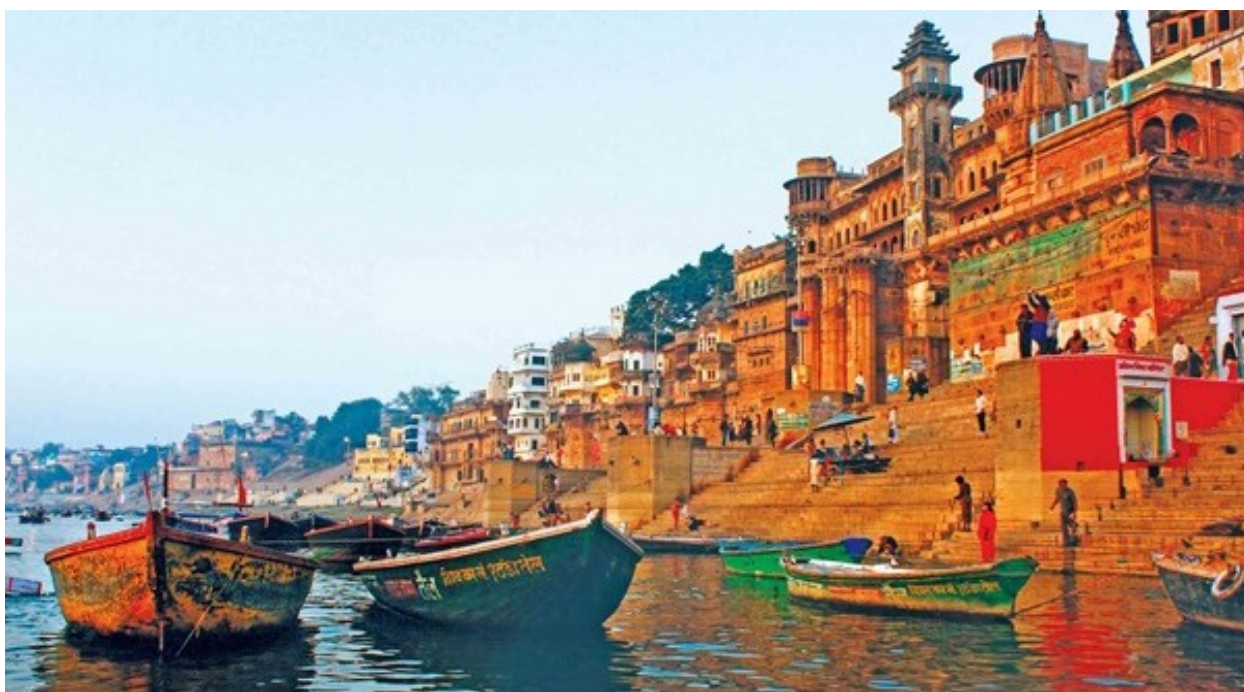




ESCORTED BY JOHN O'REGAN



Spotlight on India

OCTOBER 4 ~15, 2020

From bustling Delhi to mystical Varanasi and the “Pink City” of Jaipur, to Udaipur, the “City of Lakes,” San Simeon Travel invites you to discover these treasures on a 12-day North India tour perfect for travelers with less time to spend. Experience contrasting images of the capital, Delhi, old and new. Sail on the Ganges in Varanasi to witness holy men “putting the river to sleep.” Travel to Agra to visit the famous Taj Mahal... which you can see from your hotel room! Celebrate India’s culture and cuisine among Jaipur’s pavilions and palaces at a special Maharajah evening in Jaipur. Spend three nights at The Oberoi Udaivilas in Udaipur, voted Travel + Leisure’s “World’s Best Hotel.” Throughout, you’ll enjoy accommodations in some of the world’s top-rated hotels... dine on local specialties... and discover the heart and soul of India on our popular North India tour!

