

KOLKATA ● DARJEELING ● THIMPHU ● PARO

# The Offer

Take an unforgettable small group tour through the diverse landscapes and rich cultures of two neighbouring countries, India and Bhutan. This is your chance to visit sacred temples that reflect centuries of history, immerse yourself in the spirituality of Buddhist culture and admire breathtaking mountain scenery.

Your adventure begins in Kolkata, India, where you'll delight in a city tour. Discover the grandeur of the Victoria Memorial, marvel at the architectural beauty of the iconic Howrah Bridge, admire Gothic revival architecture at St Paul's Cathedral and more. Catch a flight to Bagdogra before enjoying a scenic drive to Darjeeling. Spot Mount Everest at sunrise from Tiger Hill before touring Ghoom Monastery, Darjeeling Tea Gardens and the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute.

Enjoy a scenic drive to the India–Bhutan border before continuing through the mountains to Thimphu. Time seems to stand still here so enjoy time at leisure to see Clock Tower Square or wander through the Centenary Farmers' Market. Experience the city's highlights on a sightseeing tour by visiting the Buddha Dordenma statue, the Institute of Traditional Medicine where traditional Bhutanese

practices are preserved and Norzin Lam to shop for unique souvenirs. Travel to the valley town of Paro to explore the magnificent Rinpung Dzong fortress monastery, browse historical artifacts at the National Museum and stop by Kyichu Lhakhang temple. You'll then hike to the world-famous Tiger's Nest Monastery, perched on a cliffside that offers breathtaking views and profound spiritual significance. Head to Chalsa where you could birdwatch at Jaldhaka River or take in panoramic views from Mahananda Viewpoint during free time. Afterwards, board a flight back to Kolkata and begin your journey home.

There's never been a better time to connect deeply with the people, culture and landscapes of India and Bhutan. Book now for return international full-service flights, return internal flights, 10 nights of accommodation, 16 meals and more.

Want more? Upgrade to Premium accommodation throughout the tour.

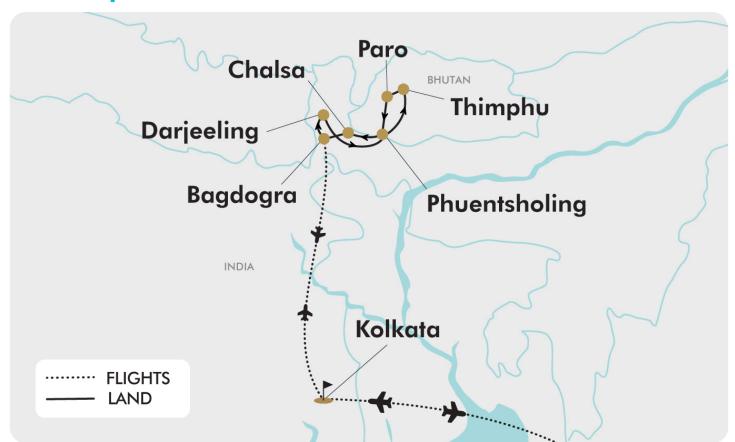
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11-DAY TOUR PACKAGE | INDIA & BHUTAN DISCOVERY

# The Map



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# The Itinerary

## Day 1 Australia (or New Zealand) - Kolkata, India

Today, you'll fly from Australia (or New Zealand) to Kolkata, India. Upon arrival, you'll be met by a representative at the airport who will transfer you to your hotel where you may enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Kolkata, formerly known as Calcutta, is often referred to as the cultural capital of India. This bustling metropolis on the eastern bank of the Hooghly River has a rich history that dates back to the days of the British Raj. As the former capital of British India, Kolkata boasts a unique blend of colonial architecture, cultural landmarks and vibrant arts scenes.

