



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
PARTNER CHURCH COUNCIL

# Golden Triangle Itinerary

*Optional pre-trip 2 to India 2020*

*March 5 - March 12*

**DELHI** – Capital of modern India “The Heart of India”. Many dynasties and rulers have flourished on its regal soil over the last 3000 years. The legacy still survives in many monuments varying from the 13th century mausolea of the Lodi King to that of imperial India’s Parliament House and the President House. Where medieval palaces and bazars exist beside a modern metropolis. Delhi is the city waiting to be explored, so enjoy!





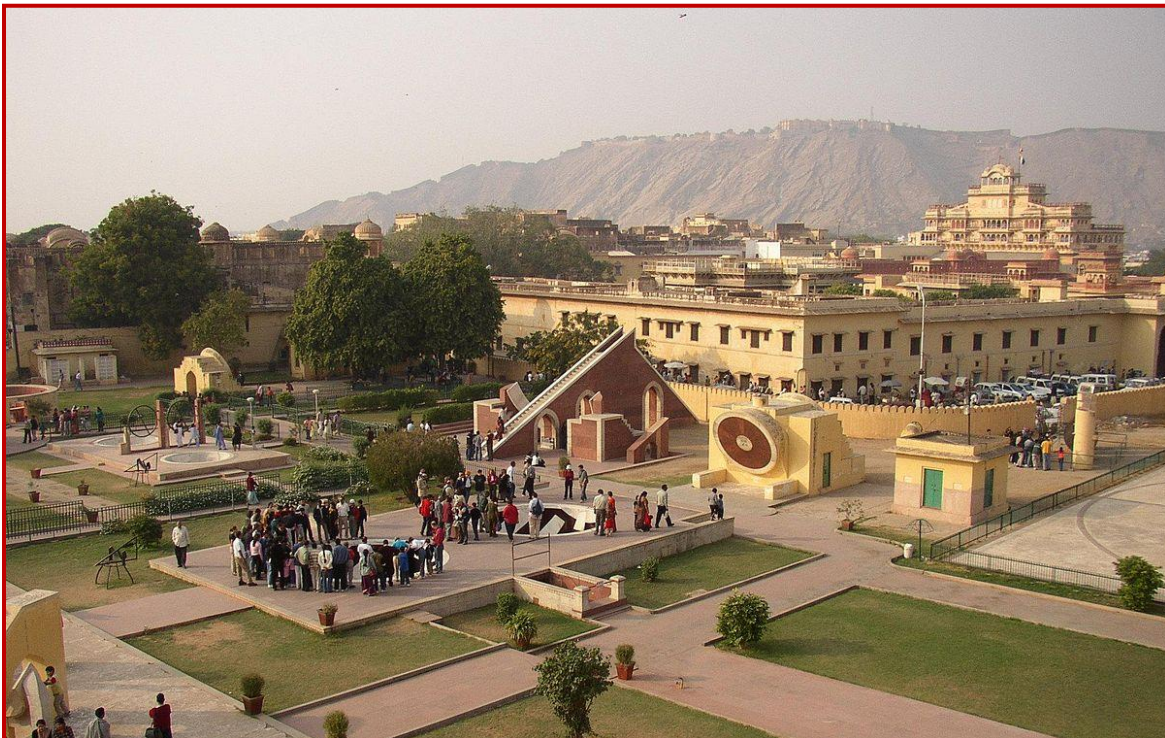


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**AGRA** – The ancient city once the capital of Mughal Empire in the 16th and 17th century, is depicting a gorgeous panorama of majestic architectural creations and a rich tradition of art and culture. Housing one of seven wonders of the World, the marble symphony of Shah Jahan “The Taj Mahal”. Discover the dazzling creations of their craftsmen in other architectural marvels in Agra, the quintessential Mughal city.



**JAIPUR** - The capital of Rajasthan, this picturesque city is a symphony in pink, a color which symbolizes hospitality in Rajput culture. Built by Raja Jai Singh in the 18th century it is surrounded by hills topped with rugged fortresses and dotted with fairy tale palaces. Ambling camels and brightly dressed peasants, reflect Jaipur’s desert heritage while teeming markets display a profusion of handlooms and crafts. Come visit the city of love, legends and lore.





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**HOLI** -The festival of colors is celebrated on the full moon day in the month of Phagun as per the Hindu calendar. It generally corresponds to the month of March in the English Calendar. In 2020, the great Indian festival falls on March 09 and 10.

Rituals are a way to make festivals more meaningful and fun to enjoy. First day is a bright bonfire is lit at almost every place in Uttar Pradesh, referred to as Holika. It symbolizes the triumph of good over evil. According to legends, the demon king Hiranyakashyap had conspired with his sister Holika to kill his son Prahlad for him being a big follower of Lord Narayana. However, he was not successful in his mission. His son was saved by the grace of God whereas his sister was consumed by the fire.

On the day of the festival, the air of almost every town is dipped in various colors like gulaal. Youngsters apply it on each other and on the feet of the elders of the family. Pichkaris (water guns) of various shapes and sizes crowd the markets. The sight of everybody pouring color on each other and whole heartedly participating in the mirth makes a perfect picture of happiness. The delights of sweets like Gujiya, mathri and laddoos are associated with the festivities.







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## Golden Triangle Itinerary - India 2020

### Thursday, March 5, 2020

#### DELHI

Upon arrival at Delhi International Airport you are met, assist, garlanded and transferred to Hotel. Overnight stay at Hotel.

