

India, Sri Lanka & Bhutan



LUSSO

# SEE THE WORLD WITH LUSSO

Every moment in India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan feels full—full of sound, full of colour, full of experiences that unfold into one another. They are busy and generous, sometimes intense but always human and the longer you stay in these destinations, the more you realise how much there is to learn.

This brochure reflects that same spirit. It goes beyond showing where to stay or what to see, helping you get to know these places a little better. Inside, you'll find itineraries, hotels and experiences shaped by a genuine sense of what makes this region remarkable. All are available through your travel agent, and together they show why India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan feel so alive.

## Find your way

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# SUPPORTING RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

As a tour operator working towards our own sustainability goals, we seek to partner with hotels, resorts and in-destination experts that share our passion for responsible tourism - those striving to minimise their carbon footprint and work in ways that benefit local communities and respect the cultures and environments in which they operate. Here we shine a spotlight on some key sustainability initiatives and approaches our partners are doing across India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan.



## SOCIETY IN BLOOM

Among Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts' many community and environmental initiatives, one stands out for its creativity and social impact - a partnership with Phool, an Indian social enterprise that transforms waste temple flowers into eco-friendly products. After adorning Leela's hotels and resorts, hundreds of floral displays are collected and repurposed by Phool into charcoal-free incense sticks that are cleaner burning, reducing waste and air pollution. The initiative also supports social change. Phool trains and employs women from marginalised, low-income communities, providing safe working conditions, steady income and the opportunity to gain economic independence and social dignity.



## EDUCATION FOR CONSERVATION

Education sits at the heart of efforts to preserve the Bengal tiger and its fragile ecosystem. Across the tiger reserves where it operates, Taj Safaris invests in developing skilled naturalists through an intensive six-month training programme. These naturalists then introduce guests to responsible wildlife practices through briefings and interpretive materials and explain the tiger's role in maintaining ecological balance. Beyond the lodges, Taj Safaris and its partners conduct conservation classes for local children, fostering awareness and pride in the protection of their native wildlife. Together, these educational efforts aim to inspire lasting respect for the tiger and help encourage community connection to its continued survival.



## CULTURE & HERITAGE

Preserving culture and heritage is a vital part of responsible tourism. In Kerala, tharavadus - traditional wooden ancestral homes - once brought generations together under the guidance of a matriarch. These houses were hubs of art, learning and community, reflecting Kerala's unique matrilineal culture. Over time, many fell into disrepair. To help protect this heritage, Coconut Lagoon has carefully salvaged and restored several tharavadus, relocating them to the serene Keralan backwaters. Using traditional craftsmanship, each house has been faithfully reassembled to honour its original spirit. Staying here offers a rare opportunity to experience Kerala's living heritage, where the past continues to shape the present.

## CREATING WILDLIFE CORRIDORS

Deep in Sri Lanka's Hill Country lies the Peak Ridge Forest Corridor, a vital 18-kilometre stretch of land connecting two sections of the Peak Wilderness Sanctuary near Ceylon Tea Trails. Home to a remarkable array of flora and fauna, including the elusive Sri Lankan leopard, these highland forests lie outside the protection of national parks, leaving wildlife vulnerable to snares set by farmers. Resplendent Ceylon, in partnership with 13 local tea estates and a national wildlife charity, established the corridor to create a safer, snare-free passage for leopards and other wildlife. By providing a safer passage for wildlife, the corridor supports the health of the forests, water sources and wider upland ecosystem.



## A TASTE OF CLIMATE ACTION

Travelling to Bhutan includes a Sustainable Development Fee, which contributes to the country's environmental conservation, cultural preservation and community development - central pillars of its 'High Value, Low Impact' tourism policy. At Amankora - five luxury lodges spread across Bhutan - supporting the national sustainability goals is integral to operations. The lodges, for example, have all expanded their gardens, cultivating their own produce to help reduce food miles and reliance on imports. From vibrant chillies to fresh herbs and greens, each garden helps to lower transport-related environmental impact, ensures seasonal freshness and strengthens the connection between guests, the food they enjoy and the environment that sustains it.

## A MORE SUSTAINABLE BROCHURE

We have taken a number of steps to reduce the carbon footprint of this brochure. We have chosen not to date it or to price our itineraries, giving the brochure a longer shelf life and avoiding any wastage of out-of-date stock. Plus the brochure is printed using vegetable-based inks on paper that has come from well-managed, FSC®-certified forests and other controlled sources.

What's more, we have paid to carbon balance the paper through the World Land Trust, which will use our contribution to support projects protecting threatened tropical forests, helping to reduce deforestation and preserve vital ecosystems.





# INDIA, SRI LANKA & BHUTAN

Here are three countries that stir the senses like almost nowhere else. India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan each reveal their magic in different ways, offering a rare combination of natural beauty, cultural depth and enriching experiences.

Few places on earth can match the diversity of India's cultures, landscapes and wildlife. From snowy monasteries high in the Himalayas to Goa's palm-fringed beaches and Kerala's sleepy backwaters; the tiger-padded parks of Madhya Pradesh and the towering desert forts of Rajasthan, India is a kaleidoscope of colours, sounds, tastes and smells. It is a country of dazzling complexity, often noisy and chaotic. Yet it's also a land steeped in spirituality, offering those who seek it a profound sense of peace. It can't be put in a nutshell or explored in its entirety in one single trip. Far better to discover one corner at a time on one of our suggested regional itineraries, all of which can be tailored to your own tastes and interests.

Far more compact is the island of Sri Lanka. Few countries offer so much diversity in so little space, from breathtaking beaches and timeless temple ruins to wonderful wildlife, emerald tea plantations, epic train rides and flavour-packed curries. Unlike in India, it's entirely possible to see Sri Lanka's main highlights in a comfortably paced fortnight, though many of our clients fall so in love with the teardrop-shaped island that they book to return again and again.

Then there is Bhutan, 'The Land of the Thunder Dragon', protected by the Himalayas and closed to tourists until 1974. Travelling here is like opening a time capsule. Archery is the national pastime, valleys ring with the tinkling of yak bells, red-robed monks live in majestic dzongs and monasteries, and development is measured not in economic growth but in Gross National Happiness.

Our India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan specialists know these countries intimately. They've learned the secrets of Keralan cuisine, watched cricket in the shadow of Galle's centuries-old Dutch fort and hiked the trail to Bhutan's Tiger's Nest monastery. Working seamlessly with your travel agent, they'll craft you the perfect Indian subcontinent itinerary, built just the way you want it from start to finish.



INDIA

Bengal Tigers | Ranthambore National Park

Ignite your senses and prepare to be immersed in a subcontinent of contrasts, immense in size, with colourful bustling streets, snow-dusted mountains and beautiful national parks, where the languages, cuisines and customs are as diverse as the landscapes.

A destination that defies description, India is often regarded as more of a continent than a country. Home to over a billion people, it offers a heady mix of ancient forts, majestic palaces, intricate temples and holy shrines, alongside dazzling festivals, picturesque rural villages, Himalayan spa retreats and fast-paced cities.

Feel welcomed by a gentle, humble population that is spiritually rich, proud and flamboyant. Dine on delicious, delicate, aromatic and spicy regional dishes, famous the world over but unbeatable in their authentic form. Our love and experience of travelling in India enables us to recommend and personally tailor your journey through this fascinating country, from iconic landmarks such as the Taj Mahal to the breathtaking natural beauty of the Keralan backwaters or the golden beaches of Goa. Let yourself be seduced by the magic of this chaotic yet utterly compelling destination, offering so much to so many and casting a spell that few travellers forget.



#### WHEN TO VISIT

While the climate varies from region to region, the most pleasant time to visit is generally from October to early April. The coolest months are December to February, with fresh mornings and mostly sunny days. The monsoon season typically arrives in June and lasts until September, with the highest rainfall in the south. The Himalayan foothills and parts of northern India offer a refreshing summer escape, with cooler temperatures and greener landscapes.

#### IDEAL FOR

Adventure, Beach, Culture, Gastronomy, History, Nature, Rail Journeys, Shopping, Spa & Wellness, Touring, Wildlife



INDIA

# Hotel Directory

India's hotels are as varied as its landscapes, from the beautifully restored forts and former royal palaces in Rajasthan to luxury safari camps, blissful beach resorts and wellness retreats in the Himalayan foothills. Please visit our website to view our most up-to-date hotel portfolio.

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## CLASSICAL NORTH INDIA & RAJASTHAN

<b>AGRA</b> The Oberoi Amarvilas	<b>DEOGARH</b> Dev Shree Deogarh	<b>JAISALMER</b> SUJÁN The Serai
<b>BIKANER</b> Narendra Bhawan	<b>JAIPUR</b> Amanbagh	<b>RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK</b> Aman-i-Khas
<b>DELHI</b> Taj Mahal Hotel	Rajmahal Palace RAAS Jaipur	Six Senses Fort Barwara
The Imperial	Rambagh Palace	SUJÁN Sher Bagh
The Leela Palace New Delhi	Samode Haveli	The Oberoi Vanyavilas Wildlife Resort
The Oberoi Gurgaon	The Leela Palace Jaipur	<b>UDAIPUR</b>
The Oberoi New Delhi	The Oberoi Rajvilas	RAAS Devigarh
		Taj Lake Palace
		The Leela Palace Udaipur
		The Oberoi Udaivilas

## MAJESTIC HIMALAYAS & SPIRITUAL GANGES

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<b>AMRITSAR</b> Taj Swarna	<b>SHIMLA</b> Wildflower Hall, An Oberoi Hotel
<b>DHARAMSHALA</b> Brij Ananya	<b>VARANASI</b> BrijRama Palace
<b>RISHIKESH</b> Ananda in the Himalayas	Taj Nadesar Palace

## WONDERFUL WEST & CENTRAL INDIA

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<b>BANDHAVGARH NATIONAL PARK</b> The Oberoi Vindyavilas Wildlife Resort	<b>KANHA NATIONAL PARK</b> Banjaar Tola, A Taj Safari	<b>PANNA NATIONAL PARK</b> Pashan Garh, A Taj Safari
<b>GOA</b> Taj Exotica Resort & Spa	<b>MUMBAI</b> The Leela Mumbai	The Oberoi Rajgarh Palace

## STUNNING SOUTH INDIA & KERALA

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<b>BACKWATERS</b> Spice Coast Cruises	<b>COCHIN</b> Brunton Boatyard	<b>KUMBAKONAM</b> Mantra Koodam
<b>BEKAL</b> Taj Bekal Resort & Spa	<b>MADRASI</b> Taj Malabar Resort & Spa	<b>MADURAI</b> Gateway Madurai
<b>BENGALURU</b> Taj West End	<b>COORG</b> Evolve Back Chikkana Halli Estate	Heritage Madurai
The Leela Palace Bengaluru	<b>HYDERABAD</b> Taj Madikeri Resort & Spa	
<b>CHENNAI</b> Taj Connemara	<b>HYDERABAD</b> Taj Falaknuma Palace	
Taj Fisherman's Cove Resort & Spa	<b>KOVALAM</b> Taj Green Cove Resort & Spa	
The Leela Palace Chennai	The Leela Kovalam, A Raviz Hotel	
<b>CHETTINAD</b> Visalam	<b>KUMARAKOM</b> Coconut Lagoon	
	Kumarakom Lake Resort	

INDIA

# Classical North India & Rajasthan

*Tigers, temples and timeless Mughal splendour*



City Palace | Udaipur

North India and Rajasthan are bursting with historic cities and stunning landmarks, so much so that you could easily spend an entire trip in this region alone. Home to iconic sights and encompassing the 'Golden Triangle' of Agra, Delhi and Jaipur, this part of India is a must for all first-time visitors.



Holi Celebration | Jaipur

## AGRA

Set on the banks of the River Yamuna, Agra is an unmissable destination. With its shimmering marble domes, the Taj Mahal is India's most iconic monument and never fails to amaze, especially when viewed at sunset. In addition to the Taj Mahal, Agra boasts a magnificent fort and a number of fascinating tombs, as well as nearby Fatehpur Sikri.

## DELHI

India's bustling capital is where many travellers choose to begin or end their journey. Explore the hidden streets of Old Delhi, alive with the noise of daily life, or venture into the heart of New Delhi, a symbol of modern India teeming with official buildings and monuments. Whether you walk in the footsteps of Mahatma Gandhi or simply hop on a rickshaw, Delhi holds many attractions.



## JAIPUR

Known as the 'Pink City', with its stunning hilltop forts, glorious palaces and vibrant bazaars, Jaipur also serves as a wonderful gateway to Rajasthan. Beaming bright at dawn, Amber Fort is best visited in the morning.

## JAISALMER

Enclosed by the vast expanses of the Thar Desert, the medieval city of Jaisalmer emerges from the dusty plains like a golden mirage. Jaisalmer Fort, a breathtaking castle, evokes exotic camel-train trade routes and desert mystery of centuries past, while its twisting lanes are home to ornate Jain temples and shops swathed in bright embroideries.

## JODHPUR

The 'Blue City' of Jodhpur is a tangle of winding streets that never seem to lead where you expect, and are dotted with bazaars selling everything from trumpets to jewellery and saris. Mehrangarh Fort captures travellers' imaginations and provides an outstanding vantage point from which to look out over the sprawling blue and whitewashed houses scattered below.

## RANTHAMBORE

As well as being among the oldest national parks in Rajasthan, Ranthambore is also famed as one of the best places to spot tigers in the wild. At the heart of its jungle scrub, hemmed by rocky ridges, sits a magnificent 10th-century fort, with ancient temples, mosques, hunting pavilions, crocodile-filled lakes and vine-covered chhatris scattered nearby. A guided game drive offers the best way to experience the park and its wild inhabitants.

## UDAIPUR

Udaipur has a romantic setting unmatched in Rajasthan, if not all of India. Palaces, temples, havelis and countless winding, colourful streets add a human element to the city's otherwise natural charms. Known as the 'Venice of the East', the city's shimmering backdrop of Lake Pichola features the cupola-crowned City Palace lining its eastern shore and the almost fairytale-like Lake Palace seemingly floating on the water.



Jodhpur



Taj Mahal | Agra

#### 12-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Colours of Rajasthan

### DURATION

11 nights / 12 days

### SUMMARY

2 nights Delhi  
2 nights Agra  
2 nights Jaipur  
3 nights Udaipur  
2 nights Jodhpur

### HIGHLIGHTS

Witness the Taj Mahal in changing light, from golden sunset to tranquil dawn, as the marble transforms with every shade of day

Ascend by jeep to Amber Fort, then return to Jaipur's bustling bazaars where jewellers and textile merchants have traded for centuries

Jodhpur's Mehrangarh Fort towers above the 'Blue City', its winding alleys and markets stretching towards the edge of the Thar Desert

From colourful saris, spice-filled markets and golden sands to Jaipur's pink hues, dynamic Delhi and sunrise at the Taj Mahal, vibrant sights are guaranteed on this dazzling journey through Rajasthan.

### DAYS 1-2: DELHI

Your journey begins in India's vibrant capital. Upon arrival in Delhi, you'll be met and transferred to the luxurious Taj Mahal Hotel for a two-night stay. The following day, immerse yourself in the contrasts of the city. In New Delhi, tree-lined boulevards and grand colonial architecture set the scene as you explore key landmarks with your guide. Later, the pace shifts as you travel by cycle rickshaw through Old Delhi. Pass the Red Fort before entering the maze of Chandni Chowk, alive with spice markets, street vendors, and centuries of history layered into every turn.

