note: the hotels listed are provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.**

### Visas

A visa is required for entry into India.

### Personal Expenses

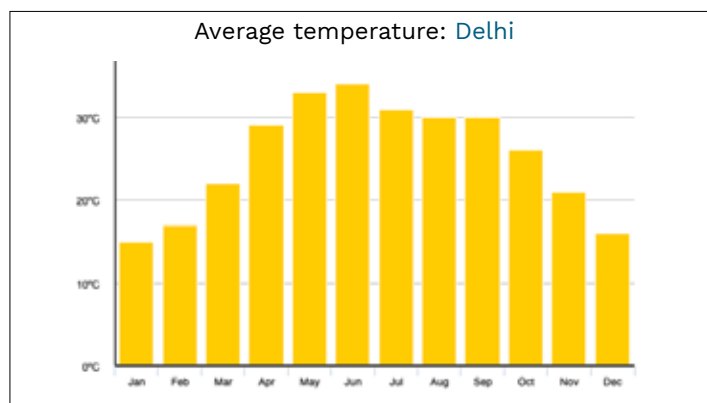
You will need to take some extra money with you to cover any personal purchases, such as souvenirs, laundry, drinks, snacks and any meals.

### Tour Guides

Your Delhi extension is not escorted. You will be transferred to your hotel after the Grand Tour of North India and will receive transfers to the airport at the end of your stay.

### Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.



5★ The Metropolitan Hotel and Spa

## FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**

## Sri Lanka Cultural Highlights

*If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522*



### TRIP OVERVIEW

This Sri Lanka cultural highlights extension offers a captivating glimpse into the modern-day Sri Lanka. Explore ancient cities and temples that date back to past civilisations, venture into the intriguing highlands where the renowned Ceylon tea thrives on steep slopes, visit the lakeside city of Kandy – the final bastion of the Sri Lankan Kings, and witness an elephant orphanage where these majestic creatures are cared for.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

*This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your add-on in Shimla.*

#### Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

#### DAY 11: Delhi to Colombo B

Check out from your hotel and proceed to the airport for your late afternoon flight to Colombo. Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel in the city.

#### DAY 12: Colombo to Sigiriya B/D

Following breakfast, embark on a half-day city tour of Colombo. The commercial capital of Sri Lanka. Colombo is a bustling, cosmopolitan city whose colonial history is still very much evident along wide, shaded boulevards and among its Victorian churches and cafes. Begin your city tour by visiting the vibrant temples and bazaars of Pettah, selling seemingly everything from traditional jewelry to Ayurvedic medicines. Next, enjoy a trip to the Old Dutch hospital, a highlight of the restored Fort complex and home to some of Colombo's chicest restaurants, cafes, and shops. Along with the new additions, a visit to a Buddhist temple and a Hindu Kovil is a must to experience the diverse culture of this lively island. This afternoon, proceed to Sigiriya, where the rest of the day is at leisure before dinner at your hotel.

#### DAY 13: Sigiriya B/D

This morning, after an early start and cup of tea or coffee, set out to explore the Sigiriya Rock Fortress. Accessed by a spiral stairway this

ancient palace was built by King Kashyapa (473-491 AD) as his new capital. Explore the remains of the palace and its famous frescoes, created using earth pigments on plaster. Return to the hotel for a late breakfast and a spot of relaxation by the pool. In the afternoon, journey to Polonnaruwa, the second capital of Sri Lanka in the 11th and 12th centuries AD. Explore the ruins of the Royal Palace, the Council Hall, Lotus Bath and the Polonnaruwa statue. After strolling through the ancient city, you'll drive back to Sigiriya, visiting a Wood Carving Centre en route.

#### DAY 14: Sigiriya B/D

After breakfast proceed to Anuradhapura Sri Lanka's 1st capital city. Embark on a tour of the city including a visit to the sacred Bo Tree, the oldest living human-planted tree in the world, as well as Samadhi Buddha – A statue of the Buddha regarded as one of the finest in Sri Lanka. Return this afternoon back to your hotel in Sigiriya where you can spend the afternoon at leisure or head out on an optional bird watching or nature ramble.

