

# Incredible India- A Culinary Tour

January 18-31, 2018

*Created by Limitless Planet for The Eat Around the World Series with Catherine Neville.*

*This exclusive itinerary is open to 20 guests.*



**Discover** the splendors of India. A subcontinent rich in history, culture and natural beauty. Your unique journey immerses you in India's vibrant colors, sights, tastes and sounds while spoiling you in unparalleled luxury. To enhance your 'sense of place', your trip includes the most knowledgeable local historians to provide insight and understanding into regional food, history, culture and geography of Northern India.

**Tuesday, January 18, 2016 - Depart the USA en route to Delhi, India**

**Day 1: Friday, January 19, 2018 – Arrival Day New Delhi**

Upon your arrival at the New Delhi airport, a Limitless Planet representative will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel, **Hotel Eros Nehru Place**.

Relax, order room service, and battle your jetlag. The rest of your day and evening will be at leisure. Overnight- **Hotel Eros Nehru Place**.

**Day 2: Saturday, January 20, 2018 – New Delhi City Tour**

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel. After breakfast, we'll have an introduction into the cultures and food of India before heading out to explore Delhi.

Then, we'll visit to Humayun's tomb ~ the magnificent structure in red sandstone and white marble – one of the finest examples of the garden tomb and a precursor to the Taj Mahal.

Later visit Qutab Minar which is Delhi's Eiffel Tower, its Statue of Liberty and Nelson's Column. Visit the mosques, mausoleums and ruins of forts that lie around it. We drive to one of the most colonial part of New Delhi called Raisina Hill. Drive past the Viceroy's House (now the Rashtrapati Bhawan, the residence of the President of India) and Lutyen's magnum opus; the India Gate, a war memorial arch. We then drive past a Sikh place of worship called a Gurdwara or Temple. This shrine is the scene of constant devotional music, whose ethereal tones are relayed throughout the entire complex.

This evening we'll try Indian BBQ at a local restaurant, and have a cooking demonstration.

Overnight - **Hotel Eros Nehru Place.**

### **Day 3: Sunday, January 21, 2018 – Delhi**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before we adventure to Old Delhi.

Today, we'll visit one of the largest soup kitchens in the world. In India, you will not find a Sikh temple without a Community Kitchen or "Langar". It is inconceivable. Food is serviced in the kitchen of the Gurudwara 24 hours to all visitors without any distinction of caste, creed, color or religion. All high or low, rich or poor sit in the same queue. Approximately 40,000 visitors share the meals everyday presently. It is truly a site to behold...

We'll have lunch at a nearby local restaurant called Karims.

After lunch, we proceed for our unique yet fascinating experience of Old Delhi. We will visit a vegetable market, a meat market, and the largest spice market in Asia. We'll walk through the lanes of "Chandni Chowk" or Silver Street, experiencing the sights and sounds of this very busy avenue for a real market experience. The thrill of being driven through the narrow, winding lanes is truly memorable and crazy.

Later, we'll visit Raj Ghat – Father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi's memorial.

This evening, we'll visit a local bazaar and try some North Indian street food.



#### Day 4: Monday, January 22, 2016- Delhi - Agra

Agra is the only city in the world that boasts of three UNESCO World Heritage Sites - the Taj Mahal, the Agra Fort and the old capital of Fatehpur Sikri; all legacies of the Mughal Empire from the 16th and 17th centuries. It is no wonder that Agra is the most visited destination in India.

After breakfast, we'll depart for our journey to Agra.

Rest of the day will be free to relax and enjoy the amenities at the hotel. Lunch is on your own.

Evening we will visit local bazaars and enjoy a local restaurant in Agra.

Stay overnight at hotel, **Crystal Sarovar Premiere**.



*Taj Mahal room views*

#### Day 5: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 - Agra to Jaipur

##### **The Taj Mahal, A Monument of Love**

A visit to India isn't complete without a visit to the Taj Mahal. That morning, we will experience majestic architecture of the world's greatest monument of love. For centuries, the Taj Mahal has inspired poets, painters, and musicians to try and capture its elusive magic in word, music, and color. Since the 17th century, travelers have crossed continents to marvel at the ultimate memorial to love.

The Taj was built in the memory of the beautiful Arjumand Bano Begum, an empress who won the heart of a Mughal prince. Arjumand Bano was married at 21 to Emperor Jahangir's third son, Prince Khurram. Work on the mausoleum began in 1633 and over 20,000 workers labored for 17 years to build it. A true labor of love. The most skilled architects, inlay craftsmen, calligraphers, stone-carvers and masons came from across India, Persia, and Turkey to build the Taj.

