



Culture Craft & Cuisine of North India 15th – 27th March, 2025 (12 days)





Culture Craft & Cuisine of North India

Delhi-Agra-Ranthambore-Jaipur-Jodhpur

Small Group Tour (max 12 guests)

Our journeys are inspired by our heritage, knowledge and passion for this culturally rich, soul stirring, awe inspiring country. Very few tours take you in the heartlands of India. On this journey, you will see magnificent forts, iconic monuments, spiritual places and a uniquely modern but traditionally balanced lifestyle. You will interact with locals, learn about spices and cooking, taste diverse food to immerse yourself in Indian culture. aaRna journeys prides in giving you well rounded one of a kind experiences and will WOW you on the journey of a lifetime!

Journey Highlights:

- Accommodation in 4 star and Heritage hotels
- All Breakfasts
- Additional lunches & dinner as per program
- English speaking tour guides throughout
- Tour escort for group size 8 and up. If less than 8 pax, tour will operate on semi escorted basis
- Tour of Old Delhi on rickshaws
- Private cooking lessons of north Indian cuisine
- Marvel timeless beauty of Taj Mahal
- Immerse in to Sunrise Yoga with view of Taj Mahal
- Ultimate adventure of Tiger safari at a national park
- Meeting with local NGO supporting traditional artisans in villages
- Hands on 'Block printing' workshop
- Walk and interact with majestic elephants
- Signature experience of learning 'Tie Dye' textile art
- Camel ride on desert dunes followed by dinner

Call us: (864) 901-3930

Email: info@aarnajourneys.com

Website: [aaRna journeys](http://aaRnajourneys.com)

DAY 1, 16 MARCH (SUN) ARRIVE DELHI (Hotel [The Connaught](#) OR Similar)

Arrive in Delhi by International flight. On arrival, after crossing immigration, customs and baggage claim, you will be received by aaRna Journeys representative in the arrival hall to transfer to the hotel (Rooms available from 1400 hours today)

Overnight: Delhi

DAY 2, 17 MARCH (MON) DELHI

After a relaxing brunch a drive around New Delhi including the magnificent Parliament Building Rashtrapati Bhawan and India Gate in New Delhi. Visit **Gandhi Smriti** dedicated to **Mahatma Gandhi** a place which gives you a good idea of Gandhi's life..



Later, we have organized a visit to a **Sikh temple** where we will witness the largest community kitchen serving free food to thousands of devotees.



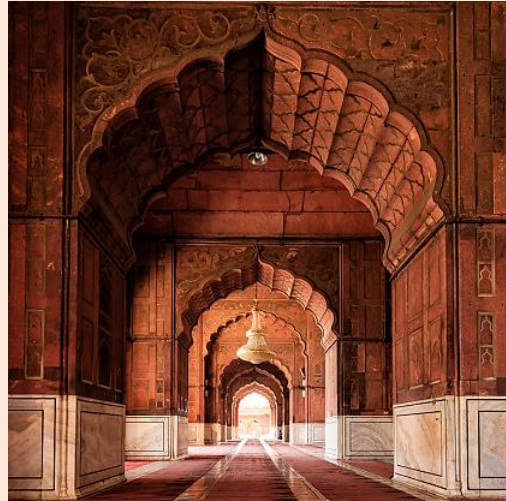
This afternoon, visit the **Humayun's Tomb**. This tomb, built for the second Mughal emperor who launched a great Mughal architectural legacy. Set in peaceful surrounds, the tomb features an artful combination of red sandstone and white marble, which plays with the wonderful symmetry and scale used by the makers of the Mughal empire.

This evening join your group for welcome dinner with **Indian cuisine and local wines**