#### DAY 15: Sigiriya to Kandy B/D

After breakfast proceed to the Dambulla Rock Temple, a World Heritage site and the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples. This complex of five caves has over 2000 square meters of painted walls and ceilings and contains over 150 images or statues of Buddha. Proceed onwards to Kandy, stopping en route at Matale to visit a Spice Garden where you'll learn about the variety of spices available in Sri Lanka. On arrival in Kandy check in at your hotel before undertaking a tour of the city. Kandy was the last capital of the Sri Lankan kings and is a World Heritage Site. Drive



3★ Sigiriya Village Hotel



5★ Heritance Tea Factory



around the Lake before visiting the Kandy town and bazaar, an Arts & Crafts Centre, gem museum, and lapidary before returning to your hotel.

DAY 16: Kandy B/D

After breakfast visit the Botanical Garden in Peradeniya. This Botanical Garden was first built as a pleasure garden by a Sinhala king before later being expanded by the British. Its 147 acres provides an amazing variety of trees, plants, and flowers. Continue to the Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage, where you'll spend considerable time with these magnificent creatures before returning to Kandy. In the evening visit the Temple of Tooth Relic in time for a Pooja ceremony. Finally enjoy a Cultural Show before returning to your hotel for dinner.

DAY 17: Kandy to Nuwara Eliya B/D

After breakfast proceed to Nuwara Eliya, heart of Sri Lanka's tea making industry. En route visit a tea estate to study the manufacturing process of Ceylon tea. On arrival in Nuwara Eliya, head on a short city tour of the city which includes a walk around a typical local market. Carry on to your hotel for the night.

DAY 18: Nuwara Eliya to Colombo B/D

After breakfast, return to Colombo via Kitulgala, the location where The Bridge over the River Kwai was filmed. Stop also at the beautiful St. Clairs and Devon waterfalls which make for a great photo opportunity. Finally arrive in Colombo and check in to your hotel in time to spend one final evening in the city.

DAY 19: Colombo to UK B

After breakfast proceed to the airport for your return flight to the UK.

Hotel Information

Sigiriya (3 nights): 3★ Sigiriya Village Hotel

Sigiriya Village Hotel, PO Box No.01, Sigiriya, 21120, Sri Lanka  
Contact number: +94 66 2286 803 / +94 66 2286 806

Kandy (2 night): 4★ Tourmaline Hotel

Anniawatta Circular Road, Kandy, Sri Lanka  
Contact number: +94 81 738 9000

Nuwara Eliya (1 night): 5★ Heritance Tea Factory

Kandapola, Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka.  
Contact number: +94 52 222 9600

If the hotels listed are unavailable alternatives will be used of a similar standard.

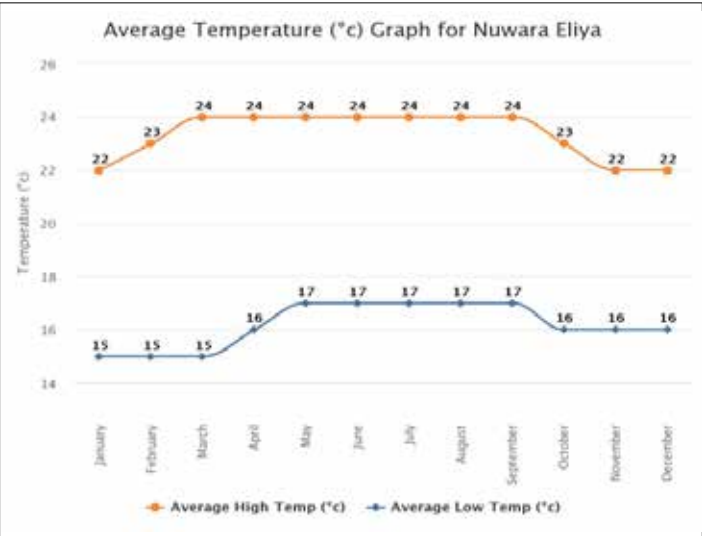
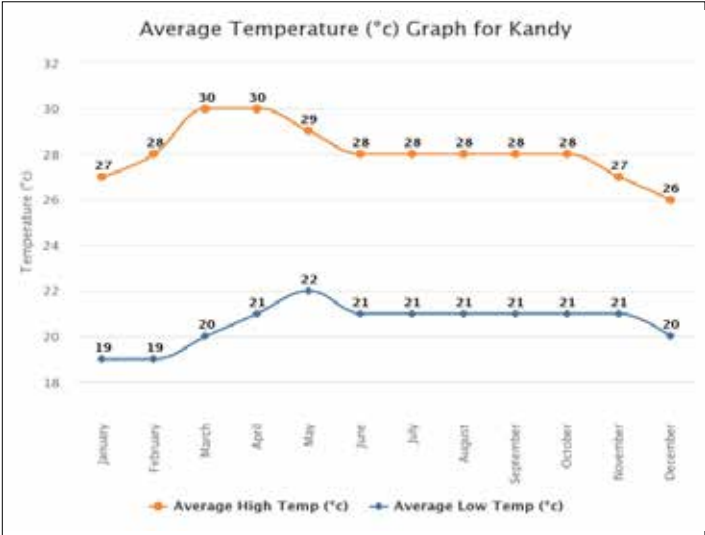
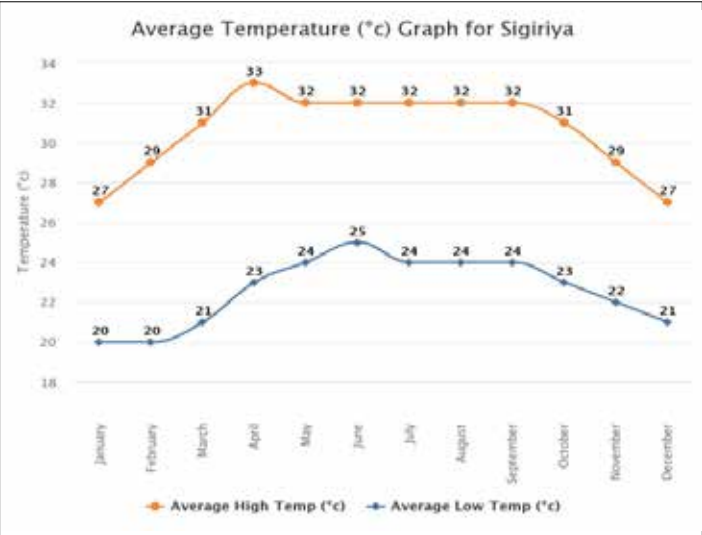
Tour guides