Trip Cost: \$8590 Per Person Double Occupancy

Special Airfare rates available from all USA and Canadian Gateways

Itinerary & Included Features

- Multiple-night stays at three hotels ranked among the 15 "World's Best" hotels by the readers of Travel + Leisure – The Oberoi Udaivilas, The Oberoi Rajvilas and The Oberoi Amarvilas (offering unparalleled views of the Taj Mahal)
- On-Tour Air (4 flights)
- Three nights in the "City of Lakes," Udaipur, including a sari & turban demonstration and an auto-rickshaw tour of the city's spice and vegetable markets
- Two nights in Jaipur, highlighted by a visit to the Amber Fort and a Maharajah evening featuring dinner and entertainment
- Boat ride on the River Ganges, providing an opportunity to experience revered, centuries- old traditions in Varanasi
- A visit to walled Old Delhi, brimming with 17th- century havelis (mansions), temples, mosques and rickshaws
- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 29 meals; gratuities to local guides and drivers, service charges, admission fees, taxes and portorage



DAY 1 OCTOBER 4, 2020 India welcomes you... explore New Delhi

Tour begins: 2:00 PM, The Leela Palace New Delhi. A transfer is included from Indira Gandhi International Airport to your luxury hotel, The Leela Palace New Delhi, renowned for gracious service in the heart of the city. Because most flights arrive late at night or very early in the morning, you may want to travel a day early to ease the effects of jet lag and relax a bit before Tauck's India tour begins – just mention this at the time of booking; Tauck can arrange an extra night at The Leela Palace New Delhi. Your trip begins this afternoon with a welcome briefing by your Tauck Director, followed by a guided orientation tour of New Delhi including a drive through of Vijay Chowk, with views of the Secretariat buildings, Parliament House, the Presidential Palace and the India Gate, commemorating Indian and British soldiers. Next, stop at the Gandhi Smriti Museum, paying tribute to the inspiring leader, Mahatma Gandhi, who forced change through non-violent protest, leading to an independent India in the late 1940s. You'll have much to discuss this evening at the welcome cocktail reception and dinner.

- MEALS Dinner
- LODGING The Leela Palace New Delhi

DAY 2 OCTOBER 5, 2020 Past meets present in Old Delhi

You'll tour two UNESCO World Heritage Sites today as you explore the centuries-old history and culture of Old Delhi and environs. The first, which you'll visit this morning, is Humayun's Tomb, constructed for the Mughal Emperor Humayan and other members of his family in the 1570s, and set within beautiful gardens. The first garden-tomb on the Indian subcontinent and the first large structure of its kind built of red sandstone, this Mughal creation popularized Persian-influenced architecture in India and was an inspiration for the Taj Mahal in Agra. After an orientation tour of Old Delhi followed by lunch, visit the five-story sandstone Qutb Minar Victory Tower, an imposing minaret built over eight centuries ago, part of one of the earliest surviving mosque complexes in India. Return to your hotel in New Delhi and spend the rest of the afternoon and evening as you please.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch
- LODGING The Leela Palace New Delhi

DAY 3 OCTOBER 6, 2020 Varanasi's rituals on the Ganges

Fly to the ancient city of Varanasi, built on the banks of the sacred River Ganges. Since the 6th century BC, this city has been a key destination for pilgrims who seek blessing and purification in the river's holy waters. A sightseeing tour visits Sarnath, where Buddha gave his first sermon. Tonight, take a journey by boat along the River Ganges to witness ceremonies "putting the river to sleep." Amidst hundreds of lighted candles and flower offerings, tonight will be a special highlight of your journey.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Gateway Hotel Ganges Varanasi

DAY 4 OCTOBER 7, 2020 A Ganges cruise & on to Agra

Awaken early for a cruise on the River Ganges to view the Varanasi sunrise ceremonies, then fly to Agra for a two-night stay and tomorrow's visit to one of the world's most famous and recognizable buildings, the Taj Mahal. An incredible domed mausoleum complex of white marble, built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan to memorialize and house the tomb of his beloved third wife and completed in 1653, this UNESCO World Heritage Site is considered to be the greatest architectural achievement in the whole range of Indo-Islamic architecture – and yes, you'll have a view of it from your room in your award-winning luxury hotel, The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Amarvilas Agra

DAY 5 OCTOBER 8, 2020 The Taj Mahal & Agra Fort

If you wish, you may visit the Taj Mahal in time for sunup – the gates open at sunrise. Those not going quite so early will join your Tauck Director a little later than sunrise (but still early morning) for a guided visit to the spectacular Taj Mahal, which reveals the love story behind the white marble wonder and UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its unique design and relief work in marble and inlay with precious and semi-precious stones; your visit also includes time to explore on your own and take photographs. A guided tour of the massive red sandstone Agra Fort, yet another UNESCO World Heritage Site, follows. Inside, you'll get a very good look at medieval lifestyles of 16th- and 17th-century Mughal Emperors. Following an afternoon spent at leisure, dine as you please this evening from among a selection of your hotel's fine restaurants.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra

