

India: Cricket, Curry, Cinema & Community Service (6 days)

Departs anytime (2018 -2019)



Please note: This itinerary can be modified in any way to best suit your school's particular aims, learning objectives and budget.

Please contact us detailing any changes you'd like to make.

There's no other country on the planet that blazes its way into your memory like colourful India. It is by far and away the most challenging of Asian destinations as it pulsates with a spectacular mix of people, traditions and landscapes unequalled anywhere in Asia.

This 6-day trip in India has been specially designed for adventurous students wanting to experience the highlights of the country's iconic 'Golden Triangle' – Delhi, Agra and Jaipur in Rajasthan province.

Starting in the Indian capital of Delhi we will explore its famous Old Fort and bustling back streets, before travelling to see the white marble Taj Mahal and Agra Fort. We will also spend time at a rural school in Jaipur where students will undergo a school renovation project helping to repair and renovate existing structures.

The itinerary further entails a look at the cornerstones of Indian culture - Cricket, Curry and Cinema (Bollywood films) while we examine ancient traditions and social topics the country is facing with its huge population and ethnic diversity. There are also some optional activities students may choose from depending on their interests.

Most importantly, this trip is designed to be safe and highly enjoyable as students and teachers are always escorted and looked after by one of our student dedicated tour leaders.



Billy Penfold
Director



Day 1

Arrive India (Delhi)



Upon arrival in Delhi, we will be greeted at the airport by our tour leader and transfer to the hotel. Our leader will run through the upcoming week's activities. This afternoon, we will be heading to Hauz Khas complex in Southern Delhi. This complex is made up of numerous narrow lanes full of art stores, boutique shops, and eateries.

The architecture style is very eclectic due to the lack of, and in more recent times, ever-changing building standards. Hauz Khas also features a beautiful old Islamic Seminary dating back to the 13th century complete with an old mosque, tomb and tiered pavilion all overlooking the adjoining Hauz Khas

Lake. We will see many young people flocking to the restaurants in the evening, one of which we will dine at tonight overlooking the pedestrian street. (lunch, dinner) **Flight details to be advised**

Day 2

Delhi



We cross the city to enjoy a fascinating half day tour of Old Delhi. We saddle up into rickshaws (1 person per rickshaw including audio headset) where we will see narrow streets laden with spices, mosques, crumbling colonial architecture and stalls selling all types of goods and silks. On either side of these overcrowded thoroughfares are tiny stores of every description – from chemists, moneylenders, to metal and scrap dealers.

At lunchtime, we will enjoy dining at one of the city's 125-year old restaurants. No tour to India would be complete without visiting the National Gandhi Museum. This afternoon, we will learn about the former Prime Minister's life-

long legacy – his struggle for basic human rights and India's struggle for independence. We then cross the city back into New Delhi. Highlights of our tour here include India Gate and Jama Masjid, India's oldest and largest mosque.

Mid-afternoon we will visit MANZIL, a small registered charity and self-help group that was founded in 1996. We will talk to its staff members and learn about their group sessions, peer-to-peer learning and the challenges they face daily. MANZIL runs out of a small office and focuses on teaching mathematics, computers and the arts in several nearby locations, all of which take place after regular school hours and on weekends. (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 3

Delhi Agra (Taj Mahal)



This morning we will be boarding our bus to Agra. Here, we will explore Agra Fort, located on the right banks of the Yamuna River. The fort was an important and robustly built stronghold of the Mughul emperor Akbar. While first built in 1487, it was renovated and extended between 1565 and 1573. The British finally captured the fort in 1803.

Mid-afternoon we will head to the Taj Majal (or Taj, as referred to by the locals). It was built by Emperor Shah Jahan in loving memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz, who tragically passed away in childbirth in 1631. The Taj Mahal is described as the most extravagant monument ever built for love and

remains one of India's most enduring symbols today. We will tour this legendary mausoleum and enjoy a delightful golden sunset.

Heading out early evening we make our way to Meher Theatre. We will be watching a blockbuster Bollywood movie, characterized by dance, plot twists and glamour. (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 4

Agra Jaipur

Today we will journey to the state of Rajasthan – famous for its spectacular scenery and ancient forts. En route we will stop at Korai village inhabited by a group of people who once raised bears and held bear dances for visitors. The practice was banned several years ago, and now the locals struggle to make a living. We will stroll around the village as our guides explain about life in this impoverished village. This afternoon we spend 3 hours with Elephantiasic, an organisation set up to look after the welfare of elephants in the province. We will learn how

to look after elephants, feed and bath them, and learn about elephant paints. There is also the option to walk alongside elephants or ride bareback (the use of saddles is not permitted).



