

## The Maharaja Express Luxury Train Tour

### The Indian Panorama 08 Days / 07 Nights

*Delhi – Jaipur – Ranthambhore – Fatehpur Sikri – Agra – Gwalior – Orchha – Khajuraho –  
Varanasi – Lucknow – Delhi*



*Explore the hidden treasures of India! Embark on an unforgettable escapade that starts off in the capital city of Delhi. Make your way through the sacred city of Varanasi and cruise on the River Ganges to observe ancient spiritual rites.*

*Witness the immortal beauty of the Taj Mahal in Agra, the sensuous moods of the temples of Khajuraho, the elegance and imperial splendour in Lucknow and the wilderness of the Ranthambhore National Park.*

#### **Day 01 SAT Delhi – Jaipur**

Welcome aboard the Maharajas' Express. Evening, assemble at Safdarjung Station 2045hrs and complete your registration and check in formalities for the Maharajas' Express, as you enjoy a welcome drink. Dinner will be served at 2130hrs. The Maharajas' Express departs Delhi at 2200hrs to Jaipur.

## Day 02 SUN Jaipur



**Amber Fort**

Arrive into Jaipur, truly a pristine jewel in the crown of the desert state of Rajasthan. Built by Raja Jai Singh in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, renowned for magnificent palaces, forts and temples. After on board breakfast proceed for a visit to **Amber Fort** situated on a ridge just outside Jaipur city, this fort palace is surrounded by fortified battlements overlooking the Maota Lake. A short jeep ride takes you up to the fort where you will enjoy a tour of the royal apartments, with striking views of the gorge. Step back into the Mughal era as you enter the Chamber of Mirrors

(Sheesh Mahal), and the Hall of Victory.

Proceed for an exclusive royal experience. Your arrival at the venue will be accompanied by the band and the beating of **Nagadas** (*Indian drums*). You shall also have an opportunity to indulge with the elephants – paint them, feed them or opt for a joy ride. Later, Cocktail Lunch over sparkling wine at the venue.

In the afternoon you may choose from a range of optional activities like Spa facilities at a hotel or Private Shopping Tour or Golf at **Rambagh Golf Club** or visit to City Palace Museum and Observatory (Jantar Mantar). *Please contact the Guest Relations Executive for the optional activities.*



**Rambagh Golf Club**

Return to the comfort of Maharajas' Express. Dinner will be served on board. Maharajas' Express leaves for Sawai Madhopur (Ranthambhore).

*Breakfast & dinner on board, lunch at an exclusive venue (City Palace or Jai Mahal Palace).*

**Day 03 MON Ranthambhore – Fatehpur Sikri**



Arrive into Sawai Madhopur in the morning, get ready for a safari to **Ranthambhore National Park**. Originally the private hunting ground of the Maharajas, declared a National Park in 1973, famous for sightings of tigers, sambar, chital and more. Proceed for an early morning exciting game drive. The safari is carried out in open vehicles and the ride is quite bumpy. One must carry adequate warm clothes for winter months.

**Ranthambhore National Park**

Return to the train. Enjoy a relaxed breakfast as you continue your journey to the fabled deserted Mughal city of **Fatehpur Sikri**. Later enjoy lunch onboard. On arrival at the quaint station of Fatehpur Sikri, disembark and proceed on a tour of the fascinating sights comprising of imposing gateways, Halls of Private and Public audience, beautifully sculptured palaces with unique water bodies, reflecting a perfect blend of Hindu and Muslim architectural styles. This deserted red sandstone city was built by the great Mughal Emperor Akbar as his capital in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, a famous *UNESCO World Heritage Site*.



**Fatehpur Sikri**

Return to the comfort of the Maharajas' Express. Dinner will be served onboard 2000hrs.

*Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner on Board.*

**Day 04 TUE Agra – Gwalior**

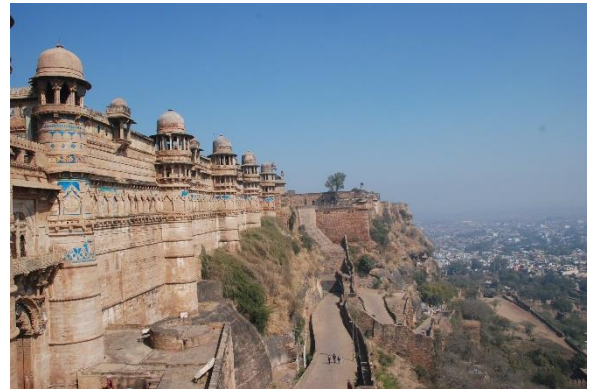


**Taj Mahal**

This morning arrive into Agra, the jewel of India, home to one of the world's great architectural wonders - the Taj Mahal. With its spectacular monumental masterpieces and picturesque natural setting, Agra is a legendary city glorified by time. Early morning, disembark and proceed to the Taj Mahal, *UNESCO World Heritage Site*.

