

# Golden Temple and the Himalayas

## 13 Nights / 14 Days

Delhi – Amritsar – Dharamshala – Paragpur – Nalagarth – Shimla - Delhi

---

### Detailed Itinerary

#### **Day 01: Arrive Delhi**

Arrive Delhi and transfer to Hotel for one night.

Delhi, where an empire rose and fell before the dawn of history; where citadels of emperors appeared and disappeared; a city of mysterious eternity whose old ruins proclaim a majestic and imperial past.

There have been at least eight cities built in and around modern Delhi, and the old saying that whoever founds a new city at Delhi will lose it has come true every time, most recently for the British who built New Delhi in 1911.

In the afternoon enjoy a tour of New Delhi. In 1911, the British asked Lutyens to design a new city, the result was New Delhi, The architectural designs, and sophistication of the buildings and the wide tree lined avenues are reminiscent of many European cities. Visit Connaught Place the hub of the city mainly devoted to shops, banks and restaurants. Then on to Rajpath flanked by Ornamental ponds and lawns, with India Gate at one end and the Presidents house at the other Rajpath most clearly reflects Lutyens European influence. Drive past the impressive president's house and the Parliament House and visit Humayun's Tomb, Delhi's first Moghul tomb its sombre, Persian-style elegance marks this as one of Delhi's finest historic sites. Finally visit Qutub Minar. Built In 1199 either as a victory tower or as a minaret to the adjacent mosque, at a height of 72.5 meters. It is still the highest, and one of the finest stone towers in India.

Overnight at Hotel

#### **Day 03: Delhi – Amritsar**

Morning tour of Old Delhi. Visit the old city of Shahjahanabad where you will see the imposing Red Fort one of the most magnificent palaces in the world. Take a cycle rickshaw for a unique experience from the Red Fort, along Chandni Chowk experiencing the famous main street in Old Delhi, full of all kinds of shops it overflows with all kinds of traffic, people, sounds and smells. Later visit Jama Masjid the largest mosque in India and a stunning example of Mughal architecture and the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi (memorial of Mahatma Gandhi) at Raj Ghat. Situated on the bank of the legendary Yamuna River.

Afternoon transfer New Delhi railway station in time for the evening Shatabdi Express Train to Amritsar departing Delhi at 16:30 Hours to arrive Amritsar at 22:15 Hours.

On arrival in Amritsar met and assist and transfer to Hotel for overnight stay.

Amritsar Literally meaning "holy pool of nectar", home to the Golden Temple, and the spiritual and cultural centre of the Sikh Religion.

## **Golden Temple and the Himalayas 13 Nights / 14 Days**

Delhi – Amritsar – Dharamshala – Paragpur – Nalagarth – Shimla - Delhi

---

Amritsar is one of the most ancient and fascinating cities of India with historical and religious importance, economically it is now the showpiece of the prosperity and wealth of Punjab.

Overnight at Hotel

### **Day 04: Amritsar**

Morning tour of Amritsar visiting, Harmandir Sahib, also known as the Golden Temple; the holiest shrine of the Sikh religion. The Golden Temple was initiated by the fourth Guru of Sikhs, Guru Ramdas Jee and completed in 1601 by his successor Guru Arjan Dev Jee. The Golden Temple sits on a rectangular platform, surrounded by a pool of water called the Amrit Sarovar from which the City is named and is located in the center of the old part of Amritsar. Later visit Jallian Wala Bagh, noted as the site of the most notorious massacre under British rule. Today this ground has been changed to a park and memorial.

Evening tour to Wagah Border, the border crossing between India and Pakistan located about 28 kms from Amritsar. The border is famous for the marching retreat at sunset everyday when a large number of tourists come to witness this spectacular site from both sides. The changing of guards, lowering of flags, is all done in perfect symphony and harmony on both sides.

Overnight at Hotel.

### **Day 05: Amritsar – Dharamshala**

After breakfast drive to Dharamshala approximately 199 Kms – 5 Hours

On arrival check into your hotel, remainder of the day at leisure.

Dharamshala stands at the foot of Dhauladhar and has a magnificent view of snowy peaks, deodar and pine forests, tea gardens and beautiful hills. The snow line is perhaps more easily accessible at Dharamshala than any other hill station in India.

