

Highlights of India

**Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Cochin,
Periyar, Kumarakom, and Mumbai**

21 Days

February 28 – March 20, 2010

Access China Tours[®]

Small Group and Private Fine Touring in China & Asia

Itinerary Summary

FEB 28 **DEPART USA** ➔

Fly from a North American gateway city on a flight to Delhi, India

MAR 01 **ARRIVAL DELHI**

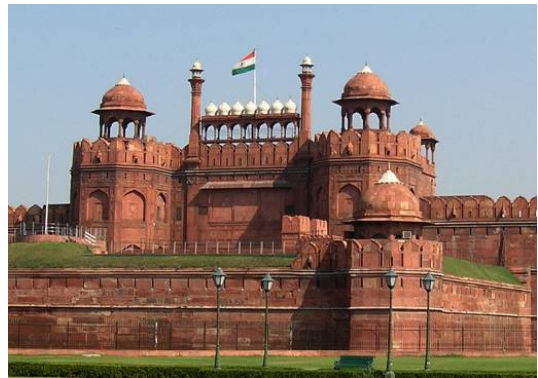
Assistance upon arrival at Delhi Airport followed by transfer to hotel. Check into the hotel and balance of the day is for your relaxation..

MAR 02 **DELHI**

After breakfast tour briefing by ACT ground service staff followed by full day city tour of Old & New Delhi. In addition to its Historic interest and role as the Government center, Delhi is a major travel gateway. It is one of India's busiest entrance points for overseas airlines, the hub of the North Indian travel network and a stop on the overland route across Asia. Places to visit are

- *Red Fort*
- *Raj Ghat*
- *Jama Masjid*
- *Qutub Minar*
- *Humayun's Tomb*
- *India Gate*
- *Drive past government building lining Jan Path*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>



MAR 03 **DELHI / SIKANDRA / AGRA**

After breakfast, drive to Agra (127 miles; driving time - 4 & ½ hrs).

- *En route visit Sikandra, the Tomb of Mughal Emperor of Akbar.*

After visit, continue drive to Agra. Agra is famous as being home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World-the Taj Mahal. On arrival, check into the hotel. Later, have a half day city tour of Agra. Places to visit include:

- *The Red Fort*
- *Itmad-ul-daulah*

Rest of the evening is at leisure. Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 04 **AGRA / FATEHPUR SIKRI / JAIPUR**

Get up early today and start exploration.

- *Early morning visit The Monument of Love – Taj Mahal*

After the visit, return back to the hotel to have your breakfast. After breakfast, drive to Jaipur (Agra to Fatehpur Sikri: 25 miles; driving time - 45 min).



- *En route visit Fatehpur Sikri, "the Ghost City" which lies west of Agra.*

From here continue drive to Jaipur (Fatehpur Sikri to Jaipur: 135 miles; driving time - 4 hrs & 45 min). On arrival check into the hotel.

- *Evening is spent exploring the city by visiting the local market with car & driver only.*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 05 JAIPUR

Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, takes its name from Maharaja Jai Singh, who in the early 1700s became the king of Amber at the age of 13. He soon added architecture and astronomy to his credentials. He designed the bulk of his new capital, with its exquisite buildings of rose colored terra cotta, thus giving it the name of "the pink city" with pink and orange the dominant colors, the effect is magic at dusk.

- *After breakfast drive to Amber Fort. Enjoy an elephant ride while going up the fort.*

In the afternoon, have a half day city tour of Jaipur. Places to visit include:

- *City Palace*
- *Jantar Mantar*
- *Hawa Mahal (From out side only)*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>



MAR 06 JAIPUR / BIKANER

After breakfast commence drive to Bikaner (198 miles; driving time - 5 to 6 hrs). Upon arrival, check in to the hotel. In the afternoon visits of Bikaner. Places of visit are:

- *Junagarh Fort*
- *Camel Breeding farm*
- *Karni Mata Temple*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>



MAR 07 BIKANER / JAISALMER

After breakfast Commence drive to Jaisalmer (205 miles; driving time - 5 to 6 hrs), "island in the sand", as it is also known. Lying at the extreme edge of Rajasthan, Jaisalmer is a tiny jewel in the heart of the Thar, the Great Indian Desert. This medieval city rises in a sea of sand on a low range of hills surrounded by a stone wall three miles around- a towering vision in delicate yellow hue-only infrequently broken by green oasis. Upon arrival, check into hotel.

