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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "Mysteries of India" (AHLNG), [but here are some similar trips](#).



JOURNEYS  
with **G Adventures**

Last Updated: August 25, 2022



# MYSTERIES OF INDIA

15 days, Delhi to Delhi

Trip code AHLNG

# WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Explore the Caravan Route, Bikāner
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Discover Village Life, Chandelao
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Barefoot College Visit, Jaipur
- Your G for Good Moment: City Walk, Delhi
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Arrival transfer included through the G Adventures-supported Women on Wheels project
- Orientation tour of colonial Delhi
- Tour of frescoed havelis of Shekhawati
- Visit Junagarh Fort and Deshnoke's Karni Mata Temple (or Rat Temple)
- Visit Mehrangarh Fort and Clock Tower
- Excursion to rural hamlets of Chandelao and Jojawar
- Explore Udaipur
- Visit Ranakpur Jain temples
- Explore Jaipur and Amber Fort
- Visit Fatehpur Sikri, Taj Mahal, and the Red Fort of Agra
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing July 10th, 2015 - December 31st, 2016

# ITINERARY

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## DELHI

Arrive at any time. Arrival transfer included through Women on Wheels, a G Adventures-supported project.

There are no planned activities, so check into the hotel (check-in time is noon) and enjoy the city.

## @ TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Women on Wheels Transfer **Indira Gandhi International Airport - Delhi**

Transfer by a G Adventures-supported project, Women With Wheels. This program provides safe and reliable transport for travellers, while providing a dignified livelihood for a local woman from a resource poor community.

### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

## DELHI/MANDĀWA

Take a walk through the backstreets with a young adult taking part in the G Adventures-supported New Delhi Streetkids Project. Continue on to Colonial New Delhi for an orientation tour then drive to Mandawa village.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 2km

Explore the streets of Delhi with a youth-led tour guide from the G Adventures-supported City Walk project. As a former at-risk youth, your local guide will have a unique perspective on the city and can provide more information on the life of a child in India. The guided tour helps support the guide's college or university tuition.

Colonial New Delhi Orientation Tour

Get a glimpse of the wide boulevards and splendid architecture of the British Raj in this guided tour of colonial New Delhi.

Private Vehicle Delhi - Mandāwa 5h-7h 240km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 3

## MANDĀWA/BĪKĀNER

Start the day with a walking tour of Mandawa then drive to Bikaner and stay in a heritage hotel, once the residence of nobility. Visit the town's colourful markets and havelis. Option to visit a camel breeding centre.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Mandawa Walking Tour **Mandāwa** 2h-3h

Take a tour of the markets, havelis, and other top spots in this charming town.

Private Vehicle **Mandāwa - Bīkāner** 3h-4h 140km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Havelis of Shekhawati Guided Tour **Bīkāner** 1h-2h 1km

Walk through these glorious, elaborate, old world mansions and admire their intricately carved exteriors on this walking tour.

Day 4

## BĪKĀNER

Explore traditional markets in the old city of Bikaner with a local expert. Learn about the age-old traditions of bartering and trading tea and spices and how modern business practices are still influenced by the old caravan routes. Later, visit Junagarh Fort and the infamous Karni Mata (rat temple).

Today visit the well-maintained 16th-century Junagarh Fort. Drive down to the small town of Deshnoke (about half an hour away) to visit Karni Mata, where rats are revered by the locals. Don't have a liking for rats? (Really, it's ok if you don't.) Opt to stay out and enjoy the beautifully carved doorway and the small market nearby.



### Meals included

Breakfast



## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITY

Explore traditional markets in the old city of Bikaner with a local expert. Learn about the age-old traditions of bartering and trading in tea and spices through the traditional seats of Kolkata, Kochi, and Bikaner. Even today all the business centres of India, Nepal, and Assam are influenced by these old caravan routes combining ancient practices with modern business.

Private Vehicle **Bīkāner**

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Junagarh Fort Visit **Bīkāner** 1h-3h

This elaborately-carved fort was built between 1589 and 1593 and is one of the oldest forts in India, and is owned by the Bikaner royal family. Check out the intricate screens and balconies inside.

