

ALL INDIA PERMIT

TEXTILE HERITAGE, FABRIC & DESIGN TOUR

23 JANUARY - 09 FEBRUARY 2026

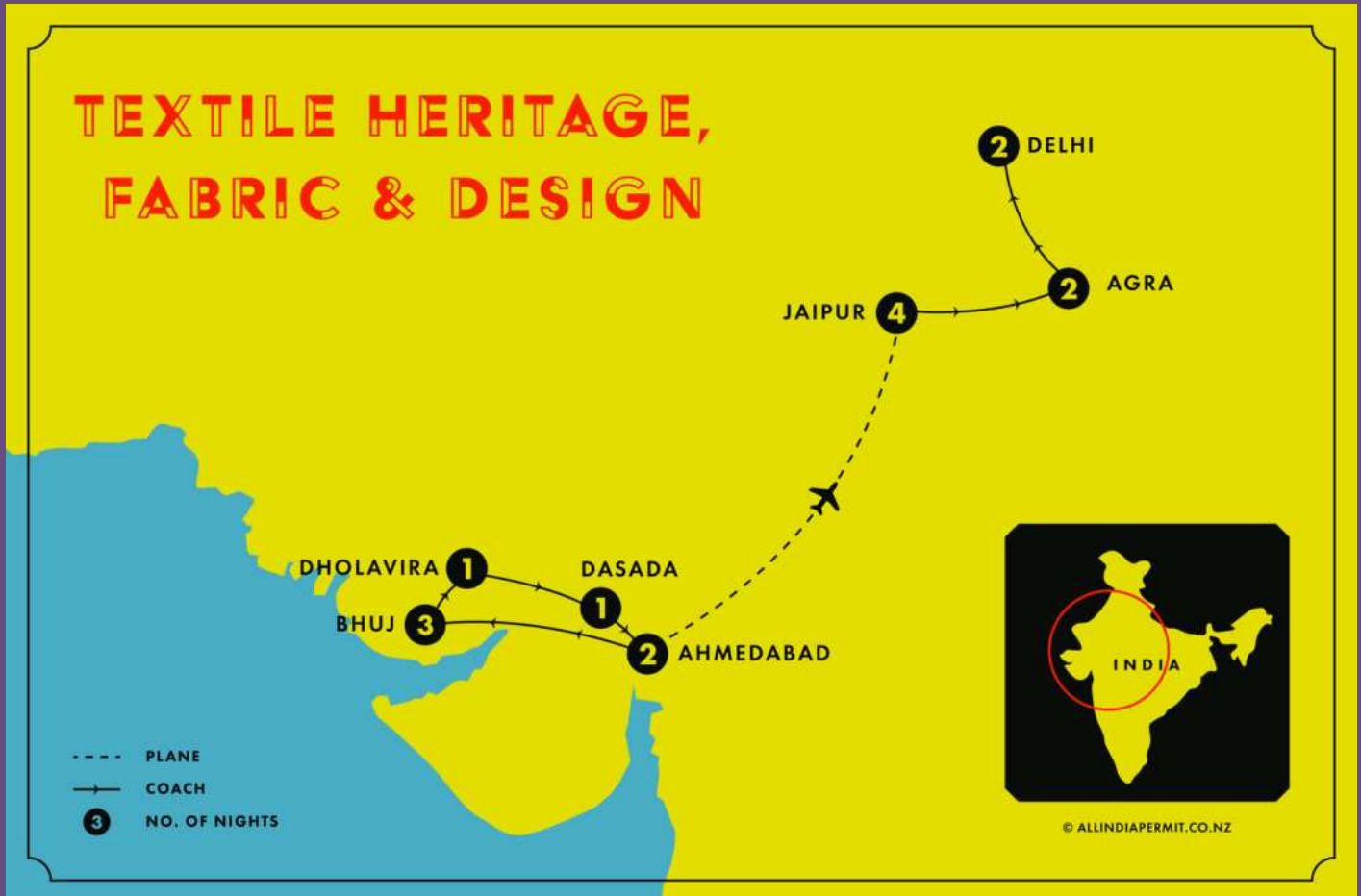


TOUR INFORMATION PACK



WWW.ALLINDIAPERMITTOURS.COM

TOUR SNAPSHOT



Dates

/ 23 January - 09 February 2026

Meals

/ Daily Breakfasts
/ 6 x Lunches
/ 8 x Dinners

Tour Transport

/ Private Transfers to and from the airport in India
/ Private air-conditioned vehicles for ground transport
/ Domestic Flights (Ahmedabad-Jaipur) with 25 kilos luggage limit

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BOOK
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TOUR SNAPSHOT

Group Size

/ Minimum 8, maximum 12 guests

Price

/ Double or Twin Share: NZ\$12,650 / A\$12,100 / US\$7,850 per person (twin-share)

/ Single Supplement: NZ\$4,600 / A\$4,450 / US\$2,950 per person

Payments

/ A non-refundable deposit of NZ\$2,000 per person is payable to reserve a spot on this tour at the time of booking

/ Balance is due 90 days before the tour commences - 23 October 2025

/ Full terms and conditions available at <https://www.allindiapermit.co.nz/terms-and-conditions>

Unmissable experiences

Every visit, every artisan encounter, every hands-on experience has been especially chosen for this tour. We have worked hard to ensure that you have genuine experiences that you won't find on the typical tourist trail:

/ Watch master weavers create exquisite Patola sarees and explore the remarkable architecture of Siddhpur.