- *Evening explore around this magnificent fort city.*



Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 08 JAISALMER

After breakfast commence half day city tour of Jaisalmer. Places to visit include

- *Gadisagar Lake*
- *Jaisalmer Fort which has numerous Jain Temples and Palaces*
- *Nathmal Haveli*
- *Patwa Haveli*

Afternoon is at leisure.

- *Evening drive to Sam, 30 minutes out of Jaisalmer, to witness the magnificent sunset of the mighty dunes.*
- *Enjoy a camel ride in the dunes.*

Return to hotel for overnight. <B-L>



MAR 09 JAISALMER / JODHPUR

After breakfast drive to Jodhpur (180 miles; driving time - 5 & ½ hrs), once the capital of the State Marwar. Jodhpur is built tumbling down a low sandstone hill, right on the edge of the great Thar Desert. On arrival, check into the hotel. Later, have a half day city tour of Jodhpur. Places to visit include

- *Mehrangarh Fort*
- *Jaswant Thada*
- *Ummaid Bhawan Palace*

Return back to the hotel for overnight. <B-L>



MAR 10 JODHPUR / RANAKPUR / UDAIPUR

After breakfast drive to Udaipur. En route, visit Ranakpur (Jodhpur to Ranakpur: 112 miles; driving time - 3 & ½ hrs). It is famous for Jain Temples at Ranakpur. These temples are dedicated to Adinath and date back to the beginning of 15th century. Made up of 29 halls supported by 200 different pillars, this temple has 20 domes which constitute the complex roofing.

- *At the noon time visit these temples.*

After visit continue drive to Udaipur (Ranakpur to Udaipur: 58 miles; driving time - 2 hrs), called the “city of dreams”; its ruler the Maharana, the “sun of the Hindus”, a descendent of the highest ranking “Solar Rajputs”. Udaipur has been named after its founder Maharana Udai Singh. Check into hotel on arrival.

- *Balance of the day is free.*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>



MAR 11 UDAIPUR

After breakfast, half day city tour. Places of visits include

- *The Maharana's City Palace standing on the edge of the Lake Pichola.*
- *The Sahelion ki Bari is a good example of the art of landscaping.*
- *Afternoon boat ride on Lake Pichola on seat basis. Also visit Jag Mandir during this ride.*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 12 UDAIPUR → MUMBAI → COCHIN (Kochi)

After breakfast provide assisted departure transfer to the domestic airport to connect the flights (9W2207: 0820-0935 and 9W2101: 1035-1220) for Cochin via Mumbai. In Cochin, assistance on arrival at the airport followed by transfer to hotel.

- *In the evening see a Kathkali Dance Drama which is a must while in Cochin.*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>



MAR 13 COCHIN

After breakfast, have a half day city tour of Cochin. Places to visit include

- *Dutch Palace at Mattancherry.*
- *The Jewish Synagogue at the heart of what is locally called the Jew Town.*
- *St. Francis Church, the oldest European church in India.*
- *The Santa Cruz Basilica, originally built in 1557 by the Portuguese.*
- *Drive past the Chinese fishing nets which are huge cantilevered nets believed to have been brought to Kochi by Chinese traders.*
- *In the afternoon, watch Kalaripayattu – Oldest form of martial art in South India. Apart from watching Kalaripayattu students in a real setting, one could also understand the history of perhaps the oldest martial art in the world. Across the seating area one can see a display of every Kalaripayattu weapon used in the learning of this art.*
- *Later in the evening, enjoy a one-hour Harbor Cruise.*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 14 COCHIN / PERIYAR

After breakfast drive to Periyar (118 miles; driving time - 4 & ½ hrs). Periyar is South India's most popular wildlife sanctuary the park encompasses a 26 sq km artificial lake, created by the British in 1895 to provide water to Madurai, and spreads into Tamil Nadu. It is home to Bison, Antelopes, Sambar, Wild Boar, Monkeys, Langur, a wide variety of birds, and elephants. Upon arrival, check into the hotel.