### DAYS 3-4: AGRA

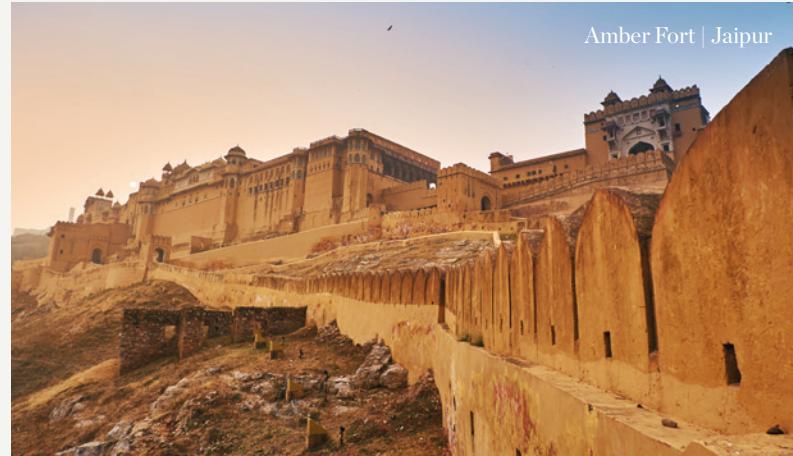
An early train takes you to Agra, where you'll spend two nights at The Oberoi Amarvilas, a hotel renowned for its views of the Taj Mahal. That evening, watch the white marble monument blush pink and gold in the light of sunset. The following morning offers the ultimate reward: the Taj Mahal at sunrise, bathed in an ethereal glow. After breakfast, continue your exploration with a guided visit to Agra Fort, once the seat of Mughal power. The afternoon is yours to relax, or you might choose to visit Mehtab Bagh with its spectacular views across the Yamuna river.



Delhi



Udaipur



Amber Fort | Jaipur

Jodhpur from Mehrangarh Fort



### DAYS 5-6: JAIPUR

Leaving Agra, journey by road to the 'Pink City' of Jaipur, pausing to explore the UNESCO-listed Fatehpur Sikri, the abandoned red-sandstone city built by Emperor Akbar. Stay for two nights at Rambagh Palace, once a royal residence and now a magnificent heritage hotel. The next day begins at Amber Fort, an extraordinary hilltop fortress with ornate courtyards and mirrored halls, reached by jeep. In the afternoon, wander Jaipur's colourful bazaars, where vibrant textiles, jewellery, and handicrafts showcase Rajasthan's artistry.

### DAYS 7-9: UDAIPUR

Spend the morning exploring more of Jaipur's highlights before flying to Udaipur, where you'll stay for three nights at the iconic Taj Lake Palace, seemingly floating on Lake Pichola's shimmering waters. Perhaps the most romantic city in Rajasthan, Udaipur enchants with its lakeside setting and whitewashed palaces. Begin with a guided tour of the vast City Palace and its fascinating Crystal Gallery. Later, glide across Lake Pichola on a serene boat ride. A full day of leisure follows; you may choose to visit the ancient temple complexes of Eklingji and Nagda, or simply stroll through colourful markets and enjoy the relaxed pace of lakeside life.

### DAYS 10-12: JODHPUR

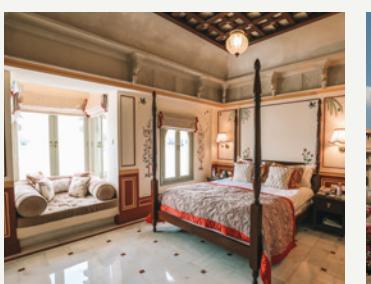
The drive to Jodhpur takes you through the scenic Aravalli Hills, stopping to marvel at the intricately carved Ranakpur Jain Temples. Arriving in the 'Blue City,' check into Umaid Bhawan Palace for two nights, a grand Art Deco-inspired residence still home to Jodhpur's royal family. The following day, ascend to Mehrangarh Fort, an immense stronghold overlooking the desert and one of Rajasthan's most impressive landmarks. Later, discover the bustling old town, where winding lanes reveal spice shops, bazaars and indigo-washed houses. On your final morning, rise early for an optional excursion to watch the city awaken before transferring to the airport for your flight home. Alternatively, choose to extend your journey with two nights in Jaisalmer staying at SUJÁN The Serai luxury camp.

### WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Rambagh Palace

Once the royal residence of the Maharaja of Jaipur, Rambagh Palace is a magnificent mix of heritage and grandeur, where opulent suites, fine dining and regal gardens offer a chance to experience India's storied past in unrivalled luxury and style.



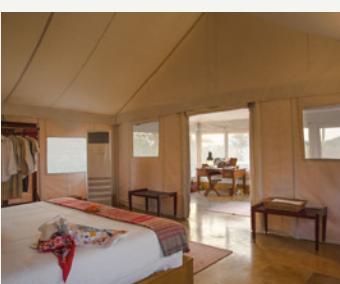
Taj Lake Palace

Floating like a dream on Lake Pichola, the iconic Taj Lake Palace in Udaipur offers a rare blend of Mughal-inspired romance and refined hospitality, with ornate suites, candlelit dining, butler service and panoramic views of the Aravalli Hills and City Palace.



Umaid Bhawan Palace

There's no shortage of palace hotels in India, but Jodhpur's Umaid Bhawan Palace is one of the finest – extravagant even by maharaja standards and unique for its Art Deco details.



SUJÁN The Serai

Set in the mystical Thar Desert, SUJÁN The Serai offers a soulful take on safari-style luxury, where tented suites with private plunge pools, desert dining under starlit skies and a strong commitment to responsible practices create an unforgettable oasis of calm and cultural richness.



## 15-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Taj Mahal, Forts, Palaces and Tigers

## DURATION

14 nights / 15 days

## SUMMARY

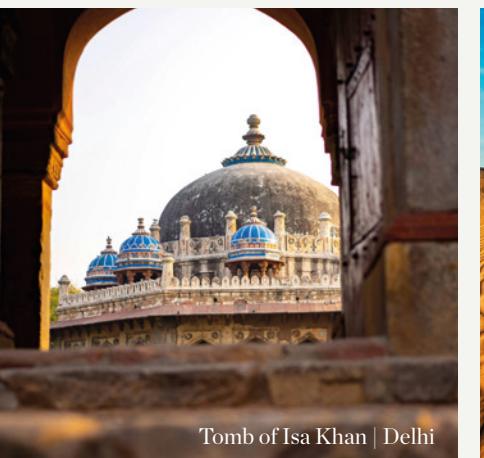
2 nights Delhi  
 2 nights Jaisalmer  
 2 nights Jodhpur  
 3 nights Udaipur  
 2 nights Jaipur  
 2 nights Ranthambore  
 1 night Agra

## HIGHLIGHTS

In Jaisalmer, the living fort and intricate havelis reveal the artistry of desert craftsmanship

Mehrangarh Fort dominates Jodhpur, its walls and palaces telling centuries of Rajput history in striking detail

At Ranthambore, early-morning safaris offer the chance of tiger sightings among ancient ruins and lakes



Tomb of Isa Khan | Delhi



Thar Desert | Jaisalmer

This journey showcases some of India's finest highlights, from Rajasthan's forts, iconic landmarks and palaces to Ranthambore's wildlife, offering a perfect introduction to the country's most celebrated destinations and cultural treasures.



## DAYS 7-9: UDAIPUR

Travel to Udaipur via Ranakpur to admire the exquisite marble Jain temple. Stay three nights at The Oberoi Udaivilas, overlooking Lake Pichola. Explore Udaipur's romantic charms with a visit to the City Palace and Crystal Gallery before an evening boat ride on the lake. The following day is free: choose to explore the nearby temples at Eklingji and Nagda, or wander colourful markets.

## DAYS 10-11: JAIPUR

Fly to Jaipur, the 'Pink City', and stay for two nights at The Oberoi Rajvilas. Visit the spectacular Amber Fort, ascending by jeep to its hilltop location. The next day, tour the City Palace, the iconic Palace of the Winds, and lively bazaars. The afternoon allows time to relax or explore independently.



Ranthambore National Park



Jahangiri Mahal | Agra Fort

## DAYS 12-13: RANTHAMBORE

Travel by road to Ranthambore, staying for two nights at The Oberoi Vanyavilas Wildlife Resort. This beautiful national park offers the chance to spot elusive tigers. Enjoy multiple jeep safaris: dawn outings can increase the likelihood of tiger sightings, while afternoons may reveal deer, marsh crocodiles and an abundance of birdlife.

## DAYS 14-15: AGRA

Drive to Agra, stopping at Fatehpur Sikri en route. Spend the night at The Oberoi Amarvilas, renowned for its views of the Taj Mahal from every room. Witness the monument's beauty at sunset, then rise early the next day to see it again at sunrise, a magical and unforgettable experience. Later, tour Agra Fort before transferring to Delhi for your flight home.

## WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



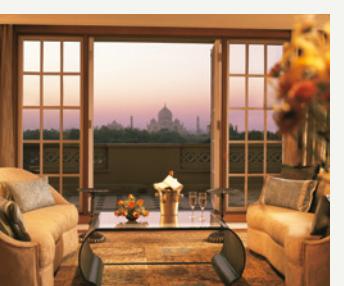
The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur



The Oberoi Rajvilas, Jaipur



The Oberoi Vanyavilas



The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra

**DAYS 1-2: DELHI**  
 Arrive in India's capital for a two-night stay at The Oberoi, New Delhi. Discover the city's two contrasting faces: New Delhi, with its broad avenues and imperial landmarks, and Old Delhi, explored by cycle rickshaw through the lively lanes of Chandni Chowk, passing the Red Fort and vibrant bazaars.

**DAYS 3-4: JAISALMER**

Fly west to Jaisalmer, the 'Golden City', for two nights at Suryagarh, an atmospheric desert fortress hotel. Spend the afternoon amid the Sam Sand Dunes, watching the sunset over the Thar Desert. The next day, tour Jaisalmer's highlights: its unique living fort, ornately carved merchant havelis, and Jain temples. Later, visit Barabagh's royal cenotaphs at dusk for a tranquil close to the day.

**DAYS 5-6: JODHPUR**

Journey by road to Jodhpur, the 'Blue City', and stay at RAAS Jodhpur for two nights. Sightseeing includes the imposing Mehrangarh Fort, perched high above the desert plains, and a walking tour through the vibrant old town, alive with markets and blue-washed houses.

Spanning 50 acres on the shores of Lake Pichola, The Oberoi Udaivilas is a vision of domes, courtyards and shimmering pools, where palatial suites, fine dining, holistic spa rituals and boat rides at sunset offer an opulent escape in the heart of romantic Udaipur.

Set within 32 acres of landscaped gardens, The Oberoi Rajvilas is a tranquil haven just outside Jaipur, where grand villas and tented suites echo royal Rajasthan, and days unfold with personalised service, fine dining, Ayurvedic wellness and expert-led safaris in search of the elusive Bengal tiger.

Bordering the jungles of Ranthambore, The Oberoi Vanyavilas Wildlife Resort combines five-star luxury with wilderness adventure, offering elegant tented suites, fine dining, a tranquil spa and expert-led safaris in search of the elusive Bengal tiger.



## 13-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Boutique Rajasthan

## DURATION

12 nights / 13 days

## SUMMARY

2 nights Delhi  
 1 night Bikaner  
 2 nights Jodhpur  
 2 nights Narlai  
 2 nights Deogarh  
 3 nights Udaipur

## HIGHLIGHTS

Delhi reveals Mughal grandeur and the bustle of Old Delhi's bazaars, best explored by cycle rickshaw through Chandni Chowk

Stay in Narlai for a taste of rural Rajasthan life, from village walks to leopard safaris in the Aravalli Hills

Udaipur, set on Lake Pichola, captivates with its palaces, temples and views across the surrounding hills

Rajasthan, the 'Land of Kings', blends grand forts, desert cities, and boutique stays. Discover Delhi's monuments, Bikaner's Junagadh Fort, rural safaris in Narlai, authentic Deogarh, Jodhpur's ridge-top fort, and Udaipur, Rajasthan's romantic jewel in the Aravalli Hills.

## DAYS 1-2: DELHI

Arrive in Delhi and transfer to The Imperial for a two-night stay in the heart of New Delhi. On Day 2, begin with a guided tour of New Delhi, taking in its grand colonial avenues, monuments, and cultural highlights. In the afternoon, move into Old Delhi, where a cycle rickshaw ride carries you through bustling Chandni Chowk, past the Red Fort and into vibrant local markets.

## DAY 3: BIKANER

Transfer to Delhi Airport for your short flight to Bikaner, a desert city steeped in history. Stay overnight at Narendra Bhawan. With your guide, visit the 16th-century Junagadh Fort and its museum, admire the havelis on an auto-rickshaw ride through the narrow lanes of Old Bikaner, and finish at the ornate Bhandasar Jain Temple, known for its intricate frescoes and bright interiors.

## DAYS 4-5: JODHPUR

After breakfast, continue by road to Jodhpur, the 'Blue City', for a two-night stay at RAAS Jodhpur, a stylish property beneath Mehrangarh Fort. On Day 5, explore the fort itself, with its towering ramparts and sweeping desert views, followed by a walking tour of the old town's lively bazaars and winding blue-hued streets. Optional experiences include sunrise tuk tuk rides through the awakening city or sampling some of the region's delicious street food.



Rawla Narlai



Ranakpur Jain Temple | Deogarh



## DAYS 6-7: NARLAI

From Jodhpur, journey to the village of Narlai where you will spend two nights at Rawla Narlai, a converted 17th-century hunting lodge. In the afternoon, choose from a guided village walk, a climb up Elephant Hill for panoramic views, or a contemplative visit to the Cave Temple. Day 7 is at leisure with optional activities such as guided jeep safaris in search of leopards, forest treks, horse riding, or unique dining experiences like a jungle lunch or dinner by campfire.

## DAYS 8-9: DEOGARH

Travel from Narlai to Deogarh, stopping to marvel at the elaborately carved marble Jain temples of Ranakpur along the way. Stay for two nights at Dev Shree Deogarh, a lakeside retreat in the Aravalli Hills. Spend the next day at leisure, or opt for experiences such as a scenic train journey to Kamblighat, cycling in the countryside, or discovering the bustling local market.

## DAYS 10-13: UDAIPUR

End your adventure in Udaipur, the romantic city known as 'Venice of the East', spending three nights at RAAS Devigarh, a restored 18th-century palace fortress overlooking the hills. On Day 11, tour Udaipur's highlights: the opulent City Palace, Jagdish Temple, and the Crystal Gallery, followed by a relaxing boat ride on Lake Pichola. Day 12 is at leisure, with options including yoga, cooking classes, or visits to the 16th-century Eklingji and Nagda temples. On Day 13, transfer to Udaipur Airport for your return flight via Delhi or Mumbai.

## WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



The Imperial

In the heart of New Delhi, The Imperial stands as an Art Deco landmark, offering museum-worthy interiors, elegant suites, celebrated dining and a serene spa, all framed by lush greenery that gives the hotel its distinctive urban-resort feel.



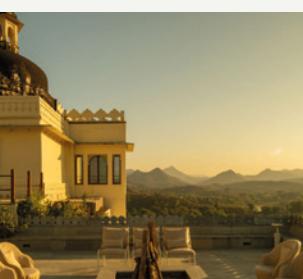
RAAS Jodhpur

It would be impossible to ask for a more inspiring backdrop than towering Mehrangarh Fort, which looms large behind RAAS Jodhpur, a modern boutique hotel whose centerpiece pool, lined with cabanas, provides a welcome refuge from the daytime heat.



Dev Shree Deogarh

Set beside a quiet lake in Deogarh, in rural Rajasthan, Dev Shree is an elegant family-run retreat in a restored 18th-century palace where minimalist design meets majestic heritage, offering striking suites, homegrown dining, holistic wellness and panoramic views of the Aravalli Hills.



RAAS Devigarh

Perched above a quiet village near Udaipur, RAAS Devigarh is a restored 18th-century palace where minimalist design meets majestic heritage, offering striking suites, homegrown dining, holistic wellness and panoramic views of the Aravalli Hills.

LUXURY RAIL

## The Maharajas' Express



Step aboard the Maharajas' Express and experience a journey that captures the elegance and grandeur of India's royal past. This award-winning train redefines luxury travel with a blend of heritage and modern sophistication.

Its beautifully designed carriages range from deluxe cabins to the lavish Presidential Suite and feature rich décor, fine furnishings, along with every contemporary comfort, including Wi-Fi, climate control, and 24-hour butler service. Guests can dine in two gourmet restaurants serving Indian and international cuisine, unwind in the bar or observation lounge with views of India's spectacular landscapes.