Built by Shah Jahan as a mausoleum for Queen Mumtaz. Constructed entirely out of white marble, an architectural masterpiece with beautiful inlay work and marble screens. Approximately 20,000 of India's most revered craftsmen were recruited to give shape to this poetry in marble. Later enjoy champagne breakfast gazing at the Taj Mahal, from atop the Taj Khema. Following breakfast, return to the train. Proceed on a journey to Gwalior through the fascinating Chambal ravines which served as the home to some of India's most notorious dacoits. Admire the dramatic landscape of deep and narrow gorges, undulating sandy hills interspersed with rich fields.

Arrive into the royal city of Gwalior, where many reigning dynasties have left indelible etchings of their rule on all its palaces, temples and monuments. These mementos of a glorious past have been preserved, giving Gwalior a timeless appeal. After Lunch on Board disembark to experience a traditional welcome and proceed on a tour of the magnificent **Gwalior Fort**, admiring its enclosed exquisite temples and palaces, the most spectacular being the Man Mandir Palace. This palace is a masterpiece of Rajput architecture,



**Gwalior Fort**



**Gwalior Fort**

Embellished with exquisite stone carving and latticework. Other fascinating sights within the 3km fort enclosure are the colossal Jain sculptures depicting Tirthankaras (*one who has achieved freedom from the cycle of rebirth*) carved into the rock face and Saas-Bahu (*mother & daughter*) temples covered with beautiful sculptures of dancing girls and deities. Or you have the option to enjoy spa facilities at the Usha Kiran Palace Hotel. *Please contact the Guest Relations Executive for the Optional activities.*

Continue to the opulent **Jai Vilas Palace Museum**, a section which remains the residence of the royal family of Gwalior. Enjoy exploring the unique exhibits in the museum, the most exquisite being the unique model train made of silver to serve drinks and aperitifs during the Royal banquets in Durbar Hall, with a crystal staircase, arched ceiling with stunning gold leaf work supporting two of the world's largest chandeliers. The legend goes that to test the strength of the ceiling to support the chandeliers, several elephants were made to stand on the ceiling. High Tea will follow the tour within the palace premises. Late evening return to the comfort of the train.



**Jai Vilas Palace Museum**

*Champagne breakfast at Taj Khema; lunch on board; High Tea at Jai Vilas Palace Museum.*

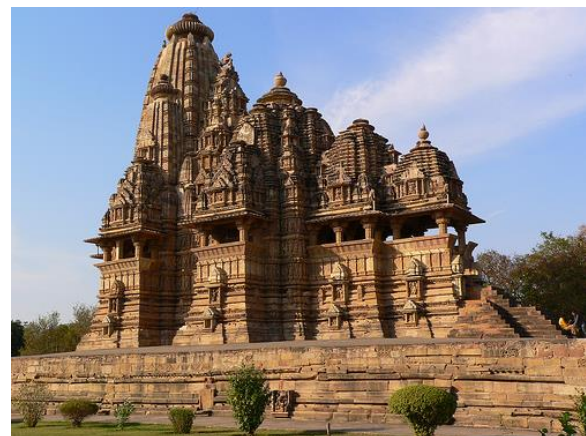
## **Day 05 WED Orchha – Khajuraho**



**Khajuraho**

Enjoy a relaxed breakfast on board as the train continues its journey through some of the most dramatic and picturesque environs towards **Khajuraho**. Admire the rich landscape as you have lunch on board. Renowned for architecture and exquisite sculptures. Built between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> centuries in a truly inspired burst of creativity, the temples are superb examples of Indo-Aryan architecture. The highly sensual engravings depict the human emotions and relationships.

