

8. Delhi, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir und Punjab: 14 Tage

Diese Reise in den nördlichen Teil Indiens ist auch geeignet für diejenigen, die nur im Sommer Indien besuchen können. In Himachal Pradesh besuchen sie mit der Bergbahn das einzigartige Shimla, welches unter den Engländern zur Sommerzeit als populärer Bergerholungsort (Hill Station) sogar eine informelle Hauptstadtsfunktion hatte. In Punjab besuchen Sie Amritsar, u.a. den Goldenen Tempel, das Heiligtum der Sikhs. An der Grenze zu Pakistan, erleben Sie eine eindruckliche Wachablösung.

Zum Gliedstaat Jammu & Kashmir gehört auch Ladakh, das „Land der hohen Pässe“, auch als „Mondland“, „kleines Tibet“ oder gar als „letztes Shangri La“ bezeichnet. Dort besuchen Sie verschiedene buddhistische Klöster.



Reiseroute: Zürich – Delhi – Chandigarh – Shimla – Amritsar – Wagah Boarder (Grenze zu Pakistan) – Amritsar – Jammu – Srinagar - Leh – Delhi – Zürich

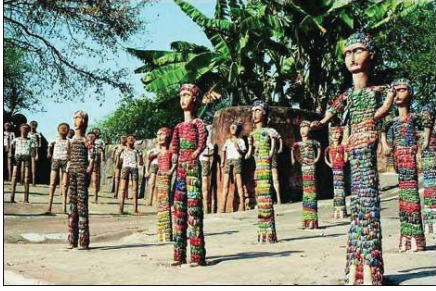
Verlängerung/Verkürzungsmöglichkeit: Es bestehen verschiedene Möglichkeiten. Bitte nehmen Sie Kontakt mit uns auf!

Day 01 Zurich - Delhi

Meeting assistance on arrival and transfer to Hotel/Railway station

Day 02 Delhi

Transfer to railway station to board train to Chandigarh.



Afternoon, visit **Chandigarh:** Chandigarh is one of the beautiful cities of India and is most popularly known as the "city of roses". The Shivalik Mountain ranges that surrounds the city adds enormous beauty to the place. During the Chandigarh tour, the tourist can witness the fascinating places of Chandigarh. This fabulous city of Chandigarh is located

only 250 km from New Delhi, the capital of India. In spite of modernization of the city, one can find quite traditional lifestyle in the heart of the city itself. This amazing blend of the old and new traditions makes the place more interesting touring place in India **the Rock Garden:** Chandigarh is one of the fantasy lands, where the tourist can witness the Rock Garden. The multicoloured pieces of stones are the magical attraction of the Rock Garden. **Sukhna Lake:** The Sukhna Lake is a manmade lake that spreads over 3 sq. km. It is situated on the northern border of the city. From the month of December to February, different species of aquatic birds from Central Asia and Siberia used to come to visit this Lake.. **Rose Garden :** The Rose Garden of Chandigarh is a beautiful landscape, which contains more than 1600 varieties of roses. The tourists can enjoy the rose festival in the Rose Garden, which the tourists can enjoy during the month of spring..

Day 03 Chandigarh-Shimla (120 km/4 h)

After breakfast drive/ with train to Shimla, on arrival check into the Hotel.

Rest of the day free for independent activities.

Day 04 Shimla

After breakfast, Local Sightseeing tour of Shimla. The hub of Shimla is the Mall, which runs along the Ridge and is crowded with tourists. It is the city's most famous shopping center, with shops selling all items, from clothes to junk food. The Ridge is a large open space in the heart of the town and presents excellent views of the mountain ranges.



Observatory Hill Viceregal Lodge this magnificent English renaissance structure was the former **Viceregal Lodge**. Its lawns and woodland and added attractions. This was built for Lord Dufferin who played a prominent part in its planning and building. The famous Madras High Court (Tamil Nadu) and Mysore's Ambar Vilas Palace at Karnataka and Capt HH Cole designed it in the Elizabethan style. It includes an indoor tennis court and electric lights. The lodge also has a botanical garden and a cafe now it remains as a Rashtrpati Niwas (The Presidents House), it houses the Indian



Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS). The magnificent reception hall and corridors are lined from floor to ceiling with heavy teak panelling. The gate house, a chapel and the meticulously polished brass fire hydrants imported from Manchester, U.K. still remind us of its British origin.

