

Maharaja Express Luxury Train Tour *The Indian Splendour 8 days / 7 nights*

From **HKD 48,400** per person

Valid until **30 Apr '14**

Delhi – Agra – Ranthambore – Jaipur – Bikaner – Jodhpur – Udaipur – Balasinor – Mumbai

Day 1 – Delhi – Agra

Welcome on-board the *Maharaja Express*, in the evening you shall assemble at *Safdarjung Railway station* at approx. 2030hrs, you shall complete your registration, proceed with the check-in formalities and then enjoy a nice relaxing welcome drink.

You will **depart** at approx. **2200hrs** from **Delhi** to **Agra**, dinner shall be served on board and you will spend the night on comfortable luxury train.

Dinner on-board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Day 2 –Agra – Ranthambore



Taj Mahal

Enjoy your morning meal on-board the luxury train as you arrive in Agra, your first stop today will be one of the Seven Wonders of the World, **The Taj Mahal**. The beautiful mausoleum of white marble has been standing tall since 1648, built by order of the Mughal emperor *Shah Jahan*, in memory of his wife. This UNESCO *World Heritage Site* is framed by trees and on a clear day is beautifully reflected in the pool near the entrance. Your visit will conclude with a champagne breakfast atop *Taj Khema*.

You may choose to either return to the *Maharaja Express* or go on an optional tour of *Fatehpur Sikiri* or *Itmad-ud-Daulah*, lunch will be served on board.

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After your afternoon meal on board you will be escorted to **Agra Fort**. Similar in design to the *Red Fort* in Delhi, however the former is better preserved, constructed mainly from red sandstone serving as both a palace and defensive structure. Emperor *Akbar*, who was king at 14, ordered the construction in 1565, it took six years to complete. The view from up top is worth checking out.



Agra Fort

You may choose to head to spa facilities at a five star hotel, on your own accord, or an optional private shopping tour for *pietra dura* marble and fine Mughal jewellery. Spend the night on board your train as you are escorted to *Ranthambore National Park*.

Breakfast at Taj Khema will be included.

Lunch and dinner on-board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Day 3 – Ranthambore – Jaipur

Awaken in Sawai, Madhopur in the morning, today you will journey on a safari tour to **Ranthambore National Park**. Welcome to the Maharajas private hunting grounds, declared a national park in 1973, many wildlife creatures including tigers, wild boars, hyenas, jackal and leopards are all spread throughout. You will be served breakfast at Vivanta by Taj, Sawai Madhour prior to heading back to your train which shall depart to Jaipur.



Amber Fort

In the late morning you will arrive in Jaipur, a colourful city built by *Raja Jai Singh* in the 18th century, famous for towering palaces, strong forts and intricate temples. After lunch on-board the train disembark and head to the **Amber Fort**. The highlight of the city, admire the incredible blend of Hindu and Mughal architecture. Construction began in 1592, red sand stone and white marble was used, and his rugged forbidding exterior belies an inner paradise with a beautiful fusion of art and architecture. Enjoy your tour of the place which concludes with an opportunity to peruse some of the finest jewellery, textiles and blue pottery that

the city is famous for.

If you wish you may join one of the optional tours of using the spa facilities at a five star hotel or a private shopping tour or golfing at the *Rambagh Golf Club* or visiting the *City Palace & Jantar Mantar*.

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The day will end with an enthralling elephant polo exhibition match where you will experience a royal welcome, at the *Jai Mahal Palace* hotel. You shall be greeted by the royal military band and the beating of *Nagadas*. Guests may participate in the exhibition game, which will be followed by a champagne dinner at the hotel.

Once ready, return to your train for your overnight stay, next stop; Bikaner.

Breakfast at Vivanta by Taj, Sawai Madhopur will be included.

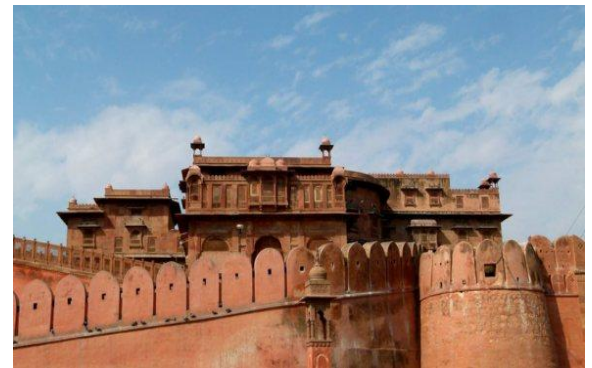
Lunch on-board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Elephant Polo with champagne dinner at the Jai Mahal Palace hotel will be included.

Day 4 – Jaipur – Bikaner – Jodhpur

You will journey through the desert as you enter Bikaner, once a major centre in the cross desert caravan trade, known as *Camel Country*, famous for the best camels in the world. Peruse the multiple palaces and temples, comprised of red and yellow sandstone, living reflections of the district's rich historical and architectural legacy.

In the late morning upon your arrival you may choose to relax on board or embark on one of the optional tours; either visit the *Lalgarh Palace Museum*, where fascinating exhibits on the royal heritage of Bikaner are on display or take an excursion to the *Karni Mata Temple* in Deshnok, known as *Rat Temple*, due to the hundreds of rats swarming the courtyard. Another option which we recommend is the *Camel Breeding Farm*, which opens at 1200hrs.



Junagarh Fort

Savour your lunch on-board the *Royal Maharaja* prior to heading to **Junagarh Fort**, an unassailable fortress that was built in 1593 by *Raja Rai Singh*. There is much to see inside this immense structure. Later on you can participate in a camel cart procession followed by Sundowner cocktails, a tasty barbeque and mesmerizing folk performances on the sand dunes.

