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6D4N Dec 15–20 INDIA Golden Triangle

- DELHI, AGRA & JAIPUR plus ABHANERI STEPWELL
- **5 UNESCO World Heritage**: Red Fort, Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Amber Fort and Jantar Mantar observatory

DEC 15 TUE: Delhi arrival – Agra

(D)

9.15am Malindo Air departure from KLIA2. Arrival Delhi airport 12.15pm. Transfer to Agra for dinner and check into your hotel. Overnight in Agra.



OPTIONAL USD 20 /person: Enjoy live theater performance "Mohabbat the Taj", based on story of Taj Mahal; the love story between Emperor Shahjahan & wife Mumtaj Mahal.

DEC 16 WED: Agra – Abhaneri - Jaipur



Visit **UNESCO World Heritage Taj Mahal**, amongst the most photographed monument in the world. This brilliant white marble building is a mausoleum built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his 3rd wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Taj Mahal is regarded by many as the finest example of Mughal architecture, a style that combines elements from Islamic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish and Indian architectural styles.

(B/L/D)



Then visit **UNESCO World Heritage Agra Fort**. Ever since Babur defeated and killed Ibrahim Lodi at Panipat in 1526, Agra became an important center of Mughal Empire. Akbar chose this city on the bank of River Yamuna as his capital and proceeded to build a strong citadel for the purpose. It is said that he destroyed the damaged old fort of Agra for the purpose and raised this grand group of monuments instead in red sandstone.



Transfer to **Abhaneri** to visit the amazing **stepwell** (or 'baoris') and **Harshat Mata Temple**. According to a legend, the village is so called because the Goddess Harshat Mata, who is portrayed in a joyous mood and is believed to spread brightness or "abha" all around. The village's original name was Abha Nagri and its present name is Abhaneri. It is believed that the celebrated king Raja Chand established the

village. On the other hand mythological Raja Chand could be King Bhoja, who ruled over the Gujar kingdom in the ninth century AD.

Continue to **Jaipur**, popularly known as the Pink City because of its pink colored buildings. It was founded in 1727 AD by one of the greatest rulers of the Kachhawaha clan, the astronomer king Sawai Jai Singh; and designed by the brilliant architect Vidyadhar Bhattacharya.



Check in hotel and freshen up. Then visit the **Birla Temple**, originally known as Lakshmi Narayan Temple. Dedicated to Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmi, this temple is a proud architectural landmark of Jaipur. It is one of many Birla temples all over India built by the rich industrialist Birla family. Built in pure white marble, the Birla Temple is unlike the traditional ancient Hindu

temples and is built with a modern approach. Overnight in Jaipur.

DEC 17 THU: Jaipur – Amber Fort - Jaipur

(B/L/D)

This morning enjoy excursion out to **UNESCO World Heritage Amber Fort** where you will enjoy an Elephant ride (if not available, Jeep ride) to reach the top of the fort. The fort is a fine amalgamation of Hindu and Muslim architecture and ornamentation, built in the 16th century. The highlight at the fort will be visiting **Sheesh Mahal (Palace of Mirrors)**.



Return to Jaipur city to visit the **City Palace** complex with its various museums where you can see a beautiful collection of Royal Rajput, weapons and miniature paintings. Then visit the fascinating **UNESCO World Heritage Jantar Mantar** (Observatory), the ancient astronomical observatory built by the Maharaja of Jaipur, which is the largest stone observatory in the world. Also visit **Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds)**, a remarkable five storied building along the main street of the old city with semi-octagonal and delicate honey-combed sandstone windows.

Rest of the day at leisure to explore many facets of **Jaipuri crafts** such as semi precious jewels, pottery, colourful embroidered fabrics with mirror work, woven carpets etc – watch artisans at work and enjoy souvenir shopping in this colourful city of Jaipur. Overnight in Jaipur.

DEC 18 FRI: Jaipur – Delhi



Transfer back to Delhi. On arrival, check in hotel and freshen up. Later, visit **Lotus Temple**, a temple of the Bahai religion, famous in world for its architecture and built by a Persian architect Fariborz Sahba from Canada. Then visit the **Akshardham Temple**, a Hindu

temple built without steel. Its architecture consists of 234 ornately carved pillars, 9 ornate domes, 20 quadrangle shikhars, a spectacular Gajendra Pith (plinth of stone elephants) and 20,000 murtis and statues of India's great sadhus, devotees, acharyas and divine personalities. Overnight in Delhi.

(B/L/D)

(B/L/D)

DEC 19 SAT: Delhi tour - departure



Start your city tour of Delhi by visiting **Raj Ghat**, the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation. Then to the **UNESCO World Heritage Red Fort** of Delhi. Visit the 17th-century Mughal fortress built in towering red sandstone, which is now a complex of museums. Enjoy **Rickshaw ride** from Red Fort to Jama Masjid through the narrow streets of Chandni Chowk, one of the oldest and busiest markets in Delhi. Visit **Jama Masjid**, this mosque is the final architectural extravagance of the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan with a courtyard capable of holding 25,000 devotees.



Next, enjoy a drive-by sight-seeing covering **India Gate** (built in the memory of the soldiers who laid down their lives during World War I), **Parliament**, **President House** and **Governments buildings**. Then time for **souvenir shopping** at **Central Cottage Industries Emporium**, with items & handicrafts from all over India.

After dinner, transfer to Delhi airport to catch your 10.05pm flight home.

DEC 20 SUN: Kuala Lumpur arrival Arrival in KLIA2 6am. RATES: RM 2,090 per person, twin sharing basis, group size of 12 persons or more.

Single Supplement: RM 460

Rates and itinerary subject to changes to FOREX rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, local conditions, etc

INCLUSIVE:

- a) Airport transfers and tour excursion on private basis using air-con 18 seater coach
- b) 3 star hotel accommodation:

DELHI: Africa Avenue or similar

AGRA: Taj Villas or similar

JAIPUR: Libra Hotel or similar

c) Meals as per indicated in itinerary above

- d) English speaking tour guide
- e) Entrance fees for attractions & activities as per itinerary above
- f) Tipping for tour guides, drivers and hotel/restaurant staff (general service tipping)
- g) 2 bottles of drinking water daily
- h) Accompanying El Sol Travel tour leader

EXCLUDING:

a) Airtickets, Airport taxes and Airline surcharges.

b) India visa – as per Indian High Commission regulation, to be applied directly in-person at India visa center; RM168 /person

c) Travel insurance: can be arranged separately, RM52 per person

d) Camera/Video fees at attractions where required

e) Expenses of personal nature like other optional activities not in itinerary, ala-carte

drinks during meals, misc. tipping (hotel staff, luggage porters, waiters at restaurants, etc.), laundry charges, etc.