#### TRIP START DATES

2023 2024 OCT | 02, 16 JAN | 08, 22 NOV | 06, 27 FEB | 05, 26 DEC | 11, 21 MAR | 19 APR | 01,08

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, visit insightvacations.com/indianepal

India, Nepal & Sri Lanka Diwali and Holi celebrations with a local family.

 REGIONAL JOURNEY ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

12 DAYS 2 COUNTRIES 20 MEALS 29 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

**GUEST REVIEW** 

feefo BE THE FIRST TO **REVIEW THIS NEW TRIP** 

#### MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

Agra: Visit the 'Sheroes Café', a local business run by women survivors of acid attacks.

#### **INSIGHT EXPERIENCES**

Kathmandu: Hear an inspirational talk led by women who summited Mount Everest, the highest point above sea level on Earth.

Visit a pottery workshop in Kathmandu • Join an Aarti chanting ceremony on the Ganges River.

#### **INSIGHT CHOICE**

Jaipur: Choose to visit the royal observatory. Alternatively, walk through the city's old lanes. Choose between two experiences in Agra.

#### **AUTHENTIC DINING**

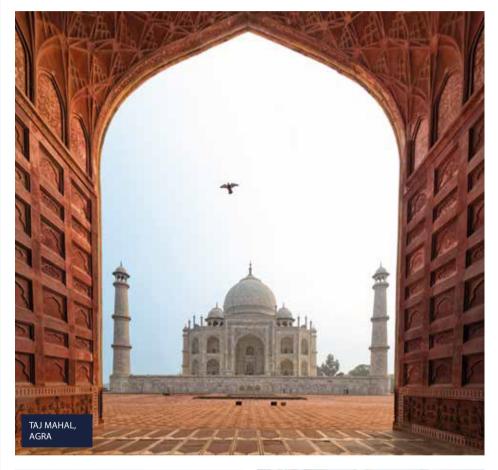
Welcome Dinner in Kathmandu • Lunch at Laxmi Vilas Palace in Bharatpur • Celebration Dinner in Varanasi.

#### TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

Visit Sacred Swayambhunath and Dubar Square in Kathmandu • Tomb of the Emperor Humayun in Delhi • Flower Market, Spice Market and Amber Fort in Jaipur • Taj Mahal and Agra Fort • Sarnath in Varanasi.

# CLASSICAL INDIA WITH NEPAL

"India is the most alluring and diversified destination to travel, rich in culture and heritage." - Virendra, Travel Director









KATHMANDU

#### DAY 1 WELCOME TO KATHMANDU

Welcome to Nepal! On arrival at Tribhuvan International Airport you will be greeted by a representative and transferred to your hotel.

At 17:00 meet your Travel Director and venture out in Thamel on a rickshaw ride. Later, head to a local restaurant for a Welcome Reception, drinks and dinner. (DW)

Hyatt Regency, Kathmandu.

#### DAY 2 KATHMANDU THE CITY OF BEAUTY

Start with a morning visit to the city of Kathmandu and see the tranquil Swayambhunath temple.

Later, stop in Patan, the third largest city in Nepal, for lunch.

In the afternoon, explore the city's stunning architecture with a Local Expert. Highlights include the Golden Temple, Durbar Square and Mul Chowk. Enjoy the flavours of the region in the evening with an indulgent dinner(B) (L) (D)

#### DAY 3 KATHMANDU'S SPIRITUAL HISTORY

Delve into Kathmandu's spiritual history with a morning visit to the Pashupatinath Temple on the banks of the Bagmati River and take in the impressive Boudhanath Stupa.

Next you'll head to the city of Bhadgaon, before visiting a local pottery workshop, where a local craftsman will provide a demonstration. In the evening, head to an inspirational talk by a woman who summited the Earth's highest mountain above sea level, Mount Everest. (B)

#### DAY 4 ON TO VIBRANT DELHI

Head to the airport for your flight to Delhi, India. On arrival, you'll be taken to your modern hotel. Later, join your group and Travel Director for a trip to the Akshardham Temple. Also known as Swaminarayan Akshardham, this Hindu temple is a spiritual and cultural campus dedicated to devotion, learning and harmony.(B)

Hyatt Regency Delhi.

