

India's Golden Triangle Tour, India *New*

A classic tour of India's Golden Triangle with a taste of life in rural Rajasthan.



Group departures

See overleaf for departure dates

Holiday overview

Style	Tour
Accommodation	Hotels and heritage properties
Grade	Tour
Duration	9 days from London to London
Min/Max group size	4 / 12. Guaranteed to run for 4
Trip Leader	Local city guides
Land only	Joining in Delhi, India

Private Departures & Tailor Made itineraries available



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Managing Director: Steven Berry. Registered in England No. 2118433. VAT No. 496 6511 08

Departures

Group departures

2026 Dates:

Sat 10 Jan - Sun 30 Jun

Sat 14 Feb - Sun 04 Aug

Sat 07 Nov - Sun 26 Apr

Sat 19 Dec - Sun 07 Jun

Sat 09 Jan - Sun 28 Jun

Sat 13 Feb - Sun 02 Aug

Group prices and optional supplements

Please contact us on +44 (0)1453 844400 or visit our website for our land only and flight inclusive prices and single supplement options.

No Surcharge Guarantee

The flight inclusive or land only price will be confirmed to you at the time you make your booking. There will be no surcharges after your booking has been confirmed.

Will the trip run?

This trip is guaranteed to run for 4 people and for a maximum of 12. In the rare event that we cancel a holiday, we will refund you in full and give you at least 6 weeks warning. Many trips do fill up quickly - we advise you to book early if you want to secure a place(s) on the dates of your choice.

Insurance

We offer a travel insurance scheme - please contact us for details.

Private Departures

We can also offer this trip as a private holiday. A Private Departure follows exactly the same itinerary as the group departure but at dates to suit you (subject to availability) - please contact us with your preferred dates.

Tailor Made service

We pride ourselves on the level of quality and choice we provide for our clients who want a fully tailor made holiday. A holiday will be created especially for you by one of our well-travelled experts. They will be able to advise on the accommodation best suited to your needs, the sights you should visit (and those to avoid!) and the best walks and activities matched to your ability. In short, we will work together with you to create your perfect holiday. If you would like to explore the idea of a Tailor Made holiday with Mountain Kingdoms then please call us on +44 (0)1453 844400 or see the Tailor Made pages of our website for further inspiration.

Your guide



Your tour leader will be a knowledgeable, well-trained, English-speaking Indian guide. They will take care of all the arrangements during your trip and provide you with a fascinating insight into this incredible area of India.

When touring many of the historic and cultural sites in this itinerary, you will also have specialised local guides.

Your trip highlights

- Sightseeing in Old Delhi and rickshaw ride in the bazaar.
- Sunset views of the Taj Mahal and a sunrise tour
- Expert guided tours of Agra Fort, Sikandra and the 'ghost city' of Fatehpur Sikri
- Accommodation in heritage properties and super-comfy hotels
- Rural Rajasthan from a restored castle
- Sightseeing in Jaipur with visits to Amber Fort and the City Palace

At a glance itinerary

Days 1-2	Overnight flight to Delhi. Transfer to hotel. Welcome dinner.
Day 3	Sightseeing in Old Delhi.
Day 4	Transfer to Agra, Visit Agra fort and Sikandra. Evening views of Taj Mahal from Mehtab Bagh
Day 5	Sunrise visit to Taj Mahal and tour. Visit Fatehpur Sikri and drive to Talabgaon.
Day 6	Explore Talabgaon village and have lunch in a traditional mud house on a local farm. Drive to Jaipur. Optional visit to Raj Mandir.
Day 7	Sightseeing in Jaipur. Amber Fort, City Palace, Palace of the Winds and local bazaar.
Day 8	Time for individual sightseeing or shopping in Jaipur. Drive to Delhi.
Day 9	Return flight to London.