/ Wander through beautifully restored Bohra neighbourhoods with Victorian-style façades - perfect for avid photographers

/ Explore the Rann of Kutch salt flats by safari, viewing flamingos, wildlife, salt-panning communities, and cotton fields as dawn breaks.

/ Visit the stunning hilltop Amer Fort, then dive into block printing at Anokhi Museum—spotlighting rare traditional and contemporary textiles.

/ A memorable, ethical encounter: feed, walk, and learn about rescued elephants, followed by a delicious outdoor lunch.

/ Ride auto-rickshaws through the Pink City of Jaipur, browse vibrant flower and spice bazaars, and peek into the iconic Hawa Mahal.

/ Get hands-on print your own fabric using traditional wooden blocks and natural dyes, guided by expert artisans.

/ Enjoy a private visit to a local artist's home-studio, learn about art and heritage, then prepare heirloom recipes alongside our host.

/ Spot elusive leopards in a private sanctuary - ideal for nature and wildlife enthusiasts.

/ Marvel at the architectural wonder of Chand Baori stepwell, then witness intricate royal-era metal-thread embroidery at a skilled artisan gallery.

/ Start at dawn to experience the Taj Mahal's ethereal beauty, including a full walkthrough inside and around the monument.

/ Explore the hustle and bustle of energising Old Delhi

ABOUT YOUR TOUR

India's rich history of textiles, fabric and design make an adventure here, one of the most exciting holidays imaginable.

This tour will take you to the heart of India. Meet fine craftspeople and connect with the stories that have kept their traditions, dating to the 15th century, alive. Experience the exquisite cultures of rural India while travelling through the corridors of India's textile rich states.

Come to explore a land where opulence is woven into rich silks and cottons and where the finer things are detailed in the embroidery of the most elegant garments and accessories. Demonstrations and interactive visits with textile design experts and local artisans will grow your understanding of the various weaving and printing techniques and historical context as it shapes India's contemporary textile culture.

This tour gives you the chance to experience India through a different lens all while enjoying the magical India highlights including the Taj Mahal, stunning forts and palaces of Rajasthan and natural and manmade wonders that will simply blow your mind.

Thanks to our long-standing network of friends and local hosts, we offer truly personal and authentic experiences - from guided walks with local experts to meaningful time with craftspeople, and hands-on workshops where you can quite literally feel the spirit of India.

We travel in small groups of up to 12 guests - intimate enough to ensure a boutique, individual experience, yet just the right size to foster genuine camaraderie among travellers who share the same interests.

Join us to discover not only India's spectacular sights, but also its quieter pleasures and hidden corners - the warm hospitality, the textures and tastes, the stories and moments that will stay with you long after the journey ends.

This journey is led by Sarah Meikle, a Wellington-based expert with a deep passion for India and a wealth of insider connections. Her longstanding relationships across the country open doors to people and places not easily accessed by the average traveller. Carefully crafted by Sarah, the itinerary brings together memorable encounters and off-the-beaten-track destinations, each chosen to offer authentic insight and rich cultural connection. With everything thoughtfully taken care of, you're free to settle in, slow down, and truly absorb the magic of India.

NAMASTE

I'M SARAH MEIKLE, DIRECTOR OF ALL INDIA PERMIT TOURS AND I AM AN INDIA HOLIDAY SPECIALIST

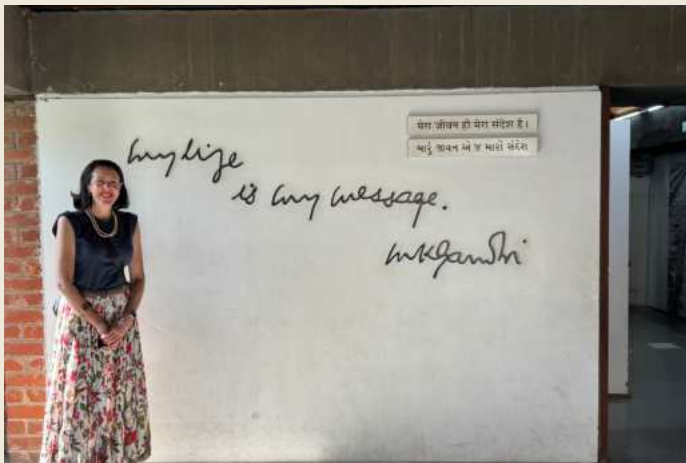


I've been incredibly fortunate to travel to India more than 35 times. My journey began in the early 2000s when I helped establish Tourism New Zealand's representative office in Mumbai - and since then, India has captured my heart. Over the years, my visits have ranged from professional assignments to countless personal holidays, each one deepening my love and understanding of this remarkable country.

