

## The Golden Triangle with Gwalior and Khajuraho (10 Days/ 9 Nights)

Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Orchha-Khajuraho-Jhansi-Delhi

A soul-lifting experience which invokes the mind and fire your imagination at Khajuraho that whisks you away from the humdrum of Delhi-the capital of India, onto Jaipur-the pink city of India to the mandatory trip to the Taj Mahal-a symbol of undying love and to imposing Gwalior Fort to the picturesque ruins of Orchha on the river Betwa.

### Day 1: Delhi

Arrive and transfer to Hotel.



### Day 2: Delhi

Morning half-day city tour of Old Delhi visiting Raj Ghat the Mausoleum of Mahatma Gandhi. Jama Masjid and drive past Red Fort. you may take a tricycle tour of Chandini Chowk. Afternoon half day city tour of New Delhi visiting drive past President House, Parliament House (House of Representatives) and India Gate - War Memorial (stop for photography). Visit the Qutub Minar , 72.55 meters, high Victory Tower and proceed onto Bahai Temple (lotus temple). Also visit the Humayun's Tomb built of red sandstone, the first substantial example of the Mughal architecture and Laxmi Narayan Temple - a modern Hindu temple built by the Birlas, leading Indian industrialists. Overnight at Hotel.



### Day 3: Delhi - Jaipur

After breakfast drive to Jaipur (05 hrs. drive) - the pink city of India. The capital of Rajasthan was given a colour coat of pink, a century ago in the honour of a visiting Prince, ever since it has retained the pink colour. Enroute visit Amber Fort-remarkable for the majestic grandeur of its surroundings as for its sturdy battlements and beautiful palaces. Climb up to the fort on the back of an Elephant or by jeep. Evening free for leisure. Overnight stay at hotel.



### Day 4: Jaipur

After breakfast proceed for sightseeing of City Palace - where the former Maharaja still resides in a part of it, but rest now serves as a Museum. Also visit Jantar Mantar, an observatory built by a great astronomer Sawai Jai Singh onto drive past through Hawa Mahal (Palace of winds). Evening free for leisure. Overnight stay at hotel.



### Day 5: Jaipur - Agra

After breakfast proceed to Agra (5 hrs. drive). Enroute visit Fatehpur - Sikri (40 kms. from Agra) - once the capital of Mughal Empire and abandoned after 15 years due to scarcity of water. Its fortifications and Palaces are in a wonderful state of preservation. Upon arrival at Agra check-in at Hotel. Later visit Agra Fort built and renovated over the centuries, this massive fort gained recognition only during the Mughal reign. Tomb of Itmad-ud-daullah- built by Empress Noorjehan in the memory of her father. Overnight stay at hotel.



**Day 6: Agra**

After breakfast visit Taj Mahal built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan in the year 1652 as a memorial for his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. The grandeur called the Taj is perhaps the most photographed, filmed, described and sketched building of the world. Taj Mahal is where fantasy coincides with reality in perfect harmony. An inspiration for numerous artists over the centuries, the Taj is an ode to love. It took 22 years to create this jewel. Rest of the day free for leisure. Overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 7: Agra - Gwalior**

Morning leave by road for Gwalior. Arrive and stay at Hotel. Afternoon city tour visiting Gwalior Fort - A steep road winds upwards to the fort, flanked by statues of the Jain tirthankaras, carved into the rock face. The magnificent outer walls of the fort still stand, two miles in length and 35 ft. high, bearing witness to its reputation for being one of the most invincible Forts



of India. The imposing structure inspired Emperor Babur to describe it as the "the pearl amongst the fortresses of Hind". Within the Fort premises visit Man Mandir Palace- built between 1486 & 1517 by Raja Mansingh. Though the exquisite tiles that once adorned its floors can no more be seen, the rooms and vast chambers with fine stone screens stand testimony to its past glory and visit - the 9th century Teli Ka Mandir, towering 100 ft. high is a Pratihara Vishnu temple of a unique blending of architectural styles. The shape of the roof is distinctively Dravidian, while the decorative embellishments have the typically Indo-Aryan characteristics of northern India. Also dedicated to Vishnu is the graceful Sas-Bahu Ka Mandir built in the 11th century and onto Museum-the current residence of the Scindia family and about 35 rooms have been converted into Jivaji Raja Scindia Museum. The architecture is a combination of Italian, Tuscan and Corinthian styles. Eye-catching treasures that can be viewed here include a silver train with cutglass wagone, a glass cradle from Italy, arms and many personal moments of the Scindia Royal family. Evening witness Son-et-Lumiere at Manmandir Palace at Fort.