Trip summary

India's Golden Triangle, enclosed by the cities of Delhi, Agra and Jaipur, encompasses a wealth of cultural attractions including some of the most famous monuments in the world, none more so than the Taj Mahal. This perfect introductory tour visits all the iconic sights but also goes beyond the palaces, forts and temples, to reveal the rich cultural heritage of rural Rajasthan.

The holiday begins in Delhi, the bewildering yet enthralling capital of India. Here you will see grandiose sights from its days as the centre of the Mughal empire such as the Red Fort and Jama Masjid Mosque, before taking to a rickshaw in Old Delhi to tour the frenetic, narrow streets of Chandni Chowk Bazaar and try a taste of authentic street food.

Next comes dazzling Agra where the Taj Mahal rightly takes centre stage and you will view it both at sunrise and sunset when it is at its most breathtakingly beautiful. Agra is also home to the imposing Red Fort, another notable example of Mughal architecture, and to Sikandra, the tomb of the great Mughal emperor, Akbar. Moving on you will visit the atmospheric 'ghost city' of Fatehpur Sikri and then drive south into rural Rajasthan for a complete change of pace. Here you stay at restored Talabagaon Castle, where you will not only relax in splendid style, but also experience something of traditional rural life.

Last, but definitely not least, you head to Jaipur, the 'Pink City', packed with ancient buildings such as the Amber Fort and Palace of the Winds, as well as Jantar Mantar, a remarkable 18th century, stone-built astronomical observatory, and one of at least seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites encountered on this tour.

Accommodation throughout is in super-comfy hotels and heritage properties and you will enjoy the services of knowledgeable local guides who will help bring to life the great historic sights you are visiting.

Your trip itinerary

Day 1: Fly London to Delhi.

Fly overnight from London to Delhi.

Overnight: In flight

Day 2: Arrive Delhi. Group transfer to hotel. Afternoon at leisure.

On arrival in Delhi you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the afternoon will be at leisure, to rest after your long flight or venture out into the city for some personal exploration. In the evening there will be a welcome dinner.

Overnight: Hotel Diplomat or Similar, Delhi (Meals: D)

Day 3: Sightseeing in Old Delhi.

This morning you will meet your guide who will take you on a tour of the main sights of Old Delhi. You will drive past various historic sites and will see the famous Red Fort of Delhi, an imposing fortification built by the Mughal Emperors in the 17th century and considered one of the most impressive achievements of the Mughal dynasty. It is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will also see the Jama Masjid, another fabulous Mughal building, built for the Emperor Shah Jahan in 1656 and one of India's largest mosques.



You will then head into the heart of Old Delhi with a traditional rickshaw ride through the bustling streets and winding alleys of Chandni Chowk, one of the oldest and busiest street markets in Delhi. There is a mind-blowing range of goods on sale here and you will mingle with the people of Delhi as they do their shopping. There will also be the chance to try some street food from some of the local eateries.

Overnight: Hotel Diplomat or Similar, Delhi (Meals: B)

Day 4: Drive to Agra - 150miles/240km, 4 hours. Visit Agra Fort and Sikandra. Evening sunset views from Mehtab Bagh.

After breakfast you will check out of your hotel to drive to Agra, a journey of around four hours. Agra is a large city located on the banks of the Yamuna River. It was formerly the capital of the Mughal Empire and has many fine historic buildings from that era, including the famous Taj Mahal.

On arrival in Agra you will check into your hotel and then, after lunch, you will head out to visit Agra Fort. The Fort was the main seat of power of the Mughal Dynasty till 1638, when the capital was moved to Delhi. As well as being an immense fortress, this building was also a series of fabulous palaces for the Mughal Emperors and their families. These palaces were intricately decorated and, although their decoration is nowadays rather faded, they still give us a glimpse into the lavish lifestyle of the emperors during this period. From one of the windows of the palace you can get a first glimpse of the Taj Mahal, across the river - the melancholy view that Shah Jahan will have had of the tomb he built for his wife, when he was imprisoned in Agra Fort by his son Aurangzab.