Overnight : Delhi
Meals : Breakfast, Dinner

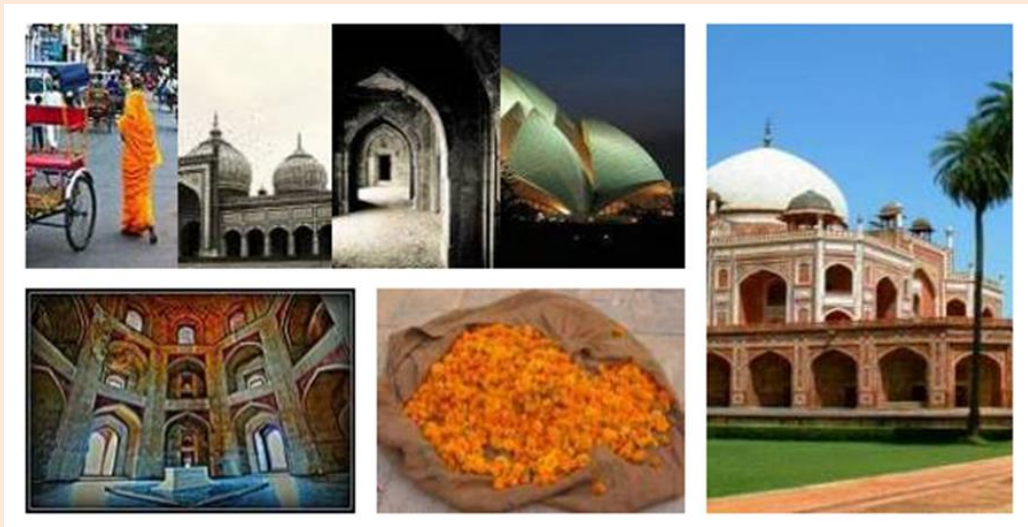
DAY 03, 18 MARCH (TUE) DELHI

After a relaxed breakfast, our local expert will take us on a guided tour of Old Delhi.



To get a real feel of this area we will take a **rickshaw ride** in the busy and narrow streets of the mile long **Chandni Chowk**, surrounded by shops and bazaars. Our guide will take us through the famous food streets and the biggest **spice market** – Khari Baoli - existing for centuries and now known for its wholesale groceries. It is one of Asia's largest wholesale spice markets selling all kinds of spices, nuts and herbs. In existence since the 17th century.

Visit the largest mosque of Old Delhi which can accommodate 20,000 people at one time - **Jama Masjid** with its tapering minarets and wonderful marble domes.



In the afternoon, visit **Khan Market**, a happening shopping area to pick up gifts and souvenirs.

Organized cooking lesson at a private home where you could smell, taste and use some of the ingredients that you will find in the cuisine as you travel through the country, and learn the rich legacy of spices! Engage with your host and prepare some simple dishes **Enjoy a 'home cooked dinner'**

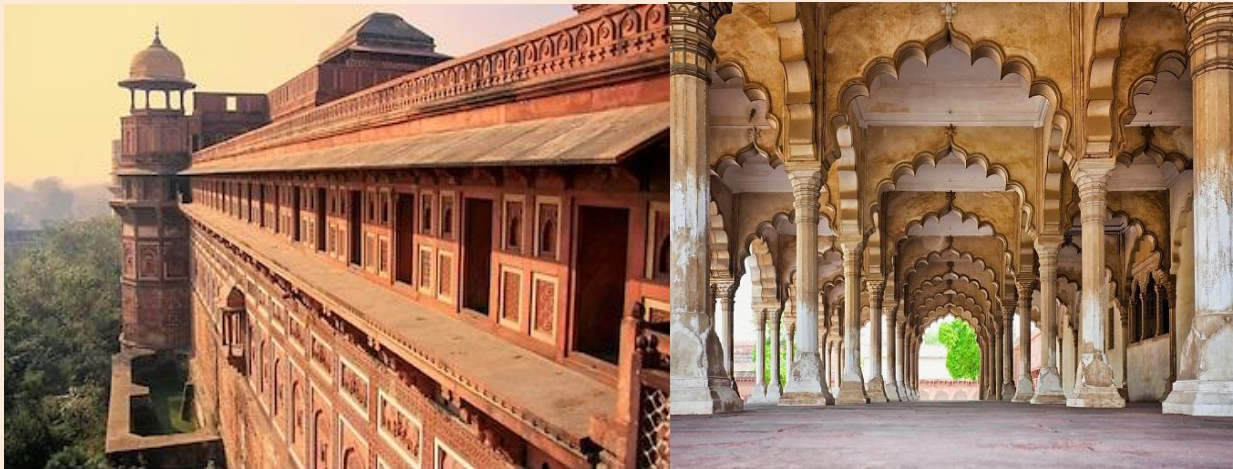


Overnight :Delhi
Meals :Breakfast, **Dinner**

DAY 4, 19 MARCH (WED) DELHI-AGRA (Hotel [Courtyard by Marriott](#) similar)

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the station to board Express train to Agra, 0810-0950

Proceed for a visit of the **Agra Fort**, strategically situated along a bend on the Yamuna River. Built 16th century AD by three generations of Mughal emperors, it is a superb synthesis of stern military fortifications with delicate interior details.



This evening, we enjoy a sunset visit to the incomparable **Taj Mahal**. Experience the sublimity of the Taj Mahal - a varying kaleidoscope of solitude, color and mood. A tribute from a great emperor to the memory of his beloved wife, it was 22 years in the making (1631-1653) and is a cerebral experience that defies description.



