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ENQUIRIES AND RESERVATIONS



INDIAN ODYSSEY train journey with Goa extension

13 Days / 12 Nights

London - Delhi –Sawai Madhopur - Agra – Jaipur –Udaipur – Vadodara – Ellora Caves – Mumbai - Goa

Welcome to Indian Odyssey, a spectacular train journey in inimitable royal style and luxury on one of India's iconic trains, the Deccan Odyssey. The Odyssey will take you on an eight-day extravaganza, through the fascinating, ever-changing vistas of a colourful, vibrant and ancient India, from its capital Delhi to its premier metropolis Mumbai, traversing ancient kingdoms and their historic traditions as you attempt tiger spotting at Ranthambore, visit the glorious Taj Mahal at Agra, the effervescent city of Jaipur, the lakes and palaces at Udaipur, view the beautiful monuments of Vadodara, and visit some of the most prominent and unexplored destinations of west-central India, with a trip to the unrivaled Ellora Caves – World Heritage Site. A railroad journey like none other, in a land like no other, we welcome you on board the Deccan Odyssey.

Day 1 Depart London by Air India scheduled service

Day 2 Arrive Delhi

Arrive Delhi. After completing immigration and custom formalities you will be met by our representative outside the baggage claim area and escorted to a waiting vehicle for your transfer to the hotel.

Delhi is made up of about 15 cities, spanning the period from the 11th to 20th centuries. There is little left of the early cities. Old Delhi (Shahjahanabad) and New Delhi, the two most recent cities and the heart of modern Delhi, are relatively intact. Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan in 1650 switched the Mughal capital from Agra to Delhi. Shah Jehan



possessing an exquisite talent, especially in architecture, created the seventh city and in the process brought about Delhi's glorious renaissance. The Red Fort (Lal Qila) is Shah Jehan's symbol of power and elegance, built behind red sandstone walls. Its main gate (Lahore Gate) faces Chandni Chowk, the perpetually congested avenue heading west from the Red Fort, is filled with twisting lanes, small streets and crowded bazaars. If you peer through a portico you may see a man getting shaved, silver being weighed, or any other conceivable form of intense commerce.

In 1911 King George V announced the transfer of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi. The King's architects, Lutyens and Baker, set in motion the design and construction of Delhi's eight city - New Delhi. Lutyens designed an "Imperial City" having palatial- sized buildings set amid broad tree-lined avenues punctuated by Mughal style gardens, complete with fountains and shallow pools. It took 20 years to complete this immense undertaking only to have the British pack up and relinquish the subcontinent in 1947.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 3 Delhi – Board the Deccan Odyssey

At **9:00 AM** be ready in the lobby of the Hotel.

This morning visit Old Delhi, which is a striking contrast to New Delhi. Here are very narrow streets with unregulated traffic of all kinds (where might is always right). The Jama Masjid (Friday Mosque) opposite the Red Fort is the largest mosque in India and one of the greatest examples of the architectural extravaganza of the Mughal era.

Enjoy a brief stop at Raj Ghat -- Mahatma Gandhi's memorial in black marble.

Enjoy a rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk (Silver Square), the main shopping street, and a legacy of the Mughal era. Where you will see silver getting weighed, people walking around the road, an adventure in itself.

Enjoy lunch at local restaurant. Cost of the lunch is directly payable.

This afternoon visit New Delhi. Visit Qutub Minar - a tall tower, built to call the devout for prayer at an adjoining mosque. Then the India Gate (War Memorial) which is a 42 metre high stone arch and has names of 90,000 Indian soldiers who died in the first world war.

Afterwards, the President's house, which is a huge building with 340 rooms in the middle of sprawling well, laid out gardens. The architecture here is purely British. Continue to Parliament House, Government Secretariat Buildings and Connaught Place shopping centre.

At approximately **06:00 PM** you will be transferred to Safarjung Railway Terminal to board the Deccan Odyssey.

This evening assemble at the railway station at approximately 2115 hours to complete the registration process and check in formalities for your Indian Odyssey journey, as you receive a traditional Indian welcome and enjoy a refreshing drink.

After completion of all the formalities, you will be shown to your delightful cabins. As you settle in, the Deccan Odyssey shall depart Delhi for Sawai Madhopur.