- *Later have a Nature walk in the sanctuary.*

Different nature trails traversing diverse habitats form the trekking routes, generally 4 to 5 km. in length. This is an interpretive program offering excellent opportunity to watch birds, butterflies and other wildlife. The trails often pass through evergreen and moist deciduous forests interspersed with marshy grasslands. The program is offered between 2.00 pm and 3.00 pm and

lasts for about 3 hours. The Nature walk is the right program to feel nature, hear her whispers and smell her flowers.

(PROVIDED BY PARK AUTHORITY AND THE CLIENTS MAY HAVE TO SHARE THIS ACTIVITY WITH OTHER PEOPLE)

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 15 PERIYAR

After breakfast, go for the spice plantation tour. Visit nearby coffee plantations, spice gardens with pepper vines.

- *Spice Plantation tour.*

Rest of the time is free for individual activities.

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>



MAR 16 PERIYAR / KUMARAKOM

After breakfast, drive to Kumarakom (124 miles; driving time - 4 hrs). On arrival, check in to hotel.

- *Rest of the day is free to relax at the resort. You may chose to avail the various Ayurvedic Sessions available at the resort on direct payment basis.*

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 17 KUMARAKOM / COCHIN → MUMBAI

After breakfast, board the houseboat from the jetty point to start the houseboat cruise for about 4 hours *including lunch* on the houseboat itself.

After the cruise, the vehicle will pick you up & then drive to Cochin. In Cochin, spend the time in market. Later in the evening provide assisted departure transfer to the airport to connect the flight (9W2104: 1605-1745) to Mumbai.

In Mumbai, assistance on arrival at the airport followed by private transfer to the hotel for overnight. <B-L>



MAR 18 MUMBAI

After breakfast, enjoy the half day city tour of Mumbai. The places to visit are:

- *Gateway of India*
- *Prince of Wales Museum*
- *Marine Drive*

In the afternoon, take an excursion to *Elephanta Caves*. You shall be transferred to the Jetty point from where you shall take a Caterman to reach Elephanta Islands.

Elephanta consists of seven caves of which the most notable is the Mahesa-murti cave. It has a very impressive size with a main body of 27 meters square supported by rows of six columns each. The main temple consists of a large pillared mandapa (hall) and a freestanding square shrine at the west end of the hall. The pillars and relief in the cave are gigantic in scale.

Return to the city and rest of the evening is at leisure.

Overnight at the hotel. <B-L>

MAR 19 **MUMBAI → USA**

After breakfast, continue explore Mumbai and places to visit include:

- *Hanging Gardens*
- *Drive past Dhobi Ghat*
- *Visit the Crawford Market*
- *Victoria Terminus*
- *Kala Ghoda Area*
- *Colaba Causeway for sightseeing and shopping*



After the visit, you shall return back to the

hotel. Late check out from hotel at 7:00pm. Later you will be provided transfer to the restaurant for farewell dinner in an elite local restaurant (exclude alcoholic drinks). After dinner, pick up from the restaurant, transfer to International Airport and board homebound flight. <B-L-D>

MAR 20 **ARRIVE HOME**

Arriving North America in the morning hours.

END OF THE SERVICES

Changes to Itinerary: Access China Tours has made all possible attempts to ensure the accuracy of tour itineraries. Circumstances beyond our control may occur. We reserve the right to change itineraries, sightseeing activities, and common carriers, and to substitute hotels when necessary. Service of a similar category and standard will be maintained if such changes are made. The Service Voucher in your last pre-departure packet will provide the operational itinerary summary, final transport and hotel information.

City	FIRST CLASS (4 star) HOTELS	Meal Plan	Night	Room Category
Delhi	Svelte Personal Suites www.svelte.in	BB	02	Executive Suite
Agra	Jaypee Palace www.jaypeehotels.com	BB	01	Standard Room
Jaipur	Golden Tulip www.goldentulipjaipur.com	BB	02	Superior Room
Bikaner	Lallgarh Palace www.lallgarhpalace.com	BB	01	Standard Room
Jaisalmer	Fort Rajwada www.fortrajwada.com	BB	02	Standard Room
Jodhpur	Ranbanka www.ranbankahotels.com	BB	02	Deluxe Room
Udaipur	Fatehgarh www.fatehgarh.in	BB	02	Renaissance Room
Cochin	The Killians www.hotelkillians.com	BB	02	Relax & Breath
Periyar	Spice Village www.cghearth.com	BB	02	Standard Villa
Kumarakom	Coconut Lagoon www.cghearth.com	BB	01	Heritage Bungalow
Mumbai	Taj Mahal Palace & Tower (5 star) www.tajhotels.com	BB	02 + late checkout	Superior City View