With four curated itineraries visiting destinations such as Jaipur, Udaipur, Varanasi and the Taj Mahal, the Maharajas' Express offers an unforgettable passage through the heart of India in true regal style.

### 7-DAY JOURNEYS



#### The Heritage of India

Trace India's rich royal legacy on an unforgettable seven-day journey travelling from vibrant Mumbai to historic Delhi. Explore Udaipur with its romantic palaces and uncover the grandeur of Jodhpur's mighty fortresses. In Bikaner, toast the sunset over golden dunes before exploring Jaipur, the radiant Pink City. Continue to Ranthambore National Park for a chance to spot the elusive tiger, then conclude in Agra with the awe-inspiring Taj Mahal, an eternal symbol of love.



#### The Indian Splendour

A magnificent seven-day journey from Delhi to Mumbai that unveils India's most captivating destinations. Begin in Agra with the ethereal Taj Mahal before venturing into the wild beauty of Ranthambore National Park. Discover Jaipur's majestic Amber Fort and vibrant bazaars, then explore Bikaner's grand Junagarh Fort and enjoy a magical sundowner on the sand dunes. Continue to Jodhpur, the striking Blue City crowned by Mehrangarh Fort, before concluding in romantic Udaipur, where shimmering lakes and opulent palaces capture the timeless allure of Rajasthan's royal past.



#### The Indian Panorama

Beginning in Delhi, this is a spellbinding seven-day journey through India's cultural and spiritual heart. Discover Jaipur's magnificent Amber Fort and royal palaces before travelling to Ranthambore National Park. Explore the Mughal splendour of Fatehpur Sikri and Agra's timeless Taj Mahal, then wander through the tranquil town of Orchha and the exquisite temple complex of Khajuraho, famed for its intricate carvings. Conclude in the sacred city of Varanasi, witnessing the Ganga Aarti at dusk, a profound finale to an unforgettable journey.

NEW DELHI, DELHI

## The Leela Palace New Delhi

In the heart of New Delhi's diplomatic enclave, The Leela Palace is a grand statement of contemporary opulence, with sumptuous suites, acclaimed dining, a rooftop pool, wellness spa and flawless service – all wrapped in Indo-European elegance and quiet restraint.

### AT A GLANCE

Step into a palace of grandeur where spacious suites, crystal chandeliers and timeless elegance await in the heart of New Delhi

Dine like royalty at Jamavar, sip sake at MEGU, or toast to the skyline with fine wine at the glamorous rooftop Le Cirque

A convenient setting close to many of New Delhi's key landmarks makes it easy to move between the hotel and the city's highlights



UDAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

## The Leela Palace Udaipur

With its domes reflected in the waters of Lake Pichola, The Leela Palace Udaipur is a vision of contemporary majesty, offering lake-facing suites, bespoke butler service, fine Indian dining and holistic spa rituals.

### AT A GLANCE

Arrive in style by decorated boat, then soak in lake views from opulent rooms dripping in palace-inspired grandeur

Indulge in open-air spa rituals under a silk-draped tent, with the calm waters of Lake Pichola as your serene backdrop

Savour moonlit dinners at Sheesh Mahal, where candlelight, fine Indian cuisine and lake breezes create pure magic



JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN

## The Leela Palace Jaipur

Set against the Aravalli Hills, The Leela Palace Jaipur lies just beyond the city's bustle. Its domes, courtyards and marble halls reflect Rajasthan's royal heritage, offering a calm, meticulously detailed retreat steeped in craft and tradition.

### AT A GLANCE

Complimentary cycling and guided nature walks offer gentle ways to explore the estate's 11 acres, from landscaped gardens to tree-lined trails alive with birdlife

Dawn yoga on the Kanishka Bagh lawns or terrace offers a measured start to the day with guidance from trained gurus

Go for the starlit Jhilmil Sitaaron Ke Aangan Mein dinner if you want a quiet setting on the terrace or beside the pool



RANTHAMBORE, RAJASTHAN

## Six Senses Fort Barwara

Set within a restored 14th-century fort, Six Senses Fort Barwara blends regal Rajasthani heritage with contemporary luxury. Just two and a half hours from Jaipur, this serene sanctuary offers suites, palaces, a world-class spa and exceptional dining near Ranthambore National Park.

### AT A GLANCE

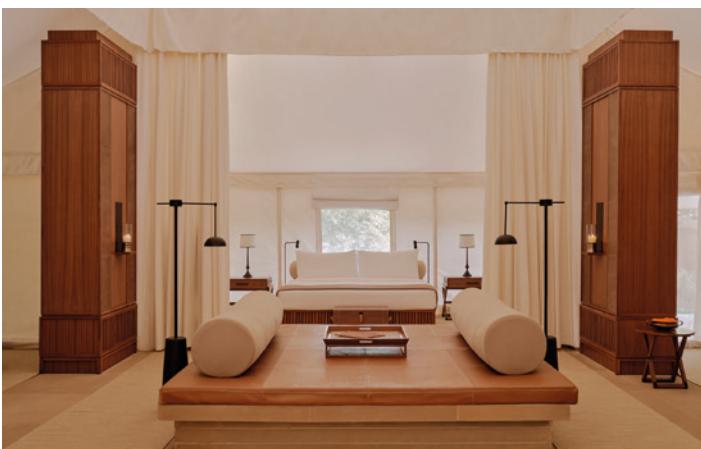
Dining centres on local, seasonal produce, from Indian dishes in The Cortile to Mediterranean flavours beside the pool at Rani Bagh

The Six Senses Spa draws on Ayurvedic principles with treatments, meditation and yoga, creating a calm counterpoint to days spent exploring Ranthambore

The fort walls encompass two palaces, two original temples, and 48 beautifully appointed suites with forest and village views

Visit between October and April for cooler days ideal for fort walks, village visits and safaris into Ranthambore National Park

Families are well catered for with Grow With Six Senses activities, a kids' pool, outdoor cinema, treasure hunts and family cookouts



JAWAI, RAJASTHAN

## SUJÁN Jawai

A Relais & Châteaux wilderness camp in rural Rajasthan, SUJÁN Jawai lies amid granite hills and wild plains where leopards roam. It combines refined comfort with purposeful conservation, offering rare immersion in nature and local culture.

### AT A GLANCE

Each of the ten luxury tents, including the Royal, Family and Eden Suites, combine elegant design with privacy and panoramic views

Framed by granite hills and the ancient Aravalli range, the camp sits where wildlife and village life have coexisted peacefully for centuries

Twice-daily wilderness drives reveal Jawai's rich biodiversity, including one of India's highest leopard densities and over 245 bird species

The lakeside SUJÁN Spa offers yoga, meditation and traditional therapies

Activities encompass safaris, horse rides, village walks and dinners beneath Rajasthan's expansive, starlit sky



ALWAR, RAJASTHAN

## Amanbagh

Tucked among the Aravalli Hills, Amanbagh is a lush, rose-hued oasis built on the grounds of a former Mughal hunting lodge, where domed pavilions, serene courtyards, Ayurvedic rituals and immersive cultural journeys offer a deeply restorative escape into rural Rajasthan.

### AT A GLANCE

Amongst a verdant oasis of palms, fruit trees and flowering shrubs, Amanbagh offers graceful haveli-style suites that echo Rajasthan's royal heritage

The landscape around Amanbagh is scattered with relics of Rajasthan's past, from Bhangarh and Ajagarh Fort to Neelkanth and the wilds of Sariska

Menus celebrate North Indian flavours, using produce from the resort's organic garden and recipes passed down through generations

Explore the Ayurvedic garden with a resident expert to discover the healing plants that inspire Amanbagh's cuisine and treatments

Begin the day with yoga at Pratapgarh Fort or unwind with the signature Maharaja or Maharani massage, curated by the resort's Ayurvedic physician

# Majestic Himalayas and Spiritual Ganges

Discover India's soaring peaks and spiritual heart



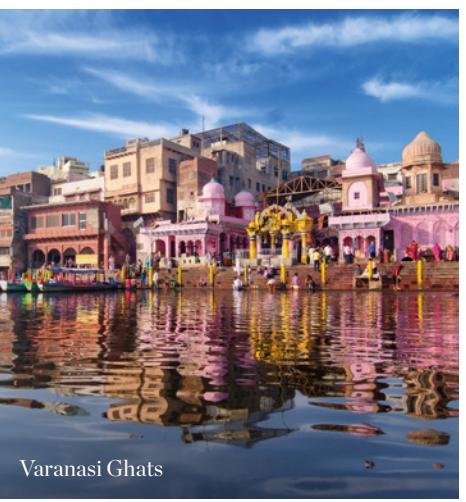
Ganga Aarti | Varanasi



Shimla



River Ganges | Rishikesh



Varanasi Ghats

In the foothills of the towering, snow-capped Himalayas lies a hidden side of India, where small traditional villages, deep wooded valleys and high, wide ridges afford spectacular views of Nanda Devi and other majestic mountain peaks.

## AMRITSAR

Home to the spectacular Golden Temple, one of India's most serene and humbling sights, Amritsar is abuzz with daily life. The old city, containing many historic sites, is a fascinating area to explore, with its network of narrow bazaars that seem to drift between the centuries. In the modern areas you will find gleaming malls and hotels, standing testament to the prosperity of the city.

## RISHIKESH

Considered by many as the 'Yoga Capital of the World', Rishikesh is one of India's seven Hindu holy cities and is home to all kinds of spiritual learning. Bisected by the mighty, fast-flowing Ganges, the city is surrounded by stunning scenery and forested hills, where the evening breeze blows down the valley, setting temple bells ringing in its wake.

## SHIMLA

Strung out along a 12-kilometre ridge, 2,000 metres above sea level, Shimla was once used as a cool summer retreat from the heat of the plains and still is today. Trails lead uphill through the forest towards the Jakhu Temple while maze-like alleys of the bazaar cascade downhill steeply towards the railway station, where vintage trains depart on wonderfully scenic journeys.

*"The Varanasi Ganga Aarti takes place every sunset. Be sure not to miss this ceremonial extravaganza, with large flaming lamps, rhythmic chants of hymns and the heady scent of sandalwood permeating the air."*



Golden Temple | Amritsar



RISHIKESH, UTTARAKHAND

## Ananda in the Himalayas

Ananda in the Himalayas is a destination spa retreat set within a former Maharaja's Palace Estate. Overlooking the Ganges valley, it offers restorative wellness rooted in India's ancient healing traditions.

### AT A GLANCE

Within 100 acres of palace gardens, forest and Himalayan foothills, Ananda offers a calm retreat close to Rishikesh, the spiritual heart of northern India

The retreat's programmes draw on Ayurveda, yoga and meditation, practised in their place of origin, with treatments guided by experienced Ayurvedic physicians and therapists

Guided treks follow forest paths once used by sadhus, leading to secluded viewpoints above the Ganges and quiet Himalayan villages

Accommodation sits within the palace estate and surrounding hillside, designed to reflect local architecture and the quiet rhythm of its natural setting

Meals centre on organic, seasonal produce, with menus tailored to individual Ayurvedic body types and crafted for both nourishment and balance



Wildflower Hall, An Oberoi Resort

### 13-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Spiritual India and the Mighty Himalaya

Experience India's rich tapestry of history, culture and scenery, from Delhi's vibrant cityscape to Varanasi's spiritual heart, Amritsar's Golden Temple, Dharamshala's Himalayan calm and Shimla's charm.

### DURATION

12 nights / 13 days

### SUMMARY

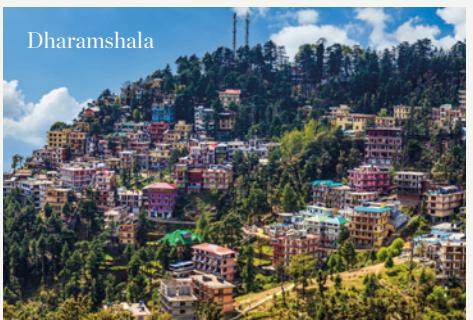
2 nights Delhi  
2 nights Varanasi  
3 nights Amritsar  
2 nights Dharamshala  
3 nights Shimla

### HIGHLIGHTS

A journey through Delhi, Varanasi, Amritsar, Dharamshala and Shimla offers a deep perspective on India's varied cultures

Evening Aarti on the Ganges in Varanasi is a profound moment, as the riverfront glows with lamps and ritual

The narrow-gauge train from Shimla to Taradevi passes through forested hills with striking Himalayan views



### DAY 1-2: DELHI

Arrive in India's capital for a two-night stay at The Leela Palace, New Delhi, located in the Diplomatic Enclave. Explore the contrasts of New and Old Delhi with your guide, from grand boulevards and historic landmarks to the vibrant markets and winding lanes of the old city.

### DAY 3-4: VARANASI

Fly to Varanasi for two nights at the Taj Nadesar Palace. Cruise the Ganges for the evening Aarti, return at dawn to witness riverside rituals, enjoy yoga and an Old City walk before visiting Sarnath, where Buddha delivered his first sermon.

### DAY 5-7: AMRITSAR

Travel via Delhi to Amritsar for a three-night stay at Taj Swarna. Discover the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine, by day, and return at night for the moving Palki Sahib Ceremony. Explore the Partition Museum, bazaars, sacred shrines, and sample local street food.

### DAY 8-9: DHARAMSHALA

Travel through scenic hills to Dharamshala for two nights at Brj Anayra, surrounded by tea gardens. Explore McLeod Ganj, visiting Namgyal Monastery, the Dalai Lama Temple and St. George's Church, with time to enjoy its tranquil atmosphere.

### DAY 10-13: SHIMLA

Fly to Chandigarh and continue to Shimla for three nights at Wildflower Hall, An Oberoi Resort. Ride the narrow-gauge railway to Taradevi and explore Shimla's highlights, with a leisure day for scenic walks, river rafting or relaxing in the Himalayan surroundings. On Day 13, return to the UK via Delhi.

# Enchanting East India

*Cultural grandeur, lush landscapes, and legendary teas*

East India offers wonderful architecture and a vibrant atmosphere that will make your journey a unique cultural experience unmatched elsewhere in the country. Between the southern Himalayas and the Bay of Bengal, you can expect stunning scenery, temples, traditional villages and meandering waterways.



Tea Plantations | Darjeeling

## KOLKATA

The former riverside capital of the British Raj, Kolkata retains an extraordinary wealth of dramatic architecture, from grand marble monuments to stately boulevards lined with fading yet dignified mansions. Its historic core still hints at the city's past, even as it continues to shape the political, artistic, and economic life of eastern India. Visitors are often captivated by the city's energetic daily rhythm, played out on streets alive with people, bustling markets, bookstalls and hand-pulled rickshaws weaving through the crowds.

Regarded nationwide as India's intellectual and cultural heart, Kolkata nurtures a vibrant artistic spirit, where dance, poetry, visual art, classical music, film and theatre flourish side by side. Its culinary scene is equally enticing: restaurants and traditional eateries invite you to sample the mild, fruity tang of Bengali cuisine, while the city's enduring passion for sweets is shared in every neighbourhood.



### SPOTLIGHT ON Glenburn Tea Estate

Overlooking snow-capped Kanchenjunga, the third-highest mountain in the world, Glenburn Tea Estate is a lovingly restored planter's bungalow near Darjeeling, where days unfold with tea tastings, forest walks, Himalayan views and the spirit of old-world luxury. Spread over two bungalows, eight suites boast gardens, verandas, terraces and in most cases, wonderful mountain views.

## DARJEELING

Spread in delicate ribbons across a steep Himalayan ridge, Darjeeling unfurls like a dreamscape, its slopes draped in emerald-green tea plantations that shimmer in the crisp mountain air. Jagged white peaks, most notably the majestic Kanchenjunga, rise behind drifting veils of cloud, creating a panorama that shifts with every hour of the day.