Overnight : Agra
Meals : Breakfast

DAY 5, 20 MARCH (THU) AGRA-RANTHAMBORE (Hotel The [Shergarh](#) (Tents))

Start your day **with Sunrise Yoga** at Gardens overlooking the Taj Mahal.

Taj Mahal's intricate beauty lies in the inlay work; where semi precious stones are set into the marble tiles and floors to create floral motifs. **'Meeting with Inlay Artisans and workshop'** to understand how the craftsmanship has continued through the ages.
 Drive to Ranthambore (295 kms / 6 hours approximately).



Ranthambore National Park is one of the biggest and most renowned national parks in Northern India, which is about 130 km from Jaipur. Spread over an area of 400 sq. km of dry, deciduous forest 1,334 sq. km these former hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur is a major wildlife tourist spot which attracts many wildlife lovers, experts and photographers.

Overnight :Ranthambore
Meals :Breakfast in Agra, **packed lunch & Dinner** at Ranthambore

DAY 6, 21 MARCH (FRI) RANTHAMBORE

This morning, enjoy your first game drive in a shared jeep.

A naturalist will accompany you to point out flora and fauna, as well as attempt to track the elusive tiger. The dirt roads are bumpy and dusty but the beautiful terrain and the adventure of spotting animals more than compensates for any discomfort.

You will return to the hotel for breakfast. Mid-morning, **visit to a local NGO** The Dastkar Ranthambore Project became a fine example on reviving crafts and establishing craft groups with special focus on women.

In the afternoon, **enjoy second game drive.**



Overnight : Ranthambore
Meals : Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

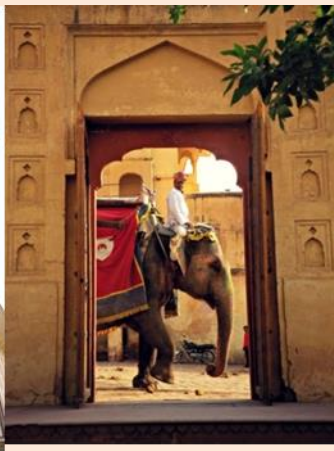
DAY 7, 22 MARCH (SAT) : RANTHAMBORE-JAIPUR (Hotel [Alisar Haveli](#) OR Similar)

After breakfast, we continue our journey to the first planned city of India – Jaipur (5 hours) renowned for its glorious architecture. Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II – the ruler of Amber along with his chief architect, Vidhyadhar Bhattacharya from Bengal, founded Jaipur in 1727.

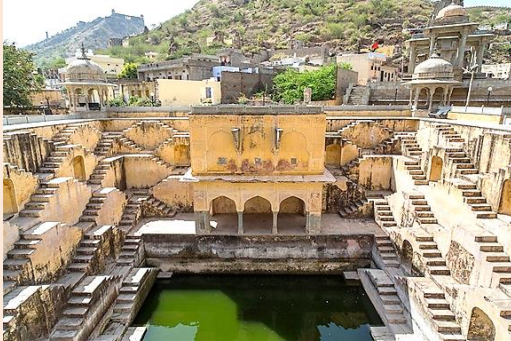
Afternoon Free

Overnight : Jaipur
Meals : Breakfast

DAY 8, 23 MARCH (SUN) : JAIPUR



This morning, we visit **Amber**, the ancient capital that preceded Jaipur. Founded in the 11th century and expanded in size and scope by succeeding dynasties and their rulers, Amber is a fortress town of visual majesty. We ride in jeeps up to its imposing hilltop location and explore the fort's wondrous maze of passages, corridors, pavilions, ornamental gardens and ramparts.



Before that, visit a most spectacular stepwell, **Panna Meena Ka Kund**, then into the fort where, among other things, you will see many elephants carrying people up the steep entrance

In the afternoon, you will visit **Sanganer for Block printing**. Jaipur is famous for its printed textiles, the traditional Jaipur print is synonymous with big and small bootis, or jaal prints. We will meet a traditional block maker and printer who will give us a peek into his collection of exquisite blocks. You will get an interactive **hands-on experience at block printing with pigments!**



Overnight: Jaipur
Meals: Breakfast

DAY 9, 24 MARCH (MON) JAIPUR

After breakfast, you are taken for a half day tour of Jaipur including a visit to the **City Palace**, home of the royal family, and its excellent private museums that display royal memorabilia, particularly armaments, art, books, costumes and textiles. Stroll to the adjacent **Jantar Mantar** or Astronomical Observatory built in 1726 by the Maharaja of Jaipur. It is one of five such astronomical wonders built by Sawai Jai Singh that makes accurate predictions even to this day.