Jhaku Temple/ Hill: (2455 m)., this is the town's highest peak and a vantage point for Shimla's famous views. The summit is crowned with a temple dedicated to Lord Hanuman. The hill is full of paths and narrow roads which are enjoyable walk. The highest hill in Shimla is 2,455 mts. above sea level is a vantage point for Shimla's famous views. The Jakhu Temple is dedicated to the monkey god Hanuman. Since no temple in India goes without a legend, Jhaku has a story too. It is said that Hanuman rested here on his way from the Himalayas with the magical sanjeevani there are many monkeys around the temple.



booti, the herb that saved Lakshman's life. Appropriately enough, **The Ridge:** This large open space in the heart of town presents excellent views of the mountain ranges. Shimla's landmarks - the neo- gothic structure of Christ Church and the neo - Tudor library building - are worth seeing. **Lakkar Bazar:** Popular for its wood crafts and Souvenirs, this is just off the Ridge. **ST. Michael's Cathedral:** This dressed-stone church with fine stained glass has a cruciform design. It is located just off the Mall, below the District Courts. **State Museum (3km):** This houses a representative collection of Himachal's rich heritage. Exhibits include archaeological artifacts, carvings, paintings and sculptures. Closed on Monday and holidays. **Sankat Mochan (7 km):** This is a temple dedicated to Lord Hanuman.

Day 05 Shimla-Amritsar (370 km/8-9 h)

After breakfast, drive to Amritsar, on arrival check in at hotel

Day 06 Amritsar

After breakfast, visit **Amritsar:** The city was founded by the fourth Sikh guru, Ram Das, while excavating the holy tank called the "Pool of Immortality". This city is famous for the **Golden Temple**, The Golden Temple or Har Mandir Saheb is the holiest shrine for the people of Sikh religion. The temple was the main centre of the old Amritsar city, which is visited by the Sikh



devotees from all parts of the world. Built between 1588 and 1601, the temple architecture is a combination of Hindu and Muslim styles. **Jallianwala Bagh** - The park is situated close to the Golden Temple. It commemorates 2,000 Indians, who were killed or wounded by the British soldiers during a meeting. **Ram Bagh:** This beautiful garden is in the new part of town and also has a museum in the small palace built there by the

Sikh Maharajah Ranjit Singh. The museum contains weapons dating back to the Moghul times and some portraits of the ruling houses of the Punjab. It's closed on Wednesdays.

Afternoon excursion to **Wagah Border:**

Wagah border, less than 30 km from Amritsar city, Punjab, India is the only border crossing between India and Pakistan. Wagah Border is famous for its 'Retreat' ceremony at the time of sunset. During evening armed soldiers, both Indian as well as Pakistani, fully decked in their uniform enacts a particularly hostile parade



marked by lowering of their respective flags and closing the border gates. The changing of the guards and the ceremonial lowering of the flags is carried out with great pomp and fervor. To enjoy a close look of the border you can be a part of the Nationalistically surcharged and frenzied atmosphere at Wagah, with people from both the sides of the border shouting slogans to bolster the morale of their respective country's army personnel. You can walk along the paved path to the main gates and take pictures of the crowd lining the pathway beyond the gate, before or after the ceremony.

Day 07 Amritsar-Jammu (220 km/ 8 h)

After breakfast, drive to Jammu, on arrival check in at hotel

Late afternoon short visit of Jammu.

Jammu: Tucked away in the foothills of the Himalayas, with the picturesque river Tawi flowing alongside stands the land that Raja Jambu Lochan discovered one day while he was hunting. Legend has it that he suddenly came upon a clearing where he saw a sight that left him speechless.. **Raghunath**



Temple, Nucleus of a

group of temples, this temple is situated in the city center and is dedicated to Lord Rama. Maharaja Gulab Singh who founded the kingdom of Jammu and Kashmir initiated the intricate work on the temple in 1835, which was completed in 1860 by his son, Maharaja Ranbir Singh.



