

Golden Triangle with Varanasi by Train

📅 7 Nights / 8 Days

Overview

Discover North India's most vibrant destinations on a budget-friendly 8-day adventure that seamlessly blends heritage, culture, and spiritual depth. This thoughtfully curated tour takes you through the historic cities of Delhi, Agra, and Jaipur, before an overnight train transports you to Varanasi, India's holiest city. Explore grand forts, vibrant markets, and the Taj Mahal, then delve into the mysticism of Varanasi's ghats, sacred rituals, and centuries-old traditions. With comfortable hotel stays, overnight rail travel, and smooth transfers, this is the perfect choice for value-conscious travelers seeking cultural immersion without sacrificing comfort.

Highlights

- 🚆 Travel overnight by train from Jaipur to Varanasi – a true local adventure
- 🌅 Witness sunrise at the iconic Taj Mahal – a moment of timeless beauty
- 🏰 Explore majestic forts and palaces in Delhi, Agra, and Jaipur
- 🙏 Experience the sacred Ganga Aarti ceremony at Varanasi's famous ghats
- 🛶 Enjoy a peaceful boat ride on the Ganges River during sunrise
- 🚲 Ride a cycle rickshaw through the bustling alleys of Old Delhi
- 🛍️ Shop for handicrafts, textiles, and souvenirs in vibrant local markets
- 🏨 Stay in hand-picked, clean, and comfortable budget hotels
- 🎫 All monument tickets, train travel, and guided tours included for ease

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 - Touchdown in Delhi - India's Grand Gateway

Welcome to India! Upon arrival at Delhi's international airport, you'll be greeted by our representative and escorted to your hotel. Use this day to rest and refresh after your journey or take a gentle walk through the iconic Connaught Place, dotted with colonial buildings and buzzing cafes. The capital city is a mix of old-world charm and urban chaos—your perfect introduction to India.

Day 2 - Time Travel Through Delhi - From Empires to Energy

Dive deep into the contrasting worlds of Old and New Delhi. Begin your morning in Old Delhi, where history lives in every corner. Visit the Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, then ride a rickshaw through Chandni Chowk's maze of spice stalls, silver shops, and street food vendors.
In the afternoon, see New Delhi's grandeur: explore Qutub Minar, Humayun's Tomb, and drive past India Gate, Rashtrapati Bhawan, and Parliament House. This day reveals the evolution of Delhi—from the Mughal dynasties to modern democracy.

Day 3 - Agra Awaits - Legacy of Eternal Love

After breakfast, journey to Agra, the city of the Mughals. Upon arrival, check in and visit the sprawling Agra Fort, where emperors ruled and conspiracies brewed. Walk through marble halls, royal courtyards, and secret passages.
In the evening, relax in Mehtab Bagh, a Mughal garden across the Yamuna River, for a magical view of the Taj Mahal at sunset, as its ivory dome blushes in twilight hues.

Day 4 - Sunrise Over the Taj - A Morning of Marvels

Wake before dawn to witness the Taj Mahal at sunrise—an ethereal moment that words can't fully describe. The soft golden light makes the marble monument glow as if lit from within.
After breakfast, set off for Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. En route, stop at Fatehpur Sikri, the abandoned Mughal capital with red sandstone palaces that whisper stories of a bygone era. Reach Jaipur by evening and unwind in your hotel.

Day 5 - Jaipur's Regal Splendor - Forts, Palaces & Colors

Begin with a visit to the majestic Amber Fort, set high on a rugged hilltop. Ride a jeep (or optional elephant) up to its grand gates, and explore halls inlaid with mirrors and frescoes.
Later, explore the royal City Palace, admire the curious instruments at Jantar Mantar, and take photos of the honeycombed Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds). Wrap up your day with shopping in Johari Bazaar or savoring spicy Rajasthani street food like pyaaz kachori and lassi.

Day 6 - Rolling Into the Soul of India - Overnight Train to Varanasi

After a leisurely breakfast and some free time, transfer to the train station to board your overnight train to Varanasi. Experience Indian rail travel in a comfortable AC sleeper coach, mingling with fellow travelers and soaking in the rhythm of long-distance train life. Dinner is served onboard or can be arranged before boarding. Rest as the countryside slips by under a starlit sky.
☐ Overnight on train.

Day 7 - Spiritual Arrival - The Mystique of Varanasi Unveiled

Arrive in Varanasi, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Transfer to your hotel and settle in. In the evening, walk down to the ghats to witness the Ganga Aarti—a soul-stirring ritual of fire, chants, and incense as priests pay homage to the sacred river.
The riverfront glows with flames and faith, as locals and pilgrims come together in this timeless ceremony.

Day 8 - Morning on the Ganges - Farewell with Blessings

Rise early for a sunrise boat ride along the Ganges River. As you glide past the ghats, witness scenes of life, death, and devotion: people bathing, chanting, meditating, and bidding farewell to loved ones.
After breakfast, explore Kashi Vishwanath Temple, Banaras Hindu University, or the bustling silk-weaving neighborhoods.
Later, transfer to the airport or railway station with memories of a lifetime steeped in history, faith, and cultural richness.

Accommodation Used