This is a fully escorted tour extension, meaning that you will be met on arrival by your national guide who will remain with you for the duration of your trip ensuring that you have first-hand knowledge at all times.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases, such as lunch and dinner plus souvenirs and laundry.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE



FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.



## Sri Lanka Beach Stay Extension

*If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522*



### TRIP OVERVIEW

Your extended stay in Sri Lanka, at one of the wonderful beach resorts on the west coast of the country, allows you to indulge in a calming massage or simply relax by the beach.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your Sri Lanka beach stay extension.

#### Sri Lanka Beach Stay (4 nights)

Located off the southern tip of India, Sri Lanka's warm charm and vibrant culture will seduce any traveller. The island boasts endless golden beaches, timeless ruins, colourful cuisine and a stunning array of native wildlife.

#### Hotel Information

On the west coast of Sri Lanka, Kalutara is the ideal place to relax and indulge yourself with a stay at your chosen hotel at the 4★ **Citrus Hikkaduwa Hotel** or the 5★ **Royal Palms Beach Hotel**. Your transfers and accommodation are included and your stay will be on a Half Board or All-Inclusive basis. This will have been confirmed at time of booking.

#### Hotel Information:

4★ **Citrus Hikkaduwa Hotel** - 400 Galle Rd, Hikkaduwa 80240, Sri Lanka  
Contact number: 0094 77 730 9874

5★ **Royal Palms Beach Hotel** - De Abrew Road, Waskaduwa, Kalutara.  
Contact number: 0094 34 222 8113

If you have booked another hotel, other than those featured above, this will be shown on your invoice.

**The hotels listed are provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.**

#### Personal Expenses

You will need to take some extra money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs and laundry and any meals and snacks where these are not included.

#### Tour Guides

Your beach stay is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

On your arrival in Colombo you will be met by a representative from our local agent, Aitken Spence, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/Aitken Spence representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. Your guide will be able to answer any queries. If you need to contact Aitken Spence during your stay the details are:

#### Aitken Spence Travel (Colombo)

04th Floor, Aitken Spence Towers 02, 315, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02  
Sri Lanka. Contact number: 0094 112 499623

Emergency contact information

Please find below the emergency contact details for Aitken Spence Travel

Contact  
Rizmika: 0094 772 916461

Anil: 0094 777 270500

Anu 0094 774 593182

#### Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.



The Palms



Royal Palms Beach Hotel

### FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**