



India Panorama

24 day tour to Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Pushkar, Jojawar, Udaipur, Mumbai, Kovalam, Kollam, Backwater Cruise, Thekkady, Munnar & Cochin

After exploring the sights of Old and New Delhi as well as the spectacular Taj Mahal, journey through the princely state of Rajasthan to take a closer look at the region's magnificent forts and explore cities that are full of atmosphere and character, set against stunning desert scenery; you then explore the financial city of Mumbai before continue your travel back in time in the spice-trading port of Cochin, with impressive cultural influences, lulled by the serene beauty of Kerala's backwaters and thrilled by the game-spotting in the jungles of Periyar, the fragrant of tea plantations and hill forests of Munnar are sure to captivate you as you discover the Spice of Kerala.



Day 01 Australia ✈ Delhi

Fly from Australia to Delhi, capital of India. Upon arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport, you are met and transferred to your hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure or for your own activity. Stay overnight in Delhi for 2 nights

Day 2 Delhi

In the morning, after detailed briefing over your trip provided by THO Tour Manager, proceed to the sightseeing tour of Old and New Delhi visiting Jama Masjid - literally meaning the Friday Mosque, India's principal and biggest mosque. Chandni Chowk - Shahjahanabad's Main Street in 1650, facing the majestic Red Fort. It originally had a central canal running down its full length, and when moonlight reflected off the water it got the name Chandni Chowk or 'Avenue of Moonlight'. The canals have long since gone and it is now a chaotically bustling area, typical of real India, containing a mix of stalls, shops, food outlets and temples. Between the mosque and Chandni Chowk is a narrow shop-lined street along which you will be transported by cycle rickshaws on your most photogenic journey of the tour. The locals go shopping here like nowhere else. Next, two renowned 17th-century landmarks: Lal Qila - the Red Fort palaces which we drive past along with India Gate (The country memorial to the unknown soldiers), embassy area (Diplomatic Enclave), Govt. Building (1921-30A.D.) Central Secretariat, President's House, Parliament House, India Gate (War Memorial - WWII). Later visit 72 meter high Qutab Minar (12th Century A.D.)- one of the most perfect tower in the world, nearby amidst the ruins of Quwat-UI-Eslam Mosque stands the iron pillar which does not rust and has stood the vagaries of weather for 1500 years. Post city tour return to your hotel. Dinner will be at hotel. Stay overnight in Delhi.

Day 3 Delhi ➡ Agra(5hrs)

After breakfast travel to Agra, the city that flourished under the patronage of Mughals who ruled India for more than 300 years and attracted artisans from many countries to


built amazing monuments including the one and only Taj Mahal. Here layers of history are peeled away to reveal an amazing tapestry of life - of wars waged, of great architectural magnificence and above all a testimony of the undying love of a king for his queen. Afternoon visit Agra Fort, built in the Indo-Saracenic style of architecture, which was the hallmark of the Mughal period, this sprawling fort stretches 2.5km along the banks of the Yamuna River. Stay overnight in Agra.


Day 4 Agra ➡ Jaipur (5hrs) Meal: B/D

Wake early this morning for sunrise visit to incomparable monument of love the Taj Mahal. The ceaseless labour of 20,000 workers led to the construction of this geometrical miracle in India. An exceptional exhibit of Piedra Dura (stone inlay work), the Taj Mahal displays three major elements of the Muslim decorative art and architecture - the Ayatein (sayings) from the Quran which is the use of various geometrical shapes and a variety of plant forms and flowers which are dominant in the borders. The breathtakingly beautiful landscape around the Taj Mahal adds to the magic of Mughal architecture. Post visit return to hotel for breakfast, later drive to Jaipur, built of pink stucco and planned in a grid system with wide avenues. The origins of this gorgeous city can be traced back to the eighteenth century, during the reign of Maharaja Jai Singh II who ascended the Amber throne in 1699. Today, Jaipur epitomizes the spirit of Rajasthan, retaining its character and history. Afternoon is free to course the bazaar trails and witness the timeless appeal in its colourful markets, the ambling camels and cheerful people in multi-hued costumes. One can find weather beaten faces with huge colourful turbans, fierce moustaches and lips that spontaneously crease into a heart warming smile. The city presents a unique synthesis of culture that has to be experienced in order to be appreciated. With its origin buried deep into the pages of history, the city still exudes a magical old world charm. An aroma of chivalry and romance is evident, despite


having evolved into a city that is the hub of modern commercial activity in the region. Stay overnight in Jaipur.

