



Tandoori Chicken and more.....

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## **DAY 01**

## **DEPARTURE USA**



**Delhi**, India's capital and political hub is an ancient city that has something for everyone. Settled seven times over the centuries, this city has grown in a way that reflects its past, while retaining its cosmopolitan flavor. Delhi is India's showcase, be it architecture, religion, shopping, culture – everything is available here – waiting to be discovered.

Depart from your US gateway, connecting en-route to arrive in India on day 02.

## **DAY 02**

## **ARRIVE DELHI**

You are met and assisted upon arrival in Delhi and transferred to your hotel.

## **DAY 03**

## **DELHI**

Morning is at leisure.

In the afternoon, proceed for sightseeing of New Delhi. Visit the 12th century Qutab Minar, gracefully hand-carved for its entire height of 234ft. Visit the mausoleum of emperor Humayun - a forerunner of the Mughal style of architecture. Drive past the India Gate (World War I memorial), The Presidential Palace, Parliament House and the Secretariat buildings - an interesting blend of the Victorian and 20th century architecture.

This afternoon at the hotel meet the Chef who would take you through the pre-preparations of a Punjabi meal. Learn how to marinate meats, cook chick peas, and prepare dough for various leavened and unleavened breads. The demonstration is accompanied by a talk on Punjabi food.

**Punjabi Food:** Tandoori Chicken is one of the world's favourite dishes today and it finds its antecedents in the agricultural state of Punjab. Punjab's culture and lifestyle are based on the fact that majority of the people here are farmers and their food reflects them in every way – simple, sizeable and wholesome. The mode of cooking too is simple with the clay oven or 'tandoor' acting as the central means of cooking. Punjabi food is not subtle its flavours are full bodied and strong, appealing to the palette and nurturing the body that is used to hard physical labour.



Dinner is at a Punjabi cuisine restaurant tonight.



## **DAY 04**

## **DELHI**

This morning after breakfast you depart for a tour of Old Delhi, visiting the Jama Masjid - the largest mosque in India. From here visit Chandini Chowk, Delhi busy commercial street and especially 'Paranthe Wali Gali' and ancient narrow street, where mouth watering stuffed unleavened bread are prepared by families who have been doing just this for over a century. Also

visit the famous Karim's Restaurant to watch some mouth watering Mughali dishes being prepared. Drive past the magnificent Red Fort, - a marvel in red sandstone, built on the banks of River Yamuna by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. Then, visit Raj Ghat (Mahatma Gandhi's memorial). Return to the hotel for lunch and an afternoon at leisure.

This evening watch a cookery demonstration of Mughlai Food – Delhi's chief cuisine to get an idea of how complex and painstaking this cuisine is. After the demonstration enjoy a dinner with the rich scrumptious dishes that make up this cuisine. (B, L, D)



**Mughlai Food:** An antithesis of Punjabi food the main characteristic of Mughlai cuisine is its subtle flavours and sublime curries. The Mughals (Mongols) came to India in the sixteenth century. They brought exotic spices, dried fruit and nuts and new cooking methods. 'Mughlai' dishes as they are called have lots of milk and cream with spices to make rich and spicy meal. Mughlai cuisine includes many famous dishes such as Kormas, Pasandas and Birianies and Pilaus. This cuisine is rich in taste and calories!

**DAY 05**                      **128 Miles, 04hrs**                      **DELHI - AGRA**

After breakfast, drive to Agra. Agra is renowned the world over due to the fabulous Taj Mahal and is situated on the right bank of the river Yamuna. Agra is a city with a glorious past and has the distinction of being the capital of various ruling dynasties.

On arrival in Agra, check-in to your hotel. This evening visit the Taj Mahal. Built by Emperor Shah Jehan in memory of his favorite wife Mumtaz Mahal, this is the ultimate tribute to love ever transcribed in architecture. Return to the hotel for the night. (B, L, D)



The Taj Mahal, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan for his favorite wife Mumtaz Mahal on the banks of the Yamuna River.

