



Highlights of Himachal

Duration: 11N/12D

Key Sights: Delhi - Amritsar - Dharamshala - Pragpur - Mandi - Manali - Shimla

Day	Program	Mode	Distance/Time
Day 1	Arrived Delhi	By Flight	
Day 2	Delhi		
Day 3	Delhi – Amritsar	By Train	
Day 4	Amritsar – Dharamshala	By Surface	201KM/03-04 Hours
Day 5 & 6	Dharamshala		
Day 7	Dharamshala – Pragpur	By Surface	64KM/01-02 Hours
Day 8	Pragpur – Mandi	By Surface	126KM/03-04 Hours
Day 9	Mandi – Manali	By Surface	123KM/03-04 Hours
Day 10	Manali		
Day 11	Manali – Shimla	By Surface	247KM/06-07 Hours
Day 12	Shimla		
Day 13	Shimla – Kalka	By Surface	
	Kalka - Delhi	By Train	



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Day 1

Arrived Delhi

By Flight

Arrival at New Delhi International Airport, meeting assistance by our representative who will welcome you and will provide transfer to the hotel. Upon reaching your hotel, you will be handed over the travel documents with a complete briefing of your tour by the representative. Check-in and proceed to your room. Overnight stay at Hotel.

Day 2

Delhi

Breakfast at hotel. This morning explore India's capital city by touring its magnificent monuments, start your tour by visiting - Old Delhi: an ancient walled city earlier known as Shahjahanabad. Take a photo stop at Red Fort: the most opulent red sandstone fort and palace of the Moghul Empire (1639-1648 built by Shah Jahan the 5th Mughal Emperor of India and the builder of the Taj Mahal in Agra), visit Jama - Masjid: Largest mosque in India, the foundation of the historic Jama Masjid was laid on a hillock in Shahjahanabad by Emperor Shah Jahan in 1650 AD, this mosque was the result of the efforts of over 6,000 workers, over a period of six years (1650-1656 AD). The cost of the construction in those times was 1 million rupees. This Mosque has three great gates, four towers and two 40 m-high minarets constructed of strips of red sandstone and white marble. About 25,000 people can pray here at a time. The mosque has a vast paved rectangular courtyard, which is nearly 75 m by 66 m. The whole of the western chamber is a big hall standing on 260 pillars all carved from Hindu and Jain traditions. Visit Chandni Chowk, the bustling and colorful market of the old city, designed by Emperor Shah Jahan's daughter Jahanara Begum. Jahanara laid the foundation of Chandni Chowk, which is the largest trading center of Delhi as well as India. At present the street is a busy thoroughfare and is really congested. This area is renowned for 'Kuchas and Katras' also known as Alleys. These alleys house traditional Havelis, innumerable places of worship, popular specialised markets and century-old eating joints. Enjoy a cycle-rickshaw ride. Visit the Raj Ghat, the memorial site of Mahatma Gandhi - Father of Nation. Later visit New Delhi designed and built by the British in the 1920's it's a city of wide boulevards impressive Government buildings, green parks and gardens. First drive past Connaught Place, the heart and main shopping district of the capital, then drive to Rajpath (King's Way), India Gate - the 42mt high stone "Arch of Triumph", erected in the memory of Indian soldiers who died in First World War. Drive past Rashtrapati Bhawan (President Palace) and Parliament House. Later visit the Qutab Minar 12th century minaret built by Qutub-ud-din Aibek of the Slave Dynasty - this building complex dates back to the onset of Muslim rule in India and is fine example of Afghan architecture which is graceful and well sculptured and stands 75 meters. Also visit the Baha'i Temple (Lotus Temple) Lotus being a symbol of peace and prosperity all around the world, the shape of the temple personifies the purpose for which the foundation of this marvelous man-made architectural was laid. Lotus temple is made of pristine marble blocks, cement, dolomite and sand and the entire ascetic value is coddled by the group of nine pools filled with crystal clear water. In accord with the mores of Baha'i religion, the temple is open to



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everyone from anywhere in the world who is looking for inner peace & tranquility and wants to break the shackles of trepidation. Overnight stay at Hotel.

Day 3	Delhi – Amritsar	By Train	
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Check-out from hotel in the morning and transfer to New Delhi railway station to board train for Amritsar. Upon arrival in Amritsar, transfer assistance from railway station to your hotel. In the afternoon, take the short excursion to the border at Wagah located 29 Kms away from the city, where both Indian and Pakistani troops take part in a daily flag lowering ceremony at dusk. This martial custom that the security forces of India (Border Security Force) and Pakistan (Pakistan Rangers) have mutually followed since 1959. Return to Amritsar for overnight stay at hotel.

