# From Beijing to Delhi

Exploring the wonders and treasures of the two ancient civilizations of Asia plus gems of Tibetan culture - Beijing, Xi'an, Lhasa, Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra

## 15 Days / 13 Nights

well tested itinerary and ready-to-go for any group size - pick your dates





### **Tour Program Summary**

China is a land of history and refinement unparalleled in the world. Attentive visitors are immersed in a sea of visual and cultural experiences unlike any other they may have had elsewhere. Each geographic area in China teems with its own identity as an energetic variation on the great theme of Chinese civilization. You will be amazed at how regions differ vastly yet express similar values and ideas.

Your grand China tour starts in **Beijing**. Enjoy an exploration of the beauty of the imperial city and meetings with urban Chinese residents. Discover the splendor of China's glorious past: the Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven, Summer palace, and Great Wall; also witness the dynamic life pace and ever-changing city skyline of today's capital of China.

Travel by air to **Xi'an**, once the largest city in the world. Visit and explore the Terracotta Warriors Museum in homage to Qinshihuang. It is considered China's preeminent archaeological discovery. Tour other important historic sites in the ancient Tang Dynasty capital.

Wing on to **Lhasa**, the holy city and capital of Tibet. The Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple, Drepung Monastery, and Sera Monastery house the sacred treasures, some of which date back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. You will spend time exploring the old market place "The Barkhor".







Fly from Lhasa over the Himalayas (gorgeous view if the weather is good) to <u>Kathmandu</u> and connect a flight to **Delhi**, capital of modern India and a city of monuments and sharp contrast of old and new. 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.

Diver to **Jaipur**, the capital of Rajasthan which still looks cradled and well protected. Jaipur 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 architect 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.

Travel overland to **Agra** that is famous as being home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Taj Mahal. Agra was once the capital of the Mughal Empire and even today it seems to linger in the past. Not surprising, for the Mughal emperors with their passion for building, time has endowed the city with some of the finest structures in the world.

Fly back home from Delhi.

# Tour Daily Itinerary

Day 01 + depart Fly from your home city to Beijing, China on your own arranged flight

Day 02 **Beijing** Arrive in Beijing today on (flight#); met by your private guide and transfer to Park Plaza Beijing WFJ (superior room) for check in and refreshing.

Enjoy a <u>guided walk</u> in the neighborhood followed by a Peking Duck Dinner in *Dadong Restaurant*; then walk through the <u>Wangfujing Commercial District</u> before returning to hotel. <D>

City (World Heritage Site), imperial palaces of Ming and Qing Dynasty.

Day 03 **Beijing** Breakfast in hotel; pick up by guide and go to visit <u>Tiananmen Square</u> and the <u>'Egg' - National Performing Arts Center</u>; then pay a visit to <u>Forbidden</u>

After a simple lunch in a local restaurant, take a "<u>Hutong & Courtyard</u>" tour in the afternoon with pedicab ride; then go to visit to the enchanting <u>Summer Palace</u> including a boat ride across the Kunming Lake; afterwards transfer to *Baijia Courtyard Restaurant* to enjoy an Imperial Cuisine Dinner; transfer back to hotel after dinner. <B-L-D>









Day 04 Beijing

Breakfast in hotel; meet your guide and take an excursion to the <u>Great Wall</u> at Mutianyu (round-trip cable car ride included); stop by the village for lunch and meet with local rural residents.

Afternoon transfer to the <u>Ming Tombs</u>. Changling Tomb is the tomb you will visit and it is the most magnificent tomb among the thirteen tombs; stop by <u>Sacred Way</u>, then drives back to the city and stop by the <u>Olympic Park</u> for photo taking . Back to hotel for your own relaxation. <B-L>

Day 05 **Beijing Si'an** 

Early breakfast this morning; then at 7:30am visit <u>Temple of Heaven</u> to see Chinese residents involved in morning exercises such as Taiji and Qigong, and feel free to join in; stop by <u>Hongqiao Pearl Market</u> later before going to to a local restaurant for a tasty Noodle Lunch.