**DAY 06**                      **AGRA**

Visit the Agra for this morning after breakfast. The high red stone monument stretches for around a mile. The palace is a notable for its smooth blending of Hindu and central Asian architectural styles. The afternoon will be at leisure for you to relax at the hotel or explore on your own.

Early this evening a special Awadhi cookery demonstration is planned. **Awadhi Cuisine:** is famous world over for its Kababs, breads and rich cuisine. Kacche Keeme ke Kababs (Raw meat of Lamb finely ground and then fried) and Biryani are the favourite dishes of Lucknowites. The Galauat and Kakori Kababs take pride of place of the Lucknowi table, followed by Galauat & Kakori, Tangri Kababs, Shammi Kababs and Seekh Kababs. It was said that Lucknow, reversed the convention that the art of cooking evolves with the



eating habits of the people in society. About 37 types of breads, 47 types of Pulao (Pilaf) , 35 types of Zarda, 19 types of Kababs, 5 types of meat curry, 37 types of Halwa (sweet meat) were created through culinary experimentation during the reign of Nawab Shuja ud Daula. And most of these became a part of mainstream cuisine in the years that followed.

Watch as the chefs prepare various mouthwatering delicacies and assist in making some scrumptious Kebabs. Then, enjoy for dinner what you helped prepare. (B, L, D)

**DAY 07**

**150 Miles, 07hrs (including visit)**

**AGRA - JAIPUR  
VIA FATHEPUR SIKRI**

This morning drive to Jaipur following breakfast. Visit Fatehpur Sikri on the way. Situated about 24 Miles from Agra, this was the erstwhile capital of the great Mughal ruler - Emperor Akbar. This magnificent fort palace had to be abandoned after just 15 years of occupation due to lack of potable water.



After your visit to Fatehpur Sikri, continue to Jaipur. You are met upon arrival and assisted with checking in to your hotel. The evening is free at your leisure. (B, L, D)

**DAY 08**

**IN JAIPUR**

After breakfast, proceed for sightseeing of Jaipur. Visit the Amber Fort which is a classic, romantic Rajasthani Fort Palace, with its rugged, time-ravaged walls and fascinating palaces inside. Visit the enchanting palaces and gardens inside the fort palace to complete your tour. On your way back, stop at Hawa Mahal - Palace of Winds for a brief stop for photographs and as it is in the heart of Jaipur's shopping district, to buy souvenirs.



After lunch visit the City Palace, the former residence of the royal family, a part of which is converted into a museum. Built in the style of a fortified campus, the palace covers almost one-seventh in area of the old city. One of the major attractions in the museum is the Armory Museum housing an impressive array of weaponry. Later visit the Jantar Mantar, which is the largest stone and marble crafted observatory in the world. The observatory has 17 large instruments, many of them still in working condition.

Jaipur, popularly known as the Pink City, was founded in 1727 AD by one of the greatest rulers of the Kachhawaha Dynasty - the astronomer King Sawai Jai Singh. It is the capital of the colourful state of Rajasthan and a jewel which forms one point of the golden triangle.

This evening enjoy a cookery demonstration of Rjasthani cuisine followed by dinner whose menu would include the dishes you saw prepared. (B, L, D)



**Rajasthani Food:** Rajasthani cooking was influenced by the war-like lifestyle of its inhabitants and the availability of ingredients in this region. Food that could last for several days and could be eaten without heating was preferred, more out of necessity than choice. Scarcity of water, fresh green vegetables have had their effect on cooking. The foos, quite a bit of which is made in clarified butter and butter milk is looks spicier than it actually is and is very filling. The

traditional Dal, batti, churma (Lentils, earth baked dough balls soaked in clarified butter and churma is dried unleavened bread with sugar and clarified butter) is a delicacy and must be tried. The meat preparations are rich and succulent in smooth gravies or just cooked directly in wood fires giving them fantastic flavours and amazing aromas.

#### **DAY 09**

#### **JAIPUR – UDAIPUR - DEVIGARH**

An early morning departure is planned for today to take you to the domestic airport to board your flight to Udaipur.

