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9 Days Golden Triangle of India (Small Group Tour)

Day 01- USA/DELHI

Depart USA and cross the international dateline.

Day 02 –Delhi Airport arrival

On your arrival in Delhi you will be transferred to your hotel.

Hotel check-in time is 2pm

Delhi has been inhabited from the 6th century BC has been a capital of many kingdoms. It has been destroyed and rebuilt many times and is called the "city of cities". Delhi's culture has been influenced by its different rulers and the city is full of beautiful monuments. The Mughal rulers influenced the food habits of the residents and Mughlai cuisine originated here. Due to the proximity of different states, all festivals are celebrated here. Old Delhi is a maze of small lanes lined and old buildings and New Delhi has large road with huge buildings. Delhi is the capital of India and is the hub for politics.

Overnight at hotel.

Day 03-Delhi – Full day city tour

Morning breakfast at hotel. You have a morning tour of Old Delhi.

Red Fort: Delhi's most famous monument, the Red Fort, stands as a powerful reminder of the Mughal emperors who ruled India. Its walls, which stretch for over two kilometers (1.2 miles), were built in 1638 to keep out invaders. However, they failed to stop the fort being captured by the Sikhs and the British. To take your imagination back to the ancient era, a one hour sound and light show of the fort's history is held each evening.(Red fort close on Mondays.)

Jama Masjid: Jama Masjid is another marvelous treasure of the Old City, and is the largest mosque in India. Its courtyard can hold an incredible 25,000 devotees. The mosque took 13 years to build, and was completed in 1650. A strenuous climb to the top of its southern tower will reward you with a stunning view across the rooftops of Delhi. Be sure to dress appropriately when visiting the mosque or you won't be allowed in. This means covering your head, legs and shoulders. Attire is available.

The Chandni Chowk (Moonlight Square) is one of the oldest and busiest markets in Old Delhi, India. Chandni Chowk is located close to Old Delhi Railway Station. The Red Fort monument is located within the market. It was built in the 17th century by



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Mughal Emperor of India Shah Jahan and designed by his daughter Jahanara. The market was once divided by canals (now closed) to reflect moonlight and remains one of India's largest wholesale markets.

Spice Market: Khari Baoli is a street in Delhi, India known for its wholesale grocery and Asia's largest wholesale spice market selling all kinds of spices, nuts, herbs and food products like rice and tea. Operating since the 17th century, the market is situated near the historic Delhi Red Fort, on the Khari Baoli Road adjacent to Fatehpuri Masjid at the western end of the Chandni Chowk, and over the years has remained a tourist attraction, especially those in the heritage circuit of Old Delhi. Overnight at hotel.

Day 04 : Delhi → Jaipur by road (265kms/ 5-6hrs)

You will be transferred by road to Jaipur. Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan gets its name from Maharaja Jai Singh who built this city. Many captivating palaces are present here having breathtaking design and architecture. In the 18th century Prince of Wales had visited Jaipur and the entire city was painted in pink color due to which this city is also known as the pink city. The origin of Jaipur goes back to more than 260 years. On your arrival in Jaipur you will be transferred to your hotel and later follow the half day city tour of Jaipur.

City Palace: situated in the heart of the old City, it occupies about one seventh of the old city area. The palace is a blend of Rajput and Mughal architecture, it houses a Seven storeyed Chandra Mahal in the centre, which affords a fine view of the gardens and the city. Diwan-E-Am (Hall of public audience) has intricate decorations and collection of manuscripts, Diwan-E-Khas (Hall of private audience) has a marble paved gallery Mubarak Mahal has a rich collection of costumes and textiles. There is a Clock Tower near Mubarak Mahal. SilehKhana has a collection of armory and weapons.

JantarMantar: built in 18th century by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the huge masonry instruments were used to study the movement of constellations and stars in the sky. Enormous sun-dial still provides accurate time, which is subject to daily corrections.

HawaMahal: built in 1799, by Maharaja SawaiPratap Singh, is the most recognizable monument of Jaipur. The 5 storied stunning semi-octagonal monument having 152 windows with over hanging latticed balconies is a fine piece of Rajput architecture. Originally designed for the royal ladies to watch and enjoy the processions and other activities, on the street below. Now it houses a well laid out museum. The display “Jaipur past and present” is the special feature of this newly setup museum.

Albert Hall Museum: situated in the Ram Niwas Garden. This graceful building was



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founded in 1876 by Prince Albert (also known as Albert Hall). It has a rare collection of archaeological and handicraft pieces.

Overnight at hotel.

Day 06: Jaipur – Amer Fort Visit

Morning breakfast at hotel. Early morning after breakfast proceed to sightseeing tour of Jaipur visit.