From Agra Fort you will next visit the tomb of Akbar, the final resting place of the great emperor Akbar and another majestic sandstone edifice of the Mughal dynasty. Later you will visit the lovely Mehtab Bagh garden complex designed for the Emperor Shan Jahan and located directly across the river from the Taj Mahal. From here there are stunning views of the Taj at sunset. When the light has finally faded it's time to head back to your hotel.

Overnight: Grand Imperial Hotel or Similar, Agra (Meals: B)

Day 5: Sunrise Tour of the Taj Mahal. Drive to Fatehpur Sikri continue to Talabgaon - 140miles/223km, 3-4 hours.

In Agra the star of the show is of course, the exquisite Taj Mahal. You will now see it at dawn when it is at its most atmospheric. The Taj was built by the fifth Mughal Emperor, Shah Jahan in memory of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal. It fulfilled a promise that he made to her on her deathbed 'to erect a monument to match her beauty'. This stunning mausoleum is a vision in white marble and it really does live up to the hype. The whole building is a virtuoso display of elegant design and the finest craftsmanship. The white Makrana marble is inlaid with semi-precious stones to form a riot of beautiful patterns; a decorative technique known as *pietra dura*. The Taj stands above formally laid-out gardens and your first view will be to see it reflected in the waters of the central canal of these gardens. When you go inside where you will find the tombs of Shah Jahan and his wife. The interior of the building is cool and atmospheric, being dimly lit through pierced marble lattices - a real contrast to the sparkling exterior.



Reluctantly moving on from the Taj you will drive to the ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri just 22miles/36km away. Fatehpur Sikri, an ancient Mughal city, was built in the 16th century by Emperor Akbar, the greatest of all the Mughal emperors, as his new capital. Despite its grandeur the city was abandoned after being lived in for less than 20 years due to either (or both) the failure of the water supply or Akbar's loss of interest after leaving to fight a campaign in the Punjab. The buildings of Fatehpur Sikri are a unique blend of the architectural traditions of the era, and its many palaces, monuments, temples and mosques are built in a uniform style featuring ornate columns, intricately decorated stone screens and sumptuous carving and ornamentation. Among many fine buildings found in the city is the 'Jodha Bai Mahal', the largest palace in Fatehpur Sikri, commissioned by Akbar for his favourite queen, and the Jama Masjid one of the largest mosques in India. Look out for the tethering posts for elephants and the giant, life-size chess board.

After exploring the city you will continue your journey south and enter the state of Rajasthan. Rajasthan epitomises all that is most colourful and exotic about India, with rugged desert landscapes, romantic warrior forts perched on hilltops, fairytale royal palaces and a vibrant and colourful heritage and culture. About three hours from Fatehpur Sikri you will leave the main highway, taking smaller rural roads towards the village of Talabgaon.

Talabgaon is a small village which has seen relatively little western tourism over the years and this tranquil spot offers a welcome break from the hustle and bustle of the city. Arriving in the village along the main street, with its brightly painted buildings, you will reach the magnificent Talabgaon Castle, your accommodation for the night. Entering through the grand gates of the castle you reach an oasis of calm where you will be warmly welcomed, not only by your hosts, but also the village's resident peacocks who gracefully wander the property.

At Talabgaon you will get a real insight into the proud heritage of Rajasthan. The current proprietors are direct descendants of the original Rajput noble family, who have a tradition as fearless warriors. Their ancestors built the castle nearly 200 years ago and the family is steeped in the martial traditions and heritage of Rajasthan. They have lovingly restored the family home to create this hotel, using local materials and the traditional craftsmanship of skilled artisans. The castle is surrounded by beautiful gardens and there is a lovely swimming pool area where you can take tea or sip a sundowner. Talabgaon Castle also has its own farm where they grow much of the organic produce used to in the delicious local dishes served to guests here.

After you arrive and check in you will be free to explore and enjoy this beautiful and atmospheric spot. You may like to relax by the pool or perhaps, in the evening, climb to the roof of the castle to watch a beautiful sunset over the countryside of Rajasthan.