After being asked time and again for help planning trips, I founded All India Permit Tours - a way to share my insider knowledge and passion for India with others. Today, I design extraordinary holidays for travellers from around the world, especially from New Zealand and Australia, who are seeking authentic, enriching experiences.

My focus is India - and only India. I spend time on the ground each year, visiting new places, meeting with trusted local partners, and staying in the best hotels, so I can confidently craft trips that go beyond the ordinary. Whether it's your first time or your fifth, I'll help you create the Indian holiday you've always dreamed of.

TOUR ITINERARY



23 January - Arrive Ahmedabad

Please arrive in Ahmedabad no later than today. If coming directly from New Zealand or Australia, you are able to depart and connect straight through to Ahmedabad through Singapore on the same day, with Singapore Airlines (SQ504 Singapore – Ahmedabad arrives around 9.35pm). If you'd like to arrive earlier, we can extend your accommodation. Please contact us for more information.

Accommodation: 5-Star Heritage Property

Meals: No meals included today



24 January - Ahmedabad

After breakfast, we begin the day with a guided heritage walk through Ahmedabad's fascinating old city. Meandering through the narrow lanes and historic pols (traditional neighbourhood clusters), you'll see the city come to life – passing intricately carved wooden facades, bustling courtyards, the Gate of Ahmedabad, and a rich tapestry of mosques and temples that reflect the city's diverse cultural roots.

Mid-morning, we visit the highly acclaimed Calico Museum of Textiles, nestled in lush gardens and set within the original Calico Mills building. The museum houses one of India's most important textile collections, featuring rare and exquisite examples from the Mughal and Provincial Courts. Intricately curated displays of weaving, dyeing, block printing, and embroidery techniques from across the subcontinent showcase India's unmatched textile heritage.

After lunch, we head to the studio of a renowned master embroiderer and textile designer who has spent nearly 30 years reinventing and reinterpreting traditional forms. This is a rare opportunity to witness contemporary textile pieces that fuse beauty with tradition – demonstrating that craftsmanship, technique, and aesthetic excellence continue to thrive, even in a post-industrial world. The attention to detail in the work is truly remarkable.

To conclude the day, we visit Sabarmati Ashram, the former home of Mahatma Gandhi. Set on the banks of the Sabarmati River, the ashram offers a quiet, reflective space to learn about Gandhi's life, philosophy, and lasting legacy.

For those keen, we'll enjoy dinner tonight at the hotel's stunning rooftop restaurant – their local thali comes highly recommended and offers the perfect way to end a rich and inspiring day.

Accommodation: 5-Star Heritage Property

Meals: Breakfast included

Key Inclusions: Early morning walking tour, Visit to the Calico Museum of Textiles and Sabarmati Ashram and Demonstration with a master embroiderer



25 January - Ahmedabad

This morning, we visit one of the last five remaining families who continue to practise Mata Ni Pachedi - an intricate kalamkari art form unique to Gujarat. Rich in ritual significance, these hand-painted narrative cloths have been created for centuries as offerings in temples dedicated to the Mother Goddess. During our visit, you'll have the rare opportunity to take part in a hands-on workshop and learn directly from the artisans preserving this extraordinary tradition.

In the afternoon, we'll meet a contemporary fashion designer who collaborates closely with women artisans to promote sustainable garment production and conscious consumerism. Her work champions repair, conservation, mindful consumption, and eco-friendly practices - all while honouring the integrity of traditional craft. For more than six years, she has led artisan training programmes and conducted in-depth research to uncover the stories behind regional embroidery techniques, colours, motifs, and their cultural placements, bringing them into a contemporary design context. You'll meet some of the talented artisans in an engaging interactive session and gain insight into how heritage skills are being carried forward with purpose and pride.

If time and energy allow, we'll conclude the day with a quick immersion in Indian art history at the Kasturbhai Lalbhai Museum – a beautifully curated space that bridges classical and modern art. Alternatively, you may choose to enjoy some well-earned free time to relax and recharge.

Accommodation: 5-Star Heritage Property

Meals: Breakfast included

Key Inclusions: Mata ni Pachedi workshop, Interactive session with a local, young fashion designer





26 January - Ahmedabad to Bhuj

With a packed breakfast in hand, we set off early this morning for Bhuj, the textile heartland of the Kutch region in Gujarat. Along the way, we make an important stop at Dhamadka, a village renowned for its traditional textile practices.

We'll enjoy a memorable lunch with an artisan from the Khatri community, masters of hand-block printing and custodians of the ancient Ajrakh technique. Over lunch, you'll learn about the cultural significance of Ajrakh and observe a live demonstration of this intricate, time-intensive craft. There's time to explore the printing unit and see the process up close - from natural dye preparation to block printing and drying.



In the afternoon, we visit a remarkable organisation led by a mother and her daughters who are dedicated to preserving Ahir embroidery, a vibrant textile tradition named after the nomadic Ahir community of Kutch. This embroidery is characterised by bold colours, mirrored accents, and unique stitchwork that draws inspiration from mythology, local flora and fauna, and desert life. You'll have the opportunity to meet the women behind the work and gain insight into the symbolism, motifs, and skill passed down through generations.