Bahu Fort, More than 3,000 years old, this fort is perhaps the oldest structure in Jammu. It is situated on the left bank of River Tawi, 5 km away from the city centre.

Overnight at Hotel

Day 08 Jammu-Srinagar (flight)

After breakfast transfer to airport to board a flight to Srinagar.

Meeting assistance on arrival and transfer to the Hotel.



Afternoon Shikara ride at Dal Lake You can enjoy beautiful rides on shikaras; visiting Nehru park, Kabutur Khana, Charchinari, Floating Islands and typical vegetable farmer villages on the Dal lake. The canals are spectacular.

Day 09 Srinagar



After breakfast, visit of **Srinagar City**: The capital of Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar is blessed with the beautiful surroundings, perfect weather and serene environment. Here the atmosphere is such that every destination visited, every day stayed in the lap of nature is all worth it. Despite of the fear of terrorist attack, Srinagar tour has always been a favorite tourist spot. **Mughal Gardens**, Set some distance back from the lake, but reached by a small canal, the Shalimar were built by

Emperor Jehangir for his wife Nur Jahan, 'light of the world' in 1616. The Nishat Bagh is another lovely garden with its 12 terraces representing the 12 signs of the zodiac, which descend gradually and seem to almost merge into the lake. Smallest of the Srinagar Mughal gardens, measuring just 108 metres by 38 metres, the Chasma Shahi, or 'Royal Spring', are well up the hillside, above the Nehru Memorial Park. **Hazratbal Mosque**, The most important Muslim shrine of Kashmir, that commands the reverence of the people beyond measure, is undoubtedly the Hazratbal Shrine, which is situated on the left bank of the famous Dal Lake in Srinagar. This unmatched reverence is anchored in the love and respect for the Prophet. **The Temple of Shankaracharya**, Built by Jaluka, son of Emperor Ashoka in the third century B.C., the temple of Shankaracharya is an important place of worship frequented by devotees.

Day 10 Srinagar-Leh (flight)

After early breakfast transfer to airport to board a flight to Leh.

Meeting assistance on arrival and transfer to the Hotel.

Rest of the day free to for acclimatizing.

Overnight at hotel.

Day 11 Leh-Hemis-Stok Palace-Leh (100 km/4 h)

After breakfast visit **Hemis**: 40 kms from Leh, it is the wealthiest, best known and biggest gumpa of Ladakh. Its popularity stems from the major annual festival held here in summer. The festival is in honour of Guru Padma Sambhav's birth anniversary. It also has the largest thanka in Ladakh which is unfurled once in 12 years. On these days hundreds of pilgrims will gather at Hemis to pay their tribute and homage. Hemis was built in 1630 during the reign of Sengge Namgyal, an illustrious ruler of Ladakh. It flourished under the Namgyal dynasty for the royalty favoured the Drugkpa Sect which managed the monastery. It is divided into two, the Assembly Hall on the right and the main temple on the left. The Hall, Dukhang, is also used as a 'green room' by the dancers during the festival. The temple is known as Tshogkhang. The verandahs have a surfeit of frescoes, among them the Buddhist 'wheel of life' (Kalachakra) and the 'Lords of the Four Quarters', besides rows of prayer wheels.



Afternoon visit **Stok Palace and Museum**

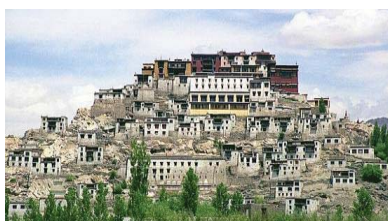


The Stok Palace and Museum is located about 14 kilometers away from **Leh** across the **Choglamsar Bridge**. This was constructed in **1825** by King **Tsespal Tondup Namgyal** who was the last ruler of independent **Ladakh**. The current royal family lives in **Stok Palace**. The museum at this place has a huge collection of ornaments related to royal family, traditional clothing and a huge collection of thankas

Day 12 Leh-Shey-Thiksey-Leh (90 km/4 h)

After breakfast, excursion to visit **Shey, Thiksey Monasteries**

Shey - Until the 16th century it was the royal residence, Kings of Leh were supposed to be born in the monasteries. This Palace Monastery has the largest statue of Maitreya Buddha (Buddha to come) in Ladakh. Erected in the mid 17th century, worked out of gold and gilded copper sheets with blue hair, it stands 17.5 meters high.