The master mason was from Baghdad, a double-dome engineer from Persia, and an inlay specialist from Delhi. What is most amazing about the Taj Mahal is the fine detailing. The colored inlay is never allowed to overwhelm the design. The ornate pietra dura and relief carvings are of floral, calligraphic and geometric designs. The skill of the inlay worker is so fine that it is impossible to find the joints, even when as many as 40 tiny pieces of semi-precious stones have been used in the petals of a single flower. Some of the best calligraphy of Koranic verses can be seen around the entrance arches and on the two headstones. The Taj Mahal changes colors with the seasons and the different times of day. At dawn, the marble has a delicate bloom in shell pink, by noon it glitters majestically white, turning to a soft pearly grey at dusk, and in the dark of night it shimmers against the backdrop of star spangled sky. The many faces of The Taj Mahal display the seductive power of architecture at its best.



TRAVEL & EVENTS

After our Taj visit, lunch will be Heritage Palace in Bharatpur.

We'll visit the Agra Fort, UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Agra Fort's construction was started by Emperor Akbar in 1565 when he was just 23 years of age. Within the fort are several fascinating buildings – the Pearl Mosque built of marble, the Hall of Public Audiences, the Hall of Private Audiences where the famous "peacock throne" was kept, the Octagonal Tower, the Jehangir Palace built by Akbar for his son Jehangir and the Khas Mahal, a beautiful white marble structure used as a private palace.

Later, we'll visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the desert city of Fatehpur Sikri, the 'ghost city.' The capitol of the Mughal Empire during the reign of Emperor Akbar, Fatwhpur Sikri, was deserted in 1585 for reasons that remain unclear. The complex of monuments and temples is a place where Islamic architecture fuses perfectly with Hindu and Jain decorative art.

After our visit of Fatehpur Sikri, we'll continue to drive to Jaipur.

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Jaipur, the 'Pink City' is the capital of Rajasthan with a population of over 1 ½ million people. Arrive Jaipur and check-in hotel.

Dinner will be on your own tonight.

Overnight at the hotel, **Jaipur Marriott Hotel**.

#### **Day 6: Wednesday, January 24, 2018- Jaipur**

After breakfast, we'll make our way just outside of town to the exquisite palace-fortress of Amber. Former capitol of the extensive Jaipur state, its stern exterior of ramparts and terraces belies the rich opulence found inside. Ascend to the entrance via an elephant to explore its lavish apartments and elaborately carved arabesques inlaid with precious gems.

Jaipur is renowned for textiles, precious and semi-precious gemstones, exquisite jewelry, and blue pottery. Today you will get an opportunity to take a journey through the fabric of time and the traditional weaves of India. Indian fabrics are woven by the hands of traditions that stretch back centuries. Meet artisans and intellectuals who will describe their world in terms of fabrics and the stories woven within.

Lunch included at a local restaurant.

Enjoy free time this afternoon in the city's colorful bazaars or at the hotel pool.

Dinner tonight will be at Heritage Narain Niwas Palace (traditional music and dancing).

Stay overnight at hotel, **Jaipur Marriott Hotel**.



#### **Day 7: Thursday, January 25, 2018 – Jaipur - Jodhpur**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before we depart for Jodhpur.

Jodhpur is a city in the Thar Desert of the northwest Indian state of Rajasthan. Its 15th-century Mehrangarh Fort is a former palace that's now a museum, displaying weapons, paintings and elaborate royal palanquins (sedan chairs). Set on a rocky outcrop, the fort overlooks the walled city, where many buildings are painted the city's iconic shade of blue.

Lunch will be on your own today at the hotel or in the city.

This evening, dinner will be at Hanwant Palace with fabulous views of Mehrangarh Fort.

Overnight at the hotel, **Vivanta by Taj Hari Mahal**.

### **Day 8: Friday, January 26, 2018 – Jodhpur**

After breakfast proceed for half day tour of Jodhpur visiting Mehrangarh Fort, the majestic Mehrangarh Fort is one of India's largest forts and located in the picturesque city of Jodhpur. The work of building the fort originally commenced in 1459 on the behest of the founder of Jodhpur - Rao Jodha but much of the fort as it stands today was built in the era of Jaswant Singh. This magnificent fort is spread over 5 km and is located on top of a hill which is all of 125 meters high.

Lunch will be at the famous restaurant, On the Rocks.

Dinner will be on your own.

Overnight at the hotel, **Vivanta by Taj Hari Mahal**.

### **Day 9: Saturday, January 27, 2018- Jodhpur - Udaipur**

After breakfast, we'll depart for Udaipur. En-route we'll visit Ranakpur temples.