After these rich cultural encounters, we continue on to Bhuj, where we check into our accommodation for some well-earned rest and a delicious dinner.

Accommodation: Colonial-Style

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Ajrakh and Ahir demonstrations



27 January - Bhuj

This morning, we begin with a visit to Kharad Weaving, an endangered textile tradition unique to the Kutch region. For generations, Kharad rugs have been woven from camel, goat, and sheep wool using portable nomadic looms – designed to be set up and dismantled as communities moved across the desert. The rugs feature striking geometric designs that reflect regional patterns and motifs. Today, only two families in Kutch continue to practise this intricate and historically significant craft.

We then head to the Living and Learning Design Centre (LLDC) – a visionary institution dedicated to preserving, revitalising, and promoting the rich craft heritage of Kutch. Designed as a multi-dimensional education and resource hub, LLDC provides training, education, and support for craftspeople, helping them adapt their traditional skills to contemporary markets while ensuring sustainable and dignified livelihoods.

After lunch, we visit the workshop of one of the region's most respected Ajrakh masters. Known for its deep cultural roots and complex process, Ajrakh block printing involves a series of painstaking dyeing and drying steps - each lasting several days. Nature is an essential collaborator in this process: the sun, water, earth, and air all play a role in transforming the fabric. As we tour the workshop, you'll gain a deeper appreciation for the patience, precision, and harmony required in this remarkable craft. Our visit concludes with a thoughtful discussion over a reflective cup of masala chai, surrounded by the sounds and smells of natural dyeing.

This evening, we'll enjoy some free time to explore the lively streets of Bhuj's local market, where you can browse textiles, handcrafted goods, and perhaps find a few treasures of your own.

Accommodation: Colonial-Style

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Visits to the LLDC, Kharad weaving, Ajrakh textile demonstration and the local Bhuj market





28 January - Bhuj

Today we travel to Bhujodi, a renowned weaving village in the heart of Kutch, where traditional pit looms and shuttle looms are still in active use. Here, we gain an up-close view of the indigo dyeing process and spend time with a master artisan who shares insights into the craft and challenges faced by the Vankars - skilled weavers known for their distinctive extra-weft wool weaving.

We then visit a respected textile collector and expert, whose remarkable private collection includes rare pieces dating back to the late 1800s and early 1900s. It's a rare privilege to view such exquisite historical textiles in an intimate setting. Over a relaxed family-style lunch at his home, we'll have the chance to learn more about his collecting journey and deep knowledge of regional textile traditions.



Later in the day, we meet an artisan specialising in Bandhani, the intricate tie-dye technique synonymous with Gujarat. Entirely hand-done, Bandhani involves thousands of tiny knots tied into fabric before dyeing to create delicate, patterned designs. This artisan brings a contemporary flair to the tradition through his refined modern colour palette, resulting in work that is both rooted and refreshingly original. You'll take part in a hands-on Bandhani workshop, experiencing the patience and precision behind this beautiful art form for yourself.



Accommodation: Colonial-Style

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Demonstrations of traditional looms and Indigo dying, Interaction with highly respected textile collector and hands-on tie and dye workshop

29 January - Bhuj to Dholavira

Today is one you'll never forget!

After an early breakfast, we travel to the village of Nirona to witness a demonstration of Rogan Art - an intricate textile form brought to Kutch from Persia over 400 years ago. Using a stylus and a thick castor oil-based paint, artisans create delicate patterns entirely freehand by trailing thread-like strands of colour off a stick. It's a captivating process to watch.

Next, we visit a skilled quilter in Hodko who transforms Ajrakh-printed fabrics into beautiful Gudri quilts and bedcovers. While here, we also see striking Lipan work - traditional mud homes adorned by women with mirrorwork and geometric designs in rich, royal colours.

We then continue to the Kala Raksha Trust, a grassroots organisation dedicated to preserving local craft traditions. With a strong focus on community-led storytelling, the Trust houses an exceptional collection of heirloom textiles in a museum curated by artisans themselves.

After lunch, we journey to the spectacular Great Rann of Kutch, one of the largest salt deserts in the world. For eight months of the year, this vast, blinding-white expanse stretches to the horizon. We'll drive the iconic 'Road to Heaven' - prepare to be awestruck.

Dinner is served on arrival at our accommodation.

Accommodation: Elegant Resort-Style

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Interactions with Rogan Art, local weavers, a local social enterprise and epic afternoon visit to the Great Rann of Kutch





30 January - Dholavira to Dasada

Today is primarily a travel day, but before we set off, we'll visit the remarkable Harappan site at Dholavira - one of the most significant excavations of the Indus Valley Civilisation, dating back over 4,500 years. This ancient city offers a fascinating glimpse into early urban planning and cultural life in the region.

By mid-morning, we'll begin our journey to Dasada, stopping en route for lunch. Once at our accommodation in the afternoon, where you'll have time to unwind, perhaps enjoy a swim, and relax before the next stage of our adventure.