DAY 6 OCTOBER 9, 2020 Enjoy the royal treatment in Jaipur

Travel to Jaipur for a two-night stay at The Oberoi Rajvilas, reflecting the gracious lifestyles of India's legendary Rajput princes. A sightseeing tour of Jaipur includes the City Palace Museum and the Jantar Mantar Observatory – a collection of architectural astronomical instruments for measuring time, predicting eclipses, tracking stars in their orbits, figuring out the declinations of planets and determining the celestial altitudes – all built by Maharajah Jai Singh II in the 18th century. Attend a special evening fit for Maharajah royalty tonight, celebrating India's cultural traditions, music, dance and cuisine.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur

DAY 7 OCTOBER 10, 2020 Jaipur's palaces and pavilions

Today's sightseeing includes the many gems of Jaipur, from the massive gateways and pillared pavilions inside Amber Fort to a tour of Amber Palace, with its magnificent domes, massive ramparts and glittering hall of mirrors. After a thali lunch preceded by a puppet show, enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Jaipur, pursuing what interests you most.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur

DAY 8 OCTOBER 11, 2020 Jaipur & on to Udaipur

Fly from Jaipur to Udaipur today before settling in for a three-night stay at your luxury Oberoi hotel – nestled along the banks of Lake Pichola and spread over fifty acres, which includes a twenty-acre wildlife sanctuary with deer and wild boar. Consistently voted among the top luxury hotels in the world, The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur is a destination experience unrivaled anywhere – while Udaipur itself is a Rajasthan city of palaces and lakes, often called the "Venice of the East" and the "Most Romantic City in India." Dinner is at your leisure in your hotel, named India's best hotel by Condé Nast Traveler and 4th in the world's top 100 hotels.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur

DAY 9 OCTOBER 12, 2020 Treasures of Udaipur & a Lake Pichola cruise

An Udaipur sightseeing tour with your local guide includes a stop at the City Palace complex – a labyrinth of richly decorated courtyards, frescoed galleries, and marble temples overlooking a lake that was once the elegant home of the Maharajah of Udaipur – and, a short walk away, the Jagdish Mandir Temple, where music or chanting is heard throughout the day. Following lunch with a view of the lakeside palace, visit the 18th-century fountain gardens of Saheliyon Ki Bari, then enjoy a boat cruise on Lake Pichola. Join us tonight for a memorable Tauck Exclusive private dinner at Royal Repast, a restaurant owned by descendants of the Bedla clan who have played a significant role in the affairs of the Udaipur State – serving as Prime Ministers, valued advisors, commanders in chief of the armed forces and hosting all the dignitaries visiting Udaipur as state guests.

- MEALS Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur

DAY 10 OCTOBER 13, 2020 Udaipur's markets & the city at leisure

Today's sightseeing begins in Udaipur with an auto-rickshaw ride around the city's bustling spice and vegetable markets, for an insightful glimpse into everyday life in Udaipur. In the vegetable markets, women in brightly colored saris sit amongst the stalls, surrounded by baskets brimming with their fresh and equally colorful produce, while burlap bags or metal pans entice with a kaleidoscopic array of curries and spices. The rest of the day is free to explore more of this "City of Lakes" as you wish. Due to its many picturesque locations, Udaipur has supplied scenic backdrops to many a film or television show over the years; portions of movies including Darjeeling Limited, Opening Night, Heat and Dust, Octopussy and Gandhi, plus the TV miniseries The Jewel in the Crown, were filmed here. Enjoy a demonstration in the art of donning a sari or a turban, followed by a farewell reception, prior to dinner at your leisure at the hotel this evening.

- MEALS Breakfast, Dinner
- LODGING The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur

DAY 11 OCTOBER 14~15, 2020 Fly to Delhi for your journey home

Tour ends: Delhi. A transfer to the Trident, Gurgaon, close to the Indira Gandhi International Airport, where rooms are reserved for your comfort and you have the use of it till your departure; which most likely will be early on October 15.

