

## OPTIONAL DELHI & AGRA EXTENSION

4 days | Visit the Taj Mahal in Agra & Explore Delhi

This optional extension will highlight in brief the most iconic sites to see in both Delhi and Agra as outlined below. Located about four hours outside of Delhi, Agra is the iconic home to the world-famous Taj Mahal. This iconic structure provides a glimpse into Mughal architecture and history. Plus, this visit to the Taj Mahal checks an item off many people's bucket list!

### DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: NOVEMBER 16

##### Drive Kumarakom – Kochi – Fly to Delhi

Today the group will drive to Kochi airport to connect your flight to Delhi. Enjoy the crisp evenings in the capital city of Delhi where you'll be met by a representative on your arrival at the airport, and proceed to the hotel for check-in. Lunch and dinner are by individual arrangement today.

**Included meals:** Breakfast, Lunch



#### DAY 2: November 17

##### Explore Delhi

📍 Old & New Delhi

This morning, you will be met at hotel lobby and escorted on a full day tour of Old Delhi and New Delhi. You will begin the day traveling by rickshaw past colorful bazaars, sacred temples, and colonial monuments through the winding streets of Old Delhi, the capital of Muslim India from the 12<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Drive past the sumptuous Red Fort, the symbol of Indian nationhood, for a photo op. Visit India's largest mosque, the white marble Jama Masjid.



Other highlights include Humayun's Tomb, which was built by the wife of Mughal Emperor Humayun, Haji Begum in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. This red sandstone structure is considered the predecessor of the Taj Mahal. The structure is one of the best examples of Mughal architecture. Humayun's wife is also buried in the tomb, which is built of red and white sandstone and black and yellow marble.

This afternoon you will visit the Gandhi Museum showcasing the life and principles of Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation. As you navigate the city in your private air-conditioned motor coach, you will drive along the ceremonial avenue, India Gate, Rajpath and Parliament House.

Dinner will be provided at a local restaurant.

**Included meals:** Breakfast & Dinner

### DAY 3: November 18

#### Agra Fort

📍 Agra

This morning drive to Agra with lunch provided in route. Upon arrival, check-in at your hotel.



This afternoon you will visit the Agra Fort. The great Mughal Emperor Akbar commissioned the construction of the Agra Fort in 1565 A.D., although additions were made until the time of his grandson, Shah Jehan. The forbidding exteriors of this fort hide an inner paradise. The fort is crescent shaped, flattened on the east with a long, nearly straight wall facing the river. It has a total perimeter of 2.4 kilometers, and is ringed by double castellated ramparts of red sandstone punctuated at regular intervals by bastions. A 9-metre wide and 10-metre deep moat surrounds the outer wall.

**Included meals:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



### DAY 4: November 19

#### Taj Mahal

📍 Agra

This morning the group will explore Shah Jehan's monument to love. The Taj Mahal was built by the Mughal emperor as the final resting place for his favorite Queen, Mumtaz. This perfectly symmetrical monument took 22 years (1630-1652 A.D) of hard labor and 20,000 workers, masons and jewelers to build. It was designed by the Persian architect, Ustad Isa. The verses of Holy Quran are inscribed on it and at the top of the gate's 22 small domes, signifying the number of years the monument took to build. The elegant dome of the Taj has a diameter of 60 feet, and directly under the dome is the tomb of Mumtaz Mahal. Fantastic inlay work, using semi-precious stones, decorates the exterior and interior.



Later today the group will drive back to Delhi. A couple of rooms will be reserved for wash and change for the group to utilize. Late evening transfer to the international airport to check in for your flight back home.

**Included meals:** Breakfast & Lunch

### DAY 5: November 20

Arrival back in the United States is planned for this morning.

## PROGRAM INFO

**Date & Length:** 4 days November 16 -20, 2022

**Extension cost:** \$1,199 per person (including most gratuities)

**Single supplement:** \$299

**Inclusions:** Flight Koch-Delhi, 5 star deluxe hotels; private transportation; baggage handling, all gratuities; tours; meals as mentioned; group tour guide accompanying throughout your stay; and accommodations based on double occupancy.

**Not Included:** Hotel incidentals and meals not mentioned



## DELHI

### 5 Star Pride Plaza

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

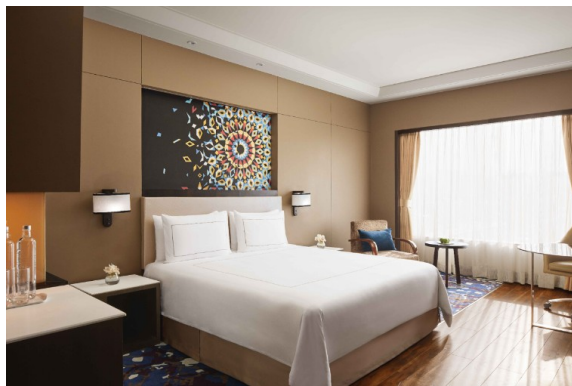


Experience a memorable stay at the finest luxury hotel in Delhi by Pride Group - The Pride Plaza Hotel Aerocity, New Delhi. The palatial rooms are decorated with the magnificent monumental images of India. Being a quintessential traditional hotel, the Pride Plaza offers its guests a host of opportunities to feel at home and relish the true Indian treat in the form of home-made jams, pickles, conventional chaats in the buffet, the relaxing welcome drink, tamarind candies, hot water bottles among many others.

The intoxicating fragrance of tuberose, along with the soothing time-honored Indian instrumental music and the humble “Namaskar” greetings of the staff welcomes the guests benevolently to the beautiful vicinity of the Pride Plaza. The stunning paintings by K Mehta, renowned as a designer to the stars and farmers, placed all over the hotel, gives a resplendent, luxurious touch to the first impression of the Plaza.

## HOTEL INFORMATION | AGRA

### 5 Star Taj Hotel & Convention Center



Agra's newest landmark, the Taj Hotel & Convention Centre, lies a short walk away from the Eastern Gate of the Taj Mahal. This modern 5 star hotel has refreshing rooftop infinity pool with magical views of the Taj Mahal, an invigorating spa and a buzzing fitness centre.

The hotel has 239 modern rooms. While some rooms frame views of the Taj Mahal, others look out on to the town of Agra or have refreshing views of the pool. Every room is spacious, airy, thoughtfully designed and ensconced in swish furnishings and classic décor. Ergonomically designed desks, smart lighting, stylish ottomans and armchairs, luxurious bathrooms and ample space, make the rooms and suites ideal for both business and leisure travellers. Large flat screen TVs and free WiFi make sure you're always connected. And the Taj Hotel's famed in-room dining options can be conjured up in just a jiffy. Come, make your stays in Agra more restful and cheerful at our luxurious suites & hotel rooms near Taj Mahal.