Ranakpur Temple is undoubtedly a wonder. The temples are superbly preserved in near perfect condition. The most distinctive feature are the 29 halls of the main temple, some octagonal and many more than one story high, are dissected by 1444 pillars, each sculpted with unique designs which no two are the exactly alike. The temple is a masterpiece of architecture and boasts of not less than four additional shrines. It has 24 pillared halls with 80 domes that are supported by 400 columns. Lunch will be at Fateh Bagh Palace.

Udaipur, also known as the city of lakes, is referred to by people as the Venice of the East. Udaipur is an exotic city offering breath-taking views of Lake Pichola. The city offers five gorgeous lakes, beautiful green gardens, fountains, awe inspiring palaces.

Lunch will be at FeteH Bagh Palace.

Dinner will be on your own.

Overnight at the hotel, **Trident Udaipur**.



### **Day 10: Sunday, January 28, 2018 – Udaipur**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

Today, we'll have a half day city tour starting with the City Palace – A regal architectural wonder located over Lake Pichola.

It is an accumulation of courtyards, pavilions, terraces corridors rooms and hanging gardens. They all are built at different time beginning from 1559 A.D. The balconies of the palace provide splendid view of the Lake Palace hotel, Jag Mandir on one side and on the other the city of Udaipur. Jagdish Temple – located in the city palace complex, is dedicated to Lord Vishnu and can be approached by a broad flight of steps. Followed by a visit to Saheliyon–Ki– Bari also known as garden of maids – queen's resort for her friends and Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandir – Folk Art Museum which exhibits the brilliant collection of folk articles of Rajasthan varies from typical rural–dresses, ornaments, puppets, masks, dolls, folk musical instruments, folk deities and paintings.

Lunch will be on your own this afternoon.

Evening enjoy an exclusive twilight cruise on Lake Pichola. Enjoy a special dinner at Sunset terrace restaurant at Super Luxury Heritage hotel Fateh Prakash Palace.

Overnight at the hotel, **Trident Udaipur**

### **Day 11: Monday, January 29, 2016 – Udaipur - Mumbai**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will go to the airport for our flight to Mumbai.

Lunch will be on your own.

This evening we will visit local bazaars and markets and have our first taste at South Indian delicacies.

Overnight at the hotel, **Trident Nariman Point.**



**Day 12: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 – Mumbai**

After breakfast, you will head to the sea port near Gateway of India.

Visit the Gateway of India which was built in 1911 by British Empire in India to welcome King George V and Queen Mary.

We'll take a boat ride from Gateway of India to visit rock cut caves of Elephanta.

The Elephanta Caves are in Western India on Elephanta Island (otherwise known as the Island of Gharapuri), which features two hillocks separated by a narrow valley. The small island is dotted with numerous ancient archaeological remains that are the sole testimonies to its rich cultural past. These archaeological remains reveal evidence of occupation from as early as the 2nd century BC. The rock-cut Elephanta Caves were constructed about the mid-5th to 6th centuries AD. The most important among the caves is the great Cave 1, which measures 39 meters from the front entrance to the back. In plan, this cave in the western hill closely resembles Dumar Lena cave at Ellora, in India.

Later proceed for a half day city tour of Mumbai which includes “Dhobi Ghat” which is the world's largest human-powered outdoor laundry. Dhobi Ghat is a very popular attraction among foreign tourists. The washers, locally known as Dhobis, work in the open to wash the clothes from Mumbai's hotels, guest houses, and hospitals.

Lunch is included at a local restaurant.

Later you will visit Gandhi House also known as Mani Bhawan and Crawford market.

This evening will be free to explore the city on your own.

The nightlife in Mumbai can give some of the world's best. From low-cost drinking holes and dimly-lit lounges, to exclusive dance clubs and elegant bars—the city has it all.

**Day 13: Wednesday, January 31, 2018- Depart Mumbai- enroute to USA**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and a free day before we head to the airport this evening for our flights back to the USA.

*Safe travels!*





# General Information

**Total Trip Cost= \$4050.00** *(per person, based double occupancy)*  
**\$5500.00** *(per person, based on single occupancy)*

To confirm booking and reserve your spot, a deposit of \$1000 is due.

The final payment will be due 60 days before departure on Thursday, November 12, 2015.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Luxury accommodation at mentioned hotels *(or similar category according to availability)*
- Breakfast included everyday
- Knowledgeable, 5 star, English speaking historian throughout the trip
- Unique tasting experience through Rajasthan State with Catherine Neville of Feast Magazine
- Entrance and monument fees to the sites mentioned in the program
- Airport transfer *(according to the group arrival and departure time)*
- Bottled water throughout your trip
- Welcome and Farewell Cocktail and Dinner
- Elephant ride at the Amber Fort
- Exclusive boat ride on Lake Pichola Ganges in Udaipur
- Tips to guides and drivers
- Onsite travel director to assist with any questions or concerns

## NOT INCLUDED:

- Airport taxes
- International flights
- Visa expenses
- Personal expenses such as laundry, beverages, phone call, and internet access.
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not specified in the itinerary/meals at leisure/room service

## NOTES:

- Subject to availability.
- Rates are non-endorsable/non-refundable
- The tour must have a minimum of 10 passenger to operate
- Rates are based on double occupancy
- Maximum guests are 20 passengers
- Limitless Planet reserves the right to change the itinerary at any time. Any changes will be to benefit the group and enhance the travel experience.