Overnight: Talabgaon Castle Heritage Resort (Meals: B D)

Day 6: Explore Talabgaon. Lunch in a traditional Mud House. Drive to Jaipur - 56miles/80km, 1-1½ hrs. Optional visit to Raj Mandir.

Your day begins with a leisurely breakfast at the hotel. Afterwards you may take a walk to explore the sleepy local village. This is a rural area, well known for its agriculture, and here you will get an insight into the life of a traditional rural community with the opportunity to meet the friendly local people and to interact with the inquisitive children. There may also be an opportunity for some bird watching.

Following your walk, you will have a delicious lunch in a traditional mud house on a local farm. Afterwards you make the short drive to Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. The city was built in 1727 by Maharaja Jai Singh II and is often called the 'Pink City'. This historic city has magnificent palaces and a labyrinth of fascinating bazaars. Your hotel is located just by a gate in the walls of the old city.

Later you may have time to make an optional visit to Raj Mandir. Raj Mandir is a famous movie theatre which has become a popular landmark in modern Jaipur. Opened in 1976 the cinema is known for its opulent and luxurious interiors and is indeed a palace for the modern era!

Overnight: Alsisar Haveli Hotel or Similar, Jaipur (Meals: B L)

Day 7: Sightseeing in Jaipur. Visit Amber Fort, City Palace, Palace of the Winds and explore local bazaar.

Today, with a guide, you will explore the captivating city of Jaipur. After breakfast you will drive out to Amber Fort, a magnificent edifice enhanced even further by its elevated position on a hilltop outside Jaipur. The fort was built in 1592 by Raja Man Singh, the Rajput commander of Akbar's army. It enjoys great views of the lake below and of the Aravalli hills beyond. You can take your time to explore all the fort's splendid palaces and courtyards and opulent decoration.



Returning to the city you will visit the fabulous City Palace, a royal residence right in the heart of the old city. This large complex is divided into a series of palaces, courtyards and gardens and has a fascinating museum. The outer palace was built by Maharaja Jai Singh but other additions are much more recent, with some dating to the beginning of the 20th century. Near the City Palace you will also visit the famous Jantar Mantar, an ancient astrological observatory built by Jai Singh and reputedly the largest stone built observatory in the world. Then it's on to the celebrated Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds), built in 1799. This is a distinctive five storied building built in sandstone with an almost fairytale air although, in effect what you see is actually little more than a façade. The many windows were designed to allow the women of the court to stay hidden from view but to still be able to watch traditional processions and ceremonies as well as daily life in the street below.

Overnight: Alsisar Haveli Hotel or Similar, Jaipur (Meals: B)

Day 8: Free time in Jaipur. Drive to Delhi. At leisure.

Today you will have the morning free in Jaipur. You may either arrange some further sightseeing or perhaps some retail therapy. Jaipur is very good for shopping, both for local handicrafts and for clothing. The city is well known as a centre for the production of attractive fabrics, cotton clothing, bedspreads etc and for the manufacture of silver jewellery. You could also look for some Rajasthan handicrafts such as woodcarvings, statues and objects inlaid with semi-precious stones.

Later you will drive to Delhi and check into your hotel near the airport, ready for your departure tomorrow.

Overnight: Lemon Tree Premier Hotel, Delhi Airport (Meals: B)

Day 9: Fly to London.

After breakfast you will transfer to the airport for your flight home. (Meals: B)

What the price includes

Mountain Kingdoms aims to offer the best value for money. We do not charge extra for meal packages or apply local charges and try to ensure that all the key elements of your holiday are included.