Accommodation: Eco-friendly Boutique Resort

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Harappan Village exploration



31 January - Dasada

This morning, we travel to Modhera to visit a stunning architectural masterpiece, the 1,000-year-old Sun Temple. Beautifully restored, the temple is a testament to the artistic and engineering brilliance of its time.

We then continue to the village of Patan, known for two exceptional treasures: the Rani ki Vav (Queen's Stepwell) - a UNESCO World Heritage Site featured on India's 100-rupee note - and the legendary Patola saree, woven using the intricate double ikkat technique and natural dyes. This complex art form has been passed down through 35 generations of one family since the 11th century.

After lunch, we head to the fascinating town of Siddhpur, a striking architectural legacy of the Dawoodi Bohra community. Often described as "an ageing queen living in denial," Siddhpur's quiet streets are lined with once-grand mansions and tiered havelis, their pastel façades and ornate woodwork inspired by 19th-century European design.

Accommodation: Eco-friendly Boutique Resort

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Visits to Rani ki Vav and the Sun Temple, Demonstration at Patan Patola Sarees, Visit to the stunning Siddhpur





01 February - Dasada to Jaipur

It's an early start this morning as we set off on a safari through the Little Rann of Kutch - a landscape unlike any other. As we drive across the vast, sunlit salt flats, we pass through villages just beginning to stir, watch cotton pickers at work in the fields, and marvel at the hypnotic murmurations of starlings in flight. We'll visit the remote Agariya community, traditional salt farmers who have lived and worked in this harsh terrain for generations, and spot the resilient wildlife that calls this stark yet beautiful environment home. Keep an eye out for the graceful flamingos wading in the wetlands - a true 'flamboyance' - and perhaps even a sighting of the elusive peregrine falcon.

After a morning of extraordinary sights, we return to our accommodation for breakfast and to check out. We then begin the journey back to Ahmedabad for our afternoon flight to Jaipur.

Once we arrive and check in, you'll have free time to relax, settle in, and most likely enjoy an early night after a full and unforgettable day.

Accommodation: Superior Heritage Haveli

Meals: Breakfast included

Key Inclusions: Morning Safari to the Little Rann of Kutch



02 February - Jaipur

Welcome to the Pink City of Jaipur, the vibrant capital of Rajasthan! This morning, we head just north of the city to explore the majestic Amer Fort, perched high on a hill with sweeping views of the surrounding landscape. After touring the fort, we continue into the ancient village of Amer to visit the Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing - a beautifully curated private museum dedicated to the art of hand-block printing. On a guided tour, you'll see a fascinating range of garments and textiles, from rare traditional pieces to innovative contemporary designs created by skilled artisans.



Next, we enjoy an unforgettable experience: lunch with elephants. While many so-called elephant sanctuaries in India fall short of ethical standards, we've carefully selected one that truly prioritises the well-being of its animals. You'll spend time with a few of the resident rescued elephants - feeding them, walking alongside them, and learning their stories - but there are no rides or performances. Afterwards, we'll share a delicious and memorable lunch in this peaceful setting. Only in India!

The afternoon is yours to enjoy at your own pace. You may choose to relax back at the hotel, or if you're in the mood to shop, we can take you to some fabulous cotton and pashmina wholesalers - perfect for picking up unique, high-quality textiles.

This evening, for those keen, dinner is at a stylish and highly rated spot just steps from your room - located right at the hotel.



Accommodation: Superior Heritage Haveli

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch included

Key Inclusions: Visit to the Amer Fort, Private Tour of the Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing and Lunch with Elephants!

03 February - Jaipur

We'll start this morning with a fabulous tour of the old town inside the City Palace. Auto-rickshaws will transport you through the city as it wakes, first for magical views of the famed, Hawa Mahal, the Palace of the Winds, before we see the bustling fruit, vegetable and flower markets in full swing.

After breakfast back at the hotel, we will head out for a hands-on block-printing workshop. Block-printing is very much a part of India's contemporary textile culture. After a demonstration, you get to craft your own personalised creation by choosing from a variety of designs on wooden blocks, and a range of colours.

We'll enjoy lunch at the flagship Anokhi store café where you can also browse and buy from one of India's finest block-printing boutiques.

Then, to complete this fantastic day, we head out in a late afternoon for a leopard safari! The sanctuary currently hosts more than 40 leopards and five cubs in addition to striped hyenas, Indian civets, desert cats, jungle cats, desert foxes, jackals, porcupines, jungle rats, monitor lizards, and mongooses, Sambar deer, spotted deer (chital), and Blue Bull (Nilgai).

Accommodation: Superior Heritage Haveli

Meals: Breakfast included

Key Inclusions: Visit to the old city morning markets, Hands-on block printing workshop, Leopard Safari!





04 February - Jaipur

There's never quite enough time in Jaipur - there's simply so much to see and do! Today is yours to explore the city at your own pace and make the most of everything it has to offer. For keen shoppers, we'll provide a curated list of our favourite stores - many of them well off the tourist trail - including some truly fabulous hidden gems. You might also choose to wander the vibrant local bazaars, revisit the City Palace, return to the cotton wholesalers, drop by a local jeweller, or spend time exploring one of the city's many museums. However you choose to spend the day, you're in for a treat.