The town is a charming labyrinth of winding roads, narrow lanes and steep stairways, each turn revealing another breathtaking vista. Its legacy lives in a graceful blend of colonial architecture, old-world hill-station ambience and serene Buddhist monasteries where colourful prayer flags flutter softly in the breeze. Historic landmarks, cosy cafés and traditional markets add to the region's gentle rhythm, offering travellers a slower, more contemplative pace. Long cherished as a refuge from the summer heat of the plains, Darjeeling's unique climate has also made it world-renowned for the exceptional tea grown on these fertile high-altitude slopes, often celebrated as the 'Champagne of the East'.



Kanchenjunga overlooking Darjeeling



Kolkata



Victoria Memorial | Kolkata

The Darjeeling Toy Train with Kanchenjunga



The Glenburn Penthouse | Kolkata



#### 9-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## City Sights to Mountain Heights

Take the road less travelled on this captivating journey – from Kolkata, India's capital of culture, to the beauty of Darjeeling and its landscape of verdant tea plantations, Himalayan vistas and Buddhist monasteries.

#### DURATION

8 nights / 9 days

#### SUMMARY

3 nights Kolkata  
4 nights Darjeeling  
1 night Kolkata

#### HIGHLIGHTS

A guided walk through Kolkata's flower market and a private cruise on the Hooghly River provide vivid insights into daily life

Explore Darjeeling's tea heritage with tastings at a working estate and views stretching towards the Himalayan peaks

Visit during the tea harvest months of March to May or October to November to see the plantations at their most active

#### DAYS 1-3: KOLKATA

Your adventure begins with a three-night stay at The Glenburn Penthouse in Kolkata, a city celebrated for its rich cultural and political heritage. On your first full day, set out on an early morning guided walking tour along the River Hooghly, where you will see the city awakening and visit the vibrant flower market. Explore landmarks such as St. John's Church and the grand Victoria Memorial before boarding a private afternoon river cruise which offers an insight into life along the city's ghats. The following day includes visits to the ornate Jain Temple, the Marble Palace with its eclectic art collection, and Mother House, established by Mother Teresa, providing a deeper understanding of Kolkata's heritage and spiritual legacy.

#### DAYS 4-7: DARJEELING

Fly from Kolkata to Bagdogra and transfer by road to Glenburn Tea Estate, your base for four nights in the serene Darjeeling foothills of the Himalayas. The first afternoon is free to relax and enjoy the stunning surroundings. Over the next few days, you can tailor your time with a mix of relaxation and exploration. A guided visit to historic Darjeeling Town and a tour with tea tasting at the Estate and Factory are highlights. You can also choose to enjoy optional pursuits such as nature walks, fishing, guided hikes, or indulgent spa treatments. For a cultural experience perhaps take part in a cookery class to discover the distinct flavours of the region. With its blend of natural beauty and immersive activities, Glenburn offers a perfect balance of tranquillity and discovery.

#### DAYS 8-9: KOLKATA

Return to Bagdogra for your flight back to Kolkata, where you will spend your final night once more at The Glenburn Penthouse. The evening is at leisure to reflect on your journey and perhaps enjoy a final glimpse of the city. The following morning, after breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back home.



Suspension Bridge to Sikkim



Kolkata

# Wonderful West and Central India

From central jungles to Western shores



Contrasting and captivating, west and central India is a wonderfully diverse land of majestic mountains, sweeping sandy beaches, dense jungles and cosmopolitan cities. Such abundant natural beauty makes this part of India ideal for game drives that provide memorable wilderness experiences.



Khajuraho Temples

## MUMBAI

From the glamour of the city's hub and lively energy of the streets to the charm of cultural relics and ancient bazaars, Mumbai is a mélange of mayhem and order in equal measure. As India's financial powerhouse, the city is a centre for fashion, film and fun, where glistening skyscrapers rise beside iconic landmarks. With the finest restaurants in the country, chic bars alight with the stars of Bollywood and historic bastions including the iconic Gateway of India, Mumbai embodies India's contrasts.

## KHAJURaho

The carvings that swath the Khajuraho temples are among the finest examples of temple art in the world. From plinth to pillar, here 21 exquisite stone temples dating back to the 10th and 11th centuries are covered top to bottom with carvings that depict battles, heavenly nymphs, banquets, musicians and erotic figures.

## BANDHAvGARH

If it is the sight of a tiger you are hoping for, Bandhavgarh is the national park to visit. Though smaller in size, it offers some of the best opportunities for tiger sightings in India, boasting the highest density of these majestic cats in the country. Jeep safaris take you deep into the heart of the park's captivating landscape.



Dabbawala Delivering Lunch | Mumbai

*"From the stately Gateway of India in Mumbai, catch a ferry across the harbour to Elephanta Island, where a complex of Hindu temples offers wonderful views of the city's towering skyline."*



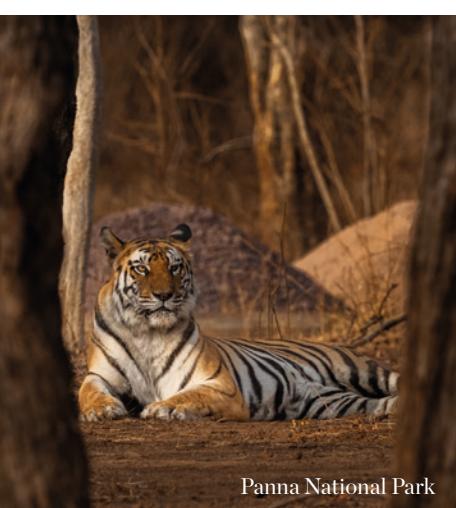
Arambol Beach | North Goa

## GOA

Unwind to the swaying palms and rhythms of Goa's irresistible charm. From weathered architecture to its vibrant east meets west cuisine, every corner of Goa bears the imprint of over 500 years of Portuguese influence. Few other parts of India boast the laid-back warmth that a day on a Goan beach provides, yet beyond its sun-kissed sands there is much to be explored – from lush spice plantations and colourful festivals to centuries-old churches and bustling markets that capture the soul of this captivating destination.

## KANHA

Believed to have inspired Kipling's 'Jungle Book', when it comes to tiger parks, Kanha is arguably the most famous. Spanning more than 900 square kilometres of lush sal forests, meadows and bamboo thickets, it shelters hundreds of species of birds. There are also 22 species of mammal, including elusive tigers and leopards, ensuring a memorable safari experience from morning to dusk.



Panna National Park

*“Goa may be the country’s smallest state, but its pocket-sized charms exert a powerful allure - think golden beaches, Portuguese influences and a laid-back culture found nowhere else in India.”*



BENALIM, GOA

## Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Goa

Set amid 56 acres of lush gardens on a pristine stretch of Goa's southwest coast, Taj Exotica Resort & Spa is a Mediterranean-style retreat offering elegant villas, family-friendly experiences, indulgent spa treatments and sunset views over the Arabian Sea.

### AT A GLANCE

Elegant Goan-Portuguese villas and suites stretch across verdant lawns, some with private balconies, plunge pools and garden views

Dine in style at four distinct restaurants, from beachside bites to fine Indian and global cuisine under the stars

The J Wellness Circle spa draws on Indian healing traditions for deeply restorative treatments

Experiences range from bread-making with local bakers to kayaking on the Zuari River and children's activities at the kids club

Set on 800 metres of remote white sand, the resort enjoys one of South Goa's most peaceful stretches of beach



MOBOR BEACH, GOA

## The St. Regis Goa Resort

With 75 acres of tropical gardens on South Goa's Mabor Beach, The St. Regis Goa Resort offers calm, space and attentive service. Elegant rooms, exceptional dining and serene pools create a refined retreat beside the Arabian Sea.

### AT A GLANCE

Rooms, suites and villas draw on Goan materials and craft, with marble bathrooms, private terraces and the signature St. Regis butler service

Six restaurants range from Italian and Pan-Asian to fresh local seafood, with private dining available in the resort's peaceful garden

The resort's 45-metre main pool, family pool and secluded Manor pool each offer a distinct setting for swimming or quiet rest

The Iridium Spa provides grounding Indian therapies and wellness rituals drawn from the region's healing traditions

Visit between November and March for the most comfortable climate and clear days ideal for exploring South Goa's coastline



#### 14-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Safari in Style

### DURATION

13 nights / 14 days

### SUMMARY

2 nights Mumbai  
3 nights Kanha National Park  
3 nights Bandhavgarh National Park  
3 nights Khajuraho  
2 nights Delhi

### HIGHLIGHTS

Bandhavgarh offers one of India's highest Bengal tiger densities, with excellent chances of memorable sightings

Visit Khajuraho's UNESCO-listed temples before exploring Panna National Park, home to tigers, leopards and gharials

Safaris in Kanha reveal a landscape of rolling hills and meadows, where sloth bears, tigers and the rare barasingha roam



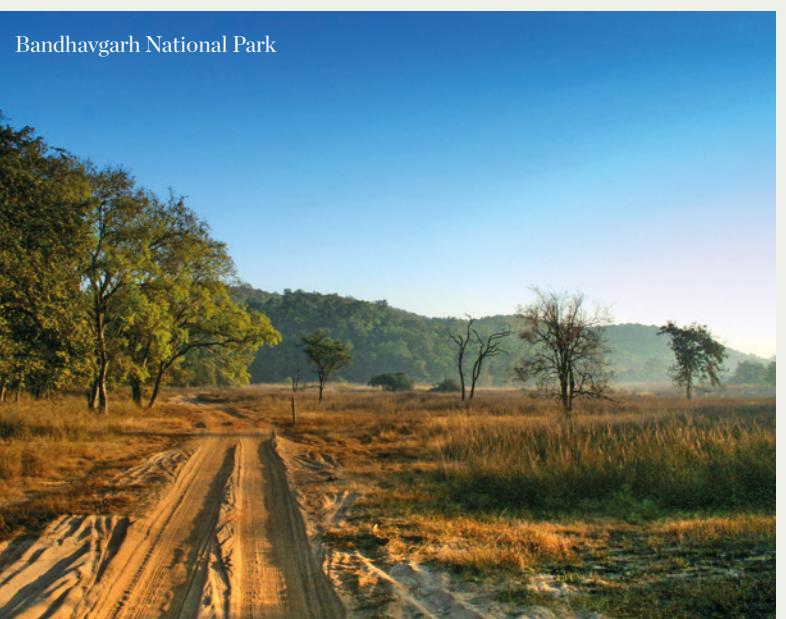
### DAYS 1-2: MUMBAI

Arrive in Mumbai and transfer to the iconic Taj Mahal Palace for a two-night stay. On your first full day, explore the city with a guide, visiting key landmarks such as Mani Bhavan, the Gateway of India and Dhobi Ghat, one of the world's largest open-air laundries. Perhaps take an optional excursion to Elephanta Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its intricate rock-cut sculptures on an island in the harbour.

### DAYS 3-5: KANHA NATIONAL PARK

Fly to Jabalpur and continue by road to Kanha National Park for a three-night stay at Banjaar Tola, A Taj Safari. Over the next two days, embark on morning and afternoon jeep safaris through a landscape of rolling hills, meadows and forests. Kanha is renowned for its rich biodiversity, with chances to see Bengal tigers, sloth bears and the rare barasingha (swamp deer).

Bandhavgarh National Park



Kanha National Park

### DAYS 6-8: BANDHAVGARH NATIONAL PARK

Travel by road to Bandhavgarh, one of India's most celebrated tiger reserves, and spend three nights at The Oberoi Vindhya Vilas Wildlife Resort. Bandhavgarh boasts one of the highest densities of Bengal tigers anywhere, offering excellent opportunities for sightings on morning and afternoon safaris. When not exploring the park, you can enjoy optional activities such as birdwatching, guided nature walks, or learning more about conservation during the lodge's expert-led tiger talks.

### DAYS 9-11: KHAJURAHO

Journey by road to Khajuraho, staying three nights at The Oberoi Rajgarh Palace, close to Panna National Park. Begin with a guided tour of the UNESCO-listed temples of Khajuraho, celebrated for their intricate carvings and distinctive Indo-Aryan architecture. The following day, enjoy jeep safaris in Panna National Park, where plateaus, river valleys and teak forests shelter tigers, leopards, sloth bears, gharials and an extraordinary variety of birdlife.

### DAYS 12-14: DELHI

Fly from Khajuraho to Delhi and transfer to The Leela Palace New Delhi, where you will spend two nights. Discover this area with your guide, visiting highlights such as India Gate, Humayun's Tomb and Lutyens' architectural landmarks. In the afternoon, continue to Old Delhi for a cycle rickshaw ride through bustling lanes, passing the Red Fort and the lively Chandni Chowk market. On your final day, transfer to Delhi Airport for your return flight to the UK, concluding an unforgettable journey through India's vibrant cities, wildlife sanctuaries and cultural treasures.

\*Kanha, Bandhavgarh and Panna National Parks are closed on Wednesdays afternoons.



### WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



#### The Taj Mahal Palace

An icon of Indian hospitality since 1903, The Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai pairs Moorish grandeur with contemporary elegance, offering sea-facing suites, acclaimed dining, a world-class spa and a storied location overlooking the Gateway of India.



#### Banjaar Tola, A Taj Safari

On the banks of the Banjaar River overlooking Kanha National Park, Banjaar Tola offers a refined safari experience with elegant tented suites, immersive game drives, locally inspired cuisine and a strong conservation ethos.



#### The Oberoi Vindhya Vilas

The Oberoi Vindhya Vilas Wildlife Resort sits within 21 acres of forest beside Bandhavgarh National Park. A tranquil base for exploration, it offers tented pavilions and villas designed in harmony with the surrounding wilderness.

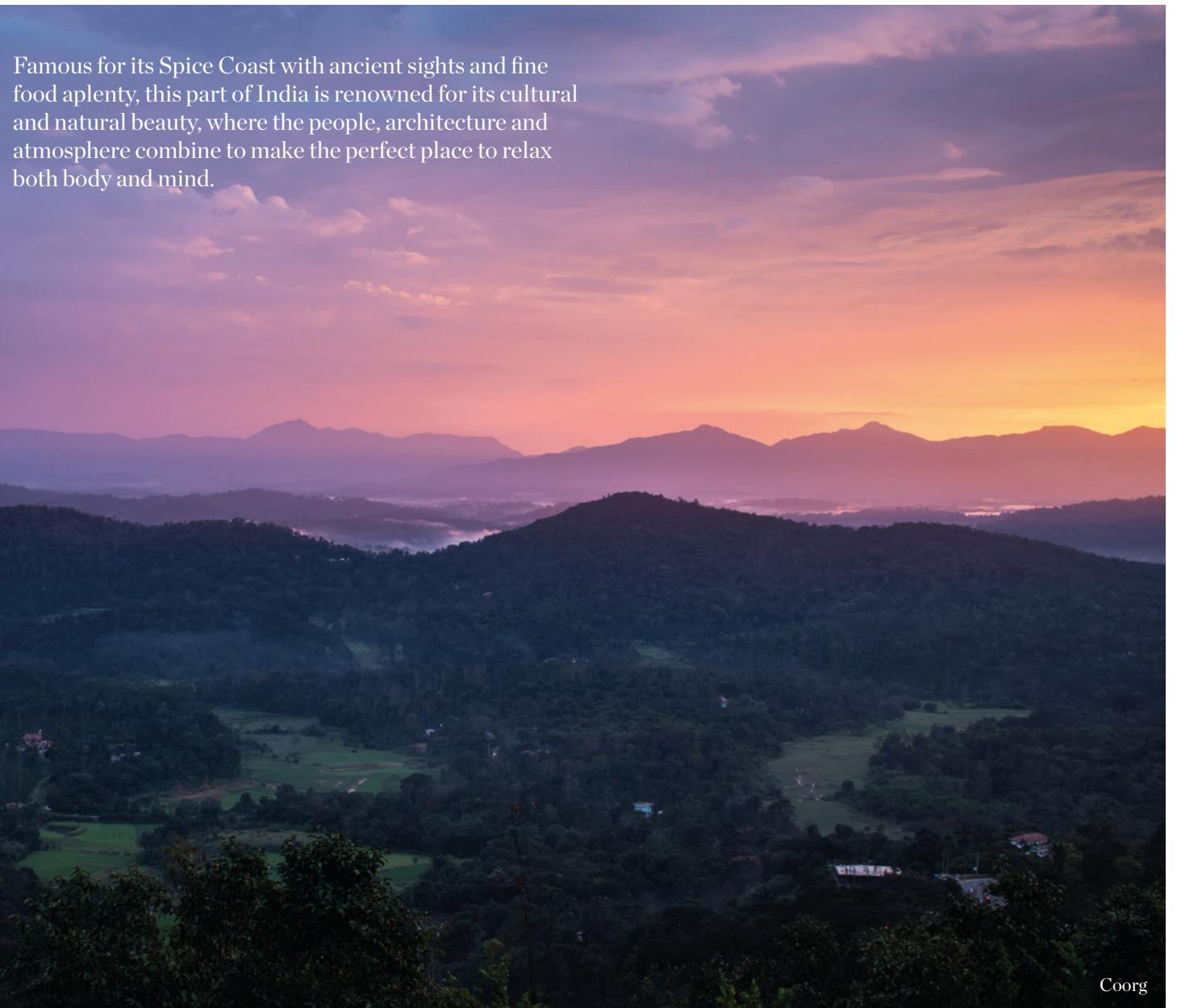


#### The Oberoi Rajgarh Palace

High on the Maniyagarh Hills looking towards Panna National Park, The Oberoi Rajgarh Palace near Khajuraho is a 350-year-old restored palace where heritage, tranquil landscapes and refined hospitality create a rare and deeply atmospheric retreat.