Day 5 Jaipur Meal: B/D
Enthral yourself on a journey up the rampart to Amber Fort, through a succession of vast gates, on the back of an elegantly painted elephant – 'The Maharaja style'. Inside are the ruins of what was once a great palace, a wonderful example of Rajput architecture with Mughal influences. Visit the City Palace, Jantar Mantar and Hawa Mahal. Witness a wonderful combination of Mughal and Rajput forms of architecture and museum housing miniature paintings, manuscripts, Mughal carpets, musical instruments, royal costumes and weaponry, giving invaluable insight into Jaipur's royal past. Settled in the rugged hills of the Aravalli, Jaipur is the pristine jewel in the desert sands of Rajasthan and is remarkable for its marvellous architecture and town planning. Packed with history, art and culture, this princely state is a treasure – trove of some exquisite palaces, forts, temples and haveli's standing a testimony to the imperial grandeur. It is one of the most vibrant and colourful cities of India. Stay overnight in Jaipur.

Day 6 Jaipur  **Pushkar (2.5hrs)** Meal: B/D
Today we travel to a tiny tranquil town of Pushkar, lying along the bank of the picturesque Pushkar Lake, in a narrow dry valley, overshadowed by impressive rocky hills, offering the most spectacular views of the desert during sunset. It is one of the five most sacred places of pilgrimage of Hindus. As per Indian mythology, the city was created when a lotus leaf fell from Lord Brahma's hand and the holy lake sprouted up there. It is surrounded by hills on three sides and sand dunes on one which makes it the most fascinating. In the afternoon you visit Pushkar Lake and Brahma Temple; the only one of its kind in the world. A red spire marks the temple, and over the entrance gateway is the Hans (goose), the symbol of Brahma who is said to have personally chosen Pushkar as his place of abode. This is a city of pilgrimage from time immemorial with over 500 temples and ghats, with each ghat having its own miraculous qualities and healing powers. Pushkar begets a legacy of timeless architectural heritage and radiates an ambience of peace and spirituality. Puskar is also popular worldwide for its famous Puskar Camel Fair, India's highly rated travel experience, a spectacle attracting 300,000 people and up to 20,000 camels, cattle and horses. Evening is at leisure with an overnight stay in Pushkar.

Day 7 Pushkar  **Jojawar (4hrs)** Meal: B/D
Travel to Jojawar. Set amidst the Aravalli hills, this little garrison fort was once a major principality of the Royal House of Marwar. Bestowed with the title of Rao, the nobles looked after this little fiefdom for about two centuries after its construction in the 18th century. Here generations of the family have lived since 1780, where the patriarch Thakur or Chief in their position as garrison commanders of this border town of Marwar with Mewar – both ancient kingdoms and often bitter enemies, once guarded the volatile border and collected custom dues on the trade. One of the most famous chieftains

of the clan was Thakur Shyam Singhji of Sonegra Chouhan Clan who in the year 1808 led the Chouhan Contingent of the Jodhpur forces to successfully repeal an attack on the Meharangarh fort during the war with the combined forces of Jaipur and Bikaner. You can still meet the descendant of this famous noble, who even today resides in the same complex. Arrive and check in at the hotel. Stay overnight in Jojawar.


