# Golden Triangle with Haridwar & Rishikesh

## 11 Nights / 12 Days

2N Delhi- 1N Agra- 2N Jaipur- 1N Delhi- 1N Haridwar - 3N Rishikesh- 1N Delhi

## **PACKAGE HIGHLIGHTS:**

- → Visit in Delhi Jama Masjid, Qutub Minar, Humayun Tomb
- → Drive past in Delhi Red Fort, Rajghat, President House & India Gate
- → Rickshaw ride in Chandni Chowk
- → Visit in Agra Taj Mahal, Agra Fort & Fateh-pur Sikri
- → Visit in Jaipur Amber Fort, City Palace, Jantar Mantar Observatory, Hawa Mahal & Albert Museum
- $\rightarrow$  Elephant ride at Amber Fort
- → In Haridwar, visit Har-ki-Pauri ghat and evening Aarti.
- → Laxman Jhula (450ft long iron-suspension bridge) and evening Aarti in Rishikesh
- → Lots of adventure activities, like White water rafting, Bungee jumping, Air-safari etc. (Supplement cost applicable)
- $\rightarrow$  Services of English-speaking guide during sightseeing tours
- $\rightarrow$  Assistance at airport and sightseeing tours by private air-conditioned vehicle
- $\rightarrow$  Start and End in Delhi

## **ITINERARY:**

#### Day 01 Arrival in Delhi

Meet our representative upon arrival in Delhi and proceed to your hotel. After reaching, check-in at the hotel and spend rest of the evening at leisure. Overnight stay in Delhi.

#### Day 02 Sightseeing in Delhi

After breakfast, proceed for a full-day tour of Old and New Delhi. This fascinating city has been in existence since the 6th century BC and has seen ups and downs from the rule of the Pandavas right up to the British Raj. Visit Jama Masjid, which is the largest mosque in India, commissioned by Emperor Shah Jahan. The courtyard of the mosque can hold about 25,000 worshippers. Enjoy a rickshaw ride in Chandni Chowk, the busiest market in Old Delhi...noisy, chaotic and uniquely Indian. You will then drive past to the Red Fort, which was constructed during the rule of Emperor Shah Jahan and served as the residence for the Mughal royal family. It continues to be significant till date, as every Independence Day, the Prime Minister makes a speech from its ramparts as the Indian flag is hoisted. Later, drive past President House and several other government buildings in Edwin Lutyen's Delhi before you head toward Rajghat, the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. This simple memorial marks the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated in 1948. Thereafter, visit Humayun's Tomb, commissioned by Humayun's wife Hamida Banu Begum in 1562. It was the first garden tomb built in the Indian sub-continent where the Persian architect used red sandstone on a large scale. Later in the evening visit the Qutab Minar, which is the tallest brick minaret in the world; it was commissioned by Qutbuddin Aibak, the first Muslim ruler of Delhi. (Optional) - Attend a Sufi ceremony at Nizamuddin Dargah). Return back to Hotel. Overnight in Delhi.

#### Day 03 Delhi - Agra (210 kms / approx. 4 hours)

On arrival in Agra, check-in into your Hotel. Later proceed for Half Day City Tour of Agra. Visit the Red Fort, which was commissioned in 1565 by Akbar. The beautiful yet forbidding structure is a handsome example of Mughal architecture. Later, visit the Taj Mahal ... a mausoleum built as a symbol of Emperor Shah Jahan's devotion to his beloved queen Mumtaz Mahal. Considered an architectural marvel, its construction took thousands of workers over 21 years to complete. Overnight in Agra.

#### Day 04 Agra - Jaipur (230 km/approx. 5 hours)

After breakfast, drive to Jaipur and enroute visit Fatehpur Sikri, which was built by Emperor Akbar and is home to many historical buildings. Akbar wanted to make Fatehpur Sikri his headquarters; however, he had to abandon it due to shortage of water. The Tomb of Sheikh Salim Chishti enshrines the burial place of the Sufi saint who lived a religious life here. Today, Fatehpur Sikri is a UNESCO World heritage site. Further drive to Jaipur and check into your Hotel. Jaipur is the gateway to the magnificent and vibrant state of Rajasthan. Evening take a stroll in the markets of Jaipur for the traditional dresses and shoes, curio shops, blue pottery etc. Overnight in Jaipur.



## Day 05 Jaipur Sightseeing

Today, enjoy a full-day sightseeing trip of Jaipur, also known as the 'Pink City'... it is famous for its colorful culture, forts, palaces, and lakes. The old city of Jaipur is painted pink, which gives it a magical glow. Visit the Amber Fort... a fascinating blend of Hindu and Mughal architecture. The best way to explore the fort is to ride up to it on elephant back. Later, stop to photograph the beautiful Hawa Mahal, also known as the "Palace of the Winds." This beautiful façade with its ornately carved latticework windows is made of pink sandstone. Post lunch, visit the City Palace... again, a synthesis of Rajasthani and Mughal styles. Later, visit the Jantar Mantar Observatory, comprising geometric devices for measuring time. You will also visit the Albert Hall, which was modeled on the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and is a fine example of Indo-Saracenic style of architecture. **(Optional) - An Evening at the Raj Mandir cinema - Bollywood film, and high atmosphere color in the room.** Overnight in Jaipur.

### Day 06 Jaipur - Delhi (250 km/approx. 5 hours)

After breakfast, drive to Delhi and check-in at hotel. Spend rest of the day at leisure. Alternatively you may go for shopping in evening. (Optional) - Evening Sahaj Anand - Multimedia Water Show at Akshardham Temple. Overnight stay in Delhi.

## Day 07 Drive from Delhi - Haridwar (200 kms / approx. 5 hours)

After breakfast, drive to Haridwar - most popular holy city of India, placed in foothills of the Himalaya. It is also the entry point of 'Ganges' into the plains of Northern India. Hindu pilgrims and devotees gather at Haridwar to offer prayers on auspicious occasions. Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel and later visit Har-Ki-Pauri to bath or witness evening Aarti - The most spectacular and spiritual ritual of Haridwar. Overnight in Haridwar.

### Day 08 Drive from Haridwar - Rishikesh (25 kms /approx. 1 hour)

After breakfast, proceed to next most popular holy city, Rishikesh - The Himalayan foothills are the backdrop for Yogis here who meditate on the banks of the River Ganges. Popular for Laxman Jhula, temples, ashrams and ghats. Upon arrival, checkin at the designated hotel and attend the evening aarti at Geeta Bhawan's ghat where Hindus gather in large crowds to pay homage to their holy river and seek blessings from Ganga River. Overnight stay in Rishikesh.

### Day 09 & 10 Day at Leisure in Rishikesh

After breakfast, enjoy full day at leisure in Rishikesh. Alternatively, you may plan to explore the popular Rajaji National Park, situated adjacent to Rishikesh or enjoy adventure activities being offered in and around Rishikesh, like Bungee jumping, White water rafting, Air safari etc. Overnight stay at the hotel.

### Day 11 Drive back from Rishikesh - Delhi (225 kms / approx. 6.5 hours)

After breakfast, drive back from Rishikesh to Delhi. Spend rest of the evening at leisure. Overnight stay in Delhi.

#### Day 12 Departure from Delhi

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Delhi and meet assistance at airport for return flight back home.