Deshnoke Rat Temple Visit **Deshnoke** 2h-3h

Rats may be considered a menace by most people in India (and around the world), but locals believe that rats are sacred and care for them. Keep an eye out for a white rat as it's said to be auspicious. There are approximately 20,000 rats at this temple, so if you're squeamish, admire it from outside.



### Optional Activities - Day 4

Camel Breeding Centre Visit

Bīkāner

50INR

Learn about these magnificent creatures known as the "desert horse." The babies are pretty cute, and sometimes ice-cream made out of camel's milk is available for purchase.

Day 5

## BĪKĀNER/JODHPUR

Arrive at the "Blue City" and visit Mehrangarh Fort in the afternoon, built in the 15th century and well-known for its iconic Clock Tower.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Bīkāner - Jodhpur

4h-5h

220km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Mehrangarh Fort Visit

Jodhpur

Visit this breathtakingly beautiful fort located at the top of a cliff, which offers a stunning view of the Blue City of Jodhpur below. Learn about the many battles fought there and get a sense of what it was like to be Rajasthani royalty by visiting its well-stocked museum.

Day 6

## JODHPUR/CHANDELAO

Take a Jeep excursion into the countryside to visit tribal hamlets of Bishnois and Prajapats. Continue on to Chandelao Garh and explore the village and local markets.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Jodhpur - Chandelao

2h-3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Jeep Safari in Jodhpur

Jodhpur

Jump in a Jeep and get ready for a couple hours of exploring the countryside. Visit with the Bishnoi tribe, Meghawas ceramists (pick up a few pieces of their pottery if you like), and the Prajapat dhurrie carpet weavers.

Chandelao Garh Village Stay

Chandelao

Get a taste of life in this village by staying with some locals. Enjoy this unique opportunity to learn about Rajasthani culture.

Day 7

## CHANDELAO

Enjoy Chandelao Garh and explore the village and local markets. Meet with the village elders and teachers to discuss various aspects of daily life, economy, and culture in rural areas. Also visit the Sunder Rang Project at Chandelao which is striving to help village women become more economically independent by training them in traditional crafts.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

#### ACTIVITY

Meet with elders and teachers of Chandelao village and discuss various aspects of daily life, economy, and culture in rural areas. Also visit the Sunder Rang Project at Chandelao which is striving to help village women become more economically independent by training them in traditional crafts.

Chandelao Garh Village Stay Chandelao

Get a taste of life in this village by staying with some locals. Enjoy this unique opportunity to learn about Rajasthani culture.

Free Time Chandelao

Enjoy some free time exploring this charming Rajasthani village that gives you a taste of the "real" India.

Day 8

## CHANDELAO/UDAIPUR

Drive to Udaipur, visiting the stunning Ranakpur Jain temples en route. This afternoon, take an orientation walk with your CEO in Udaipur.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Chandelao - Udaipur

5h-6h

240km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ranakpur Jain Temples Visit

Ranakpur

1h-2h

Enjoy a visit to this magnificent white marble temple devoted to Adinath, a god in the Jain religion. Jains believe in "ahimsa," non-violence to all living beings. Built in the 15th century, the temple has 1444 individually carved pillars.

Udaipur Orientation Walk

Udaipur

Go on a guided orientation walk and get to know local markets and key places.

Day 9

## UDAIPUR

Explore the City Palace museum, enjoy a Pichola Lake boat ride, and a visit to the Jagdish Temple.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

City Palace Visit

Udaipur

1h-2h

Visit Rajasthan's largest palace to get a sense of how royalty lived. Take in the view from one of its many intricately-decorated balconies, with one side facing the stunning Lake Palace.

Pichola Lake Boat Tour

Lake Pichola

1h

Sit back and relax on this amazing boat tour on Pichola Lake. The views of the city and gorgeous palaces, including City Palace, cannot be beat.