Dharamshala now really has become international, with a number of Tibetan settlements and the residence of Noble Laureate the 'Dalai Lama'. When the Dalai Lama left Tibet, Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru offered to permit him and his followers to establish a "government-in-exile" in Dharamshala. Since that point, many Tibetan exiles have settled in the town, numbering several thousand. Most of these exiles live in Upper Dharamshala, or McLeod Ganj, where they established temples and schools. The town is sometimes known as "Little Lhasa", after the Tibetan capital city

Overnight at Hotel.

## **Golden Temple and the Himalayas 13 Nights / 14 Days**

Delhi – Amritsar – Dharamshala – Paragpur – Nalagarh – Shimla - Delhi

---

### **Day 06: Dharamsala**

Visit the headquarters of H.H. the Dalai Lama in Mcleodganj and the Norbulingka Institute, centre for Buddhist teaching, housing over a thousand painted images. You can also visit the Namgyal Monastery, the Kalachakra Temple and the Bhagsunath Temple. Paintings by Roerich can be seen in the Museum of Kangra Art.

Rest of the day is at leisure, overnight at Hotel.

### **Day 07: Dharamsala – Paragpur**

After breakfast drive to Paragpur approximately 50 Kms – 2 Hours

Paragpur is a small hamlet with very little population. It is located at an elevation of 1800 ft above the sea level in the Kangra Valley. Paragpur village lies on the foothills of the massive Dhauladhars popularly referred to as the White Ranges

Paragpur is the first certified Heritage Village of India. The Kuthiala Soods had set up the village of Paragpur in the memory of Princess Prag Dei of the Jaswan Royal Family. There are several splendid buildings in the village worth visiting including the 300-year-old ancestral home of the Kuthiala Soods.

Remainder of the day at Leisure to enjoy the area.

Overnight at Hotel.

### **Day 08: Paragpur**

Day free at leisure for independent activities and to explore this beautiful area.

Overnight at Hotel

### **Day 09: Paragpur – Nalagarh**

After breakfast drive from Paragpur to Nalagarh approximately 120 Kms – 5 Hours

On arrival check into the Nalagarh Fort for overnight stay.

The Nalagarh Fort has a series of structures that are mostly built in the Mughal style of architecture. These have been exhaustively renovated and are now a quality heritage resort with panoramic view of Shivalik Hills. It was built by the rulers of Nalagarh, who were deeply interested in art and architecture. The present ruling family continues to stay at the heritage resort, which adds to its regal ambience.

## **Golden Temple and the Himalayas 13 Nights / 14 Days**

Delhi – Amritsar – Dharamshala – Paragpur – Nalagarh – Shimla - Delhi

---

### **Day 10: Nalagarh – Shimla**

After breakfast drive to Shimla approximately 139 Kms – 6 Hours

Scottish civil servant Charles Kennedy built Shimla's first British summer home in 1822 and by the latter half of the 19th century the city had become the summer capital of the British Raj. Many British soldiers, merchants, and civil servants moved there for roughly half of each year.

Today Shimla remains One of the most popular hill Resorts of the North, offering beautiful views of the middle Himalayas, a vibrant atmosphere and many shops, restaurants and attractions.

Overnight at Hotel.

### **Day 11: Shimla**

After breakfast rest of the day is at leisure, overnight at Hotel

Shimla is ideal for walks and life revolves around the busy Mall in the centre of town. One can visit the mock tudor Library, the Christ Church, the Gaiety Theatre and the Viceregal Lodge or drive to Naldera for a round of golf.

### **Day 12: Shimla**

After breakfast rest of the day is at leisure, overnight at Hotel

### **Day 13: Shimla – Delhi**

After breakfast depart from Shimla by the narrow gauge Kalka Shimla Railway connects Shimla to the main railway network at Kalka. Travel by rail is slow but the scenery and 103 tunnels en route make it a memorable journey.

Connect to the Shatabdi Express Train for Delhi leaving Kalka at 17:30 Hours and arriving Delhi at 21:40 Hours.

Meet and assist on arrival in Delhi and transfer to Hotel for overnight stay.

### **Day 14: Leave Delhi**

After breakfast departure to International Airport to board afternoon flight to London

**End of Tour**