

Tigers and Temples of Rajasthan - Family India

Trip Code: FNI

Version: FNI Tigers and Temples of Rajasthan - Family India



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY

MODERATE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Stalk wildlife in the Ranthambore tiger reserve
- Capture the view of the enchanting Taj Mahal at sunset
- Watch a Bollywood movie, cook curry & play a game of cricket with the locals

- Explore Rajasthani jewels of Jaipur, Amber Fort and Pushkar
- Take a rickshaw ride through the vibrant streets of Old Delhi and a camel ride through the desert

AT A GLANCE

- 9 days sightseeing and activities
- **SWIMMING:** On 7 nights we stay at hotels with pools
- Join at Delhi

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 9 Breakfasts
- 9 Dinners
- 7 nights Hotel with swimming pool
- 2 nights Hotel

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

This is THE adventure holiday for families who want to explore some of the incredible palaces and sites of Rajasthan whilst ensuring there is time for relaxing by the pool, enjoying cycle rickshaw rides, making curries, watching a Bollywood movie; a real immersion into the bustle of Indian life.

We will explore the sights of Old Delhi and take a rickshaw ride down its charming backstreets before boarding the train to Agra and the Taj Mahal. Here, we will experience the magic of sunset falling upon this most beautiful of buildings. We have a cycle rickshaw cycle around the wetlands at Bharatpur, with a bewildering array of birdlife.

At the world-renowned Ranthambore National Park, we have a real chance to spot a tiger in the wild with two included game drives. We may even find time for a cricket match with the local children. We visit the must-see sights in the 'Pink City' of Jaipur, and also got to cinema to catch a Bollywood movie and, for the budding chefs amongst us, a cookery lesson to create a tasty curry! Nearby, we will explore the magnificent and imposing Amber Fort, where we can imagine life as the maharaja, before visiting the ancient, mystical town of Pushkar. This incredible value holiday truly maximises our time in Northern India and offers the perfect blend of history, wildlife and stunning landscapes to delight the entire family!

Is this holiday for you?

Suitable for children from 6yrs old

This is a family adventure holiday to some of the greatest attractions of Northern India. Our longer journeys are by train which makes travelling easier and more interesting. Any road transfers are in air-conditioned private vehicles. We use a high standard of accommodation, with the majority of hotels outside Delhi having swimming pools. Our guides are well versed in keeping the children entertained and will ensure a steady stream of activities such as quizzes and cricket matches arranged with local children.

Itinerary

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DAY 1

Arrive Delhi. Afternoon sightseeing in Old Delhi.

Our holiday starts at the group hotel in Delhi. A single timed transfer is provided from the airport. After settling in and lunch, we have an afternoon sightseeing tour of Old Delhi by vehicle, foot and cycle rickshaw. We will visit the majestic Jama Masjid, the principle mosque of Old Delhi. Built in 1656 by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, it is the largest and best-known mosque in India. Later, we take a cycle rickshaw ride through the old marketplace at Chandni Chowk, exploring the network of stalls of this bustling bazaar, and experiencing the true flavour of urban India, full of fascinating new sights, sounds and smells. We then drive past the Red Fort to marvel at its sheer size and dominance on the way to visit Raj Ghat, the memorial dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi before returning to our hotel.

Meals: **D**



Accommodation
Hotel

DAY 2

Train to Agra. Explore Agra Fort in the afternoon and see sunset at the Taj Mahal.

This morning, we have an early transfer to New Delhi Railway Station for the Shatabdi Express to Agra. Travelling on this fast tourist train is a very comfortable experience. It has air-conditioned carriages fitted with aircraft type seats and, during the 2-hour journey, we will be served breakfast and refreshments. Outside the window, a fascinating landscape rolls by offering glimpses of rural life in India. Arriving in Agra, we transfer to our hotel where we can have some lunch and perhaps a quick swim. The first stop of our afternoon is a guided tour of Agra Fort, which is more a walled city than a fort, boasting several grand buildings and ornamental gardens. We have some free time to explore the local bazar. At sunset we visit the Taj Mahal, and marvel at how the changing light of sunset projects its colours across the white marble of this stunning memorial.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation
Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 3**Explore the ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri. Cycle rickshaw ride in Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary.**

