



YALE ALUMNI SERVICE CORPS

*EXPERIENCE THE LIVING CULTURES OF
INDIA*

GOLDEN TRIANGLE

4 NIGHTS / 5 DAYS



ORGANIZED BY FAR HORIZON

9th August 2015, Sunday

Jodhpur / Jaipur

Today we will make the drive to the Rajput capital of Jaipur, the “Pink City.” Jaipur was built in 1727 by the warrior-astronomer Maharaja Jai Singh-II. The city is laid out as described in the ancient Hindu treatise on architecture “Shilpa-Shastra.” Battlement walls with seven gates encircle the old city; broad avenues divide it into neat rectangles. Jaipur is popularly known as the ‘Pink City’ due to the pink colored sandstone of the buildings in the old walled city.

We will stop en-route for the lunch at a local restaurant.

On arrival, check-in to the hotel and evening is free to relax.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Lunch, Dinner)

10th August 2015, Monday

Jaipur

This morning we tour the Amber Fort and Palace, stopping on the way to photograph and watch the sun light up the Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds). The fort is a beautiful and very well preserved 16th-century structure, built on four levels and surrounded by ruins.

After lunch at a local restaurant, we then visit the City Palace, where the present Maharaja resides. There is a Mughal art museum, housing a lovely collection of Rajasthani & Mughal miniature painting. Part of the complex is an outdoor 18th-century astronomical and astrological observatory (Jantar Mantar) with several incredible sundials (accurate to 0.2 seconds) and very modern-looking astrological markers.

Return to the hotel and dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

11th August 2015, Tuesday

Jaipur – Agra

After breakfast you depart Jaipur for Agra.

Agra reached the peak of its magnificence between the mid-16th and mid-17th centuries under the reigns of Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan. It was during this period that the fort, Taj Mahal and Agra’s major tombs were built.

After lunch, visit Agra Fort, built by Akbar as his citadel over the years 1565-73 in the finest architectural style. It is an almost perfect fusion between military might and lavish beauty. The fort, approachable through its two lofty main portals on the west and south, was successively occupied by three great Mughals - Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan - each of whom made significant structural contributions to this complex. Shah Jahan died here, imprisoned by his son, gazing at the Taj Mahal he had built in memory of his wife.

Return to the hotel and dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

12th August 2015, Wednesday

Agra – Delhi

We will rise early and make a sunrise visit to India's great monument, the Taj Mahal. Shah Jahan built the Taj Mahal in 1631 to enshrine the mortal remains of his Queen Mumtaz Mahal. It took seventeen years, 20,000 workers and a King's treasury to build this wonder.

Return to the hotel breakfast.

After lunch, we will depart for Delhi. Even when Bombay and Madras were mere trading posts and Calcutta a village of mud huts, Delhi had been the seat of an empire for five hundred years. Through the centuries, eight cities have been built on this site, by Hindus, the Mughals and the British, each adding their own flavor. In a matter of minutes you can be transported from a sprawling, elegant garden city to the ancient twisting alleyways of Old Delhi.

On arrival, check-in to the hotel.

Dinner at the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

13th August 2015, Thursday

Delhi & Departure

This morning on our tour of "Old Delhi," we will explore this exotic locale with its narrow dirt roads, its myriad people and inexpensive and colorful bazaars that keep alive the traditional workmanship for which Delhi has always been famous. Driving past the Red Fort, we trade our motor vehicle for a bicycle rickshaw, which will take us into the heart of Chandni Chowk (the silver square - so named because of the silver merchants). Negotiating alleyways, which seemingly get narrower and narrower we end up at the Jama Masjid, the largest Muslim mosque in India.

Return to the hotel for lunch and check-out (*Hotel check-out time is 1200 noon*).

You will be transferred to Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport to check in for your flight.
(*Breakfast, Lunch*)