Amer Fort:The old capital of the Kachhwahas stands atop a range of craggy hills. The fort is remarkable as much for the majestic grandeur of its surroundings as for its sturdy battlements and beautiful palaces. It is a fine blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture. The solemn dignity of its red sandstone and white marble pavilions, when reflected in the lake at the foot hill, is a sight to behold. The original palace was built by Raja Man Singh, the additional extensions were built by Maharaja Mirza Raja Jai Singh and Sawai Jai Singh II the last Maharaja of Amer, who built a new city called Jaipur, where he shifted his capital in 1727. The palace complex is lavishly ornamented and displays the riches of Amer. Sheesh Mahal chamber of Mirrors. Diwan-e-Am or the Hall of Public Audience is a beautifully proportioned hall open on three sides and stands on two rows of ornamented pillars. Diwan e-Khas or the Hall of Private Audience has delicate mosaic work in glass. Sukhmandir is guarded by sandalwood doors inlaid with ivory. Throughout the massive fort finely carved lattice windows, exquisitely painted doorways, halls and finely sculptured pillars crave for attention. The old city of Amer was the seat of power and bustling with life and prosperity. Other worth seeing sites are JagatShiromani Temple, Narsinghji temple, the stepwell of PannaMeena and fine carved royal cenotaphs on the road to Delhi.

JalMahal: On the way to Amer, this small palace is set in the middle of Man Sagar Lake. Renovation around the lake is in progress.

Overnight at hotel.

Day 07 : Jaipur → Agra by road (240kms/ 6-7hrs approx..)

Morning breakfast at hotel. You will be transferred by road to Agra visiting Abhaneri & Fatehpur Sikri enroute.

Abhaneri is prominent for 'Baoris', step wells which were invented by the natives to harvest rain water. These tanks were used as cool places of retreat and as water reservoirs during parched times of the year. Chand Baori is the most popular of the wells in the region, and it is one of India's deepest and largest. There are three ways to reach the water using the steps, which are divided into stories. This colossal,



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delicately carved well is located in front of the Harshat Mata Temple. It was a ritual to wash the hands and feet at the well before visiting the adjoining temple.

FatehpurSikri:-Built by Akbar, the Mughal emperor in 1570, the city was a tribute to Sufi Saint. FatehpurSikri is a perfect blend of Indian, Islamic and Persian architecture and it was built using red sandstone. For around 10 years, the city remained the capital of Mughal Empire. The city has a 6-kilometer long wall on three sides and there are towers and gates. It houses some of the city's important buildings namely BulandDarwaza, Birbal's House, PanchMahal and Jama Masjid. The entire city along with all the important constructions including royal palaces, Jama Masjid and courts were declared as World.

Later check-in your hotel in Agra and overnight at hotel.

Day 08 : Agra → Delhi by road (210kms/ 3-4hrs approx.)

Morning breakfast at hotel. This early morning during the sunrise visit Agra, you will be taken to Taj Mahal, one of the wonders of the world. This beautiful building is elegantly built with white marble by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan between the years 1631 to 1648 and it was built in the memory of his favorite beloved Queen Mumtaz Mahal. Standing majestically on banks of Yamuna River, this breathtaking, immensely beautiful monument is a synonym to romance and love. (Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays).

Your next stop Agra Fort is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and known for its architectural structure and was built in the 16th century during the Mughal Empire. This place comprises of several fairy-tale palaces like Khas Mahal and Jahangir Palace. Over here you will also get a chance to see Diwan-e-Aam and Diwan-e-Khas, which are also known as private audience hall and public audience hall. Agra is famous for inlaid marble work and handicrafts.

You will be transferred by road to Delhi and overnight at hotel.

Day 09: Delhi - City Tour of New Delhi

Morning Breakfast at hotel. You have a morning tour of New Delhi and will visit Qutub Minar, touted as India's largest Minaret. Qutub Minar, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was built in 1192 by Turk ruler Qutub-Ud-Din Aibak. You will then move forward to Humayun's tomb, yet another UNESCO world heritage site. You will also visit Lotus Temple (Lotus temple close on Monday)



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Your next stop is India Gate, built in memory of the Unknown Soldier. You will be driven past the Parliament House, President's House and other Government Secretarial Buildings, to your final stop will be at Lakshmi Narayan Temple, a temple dedicated to Lakshmi and Lord Narayana.

Overnight at hotel.

Day 10: Delhi Airport departure

Morning breakfast at hotel. Later you will be transferred to Delhi airport in time for your flight to onwards destination.

Hotel check-out time is 12 p.m.