

2018 Extension to Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra November 20-25



**JB
Journeys**
Responsible Adventure Travel
www.jbjourneys.com

*The extension trip starts on the day the India Birding and Wildlife Trip concludes on Tuesday Nov 20.
It takes you to the popular Golden Triangle of Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra – the Rajasthan.*

Nov 20 – Tuesday - Arrive at Delhi. (B, D)

A Mowgli Expeditions tour coordinator will accompany you from Bangalore and be with you throughout the Northern India Golden Triangle extension till you depart India.

Fly to Delhi and on arrival, you will be driven to your hotel and have the balance of the day to rest. After a briefing on the plan for the next days, we'll have dinner either at the hotel or a restaurant with Indian ambience,

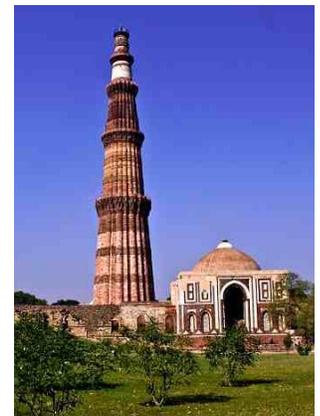
Nov 21 - Wednesday - Delhi – Old and New (B,L,D)

Start your exploration of India with a guided city tour of Delhi. This excursion begins with a visit to the awe inspiring **Qutab Minar** (1193 A.D.) - a UNESCO world heritage site. This 239-foot tall medieval tower is a symbol of victory and a beautiful example of Persian architecture. There is a winding stairway inside the tower that goes up all the way to the balcony at the very top of the tower – unfortunately they are no longer accessible for visitors. Within the Qutab complex, among the ruins of the Quwat-ul-Islam Mosque, stands one of the legendary Ashoka Pillars. This large iron pillar has withstood the ravages of Delhi's weather (and recent pollution) and has not rusted in more than 1,500 years.

After lunch, continue on a drive to Sir Edwin Lutyens' **New Delhi**. Lutyens was an English architect known for imaginatively adapting traditional architectural styles to the requirements of his era. He played an instrumental role in designing and building New Delhi, and was responsible for several monuments including **India Gate**, the Viceroy's House (today known as the Rashtrapati Bhavan), and the newer part of the city is often referred to as Lutyens' Delhi.

We will visit India Gate, a war memorial arch built in honor of 90,000 Indian soldiers who lost their lives in World War I. It evokes the style of the Arch of Constantine outside the Colosseum in Rome, and is often compared to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, and the Gateway of India in Mumbai.

Dinner at a local restaurant, then overnight at our hotel.



Nov 22 - Thursday - Delhi to Jaipur (B,L,D)

We'll check out of the hotel and begin the drive to Jaipur, the Pink City. The drive is a total of about 5 – 6 hours, and we'll make stops along the way.

One stop will be **Neemrana Fort Palace**. Building on the palace began in 1464 and was home to the descendants of Prithviraj Chauhan III until 1947, when the final family members moved out of the crumbling building. It remained empty and in continuously decaying state for 40 years until purchased by a hotel development company. It has been restored and today is the crown jewel of the Heritage Hotel group. The 72 room boutique hotel has won awards and prizes and is highly sought after for weddings and events.

We'll arrive Jaipur late afternoon and settle into the hotel.

Jaipur, "The City of Victory", was first intended to be "Sawai Jaipur", named after the boy Prince who commissioned it - Maharaja Jai Singh II - a warrior, astronomer and politician who reigned over the Mughals from 1699 to 1743. Today's Jaipur is pink, visually described as the city "shaded with the autumn colors of a sunset." Although originally the walls were rendered set and pigmented the color of red sandstone, Jaipur's universal coat of pink only came in 1876 to coincide with the visit of the Prince of Wales (King Edward VII). Almost the entire city was given a coat of pink paint, thus giving it the name "The Pink City".

Nov 23 – Friday - Jaipur (B,L,D)

This morning enjoy an excursion to the magnificent **Amber Fort and Palace**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tour the chambers and hallways of the palace, famous for the excellence of its design and decoration. Within the complex is Ganesh Pol, an imposing gateway painted with the images of the elephant-headed god, Ganesh. The merging of Rajput and Mughal architectural styles is captured in the Sukh Niwas and Jas Mandir apartments, and the Charbagh garden with its perfectly proportioned landscaping.

After lunch we will take a stroll through the Pink City's main bazaar in the heart of the old town. We'll finish our tour with a photo stop at **Hawa Mahal** also known as the "Palace of the Winds". This beautiful façade is probably the most-photographed in Jaipur, with its ornately carved windows designed so the ladies of the palace could look out onto the streets unobserved. We will return to the hotel in the evening.



Nov 24 – Saturday – Jaipur to Agra (B,L,D)

After breakfast, we'll depart for Agra and the Taj Majal, the jewel in the crown!

Dig out your binoculars again, as we'll make a stop at the **Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary** before reaching Agra. Created more than 250 years ago, Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary was once the hunting grounds of the royals, but since 1985, it has been a World Heritage Site and hunting is banned. The Sanctuary has some 230 resident birds and is also an important stopover spot for migrants.

Once we arrive Agra and check into our hotel, time permitting, we may visit Agra Fort: An imposing structure with walls of red sandstone, it is almost two miles long and contains palaces, audience halls and mosques. The fort is a good example of Islamic and Hindu architectural styles. It was built by the third Mughal Emperor, Akbar. Subsequent additions were made to the fort by his son Jahangir and grandson Shah Jehan.

Nov 25 – Sunday - Taj Mahal at Sunrise – depart for home (B)



Enjoy a **Sunrise Visit to Taj Mahal** - with its incredible lacy white grandeur and loveliness the Taj Mahal is perhaps the most perfect architectural building in the world. Emperor Shahjehan constructed this incomparable palace in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. It is the most extravagant monument ever built for love. The Taj Mahal is amazingly graceful from almost any angle and it is the close-up detail, which is really astounding.

Could there be a better way to end your trip to India?

Return to the hotel for breakfast and check out. We must now pack up and drive to Delhi to catch our flights back home. Most flights depart late in the evening, midnight or a few hours before or after. Day rooms may be available at additional cost.

NOTE: *The order and sites visited may vary due to weather, road conditions, and other factors beyond our control*

Cost per person: \$1600 per person in double room. Single supplement is \$475.

A \$500 non-refundable deposit will be required for this extension.

Final payment due **August 26, 2018. Payment by check.**

Included:

- All lodging in 4 or 5 star hotels
- meals as listed, tips for meals
- group airport transfers
- touring and transportation as listed
- entry fees
- English speaking guide.

Not Included:

- Domestic flights
- beverages
- tips
- fees for video cameras at historic sites (not phones)
- items of a personal nature.
- Suggested tips: \$2 per room per night, guide \$7-10 per person per day, driver \$3-5 per person per day