Renowned for its intellectual and artistic heritage, the city is home to many esteemed institutions, galleries and theatres. The grandiose Victoria Memorial, the historic Howrah Bridge and the Indian Museum are just a few of the attractions that draw visitors to this dynamic city. With its bustling markets, literary festivals and delicious street food, Kolkata offers an immersive experience that reflects the diversity and vitality of West Bengal.

Overnight: Kolkata (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: In-Flight

# Day 2 Kolkata Half-Day City Tour

After breakfast, you'll embark on a half-day city tour of Kolkata.

This tour includes the magnificent Victoria Memorial, an architectural marvel in white marble that pays homage to the city's colonial past. Afterwards, visit the bustling and historic Howrah Bridge which is an engineering wonder that spans the Hooghly River. This iconic structure is not just a vital link but also a symbol of Kolkata and West Bengal.

Your tour continues with a visit to St. Paul's Cathedral, an impressive example of Gothic Revival architecture, before heading to the historical BBD Bagh (Dalhousie Square) which is the commercial and administrative heart of the city.

Overnight: Kolkata (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast

## Day 3 Kolkata - Bagdogra - Darjeeling

After breakfast, you'll transfer to Kolkata airport to board your flight to Bagdogra. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by a tour representative who will assist and escort you by private transport on a scenic drive to Darjeeling. Upon arrival, you can check in at your hotel.

This renowned hill city offers breathtaking views of the majestic Himalayas. The clouds seem to whisper to one another here, and from horizon to horizon stretches the snow-covered Kanchenjunga which is visible all year round. The views of Kanchenjunga and Mount Everest are particularly inspiring so witnessing sunrise from the famous Tiger Hill is a must.

The region's lofty mountainous terrain and cascading rivers also provide excellent opportunities for adventure sports and trekking (not included). Spend the night at your hotel, soaking in the serene beauty and tranquil ambience of Darjeeling.

Overnight: Darjeeling (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast

### **Day 4 Darjeeling City Tour**

After breakfast, start your day with a morning visit to Ghoom Monastery, one of the oldest Tibetan monasteries in Darjeeling.

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# The Itinerary

You'll then enjoy a city tour of Darjeeling, visiting one of the most beautiful hill stations in Eastern India where British influences are still evident in the lifestyle, garden tea estates and hotels. The tour also stops at the Darjeeling Racecourse, Long Village and the Mountaineering Institute.

In the afternoon, take an educational tour of the tea gardens to learn about the entire process from tea planting to manufacturing. Darjeeling tea is renowned worldwide, so enjoy tasting some of the special tea flavours.

You'll then experience the thrill of the Rope Way, admire the artworks at Ava Art Gallery and see the challenging Tenzing Rock. Learn about the region's mountaineering heritage at the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and visit the house of Tenzing Norgay, the first Everest hero. You'll then conclude your tour with a visit to the tranquil Japanese Temple and Zoological Park.

Overnight: Darjeeling (Standard or Premium option)
Meals included: Breakfast

# Day 5 Darjeeling, India - Phuentsholing, Bhutan

After breakfast at your hotel, you'll embark on an approximately 200-kilometre scenic drive to the India–Bhutan border, heading towards Jaigaon-Phuentsholing. Along the way, enjoy a delightful lunch at the picturesque Baradighi Bungalow.

Upon arrival in Phuentsholing, complete all immigration formalities before checking into your hotel. Spend the evening at your leisure, exploring the border town or simply relaxing.

Overnight: Phuentsholing (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

### Day 6 Phuentsholing - Thimphu

This morning, enjoy breakfast before processing your route permit for Bhutan. You'll then set off on an approximately 160-kilometre journey through the mountains to Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan. This scenic drive is of almost unbelievable beauty, winding through the northern Indian tea plantations and navigating endless turns, hairpin bends and daring stretches carved into the mountain rock via Chukka.

Upon arrival in Thimphu, check in at your hotel and take time to relax in the afternoon.