Jagdish Temple Visit

Udaipur

Visit the intricately-carved Jagdish Temple, which pays homage to Vishnu, the Hindu god of preservation. Make sure to take a peek at the black stoned image of Vishnu that's housed inside the shrine.

Private Vehicle

Udaipur

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 10

## UDAIPUR/JOJAWAR

Stay at a heritage home in Jojawar village and take a train safari through the picturesque Aravali mountains.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Udaipur – Jojawar

3h30m-4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Train Safari

Jojawar

1h-2h

Enjoy a small train safari with the local villagers through the picturesque mountains of the Aravali Range.

Day 11

## JOJAWAR/JAIPUR

Drive to Jaipur, the capital of the state of Rajasthan. Visit Barefoot College on the way, an NGO providing basic services and solutions to issues in rural India for more than 40 years. Here we learn more about the NGO and enjoy a local lunch.

After breakfast, drive to Jaipur, the capital of the state of Rajasthan. Jaipur is known as the "Pink City" after the rusty colour that many of the houses are painted. With beautiful palaces, forts, gardens, temples, and unending market streets, it's a city with a lot to offer.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Jojawar - Jaipur

6h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### ACTIVITY

Visit Barefoot College, an NGO providing basic services and solutions to issues in rural India for more than 40 years. Meet with some of the administrators who will explain the objective of helping local people become more self-sufficient and sustainable. These "Barefoot solutions" can be broadly categorized into various social enterprises including solar power, clean water initiatives, education and empowering women as agents of sustainable change.

Day 12

## JAIPUR

Visit the 15th century Amber Fort which was the former capital of the region. Take a photo stop at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) and visit the City Palace Museum and Jantar Mantar Observatory.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

Jaipur

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Amber Fort Guided Tour

Amber Fort

Explore this magnificent fort overlooking an artificial lake, famous for its unique mixture of Hindu and Muslim architecture. The Fort's sandstone walls are perched on a hill almost blending in with the terrain, besides perfectly reflecting in Maota Lake creating a mirage effect (and perfect photograph). Wander through the halls, courtyards, and palaces inside and admire the intricate details.

City Palace Visit

Jaipur

1h

Explore the courtyards, gardens, and buildings that make up the City Palace. Located in the heart of the Old City, it is a striking blend of Mughal and Rajasthani architecture. Visit the palace's museum to look at ancient carriages and the former maharaja's gold-embroidered wedding outfit.

Jantar Mantar Visit

Jaipur

1h-2h

Visit the Jantar Mantar observatory for a guided tour and explore the collection of astronomical instruments housed there, some dating back to 1727.

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### Optional Activities - Day 12

Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds)

Jaipur

202INR

15m-30m

Enjoy a visit to the intricately-carved Hawa Mahal, or "Palace of the Winds," which is named for the cool breeze that comes through the structure and keeps it comfortable, even in the hot Jaipur summers. Admire this architectural wonder and snap some photos.

Jaipur Balloon Ride **Jaipur**

Begin your day at dawn, just as the sun starts to rise. As you drift into the sky, enjoy the silence and serenity of the morning, watching as the day starts for the colourfully dressed inhabitants below. From high in the sky, you may float over rolling hills, villages teeming with life, and a small monastery. You may even spot elephants—if luck is on your side.

Available September 1 - April 30.

**Day 13**

## JAIPUR/ĀGRA

Drive to Agra, stopping to visit the abandoned city of Fatehpur Sikri, built by Mughal Emperor Akbar. In Agra, visit the famed Agra Fort.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Private Vehicle

**Jaipur - Āgra**

6h

240km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Fatehpur Sikri Visit

**Fatehpur Sīkri**

Explore the magnificent red sandstone fort city that was once the capital of India's Mughal Empire and is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Keep an eye out for elements of different religions, as King Akbar built three palaces for each of his favourite wives—a Hindu, a Muslim, and a Christian—in the city.

Agra Fort Visit

**Āgra**

1h-3h

Enjoy a visit to this impressive Mughal fort made of red sandstone and white marble.