Day 8 Jojawar  **Udaipur (4hrs)** Meal: B/D
Before travelling to Udaipur, you can go for a Jeep Safari around Jojawar. It is said that the real India is its rural areas, the country around Jojawar boasts of very interesting landscapes, with the picturesque Aravalli Hills in the east, and broken rocky hills interspersed with farms and scrub forests all around. The Pre-Cambrian Aravalli Hills are one of the oldest mountain ranges of the world, and a geologist's paradise. The camel herding Rabaris are an ethnic group only to be found around Jojawar. The Jeep Safari are specially designed tours taking you to homesteads of these Rabaris, into farms, through pretty little hamlets where time seems to have stopped, and we take a break under the shade of a drooping acacias next to a very beautiful small shrine dedicated to a folk deity. Later Travel to Udaipur, a kaleidoscope of fairy-tale palaces, lakes, temples, gardens and narrow lanes strewn with stalls that carry the flavour of heroic past, epitomising valour and chivalry. On arrival check into hotel for two nights.

Day 9 Udaipur Meal: B/D
Proceed for a guided sightseeing tour and visit City Palace Museum, which houses a remarkable collection of ancient sculptures, curios, antiques and inscriptions of the bygone era and also unusual assortment of coins, sculptures, inscriptions, portraits and wall-paintings with each room beautifully ornamented and decorated. The Jagdish Temple, built in 1651, is a perfect example of Indo-Aryan style of architecture. The three storied temple comprises of beautifully carved pillars, decorated ceilings, painted walls and lush halls, Saheliyon-Ki-Bari (garden of the maids). According to legend this beautiful pleasure park was built by Maharana Singh II mainly for the recreation of 48 maids of his wife who had accompanied her as her wedding dowry. We also visit the Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandir which is an Indian folk arts museum and has interesting exhibits that include folk dresses, ornaments, puppets, masks, dolls, folk musical instruments, folk deities and paintings, followed by a visit to Jag Mandir, a temple dedicated to Lord Jagdish. Spend your afternoon on the banks of Lake Pichola or at the numerous shops that dot the narrow windings streets of Udaipur. This city has a fascinating blend of sights, sound, experiences and inspiration catering for the imagination of numerous poets, painters and writers. Optionally you can take a sunset cruise at Lake Pichola. Stay overnight in Udaipur.


Day 10 Udaipur  **Mumbai** Meal: B/D
Today you fly to Mumbai. Upon arrival transferred to hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure. Stay overnight in Mumbai.

Day 11 Mumbai Meal: B/D
Morning enjoy city tour of Mumbai, touch,

feel and experience the city. A bubble gum glamour of Bollywood cinema, shopping malls full of designer labels, promenading families eating Bhelpuri on the beach at Chowpatty and red double-decker buses queuing in grinding traffic jams. This pungent drama is played out against a Victorian townscape more reminiscent of a prosperous 19th century English industrial city than anything you'd expect to find on the edge of the Arabian Sea. It's a city with vibrant street life, India's best nightlife, and a wealth of bazaars; visit Prince of Wales Museum, Gateway of India, Hanging Garden, Dhobi Ghat. Afternoon visit Elephanta Caves by boat (Boats are subject to operate on particular day & weather conditions). Stay overnight in Mumbai.

Day 12 Mumbai  **Kovalam** Meal: B
Fly from Mumbai to Trivandrum. Upon arrival you are met and transferred to your hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure or for your own activity. Stay overnight in Kovalam for 2 nights.

Day 13 Kovalam Meal: B/D
Day at leisure to pursue independent activities. Kovalam is a beautiful place lying in obscurity for a long period of time along the picturesque coast of Kerala. Then in 1930, this little village broke the shackles of its lethargic slumber, the beauty of the fabulous silver sands and palm-fringed shores emerged from the darkness. The beaches of Kovalam offers activities like sun bathing, swimming, and water sports or you can opt for an Ayurvedic rejuvenation, yoga and meditation or herbal oil body toning massages. Overnight in Kovalam.

Day 14 Kovalam  **Kollam (2.5hrs)** Meal: B/D
After breakfast travel to Kollam, the centre of the country's cashew trading and processing industry. The Malayalam Era is based on the founding of Kollam in the 9th century and being one of the oldest ports of the Malabar Coast, it was an important centre of trade during the ancient times, frequented by Phoenicians, Persians, Romans, Arabs and Chinese, with also famous travellers like Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta, who acclaimed the historical importance of Kollam as a commercial town. The industrial centre is well known for its titanium, mineral sands and china clay and is also the birth place of the legendary art form of 'Ramanattam Kathakali'. The historical importance of the place also stems from the fact that the township was designed and built by Syrians, an instance of foreign influence on Kerala. On arrival check into the hotel with rest of the day free to explore and enjoy this beautiful small town. Overnight in Kollam.