On arrival proceed on a tour of the magnificent temples of Khajuraho, a *UNESCO World Heritage Site*. Explore the Western group which constitutes some of the finest examples of Chandela art at its peak including the **Kandariya Mahadev Temple** dedicated to Lord Shiva. In the evening enjoy Dances of India Show at Kandariya Shilpgram or you may enjoy Spa facilities at Hotel or Sound and Light Show at the temple complex as an optional activity. *Please contact the Guest Relations Executive for the optional activities.*



**Kandariya Mahadev Temple**

Return to the comfort of the train and continue your journey for Varanasi. Dinner will be served onboard 2015hrs.

*Breakfast, lunch and dinner on board.*

### **Day 06 THU Varanasi**

Enjoy breakfast, journey through rich agricultural fields, arriving into the holy city of Varanasi. One of the oldest living cities in the world, Varanasi (also known as Kashi or Banaras) has a spiritual legacy of over 3000 years. A place of pilgrimage, this holy city is set on the banks of the sacred river Ganges. Varanasi epitomizes the chaos and colour of India. Lively bazaars, exquisite and bright silks, festivals, temples, mosques and palaces – all can be found here.



**Sarnath**

Disembark and proceed for lunch at the Hotel Taj Gateway, en-route visit a Silk Weaving Centre, where you may even shop for some world famous Banarasi silk saris and brocades. After lunch, visit the ancient ruins of **Sarnath**, where the Buddha delivered his first sermon expounding the principles of Buddhism. Visit the ruins, stupa and the Ashoka Pillar, whose four back-to-back lions have been adopted as India's national emblem.

Enjoy a scenic cruise on the **River Ganges** and witness a magical evening aarti at the ghats of the holy Ganges. The chants of Sanskrit mantras, the clash of cymbals and drums, the scent of flowers, incense and sandalwood and the blazing camphor lamp and many a flamed aartis raised high in the air, makes for an absolute magical evening to remember.

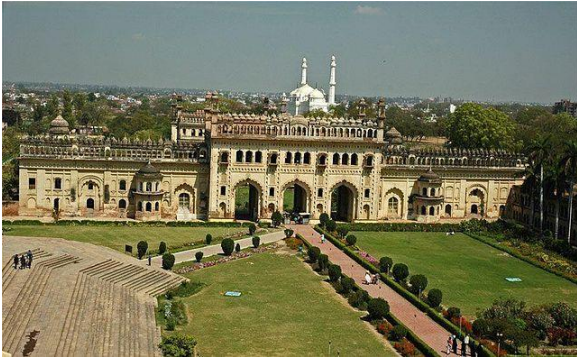


**River Ganges**

Your train heads to Lucknow. Dinner shall be served onboard.

*Breakfast onboard, lunch at Taj Gateway Hotel and dinner on board.*

## Day 07 FRI Lucknow



**Bara Imambara**

Enjoy traversing through the lush green agricultural belt of Uttar Pradesh as the Maharajas' Express slowly pulls into the fabled 'City of Nawabs', Lucknow. Relish your breakfast on board. This morning you will explore the dramatic ruins of Imperialistic Lucknow, as you visit **Bara Imambara**, Chota Imambara, Rumi Darwaza and The Residency.

The spectacular Bara Imambara is considered to be the largest vaulted apartment in the world comprising of ornamental gateways, corridors and galleries. Experience the imperialistic splendour and mystical elegance of the Nawabs of Awadh, visit the famous Rumi Darwaza, a beautifully ornamented gateway and **The Residency**, started by Nawab Asaf-ud-Daulla and completed by Nawab Sadat Ali for the British resident in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**The Residency**

Unravel the history of the Mutiny of 1857 at the Residency as you explore her ruins and visit the main building which houses a Museum displaying the original model of the place, old lithographs, photographs, paintings, documents and period-objects.

After the tour you will be transported into the glorious era of the Nawabs of Awadh as you experience traditional hospitality at an exclusive venue. The mesmerizing music, exquisite courtesan dance and the Culinary Delights – all combine to bring alive the elegance and charm of the Nawabi era. Following lunch return to the train, the afternoon will be at leisure for you to relax. This evening you will celebrate an 'Indian Evening' onboard.

*Breakfast on board; Awadhi lunch at an exclusive venue, dinner with India Evening onboard.*

## Day 08 SAT Delhi

Early morning pull into New Delhi. Breakfast on board, disembark at Safdarjung Station at around 0830hrs, bid farewell to the Maharajas' Express as 'The Indian Panorama' journey comes to an end. *Breakfast on the Maharajas' Express.*

## Published Tariff valid until April 2018

Journey Price (per person in HKD)		
Cabin	(Twin Sharing) for each person	Single Occupancy
Deluxe Cabin	48,980	85,920
Junior Suite	77,480	147,260
Suite	113,030	226,050
Presidential Suite	194,110	388,210

**Package includes:**

Accommodation in double / twin bedded cabins with en suite bathrooms.