You'll discover that this unique capital city has no traffic lights but instead features traffic policemen who captivate onlookers with their elaborate hand gestures. Watch as they signal stop when it looks like go and enjoy their friendly smiles as you observe the flow. In the evening, enjoy a leisurely stroll around Clock Tower Square, soaking in the local ambience and charm.

Overnight: Thimphu (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

### Day 7 Thimphu

Start your morning by sightseeing after breakfast with a visit to the majestic Buddha Dordenma statue, offering stunning views of the city from its hilltop location. Continue your tour with a visit to the Folk Heritage Museum which provides insight into Bhutanese culture and traditions. Explore the National Library, home to ancient manuscripts and important historical texts, and the Institute of Traditional Medicine where traditional Bhutanese healing practices are preserved.



# The Itinerary

Afterwards, stroll through Kaja Throm and take a leisurely walk to Norzin Lam where you can browse the handicraft shops for unique souvenirs and local crafts.

Overnight: Thimphu (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

#### Day 8 Thimpu - Paro

Following breakfast, take an approximately 50-kilometre scenic drive to Paro. Along the way, you'll visit Tacho Lhakhang which is also known as the Iron Bridge.

In Paro, your first stop will be the magnificent Rinpung Dzong, a fortress monastery that offers insight into Bhutanese architecture and culture. You'll then explore the National Museum, housed in the round Ta Dzong fortress which is renowned for its extensive collection of natural and historical artefacts. Continue your tour with a visit to Kyichu Lhakhang, dating back to the 7th century it's one of the oldest and most sacred monasteries in Bhutan.

Afterwards, check in at your hotel and prepare for an unforgettable adventure as you drive to the base of the world-famous Tiger's Nest Monastery (Taktsang).

Here you will embark on a challenging but rewarding hike that takes approximately 5 to 6 hours return, including uphill and downhill climbs. This monastery, perched on a cliffside, is believed to be the site where Padmasambhava (Guru Rinpoche) flew on the back of a tigress to tame a tiger demon. The hike offers breathtaking views and the opportunity to visit a place of profound spiritual significance.

After returning from the hike, spend your evening exploring Paro town at leisure.

Overnight: Paro (Standard or Premium option)
Meals included: Breakfast; Dinner

#### Day 9 Paro - Phuentsholing - Chalsa

After breakfast, you'll depart for Phuentsholing where you'll enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant before continuing your drive.

After an approximately 250-kilometre journey, you'll arrive in Chalsa where you can check in at your hotel and take the rest of the day to enjoy independent activities. You could explore the local surroundings, relax at your hotel or engage in any leisure activities that interest you.

Overnight: Chalsa (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch

# Day 10 Chalsa - Bagdogra - Kolkata

After breakfast, you'll transfer to the airport to board your flight back to Kolkata. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by our representative, who will assist you and escort you by private transport to your hotel for check-in. The rest of the day is free for independent activities, or you may choose to join an optional tour.

# Optional Activity: City Walk

This fascinating walk takes you through imperial Calcutta, showcasing some of the prominent Bengali residences from the 18th and 19th centuries. The walk begins near Esplanade where you can opt to take the metro or bus before disembarking at Mahatma Gandhi Road junction. From there, the route is almost a straight stretch down Bhupen Bose Avenue, approaching

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# The Itinerary

Shyambazar. You'll circle west via Ramakanta Bose Street into Madanmohantala Street and briefly onto the extreme north end of Chitpur Road. This path leads you to the Kumartuli area, famous for its artisans who craft clay idols. You can then return via Sovabazar Street to Central Avenue (also known as Chittaranjan Avenue) to catch the metro or any bus back to Esplanade. Please see current pricing in Important Information.

Overnight: Kolkata (Standard or Premium option) Meals included: Breakfast

Day 11 Kolkata, India - Australia (or New Zealand)

After breakfast, you'll transfer to the airport to board your flight back to Australia (or New Zealand).

