



Discover Jewish India

A shorter tour for the busy traveler, with highlights of India's best sites and Jewish heritage, all at an amazing price!

Learn about the intriguing history, culture and customs of the Jewish communities of Mumbai, Cochin, and Delhi. Eat, pray, and mingle with members of the community.

Visit the Taj Mahal and other top attractions. Enjoy a bicycle rickshaw ride through Delhi's bustling markets, a backwater tour along Kerala's canals, and an elephant ride in Rajasthan.

December 2020-January 2021

Five-star hotels, most meals (vegetarian), and all transportation within India included. International flight on your own.

www.explorejewishindia.com

Contact: Rahel.Musleah@gmail.com (516) 829-2358

RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW! SPACE IS LIMITED

Itinerary

Day 1

Namaste and Welcome to India!

Arrive in Mumbai and transfer to Taj Mahal Tower. Dinner on your own.

Day 2

Mumbai

Depart by ferry to visit the villages along the coast of Bombay where, according to Bene Israel tradition, seven couples were shipwrecked over 2,000 years ago. Ride in a tuk tuk (auto rickshaw) to visit the original landing site and monument at Navgaon, as well as the Magen Aboth Synagogue. Pick out the Jewish stars on some of the homes on Israel Street. After lunch board a ferry back to Mumbai and prepare for Shabbat services.

Enjoy Shabbat services and a sumptuous kosher Indian-Baghdadi dinner with the community at the Knesseth Eliyahu synagogue. Walk back to hotel.

Day 3

Mumbai

Walk to the Knesseth Eliyahu Synagogue for Shabbat services and a gourmet kosher Baghdadi feast. After lunch, optional heritage walk featuring the David Sassoon Library and Prince of Wales Museum with its huge collections of art, archaeology, and natural history (tickets will be purchased in advance). Dinner on your own.

Day 4

Mumbai - Cochin

Breakfast at hotel. Visit synagogues that reflect the thriving presence of the Bene Israel and Baghdadi Jews: Magen David and Tipheret Israel. Tour the city of Mumbai: Marvel at the Dhobi Ghat, an immense, colorful outdoor laundry. Learn about India's multifaceted religious heritage at a Hindu temple and Parsi Towers of Silence. After lunch, walk through the village surrounding the Banganga Tank, a sacred pool hidden in the luxurious locality of Malabar Hill.

Fly to Cochin, on the southern tip of the Indian peninsula. Cochin was once home to another flourishing Jewish community. Today only 20 Jews remain. Dinner on your own. Overnight at Crowne Plaza.

Day 5

Cochin

Visit the dramatic Chinese fishing nets and the Saint Francis Church, the burial place of Vasco da Gama, the Portuguese explorer who discovered India. Walk along Jew Street to the exquisite 450-year-old Paradesi Synagogue in Mattancherry; explore the area's antique shops and spice markets. Visit the amazing synagogue in Ernakulam, part of Cochin (it's hidden behind an aquarium and garden shop). Lunch at a local restaurant. Dinner on your own.

Day 6

Cochin

Visit the 17th-century Chennamangalam Synagogue and museum. Its close proximity to a Hindu temple, church and mosque highlights India's religious tolerance. Stop at the Parur Synagogue, an architectural gem dating from 1616. After a late lunch overlooking the beach, all aboard for a lush backwater tour along Kerala's local canals. Then enjoy a Kathakali dance drama. Dinner on your own. Overnight at hotel.

Day 7

Cochin-Jaipur

Fly to Jaipur, the "Pink City of India." The capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur is nestled in India's mountains. Enjoy a home hospitality dinner. Overnight at Hilton.

Day 8

Jaipur

Prepare to be awed by the Amber Fort, the ancient citadel of Jaipur's rulers, and ride an elephant! Stop at the city palace and the Jantar Mantar observatory. Lunch on your own. Take time to shop in this beautiful city, known for textiles, jewelry and carpets. Dinner and overnight at hotel.

Day 9

Delhi

Leave for Delhi, the second most populous city in the world, and the seat of the Indian government. City tour of Old Delhi features Raj Ghat, the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi; rickshaw ride; and drive past Red Fort. Tour of New Delhi includes India Gate; Parliament and President's Houses. Check in at hotel and walk to Shabbat services at Judah Hyam Hall. Prepaid dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at Taj Mansingh Hotel.

Day 10

Delhi

Morning relaxation or optional visit to Humayun's Tomb, said to have inspired the architectural style of the Taj Mahal, and visit to Sikh Temple. Prepaid lunch included. Free time for optional shopping in hotel vicinity and dinner on your own. Overnight at hotel.

Day 11

Delhi-Agra

Leave by road to Agra (4 hours). After lunch, visit the awe-inspiring Taj Mahal, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, built by the emperor Shah Jahan in the 17th century. Enjoy shopping for Agra's exquisite marble crafts. Dinner on your own and overnight at Double Tree by Hilton.

Day 12

Agra-Delhi

Return by road to Delhi. En route, stop at Agra's Red Fort and Kohinoor, a private museum with an amazing tapestry collection. Packed lunch included.