# Stunning South India & Kerala

*Spice-rich landscapes, radiant cities and the stillness of the backwaters*



Coorg



Vidhan Soudha | Bengaluru

## BEKAL

For sweeping beaches, the small town of Bekal in Kerala's far north is ideal. Alongside its comfortable resorts, the area still offers plenty of off-the-beaten-track adventures. Explore the serene backwaters, a network of shimmering waterways that weave through the region, perfect for leisurely cruises or stays aboard traditional houseboats.

## BENGALURU

One of the standout cities of the south, Bengaluru (formerly Bangalore) enjoys a gentle climate and a thriving social scene. Alongside its leafy parks and elegant Victorian landmarks, the city offers a glimpse of a rapidly modernising India. Today, Bengaluru rivals Mumbai in its reputation as one of the nation's most forward-looking urban centres.



## CHENNAI

It only takes a sunset stroll along Marina Beach to appreciate that Chennai, formerly Madras, is a thoroughly modern city, home to luxury hotels, chic boutiques, and a growing scene of stylish restaurants and bars. Yet you never have to venture far to encounter the deep heritage and enduring traditions of South Indian art, culture, and religion.

## COCHIN

For centuries, Cochin has been one of the key ports and trading hubs of India's southwest coast. Explore its cluster of islands, the old spice warehouses and the historic churches of Fort Cochin, an area that still reflects its rich colonial past. Evening boat cruises offer an ideal way to watch the iconic Chinese fishing nets silhouetted against the water.

## Chinese Fishing Nets | Cochin



*“Bold, fresh and full of flavour, food in Kerala tells a story with every bite.”*



Qutb Shahi Archaeological Park | Hyderabad

## COORG

A major centre for coffee and spice cultivation, Coorg is a rural tapestry of rolling hills and vivid green landscapes. Often called the 'Scotland of India' for its highland scenery and gentle, cool climate, it's ideal for rainforest treks or simply wandering along quiet, little-trodden paths.

## HYDERABAD

Also known as the 'City of Pearls', Hyderabad has enjoyed centuries of prosperity and cultural brilliance. Today the city is threaded with magnificent Islamic monuments, such as tombs, mosques and palaces that stand both ornate and timeworn. To the west, the rise of the tech district has ushered in a new sophistication, with fine dining, luxury hotels and stylish urban hotspots reflecting the city's modern confidence.

## PONDICHERRY

In this former French colony, you will find peaceful neighbourhoods with tree-lined, cobbled streets and graceful townhouses, contrasting with the livelier, more traditionally South Indian quarters nearby. Hotels, cafés and boutiques often carry a distinctly French touch, while just north of the city lies Auroville, an experimental international township inspired by the teachings of Sri Aurobindo.



Pondicherry



## 9-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

**Colours of Kerala**

Discover Kerala's timeless charm, from Cochin's heritage to the serene backwaters of Kumarakom and Mararikulam's golden beaches. Blending scenery and culture, this itinerary reveals India's most enchanting coastal landscapes.

## DURATION

8 nights / 9 days

## SUMMARY

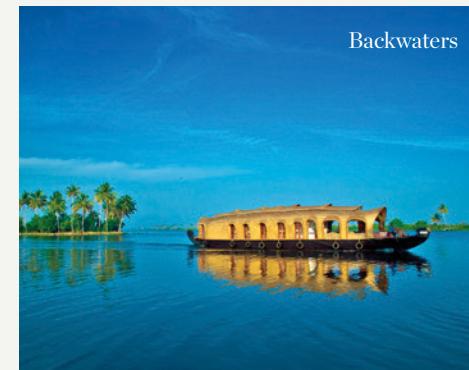
2 nights Cochin  
2 nights Kumarakom  
1 night Backwaters  
3 nights Mararikulam

## HIGHLIGHTS

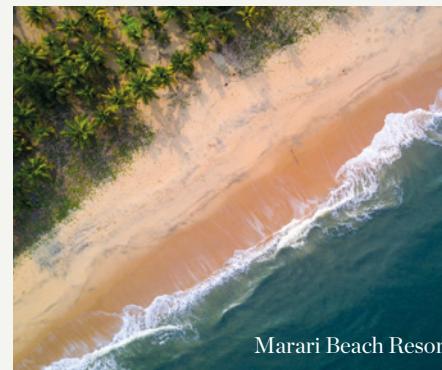
A walk through Fort Cochin reveals Chinese fishing nets, a centuries-old synagogue and streets steeped in history

Cruising overnight on a traditional houseboat offers an unhurried way to see the backwaters and savour regional cuisine

Mararikulam is a quiet stretch of the Malabar Coast, where palm groves meet wide beaches and the Arabian Sea



Backwaters



Marari Beach Resort

**DAYS 1-2: COCHIN**

Your journey begins in Cochin, Kerala's historic port city known as the 'Queen of the Arabian Sea'. You will spend two nights at Brunton Boatyard. On the first evening, enjoy a captivating Kathakali dance performance, renowned for its striking costumes and elaborate make-up. The following day is dedicated to exploring Cochin's rich cultural heritage with your guide. Wander through Fort Cochin, admire the famous Chinese fishing nets, visit the Jewish Synagogue, and soak in the city's cosmopolitan history.

**DAYS 3-4: KUMARAKOM**

Travel by road to Kumarakom, a serene village set on the banks of Lake Vembanad. Stay for two nights at Kumarakom Lake Resort, where you can relax by the waters or choose from optional activities such as cycling, canal cruises past lush paddy fields, or a visit to a nearby village.

**DAY 5: BACKWATERS**

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Kerala's famed backwaters aboard an authentic houseboat. Drift along palm-fringed waterways, savour freshly prepared local cuisine, and experience the timeless rhythm of life on the water. Your overnight stay onboard offers a unique perspective of this enchanting landscape.

**DAYS 6-9: MARARIKULAM**

Conclude your holiday with a relaxing stay at Marari Beach Resort on Kerala's golden Malabar Coast. Spend your days at leisure; indulge in Ayurvedic treatments, practise yoga, enjoy nature walks, cycle to the local village, or simply unwind by the pool, on the beach, or in a hammock shaded by coconut palms. After three blissful nights, return to Cochin for your onward flight to the UK.



## 11-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

**Rainforest, Rivers & Royalty**

The rich culture and warm hospitality of South India are encapsulated in this journey through the colourful region, taking in vibrant Bengaluru, Coorg's lush scenery, Bekal's beaches and Hyderabad's grandeur.

## DURATION

10 nights / 11 days

## SUMMARY

1 night Bengaluru  
3 nights Coorg  
3 nights Bekal  
3 nights Hyderabad

## HIGHLIGHTS

Explore Bengaluru's grand civic buildings, serene botanical gardens and finely preserved temples

In Coorg, stay amid mist-covered coffee estates and discover the landscapes of the Western Ghats

Discover Hyderabad's palaces, fortresses and bazaars, staying at the storied Taj Falaknuma Palace

**DAY 1: BENGALURU**

Stay for one night at Taj West End in Bengaluru, the vibrant capital of Karnataka, formerly known as Bangalore. Explore the city's highlights with your guide including Vidhan Soudha, Lalbagh Botanical Garden, home to over 1,800 plant species, the historic Bull Temple and Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace, a fine example of Indo-Islamic architecture built entirely of teak.

**DAYS 2-4: COORG**

Fly to Kannur for a three-night stay at Taj Madikeri Resort. Known as the 'Scotland of India', Coorg is a land of coffee plantations, lush forests, and cascading waterfalls. Spend your days at leisure or choose from a range of experiences: take a guided tour of the coffee and spice plantation, trek through Dubare Reserve Forest, or visit Abbey Falls, Raja's Seat, or Talakaveri, the sacred origin of the Kaveri River.

**DAYS 5-7: BEKAL**

Travel by road to Bekal, a tranquil coastal town in Kerala famed for its scenic backwaters and historic fort. Stay for three nights at the Taj Bekal Resort & Spa, beautifully set by the Arabian Sea. Relax on the beach, unwind at the spa, or explore nearby attractions. Visit imposing Bekal Fort, cruise along the backwaters on a traditional Kettuvallam houseboat, trek the lush Thonikadavu Estate or enjoy birdwatching along the coast. Watching a performance of Theyyam, a vibrant ritual dance unique to northern Kerala, is not to be missed.

**DAYS 8-11: HYDERABAD**

Fly to Hyderabad and stay for three nights at the opulent Taj Falaknuma Palace. Discover the city's Mughal grandeur and Deccani charm with guided visits to Chowmahalla Palace, Purani Haveli and the iconic Charminar. Explore Lad Bazaar's colourful lanes and the Salarjung Museum, one of India's finest, as well as Golconda Fort and the Qutb Shahi Tombs. On Day 11 you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home.



Kote Abbe Falls | Coorg



Taj Bekal Resort &amp; Spa



17-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Gateway to the South

DURATION

16 nights / 17 days

SUMMARY

3 nights Chennai  
2 nights Pondicherry  
2 nights Kumbakonam  
1 night Chettinad  
1 night Madurai  
2 nights Periyar  
2 nights Kumarakom  
1 night Backwaters  
2 nights Cochin

HIGHLIGHTS

Chennai's highlights include the Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram and the nearby sacred temple city of Kanchipuram

Pondicherry reveals its Gallic influences in the elegant French Quarter, with landmarks such as the Sri Aurobindo Ashram nearby

At Madurai's Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple, evening prayers unfold in a vivid display of ritual, music and movement

Lush and tropical, southern India enchants with cultural wonders and local life. From guided city tours and temple visits to cruising backwaters, French Pondicherry, spice-laden Periyar and warm encounters, this journey brims with discovery and charm.

DAYS 1-3: CHENNAI

Your journey begins in Chennai, India's fourth largest city, with a three-night stay at The Leela Palace Chennai. On your first afternoon, explore Chennai's history with a visit to Fort St. George and the colourful Kapaleeshwar Temple. The following day is devoted to Mahabalipuram, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its ancient rock-cut architecture, including the Shore Temple overlooking the Bay of Bengal. On Day 3, visit Kanchipuram, the 'city of a thousand temples', for an insight into South India's sacred architecture.

DAYS 4-5: PONDICHERRY

From Chennai, you will be transferred to Pondicherry, once a French settlement, staying at Palais de Mahé for two nights. With your guide, explore the city's blend of Indian and European influences, including the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Governor's House, and enjoy a leisurely stroll through the atmospheric French Quarter. With its pastel-coloured houses and café culture, Pondicherry offers a slower pace. The rest of your time is free to enjoy activities such as a guided food trail or cycling the boulevards on a vintage bicycle.

DAYS 6-7: KUMBAKONAM

Travelling south, you will stop at Gangaikonda Cholapuram, one of India's most striking temple complexes, before arriving in Kumbakonam to stay at Mantra Koodam for two nights. On Day 7, you will explore nearby Tanjore, home to the magnificent Brahadeeswarar Temple, a masterpiece of Chola architecture, and Darasuram, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its intricately carved stonework.



Brahadeeswarar Temple | Tanjore



Periyar National Park



Vembanad Lake



Cochin

DAY 8: CHETTINAD

En route to Chettinad, visit Tiruchirappalli and the vast Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple. Chettinad is a cluster of around 75 villages famed for grand mansions, local crafts, and a distinctive cuisine. Stay at Visalam in Kanadukathan, a restored heritage property, offering an authentic experience of rural Tamil Nadu.

DAY 9: MADURAI

A guided morning tour introduces you to Chettinad's heritage before travelling to Madurai for an overnight stay at Gateway Madurai. In the evening, you will visit the magnificent Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple, one of India's most spectacular sacred complexes, and witness its vibrant night ceremony.

DAYS 10-11: PERIYAR

After exploring Madurai's fragrant flower market, continue to Periyar in central Kerala for two nights at Spice Village. Perhaps enjoy an optional excursion on Periyar Lake, where wildlife such as elephants, gaur, and sambar gather along the shores.

DAYS 12-13: KUMARAKOM

Set on the tranquil Vembanad Lake, stay for two nights at Kumarakom Lake Resort. A perfect place to simply relax or perhaps venture further into the countryside by bicycle or visit the nearby village.

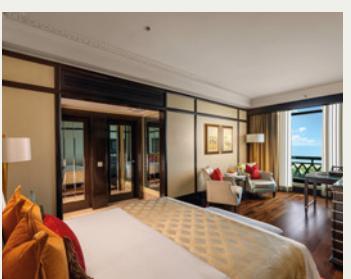
DAY 14: BACKWATERS

A Keralan highlight, board an authentic houseboat for an overnight journey through the backwaters. As the boat meanders along palm-lined waterways, enjoy freshly prepared local cuisine and the unhurried rhythm of life on the water.

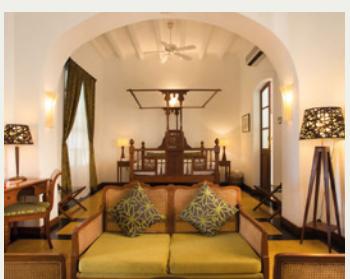
DAYS 15-17: COCHIN

Your final stop is Cochin, Kerala's cosmopolitan port city, where you will stay for two nights at Brunton Boatyard. On your first evening, experience a Kathakali dance performance, an iconic art form of Kerala. The next day, explore Cochin's rich cultural tapestry: marvel at the Chinese fishing nets, visit the historic Jewish Synagogue, and stroll through the streets of Fort Cochin. On Day 17, transfer to the airport for your return flight, concluding this memorable South India journey.

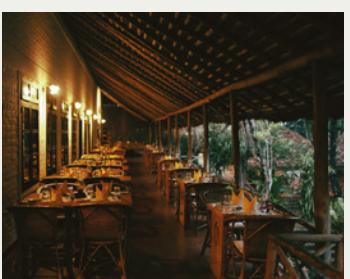
WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



The Leela Palace Chennai



Palais de Mahé



Spice Village



Kumarakom Lake Resort



# SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka is an island of astonishing contrasts, rich in history, culture and natural beauty, where splendours range from ancient cities and golden beaches to emerald tea plantations, timeless temple ruins and wonderful wildlife.

Few places offer the variety found in Sri Lanka. The island's vibrant culture and layered history of Portuguese, Dutch and British influences, are reflected in its architecture, customs and cuisine. North of the capital, Colombo, the island's famous Cultural Triangle stretches between the ancient former capitals of Anuradhapura to the north, Polonnaruwa to the east and Kandy to the south. Between them lie the revered cave temples of Dambulla and the 5th-century rock fortress of Sigiriya, widely regarded as one of Sri Lanka's most extraordinary sights.