What's included:

- ✓ 7 x breakfasts, 1 x lunch, 2 x dinners
- ✓ Good standard hotel accommodation in Delhi, Agra, Talabgaon and Jaipur on a twin-share basis.
- ✓ English-speaking guides and drivers
- ✓ Sightseeing as specified
- ✓ All road transport by private vehicles
- ✓ Economy class return air fares from the UK & UK Departure Tax (Flight Inclusive option)
- ✓ Single, timed group airport transfer for international flights on arrival and departure
- ✓ Carbon offsetting with the Ecoan Tree Planting Project for clients taking our Flight Inclusive option
- ✓ A free Water-to-Go bottle

Airport transfers

The cost of a transfer to/from the airport is included in the price of your holiday. This is a single group transfer which is arranged to coincide with the timings of the group flights. If you book your own flights which arrive/depart at different times to this, or we book flights at your request that have different timings, we will be happy to provide a quote for a separate transfer. Please contact us should you require any further information.

What's not included:

- ✗ Travel insurance
- ✗ Visa fees
- ✗ Tips
- ✗ Drinks except mineral water
- ✗ Meals other than those specified

Water-to-Go Reusable Bottle Campaign

We have joined the campaign to help cut down on the use of plastics and, in particular, single-use water bottles. To do this we have teamed up with the revolutionary company, Water-to-Go who have developed a multi-use drinking bottle with a reusable filter that eliminates over 99.9% of all microbiological contaminants. This makes water from virtually any source safe to drink and significantly reduces the need for travellers to buy bottles of water wherever they are in the world.

Our clients, who are not given a free Mountain Kingdoms kit bag for their holiday (these are required for certain treks), will instead receive a free Mountain Kingdoms Water-to-Go bottle. These unique Water-to-Go bottles can also be purchased from us at a discounted rate.

For further information about our campaign visit <https://www.mountainkingdoms.com/water-to-go-reusable-bottle-campaign>.

Your accommodation

We will endeavour to secure the hotels named in the itinerary but if our first choice of hotel is not available we will book a suitable alternative of a similar standard.



Hotel Diplomat or Similar, Delhi

The Hotel Diplomat is a modern boutique hotel located in the diplomatic area of New Delhi. It has generous rooms with minibars, air-conditioning, tea/coffee making facilities and Wi-Fi. The hotel has a fitness centre, currency exchange and a café style restaurant serving Indian and Pan-Asian dishes.



Grand Imperial Hotel or Similar, Agra

The Grand Imperial in Agra is a heritage hotel dating back to the start of 20th century and the days of the Raj. In those days anybody who was anybody stayed at the Grand Imperial. The hotel is located in the centre of town near all the major attractions. It is a hotel of great historic, if rather faded, grandeur. Rooms are spacious and comfortable with minibars and kettles, and the hotel has a pool, garden and several dining options.



Talabgaon Castle Heritage Resort

Talabgaon is a charming heritage hotel, formerly a Rajput fort, which has been lovingly restored and converted. This charming hotel is still the family home of the Rajput noble family who originally built it 200 years ago and you will get a very warm welcome here, not least from the hotel's resident peacocks. The hotel is set in well-maintained gardens and has an infinity pool. Food at Talabgaon is delicious, much of it made using fresh produce from the castle's own farm. Rooms are large and bright with Wi-Fi, kettles and air-conditioning.



Alsisar Haveli Hotel or Similar, Jaipur

The Alsisar Haveli is a former mansion, now a comfortable Heritage hotel, located close to a gate into the old city and a good base for sightseeing in Jaipur. The hotel has great character and has comfortable rooms, gardens and swimming pool.



Lemon Tree Premier Hotel, Delhi Airport

The Lemon Tree Premier offers good facilities and a high level of comfort only 4km from Delhi's international airport. Rooms are bright and spacious with tea/coffee makers, mini bars and free Wi-Fi. The hotel has a spa, pool, cafe, pan-Asian restaurant and trendy bar.

Meal arrangements

7 x breakfasts, 1 x lunch, 2 x dinners

Flight arrangements

Flight inclusive from price

Our 'Flight inclusive from' price is based on the best fare available at the time of printing. As airfares change on a constant basis, this should be used only as a guide price. Rest assured that, at the time of booking, we will endeavour to get the best possible price for the flights you need. Remember, the earlier you book the greater your chances of securing the best fare.