Day 14

## ĀGRA/DELHI

Rise early to visit the world-famous Taj Mahal and enjoy the stunning sunrise views. Continue to Delhi.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Taj Mahal Visit **Tāj Mahal** 2h-3h

Cross one off your bucket list as you visit one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Explore the gorgeous white marble mausoleum, built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as a testament of his love for his favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

Private Vehicle **Āgra - Delhi** 5h-6h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time **Delhi**

Take this opportunity to explore the rich colonial architecture, Mughal ruins, or wonderful shops of this capital city.

Day 15

DELHI

Depart at any time.

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## Meals included

Breakfast

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## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Explore the Caravan Route, Bīkāner
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- Visit Fatehpur Sikri, Taj Mahal, and the Red Fort of Agra
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Spend a night in a heritage hotel in Bikaner, Meet the town elders of a traditional village, Visit an NGO that provides services throughout rural India, See the world-famous Taj Mahal

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## **Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?**

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?**

### **CULTURE**

India is a country which is very different to anything you will have experienced before. Although this means it is not the easiest place to travel, this is also what makes it so special. Pollution, poverty and the crowds can result in initial culture shock but should be seen as an exciting new challenge. During our time here we have come to love this large and wonderfully different country but we know that we should always expect to encounter some difficulties along the way.

In India there are very different attitudes to time keeping, public cleanliness, privacy and service. Trains will sometimes be late, plumbing can sometimes be temperamental and power will often just vanish. Optimistic menus turn out to have only one dish available and everyone, just everyone, will want to know your name. If you are able to travel with a lot of patience and a healthy sense of humour, then we know that you - like all of us - will be captivated by what India has to offer.

## What is the group leader like?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officers (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

## How large will the group be?

Max 16, Avg 10.

## What meals are included in this trip?

14 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners

## What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of travelling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. Vegetarians will be able to find a huge range of different foods - India is vegetarian heaven. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Van, bus, jeep, train, cycle-rickshaw, walking.

## What transportation will we take on this trip?

### ROAD

Road travel in India is certainly not what people are used to in Western countries. Rules are not always followed, drivers appear to speed, do not stay in their lanes, overtake in seemingly dangerous situations, and rarely use their mirrors or driving lights at night. The horn however is used frequently and can range from the latest Bollywood tune to Britney Spears! Although the government is investing large sums of money to improve the road infrastructure, there is a lot more to be done. As a result some of the roads are poorly maintained, pot holed and uneven. This gets even more pronounced particularly during and after the monsoon. Travel time is very long in comparison to Western countries and short distances can take much longer than at home. You have the comfort of an air-conditioned Private vehicle, but be prepared to take an odd ride in a local transport for the experience.

## **Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?**

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

Please Note: Only 1 piece of luggage that weighs up to 15kgs will be permitted on our internal flights in India. For any extra weight the airline may charge an additional fee at the time of check-in.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Hotels/heritage homes (14 nts).

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## **What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?**

A variety of styles of hotels/guest houses are used in India. These can vary in terms of service, efficiency and cleanliness. In many instances they might not be like what you are used to back home. Power cuts can and are a regular occurrence in many places, especially throughout North and Central India. Although a number of hotels have generators there may be times when these won't work. It is also recommended when you are in your room to lock the door, as staff will sometime enter without reason.

## **What is the joining hotel?**

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

## **What are the joining instructions?**

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign with your name on it, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. There most likely will be many signs, so please check carefully for your name.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned, so you may arrive at any time. Similarly the last day is a departure day in which no activities are planned.

Your CEO will contact you at the hotel on Day 1 and make sure you are settled comfortably. If you arrive late, they will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning. Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip.

