# Sacred Journeys Ltd India Tour 2025

Kerala - Goa - Delhi - Agra - Rishikesh - Dharamshala

24th March - 12th April 2025

## Day 1 – Monday 24th March

Arrive at Kochi International Airport in the state of Kerala and settle into our hotel.

## Day 2 - Tuesday 25th March

We will gather for breakfast at the hotel and then take a sightseeing tour around Cochin's most historic landmarks. We will observe the unique Portuguese influenced architecture and absorb the wonderful mixture of culture and history in the old city.



#### Day 3 - Wednesday 26th March

Travel south by coach to Alleppey which is often called the 'Venice of the East' with its many canals. Take an overnight trip by houseboat through the peaceful backwaters enabling you to see traditional life as it has been lived here for centuries in this area of Kerala.



#### Day 4 - Thursday 27th March

Take breakfast on the houseboat then return to Alleppey and drive back to Cochin for a flight north to Goa which is a small state located on the Southwestern coast of India between the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka.



## Day 5 - Friday 28th March

Goa is located on the coast of the Arabian sea known for its stunning beaches. Today we will have a day to relax, swim in the pool, rejuvenate with a massage or spend time exploring around the local coastal beach in our area.

## Day 6 - Saturday 29th March

Take a bus trip around Goa to enjoy the culture with its beautiful 17th century churches, hindu temples, its very old Portuguese style architecture and laid back fishing villages.



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## Day 7 - Sunday 30th March

Take a flight from Goa to Delhi, India's national capital in north central India and drive by some of Delhi's famous landmarks including India gate and the presidential palace and then settle into our hotel and have dinner.

## Day 8 - Monday 31st March

Take a rickshaw ride around Old Delhi and take in the sites of the colorful bazaars in the ancient alleyways. We will have lunch at a wonderful unique Rajasthani thali Restaurant and in the afternoon visit the Akshardham Temple where we can learn some of the ancient Indian history and experience the lifestyle of the Vedic era.



## Day 9 - Tuesday 1st April

We will take a coach trip for an overnight stay in Agra to visit the breathtaking Taj Mahal at dawn the following morning. Settle into our hotel with views of the Taj Mahal from the rooftop pool. In the late afternoon we will have a chance to shop for some local handicrafts.



## Day 10 - Wednesday 2nd April

The Taj Mahal was built in 1636 and is considered one of the most beautiful buildings in the world and is a fine example of Indian Islamic architecture. We will then travel by coach back to Delhi in the afternoon.

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## Day 11 - Thursday April 3rd

Travel by coach to Rishikesh which is in the northern state of Uttarakhand in the Himalayan foothills where the Ganges comes down from the mountains to the plains. Settle into our peaceful family run guest house and Ayurvedic centre in Laxman Jhula which is known as the centre of Yoga & Meditation in India.



## Day 12 - Friday April 4th

Enjoy some free time to explore activities of your choice in the area or shop for local handicrafts. After lunch we will visit the Beatles Ashram in the next village Ram Jhula and then enjoy the evening Aarti ceremony held at Sunset on the banks the Ganges at the Parmarth Niketan Ashram.



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## Day 13 - Saturday April 5th

Enjoy a complimentary Ayurvedic massage at our retreat centre and take a stroll around this unique village to further acquaint ourselves with this very special area. Many Indian people make a pilgrimage to Laksman Jula which is known as a very holy place to visit. In the evening we will attend a traditional fire ceremony as a farewell from the host family for our group.

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# Day 14 - Sunday April 6th

Drive from Rishikesh to Delhi taking in the scenery as we go and having lunch along the way. Visit the Patanjali store on the way for purchasing excellent ayurvedic and herbal products.



## Day 15 - Monday April 7th

Fly north from Delhi to Dharamshala which is in the state of Himachel Pradesh on the edge of the Himalayas. We will be staying in the hill station village of Mcloedganj with wonderful views of the Southern Himalaya's and home to the Dalai Lama and Tibetan Government in exile.



## Day 16 - Tuesday April 8th

We will take a walk to the Dalai Lama's residence and explore the temple complex. and temple grounds We will take a meditative circular walk through the temple ground with its many prayer wheels and peaceful atmosphere. We will then have a free afternoon to explore and shop in the local Tibetan Markets and shop for the many wonderful Tibetan crafts in this area.

## Day 17 - Wednesday April 9th

Today we will take a small trek up the Triund hills through the forest to experience the breathtaking views of the valleys and the mountain ranges of the Himalayas. Alternatively for those who desire a more gentle walk in nature this will be arranged.



## Day 18 - Thursday April 10th

Take a coach ride to the Norbulingka Institute to see Tibetan Artisans and craftspeople making their traditional art, and traditional paintings (Thankas) We will also visit the Gyuto monastery to experience the Monks unique chanting.

## Day 19 - Friday April 11th

Fly back from Dharamshala to Delhi and enjoy further sights of Delhi and have a farewell dinner with our guides as this will be our last night in India.



## <u>Day 20 – Saturday April 12th</u>

This is the day to fly out from Delhi back home.

PLEASE NOTE: The scheduling in the itinerary is subject to change due to various reasons for example due to opening hours of some of the attractions as well as any unforeseen circumstances with flights or events.