Flight inclusive packages booked through Mountain Kingdoms are protected through our ATOL bonding scheme.

Flight upgrades and regional Airports

Please call us on +44 (0)1453 844400 for flight options from regional UK airports, Business Class upgrades, alternative airlines and stopovers. Please also check our website for the most up to date flight inclusive 'from' prices.

Our grading system

India's Golden Triangle is graded as a Tour, as described below.

Tours

Tours may include any of the following activities: sightseeing, visiting local villages, exploring temples, game viewing, birdwatching, husky sledding, mountain flights, city tours and dramatic journeys by road, rail, or river. Occasionally there will be short, gentle walks so that you can properly explore the cultural sites you are visiting.

Further information

When we receive your booking, we send you a full Trip Dossier which contains details of any visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and lots of useful information. If you do have queries at this initial stage do call us on 01453 844400 and we will be pleased to offer advice.

The nature of adventure travel

Every effort will be made to keep to this itinerary but we cannot guarantee that things may not change, either before you travel or while you are away. By its very nature, adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected, particularly in more remote areas. A variety of factors such as adverse weather conditions, changes to local schedules and difficulties with transportation can all contribute to the need to make changes to the itinerary, often at the very last minute. Our Operations Manager and your Trip Leader will make every effort to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary and minimise the impact of any changes, but an easy-going and flexible nature is a real asset! Please note that all timings and distances given are approximate.

Extensions

Extending your holiday

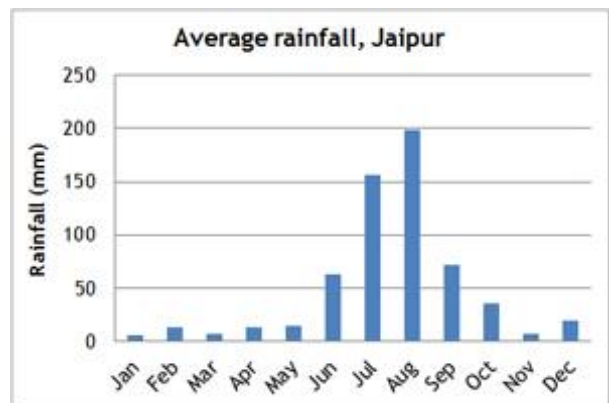
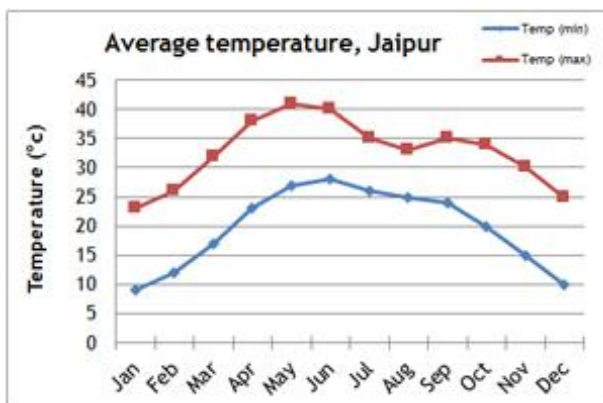
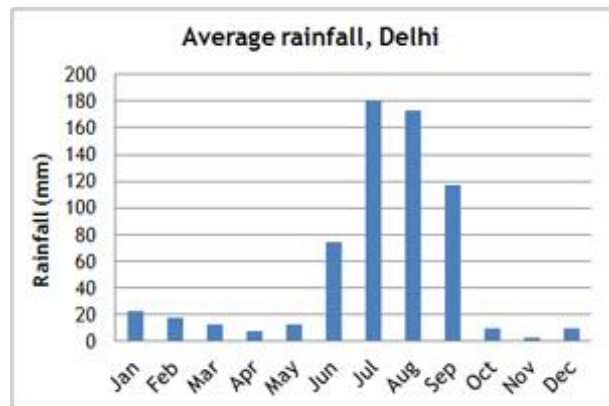
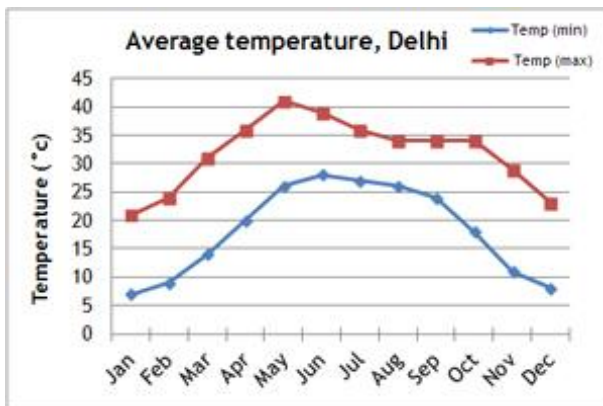
If you would like additional inspiration on how or where to extend your holiday please call us on 01453 844400.