Transfer to Beijing West Station in the afternoon and board high speed train G87 (1400-1825; first class) to Xi'an; met by your private guide upon arrival and transfer to <u>Grand Mercure Xi'an Renmin Square (superior room)</u> for check-in and relaxation. <B-L>

Day 06 Xi'an

Picked up by your guide after breakfast and take an excursion to visit the remarkable <u>Terracotta Warriors Museum</u> and see the thousands of life-size terra cotta soldiers in the pits; return to city and tour the massive ancient

<u>City Wall</u> and the <u>Great Mosque</u> and <u>Bazaar</u> in the Muslim neighborhood. Enjoy a special Xi'an Cuisine Dinner followed by Tang Dynasty Stage Show in a local theater. Transfer back to hotel. <B-L-D>









Day 07 Xi'an >> Lhasa

Breakfast in hotel; morning transfer to Xi'an Airport and fly MU2335 (1140-1445) to Lhasa, Tibet; met by your Tibetan guide and transfer to Shambala Palace Hotel Lhasa (deluxe room); rest of the day is free for your own relaxation and adjusting to the high altitude. <B>

Day 08 Lhasa

Breakfast in hotel restaurant; begin your sightseeing at monumental <u>Potala Palace</u>, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, symbol of Tibet, and the winter residence of the Dalai Lama.

After lunch in a fine local restaurant, come to visit the active and magnificent 1,300-years-old <u>Jokhang Monastery</u>, another UNESCO World Heritage Site. It has charming golden-roofed and its labyrinth of rooms contains a beautiful golden statue of Buddha Sakyamuni, the most venerated in Tibet. Enjoy Tibetan Cuisine Dinner this evening. <B-L-D>

Day 09 Lhasa

Breakfast in hotel restaurant. Take a morning excursion with guide to the extraordinary <u>Drepung Monastery</u>, which was founded in 1416.

After lunch in a local restaurant, tour the famous <u>Barkhor Market</u> in the center of the city and then pay a visit to <u>Sera Monastery</u> in the afternoon where you will see a rich collection of Tibetan religious items and the interesting sutra-debate practiced by young monks in the temple. Balance of the day is on your own. <B-L>









Day 10 **Lhasa** → **Delhi** 

Breakfast in hotel restaurant; transfer to Lhasa Gonggar Airport and fly CA407 (1155-1120) to Kathmandu, Nepal where you will connect AI216 (1540-1655) for Delhi, India.

Upon arrival in Delhi, you will be met at the airport followed by transfer to the hotel for check in and relaxation. Enjoy dinner in a local restaurant. The Park Hotel New Delhi (luxury room). <B-D>

Day 11 Delhi

After breakfast, tour briefing by your Indian guide followed by full day

city tour of Old and New Delhi.

Places to visit today are <u>Red Fort</u> - one of the most spectacular pieces of Mughal Architecture in Delhi and was built by the Mughal emperor, Shah Jahan between 1638 and 1648; <u>Raj Ghat</u> - On 31st Jan. 1948, Mahatma Gandhi's last rites were performed here; <u>Jama Masjid</u> - a grand mosque and the term itself is a reference to the weekly Friday noon congregation prayers of Muslims; <u>Qutab Minar</u> - at 72.5 meters the world's tallest brick minaret; <u>Humayun's Tomb</u> - built in 1565 A.D., nine years after the death of Humayun's, by his senior widow Bega Begam.









And lastly <u>India Gate</u> - an "Arc de Triomphe" like archway in the middle of a crossroad. Almost similar to its French counterpart, it commemorates the 70,000 Indian soldiers who lost their lives fighting for the British Army during the World War I.

In between visits, enjoy lunch in a local restaurant, a <u>rickshaw ride</u> in the bustling Old Delhi and maybe a Metro ride in Delhi's transit system.

Transfer back to hotel in late afternoon and dinner on own. In the evening, visit to the Sikh temple <u>Bangla Sahib</u> at Delhi. <B-L>

Day 12 **Delhi ☐ Jaipur** 

After breakfast in hotel, drive (4 hrs) to Jaipur along highway. Upon arrival, check in at the tent lodge. Afternoon is free for your own relaxation at the lodge resort. Enjoy dinner in hotel restaurant.

In the evening, visit <u>NGO LADLI</u> dedicated to women and under privileged children where you can interact with the women making jewelry and handicraft to support their family and children. The children here are taught Hindi, English, Art and Dance, and provided nutrition, medical checkups and counseling. Most important of all, they gain confidence, hope and self-esteem.

You will also explore the local colorful <u>markets</u> of Jaipur. After the visits, return to the lodge. Overnight at <u>Lebua Lodge (luxury tent)</u>. <B-L-D>







Day 13 Jaipur

Breakfast at the lodge. Jaipur the capital of Rajasthan still looks cradled and well protected. Drive to <u>Amber Fort</u> for a visit. Enjoy an <u>elephant ride</u>

while going up the fort, and see the beautiful palaces.