Later in the afternoon, we will take a fascinating walk through the local bazaars to see local traders in action. Here many local colourful goods are sold, including bright silks, copper dinner sets, decorative items and tasty strange looking snacks. There will be time for shopping. We will pass by the strange Hawa Mahal Palace building once used for the princess to watch street festivals and processions. (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

As an alternative to the Elephantastic activity, there is also the option to visit the UNESCO site of the Amer Fort. The fort is a mixture of Mogul and Hindu architecture. Constructed in the late 16th Century the forts rugged exterior hides

the inner beauty of fusion art and palatial buildings. The interior walls display impressive painted scenes with carvings and precious stones

Day 5

Jaipur (school renovation activity)



This morning we will visit a rural community to embark on a school renovation project to help improve a rural school on the outskirts of the city. Jobs may include: repairing walls and floors, painting, nailing, establishing self-sufficient gardening, or setting up a library.

In the afternoon we will enjoy a mixed game of Cricket with our new local friends to learn of the English game that India has made its own. Indians are crazy about all things cricket. Playing a game of 20/20 cricket is a great way to interact with students from a local school which we will enjoy today NB: Don't worry if you've never played cricket before as our Indian contemporaries will love to

show us the ropes!

This evening we will enjoy dinner with our new-found friends on this, our final evening in India. (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 6

Departure day



A riot of colour, a frenzy of music and dance, there are few physical purists as fun as Bollywood dancing. Our class today is taught by a fusion of traditional and classical Indian dances. We will first be acquainted with basic steps, before building up to energetic dance moves. It is taught in a style that is so exhilarating that you forget you are actually working out!

In the late afternoon of day 6, we will head back to Delhi and take the international flight home. Our tour leader will wave us farewell at Jaipur airport. (2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner) **Flight details to be advised**

Summary

Easy/Grading

Moderate; Students will be required to be in good health to get the most out of this trip while any one of reasonable fitness will be able to take part. There are no real physical difficulties however students will be expected to walk every day, particularly during the community project component of the trip. You will also be expected to be able to ride a bike and be able to participate in a light hiking activity. It will be necessary for you to carry your own luggage throughout the trip but only for short distances.

Accommodation

Student accommodation is on a twin/triple share basis. Teacher accommodation is on a single room basis. Hotels hold a 3-star equivalent rating.

Transport

Modern air-conditioned bus.

Group Size

Minimum group size 20 students & 2 staff members travelling *free of charge*.

▲ [Smaller group sizes can be quoted upon application](#)

Your Tour Leader

Your tour leader is probably the person who most influences the success of your trip. Thus, Student Educational Adventures employs our own team of meticulously trained student dedicated, local tour leaders - not foreigners, imported at your students' expense with no language skills or insight into your host culture.

These nationals are not only the best folk to show you their country. They are your teachers, translators and an enthusiastic purveyor of authentic experiences. They are there to facilitate your immersion into new cultures and are the bridge between you and the world of education and new experiences.

Your tour leader is always with your students throughout your trip and is thoroughly versed in safety protocols and duty of care responsibilities. This ranges from assisting in the most basic of health and safety measures to ensuring that teachers & students are always safe during our trips. All have been chosen because of their ability to deal with the needs and unique issues associated with escorting young people through this wonderful and at times, most foreign of regions.

Service Learning Program

All service-learning programs initiated by Student Educational Adventures are conducted after careful consultation with the local community and with the local People's Committees.

These projects are initiated based on a model of mutual learning and designed as an immersion experience. An understanding of the importance of an integrated approach to community development is useful to frame what students and teachers might see, learn or experience during a student immersion.

India – Community Service Journey 6 days

Inclusions

- All accommodation, transport, activities, entrance costs and other programs as described in the itinerary
- Student Educational Adventures tour leader throughout the trip & additional specialist guides as required
- Meals (along with drinking water) as listed in the daily itinerary
- Pre-departure support, briefing and planning meetings for students & parents
- 24/7 in-country support

Exclusions

- International flight to/from India
- Manzil on day 2
- School renovation on day 5 & 6
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- India Visa (if required)