Extra nights in Delhi

If you would like to stay longer in Delhi we can arrange additional nights and upgrades from our selection of first rate hotels such as the Oberoi Maidens in the old city or Claridges Hotel in New Delhi.

Climate information



Why book this holiday with Mountain Kingdoms?

- A short, carefully designed, itinerary which really packs a punch!
- You will have local, English-speaking guides at each location on your tour.
- As our minimum group size for this holiday is only 2 this trip is extremely likely to run
- We have a wealth of Indian travel experience in the company and several members of the Mountain Kingdoms team have travelled extensively there. So if you have any questions about any aspect of this holiday please don't hesitate to give us a call, on 01453 844400.
- We offer a flexible service and can extend your holiday with extra hotel nights, upgrades and other exciting activities.
- As part of our commitment to 'Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency', we will be carbon-offsetting all international flights booked through us by donating funds to the Ecoan Tree Planting Project in Peru.
- If you wish to fly with a specific airline, from a regional UK airport or on alternative dates to the main group we would be happy to arrange this for you. Please contact our Flights team for flight options, quotes and further information.

If we've tempted you to take your next holiday with us, we advise you to check availability and you can do this via our website: www.mountainkingdoms.com or by calling the team on +44 (0)1453 844400. Bookings can be made online, by phone or by completing a booking form and returning it to us. We can also provisionally hold places if you need time to consider your options.

What we say



For me, the Golden Triangle is a must for anyone who wants an introduction to Northern India. Of course there is the stunning Taj Mahal, and incredible forts and palaces to wonder at, but you also get to jump into the hustle and bustle of some of India's major cities and experience a culture which is distinctly different from home. Personally, I loved trying the amazing food - especially Dal Tadka - and staying at the Talabgaon Castle in rural Rajasthan for a real change of pace.

-Harry Gray, Operations Manager, Mountain Kingdoms

Mountain Kingdoms - distinctly different

Truly independent

In an age where many so-called 'independent' travel companies have in fact been bought out by multi-national giants, we remain fiercely independent with all the benefits this offers our clients.

Value for money prices with an emphasis on quality

We are not in the business of cutting our itineraries and services to the bone to offer eye-catching cheap prices. We use some of the best airlines, and typically 3 or 4 star hotels in cities. We include the majority of meals and private transport for road travel. We use excellent equipment and appoint well-trained staff and leaders. Last year, over 98% of our clients rated their Mountain Kingdoms holiday as 'excellent' or 'good'. We are members of AITO and bound by their quality charter.

Complete financial security

You can book with us confident that your holiday has full financial protection. Flight inclusive holidays are financially protected by the Civil Aviation Authority under ATOL licence number 2973 and 'Land Only' holidays are covered by a bond secured with ABTOT.

No Surcharge Guarantee

Your peace of mind is important to us so we have a No Surcharge Guarantee on all Land Only and Flight Inclusive bookings. This means that there will be no change to the price of your holiday once we have confirmed your booking, regardless of fluctuations in exchange rates or fuel prices.