In the central hills, cool-climate tea estates and old-world railways wind through verdant landscapes. Wildlife enthusiasts may encounter elephants and leopards in Yala, Udawalawe and other national parks, while the south coast tempts with palm-fringed beaches, iconic stilt fishermen and Galle's UNESCO-listed fort, one of eight World Heritage sites found throughout the country.

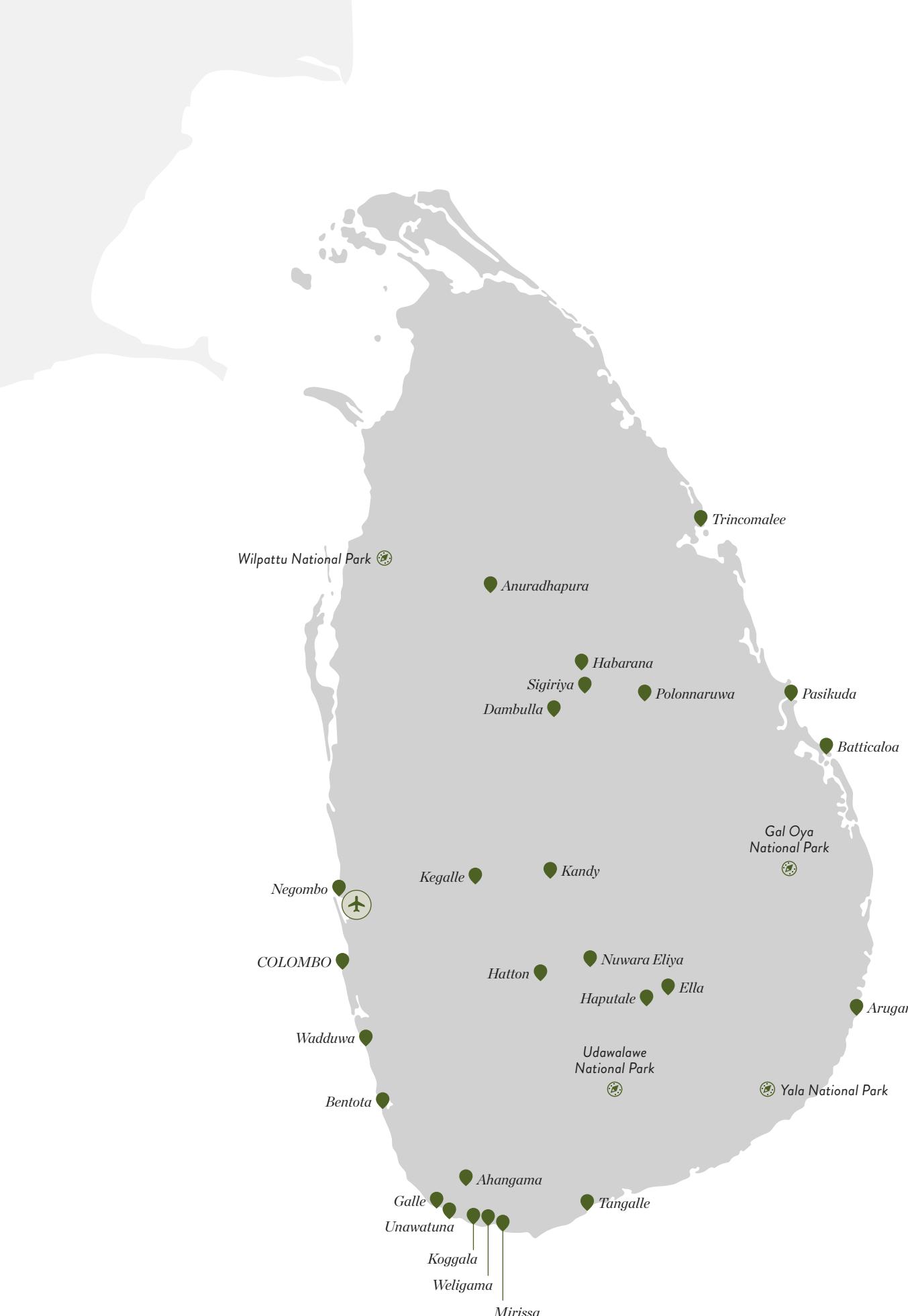


## WHEN TO VISIT

Enjoying sunshine throughout much of the year, Sri Lanka is a year-round destination. Generally, the best time to visit is from November to March, when the weather is at its driest, with cooler mornings and evenings and warm, sunny days. The most popular time to visit the Cultural Triangle is between April and September, although it is predominantly dry and suitable to visit at any time of year. The island experiences two monsoon seasons, one in the southwest and central hills, which falls from May to September, and the other in the northeast between November and February.

## IDEAL FOR

Adventure, Beach, Culture, Families, History, Nature, Sustainability, Touring, Wildlife



SRI LANKA

# Hotel Directory

From Sri Lankan-owned brands such as Uga Resorts and Resplendent Ceylon to tea-estate villas, remote safari camps and luxury retreats, we're delighted to showcase Sri Lanka's best hotels. Please visit our website to view the full portfolio.

## COLOMBO & THE SOUTH COAST

### COLOMBO

Galle Face Hotel  
Ishq Colombo  
Paradise Road Tintagel Colombo  
Shangri-La Colombo

### GALLE

Amangalla  
Fort Bazaar  
Galle Fort Hotel  
The Fortress Resort & Spa

### NEGOMBO

Uga Riva  
Wallawwa

### SOUTH COAST

Aditya  
Ahu Bay  
Amanwella  
Anantara Kalutara Resort  
Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle Resort  
Cape Weligama

Kayaam Wellness  
KK Beach  
Malabar Hill  
Rock Villa Bentota  
Taru Villas Mawella  
Uga Prava

## HILL COUNTRY

### ELLA

Nine Skies

### HAPUTALE

Thotalagala

### KANDY

Adigar's Manor  
Ellerton Bungalow  
Kings Pavilion  
Santani Wellness Kandy  
W15 Hanthana Estate

### HATTON

Camellia Hills  
Ceylon Tea Trails  
Uga Halloowella

### NUWARA ELIYA

Goatfell  
Stafford Estate Bungalow

**KEGALLE**  
Rosyth Estate House

## SAFARI

### GAL OYA NATIONAL PARK

Gal Oya Lodge

### WILPATTU NATIONAL PARK

Leopard Trails Wilpattu

### YALA NATIONAL PARK

Leopard Trails Yala  
The Warden's House  
Uga Chena Huts  
Wild Coast Tented Lodge

## THE CULTURAL TRIANGLE

### ANURADHAPURA

Uga Ulagalla

### HABARANA

Taru Villas Maia

### SIGIRIYA

Jetwing Vil Uyana  
Water Garden Sigiriya

## THE EAST COAST

### PASIKUDA

Uga Bay

### TRINCOMALEE

Uga Jungle Beach

# Featured Regions

*A resplendent isle of temples, tea and untamed beauty*



Nine Arches Bridge | Ella

At just 432 kilometres long and 224 kilometres wide, Sri Lanka may be small in size, but it is vast in beauty. Explore the Cultural Triangle's timeless treasures, journey through misty tea country by train, unwind along palm-fringed coasts and absorb the uniquely Sri Lankan way of life.

## COLOMBO AND THE SOUTH COAST

The south coast dazzles with golden beaches, palm groves and the island's best seaside energy, complemented by Colombo's cosmopolitan buzz and Galle's UNESCO-listed fort. Colombo blends markets, gardens and eclectic architecture along with a sweeping waterfront. To the south lie rice paddies, palms and long stretches of sand. Bentota and Hikkaduwa offer luxury stays between Colombo and Galle. Galle enchants with cobbled streets and Dutch ramparts; Weligama suits beginner surfers, while tranquil Tangalle is known for its quieter beaches which are seasonally important for nesting turtles. Dondra Lighthouse marks the island's southern tip.

## HILL COUNTRY

Sri Lanka's Hill Country casts a spell with mist-wrapped mountains, tea plantations and echoes of a bygone era. Cool air, green valleys and quiet charm define the region. Nuwara Eliya, once a British retreat, retains its rose gardens and old-world feel, while Ella offers sweeping views and the famed Nine Arches Bridge. Train journeys here are unforgettable, passing terraced fields, waterfalls and cloud forests. Stay in historic bungalows or boutique lodges on working tea estates, sampling fine Ceylon tea. Outdoor adventures range from hiking Horton Plains and the World's End escarpment to trekking in the Knuckles Range or climbing Adam's Peak at dawn.

## THE CULTURAL TRIANGLE

Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle spans Anuradhapura in the north, Polonnaruwa in the east and Kandy in the south, encompassing the island's most iconic ancient sites, including Sigiriya and Dambulla. Anuradhapura, the first capital, thrived for over a millennium from the 4th century BC. Its vast dagobas and sacred Bodhi tree – believed to be a cutting from the tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment – make it a major pilgrimage centre.

To the east, Polonnaruwa emerged in the 11th century, renowned for its graceful reclining Buddhas. Kandy, the final royal capital, remains the island's cultural heart, home to the Temple of the Tooth and serene lakeside scenery. At the Triangle's centre rises Sigiriya, a towering rock fortress crowned by palace ruins. Nearby, Dambulla's cave temples shelter more than 150 Buddha statues and vivid murals.

*"Just an hour and a half from Colombo by air, the crystal waters and serene resorts of the Maldives provide the perfect complement to a Sri Lankan journey."*



## SAFARI

Small yet rich in wildlife, Sri Lanka offers superb safaris. Yala is the most famous national park, home to elephants, sloth bears, crocodiles and one of the world's densest leopard populations. Wilpattu's lake-dotted wilderness shelters leopards, boar and elephants, while Minneriya and Kaudulla draw vast elephant gatherings during the dry season as well as abundant birdlife.

## THE EAST COAST

Quieter and more soulful, the east coast centres on Trincomalee, with its natural harbour, Fort Frederick and hilltop Kali Kovil Temple. Nearby Uppuveli and Nilaveli offer calm beaches and snorkelling at Pigeon Island. Further south, Batticaloa mixes lagoon views with layered history, while Arugam Bay's legendary waves attract surfers from around the world.



Arugam Bay

Sri Dalada Maligawa | Kandy



Tea Plantations | Hatton



#### 15-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Sights of Ceylon

### DURATION

14 nights / 15 days

### SUMMARY

1 night Negombo  
3 nights Anuradhapura  
2 nights Kandy  
2 nights Hatton  
2 nights Yala  
4 nights Weligama

### HIGHLIGHTS

Early morning in Sigiriya provides the clearest light for exploring the 5th-century rock fortress and its far-reaching views across the plains

The train journey from Kandy to Hatton is one of Sri Lanka's most scenic routes, running through highland tea estates, waterfalls and mountain passes

Yala's varied habitats support leopard, elephant, sloth bear and significant birdlife, best explored on guided drives with trained naturalists

Sri Lanka's variety reveals itself throughout this journey, offering a clear sense of how much this small island holds. Highland scenery gives way to tea country, then to lowland forests and long stretches of southern coast. Along the route, you will encounter ancient sites, local traditions and some of the island's most notable wildlife on safari.

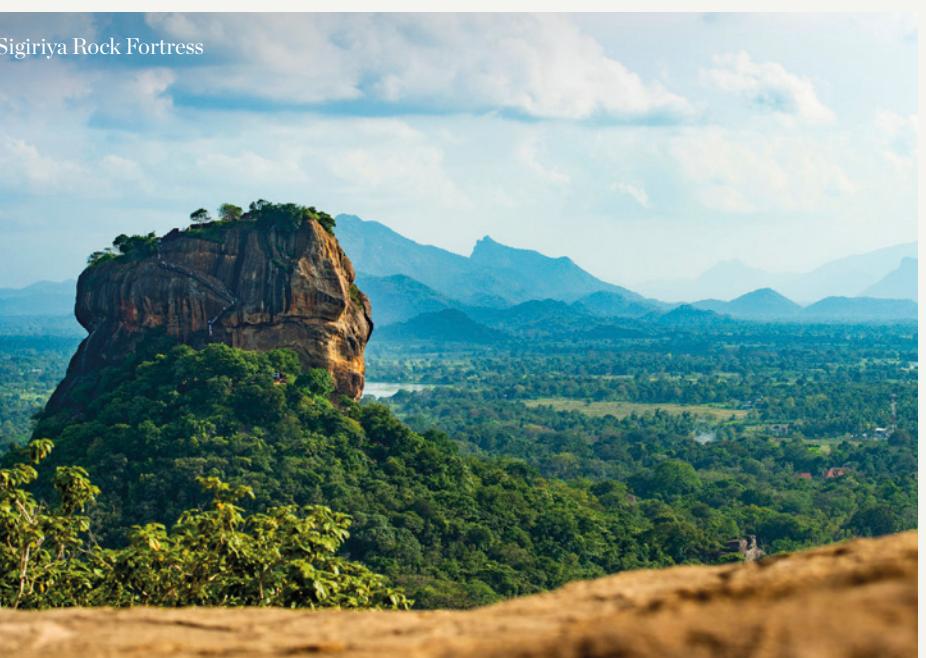
### DAY 1: NEGOMBO

You will be met on arrival at Colombo Bandaranaike Airport and transferred to Wallawwa near Negombo for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure to enjoy the hotel, a boutique retreat set within lush tropical gardens with a serene pool.

### DAY 2-4: ANURADHAPURA

Travel through coconut estates and rural villages to the Cultural Triangle, Sri Lanka's ancient heartland, where you will spend three nights at Uga Ulugalla, an expansive estate with pool villas set amid gardens and rice fields. Day 3 begins with an early visit to Sigiriya Rock Fortress, rising dramatically from the plains. Explore its formal gardens before ascending to discover the sweeping views from King Kasypa's 5th-century citadel. In the evening, experience the spiritual calm of Anuradhapura by night. A further day at Ulugalla allows time to explore by bicycle, kayak, or horseback. The Nachaduwa sunset discovery drive also offers a glimpse into rural life, passing lakes, paddy fields and forests where monkeys, buffalo and wild elephant may be spotted.

### Sigiriya Rock Fortress



Yala National Park



Weligama Beach



Tuk Tuks | Kandy

### DAYS 5-6: KANDY

Travel south to the Dambulla Cave Temples, famed for their Buddha statues, before visiting a private spice garden where cinnamon, pepper and vanilla flourish. Continue to Kandy, the last kingdom of the Sinhalese, for a two-night stay at Kings Pavilion. The next morning, explore local markets with a guide before joining the guide's family for an authentic cookery experience. Later, visit Lankathilake Vihare, a fresco-adorned temple set on a rocky outcrop.

### DAYS 7-8: HATTON

Take a scenic train journey through misty hill country from Kandy to Hatton, one of Sri Lanka's great travel experiences. Blue mountains, cascading waterfalls and velvety tea estates unfold as the train winds towards Hatton. During your two-night stay at Ceylon Tea Trails, take time to explore the estate's trails on foot or by mountain bike, indulge at the spa, take a guided tour of the working plantation and tea factory or simply absorb the sweeping views of the Bogawantala Valley.

### DAYS 9-10: YALA

Descend from the hills towards Sri Lanka's southeast coast. Your base for the next two nights is Wild Coast Tented Lodge, a breathtaking safari camp that blends seamlessly into the dunes. Embark on evening and morning safaris at nearby Yala National Park, renowned for its high leopard density. Elephants, sloth bears, crocodiles and a remarkable variety of birdlife inhabit its diverse landscapes of forest, grassland and lagoon.

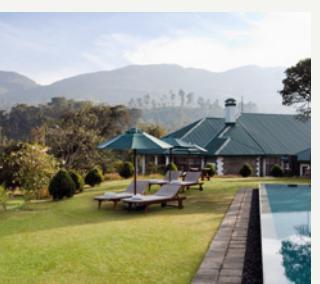
### DAYS 11-15: WELIGAMA

After a final early-morning safari, travel west to Malabar Hill, a boutique gem located on a forested ridge with sweeping views. During your four-night stay, visit Galle for a guided walk through its UNESCO-listed fort, passing Dutch villas, ramparts and cobbled lanes rich in history. Optional activities include whale watching in Mirissa, cinnamon experiences, or surf lessons on nearby Weligama's waves. On Day 15, transfer to the airport for your flight home, completing your Sri Lankan journey.