Meals included: Breakfast; In-Flight





# **Tour Inclusions**

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

Explore two fascinating countries on an intimate small group tour

Enjoy a memorable hike to Tiger's Nest Monastery, an iconic Buddhist monastery perched on a cliff

Visit the impressive Victoria Memorial in Kolkata, built in white marble

Discover the house of Tenzing Norgay, the first hero of Mount Everest

Sip an afternoon tea in the Darjeeling Tea Gardens and learn about the tea manufacturing process

Explore the Rinpung Dzong, a magnificent and impressive fortress in Paro

Visit the National Museum of Bhutan, covering over 1,500 years of Bhutanese heritage

Learn about Darjeeling's culture and history

Take an exciting city tour of Darjeeling's highlights

#### **FLIGHTS**

Return international full-service flights (economy class), departures city surcharges may apply

Return internal flights from Kolkata to Bagdogra (economy class)

# **ACCOMMODATION**

10 nights of standard or premium accommodation

## **DINING**

16 meals including daily breakfast and a traditional Bhutanese set lunch

#### **ESSENTIALS**

English-speaking tour guides

Airline taxes and surcharges

Bhutan visa and tourism taxes

#### **TRANSPORT**

Transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles

#### **TRANSFERS**

Return airport transfers included



\*Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

# **Booking Information**

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. You must complete the Passenger Information Form within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

On purchasing this Travel Offer, you are bound by the <u>General Terms and</u> <u>Conditions</u> and the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

Please note: All countries and territories have different entry requirements in relation to vaccinations, quarantine/isolation periods and travel restrictions. Due to the evolving nature, we would ask all of our customers to monitor, meet and adhere to the specific requirements of their intended destination(s) in the lead-up to and immediately before travel, as well as any requirements post-travel upon their return.

# **Our Policies**

#### **Cancellation & Refund Policy**

By placing a booking with us, you acknowledge the following important information:

we act as your booking agent: TripADeal
is a booking services provider, and
curates the Travel Offers available on our
website. We act as your booking agent,
and we receive payment for the Booking
Services as part of the booking price,
however, we do not provide any of the

Travel Services (flights, accommodation, tours or other products or services) included in your booking – the Travel Services are provided by a number of third party Travel Suppliers.

- each booking is unique: our Travel Offers are made up of a variety of different components and are, during the booking process, uniquely tailored to suit your requirements, for example, departure dates and ports, flight and room upgrades, tour inclusions, etc.
- changes/modifications to your booking may not be possible: once your booking has been made, changes or modifications may not be possible, and where possible, may incur a fee. It is important to ensure that the information you provide during the booking process is accurate and up to date, and that you read the Travel
   Offer carefully before placing your order.
- Travel Offers are a package: our Travel
   Offers have been curated into package
   offerings and must be used as a package
   - individual components cannot be used
   independently of the full package
   offering.
- our Travel Offers are generally nonrefundable: in order to provide great value Travel Offers, we work with a variety of Travel Suppliers to find the best deals – this often means the Travel Suppliers' offerings are non-refundable to ensure the best price. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance as soon as you make a booking with us.

To read more about our Cancellation and Refund Policy, please click here.

## **General Terms & Conditions**

By placing your booking with us, you acknowledge and agree to our <u>Terms & Conditions</u>, <u>Privacy Policy</u> and <u>Cancellation</u> Policy.

# **Offer Essentials**

This travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 22nd December 2026.

Minimum group size 6, maximum group

size 20 per vehicle.

This travel offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

#### **Single Traveller Supplement**

For solo travellers, a mandatory single supplement applies:

#### 2025

Standard Package: \$1,400Premium Package: \$1,650

#### 2026

Standard Package: \$1,600Premium Package: \$1,780

Please note: Accommodation for single customers who are travelling on a tour or cruise package may be in a single room, depending on availability.

# **Child Policy**

- No child discounts. The full price applies to all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for children 8 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

#### **Departure Dates & Surcharges**

See checkout for live dates and availability.