Dinner on board

Overnight on Deccan Odyssey

Day 4 Sawai Madhopur – Ranthambore National Park

Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan is the alighting point for the famous Ranthambore National Park, and India's efforts to conserve the dwindling tiger population can be seen here. The park is one of the finest tiger reserves in the country and the most likely place to spot one of these majestic animals.

Enjoy an early morning breakfast before you set out for your morning game drive. Ranthambore is home to several other species as well; you can see herds of Chital and Sambhar deer as well as wild boar, Nilgai antelope and chinkara gazelles. There are also sloth bear, a few leopards and crocodiles. Extensive bird life includes jungle fowl, partridges, quails, the crested serpent eagle, woodpeckers, flycatchers etc. There are also water birds like storks, ducks and geese at the lakes and waterholes. If it's your lucky day, you could spot a tiger lolling around lazily in the sun, or feverishly hunting down deer around the lakes!



When you're done with the jungle, return to the comfort of the **Deccan Odyssey**. Feel free to share the spoils (of your photo-shoots!) over a leisurely lunch before you set out for a village safari.

The people of Rajasthan's villages are mostly tribals who subsist on farming and hunting. These friendly folks are warm and welcoming, and happy to show guests around their villages, giving deep insights into their daily lives. The women here wear bright colours to offset the drab desert, and most people live in mud huts. Visit a local home and interact with the family.

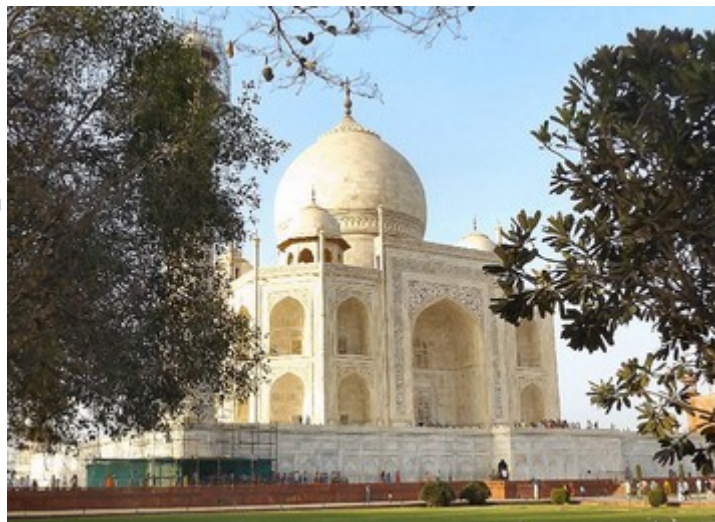
After a fulfilling afternoon, proceed for a high tea at the Sawai Madhopur Lodge, the former hunting lodge of the erstwhile royal family of Jaipur.

After high tea, it is time to head back to the Deccan Odyssey where you can relax with a drink before dinner on board, as the Deccan Odyssey sets off for Agra, the city of the world famous "Taj Mahal".

Breakfast and Lunch on board, High tea at Taj Sawai Madhopur Lodge and Dinner on board Overnight on Deccan Odyssey

Day 5 Agra

Arriving at Agra, you will realize that the Mughals were not just the greatest dynasty to rule India but also its greatest builders. After a leisurely breakfast on board, you will visit famous Taj Mahal, which was Emperor Shah Jahan's gift of love to his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal, and is truly the world's most wondrous monument. The making of the Taj Mahal is as much a fable as the edifice itself. It took 20000 men and 22 years to build this unrivaled mausoleum and its exquisite white marble was brought from 200 miles away by caravans of elephants and camels.



Lunch at a City Hotel.

After lunch, your tour of Agra continues as you visit Itmad-ud-Daulah, a marble mausoleum built by Nur Jahan, the wife of Emperor Jahangir, in memory of her father, Ghiyas Beg. Sometimes called the "Baby Taj", it is beautifully conceived in white marble, mosaic and lattice.

Thereafter proceed to Agra Fort, another outstanding example of Mughal architecture, and the seat of Mughal reign and administration for three generations. The present structure owes its origins to Emperor Akbar who had its first buildings of red sandstone erected on the eastern bank of the river Yamuna. His grandson Shah Jahan, the most artistic and prolific builder of the dynasty, later added the impressive marbled private quarters and the mosque while Aurangzeb added the outer ramparts. A visit to the

Diwan-e-Am, "Hall of Public Audience" and the Royal Pavilions is not to be missed.