Tour Land Price Inclusions & Exclusions

Tour Land Price: \$5,270 USD per person double occupancy

What's Included in Tour Land Prices:

- Complete transportation as per the above itinerary including all sectors drives all airports / hotel transfers, all sight seeing details as per the above program
- Selected first class hotel accommodations, double occupancy with breakfast
- In Delhi arrival transfer plus one combined city tour of Old & New Delhi on March 02
- Vehicle at clients' disposal from March 03 Delhi/Agra till drop at Udaipur airport on March 12
- In Cochin, arrival transfer plus half day city tour is included on March 13
- Vehicle at disposal from Cochin/Periyar on March 14 till drop at Cochin airport on March 17
- In Mumbai, arrival/departure transfers plus Half Day City Tour on March 18 and March 19
- 17 lunches during the trip at good local restaurant

- Elephant Ride at Amber Fort in Jaipur
- Camel Ride in Sam Dunes in Jaisalmer
- Boat Ride on Seat Basis in Udaipur
- Kathkali Dance Drama Tickets in Cochin on March 12
- Kalaripayattu – an oldest form of martial arts in South India on March 13
- 01 hr Harbour cruise on March 13
- Nature Walk in Periyar on March 14
- Spice Plantation tour in Periyar on March 15
- 03 - 04 hour Houseboat Cruise along with on board Lunch in Alleppey on March 17
- Elephanta Excursion in Mumbai included by Caterman on March 18
- 01 farewell dinner (without drinks) either at Indiana Jones or Indigo
- One time monument entrance fee along with fee for still camera for all listed sightseeing
- Services of Local English speaking Guide in Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Jaipur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Cochin and Mumbai
- Pre-departure information packets

What's Not Included in Tour Land Prices:

- International air tickets and local airport tax
- Indian tourist visa processing
- Any expenses caused by reasons beyond our control such as roadblocks, natural calamities, weather conditions, accidents, medical evacuations, flight cancellations, rescheduling, delays etc.
- All but one dinners; any video camera fees
- Trip cancellation, baggage, accident, and medical insurance
- Gratuities to hotel staff, guides and drivers
- Items not listed and/or specified as included in the itinerary

Cancellation Policy: All cancellation notices must be received in writing and will become effective as of the date of receipt by Access China Tours. We assess cancellation fees of all tours according to the following schedule:

70 days or more prior to departure*	\$200 per person
69 to 50 days prior to departure *	\$600 per person
49 to 30 days prior to departure *	30% of tour cost
29 to 15 days prior to departure *	60% of tour cost

* Plus any charges assessed by government agencies, land suppliers, cruise companies and airlines.

Within 14 days of departure100% forfeiture of the tour price per person

Access China Tours will not grant partial refunds for any unused trip arrangements after the trip has commenced or any refunds to participants who do not complete any portion of the itinerary. Any airline tickets issued are subject to the carrier's refund and cancellation policy. **We strongly recommend you purchase trip cancellation/interruption insurance to protect your travel investment.** Access China Tours reserves the right to cancel any tour(s) due to insufficient booking (fewer than 2 participants). In this case, we will try to find an alternative tour for our participants. If this is not acceptable, all money paid will be refunded in full and this will constitute full and final settlement for the client. However, Access China Tours will not be responsible for any expenses incurred by tour participants (e.g., non-refundable "advance purchase" air tickets, insurance & medical expenses, passport and visa expenses, etc.). If a tour is forced to be cancelled due to government's travel warnings, declared or undeclared wars, hostilities, civil disturbances, strike, riot, epidemic, and quarantines, Access China Tours will refund all participants' payment less any irretrievable expenses and loss (visa fees, airline penalties, communication cost, and non-refundable booking cost, etc.)