# **Flights**

# **Departure Cities**

Sydney, Melbourne, \*Brisbane, Perth, \*Adelaide and \*Auckland

# **Departure City Surcharges**

- Brisbane and Adelaide: \$150 per person
- Auckland: \$450 per person

## International Full-Service Flight(s)

• Cabin Class: Economy Class

Please note: We cannot accommodate oneway flights. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.

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REQUENT | Trip?

Please note: From Sydney or Melbourne, the flying journey to your destination may take up to 19 hours, with up to 1 stop.

From Brisbane or Adelaide, the flying journey to your destination may take up to 20 hours, with up to 2 stops.

From Perth, the flying journey to your destination may take up to 18 hours, with up to 1 stop.

From Auckland, the flying journey to your destination may take up to 24 hours, with up to 2 stops.

This is provided as a guide only - actual flight duration can vary depending on availability and airline schedules. Your booking's final details will be confirmed to you via email once available.

#### Domestic Flight(s) Used

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Route: Kolkata Bagdogra Kolkata

## **Domestic Flight Information**

Baggage allowance per person:

- 1 x 15 kilograms of checked baggage
- 1 x 7 kilograms of carry on baggage

#### **Preferred Airline Surcharge**

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Singapore Airlines: \$400 per person

#### Please note:

- Preferred airlines are subject to availability.
   If we are unable to fulfil your request, the above extra cost will be refunded.
- On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed, subject to aircraft configuration.
- In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.
- Preferred airline refers to the marketing carrier and could include codeshare partners.

#### **Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options**

Fly out and return home up to 60 days pre and post your tour dates.

#### **Arrive Early**

Kolkata, India - From \$300 per person, subject to availability.

#### Stay Behind

Kolkata, India - From \$300 per person, subject to availability.

#### Please note:

#### • Exclusions:

This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.

#### Cancellations & Changes:

Flight booking changes or cancellations after air tickets have been issued are not guaranteed and may incur additional fees and fare difference, subject to the airline cancellation and change policies. Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

#### • High-Season:

A high-season Arrive Early or Stay Behind can be purchased for an additional charge, subject to availability. For pricing, please refer to the cart.

### • + 60 days:

You can fly out up to 60 days before your package's start date, and/or return home 60 days after your package's end date.

Should you wish to fly out or return home for more than 60 days from the tour, please contact us to request availability.

Additional costs may apply.

#### • Estimated dates:

Your estimated departure, return, and arrival dates are all subject to availability and may vary. The confirmed schedule for all flights will be provided when you receive your flight tickets.

- High season surcharges apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:
- 28 March 2025 27 April 2025
- 16 June 2025 20 July 2025
- 15 September 2025 12 October 2025
- 1 December 2025 31 January 2026
- 3 April 2026 20 April 2026

- 26 June 2026 17 July 2026
- 18 September 2026 9 October 2026
- 12 December 2026 26 January 2027

#### **Stopover Packages**

### Singapore

Includes:

- 2, 3 or 5 nights in 4-star accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- Return airport transfers

For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

#### Please note:

- When a pre and post-tour stopover is chosen, the same stopover location must be chosen each way, due to the airline used.
- When selecting to Arrive Early for your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your fly out date from home will take place before the stopover.
- When selecting to Stay Behind after your tour in conjunction with a Stopover Package, your stopover will take place before your final flight home.
- Stopover packages are subject to availability.
- In the event that a purchased stopover package and a purchased preferred airline upgrade are not compatible, you will have the option to receive a refund for the preferred airline upgrade or be offered an alternative stopover city option, e.g if you choose to fly with Singapore Airlines you cannot stopover in Dubai.
- Blackout dates apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:

2 October - 8 October 202522 December 2025 - 2 January 2026

## Flight Class Upgrades

Business Class: For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

#### Please note:

- Flight upgrades are subject to availability and pricing changes (if we cannot fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded).
- On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed

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#### Missed Flights

If you fail to arrive for your outbound flight, you risk all flight and land arrangements in your destination being automatically cancelled by the airlines and land operator, respectively. Additional fees may apply to reinstate these services. If you miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements.