After breakfast, we transfer to Bharatpur. The drive is about an hour and we stop en route at the ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri. This splendid fortified settlement was built in the 16th century, but was abandoned after its water supply dried up. We continue onto Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary. This famous sanctuary is host to thousands of different birds; some 230 different species and is a mosaic of grasslands, woodlands and open wetlands. It is free of motor vehicles with only cycling and walking allowed. We have a cycle rickshaw ride observing some of the enormous cranes, pelicans, geese, duck and eagles. We then transfer to our hotel to relax in the gardens and cool off in the swimming pool. This evening, our guide will prepare an entertaining quiz about what we have seen at the Taj Mahal and the birds at the sanctuary.

Meals: **B D**

**Accommodation**

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 4**Morning free to relax and swim in the pool. Afternoon transfer to Ranthambore National Park.**

This morning we have some time to relax and swim in the pool. After lunch, we drive to Ranthambore (approximately 5 hrs). Although trains are also available here, they can be fairly unreliable on this route. If we have time on arrival we can visit the Ranthambore Fort. Our hotel is situated on the edge of the reserve, nestled between the green Araveli Hills.

Meals: **B D**

**Accommodation**

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 5**Two tiger-spotting game drives in Ranthambore National Park (Oct-Jun). Cricket with the locals.**

Today, we will go out and explore the reserve in 4X4 jeeps, usually shared with other tourist groups, or canters with an expert naturalist who has worked closely with the park authorities to save tigers and other wildlife in the area. Their knowledge and skills will give us the best chance of spotting a tiger, though of course nothing can be guaranteed in the wild. The best time for game spotting is early

morning or just before sundown when the animals visit the watering holes and we have two game drives included, one at each end of the day. Our resort accommodation nearby provides our base during the day and the pool will offer respite from the midday heat. The local children are also always keen for a game of cricket and our guide may be able to organise an impromptu match! Ranthambore summer (Jul-Sep) amendment: Please note that the central Ranthambore National Park zones are closed in the summer months of Jul, Aug and Sep. During these months game drives are restricted to the buffer zones known as Swai Mansingh Sanctuary. In this sanctuary wildlife is seen, but you are unlikely to see a tiger.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 6

Transfer to Jaipur. Watch a Bollywood movie at a downtown cinema.

After breakfast, we drive around 3 hours to Jaipur, the famous regional capital of Rajasthan, also known as the 'Pink City'. After checking into our hotel (and possibly a quick swim), we go out to the local cinema to watch a Bollywood movie. These films are in the Hindi language and are usually along the theme of a romantic musical with a lot of singing and dancing. Without speaking Hindi, these movies can still be understood with their beautiful costumes, dancing and singing, all set with the backdrop of colourful India (we may choose to leave the film early). Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Meals: **B D**



Accommodation

Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 7

Amber Fort, Jaipur Palace of the Winds and, spices and curry cooking demo.

This morning, we visit the impressive Amber Fort, perched strategically on a hill just outside the city. The fort is a labyrinth of secret passageways and courtyards and our guided tour will last most of the morning. We return to Jaipur for lunch and in the afternoon we visit the City Palace, an observatory and the Palace of the Winds. As the sun starts to go down, the local colourful bazaars come alive and we can pick up some souvenirs or just browse the stalls. This evening we visit a local Rajasthani family for a cookery demonstration learning about the different spices and curries of India. We have dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Meals: **B D**

**Accommodation**Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 8**Transfer to Pushkar. Camel cart ride, enjoy the hotel and swimming pool.**

After breakfast, we leave Jaipur and head south-west for our 2-3 hours journey to reach Ajmer. From here, we turn off the main highway and climb for 20 minutes into the Araveli Hills to reach the spectacular location of Pushkar. On arrival, we check into our comfortable hotel and in the afternoon we can try our hand at camel driving. Anyone who does not wish to take part may prefer wander around this interesting town, enjoying its special ambience or relax around the tranquil hotel pool. After the short camel cart ride, we will visit explore parts of this mystical and spiritual town.