#### DAY 5 EXPLORING NEW AND OLD DELHI

Relaxed Start. This morning, head on an exciting sightseeing tour of Old Delhi and New Delhi. Enjoy a rickshaw ride through the Chandni Chowk bazaar in Old Delhi and drive past the Red Fort, the main residence of the Mughal dynasty until 1856. In the afternoon, visit a Sikh temple and its community kitchen, a place preparing and serving free vegetarian meals to those in need.

Later, drive past the President Palace, India Gate and Parliament House, before ending the day with a tour of Humayun's Tomb. (B)

#### DAY 6 THE PINK CITY

Relaxed Start. Move on to Jaipur, more affectionately known as the Pink City.

Before lunch, enjoy a visit to the Heritage Transpo

Before lunch, enjoy a visit to the Heritage Transport Museum in Haryana, a fascinating showcase of the evolution of transport in India.

Later, join your Travel Director for an evening visit to a flower and spice market.

Dine at the esteemed Dera Amer. Situated in the wilderness close to Jaipur, this outdoor dining experience truly connects you to nature. With elephants roaming free on its land, the venue's primary purpose is to maintain an area of natural beauty. (B) (L) (D)

Hotel ITC Rajputana, Jaipur.

#### DAY 7 DELVE INTO JAIPUR

Ascend by jeep to Amber Fort. Built in 1592 by Raja Man Singh, its royal halls mesmerise with their ivory, mirrors, glass and exquisite paintings.

Experience India's spiritual majesty, with a special blessing ceremony.

In the afternoon, take a city tour of Jaipur and see the Hawa Mahal, the Palace of Winds, and visit the City Palace Museum.

Explore Jaipur with Insight Choice. Choose to visit the royal observatory and see Jantar Mantar, featuring the world's largest stone sun dial. Alternatively, join your Local Expert for a walk through the city's old lanes and see artisans working with age-old techniques.(B) (D)

#### DAY 8 JAIPUR TO AGRA

In the morning depart for Agra, home to the spectacular Taj Mahal.

Along the way stop for lunch at the beautiful Laxmi Vilas Palace in Bharatpur.

When you arrive in Agra, the evening is yours at leisure. Why not make the most of the amenities at your hotel, Jaypee Palace? (B) (L)

Jaypee Palace Hotel, Agra.

#### DAY 9 THE TAJ MAHAL

Wake early for a visit to the Taj Mahal in its best light, and continue on to Agra Fort. Explore Agra with Insight Choice. Choose to join a guided walk through Kachhpura to discover the life of local farmers. Enjoy tea and pakora on a rooftop with views of the Taj Mahal. Alternatively, join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER \* Experience and visit the 'Sheroes' Café. This local business supports female victims of acid attacks who refuse to give up and instead fight for a better life.

Catch up with your fellow travellers over dinner at your hotel this evening.(B) (D)

#### DAY 10 ON TO VARANASI

Take a flight to Varanasi, one of the holiest cities in **Hinduism.** 

In the evening, participate in an Aarti on the ghats, where you'll offer prayers to the River Ganges. This spiritual ceremony is performed daily to honour the River Goddess Ganga. (B)

Taj Ganges, Varanasi.

#### DAY 11 THE HOLY CITY OF VARANASI

Wake early for a sunrise boat cruise on River Ganges, followed by a visit to an Akhara. Return to your hotel for breakfast before heading on a tour of Varanasi. See the Sarnath, a sacred deer park where Gautama Buddha first taught the Dharma and the Buddhist Sangha first came into existence through Kondanna's enlightenment.

Later, enjoy a delicious Celebration Dinner at your hotel. (B) (DW)

## DAY 12 LEAVE VARANASI FOR DELHI End your trip with a relaxing early morning yoga session at your hotel, before breakfast.

Transfer to the airport and head back to Delhi before your onward flights. Please do not schedule flights before 9pm. (B)

#### KEY

₩ Join/Leave Options

★ Included Flights
 UNESCO

1 Central Hotels + Nights

Heritage Site

Place Visited

### CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travellers.





Use the camera on your smart phone to view the full details of this trip on our website.