Award winning Responsible Tourism

We feel strongly that all our holidays should benefit local communities, protect the environment and respect local traditions, religion and heritage. You can read more about the charities we support and our Responsible Tourism commitments and initiatives on the following page or at www.mountainkingdoms.com.

Genuine small group travel

Almost all of our holidays have a maximum group size of just 12, plus leader. This provides more contact with your leader, readier access to off-the-beaten-path areas, greater interaction with local communities and a reduced environmental impact.

Loyalty Discount

If you have previously travelled with us we recognise your loyalty with a discount on future trips.

Booking your holiday - it couldn't be easier

Once you've chosen your Mountain Kingdoms holiday you can book online, call the office or complete and post a booking form which can be found in our brochure or downloaded from our website. If you would like to hold a place on one of our trips, whilst you make up your mind, please give us a call to make a provisional booking. This is a no-obligation, no-cost booking and we will hold your place until space comes under pressure or we need your decision.

Comprehensive information

When we receive your booking we send you a full trip dossier which contains details of visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and lots of useful information. In fact, everything you need to know to give you peace of mind and allow you to prepare for your trip of a lifetime.



RESPONSIBLE TOURISM STATEMENT CLIMATE EMERGENCY PLAN



For over 33 years, Mountain Kingdoms has been offering people the chance to visit amazing places on this extraordinary planet. We now offer trips to all corners of the world, but we are conscious that inevitably our holidays have a detrimental impact on the world around us, and we want to do all we can to reduce our carbon emissions. We are a signatory to Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency, along with a growing number of like-minded, reputable tour operators. For more information, please visit www.tourismdeclares.com

From 2020 onwards, we will be focusing on how we can reduce the carbon emissions that our holidays produce, and how to counterbalance this carbon by supporting carbon offset measures. Here are some of our current and future plans to minimise the impact of our business as a whole:

Carbon Offsetting

Already doing:

- ✓ We have been offsetting carbon since 2007, but will be increasing our donations to the [Ecoan tree planting project](#) in Peru this year. This is with a trusted partner where the funds go directly to a project where the community plants trees on its own land.

Will do:

- ✓ We are working on making our carbon offsetting more accurate and targeted.
- ✓ In future, we will add to that a further estimate for carbon produced by hotels, local road travel, trains and internal flights to arrive at a carbon offset sum for each trip we operate.
- ✓ Carbon offsetting will be included in our holiday prices. For our Flight Inclusive holidays it will include the international flight and any emissions produced by inland travel and accommodation. Our Land Only prices will include the cost of offsetting emissions caused by inland travel and accommodation.

Reducing Carbon Emissions

Already doing:

- ✓ We already offer the majority of our customers a free filtered water bottle which means they can instantly cut down on their single-use plastic consumption. This will be an ongoing project.
- ✓ We already predominantly use locally owned hotels, but will continue to ensure that, where possible, we use these rather than multinational chains.
- ✓ We have joined the Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency initiative to stand alongside like-minded travel companies, to work together to initiate best practices to make tourism as sustainable as possible.

Will do:

- ✓ We will re-evaluate our flights to make sure we are using the most fuel efficient airlines with the youngest fleets and, where possible, direct flights for each trip.
- ✓ We will stop offering unnecessary optional flights – for example our Everest sightseeing trip.
- ✓ We will eliminate unnecessary staff flights wherever possible.
- ✓ We will look at minimising internal flights.
- ✓ We will be asking all our worldwide agents and suppliers to look at their own carbon footprint and encourage them to reduce it.
- ✓ We will promote our more low impact trips to give customers an informed choice.

As part of our wider commitment to Responsible Tourism, we will continue to support a number of charities with whom we have had a long standing relationship over many years. These include: Shiva Charity in Nepal (Ginette Harrison School), Simien Mountains Mobile Medical Service and Porter Welfare, as well as setting aside a sum for emergency disaster relief should the need arise.