Thiksey Monastery: 19 Kms from Leh, spectacularly most impressive gompas. As a showcase of the finest architecture in the state, the Thiksey Monastery is in reality a truly mammoth complex containing twelve stories.

There is a huge statue of a seated Buddha in the main prayer hall and the numerous Stupas, prayer halls and other entities in the complex are very well preserved

Overnight at Hotel.

Day 13 Leh-Delhi (morning flight)

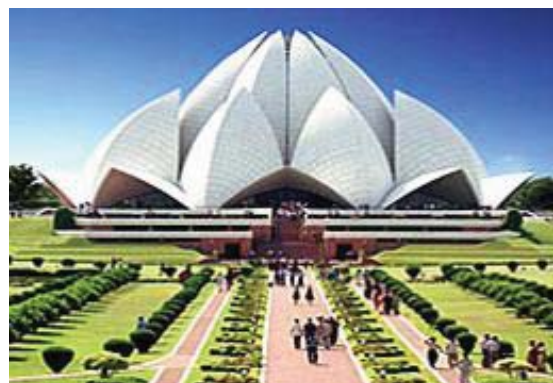
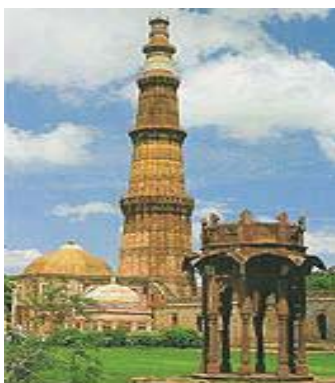
Morning in time transfer to airport to board a flight to Delhi.

Meeting assistance and transfer to Hotel.

Afternoon, combined visit of Old Delhi and New Delhi



Old Delhi: An ancient walled city. Here you will drive past **Red Fort**, the most opulent Fort and Palace of the Mughal Empire: **Jama Masjid – (Friday's closed)** It is the largest mosque in India. It was begun in 1644 and completed only in 1658. There are two minarets (40m in height), four angle towers and three gateways. Built during the rule of Emperor Shah Jahan, the mosque is made of white marble and red stone. **Rajghat: On** the banks of the Yamuna, is the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated following his assassination in 1948. **Chandni Chowk :** This shopping bazaar is the main street of Old Delhi. In spite of it being terribly crowded, irrespective of the time of the day or night, it is frequented by Indian and foreign tourists alike. **(Chandni chowk market closed on Sunday's)**



New Delhi: This city designed and built by the British in the 1920's - a city of wide boulevards impressive Government buildings, and official

building in Connaught Place area. **India Gate:** This arch of triumph bears the names of several thousands of Indians who lost their lives during first world war. **Rashtrapati Bhavan:** Opposite India Gate is the official residence of the President of India. The building exhibits Mughal as well as Western architectural style. Surrounded by huge gardens, this was completed in 1929. **Qutub Minar :** 73m in height, this tower in Delhi tapers from a diameter of 15m to 2.5m. There are five distinct storeys, each of which has a protruding balcony. **Humayun's Tomb,** 1564-1572 built by Haji Begum, the widow of the second Mughal Emperor, Humayun's, nine years after his death and took eight years to complete. It is designed by the Persian architect Mirza Ghiyaz. Octagonal in shape, raised on a plinth, with double domes, high arches, laid in the centre of a large walled enclosure, the monument is an imposing structure.

Lat evening transfer to International airport to board flight to Zurich

Day 14 Delhi-Zurich