**Day 8: Gwalior - Orchha - Khajuraho**

Morning drive to Khajuraho. Enroute visit Orchha -a city of Legends where a series of Medieval Hindu Temples situated on the river Betwa, are some of the finest examples of Bundela architecture where Temples look more like Forts and Palaces. Orchha was founded in the 16th century by the Bundela chieftain Rudra Pratap and was once the capital of one of the largest and most powerful Kingdoms of Central India. Jehangir Mahal built during 17th Century, Raj Mahal, Raj Praveen Mahal, Ram Raj Temple, Chaturbhuj Temple, Suner Mahal are some outstanding examples of architecture that dominated Bundelkhand. After sightseeing and lunch onto Khajuraho. Upon arrival at Khajuraho check-in at Hotel. Evening enjoy cultural show. Overnight at Khajuraho.

**Day 9: Khajuraho - Jhansi - Delhi**

Khajuraho, a small dusty and an isolated village in the interior plains of Madhya Pradesh, far away from the hustle bustle of the towns and cities, holds a unique manifestation of art on its temples. The temples of Khajuraho are perhaps the most visited tourist sites after the Taj Mahal in India. Today famous for its erotic sculptures, the temples of Khajuraho tell something more than the eroticism it portrays. Morning visit the world famous Chandela Temples. Out of the total 85 temples only 22 remain, but offer a beautiful and extravagant ode to human life. Built in 10th and 11th centuries, these temples are dedicated to a particular deity and the on the outer walls are carved various themes, but actually it is an ode to womanhood, an ode to fertility, the form of birth and an ode to greatest form of life. Of the two groups of temples - Western and Eastern - important temples to visit are - Kandariya Mahadev, Chaunsath Yogini, Chitragupta, Lakshmana, Devi Jagdamba, Parvati, Vishvanath Temple and Nandi, Paraswanath and Adinath. Afternoon leave by road for Jhansi. On arrival board Shatabdi Express for Delhi at 1755 hrs. by AC Chair Car. Arrive Delhi at 2250 hrs. and transfer to Hotel. Overnight stay at hotel.

**Day 10: Delhi**

After breakfast, full Day at leisure, visit National Museum or free to visit state emporiums to buy Souvenirs. On time Transfer to International Airport to fly back home / onward destination. Note: Sector Agra - Gwalior and Gwalior-Khajuraho can also be done by train Shatabdi Express.

**Hotels:**

Day	Place	Best Value	Budget	Deluxe	Super Deluxe
1	Delhi	CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL ROHINI	CLARKS INN- Kailash Colony	JAYPEE VASANT CONTINENTAL	TAJ PALACE HOTEL

2	Delhi	CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL ROHINI	CLARKS INN- Kailash Colony	JAYPEE VASANT CONTINENTAL	TAJ PALACE HOTEL
3	Jaipur	Hotel MANSINGH PALACE	LIBRA- A Boutique Hotel	CLARKS AMER	JAI MAHAL PALACE
4	Jaipur	Hotel MANSINGH PALACE	LIBRA- A Boutique Hotel	CLARKS AMER	JAI MAHAL PALACE
5	Agra	JAYPEE PALACE	UTKARSH VILAS	THE GATEWAY HOTEL	ITC MUGHAL
6	Agra	JAYPEE PALACE	UTKARSH VILAS	THE GATEWAY HOTEL	ITC MUGHAL
7	Gwalior	USHA KIRAN PALACE	GWALIOR REGENCY	LANDMARK HOTEL	USHA KIRAN PALACE
8	Khajuraho	CLARKS KHAJURAHO	Hotel USHA BUNDELA	CLARKS KHAJURAHO	RADISSON JASS HOTEL
9	Delhi	RADISSON BLU HOTEL PASCHIM VIHAR	ASHOK COUNTRY RESORT	RADISSON BLU HOTEL PASCHIM VIHAR	TAJ PALACE HOTEL

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