## Payment and Cancellations

A deposit of \$1000 is required to reserve your spot. The final payment will be due 60 days before departure on Thursday, November 12, 2015.

50 % fee for cancellations all bookings / 75 % fee for cancellations up to 60 days prior to arrival/ full charge for no shows and cancellations 0-30 day's prior arrival.

### **International Airfare and Transfers**

Limitless Planet is happy to book your international airfare for your trip to India. All airline reservations made with Limitless Planet include transfers to and from the airport upon your arrival and departure in India.

If you use miles and/or book the airline reservations on your own, you will be responsible for getting yourself to and from the airport if your flights do not correspond to the group flight arrival and departure. We are happy to make those arrangements for a private transfer. Private transfers are not included in the trip price.

### **Visa**

India requires US citizens to have a visa for entry. Limitless Planet is happy to assist you with your application to ensure you are issued a visa. The visa price of approximately \$65.00.

### **Passport**

Each traveler will be required to have a passport valid for at least six months after your travel departure date. Limitless Planet is happy to assist you with your passport application or renewing an expired passport. Additional fees may apply.

### **Travel Insurance**

Travel insurance is not included in the quote of this itinerary. Limitless Planet partners directly with TravelEx Insurance. We are happy to offer you a special rate if you would like to purchase travel insurance. Our Limitless Planet Travel Staff will be onsite to assist in case of any emergency.

### **Guides**

Limitless Planet's guides are chosen for their absolute dedication to interpreting those wonders that make every place unique. Intelligent, knowledgeable, and supremely organized, our guides oversee every detail of your itinerary and are an indispensable part of your journey. Historians by nature and guides by trade, Limitless Planet's guides provide the ultimate experiences worldwide.

### **Concierge Service**

Limitless Planet is happy to provide on-site VIP Concierge Service for the duration of your trip. Our on-site travel directors will ensure your restaurant reservations are made, museum visits are arranged, and your flights are on time.

Travel Directors are experienced in managing the most intricate on-site details of today's complicated programs. Be rest assured, you will have on-site assistance for any issue that occurs during your travels.

### **Health & Wellness**

Your health and wellness is very important to us. We are happy to accommodate any dietary restriction and special requests.

All participants of Limitless Planet's tours must be physically fit enough to participate on the tour. Limitless Planet reserves the right to deny participation on any of our tours, according to the tour itinerary.

### **IMPORTANT:**

*For every booking entrusted to us, we require the following information:*

- Full passengers' name, date of birth, nationality & passport number
- International arrival/departure flight (if not arranging through Limitless Planet)
- Passenger Information Form
- Active medical problems
- Bed preference (subject to availability)

## LIMITS ON LIMITLESS PLANET'S RESPONSIBILITY:

*Limitless Planet acts as the Tour Operator in India. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Limitless Planet cannot, therefore, be liable for death, personal injury or any other loss that may occur due to any act or omission of any such a supplier or by reason of any other event over which it has no control. Domestic flights are, occasionally, subject to overbooking, cancellation and schedule changes. If this occurs, Limitless Planet will do all in their power to assist clients in boarding flights or finding alternate arrangements. It must be stressed that this is done as a courtesy to clients and Limitless Planet cannot be held responsible for denied boarding, nor for the additional costs thus incurred; nor for payments not recovered for missed land arrangements due to airline delays.*

### *Optional Activities that may be Dangerous*

*Depending on the itinerary you have selected, optional activities will be available at some of the places you will visit. Some of these activities carry with them the inherent risk of serious personal injury. These activities include, but are not limited to: elephant rides, horseback tours, canoe trips, hiking, river rafting, etc. You should be aware that your personal safety cannot be guaranteed and Limitless Planet assumes no responsibility for your safety.*

### *Acts of God and the Like*

*Limitless Planet is not responsible for acts of God, fire, acts of local government or other authorities, wars, civil disturbances, riots, terrorist acts, strikes, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, earthquakes, adverse weather conditions, dangers incident to sea, land, and air travel and other similar acts or incidents beyond its ability to control or its suppliers.*

*See Terms and Conditions page for more information.*

**For booking inquiries, please contact Limitless Planet.**

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