Day 15 Kollam Meal: B/L
After breakfast explore the small village, interact with locals and experience their day to day life. Kollam is blessed with all unique features; sea, lake, mountains, plains, streams, rivers, backwaters, forest, vast green fields and tropical crop of every variety. The sight of white egrets dipping into the clear waters of the Ashtamudi Lake on a moonlit night is simply stunning. At the many temples, mosques, churches of this town, one can meet people eager to share their stories and monuments.



Rest of the day is free to enjoy the backwater recreation club. Overnight in Kollam.

Day 16 Private Backwater Cruise Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast drive down to Alleppey to board your houseboat, the backwaters in Kerala are a world of serenity and wonderment. Over 900km of the Kerala backwaters are navigable and have been used for centuries by the local people for transportation. This large aquatic area is a vast network of lagoons, lakes, rivers and canals, and the people who live here have created their own distinct lifestyles. Witness the peaceful way of life on these amazing waterways with lunch, dinner and overnight stay on board. This will be a real highlight of your holiday.

Day 17 Thekkady Meal: B/D

After breakfast disembark from the houseboat and travel to Thekkady well known for Periyar, South India's most popular wildlife sanctuary. The sanctuary spreading over 777 sqkm has a rich wildlife and is home to bison, wild elephant, boar,

langoor, the great Indian tiger and many more wildlife species. It has an artificial lake formed by the Mullaperiyar Dam, built across the Periyar River. On arrival check in at the hotel, and after some relaxation proceed for a boat cruise on the Lake. Evergreen moist deciduous forests and savannah grass lands characterises Periyar. Overnight in Periyar.

Day 18 Thekkady Meal: B/D

After a leisurely breakfast proceed to visit a spice plantation growing cardamom, pepper and coffee, and tea estate. Walk amidst the palette displaying variant shades of green, neatly arranged into terrace farms, the symmetry broken only by the sudden appearance of a gurgling stream. It is believed that the spice trade dates back three thousand years in Kerala and many spices find their home here. The slanting slopes caress a variety of cinnamon, clove, nutmeg, ginger, turmeric and curry leaves. On the way back, stop by the local market to purchase some fresh fragrant spices. Overnight in Periyar.

Day 19 Thekkady to Munnar (4hrs) Meal: B/D

After breakfast travel to Munnar, the scenic beauty and marvellous waterfalls, high mountains with the low flying clouds passing by will win your heart and admiration. The town stands at a confluence of three mountain streams – Mudrapuzha, Nallathanni and Kundala. At an altitude of 6000 feet, Munnar has been the favoured summer resort since the time of the erstwhile British rulers in the colonial days. On arrival check in at hotel, rest of the day is free for your own activities. Overnight at Munnar.

Day 20 Munnar Meal: B/D

After a leisurely breakfast proceed on a sightseeing tour of the town. Witness tea gardens spread like a green carpet over hundreds of acres, lush green hills, sparse population and far from pollution; Munnar is encircled by wooded hills of the Annamalai Ranges, with the towering bulk of Anamudi, which is peninsular India's highest peak at about 2695m. Sprawling tea plantations, picture perfect town, winding roads, exotic flora and fauna in its forests and grasslands, make Munnar an appealing hill station. Overnight in Munnar.

Day 21 Munnar to Cochin (4.5hrs) Meal: B/D

After breakfast travel to Cochin, a vibrant and culturally rich, most flourishing and popular city of Kerala. Its strategic importance over the centuries is underlined by the nickname

Queen of the Arabian Sea. The history of this city began when a major flood in AD 1341 threw open the estuary at Cochin, till then a land locked region, turning it into one of the finest natural harbours in the world. Cochin became the first European town-ship in India when the Portuguese settled here in the 15th century. On arrival check into the hotel; rest of the evening is free for last moment shopping. Overnight in Cochin.