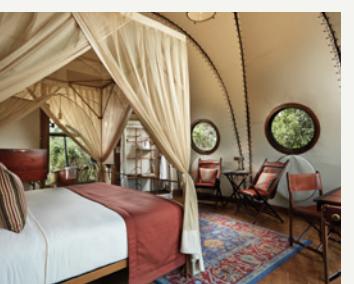
### WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



Kings Pavilion



Ceylon Tea Trails



Wild Coast Tented Lodge



Malabar Hill

Set above Kandy among misty hills and forest, Kings Pavilion offers a quiet base shaped by Kandyan heritage. Its nine spacious rooms, views and proximity to nearby temples create a well-placed retreat in the hill country.

Amid Sri Lanka's verdant Central Highlands, Ceylon Tea Trails is the country's first Relais & Châteaux property and offers a unique collection of lovingly restored period bungalows, along with polished butler service, gourmet cuisine and sweeping lake and tea estate views.

Where the untamed jungle meets the edge of the Indian Ocean, Wild Coast Tented Lodge offers a sublime blend of wilderness, design and indulgence. Adjacent to Yala National Park, this Relais & Châteaux hideaway redefines the luxury safari experience in Sri Lanka.



Negombo

#### 11-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Sri Lanka in Style: A Journey from Sacred Cities to Secluded Shores

### DURATION

10 nights / 11 days

### SUMMARY

1 night Negombo  
2 nights Wilpattu  
3 nights Anuradhapura  
3 nights Pasikuda  
1 night Negombo

### HIGHLIGHTS

Early wildlife drives in Wilpattu may offer sightings of leopard, sloth bear and wetland birdlife around the park's distinctive villus

Pasikuda's long, shallow bay suits relaxed swimming, with easy access to Kalkudah Beach and quiet corners along the eastern coastline

Family days work well here, with short transfers, flexible activities and resorts that offer space for children to unwind between excursions

This 11-day family-friendly journey balances relaxation, cultural heritage and wildlife adventure. It begins and ends at the peaceful Wallawwa, travels to Wilpattu for safari experiences, then continues to the Cultural Triangle to explore its historic cities and sacred sites. The final days unfold on the calm eastern coast at Pasikuda. Thoughtfully chosen stays and well-paced excursions create time for families to rest, explore and truly absorb the spirit of Sri Lanka.

### DAY 1: NEGOMBO

Your Sri Lankan journey begins with a warm welcome at Bandaranaike International Airport. Here, you'll meet your dedicated guide, who will accompany you throughout your adventure. A short transfer brings you to Wallawwa, a gracious manor enveloped in lush tropical gardens.

### DAYS 2-3: WILPATTU

After breakfast, venture north into Sri Lanka's wilderness as you make your way to Wilpattu National Park, the country's largest and one of its most scenically captivating reserves. Your home for the next two nights is Leopard Trails Wilpattu, an elegant tented safari camp. In the afternoon, set out on your first shared 4x4 safari. Wilpattu is famed for its mysterious network of 'villus'—natural lakes that attract an extraordinary diversity of wildlife. Your expert ranger will guide you through untamed forests and open plains in the hope of observing Sri Lanka's most iconic inhabitants, from deer, sloth bears, and crocodiles to the majestic leopard. Day 3 begins with a morning safari, when the park is at its most active, followed by leisure time back at camp, including the Junior Ranger programme tailored for younger guests.



Leopard | Wilpattu National Park

### DAYS 4-6: ANURADHAPURA

Depart for the island's ancient cultural heart. Your base here is Uga Ulagalla, a luxurious eco-retreat set within a historic 58-acre estate of paddy fields, woodland, and lakes. As dusk approaches, join a local expert for a twilight exploration of Anuradhapura, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities. Day 5 begins before sunrise with a guided ascent of Sigiriya, the legendary 'Lion Rock'. Return to Ulagalla for an afternoon at leisure: family-friendly activities include kayaking, cycling, nature walks and horse riding. During your stay, you will also enjoy a 4x4 sunset safari through the Nachaduwa region. This off-the-beaten-path journey winds through rural villages and forests, offering potential sightings of elephants, buffalo, and vibrant birdlife.

### DAYS 7-9: PASIKUDA

Travel east on Day 7 to the tranquil shores of Pasikuda, where the waters are known for being some of the calmest and clearest in Sri Lanka. You will stay at Uga Bay for three nights, with plenty of time to relax. Pasikuda's long, shallow bay is ideal for swimming or paddleboarding. Optional excursions include exploring neighbouring Kalkudah Beach, cruising the serene Batticaloa Lagoon, or discovering local history at the Batticaloa Dutch Fort.

### DAYS 10-11: NEGOMBO

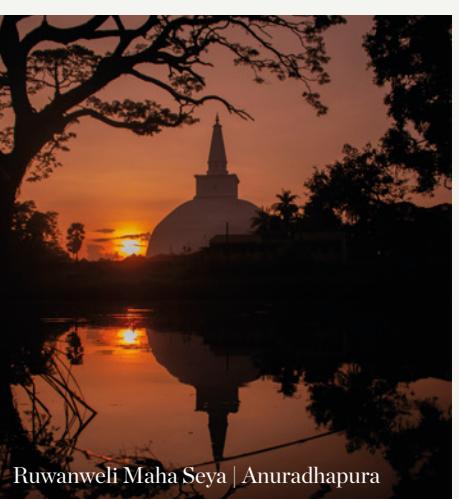
After breakfast, journey back toward the west coast for a final night at Wallawwa. Its tranquil gardens, shaded courtyards, and refined dining offer a peaceful close to your travels. On Day 11, you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



Pasikuda Bay



Sigiriya Rock Fortress

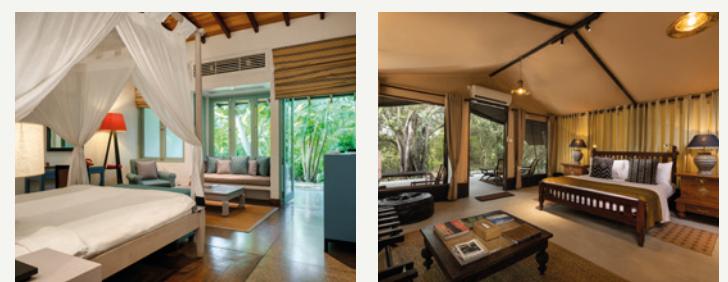


Ruwanweli Maha Seya | Anuradhapura

### WHERE TO STAY - OUR SUGGESTIONS



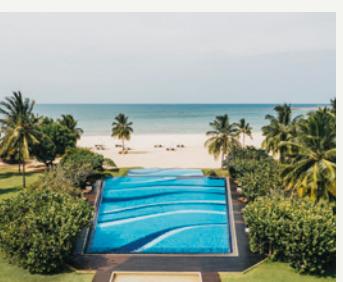
Wallawwa



Leopard Trails Wilpattu



Uga Ulagalla



Uga Bay

Ease into or out of your Sri Lankan holiday in style at Wallawwa, an 18-room boutique retreat set in tropical gardens, just 20 minutes from the international airport.

Leopard Trails Wilpattu sits beside forest pools and quiet tracks, offering expert guiding and well-designed canvas tents for couples and families exploring Sri Lanka's largest national park, known for its populations of leopards, sloth bears and crocodiles.

A mix of luxurious and eco-conscious villas set in 58 acres of manicured gardens and lush paddy fields, Uga Ulagalla makes a wonderful base for exploring the ancient city of Anuradhapura, the capital of Sri Lanka for more than 1,300 years.



Tea Plantations | Haputale

#### 11-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Hilltops, Heritage and History

Sri Lanka's most evocative landscapes unfold on this boutique journey, from Kandy's temple-studded hills and Haputale's mist-veiled tea country to Galle's storied cobbled streets and Bentota's languid shores.

#### DURATION

10 nights / 11 days

#### SUMMARY

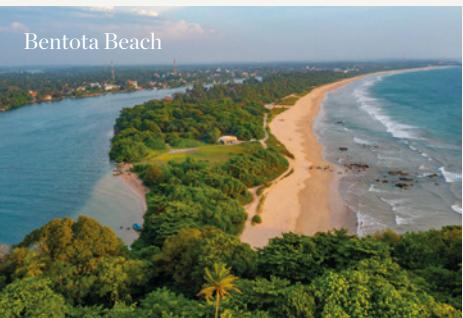
2 nights Kandy  
3 nights Haputale  
2 nights Galle  
3 nights Bentota

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Walk Stage 1 of the Pekoe Trail from Hanthana to Galaha, passing through working tea estates and quiet hill villages

Bentota's coast is defined by wide beaches, gentle surf and riverside gardens, with easy access to Bawa's architectural landmarks

Explore the UNESCO-listed Galle Fort with a local historian, uncovering stories behind its ramparts, warehouses and 17th-century architecture



#### DAYS 1-2: KANDY

You will be welcomed by your guide at Colombo Airport and transferred to Kandy, the spiritual and cultural heart of Sri Lanka. Stay for two nights at W15 Hanthana Estate, a restored period bungalow set amid tea plantations and misty hills. On Day 2, embark on Stage 1 of the Pekoe Trail from Hanthana to Galaha, a scenic hike through historic tea country. The afternoon is free for relaxation in the beautiful gardens, or for optional activities such as cycling, birdwatching, temple visits, cookery classes, or a vintage Land Rover tour.

#### DAYS 3-5: HAPUTALE

Travel into Sri Lanka's verdant hill country to Thotagala, a beautifully restored planter's residence overlooking 4,000 hectares of tea, where you will spend the next three nights. During your stay you will be taken by tuk tuk for a dawn hike to Lipton's Seat, one of the island's most breathtaking viewpoints, with views across emerald hills and tea estates. You will also visit the Dambatenne Tea Factory, founded by Sir Thomas Lipton in 1890, to see the full tea-making process and sample world-famous Ceylon tea. Afternoons are at leisure to relax amid the tranquil hills.

#### DAYS 6-7: GALLE

Continue your journey to the southern coast for a two-night stay at Galle Fort Hotel, a historic gem within the UNESCO-listed Galle Fort. Spend time exploring boutiques, cafés, and ramparts overlooking the Indian Ocean. In the afternoon, join a private walking tour of Galle Fort with a local historian to uncover centuries of heritage and stories.

#### DAYS 8-11: BENTOTA

Continue along the coast to Rock Villa, Bentota, a serene 14-room retreat set within two acres of tropical gardens, where you will stay for three nights. Visit Geoffrey Bawa's Lunuganga Estate, a masterpiece of landscape architecture. For the remainder of your stay, choose to relax by the beach or explore the area further with optional excursions to Brief Gardens or a boat ride along the Madu River. On Day 11, your driver will transfer you back to Colombo Airport.

#### WELIGAMA, SRI LANKA

## Cape Weligama

Perched on a dramatic clifftop above the Indian Ocean, Cape Weligama is a Relais & Châteaux retreat where elegant villas and suites sit amid lush gardens, complemented by infinity pools, curated excursions and gourmet dining showcasing Sri Lankan coastal luxury.

#### AT A GLANCE

The iconic crescent-shaped Moon Pool makes the most of the resort's elevated position with stunning ocean views

Tea and sundowners at the Society reflect Ceylon's heritage, with a Dilmah High Tea that includes fine tea varieties and light savouries each afternoon

Cove Club offers a calm swimming bay, relaxed beach games and a quiet setting for fresh coastal dishes with long ocean views



#### TANGALLE, SRI LANKA

## Kayaam Wellness

Kayaam Wellness sits on a quiet stretch of Tangalle's south coast, a nine-room retreat shaped around Ayurveda, open sea views and unhurried routines. With a focused wellness programme and a coastal setting, it offers a measured, restorative stay.

#### AT A GLANCE

The Sanctuary Spa follows traditional methods using local herbs, with four treatment rooms, a steam bed, sauna and steam room

Seasonal Sri Lankan cooking forms the basis of the meals, served flexibly and, where appropriate, guided by Ayurvedic recommendations from the resident doctor

Activities include guided yoga and trips to Rekawa Lagoon, Mulkirigala and the area's wide, quiet beaches



#### AHUNGALLA, SRI LANKA

## Ahu Bay

Ahu Bay sits on Sri Lanka's south coast with a calm beach-house feel and thoughtful service. Its laid-back setting encourages unhurried days shaped by the ocean, nearby villages and the area's distinctive natural life.

#### AT A GLANCE

Three private villas look out across the ocean, each designed for quiet rest, with balconies or plunge pools

Local cuisine reflects seasonal produce and the varied skills of the culinary team, who shape nourishing dishes rooted in Sri Lankan tradition

The Sanctuary Spa draws on natural ingredients and time-honoured healing practices, offering treatments inspired by the ocean and local herbs





#### 8-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

## Coastal Stays to Safari Days

This journey traces Sri Lanka's southern coast and heartlands in style. Discover golden beaches, diverse wildlife and rich heritage, with each destination offering a distinct glimpse into the island's character and beauty.

#### DURATION

7 nights / 8 days

#### SUMMARY

3 nights Tangalle  
2 nights Yala  
1 night Galle  
1 night Colombo

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Safaris in Yala may offer sightings of elephants, crocodiles and leopards amid forest and lagoon scenery

Mawella Bay near Tangalle is known for its tranquil curve of sand, calm waters and understated coastal character

Join a Colombo city walk to learn about the capital's history and modern street life through a local guide's eyes.

#### DAYS 1-3: TANGALLE

Your guide will greet you at the airport before beginning your journey to Sri Lanka's southern coast. In Tangalle, spend three nights at Taru Villas Mawella, where verdant gardens meet golden sands. Enjoy time at leisure, relaxing on the beach or exploring the local area. Tangalle offers a wealth of experiences, from surfing and diving to visiting the rock temples of Mulkirigala or browsing the lively local markets. One of Sri Lanka's natural wonders, the Hummanaya Blow Hole, is also nearby.

#### DAYS 4-5: YALA

Journey inland to Yala, Sri Lanka's most celebrated national park. Stay for two nights at The Warden's House, a boutique retreat close to Block 5, a lesser-travelled area of the park with abundant birdlife. On morning and evening safaris in a private 4x4, guided by an expert naturalist, discover the park's diverse landscapes of scrubland, forest and lagoon, home to elephants, crocodiles, sloth bears and leopards.

#### DAY 6: GALLE

After a final early-morning game drive, travel west to the fortified coastal city of Galle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where you will stay overnight at Fort Bazaar. Join a local guide for a private walking tour of Galle Fort, learning about the city's vibrant history while wandering through narrow cobble streets lined with cafés, boutiques and storied buildings.

#### DAYS 7-8: COLOMBO

Continue to Colombo, Sri Lanka's bustling capital, staying overnight at Ishq Colombo, a beautiful boutique villa in the heart of the city. Enjoy an evening guided walk with a local historian through the old fort and Pettah market, pausing for tea and local street delicacies along the way. The following day, transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



Sloth Bear | Yala National Park



Lotus Tower | Colombo

#### HATTON, SRI LANKA

## Uga Halloowella

Tucked high in Sri Lanka's tea country, Uga Halloowella is a lovingly restored historic bungalow overlooking the Castlereagh Reservoir, where heritage, luxury and serene beauty converge for an all-inclusive escape.

#### AT A GLANCE

The all-inclusive plan covers a tea factory tour, curated tastings and a traditional afternoon tea that reflects the estate's heritage

Guided hikes, cycling routes and kayaking on Castlereagh offer relaxed ways to explore the surrounding area

Six suites bring together period detail and modern comforts, with four poster beds, fireplaces and thoughtful touches



#### YALA, SRI LANKA

## Uga Chena Huts

Bordering Yala National Park and the Indian Ocean, Uga Chena Huts offers a rare blend of wilderness and luxury. With just 18 thatched pavilions featuring private plunge pools, fine dining and guided safaris, it is a secluded, all-inclusive escape for adventurous couples or families.