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Accommodation Used**

Standard Package: 3 & 4-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

- Kolkata, India: Golden Tulip
- Darjeeling, India: RJ Resort
- Phuentsholing, Bhutan: Hotel Palm
- Thimphu, Bhutan: Hotel Thimphu Central
- Paro, Bhutan: Bhutan Mandala Resort
- Chalsa, India: Riverwood Retreat
- Kolkata, India: Golden Tulip

# <u>Premium Package: 4 & 5-Star Properties</u> (Self-Rated)

- Kolkata, India: Vedic Village Spa & Resort
- Darjeeling, India: Crescent Resort
- Phuentsholing, Bhutan: Hotel Druk
- Thimphu, Bhutan: Hotel Tashi Yid-Wong Grand
- Paro, Bhutan: Tashi Namgay Resort & Spa
- Kolkata, India: Vedic Village Spa & Resort

#### **Premium Properties**

# 3-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

• Chalsa, India: Sinclairs Retreat

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type and are subject to availability based on seasonality. In the instance a property is not available, a similar standard of accommodation will be provided. Properties will be confirmed and included in your travel pack, which you will receive 4-6 weeks before travel.

#### **Extra Nights**

Not available.

Please note: If you are interested in booking additional nights of accommodation pre or post-tour, please wait until you receive your

travel documentation approximately 4-6 weeks before departure for the confirmed list of hotels. If booking your own additional accommodation directly with the hotel, please be aware that you may be required to change rooms at the start/end of your tour.

#### **Maximum Room Capacity**

2 people.

#### **Triple Share**

Not available.

#### **Bedding Configuration**

Twin or double (subject to availability).

# **Optional Tours/activities**

Day 10: City Walk – \$45 per person (2025 dates) | \$55 per person (2026 dates)

#### Please note:

- Prices are based per person and are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions.
- The optional tours listed above must be purchased on checkout or over the phone before submitting your passenger information form (subject to availability).

## **Exclusions**

- Visa fees and requirements
- Domestic transfers and flights not stated in the deal offer
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Any costs associated with an interruption to your tour as a result of an airline schedule change or cancellation

Please note: The visa for Bhutan is included however you will still need to meet entry requirements to be approved.

# **Gratuities/tipping**

#### Land

Gratuities (tips) are not included for the services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The

recommended tip is 300 Rupees per person per day. This covers the guide/leader and the driver and will be collected on tour.

Please note: Tipping for services provided is always a matter of personal discretion; however, please be aware that many locals consider tipping part of their normal remuneration, and they may approach you for payment; there's no need to be intimidated by the request.

# **Other Important Information**

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

#### **Tour Guide**

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on the history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction where they are guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves it at the end of the tour; they do not travel with the group.

#### **Tour Leader**

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides at each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village and offer information on the place visited on the bus. However, they are not required to have specific art, architecture, or historical knowledge. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and, if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.



#### **CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES**

#### West Bengal Area, India

West Bengal, which borders Bhutan, experiences distinct seasonal changes. In spring, from March to May, the state enjoys warm and pleasant weather with temperatures ranging from 20°C to 30°C, making it an ideal time for sightseeing and outdoor activities. Summer, from June to August, is characterised by hot and humid conditions with temperatures between 25°C and 35°C. Autumn, from September to November, brings clear skies, moderate temperatures between 15°C and 25°C, and less humidity, making it a favourable season for travel and festivals. Winter, from December to February, sees cool and dry weather with temperatures ranging from 10°C to 20°C. Northern parts of the state can get quite cold, but generally, the weather remains comfortable for exploring the region.