This evening, we've been invited to the home of a local artist and interior designer. You'll begin with a visit to his private studio, where you'll learn about his collection of vintage objects, miniature paintings from various schools of Indian art, and thoughtfully curated interiors - all while enjoying drinks and appetisers in this inspiring setting.

Then it's time to meet our hostess for the evening: a warm and passionate cook who delights in sharing her food heritage. At their 'Art House', you'll take part in a relaxed cooking class, learn about the family's heirloom recipes, and enjoy a delicious home-cooked dinner, lovingly prepared just for you. It's an evening of art, conversation, and culinary tradition you won't soon forget.

Accommodation: Superior Heritage Haveli

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: An evening of art and food with a local artist





05 February - Jaipur to Agra

Today, we journey across the state of Rajasthan, with our first stop at the awe-inspiring Chand Baori Stepwell in Abhaneri - one of the largest and most visually striking stepwells in India. Dating back to the 10th century, this remarkable structure features a deep, four-sided design with an ornate temple on one face and approximately 3,500 intricately carved steps cascading down the remaining three sides, plunging 13 stories to a depth of over 30 metres. With its geometric symmetry and mesmerising detail, Chand Baori is not only a marvel of ancient engineering but also a stunning example of stepwell architecture at its most dramatic.

We'll stop for a late lunch at a peaceful desert retreat before continuing on to Agra, where you'll have the rest of the day to relax and settle in.

Accommodation: 5-Star International-style hotel

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch included

Key Inclusions: A visit to the Chand Baori stepwell



06 February - Agra

Agra - home to one of the world's most iconic monuments, the Taj Mahal. Before we step inside, we'll take in its beauty from multiple vantage points and explore the city's other architectural marvels, a legacy of its time as the Mughal capital.

We begin the day at the majestic Agra Fort, built by Emperor Akbar in 1565 from red sandstone. Shaped like a crescent along the banks of the Yamuna River, the fort is one of the finest in India and has borne silent witness to the rise and fall of the mighty Mughal Empire. From its ramparts, you'll catch your first breathtaking views of the Taj Mahal.



Later in the morning, we visit an exquisite Zardozi artisan gallery, where you'll witness the intricate art of Zari Zardozi - traditional metal embroidery once used to adorn royal garments with gold and silver thread. Practised for centuries, this fine craft continues to be passed down through generations, from father to son.

For lunch, we'll enjoy a delicious South Indian thali at a charming local hotel. Served on a banana leaf, this vibrant spread of vegetarian dishes offers a taste of southern flavours in the heart of northern India.

In the afternoon, we'll visit Itimad-ud-Daulah, affectionately known as the Baby Taj. Built as the tomb of Nur Jahan's parents, it may be smaller in scale than the Taj Mahal, but its intricate inlay work and delicate craftsmanship make it a true architectural gem.

We'll finish the day with a visit to Mehtab Bagh, the Moonlight Garden, where you'll enjoy a stunning sunset view of the Taj Mahal from across the river - a quiet, reflective moment to end a day filled with beauty and history.

Accommodation: 5-Star International-style hotel

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch included

Key Inclusions: Visits to the Agra Fort, Itimad-ud-Daulah and Mehtab Bagh; Demonstrations of the Zardozi Embroidery



07 February - Agra to Delhi

This is it - the Taj Mahal. We start early this morning to experience this world wonder at its most serene. Commissioned by Emperor Shah Jahan and built between 1630 and 1653 in memory of his beloved queen, Mumtaz Mahal, this breathtaking white marble monument is the work of over 20,000 artisans and labourers. A magnificent fusion of Hindu and Islamic architectural styles, the Taj is every bit as awe-inspiring as its legend suggests. The intricacy, scale, and symmetry are extraordinary. You'll have time to explore the full perimeter, venture inside, and admire this iconic structure from every angle.

After returning to the hotel for breakfast, we hit the road for Delhi, arriving in the mid-afternoon in time for a relaxing lunch. You'll have a few hours of free time to settle into the hotel.

This evening, for those keen to explore, we'll venture into the vibrant heart of Old Delhi. As we approach, the Red Fort rises into view - a 16th-century Mughal stronghold and symbol of the empire's might. Not far beyond, the majestic Jama Masjid, built from red sandstone and white marble, towers above Chawri Bazaar. One of the largest mosques in India, it remains a powerful reminder of Mughal grandeur.

We'll continue by tricycle rickshaw through the winding lanes of Chandni Chowk (Moonlit Crossroads), a bustling market that has thrived for over 350 years. On either side of these lively alleyways, where echoes of the Mughal era still linger, you'll find a fascinating array of tiny shops and stalls - from jewellers and sweet vendors to spice merchants, utensil sellers, chemists, moneylenders, and more.

No visit to Old Delhi is complete without a stop at Khari Baoli, Asia's largest spice market. Still operating much as it did in Mughal times, the market is a sensory explosion - vibrant, chaotic, and utterly unforgettable.