Transfer to International Airport for flights home or post-tours.

Namaste!



Explorejewishindia.com

Explore Jewish India: What You Need to Know

Costs:

- \$4,500 pp double occupancy.
- \$6,000 single occupancy.
- Price is based on a minimum of six people. If there are fewer than six, the tour will still operate, but with local guides.

Cost includes:

- 12 days, 11 nights at five-star hotels.
- All breakfasts, 9 lunches; 1 home hospitality dinner; 1 New Year's dinner ;2 Shabbat dinners. Meals are vegetarian, with some fish and two kosher meat meals.
- Two bottles of water per day in the vehicle (bottled water free at hotels).
- All sightseeing costs.
- All travel within India, including flights, transfers, boat and ferry trips, and air-conditioned vehicle.
- English-speaking guide.
- Specialized talks about Jewish India.
- All current applicable taxes.

What is NOT included:

- International airfare and visa fees.
- Gratuities for guides and drivers.
- Personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, tips, liquor, camera fees at monuments.
- Any increase in taxes or fuel rates that might cause increase in transportation rates.

Optional Add-Ons:

- Pre-Tour
Additional night at Taj Mumbai: \$330 (per room, not per person).
Additional night at Novotel Aerocity: \$145 (per room, not per person).
Mumbai day tour of Elephanta Island, a 7th- century Hindu cave and World Heritage site: \$75.
Other optional day tours also available.
- Post-Tour: Three nights, Delhi-Varanasi.

Schedule of Payments and Other Requirements:

- \$1,000 non-refundable deposit with registration. Exceptions for refunds may be made on an individual basis in case of emergency.
- Non-refundable balance/final payment due 90 days prior to departure. Charges cover non-refundable expenses incurred on behalf of the participant and the group, and help protect tour fares for the remaining participants.
- Travel/cancellation insurance is highly recommended.
- Visa and valid passport required.

- For more information about the tour, please contact Rahel Musleah, rahel.musleah@gmail.com. 516-829-2358.
- For questions about travel and accommodations within India, please contact our tour guide and travel consultant, Joshua Shapurkar, joshuashapurkar@hotmail.com.
- For expert guidance with international arrangements and travel insurance, contact Brenda Kopelowitz, Travel with Brenda, travelwithbrenda@yahoo.com; 516-482-2787

Looking forward to having you join us!

Explore Jewish India: Registration

NAME (as it appears on your passport): _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____ MOBILE (CELL): _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

BIRTH DATE: _____

PASSPORT: COUNTRY _____ NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

PROFESSION: _____

TOUR DATES: _____

HOTEL: Room preference: Single _____ Double _____

I will room with: _____

Preference for double rooms: 2 Twins _____ 1 Queen/King _____

Do you want a room on a lower floor for Shabbat? _____

MEALS DURING TOUR:

Special requests: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Tel: _____

ABOUT YOU (OPTIONAL): (Your interests, special talents, hopes for this tour, or anything else you'd like us to know:

You've Come So Far: Don't Miss This Post-Tour Extension Option Varanasi



Jan. 4: Delhi - Overnight at Hotel.

Jan. 5: Delhi -Varanasi

Transfer to airport for flight to Varanasi.

Arrival assistance and transfer to Taj Ganges.

Evening tour of Ganges ghats to witness the Aarti ceremony. Overnight at hotel.

Varanasi, one of the holiest cities of Hindus, has a fascinating array of shrines, temples and palaces rising in several tiers from the water's edge. It is also a city of fairs and festivals, celebrating about 400 of them during the year.

Jan. 6: Varanasi

Early morning boat excursion on the holy river Ganges to see the bathing ghats and cremation site. Watch people bathing and worshipping at the Ghats—one of the most extraordinary experiences of a visit to India. After breakfast at the hotel, half-day sightseeing tour of the city including the Bharat Mata Temple with a marble relief map of India; Durga Temple, Tulsi Manas Mandir, Banaras Hindu University and art gallery, and the mosque of Moghul Emperor Aurangzeb. Afternoon excursion to Sarnath, the buried Buddhist city where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon. Sarnath was a renowned school of learning from the 6th century BCE to the 12th century. Overnight at hotel.

Jan. 7: Varanasi – Delhi

After breakfast, transfer to airport to connect to flight for Delhi (arrival by 5 pm) and flight home or to next destination.

Costs:

- \$1,190 pp double occupancy.
- \$1,550 single occupancy.
- Price is based on a minimum of two people.

City	Selected Hotels or similar	Nights
Delhi	Novotel Aerocity	1
Varanasi	Taj Ganges	2

Cost includes:

- Assistance on arrival and departure.
- 3 nights accommodation with breakfast.
- Exclusive AC vehicle for transfers & sightseeing.
- Boat and rickshaw rides in Varanasi.
- Flight: Delhi-Varanasi-Delhi in economy class.
- Entrance to the monuments.
- Local English-speaking guides during the sightseeing.
- All currently applicable taxes.

Cost excludes:

- Personal expenses such as laundry; major meals, telephone calls, tips, liquor etc.