- MEALS Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations

NIGHTS 1 - 2

NEW DELHI, INDIA



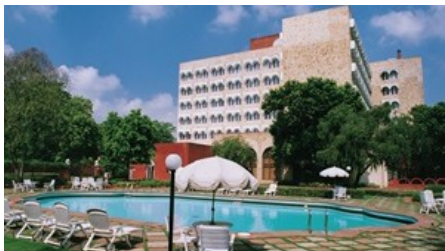
The Leela Palace New Delhi

The Leela Palace New Delhi is one of the finest architectural marvels built from ground up in the last thirty years in downtown Delhi. Built in the shape of a butterfly, this visual spectacle is ensconced in the heart of Chanakypuri, near the prestigious neighborhood of Diplomatic Enclave, blending seamlessly with its majestic surroundings. Its architecture is inspired by Lutyens, with art and embellishment by Mrs. Madhu Nair, and its levels of refinement and generosity of space mirror the great palaces of the world. Breathtaking vision superbly realized. Featuring modern facilities and service par excellence, the hotel's aesthetically designed guest rooms offer a perfect blend of impressive décor, state-of-the-art amenities, and commanding views of the New Delhi skyline. Each is equipped with HD LCD TV with a Blu-ray player; iPod dock & iPod-Touch; dual line internet protocol phone; electronic safe; gourmet corner with fine selection of spirits, soft beverages and snacks; tea and coffee maker; and luxury bathrooms with spa, mood lighting, Ad Notam Mirror TV and hands-free speaker phone. The award-winning restaurants at The Leela Palace New Delhi combine an innovative design experience with world-class cuisines. The cosmopolitan Qube and the traditional Jamavar were designed by Jeffrey A. Wilkes, while the internationally acclaimed restaurants Le Cirque and MEGU and the quintessential bar The Library were created by the Tokyo-based Design Studio SPIN. The Spa by ESPA is a world-class facility offering the best European, oriental and Ayurvedic therapies using only the purest natural ingredients. The Spa has two treatment levels with a café, a fitness studio, relaxation lounge, finishing studio, roof terrace and sauna, steam, and drench rooms.

Tauk Guests enjoy complimentary Internet access in guest rooms!

NIGHT 3

VARANASI, INDIA



The Gateway Hotel Ganges Varanasi

Recently renovated and refurbished and set within 40 acres of lush gardens, The Gateway Hotel Ganges Varanasi is a haven of tranquility in this bustling city. Guest room amenities include TV with satellite channels, in-room safe, minibar, and tea/coffee maker. During leisure time, have a swim in the pool, keep up with your workout in the Fitness Centre or just take a walk in the gardens. International cuisine is featured at GAD, with a choice of an elaborate buffet or an a la carte menu, while Varuna specializes in authentic Indian cuisine. Vegetarian and non-vegetarian snacks are available at the Prinsep Bar along with a good selection of wines and spirits.

Tauk Guests enjoy complimentary Internet access in guest rooms!

NIGHTS 4 - 5
AGRA, INDIA



The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra

The luxurious Oberoi Amarvilas is located just 600 meters from the world's most famous monument, the Taj Mahal. Moorish and Mughal in architecture, it is surrounded by terraced lawns, fountains, reflecting pools and pavilions with rich interiors that are reminiscent of the days of princes and emperors. The readers of *Condé Nast Traveler* named The Oberoi Amarvilas to the prestigious Gold List and the readers of *Travel + Leisure* rank it as one of the world's best hotels. Your guest room, with a view of the Taj Mahal, features Burma Teak flooring, spacious marble bathroom with separate shower and tub, minibar, walk-in closet with electronic safe, LCD TV with satellite channels and DVD player and more. Set in a torch-lit terraced garden, the white marble swimming pool seems straight from The Arabian Nights. If you're craving some exercise, you'll find a fully equipped, state-of-the-art gymnasium within the Oberoi Spa. Both the Bellevue, featuring fine international and authentic Indian cuisine, and Esphahan, the specialty Indian restaurant serving traditional Indian dishes, are excellent dining choices. Cap off your evening at the Bar while enjoying your favorite beverage on its terrace with a breathtaking view of the Taj Mahal. Tauck Guests enjoy complimentary Internet access in guest rooms!