Day 22 Cochin Meal: B/D

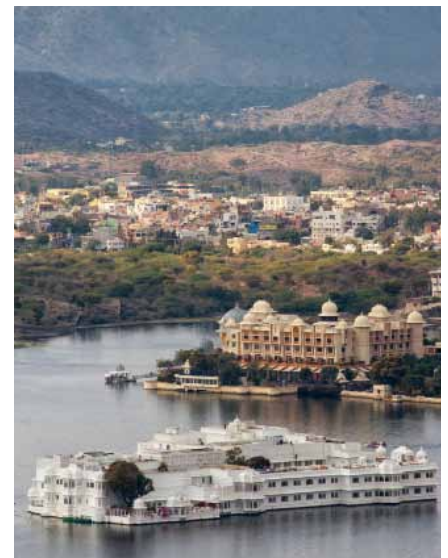
After breakfast proceed on a sightseeing tour of the city where the Arabs, British, Chinese, Dutch, and Portuguese left indelible marks on the history and development of Cochin. Visit Cochin Harbour terminus where the Chinese fishing net presents a wonderful sight, Mattancherry Dutch Palace, The Jewish Synagogue and St. Francis church. Evening witness the cultural dance show called 'Kathakali'. This dance is characterized by artistic gesticulations, amazing costumes and very extensive make-up. Overnight in Cochin.

Day 23 Cochin to Australia Meal: B

After a leisurely breakfast check out and transfer to the airport for your overnight flight bound for Australia.

Day 24 Australia

Arrive in Australia in the morning.



India Panorama Tour Dates & Prices

Tour code	Start Delhi Tuesday	End Cochin Wednesday	Full package with international air departing from Sydney / Melbourne / Brisbane / Adelaide / Perth	
			Singapore Airlines	
IP170307	07-Mar-17	29-Mar-17	\$6,580	
IP170404	04-Apr-17	26-Apr-17	\$6,380	
IP170509	09-May-17	31-May-17	\$6,380	
IP170718	18-Jul-17	09-Aug-17	\$6,380	
IP170905	05-Sep-17	27-Sep-17	\$6,380	
IP171010	10-Oct-17	01-Nov-17	\$6,650	
IP171107	07-Nov-17	29-Nov-17	\$6,650	
IP180116	16-Jan-18	07-Feb-18	\$6,650	
IP180213	13-Feb-18	07-Mar-18	\$6,650	
IP180306	06-Mar-18	28-Mar-18	\$6,650	
Land Only: \$5480			Single Supplement: \$1980	

* This tour is a guaranteed departure based on a minimum of 2 people. Full package prices above include airport taxes and fuel surcharges.

* Please refer to Page 7 for [Tour Inclusions](#) and [Extending Your Holiday](#) details.

* Land only price: Tour starts from Arrival transfer in Delhi to Departure transfer in Cochin; including domestic air tickets of Udaipur - Mumbai - Trivandrum and taxes; but excluding any international air tickets.

* Camera / video fees may apply in some sightseeing places (at your own expenses).

* India visa extra see page 8 for details.

Package prices of Singapore Airlines are for departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth. Any cost including hotel or meals incurred due to the connecting flight in Singapore will be at your own expenses.

Stopover in Singapore permitted if flying with Singapore Airlines; extra airport taxes apply. Land arrangement in Singapore can be arranged at additional cost.

Hotels used for this tour: 4* Delhi Holiday Inn Mayur Vihar; 4* Agra Man Singh Palace; 4* Jaipur Hotel Man Singh Tower; 4* Pushkar Bhanwar Singh Palace; 4* Jojawar Hotel Rawla Jojawar; 4* Udaipur Hotel Ram Partap Palace; 4* Mumbai Hotel Comfort Inn Heritage; 4* Kovalam Hotel Uday Samudra; 4* Kollam Hotel Fragment Nature; Alleppey deluxe house boat; 4* Thekkady Hotel Greenwoods; 4* Munnar Tall Trees Hotel; 4* Cochin Trident Hotel or similar.

Pre / Post Stay: \$158(Delhi) / \$168 (Cochin) per room per night with breakfast