Accommodation: 5-Star heritage style hotel

Meals: Breakfast included

Key Inclusions: Visits to the Taj Mahal and Old Delhi sites





08 February - Delhi

After a well-deserved sleep-in, we begin our day with a visit to the magnificent Humayun's Tomb. Built between 1565 and 1572, this serene and striking monument is the final resting place of Humayun, the second Mughal emperor. Surrounded by palm-fringed gardens, the tomb is a stunning example of early Mughal architecture - the first great garden tomb of its kind and the direct inspiration for later masterpieces, including the iconic Taj Mahal.

Next, we'll head to the National Craft Museum, home to a fascinating collection of textiles, sculptures, folk paintings, and traditional crafts. After browsing the exhibits, we'll enjoy a leisurely lunch at Lota Café, the museum's much-loved restaurant known for its fresh, seasonal Indian fare.



In the early afternoon, we return to the hotel for a special private shopping experience - a preview of the latest collection by a local designer, trained in Christchurch, whose bold prints and contemporary silhouettes make for truly one-of-a-kind pieces. And if you're still in the mood for a bit more browsing (or have room in your bag!), the ever-charming Khan Market is just a short ride away.

This evening, we'll come together one last time to celebrate our incredible journey with dinner at one of India's most acclaimed restaurants - a fitting finale to a remarkable adventure.

Accommodation: 5-Star heritage style hotel

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner included

Key Inclusions: Visits to the Humayun's Tomb, the National Craft Museum and a private viewing from a local fashion designer



09 February - Tour Ends

Today we say farewell after a wonderful trip!

You will be transferred to Delhi International Airport for your flight. A morning departure from Delhi back to Singapore (SQ401 Delhi - Singapore at around 9.30am) connects with overnight flights to New Zealand or Australia. Alternatively, talk to Sarah about trip extensions.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Tour Start and Finish Points

/ Tour Start: Ahmedabad - please be in Ahmedabad no later than 23 January 2026

/ Tour End: Delhi - please depart Delhi no earlier than 09 February 2026

India Entry Visa

All visitors to India require a Visitor Visa which must be obtained 30 days before arrival in India. Visas are obtained online and we provide you with all the details well in advance.

Tour Inclusions

- / Sarah, your tour leader, is with you throughout the entire trip
- / Airport meet and greet and departure assistance
- / 17 night's superior and boutique accommodation
- / Daily Breakfast
- / 6 x Lunches
- / 8 x Dinners
- / Activities / Monument and Temple entrances as per programme (including English-speaking Guides and Tips as needed)
- / Many hands-on experiences, demonstrations and behind-the-scenes access
- / Specialist expert local guides throughout
- / Air-conditioned coach transport for full duration of itinerary
- / 1 x Domestic Flight (Ahmedabad - Jaipur) with 25 kilos luggage limit
- / Unlimited mineral water in coach and hotels
- / All applicable taxes
- / Pre-departure advice and support - detailed planning information, Visa application support, additional travel advice, lots of insider tips & knowledge!
- / 24/7 support in India from local representative if required
- / Plenty more surprises!

Tour Exclusions

- / International Flights
- / Departure taxes (if required)
- / India Visitor Visa
- / Health & Travel Insurance (all guests are required to have travel insurance)
- / Meals not listed in the itinerary
- / Beverages
- / Additional tips (mainly hotel luggage porters)
- / Spending Money
- / Vaccinations (if required/desired)
- / Additional travel arrangements/activities not noted on itinerary
- / Items of a personal nature

Booking Terms and Conditions

/ Above 90 days - Full refund of tour fee (if paid), less non-refundable deposit of NZ\$2,000 and any additional tour fees / deposits paid*

/ Between 50 - 89 days - 50% refund of tour fee, less non-refundable deposit of NZ\$2,000 and any additional tour fees / deposits paid*

/ 49 days or less - 100% cancellation charge

* Please be aware that travel bookings are non-refundable (such as extra activities requested, domestic flights etc) and any cancelled bookings will incur charges. These charges will be up to 100% of the cost of the booking, regardless of whether travel has commenced or not. Where any liability is incurred for any booking which you cancel, you agree that you are responsible for the amount of that fee or charge.

Safe Site Registration

All guests will be registered on their country of origin Safe Travel site, if available.

Mobility Statement

All India Permit Tours are best suited for people with a good level of health and fitness. India can be challenging at times; there are unavoidable uneven surfaces and sometimes it can be physically demanding with the warmer temperatures and assorted activities. It can be an intense environment. But, if you have good energy levels, a clean bill of health and are an enthusiastic traveller, then you will love travelling in India regardless of your age.

Dietary Requirements

Please let us know on the booking form of your dietary requirements. Vegetarians and gluten free requirements, in particular, are very easily accommodated in India.

An extensive breakfast is provided each day – both continental and cooked – and this is included with your accommodation. Everything at breakfast is safe to eat and drink. The omelettes at The Imperial in New Delhi are, in fact, legendary! When we are together as a group, you will be directed for lunch and dinner and again, everything is perfectly safe to eat.