NIGHTS 6 - 7
JAIPUR, INDIA



The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur

The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur evokes the opulent lifestyles of the legendary Rajput princes. Set amid 32 acres of lush, landscaped gardens with pavilions and reflecting pools with Jaipur as a backdrop, guests are surrounded and enveloped with the romance and grandeur that was Rajasthan. All guest rooms have regal four-poster beds and sunken marble baths overlooking private, walled gardens and provide LCD TV with satellite channels and DVD player, walk-in closet with electronic safe, minibar and more. Relax and reflect in the beautiful heated swimming pool set in a garden, play some tennis, hit the ball around a five-hole pitch and put course, burn off some calories in the fully equipped gymnasium or allow the Oberoi Spa to lull you with personalized treatments drawn from both Eastern and Western traditions. End the day feeling like Rajput royalty as you linger over a nightcap in the Rajwada Library Bar. Both Condé Nast Traveler and Travel + Leisure give The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur top marks. Tauck Guests enjoy complimentary Internet access in guest rooms!

NIGHTS 8 - 10
UDAIPUR, INDIA



The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur

Capturing all the splendor and romance of a royal era, palatial The Oberoi Udaivilas sits on the shores of Lake Pichola. Udaipur is a city renowned for its palaces, and this splendid hotel evokes the Rajasthan-era grandeur, romance and splendor once enjoyed by royalty. On its grounds with rambling courtyards, rippling fountains, reflecting pools and verdant gardens – and within its interiors embellished with hand-painted frescoes, intricate mirrors and meticulously crafted artifacts – the ambiance is one of regal splendor. Guest rooms, each with a private walled courtyard, are elegantly appointed with fine Indian textiles and custom-designed, handcrafted furniture and provide LCD TV with satellite channels and DVD player, minibar and many more welcome amenities. Two magnificent heated outdoor swimming pools await, as does a state-of-the-art gymnasium and The Oberoi Spa, a haven of relaxation and rejuvenation. In the evening, relax in the refinement of the Bar with a variety of spirits, wines and cigars. Tauck Guests enjoy complimentary Internet access in guest rooms!

NIGHT 11 GURGAON, INDIA



Trident, Gurgaon

Award-winning Trident, Gurgaon is set amongst 7 resort-like acres of landscaped gardens, walkways, courtyards, reflection pools and fountains. The hotel is in the central business district of Gurgaon, a part of the New Delhi National Capital Region. Restaurants include Cilantro, serving world cuisine with an emphasis on Italian, Mediterranean, South East Asian and Indian. Cilantro also serves the finest thin crust Italian pizzas made in a specially designed wood fired oven. Saffron features Indian cuisine at its best with a distinctive monthly menu highlighting two different Indian regions. Konomi, at the Trident, Gurgaon, brings in the fine taste of Japan set in a distinctly contemporary ambience. Guests are offered a wide selection of Sushi and Sashimi and a complete Kaiseki menu with Yakitori, Teriyaki, Donburi and the recently introduced Bento Boxes. The cuisine is complemented by an exclusive range of Sake's and Shochus. And the Bar at the Trident, Gurgaon is a perfect setting for a quiet evening; guests can choose from an extensive selection of aperitifs, spirits, and specially crafted cocktails along with a fine selection of Scotch, Single Malt, Irish and Bourbon whiskeys. All rooms feature central air conditioning, wired and wireless Internet access, direct dial dual line telephones, personal bar, tea & coffee maker, 24-hour room service, satellite television, electronic safe, and hair dryer. The Trident, Gurgaon has been voted 'Asia's Leading Luxury Hotel' at the World Travel Awards, 2010.

Extend Your Journey

Many Tauck travelers prefer arriving at their destination a day before their Tauck journey begins, or often extend a stay at the end of their trip. As a service, Tauck will make hotel reservations before and after your journey. Rooms are reserved on a space-available basis, and the cost is added to your tour cost.

ARRIVE EARLY NEW DELHI, INDIA

The Leela Palace New Delhi



ROOM RATES: DOUBLE \$371.00
SINGLE \$361.00

STAY LATER GURGAON, INDIA

Trident, Gurgaon



ROOM RATES: DOUBLE \$341.00
SINGLE \$341.00