Later, you have the opportunity to visit the local markets to admire the exquisite Pietra Dura (marble inlay) artefacts and Mughal ornaments **OR** as an optional activity you may avail the spa facilities at a hotel before completing your tour of this historical city.

Late evening, you return to the Deccan Odyssey for dinner and proceed for your onward journey to Jaipur, The Pink City.

Breakfast on board, Lunch at a City Hotel and Dinner on board Overnight on Deccan Odyssey

Day 6 Jaipur

Legendary for the triumphs of its proud *Rajputs*, Jaipur, the City of Victory, is surrounded by the rugged Aravali hills - crowned by formidable forts - and beautiful palaces, mansions and gardens. Royal processions and parades, in all their splendour, graced these palaces and forts once. The city is a colourful oasis in the desert and you will notice a timeless quality to Jaipur's *bazaars* and its people.

After breakfast you drive to Maharaja Mansingh's 17th century masterpiece, the Amber Fort that overlooks the beautiful Maota Lake. The fort is a sprawling complex of courtyards, halls and rooms adorned with beautiful paintings, precious stones and mirrors. Behold the *Sheesh Mahal*, "Hall of Mirrors", where a single lamplight reflects in many mirrors, and lights up the entire room, creating a dazzling effect.

En-route to the Amber Fort visit the Palace of Winds, otherwise known as the *Hawa Mahal*, famous for its intricate pink sandstone carving and a beautiful view of the city. Thereafter you will visit the famous City Palace of Jaipur, an overwhelming complex of exquisite palaces, gardens and courtyards, decorative art and carved doorways. The palace museum houses collections of rare manuscripts, armoury, costumes and carpets. Walk across to the adjacent *Jantar Mantar*, the astronomical observatory built in the 18th century by Sawai Jai Singh. A wondrous achievement for its time the observatory gives accurate readings even to this day.



Lunch at a City hotel.

Following lunch you may choose to participate in one of the **optional tours**. Enjoy spa facilities at a palace hotel **OR** have the opportunity to explore the colorful bazaars of the Pink City which offer a wide range of ethnic handicrafts produced in the city-centre and its outskirts.

After your full day of delving in the royal past of Jaipur you will return to the Deccan Odyssey for dinner on board as it departs for Udaipur.

**Breakfast on board, Lunch at a City hotel and Dinner on board
Overnight on Deccan Odyssey**

Day 7 Udaipur

The Deccan Odyssey rolls into Udaipur in the morning. Set on the shores of the placid Lake Pichola, Udaipur, known as the City of Lakes, is easily one of the most romantic cities of India, surrounded by scenic hills. Enjoy your breakfast as you admire the picturesque landscape of the Aravali hills.

You will then disembark to visit the famous City Palace, the largest palace complex in Rajasthan, with its scalloped arches, fretted balconies, and cupolas, which also houses the spectacular Crystal Gallery.



Later, board a ferry to ride on Lake Pichola to reach Jagmandir, a 17th century Palace located on an island on the picturesque lake, for an exquisite lunch. Allow the sounds of the Tabla and the unique Jal Tarang to soothe your inner rhythm as you glance out to the lovely views of one of the most romantic cities of Rajasthan.

After lunch, return to Deccan Odyssey for a short rest. Later embark on a Walking Tour through the Old City of Udaipur. Sample the exquisite variety of handicrafts ranging from toys, bewitching puppets, wall hangings, cloth lanterns, handmade papers, jewellery, paintings, painted wooden boxes, pottery, brassware and terracotta sculptures.

Thereafter you return to the Deccan Odyssey for a relaxed evening and dinner as we depart for Vadodara.

**Breakfast on board, Lunch at Jagmandir and Dinner on board
Overnight on Deccan Odyssey**

Day 8 Vadodara

Today you arrive at the capital of the Gaekwads, Vadodara, located along the seasonal river Vishwamitri. Breakfast over, you will disembark and proceed to visit Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the only complete and unchanged pre-Mughal Islamic city in India. This concentration of largely unexcavated archaeological, historic and living cultural heritage properties is cradled in an impressive landscape. Marvel at the Jami Masjid (Great Mosque) built in 1513 representing a perfect blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture which was a model for later mosque architecture in India. Drive back to Vadodara for a leisurely lunch on board the Deccan Odyssey.