After lunch, have a half day guided city tour of Jaipur. Places to visit include: <u>City Palace</u> - also called Chandra Mahal and part of it is still the residence of the Royal Family; <u>Jantar Mantar</u> - the amazing astronomical three-storey-high observatory, based on the drafts of Maharaja Jai Singh II, was built between 1728 and 1734; and <u>Hawa Mahal</u> - (from outside only) palace built by Raja Sawai Pratap Singh in 1799 with latticed windows and stone screens lending an additional charm.

After visits, return to the lodge and dinner on own. <B-L>

Day 14 **Jaipur ♣ Agra** 

After breakfast, check out from lodge and drive (4.5hrs) to Agra. En route, visit a village called <u>Abhaneri</u>. Originally Abhaneri was named as Abha Nagri, which means the city of brightness. Abhaneri is prominent for 'Baoris' (step wells), which are the unique invention of the natives for harvesting rain water. En route, also visit <u>Fatehpur Sikri</u>, "the Ghost City" which lies west of Agra. Then, continue your drive to Agra.

Upon arrival, check into the luxury hotel <u>ITC Mughal Agra (mughal room)</u>. Have dinner in the hotel and balance of the evening is for your own enjoyment of the facilities of the property, or enjoy an <u>optional Stage Show</u> about the story behind Taj Mahal in Kalakriti Theatre with light tech and surround sound system. <B-L-D>







Day 15 Agra 

Delhi

→ return

Early morning visit The Monument of Love – <u>Taj Mahal</u>. Also enjoy the <u>Horse Carriage Ride</u> from the parking till the gate of Taj Mahal.

After the visit, return to the hotel for breakfast. After breakfast, visit the other monuments of Agra. The Red Fort - started in 1565, it took eight years to complete its construction and is second only to Taj in Agra. It had over five hundred buildings; Itmad Ud Daulah - is a Mughal mausoleum often described as a "jewel box" and is frequently regarded as the draft of the Taj Mahal.

After lunch in a local restaurant, drive to Delhi. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to Delhi International Airport to connect the homebound flight or a flight to your onward destination. Service ends. <B-L>

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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.









Park Plaza Beijing Wangfujing









Grand Mercure Xi'an Renmin Square









Shambala Palace Hotel Lhasa









The Park Hotel New Delhi





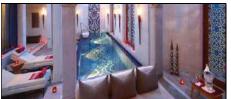




Lebua Lodge at Amer, Jaipur







ITC Mughal Agra

## Tour Land Only Price Inclusions & Exclusions

Tour Land Only Prices: from \$4,650 USD per person double occupancy (2-5 travelers in a group)

from \$4,100 USD per person double occupancy (6-9 travelers in a group)

On-Tour Air Cost: \$1,095 USD per person coach class PEK-SIA-LXA-KMT-DEL (4-flights)

#### What's Included in 'Tour Land Only' Price:

- Arrival and departure private transfers on tour dates with private guide, driver, and vehicle
- Selected 4 or 5 star first class/deluxe hotel accommodations, double occupancy
- All tour related Chinese and Indian domestic taxes
- Arrival and departure transfers on tour dates
- Ground transportation and luggage (1 piece of 45 pounds per person) handling during tour
- Pre-departure information packets and Tibet Travel Permit
- All sightseeing, activities, and cultural events listed in the itinerary
- All meals specified in the itinerary (B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner)
- All entrance fees for the listed sightseeing activities in the itinerary
- Service of a private English-speaking local tour guide in each city/area
- Private, clean, and newer vehicles with air-conditioning and professional drivers

#### What's Not Included in 'Tour Land Only Prices'

- Cross-Pacific International air tickets (please call us for a quote if you need assistance)
- On-Tour domestic and intra region flights (*quoted separately*)
- Chinese & India visa processing (www.mychinavisa.com or www.mychinavisa.ca)
- Trip cancellation, baggage, accident, and medical insurance
- Gratuities to guides and drivers
- Other items not listed and/or specified as included in the itinerary

Tour Payment Schedule: \$600 USD per person deposit is required at sign up. Tour Balance is due 90 days prior to tour date.

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

90 days or more prior to departure *	\$300 per person
89 to 60 days prior to departure *	\$600 per person
59 to 30 days prior to departure *	\$900 per person
29 to 15 days prior to departure *	\$1200 per person

<sup>\*</sup> Plus any charges assessed by government agencies, land suppliers, cruise companies and airlines.

Within 14 days of departure ......100% for feiture of the tour price per person

Your travel agency and 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. Your travel agency and Access China Tours reserve the right to cancel any tour(s) that has only one traveler signed up. In this case, we will try to find an alternative tour for tour participant. 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, your travel agency and 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, your travel agency and 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.)