All meals, soft beverages, house brands of Indian wines, beer and spirits.

Butler service.

Guided off train excursions as illustrated in the journeys inclusive of entrance fees, still camera fee, transport and services of a guide.

Complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water on board.

Porterage at stations.

Govt. Service tax will be charged extra as applicable on published tariff. Current Service Tax is 5%.

**Package does not include:**

Any optional tours as mentioned in the itinerary, taxes, insurance, gratuities.

Telephone calls, laundry, alcoholic (apart from house brands served in restaurants and bar).

Video, film and professional still camera fees, arrival and departure transfers.

International and domestic air tickets, pre and post tour accommodation and any tour extensions are not included unless specifically mentioned as part of the journeys.



### **Terms & Conditions:**

Itineraries, destinations, venues and schedules departure are subject to change without prior notice. Supplement will apply for Signature Journey, Special occasions such as a New Year, Christmas etc.

### **Christmas & New Year, Signature Journey Supplement Charges:**

Supplement charge HKD3,950 per pax travelling during New Year's Eve and Christmas.

Supplement charge applicable for child between 05-12 years.

Supplement charges applicable for certain signature journeys as announced by IRCTC.

### **Child Policy**

Maharajas' Express does accommodate children but we ask parents to be mindful of the sophisticated adult atmosphere we Endeavour to maintain.

1. Child below 5yrs allowed free, subject to sharing of double bed with parents, subject to availability of double bed at the time of booking – **not recommended by IRCTC**.
2. Single child (5-12 yrs) sharing cabin with adults 70% of Adult Fare, subject to sharing double bed with parents (two fully paid adults) subject to availability of double bed at the time of booking – **not recommended by IRCTC**. Or Single child (5-12yrs) in separate cabin 70% of (Adult Fare + supplement charges) if requested in separate cabin.
3. Two children (5-12yrs) in separate cabin 70% of Adult Fare for each child in separate cabin on twin sharing basis.
4. Three children (5-12yrs) in a separate cabin 70% of the adult fare for each child subject to sharing of double bed. OR If third child request in a separate cabin - 50% of the (adult fare + Supplement charges).
5. Single child (5-12yrs) + one adult in separate cabin: Two Adults Fare on twin sharing basis.
6. Two children (5-12yrs) + one adult in separate cabin: One adult fare plus 50% of Adult Fare for each child subject to sharing of double bed.
7. Please note that we do not have the facility for interconnecting cabins except in the Presidential Suite car.
8. All applicable taxes will be charged extra.

### **Payment**

- a) 25% of Published Price plus applicable taxes at time of confirming the booking along with names.
- b) Balance payment 75 days prior to the departure.
- c) If a booking is made 74 days or less prior to the departure of the tour, then the full 100% payment has to be made.

**Cancellation**

Any changes requested to your confirmed bookings must be advised by Fax/E-mail/Letter. Please note all bookings confirmed are non-transferable and will invite a cancellation charge as applicable.

0-75 Days prior to departure date: 100% of the publish tour cost

No show: 100% of the published tour cost

**Embarkation & Disembarkation:**

The point of embarkation and disembarkation for the specific journeys is as follows:

<b>Journey</b>	<b>Check-in Venue / Time</b>	<b>Departure Station / Time</b>	<b>Arrival Station / Time</b>
The Indian Splendour	Delhi – Safdarjung Railway Station / 2045hrs	Delhi – Safdarjung Railway Station / 2200hrs	Mumbai – Lokmanya Tilak Terminus / 0815hrs

**Notes**

1. All Options / Optional Tours are on chargeable basis, subject to availability. Details and pricing will be made available on board during the journey.
2. Itineraries and timings are subject to change, due to factors beyond our control such as force majeure events, strikes, fairs, festivals, sport events, weather conditions, disruptions/diversions of rail services, re-routing of railway, closure of / restricted entry at a place of sightseeing, non availability of venues etc.
3. The tour will generally be organized as per details given above. However one may please check any changes in the program/timings provided in the travel document during check in formalities and/or check with Train General Manager during the tour for any last minute changes/updates.