After lunch, you will visit the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum, originally constructed as a school for the Maharaja's children. Today, art lovers can view a large number of works of art displayed in the museum including a collection of the paintings of Raja Ravi Varma and other renowned European Masters as well as a collection of sculptures in marble and bronze.

Enjoy a high tea at the resplendent Lakshmi Vilas Palace, built in 1890, and the residence of the Royal family even today. Reputedly four times the size of Buckingham Palace, its overwhelming Durbar Hall boasts a Venetian mosaic floor, Belgian stained-glass windows and walls with intricate mosaic decorations. The palace also houses a remarkable collection of old armoury and sculptures in bronze, marble and terracotta by Fellici. Witness a folk performance typical of the region as you savour some of the special delicacies from the Royal kitchen.

Return to the Deccan Odyssey for dinner as it pulls out for Aurangabad.

Breakfast and Lunch on board , High tea at Lakshmi Vilas Palace and Dinner on board Overnight on Deccan Odyssey

Day 9 Aurangabad – Ellora Caves

Aurangabad, named after the last Great Mughal Aurangzeb, is an industrial town in Maharashtra and the stop from where to head out to visit the exceptional Ellora Caves, a World Heritage site. The city itself has deep Mughal influences and there are several monuments of note here; the Daulatabad Fort, Bibi-ka-Makbara and the city's 52 gates, each with its own history, amongst them.

Today brings a late start, leaving the morning free for you to enjoy a languid breakfast and enjoy some of the activities available on board. Later, as you savour lunch, the Deccan Odyssey arrives at Aurangabad, from where a scenic drive takes you to the Ellora Caves, carved into the side of a basaltic hill 30 km from the city. The finest specimen of cave-temple architecture in India, the site encompasses 34 rock-cut shrines representing Buddhist, Jain and Hindu art dating from the 4th to 5th century AD. The 12 caves to the south are Buddhist, the 17 in the centre Hindu, and the 5 caves to the north are Jain. The most remarkable is the Kailash temple, meant to be a replica of Shiva's celestial abode on Mt. Kailash. It is the best example of rock cut architecture and an engineering marvel.

After exploring Ellora Caves, return to the Deccan Odyssey.

This evening relax with a sun downer at the Mumbai-Hi before the dinner is served.

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner on board

Overnight on Deccan Odyssey

Day 10 Mumbai / Goa

Early this morning, after breakfast, you will disembark at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Railway Station, Mumbai.

Bid farewell to the Deccan Odyssey as your royal passage through the grand vistas of India comes to an end with your breakfast on board, afterwards you will be met by your guide who will escort you to the waiting vehicle for sightseeing of Mumbai.

Pay a visit to "The Gateway to India", Mumbai's most recognized monument. It was constructed to commemorate the visit of King George V and Queen Mary to the city. Afterwards board a ferry and sail to Elephanta Island, "The City of Caves". The obscure origins of the island's many temples are thought to date back to the 7th century. The island was originally known as "Gharapuri", but was later renamed to Elephanta after Portuguese explorers discovered a large stone Elephant near their landing place.

Continue to the Dhobhi Ghat (Washerman's hub). This massive open-air laundry provides an unforgettable glimpse into the inside of the city. Dirty laundry from all over Mumbai is brought here and painstakingly hand washed by the dhobis (washer men) in the seemingly endless rows of concrete troughs. The thousands of dhobis spend hours every day standing up to their knees in water filled with chemicals, manually scrubbing and beating the dirt out of each item of laundry. This earns them approximately USD 2.50 per day.

Later you will be transferred to Mumbai Airport.

04:50 PM depart Mumbai via Air India flight # 661 direct service to Goa. Total flying time: 1 hour, 15minutes.



06:05 PM Arrive Goa. After collecting your luggage you will be met outside the baggage claim area by your guide and escorted to a waiting vehicle for your transfer to the hotel.