### Friday, March 6, 2020

#### DELHI

Buffet Breakfast at hotel.

Afternoon New Delhi city sightseeing visiting the Humayun's Tomb, the Qutub Minar. Drive along the ceremonial avenue - Rajpath, past the imposing India Gate, Parliament House and the President's Residence and end the tour with a drive through Diplomatic Enclave.

#### *Lunch at Pindi Restaurant*

Afternoon time for shopping.  
Overnight stay at hotel.

### Saturday, March 7, 2020

#### DELHI

Buffet Breakfast at Hotel

Morning Old city sightseeing visiting the Raj Ghat, the site where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated; Jama Masjid - the largest mosque in India; and the Red Fort - once the most opulent fort and palace of the Moghul Empire. Pedicab ride in Old Delhi.

#### *Lunch at Chore Bazar*

Afternoon time for shopping.  
Overnight stay at Hotel.

### Sunday, March 8, 2020

#### DELHI - AGRA drive to Agra 210 Kms - 5 Hours (approximately)

Buffet Breakfast at Hotel, morning Drive to Agra. Upon arrival, check in at Hotel.

#### *Lunch at Radisson Agra*

Later in the Afternoon city sightseeing visiting the Taj Mahal and impressive Agra Fort.

**AGRA FORT** - This lies on the bend of the River Yamuna, almost in the heart of the town. It was built by Akbar as his citadel over the years 1565-73 in the finest architectural style. It has imposing gates and walls of red sandstone and a moat.

**SUNSET VISIT OF TAJ MAHAL** - the mausoleum of Empress Mumtaz Mahal, the beloved spouse of Shah Jahan, who died in 1630.



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The Taj complex comprises a forecourt, a lofty entrance, a charming formal Mughal garden with canals and a central tank with a series of fountains, the tomb proper, and an attached mosque on the west and its symmetrical counterpart on the east. The Taj is remarkable for its perfect proportions and rich pietra dura, with minute details executed with great skill. The building, often styled "a dream in marble" is said to have taken at least 22 years (1631-1653) to build.

### **Monday, March 9, 2020**

#### **AGRA - JAIPUR** *drive to Fatehpur Sikri 238 KMS 5 HRS*

Buffet Breakfast at hotel, during drive to Jaipur visit Fatehpur Sikri. This deserted, red sandstone city, built by Emperor Akbar, between 1570 and 1585, now glows in its magnificent past. Also visit the Bulund Darwaza (The Gate of Victory), set in the south wall. In the northern part of the courtyard is the superb white marble tomb of Shaik Salim Chishti, built in 1570. Legend says, Akbar was without a male heir, he made a pilgrimage to this spot, the saint foretold the birth of Akbar's son, Jehangir. In gratitude Akbar named his son Salim.

#### ***Lunch at Midway Restaurant.***

Continue drive to Jaipur, upon arrival check-in at Hotel.  
Overnight stay at Hotel.

### **Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

#### **JAIPUR**

Morning Breakfast, attend Holi Celebration.  
Afternoon sightseeing and lunch.  
Overnight at Hotel.

### **Wednesday, March 11, 2020**

#### **JAIPUR**

Buffet Breakfast at Hotel  
Morning excursion to Amber Fort, Make ascent to the palace fortress on the gaily caparisoned elephant back. Tour the chambers and hallways of the palace which are famous for the excellence of their design and decoration.

#### ***Lunch at City hotel***

Afternoon tour of Jaipur, known as "The Pink City of Rajasthan". Visit the unique Jantar Mantar Observatory, which was built in the 1700's and even today still looks futuristic or almost surrealistic; the City Palace and its Museum, the Hawa Mahal or the Palace of Winds. Afternoon henna session. Evening Bollywood movie excursion.  
Overnight stay at Hotel.

### **Thursday, March 12, 2020**

#### **JAIPUR - GAUHATI** *(by flight)*

Buffet breakfast at Hotel. Transfer to Jaipur airport for flight to Guwahati to begin the main NE India Pilgrimage



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**LAND COST** (*per person, US \$*) **\$ 2189, optional Single supplement \$690**

**ABOVE COST INCLUDES:**

- 7 Overnight accommodations Bed & Breakfast at hotels listed, or similar alternates
- Domestic airfare from Jaipur to Guwahati
- Delhi airport to hotel transfer on March 5 or 6.
- 6 Lunches
- English speaking assistance on arrival and departure at each city
- Services of English-Speaking Guides in each city.
- Entrance fee to monuments for single visit.
- Cycle rickshaw Ride at Old Delhi.
- Elephant Ride at Jaipur.
- Holi Celebration (Including the Dress etc.)
- Group Photograph for each member of the group.
- All surface transportation by Air-conditioned Micro Van for (05-07 Pax), Air-conditioned Minivan (08-14 Pax) and/or Air-conditioned Large Coach (15-30 Pax) as used for transfers, sightseeing, excursions and intercity travel including all charges of fuel, road taxes, parking and tolls.

**NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE COSTS:**

- Any meals other than Breakfast and Lunch as stated.
- Any Visa fees
- International airfare unless stated above
- Any expenses of purely personal nature like liquor, laundry, telephone/fax calls, Insurance, Room service, tips to porters, guides.
- Any other service or item not specified above.