Afternoon Free: Shopping



Later in the evening, visit a Camp, located at the foothills of the Aravali Range and surrounded by the wilderness of a reserved forest. A local family who themselves reside in the area organize “Rhythm with the elephant”. The guests would get to **interact with their resident elephants**. This will be **followed by ‘farm to table’ experience dinner experience**



Overnight : Jaipur
Meals : Breakfast & **Dinner**

DAY 10, 25 MARCH (TUE): JAIPUR- JODHPUR (Hotel [Dasapan House](#) OR Similar)

Fly Jaipur to Jodhpur by Indigo 6E 7405, 0945-1040 hours (economy class)

Visit to the **Meherangarh Fort** with our local guide. Rising some 393 ft (120 m) above the surrounding plain, Meherangarh Fort’s massive and rugged exterior contains delicately latticed and decorated palaces. Now one of the best-run private museums in India.

Overnight : Jodhpur
Meals : Breakfast & **Lunch enroute**



DAY 11, 26 MARCH (WED) JODHPUR

This morning, we dive in to another art exploration with **hands-on session of 'tie-dye'** a process of hand-dyeing fabric, in which sections of the fabric are tightly bound with the threads to resist the dye solution thereby producing a variegated pattern.

This afternoon, at about 1500 hours, we will drive 1.5 hours each way into the desert to a **Desert Camp site** to enjoy **Camel ride** followed by **Dinner under the desert sky**.

Overnight : Jodhpur
Meals : Breakfast & **Dinner**

DAY 12, 27 MARCH (THU) JODHPUR- DELHI

Morning Free

This afternoon, board your flight to Delhi, Air India, AI 476, 1450-1610hours.

In Delhi you will be transferred to the international airport for your flight home (no rooms booked)

Meals: Breakfast

*** End of the tour**



Pricing: Minimum 6 guests traveling
\$4190 (Double Occupancy sharing basis)

\$5300 (Single Occupancy)

Inclusions:

- All hotel accommodation at 3-4* star hotels
- All Breakfasts
- Additional lunches and dinners per program
- All internal flights on economy class
- All domestic airport and hotel transfers
- Local, English-speaking guides
- Tour escort for group size 8 and up. Less than 8 pax, tour will operate on semi escorted basis
- Local transportation via AC motor vehicle
- All Sightseeing Fees, activities and experiences

Exclusions:

- Air transportation to and from India
- Daily Lunch and Dinner (*unless otherwise specified in the itinerary*)
- Alcohol with meals
- Tips and Gratuity
- Visa Processing fees
- Travel insurance charges
- Vaccination charges
- Airline reservation outside of the pkg dates

Additional Information:

- Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult traveler
- Physical activity level – moderate. Walking, climbing and full day sightseeing is normal part of the itinerary
- Limited wheel chair accessibility at many tourists’ spots
- Some flexibility is required for meal timing
- aaRna journeys reserves the right to make minor modifications to the daily itinerary
- We offer webinars for trip planning and pre departure Q&A

Reservation:

- Price valid for min 8 ppl traveling
- Due to limited space, reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.
- To reserve your place, please complete reservation form and submit with the nonrefundable deposit of \$500
- Additional charges and fees may apply for registration received after Sep 30th, 2022
- Some activities require minimum number of participants

Payment:

Payments can be made by cash, check or bank transfer

- Registration fee of \$500 to hold the spot
- 50% payment due by August 31st, 2024
- Final payment due by Nov 15th, 2024

Registration

Cancelation:

- From time of booking to 90 days prior to tour start date 75% refund
- From 90-45 days prior to tour start date 50% refund
- 45 days prior tour start: No refunds. We would love to refund your cost. However, our suppliers will have been paid and a change in group numbers will affect others.
- aaRna journeys reserves the right to cancel the trip in the event the count is not met. In which case, domestic flight cost approximately \$200 and \$100 administration fee will be retained from total package price
- aaRna [Terms & Conditions](#)

Travel Insurance:

We recommend travel insurance, to cover trip cancelation and interruptions. Aarna Associates LLC works with Allianz Travel insurance. <https://www.allianztravelinsurance.com/> Use ACCAM#F210897

It is your responsibility to arrange comprehensive insurance coverage for your holiday. . Aarna Associates LLC/ aaRna journeys can assist with the process. *(Bookings cannot be accepted unless you and your party comply with these insurance requirements. Aarna Associates LLC/ Aarna journeys can bear no responsibility in the event that you fail to procure any insurance coverage at all)*

Passport:

You must have a valid passport with at least 6 months validity from the date of re-entry to your home country. It is the responsibility of the traveler to provide the legal name as on the passport for internal flight booking.

Visa:

A current visa is required for US Passport holders to travel to India. Visit Indian Visa

Online <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>

Contact:

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