



THE GREAT INDIA TRIP

- Learn about Indian Culture
- Explore Delhi
- Visit Agra – Experience Taj Mahal and Agra Fort
- Visit Pink City - Jaipur – Amber Fort and experience making of Lac Bangles
- Visit Kochi – Experience Fort Cochin
- Experience Tea Plantation at Munnar
- Enjoy Staying in House Boat
- Experience Festival

DAY 01 – WELCOME TO INDIA!

Arrive into Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL) in Delhi and meet your program leaders who will be with you for the duration of the program. Head to the hotel and settle in, relaxing after your long flight.

DAY 02 – EXPLORE DELHI IN OUR STYLE

After the first breakfast, explore the Sikh religion at Bangla Sahib Gurudwara, take in the famous India Gate and parliament and visit Gandhi museum housed in the same building where his life ended.

DAY 03 - DRIVE TO AGRA

Depart to the city of Agra via private bus and spend the afternoon discovering how the intricate marble work of the Taj was inlaid with precious gems. Later, visit Agra Fort to learn about the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, builder of the Taj Mahal.

DAY 04 – TAJ MAHAL DAY

Today you will visit one of the marvels of the world, the Taj Mahal! Experience the magic of the Taj Mahal at sunrise, and watch as the colors shift with the changing light. Learn about the intricate marble work and architecture from a local guide and take time to explore the compound. Later drive to the Pink City of Jaipur to continue your North Indian tour. This evening, you'll have a cooking demonstration.

DAY 05 – AMBER FORT AND LAC BANGLES

Start your day exploring the famous Amber Fort. Next it's off to the lac workshop, where you will see how artisans make lac bangles. Try your hand at customizing one of these bangles to give to friends or family. Spend the evening getting a customized mehendi (henna) design on your hand while trying your dance moves with our fabulous Ghoomar dancers – traditional Rajasthani style.

DAY 06 – KERALA AND SOUTH INDIA

This morning after breakfast you will head to the airport to catch a flight to the tropical paradise of India: Cochin, Kerala. Welcome to South India! Settle into your hotel in historic Fort Cochin and in the evening enjoy a relaxing sunset cruise through the Arabian Sea. Savour some of the local seafood delicacies as you reflect on the differences between North and South India.

DAY 07 – CULTURAL LANDMARKS AND SOUTHERN LIVING

After breakfast and an introduction to South Indian culture and tradition by your trip leader, stroll down the beach in Fort Kochi to see the 15th century Chinese fishing nets and fresh fish markets, and visit the centuries old Jewish Synagogue. It's a different world down here, so take your time to soak in the down-south vibes while sipping on fresh coconuts and speaking your first words of Malayalam, the language of Kerala.

DAY 08 – MUNNAR AND GROWING TEA

After an early morning breakfast, you will depart the lake and drive to the magnificent hill station of Munnar, situated in the Western Ghats at an elevation of 5000 feet above sea level. Enjoy your afternoon with a plantation tour to learn the colourful and fascinating story behind growing and making tea, then sample over ten varieties of the teas that are locally grown.

DAY 09 – MUNNAR AND MOUNTAIN CUISINE

Spend your day exploring the natural beauty of Munnar. Step into the exotic world of nearby tribal colonies to learn about their lifestyle and culture. In the afternoon try some of the lip smacking local cuisine prepared by locals with fresh local spices from the mountains. Enjoy your evening watching the skillful and adventurous martial art form Kalaripayattu and celebrate the company of your fellow students with a bonfire dinner tonight.

DAY 10 – VEMBANAD LAKE AND HOUSEBOAT LIFE

Today you will drive to the spectacular backwaters of Vembanad Lake, one of the largest lakes of India, where you will be living on a traditional Ketuvallam houseboat. Life on the boat is comfortable, with spacious bedrooms, a great lounge area, bathrooms, and delicious, healthy meals prepared by local chefs to make each day a real treat! Fish for your dinner, swim in the lake, and compete in a friendly canoe race among your group! This is a day to soak in the ambiance of Kerala.

DAY 11 – ONAM FESTIVAL

No Indian experience is complete without the celebration of a festival! Today you will celebrate a mock Onam Festival that welcomes the Gods to Kerala. Create beautiful patterns from freshly picked flowers on the deck of your boat, get dressed in local Kerala clothing, and have a huge feast on banana leaves. In the evening you will have a chance to get a massage in the birthplace of Ayurveda.

DAY 12 – NAMASTE, INDIA!

After breakfast, bid farewell to the mountains and make your way back to Cochin, stopping by a spice market along the way to purchase spices for all the new foods you will be cooking at home! Drive straight to Cochin airport to catch your connecting flight to Delhi.

We genuinely hope your time spent here, the experiences you've shared, and the things you've reflected on will stay with you for a lifetime. After some final group photos with Team India, your Program Leaders will take you to the airport for your departure as you say goodbye and reflect on your adventure.