Meals: **B D****Accommodation**Hotel with swimming pool

DAY 9**Free morning to relax, enjoy the pool or explore Pushkar. Train back to Delhi.**

This morning we can relax at the hotel and enjoy the grounds and the swimming pool. We could also visit some more temples or have a look around the local bazaar. After lunch, we transfer the short distance to Ajmer, where we catch the mid-afternoon train to Delhi. The journey back will give us an opportunity to review and reflect on an incredible adventure, packed with experiences and memories that will stay with us for ever. As the sun goes down, dinner is served on the train and we arrive back in Delhi shortly before 11 pm. From the railway station, we transfer to a hotel near the airport for our final night in India.

Meals: **B D****Accommodation**Hotel

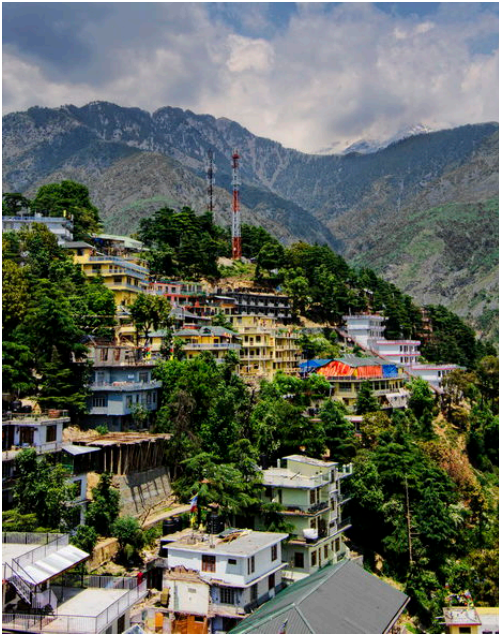
DAY 10**Departure day. A single transfer to Delhi Airport is provided.**

Our holidays ends after breakfast at the hotel in Delhi. A single timed transfer to Delhi Airport is included.

Meals: **B**

Extensions

When booking your holiday, you will be able to 'add an extension option'. Once we have received your booking we will contact you to discuss additional services required for the extension and to take any additional deposit.



Dharamsala and the Dalai Lama

Dharamsala is a former British Raj hill-station in the Dhauladhar mountain range and currently home to the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government in exile. On this four day extension, you will be able to sample a flavour of life in Tibet and enjoy visits to the Dalai Lama's temple complex; the Norbulingka Institute; the Tibetan children's village and visit a local Gaddi Tribal village to experience the life of the people who traditionally inhabit the lower reaches of the Dhauladhar.

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional English-speaking local leader
- Single timed Delhi airport transfers on the first and last day of the land only itinerary
- All land transport involved in the itinerary including train journeys
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- 2 game drives in jeeps at Ranthambore
- Camel cart ride at Pushkar
- Rickshaw ride at Bharatpur
- Cookery demonstration at Jaipur
- Bollywood movie tickets
- Guided sightseeing tour of Delhi / Agra / Jaipur and Pushkar
- All park fees and entrance fees to all monuments

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Delhi Airport transfers other than the single timed transfer
- Indian Visa
- Additional optional activities
- Tips for local staff
- Miscellaneous personal expenses

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the hotel in Delhi.

A single transfer from Delhi Airport to the group hotel is provided on the morning of Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, there will be a single timed transfer back to Delhi Airport for the morning flight.

Anyone may join the group transfers by prior arrangement. Travelling as a group saves energy. If this is not practical, we can provide private transfers at an additional cost.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts and dinners are included in the holiday price. You can choose your own lunch and the guide will suggest a suitable establishment, or they will be taken at the hotel. The food in India is delicious and there will always be plenty of choice.

Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. You should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Part of the experience of a family holiday to India is the truly amazing food on offer. Most of us are familiar with Indian cuisine but the real thing can be quite different to the dishes we know from Indian restaurants. In all the places that we stay it will also be possible to order western-style dishes.

Accommodation

In Delhi we have 2 nights in a centrally located hotel. In Agra, Bharatpur, Ranthambore, Jaipur and Pushkar we stay in hotels with swimming pools. All hotels are simple and chosen to be family friendly, well located and with reasonably facilities where possible.

Children under the age of 12yrs will usually share rooms with their grownups. This might be a twin, triple or quad room, a double with an extra bed, or multiple rooms depending on the number of family members. The extra beds in the rooms are usually mattresses on the floor with proper bedding - this is standard in India. If you are travelling with children over the age of 12yrs, you will be in separate rooms or sharing twin/multi-bed rooms. Please talk to us about your requirements and we will do everything to ensure that you are happy with your rooming allocation.