## **What happens if I experience problems when arriving?**

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your CEO, please refer to our emergency contact details. If you have pre-booked an airport transfer and have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

# Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

## AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

If your call is specifically concerning Airport Transfer complications please call our local G Adventures Transfer providers directly at:

New Delhi Airport:

Sakha Call Center

From outside India: +91 9278708888

From within Delhi: 9278708888

From outside Delhi: 09278708888

Airport Representative

From outside India: +919599193260 or +919599051397

From within Delhi: 9599193260 or 9599051397

From outside Delhi: 09599193260 or 09599051397

## EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office (Delhi)

G Adventures South Asia Manager, Sorab (Delhi, India)

>From outside of India: +91 88 5180 6614

>From within Delhi: 88 5180 6614

>From within India, but outside Delhi: 088 5180 6614

G Adventures Office Bangkok, Thailand

During Office hours (Weekdays, 9am-5pm Local Time): +66-02-3815574

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## **Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?**

We suggest that you pack as lightly as possible as you are expected to carry your own luggage. As a rule we try not to have to walk more than 15-20 minutes with your bags which is why we recommend keeping the weight of your bags between 10-15kg/22-30lb. Most travellers carry a backpack or rolling bag of small to medium size (no XXL ones please!). You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like ipods and mobile phones.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

## Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

**Essentials:**

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**Smart Dress:**

- Smart outfit (For evenings out)

**Train Travel (Optional):**

- Slip-on shoes
- Small container with lid
- Travel cutlery
- Travel or camp cup

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear Note: During the colder months (Oct-Apr) the mountains can be cold, so please make sure you pack warm clothes. During the months of Jul-Sep is the rainy season, so please make sure to pack waterproof clothes.

**When can I do my laundry on this trip?**

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

All travellers must have a valid Indian visa prior to the start of their tour. Please note that visas for India are the responsibility of the individual traveller.

To obtain a visa for India, you may either apply for an e-Visa using the link below, or alternately visit the Indian embassy or consulate nearest you to apply for a physical visa on your passport.

India is now offering e-Visas for some nationalities. Please visit this link for further information, and to check if your nationality is eligible for an e-Visa: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html>

As there are many fake websites, please only use the link above to apply for your e-Visa and for any additional information.

Please use the start hotel of your tour as a reference for your visa application. Contact us or your travel agent if you need further information.

## Where can I read detailed notes about this trip?

In India English is widely spoken and transportation and infrastructure is good, but please remember that this is India- expect the unexpected! If you are able to bring with you a lot of patience, a great sense of humour and a willingness to try and interact with the local people, your travel experience will be greatly enhanced.

## What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

As currency exchange rates in Asia fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com). As of Feb 2012 the exchange rate for INDIA was 1 USD = 49.00 INR (Indian Rupees). There are many ATM machines that accept both Visa and Mastercard but these are limited to major cities. Major credit cards are accepted in most shops but they may charge a 2-4% transaction fee.

## How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Do I need to pay a departure tax?

All departure taxes should be included in your international flight ticket.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group.

Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from USD1-2 per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference; however as a guideline USD20-30 per person, per week can be used.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Bikāner

- Camel Breeding Centre Visit  
(50INR per person)

### Jaipur

- Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) (202INR per person)
- Jaipur Balloon Ride

## **Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our CEOs are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. In Asia pharmacies tend to stock the same western drugs as you get at home but they are usually produced locally so please bring the full drug name with you when trying to purchase a prescription drug. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

## What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

## **What rules should I know before joining this trip?**

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

## **Is travel insurance required for my trip?**

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## **How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?**

In Asia the dress standard is more conservative than it is back home. When packing try to pick loose, lightweight, long clothing that will keep you cool in the usually hot and humid climate of Asian summers. In predominately Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim countries we ask that you dress respectfully and avoid very short shorts/skirts and singlets/tanktops when visiting small rural communities or visiting temples or mosques or other holy sites as this may restrict your entry.

India is very conservative and you should dress accordingly. As a general guideline shoulders and knees should be covered at all times. The wearing of shorts is not allowed as it will restrict your entry into buildings of a religious nature and family homes. A light water and windproof jacket is useful and a hat essential.

NB: WE STRESS THAT IT CAN BE VERY COLD IN THE HILLS DURING THE MONTHS FROM DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY.

NB: During our trip there will be many opportunities for you to meet and "talk" with locals. One way to start any conversation is with pictures. We recommend that you bring some photos/postcards of your family, home, city or country where you live, animals peculiar to your country etc.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

## What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.