It's not recommended that you eat street food (as good as it smells) as this may not have a good outcome, unless we are on a guided tour (such as Kolkata). If in doubt, just ask Sarah.

Whilst the majority of meals are included, lots of tips and recommendations can be given to you for places to eat (to suit all budgets) that you'll absolutely enjoy. With the population being 50% vegetarian, the vegetarian options abound and are so much more inventive and creative than in New Zealand and Australia. Definitely try local food...things like paneer, dahl and pani puri (a type of snack) are a must.

Travel Insurance

All guests are required to have travel insurance to join this tour, and you will be requested to provide a copy of your policy to Sarah to be kept on file in the event that it is required.

Medical Assistance

India's healthcare system is world class and hospitals abound. The All India Permit team on the ground can connect you with any healthcare that may be required. Please ensure you bring all personal medication and that your travel vaccinations are up-to-date. Like all destinations, please take care in India. A comprehensive first aid kit will be with the group at all times. If required, on-call medical care is available at every hotel. Full details on recommended vaccinations will be provided.

Once your deposit is paid

Once you have confirmed your place on the tour, we will share further information about:

- / Hotels
- / The Ultimate Packing List
- / Essential India travel information
- / Vaccination requirements
- / An India Visa "How to" Guide
- / Currency and money
- / Interesting pre-reading and, watching and listening
- / And much more!

What others are saying...

"This Textile & Design Tour with Sarah truly lived up to India's famous tagline – it was incredible in every sense. It opened my eyes to a side of India that most travellers never get to see. Through Sarah's knowledge and connections, I found myself in the workshops of master artisans, watching centuries-old traditions unfold right before me.

Every moment felt authentic, and the sights, sounds, and stories were extraordinary. Sarah's expertise made every experience seamless, from private workshop visits to lunches in local homes. She took care of all the details, which allowed me to focus on these incredible encounters.

This is an unmissable journey into India's living textile heritage. Sarah has created something really special."

Fergus, Sydney

TRIP EXTENSIONS

A large, traditional thatched-roof houseboat is the central focus, floating on a calm body of water. The boat has a dark wooden hull and a light-colored thatched roof. A person is visible on the deck, holding a purple umbrella. The boat's registration number 'VALP/HB/172/10' is visible on its side. The water reflects the boat and the sky. In the background, another similar boat is visible. The sky is a clear, pale blue.



Udaipur

Dominated by the massive City Palace, overlooking Lake Pichola, Udaipur is a romantic city, once dubbed the 'Venice of the East'. Picturesque havelis (traditional homes and guest houses), ghats (steps leading down to the lake) and temples line the lake front. Be sure to choose a hotel with a view of the lake...there are plenty to choose from here. Behind the city walls, lively bazaars make this an easy city to wander around. No visit to Udaipur is complete without a short lake cruise out to the Jag Mandir, an island palace with pretty organised gardens and marble chambers inlaid with stones. The City Palace complex is extensive and somewhat of a miniature kingdom encapsulating royal apartments, grand reception halls and courtyards. A highlight is the golden Moti Mahal room. It's not to be missed.



Varanasi

Varanasi, Kashi (“the City of Light”) or Benares, as it known, is the holiest city in India for the followers of the Hindu faith. Its history dates back 3,000 years and it is one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. Due to its religious significance, it is very popular destination. Around 90 ghats (river access steps) line the banks of the Ganges River for more than six kilometres between countless shrines and temples. Hindus believe that dying in Varanasi is auspicious and that they will be bestowed with instant salvation or moksha (liberation from the continuing cycle of birth and death), so it is common to see cremations along the river bank as worshippers seek eternal peace. A visit to Varanasi must include an early-morning river cruise; as the sun rises over the city, the riverfront is bathed in soft light.



Amritsar

Amritsar, located just 28 kilometres from the Pakistani border, is one of the holiest places in India. At the centre of this old walled town, is the gilded Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib), the holiest gurdwara (religious complex) of the Sikh faith which is visited by thousands of pilgrims every day. A visit to the Golden Temple must include a reading of the sacred Guru Granth Sahib and a sunrise photo of the temple as the sun hits the temple and it is reflected in the Amrit Sarovar tank (lake). Amritsar is also the site of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, one of the most tragic events in India's more recent history, and the Partition Museum which traces the chronology of the events that led to the Partition of India in 1947, when in effect, divided India into Hindu and Muslim republics. One of the most spectacular rituals of pageantry can be seen each day at sunset the Wagah Border, as a poignant reminder of this time.



Kerala

Kerala, God's Own Country, is a lush paradise where emerald backwaters, misty hill stations, and golden beaches come together in perfect harmony. Cruise through serene canals on a houseboat, unwind with an Ayurvedic massage, or trek through spice-scented hills in Munnar. And don't forget to indulge in some delicious, fresh seafood. From the vibrant traditions of Kathakali to the wild beauty of Periyar's jungles, Kerala is a soul-soothing escape that blends nature, culture, and calm in every breath.

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