**Jaipur / Udaipur                  Flight 9W 709                  0700 / 0745 hrs**

On arrival in Udaipur you are met and transferred to Devigarh – a 45 minute drive from the airport. Devigarh is an ancient palace converted into a leisure hotel. Enjoy the palace and serene surrounds today with the morning at leisure.



This evening a special cookery demonstration is planned by the chefs of this world class resort. They will demonstrate how Indian cuisine has influenced international flavors and prepare for you a menu consisting of “Fusion Cuisine” (B, L, D)

#### **DAY 10**

#### **DEVIGARH – UDAIPUR - DEVIGARH**



**Udaipur** was founded in 1568, by Maharaja Udai Singh. From the late 16th century, peace brought about an era of renaissance in the arts and encouraged the building of beautiful Palaces around the Lake, which culminated in the City Palace, one of the largest Palace complexes in the world. The Lake itself is a romantic setting surrounding the gleaming white Lake Palace and the Jag Mandir – a refuge of the rebel Mughal Prince, Shah Jehan, who later became the creator of the Taj Mahal in Agra.

The morning is at leisure giving you a great opportunity to relax by the pool, explore the neighboring village, or indulge in a spa treatment. Lunch is at the hotel.

This afternoon, a half hour drive takes you in to Udaipur. Visit the City Palace, built in 1725, which houses the Dilkhush Mahal, Sheesh Mahal - studded with glittering Belgium Mirrors, Moti Mahal and the Palace of Lord Krishna all of which are ornately decorated. Later visit the Jagdish Temple. This temple built in 1651 is dedicated to Lord Vishnu, “The Preserver” in the Hindu Trinity of Gods. Also visit the gardens and fountains of the Sahelion Ki Bari.

This evening enjoy a delightful boat ride on the Lake Pichola before witnessing a Sound & Light show at the Manek Chowk at the City Palace Complex. Dinner is organized at one of the beautiful palace restaurants, before returning to Devigarh for the night.

#### **DAY 11**

#### **UDAIPUR – MUMBAI - GOA**

An early morning departure takes you to the domestic airport to board your flight to Mumbai. There is a short stop at the airport before boarding your flight for the city of golden sand – Goa!

**Udaipur / Mumbai                  Flight 9W 709                  0820 / 0935 hrs**

**Mumbai / Goa                          Flight 9W 475                  1200 / 1300 hrs**

On arrival you are transferred to your hotel for a day at leisure. (B, L, D)



**DAY 12****GOA**

Goa is a land of the sea, sun, sand, strumming guitars and chilled white wine. With its multi-cultured Portuguese & Indian past and effervescent present, Goa is a great place to relax and unwind. The day today is left completely at leisure for you to choose between the beach, pool and the spa. (B, L, D)

**DAY 13****GOA**

Today visit the splendid Menezes-Braganza House, which is regarded as the grandest of Goa's colonial mansions. Dominating the dusty village square, the house, built in the 1500s by the wealthy Braganza family for their two sons, has a huge double-storied facade, with 28 windows flanking its entrance. Palácio do Deão is 213 years old mansion built by a Portuguese nobleman, who was the Dean of the Church, and founder of Quepem town. The house faces the Church he built and is on the banks of the wildly beautiful Kushavati River. It is built in an unusual style blending elements of Hindu and Portuguese architecture. Another of its outstanding features are the lush gardens which have managed to preserve their historical features and have, since old times, been known as the most beautiful pleasure gardens in Goa. Enjoy a traditional Goanese lunch at the Palácio do Deão .



Return to the hotel. The rest of the day is free at your leisure.

**DAY 14****GOA – MUMBAI**

The morning is at leisure. After lunch, you are transferred to the domestic airport to board your flight to Mumbai.

**Goa / Mumbai 9W 474**

**1615/1715hrs**

Check-in to an airport hotel on arrival where day use rooms are reserved for you. Relax and prepare for your journey home. A farewell dinner is organized at the hotel followed by departure to the International Airport to board your flight home.

**DAY 15****DEPARTURE**

Depart India, early morning today.

**~ End of Service ~**

