



A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience India and one of the world's most breathtaking sights, the fabled Taj Mahal.

## DAY 1 – COCHIN TO DELHI

Leaving Cochin in the morning, you'll make your way to the airport for your flight to Delhi, via Hyderabad. A light snack will be provided during your flight. On arrival in Delhi, you'll be met by your guide and transferred to the Taj Mahal Hotel New Delhi, where after check in, dinner will be served.

## DAY 2 – AGRA & THE TAJ MAHAL AT SUNSET

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before your drive to the **City of Agra**. Once capital to the Mughals in the 16th and 17th centuries, it is home to some of their most famous monuments. Upon arrival in Agra, visit **Agra Fort**. Lying on the bend of the River Yamuna, Emperor Akbar built it as his citadel in the finest architectural style. This magnificent fort, with its imposing gates, walls of red sandstone and moat, dominates the centre of the city. Afterwards, check in to the Oberoi Amarvilas Hotel, where you can enjoy **luncheon**, followed by **free time**. In the late afternoon, visit the **Taj Mahal at sunset**; Emperor Shah Jehan's enduring monument to love. Experience its splendour graced by the rays of the setting sun. This beautiful mausoleum in pure white marble is an architectural marvel. Its unique beauty and intricate execution contribute to its place as one of the Seven Modern Wonders of the World. Return to the hotel for **dinner** in the evening.

## DAY 3 – THE TAJ MAHAL AT SUNRISE & DELHI

Your day begins early as you visit the magnificent **Taj Mahal** at sunrise. Emperor Shah Jehan was devoted to his wife, who died aged 39 giving birth to her 14th child. He resolved to build his wife a memorial surpassing anything the world had ever seen. Witness this serene monument bathed in the early morning light. Return to your hotel for a quick **breakfast**, before your return journey to **Delhi**. Upon arrival, check back into the Taj Mahal Hotel New Delhi, where luncheon will be served. Afterwards, an afternoon city tour will introduce you to some of the highlights of New Delhi. With its orderly, spacious, tree-lined avenues, this part of Delhi exhibits a unique blend of monumental British and Indian styles. Built as an imperial capital by the British, you'll find that all of the main buildings, designed in the 1920s by the British architects Lutyens and Baker, remain today. The division between new and old cities is by no means straightforward, and New Delhi contains its share of ancient monuments. During your tour enjoy a visit to **Humayun's Tomb**. Emperor Humayun lies buried in this magnificent monument built in red sandstone. The design of this monument was way ahead of the times and is the basis for the design of the Taj Mahal, built almost 100 years later. Return to the hotel for **dinner** in the evening.

## DAY 4 – MUSCAT

**Breakfast** will be served at your hotel before the transfer to the airport for your flight to **Muscat**. A light snack will be served during your flight. Upon arrival in Muscat enjoy a city tour, including luncheon before re-joining your ship.

**Note:** Bookings for this tour will close on 18th December 2017. There is a strict minimum and maximum participation. Please ensure you book the correct tour code for the accommodation you require (double =COK806, single =COK807). Prices shown on your record of shore excursions are per person, not per room. Once your booking is confirmed, any cancellation made after bookings close will incur a 100% cancellation fee. This tour will depart in Cochin on 14th April and return in Muscat on 17th April. Please check your embarkation/disembarkation dates carefully before booking this overland. Flight times and further details will be advised on board and the hotels listed are subject to change. Be prepared for very early morning starts, lengthy days, climatic changes and delays at airports. This is an inclusive excursion programme. No refunds will be given for any unused portion.

The fare includes: transport by coach, economy class air tickets, sightseeing and entrances as described, meals as stated, and hotel accommodation.

The fare does not include: items of a personal nature, other than stated above, such as refreshments, telephone calls, laundry, gratuities, room service, medical fees and travel insurance. Guests must purchase an Indian visa before travel. Upon arrival at Muscat Airport guests must purchase an entry visa to Oman.

What to pack: please remember your passport and any medication you require. Luggage limit is one case per person with a maximum weight of 15kg. You are advised to wear modest attire covering shoulders and knees.

Restoration Work: The Taj Mahal is currently undergoing restoration work to preserve the whiteness of the marble. This is expected to be completed late 2018. During your visit the main dome or four surrounding domes will likely have scaffolding placed around them. The affected areas may differ however, depending on the progress of work.