Additional hotel nights are available pre and post the holiday. All hotels are subject to availability and prices may vary.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be accompanied throughout the tour by a professional, English-speaking local tour leader. During the holiday the group will also have the services of English speaking local guides for the city tours and of expert naturalist guides for the safari tours.

Spending Money

We recommend the average family (mum, dad and 2 kids) will need approximately £400 for lunches, miscellaneous expenses, including tips to local staff, beer, soft drinks, etc. It is not necessary to purchase local currency (Indian Rupees) before you travel. We recommend taking your spending money in the form of cash. Sterling and US dollars are readily exchanged in Delhi or it is possible to withdraw your money from ATM's in all major towns and cities. Credit cards can be used to purchase some goods and are particularly useful for more expensive souvenirs.

Guidance on Tipping

For your tour guide we recommend that you give a tip if you feel that their services have met your satisfaction. As a rough guide we suggest a tip to your tour leader the equivalent of £15 - 20 per family member (with perhaps a little more for small groups of five or less). You may also wish to tip your driver(s) but we would suggest this should not be greater than half the amount you give to your tour guide. In hotels you should give a tip of around 30 - 60 rupees to hotel porters.

Additional Information

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are responsible for the conservation of many monuments in India (including the Taj Mahal). This organisation will occasionally undertake work to restore the various monuments, but often without notice, so it is difficult to forewarn our customers of this work. It is possible that, at any time, monuments on this holiday could be having work done on them.

Beat the Jet Lag

Our holidays are normally designed with minimal 'down time' at the start of the trip, but having a day or two at the beginning will have the additional benefit of allowing you time to get over the stress of a long journey or travelling across time zones, leaving you refreshed and ready for your holiday. We can easily arrange for you to have additional nights and airport transfers.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Luggage with wheels is useful for this holiday. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

Visa India

Most nationalities, including travellers from the UK, the USA and many European countries can apply for their Indian Visa online through the **E-Visa Application** process. You must make your application at least four days prior to departure. Please download the detailed information document for details of how to apply for your visa: [Visa India PDF](#)

For this holiday we require a scanned copy of the main pages of your passport. Please email this to the office when your holiday is guaranteed to run.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you specific require any vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella), along with hepatitis A and typhoid. A certificate of yellow fever vaccination is required if travelling from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transitted for more than 12 hrs through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dentist check up. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

Dengue fever is a known risk in places visited. It is a tropical viral disease spread by daytime biting mosquitoes. There is currently no vaccine or prophylaxis available and therefore the best form of prevention is to avoid being bitten. We recommend you [take precautions to avoid mosquito bites](#).

Currency

The currency of India is the Indian Rupee.

Climate

The temperatures vary from an average of 10-20 degrees centigrade from November-March to 20-35 degrees centigrade in the summer months. Rainfall is highest in July, August and September when the monsoon rains comes. These rains usually last for a couple of hours and then the rest of the day the weather is drier.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

You should bring the following items:

- Strong shoes or walking boots
- Socks
- Underwear
- Lightweight trousers
- Shirts (at least one long-sleeved with collar) and T-shirts
- Jacket
- Sunhat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 20 - 25 litres
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 litre (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash

- Basic First Aid Kit including pin-killers, plasters, blister treatment, insect repellent and re-hydration salts.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE OPTIONAL:

- Pen-knife (remember to pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Camera
- Travel clothes
- Swimming costume

Cotswold Outdoor



Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers. [>> Find out more](#)

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary joining Delhi. Single timed airport transfers are included.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Delhi.

Outbound flights will depart the UK in the evening, arriving in the morning of the following day (day 1 of the itinerary). Return flights will depart Delhi airport in the morning of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK later the same day.

Why Choose KE

Why KE?

The memories of playing a cricket match with local children, learning how to knock up an authentic curry, catching a Bollywood movie or even riding a camel in Pushkar will stay with you forever. And that's before we've even mentioned getting close up and personal with the Taj Mahal or glimpsing a tiger in the wild!

Please Note This document was downloaded on 09/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change