Day 4	Amritsar – Dharamshala	By Surface	201KM/03-04 Hours
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Breakfast at hotel. This morning you will visit the spectacular Golden Temple- the most sacred site in the Sikh religion. On the way visit infamous Jallianwala bagh, the memorial to commemorate the 2000 Indians who were killed and wounded, shot indiscriminately by the British under the command of Gen Michael O'Dyer on April13, 1919 while participating in a peaceful public meeting. Sri Harmandir Sahib, also known as Sri Darbar Sahib or Golden Temple, (on account of its scenic beauty and golden coating), is named after Hari (God) the temple of God. The Sikhs all over the world, daily wish to pay visit to Amritsar and to pay obeisance at Sri Harmandir Sahib in their Ardas. The Harmandir Sahib was envisioned by Guru Arjan Dev. It was conceived by him to reflect the resoluteness, clarity and simplicity of the Sikh religion. Akal Takht faces the Golden Temple was built by the 6th Guru Hargobind (1606-44) in 1609. All commandments affecting the community as a whole were and are issued from here. A number of weapons used by Guru Hargobind, Guru Gobind Singh and other Sikh heroes are preserved at Akal Takht. You can also visit the Guru-ka-Langar, a dining hall where around 35,000 people a day are fed for free by temple volunteers. Later visit Durgiana Mandir, temple dedicated to the Goddess Durga. After the city tour, drive to Dharamshala and nearby McLeod Ganj, famous as the seat of the Tibetan Government in Exile, and home to His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Arrive and check-in at hotel. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 5 & 6	Dharamshala		
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Two full days to explore the area around Dharamshala and McLeod Ganj. Visit the Bhagsu waterfall, visit the monastery and home compound of the Dalai Lama at Tsuglagkhang, and wander around the town with its friendly Tibetan population. Besides the Tibetan presence, few remaining Raj edifices testify McLeodganj's colonial history. Amongst them is the Church of St. John located amidst Deodar trees, built in 1860. Worth a visit for its beautiful stained glass windows, the church was severely damaged in a major earthquake that rocked the region in 1905. Rebuilt subsequently, the church has old bells that had been cast in



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London and installed in 1915. It's a memorial site to Lord Elgin, one of the Viceroy of India who died in Dharamshala. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 7	Dharamshala – Pragpur	By Surface	64KM/01-02 Hours
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Breakfast and check-out. Drive down the hills to the Kangra Valley, visiting the majestic fort and Bajdeshwari Devi temple en route. Arrive in Pragpur mid-afternoon and check into the Judge's Court, a heritage hotel overlooking the village. In the late afternoon, walk through the gardens of Judge's Court into the unique heritage village of Pragpur- this is a rare example in India of an entire community having survived the relentless advance of modernity with its old buildings and neighbourhood atmosphere intact. The village is centred on a large ornamental pond and its cobbled lanes and serene ambience are a delight. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 8	Pragpur – Mandi	By Surface	126KM/03-04 Hours
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After breakfast, depart for Mandi with a stop en route at a Tibetan Buddhist community near Taragarh. On arrival in Mandi, check in your hotel and in the afternoon explore the town of Mandi with its many temples and interesting 'sunken garden' central square. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 9	Mandi – Manali	By Surface	123KM/03-04 Hours
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After breakfast, drive to Manali arrive and check in at hotel. Explore Manali in the afternoon, it is a lovely town which benefits greatly from its main street being closed to vehicle traffic, making it perfect for leisurely walking. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 10	Manali		
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There is plenty to see around Manali and on the opposite side of the valley along with spectacular views you can take in Naggar castle, the estate and museum of Russian ex-pat painter Nikolai Roerich and hot springs at Vashisht. If the road is open (normally it closes from mid October to April), you can take a half day drive to the Rohtang Pass on the road to Ladakh, through stunning scenery, high mountains and snow falls. Return to Manali for overnight stay at hotel.

Day 11	Manali – Shimla	By Surface	247KM/06-07 Hours
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Breakfast at hotel and checkout. Drive from Manali to Shimla and check-in at hotel. Remaining day at leisure. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 12	Shimla		
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Breakfast at hotel. The only slightly faded Raj-era charm of Shimla and year round pleasant climate makes it a popular destination for honeymooners and weekend travellers. The Mall



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road which is lined up with shops is where tourists walk around. Visit the Vice regal lodge, built for British viceroys for their stay during summer months. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 13	Shimla – Kalka Kalka - Delhi	By Surface By Train	
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Breakfast and check-out.

OPTIONAL - A full day adventure by train to Kalka on the Himalayan Queen, a famous 'toy train' which recaptures the romantic past of rail travel. Otherwise drive to Kalka and proceed to railway station and take connecting train for Delhi. Train # 12012 Kalka SHATABDI KALKA Departure at 17:45 / NEW DELHI Arrival at 21:55 hrs On arrival in New Delhi railway station, you'll be met and transferred to international airport to board flight for return journey.