#### **Bhutan**

Bhutan experiences distinct seasons throughout the year. Spring, from March to May, brings mild temperatures ranging from 15°C to 25°C, making it an ideal time for trekking and enjoying the blooming flowers. Summer, from June to August, sees warmer temperatures between 20°C and 30°C. Autumn, from September to November, is a favourite season for tourists due to its clear skies, vibrant fall foliage, and pleasant temperatures between 10°C and 20°C, perfect for cultural festivals and outdoor activities. Winter, from December to February, brings colder temperatures, especially in the northern regions, with averages ranging from -5°C to 10°C. Snowfall is common in higher altitudes, while lower areas experience cool, dry weather.

#### **FLIGHTS**

# **Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points**

We do not arrange seat selection. It is essential to highlight that some airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the airline directly with seating allocation requirements and/

or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the airline once you have your flight information.

#### **Passport Validity**

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 45 days before the departure date. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the booking. Customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred in this instance.

#### **COACH TOUR**

#### Meals

For meals not included, the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify us of any dietary requests/requirements.

Please note: We will do our best to meet your requests/requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

#### Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on tour. You must carry your own luggage from the vehicle to the hotel room and back to the vehicle. The driver will assist with the uploading and unloading of bags from the vehicle.

#### OTHER

#### Mobility

If you require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

### **Fitness Level Required**

A moderate level of fitness will be required. Moderate is described as: Expect a moderate pace of touring with a focus on guided tours that may include full days with extended activity, guided city tours or nature walks. You will require a general level of fitness for unassisted navigation of stairs and inclines, longer distances with

possible periods of standing when visiting sites, walking on sloping, uneven ground or elevations. You will be responsible for your own luggage and have the ability to board all modes of transport without assistance. Please note: Many areas may be inaccessible to wheelchairs or mobility scooters, where the unassisted use of personal walking sticks and other aids may be required. Although some assistance may be available, every traveller should be self-reliant during all aspects of their travel.

#### Please note:

- It is expected that every traveller be selfreliant and able to undertake all aspects of their own travel. Please speak to your booking agent about your personal circumstances and any assistance requirements to ensure this tour is right for you.
- If you have any concerns, please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/ travel.

#### **Sightseeing**

Please note: If entry to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary, where possible, may be adjusted, or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

#### **Shopping**

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all your receipts. Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions regarding shopping for further information.

# Visas

India



A tourist visa for India is a strict requirement if travelling on an Australian or New Zealand passport. You will be able to start your visa application process once you receive your final travel documentation approximately 6 weeks prior to departure.

#### **Bhutan**

A tourist visa for Bhutan is a strict requirement to travel to Bhutan. The Bhutan visa is arranged by us and given to you when you arrive in India. Please see the below in order for us to arrange your visa for Bhutan. Once you receive your travel documentation, you will be required to provide a clear colour scan copy of your passport, a passport-sized photograph, and travel insurance to us to apply for the Bhutan Visa 30 days prior to your travel date.

#### Important:

- Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.
- Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.
- It is your responsibility to be travel-ready and ensure that you are aware and comply with any destination or travel requirements, including the validity of all required travel documents.
- Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required.
- It is also important to note that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations, may have additional restrictions in applying for visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.

### **Travel Insurance**

Embarking on your next trip is exciting, and while you hope the unexpected does not happen, it is best to be prepared. We strongly recommend you take out travel insurance when making your booking. Whether it's a potential medical emergency, a flight cancellation, a delayed suitcase, or an unforeseen event, it's important to ensure you're adequately protected. For more information or advice visit <a href="https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance">https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance</a>

#### **Schedule Of Fees**

### **Voluntary Changes**

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

 Changes - \$100 AUD per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/ other travel providers.

#### **Name Changes Due To Passenger Error**

 If the incorrect name has been provided, charges of \$100 AUD per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/ other travel providers.

#### **Supplier Fees**

In the event the tour package you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to nonrefundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/ accommodation partners. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event we are unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier

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