#### AT A GLANCE

Detached, climate-controlled cabins sit quietly amid the trees, each with a private pool, spacious living area and shaded deck

Safari into Yala National Park with experienced rangers to spot elephants, sloth bears and the world's highest density of leopards

Dining on the raised beachside platform features fresh fish curries and coconut sambals alongside familiar European dishes



#### TRINCOMALEE, SRI LANKA

## Uga Jungle Beach

On Sri Lanka's quiet north eastern coast, Uga Jungle Beach sits between mangroves and a near-deserted shore, offering castaway-style cabins, generally reliable swimming conditions and easy access to Trincomalee's waters, wildlife and historic sites.

#### AT A GLANCE

A quiet stretch of Kuchchaveli Beach offers tranquil sands and seasonal swimming on this beautiful stretch of coastline

Dolphin and whale sightings, along with snorkelling and diving around Trincomalee, make the coastline a natural hub for time on the water

Dining lies between lagoon and beach, reached by teak walkways, with a light menu shaped by contemporary international and Asian influences

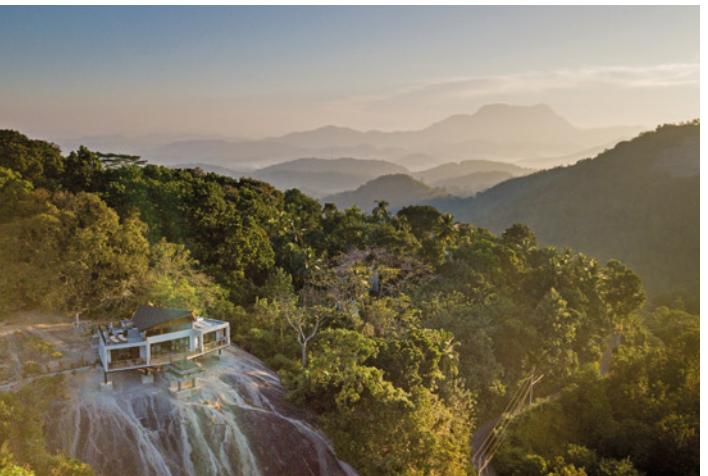


ELLA, SRI LANKA  
**Nine Skies**

Set above Demodera Railway Station near Ella, Nine Skies is a century-old tea estate bungalow reimagined as a five-bedroom boutique hotel, offering quiet views of Sri Lanka's highland slopes and thoughtful comfort throughout.

KEGALLE, SRI LANKA  
**Rosyth Estate House**

Tucked into a private tea and rubber estate in Sri Lanka's hill country, Rosyth Estate House is a refined plantation retreat. With just 11 elegant rooms and suites, farm-to-table dining, a soothing spa and curated cultural experiences, it offers soulful, secluded luxury.



KOGGALA, SRI LANKA  
**The Fortress Resort & Spa**

Located beside Koggala Beach, The Fortress Resort & Spa is a contemporary coastal hotel shaped by fort-like walls, tranquil gardens and attentive service. It offers direct ocean views, thoughtfully designed facilities and easy access to Galle and the wider south coast.



TANGALLE, SRI LANKA  
**Anantara Peace Haven  
Tangalle Resort**

On a secluded, coconut-fringed cliff above the Indian Ocean, Anantara Peace Haven Tangalle blends barefoot luxury with refined elegance. With private villas, an Ayurvedic spa, immersive local experiences and oceanfront dining, it offers a sanctuary for discerning travellers.



SIGIRIYA, SRI LANKA  
**Water Garden Sigiriya**

Water Garden's spacious, free-standing villas are set either astride or beside interlinking pools crafted from former rice paddies. All offer stunning views of the surrounding water gardens or, in the case of the higher room categories, of the ancient Sigiriya rock fortress, just a 20-minute drive away.

TANGALLE, SRI LANKA  
**Amanwella**

Amanwella is a sleek beachfront sanctuary of modernist pavilions and swaying palms, located on a crescent of golden sand near Tangalle. With private pools, ocean-facing terraces and signature Aman serenity, it is the epitome of understated coastal luxury.



COLOMBO, SRI LANKA  
**Galle Face Hotel**

An icon of historic elegance, the Galle Face Hotel overlooks the Indian Ocean from its prime seafront location in Colombo. With grand suites, timeless architecture, heritage dining and a saltwater pool, it offers old-world charm with modern-day amenities.



GALLE, SRI LANKA  
**Amangalla**

Housed in a 17th-century Dutch colonial building within Galle Fort, Amangalla is a serene blend of heritage and Aman refinement. With antique-filled suites, a tranquil spa and atmospheric dining, it offers a graceful gateway to Sri Lanka's southern coast.

# BHUTAN



Welcome to the 'Land of the Thunder Dragon', where natural landscapes are untouched and ancient culture is cherished. Sheltered from the rest of the world, high up in a nook of the Himalayas, the Kingdom of Bhutan holds many mysteries to travellers, slowly revealing its unique identity.

This is a country where forest-filled valleys give way to mountain peaks that soar so high they seem to form the roof of the world - where the rice is red and chillies are a main ingredient, not just a seasoning. Vast mountainsides are crowned with imposing fortress monasteries, where colourful prayer flags can be seen fluttering in the wind and where pilgrims flock to be part of vibrant festivals.

The undulating terrain also makes Bhutan a wonderful destination for adventure, including trekking, mountain biking and fishing. While naturally majestic, much of Bhutan's charm owes itself to a population whose pride, Buddhist faith and values rooted in tradition have combined to create a national character unlike anywhere else in the world. This, after all, is a country where development is measured not in economic growth but in Gross National Happiness, a term first coined by Bhutan's Dragon King in 1972.



Tiger's Nest | Paro

## WHEN TO VISIT

Bhutan is a year-round destination, with the most popular times to visit falling between March to May and October to November, when rainfall is low and the weather is at its most pleasant. Spring brings mild temperatures and blooming wildflowers across the valleys, while the winter months offer clear blue skies, crisp air and occasional snowfall, especially at higher elevations.

## IDEAL FOR

Adventure, Culture, Nature, Sustainability, Touring, Wildlife

# Hotel Directory

Bhutan offers a collection of boutique lodges defined by handcrafted design, thoughtful service and a deep connection to their surroundings. Below is our current portfolio of recommended hotels, correct at the time of going to press. For the most up-to-date list, please visit our website.

## BUMTHANG

Amankora Bumthang  
Six Senses Bumthang

## GANGETY

Amankora Gangtey  
Gangtey Lodge  
Six Senses Gangtey

## PARO

Amankora Paro  
COMO Uma Paro  
Six Senses Paro

## THIMPHU

Amankora Thimphu  
Pemako Thimphu  
Six Senses Thimphu

## PUNAKHA

Amankora Punakha  
AndBeyond Punakha River Lodge  
COMO Uma Punakha  
Six Senses Punakha



# Featured Regions

*Sacred peaks, fluttering prayer flags, and timeless traditions*

Tucked within the eastern Himalayas, Bhutan is a kingdom of forested valleys, snow-dusted peaks and deeply rooted traditions. Discover fortress monasteries strung with prayer flags, trails that wind through rice terraces and a way of life guided by harmony and happiness.



## BUMTHANG

Bumthang offers a captivating blend of ancient temples, lush green valleys and artisan charm. Revered as the birthplace of Buddhism in Bhutan, it is a richly storied region that rewards discerning travellers with depth, beauty and understated luxury.

## GANGETY

Perched nearly 10,000 feet above sea level, the Phobjikha Valley – also known as Gangtey Valley – is a rare Himalayan treasure: a pristine glacial valley where mist drapes over pine forests, black-necked cranes circle ancient monasteries and nature, culture and serenity reign supreme.

## PARO

Paro is Bhutan's most picturesque valley, where mountain air, ancient temples and timeless traditions converge. Home to the iconic Tiger's Nest Monastery and the country's only international airport, it provides the perfect start to any Himalayan journey.

## PUNAKHA

Occupying a beautiful riverside setting within a fertile valley of rolling plains, Punakha is Bhutan at its most serenely captivating. At the town's centre is the imposing Punakha Dzong, a 17th-century fortress-monastery at the confluence of the Pho Chhu and Mo Chhu rivers, often described as the most beautiful in the kingdom.

## THIMPHU

Thimphu, Bhutan's quietly captivating capital, blends Himalayan tradition with understated luxury. Set in a sweeping valley flanked by forested hills, it offers peaceful monasteries, elegant lodges and a rich cultural rhythm untouched by the modern rush.



## 12-DAY TAILOR-MADE GUIDED ITINERARY

**Bhutan in Style****DURATION**

11 nights / 12 days

**SUMMARY**

2 nights Thimphu  
 2 nights Punakha  
 2 nights Gangtey  
 2 nights Bumthang  
 3 nights Paro

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Explore Bhutan's capital, Thimphu, with visits to Buddha Dordenma, colourful markets, craft studios and a local brewery known for its small batch ales.

Walk scenic routes such as the Gangtey Nature Trail and the Taktsang path, where fluttering prayer flags and wide valley views form part of the journey.

Meet monks, artisans and families through activities such as butter lamp lighting, farm lunches and monastery visits, adding context to Bhutanese traditions.

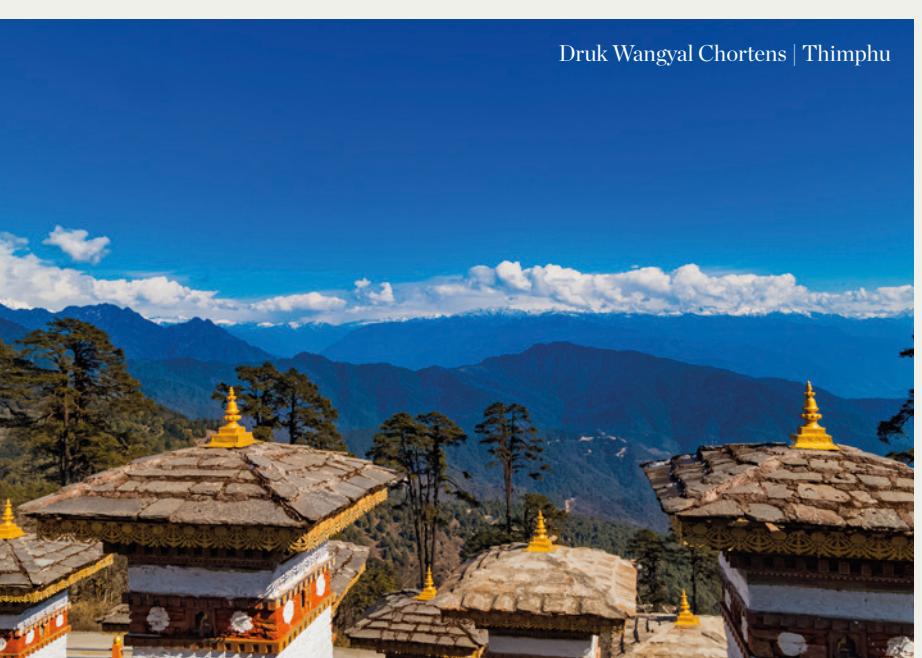
Discover the Land of the Thunder Dragon on a journey taking in Thimphu, Punakha, Gangtey, Bumthang and Paro. From sacred monasteries to sweeping valleys, this itinerary blends culture, nature and wellness for an immersive exploration of Bhutan's most captivating regions.

**DAYS 1-2: THIMPHU**

Arrive in Paro, where your guide welcomes you with a traditional khadar scarf before your transfer by scenic drive to the capital city, Thimphu, for a two-night stay at Six Senses Thimphu. Enjoy a relaxed evening with a Bhutanese thought leader, offering insight into the country's culture and traditions. The next morning begins with outdoor yoga at Buddha Dordenma, followed by a visit to the Choki Traditional Arts School to observe students practising crafts. Spend the afternoon exploring Thimphu at leisure, perhaps visiting the Memorial Chorten, art galleries or local boutiques.

**DAYS 3-4: PUNAKHA**

Travel to Punakha, stopping at Dochula Pass to admire its 108 chortens and mountain views, where you will spend two nights at andBeyond Punakha River Lodge, an ideal location for riverside sundowners. Your time in Punakha includes a gentle walk through rice fields to Chimi Lhakhang, the famed fertility temple, as well as a visit to a monastic school, where you may join the monks for butter lamp lighting and a short prayer session. A visit to Punakha Dzong, one of Bhutan's most significant fortresses, is a highlight.

**Druk Wangyal Chortens | Thimphu**

Masked Dancer | Paro

**DAYS 5-6: GANGTEY**

Day 5 starts with a hike to Khamsum Yulley Namgyel Temple, set on a scenic ridge above the Punakha Valley, before continuing to the picturesque Phobjikha Valley for a two-night stay at Amankora Gangtey. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure and a traditional hot stone bath in the evening. The next day starts at Gangtey Goemba, a 17th-century monastery and landmark of the valley. From here join the nature trail, a gentle walk through meadows, forests and villages. You will also visit the Black-necked Crane Centre to learn about Bhutan's cherished migratory birds, which visit the valley each winter.

**DAYS 7-8: BUMTHANG**

Travel via Trongsa and visit its historic watchtower museum before continuing to the spiritual heartland of Bumthang for a two-night stay at Six Senses Bumthang. Visit Wangdicholing Palace and the Burning Lake as well as Ogyencholing Palace. Here you will meet the family caretakers and enjoy a farm-to-table lunch. Later, visit a brewery for a tasting of their local craft beer.



Outdoor Dining | Amankora Gangtey



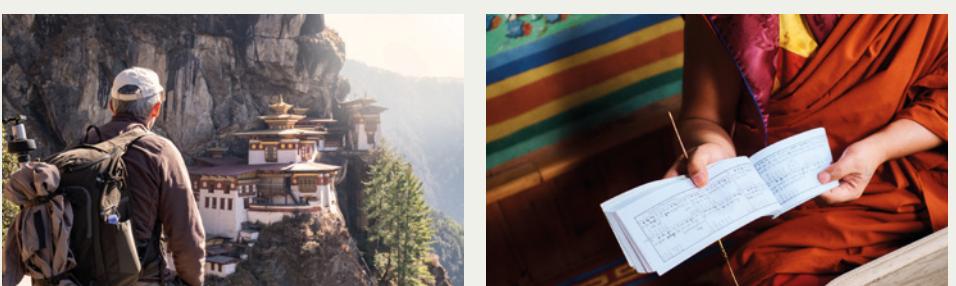
The Hike to Tiger's Nest | Paro

**DAYS 9-12: PARO**

After breakfast, take a scenic domestic flight to Paro for a three-night stay at Amankora Paro. During your time here, you will visit a local farm for a Bhutanese lunch and tree planting as well as visiting a monastery for a guided mandala completion and release ceremony. A highlight on Day 11 is the hike to Taktsang (Tiger's Nest), Bhutan's iconic clifftop monastery. After your descent, unwind with a hot stone bath and lunch before a relaxed exploration of Paro. Enjoy a final evening with dinner accompanied by traditional folk and mask dances. On Day 12, transfer to Paro Airport for your onward flight.

**ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCES - OUR SUGGESTIONS**

Tiger's Nest Hike



Astrology Reading

Hike through lush pine forests passing prayer flags, stupas and meditation caves on your way to Taktsang Monastery, the iconic Tiger's Nest, perched on a sheer cliff above the Paro Valley. Explore the sacred monastery and listen to the chanting of monks at prayer before descending with your guide, all the while enjoying spectacular mountain views.



Monastic School Visit

Astrology plays a highly important role in Bhutan, woven into daily life, religion and even state affairs. Gain insight into your own life's path through a traditional Bhutanese astrology session. Conducted by a learned Tsip (astrologer), the ancient practice uses your birth details to offer guidance on health, relationships and spiritual wellbeing.

Visit a monastic school in Punakha and spend time with the young monks, learning about their daily routines, studies and spiritual practices. Participate in the lighting of butter lamps, a symbolic act bringing wisdom and peace. Engage in gentle conversation, or join the monks in prayer to experience their discipline and devotion first-hand.

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