A land of sun, spices and tropical bliss, Goa still bears traces of its vibrant blend of Portuguese & Indian history. Whitewashed churches, ornately-designed buildings and stunning ancient cathedrals stand in testament to nearly 500 years of colonial rule while pristine stretches of golden-sand beaches have transformed Goa into a spiritual, seaside sanctuary.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 11 Goa

This morning after breakfast proceed for a half day tour of Goa.

There are a number of churches in Goa built by the Portuguese, many magnificent churches were built by them in Old Goa. The Old Goa churches remind us of its former glory that once rivaled that of Rome. It was known to the world as 'Golden Goa' or 'Pearl of the Orient' in the 16th and 17th centuries and its days of glory. Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Old Goa, is adjacent to the Cathedral.

Built in the 17th Century, a beautiful octagonal tabernacle ornately decorated has two statues, one of St Francis of Assisi and the other of Jesus on the cross. Vows of poverty, humility and obedience of St. Francis of Assisi are scripted right below these two statues.

The Basilica of Bom Jesus is the most august and famous of all the churches in Old Goa. It contains the relics of St. Francis Xavier, Patron saint of Goa, Apostle of the Indies. He was known as Goencho Saib by most of the people of Goa.

The construction of the church began on the 24th November 1594 AD from the funds bequeathed for this purpose by Dom Jeronimos Mascarenhas. It became the first church in India to be elevated to the status of a minor basilica in 1946.

In the afternoon enjoy the beach activities on direct payment basis.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 12 Goa

Enjoy the beach or other activities on your own.

Overnight at the hotel

Day 13 Goa

At Approximately **11:30 AM** be ready in the lobby of the hotel for your transfer to the Goa Airport to board the flight.

02:45 PM Depart Goa via Indigo flight # 712 direct service to Mumbai. Total flying time: 1 hour, 20 minutes.

04:05 PM Arrive Mumbai. You will have layover in Mumbai.

Your Journey Is Now Complete!!!!

Tour Cost: Deccan Indian Odyssey with Goa extension (15 November 2018 departure only)

No. of Paying Pax	Depart London Heathrow 15 November 2018 only
02 pax travelling together and staying in a Double/Twin room	GBP 6260 per person, including international & domestic India flights

Hotel Envisaged:

City	Hotels or Similar	No of nights (11)
Delhi	Leela Palace – Deluxe Room	01
Ranthambore	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Agra	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Jaipur	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Udaipur	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Vadodara	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Aurangabad	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Mumbai	Deccan Indian Odyssey – Deluxe Cabin	01
Goa	Taj Exotica – Deluxe Sea View	03

Check-in/Check-out at all hotels as per respective hotel policies

No reservation has been processed yet.

Airfare in Economy Class: Subject to Change

TOUR COST INCLUDES :

- Meeting & Assistance on arrival/departure at Airport and Hotel by Alluring India Destination's Representatives.
- Hotel accommodation for 04 nights with breakfast.
- Deccan – Indian Odyssey 07 nights, Accommodation in double / twin bedded cabins with en suite bathrooms, all meals, soft beverages, butler service, guided off train excursions as illustrated in the journeys inclusive of entrance fees, still camera fee, transport and services of a guide, complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water on board, portorage at stations.
- Arrival, departure transfers, sightseeing & excursions using Air-conditioned Toyota 'Innova'.
- **Local English Speaking guide in Mumbai & Goa.**
- **Unlimited mineral water / Soft drinks in the vehicle.**
- Representative for assistance in each Metro city
- Road taxes, parking fee, fuel charges, interstate taxes
- 24/7 on-tour assistance in India
- Current Government Service Tax (GST), subject to change

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE :

- Any services other than the ones mentioned above
- India visa charges & Airport taxes
- Any Entrances at the monuments
- Video camera fees.
- Any airfare
- Any tips to drive/guide/escort/restaurants etc.
- Any extras like table drinks, telephone calls, any tips, laundry etc or any other items of personal nature

TRAIN DEPARTURE DATES IN INDIA

Month - Year	Train Departs from Delhi	Departure from London
October 2018	20 October	18 October
November 2018	17 November	15 November
December 2018	15 December	13 December
January 2019	12 January	10 January
February 2019	02 February	31 January
March 2019	09 March	07 March
April 2019	06 April	04 April