Get back on your train in the evening as you are escorted onwards to Jodhpur.

Breakfast and lunch on board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Sundowner cocktails and a barbeque dinner on the sand dunes will be included.

Day 5 – Jodhpur – Udaipur

Today you shall awaken in the Marwar region, enjoy a leisurely breakfast on board your train as you pass through some of the picturesque landscapes of the *Thar Desert* as you arrive into Jodhpur. The rest of the morning has been left open to do as you please, you may participate in an optional village safari where you will have the opportunity to visit a *Bishnoi village*, considered to be the oldest living environmentalist community in the world. The other option is heading to a spa at a five star hotel on your own accord.

Lunch will be served on board prior to the tour continuing on foot starting with the **Old Clock Tower** and **Sadar Market**. Experience the lively hustle and bustle of the market where locals can be seen participating in trading goods.



Mehrangarh Fort

Continue to **Mehrangarh Fort**, an impressive landmark of the city, consisting of intricately latticed windows, elaborately carved panels and elegantly curved porches. Priceless jewels and a dazzling collection of arms are all on display.

End the day with a royal cocktail dinner at *Hanwant Mahal* where folk dance and music can be enjoyed among sumptuous Marwari culinary treats. Head back to your train where you will spend the night sleeping as you are taken to Udaipur.

Breakfast and lunch on board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Cocktail dinner at Hanwant Mahal will be included.

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Day 6 – Udaipur - Balasinor

Awake in the beautiful region of Udaipur, Mewar; enjoy your breakfast as the wonderful *Aravali Hills* roll past your window. Udaipur is considered the *Venice of the East* due to her enchanting white marble palaces, placid lakes and green hills. Your tour begins with a visit to the **City Palace**, the largest palace complex in Rajasthan. Scalloped arches, fretted balconies and cupolas can all be found here.

Next up is the **Crystal Gallery**, the Udaipur collection of valuable crystal is one of the largest and most complete collections of Osler cut glass in the world. The majority of this collection was commissioned by *Maharana Saijan Singh* in 1878.

Experience royal hospitality at **Satkar Hall** of *Fatesh Prakash Palace* where your sumptuous lunch will be served, a spread of international cuisine will be available.

After lunch head back to the train to relax and unwind, you will have the option of using spa facilities at a five star hotel on your own accord or visiting the Vintage Car collection of the Royal Family or a private shopping tour. Later in the afternoon if you wish you may proceed with a walking tour through the old markets.

In the evening return to the *Maharaja Express* where you will sleep peacefully as you are taken to Balasinor.

Breakfast and dinner on board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Lunch at Satkar Hall of Fateh Prakash Palace will be included.



Crystal Gallery

Day 7 – Balasinor - Mumbai

In the morning you will arrive in Balasinor, a tiny town in Gujarat, home to one of the largest dinosaur fossil sites in the world. Palaeontologists believe that at least seven species of dinosaurs lived here and researchers have uncovered fossils of about 10,000 dinosaur eggs, making this one of the third largest hatchery in the world. This incredible site was accidentally discovered in 1981 when geologists were conducting a mineral survey of the area.



Dinosaur Fossil Park

Head to the **Dinosaur Fossil Park** followed by a village visit prior to a lunch meeting with the Royal Family where you can relish their unique cuisine. After saying goodbye head back on board the train for your final overnight stay as you are taken to Mumbai.

Breakfast and dinner on board the Maharaja Express will be included.

Lunch at Garden Palace will be included.

Day 8 – Mumbai

Enjoy your final breakfast on board the *Maharaja Express* prior to disembarking.

Breakfast on board the Maharaja Express will be included.

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Train Tariff (HKD) on per person basis:

Type of Cabin	Deluxe Cabin	Junior Suite
<i>Twin / Double occupancy</i>	48,400	76,560
<i>Single occupancy</i>	84,890	145,510
<i>Child (05-12 years) Sharing Cabin with Adult</i>	24,200	38,280

Package Includes:

- Accommodation in double / twin bedded cabins with en suite bathrooms
- All meals, soft beverages, house brands of Indian wines, beers and spirits as mentioned
- Butler service
- Guided off train excursions as illustrated in the journeys inclusive of entrance fees, transportation and services of a guide
- Complementary tea, coffee and mineral water on board
- Portage at stations

Package does NOT include:

- Any optional tours as mentioned
- Taxes, insurance, gratuities
- Spending of a personal nature (eg: telephone calls, laundry, alcohol apart from house brands mentioned), video and film professional still camera fees
- International and domestic air tickets, arrival and departure transfers
- Pre and post tour accommodation and any tour extensions not included
- Anything else not mentioned in the *Package Includes* section

Terms & Conditions:

Itineraries, destinations, venues and schedule departures are subject to change without prior notice.

Payment:

- A) 35% of the published price applicable taxes at the time of confirming the booking along with names
 B) If a booking is made 59 days or less prior to the tour departure, 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 – 59 days prior to departure date	100% of the published tour cost
No Show	100% of the published tour cost

ITINERARIES, CHANGES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

COMPANY agrees to provide all of the services listed in your travel itinerary, except for the optional services. Optional services will be billed separately.

COMPANY has no responsibility for any changes in travel plans caused by airlines, train, ferry delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered.

If you would like to modify any portion of your itinerary, you understand that COMPANY will not bear any of the costs arising from such changes. Refunds for non-used or cancelled services will be issued in accordance with our *Terms and Conditions* described. All new services will be billed in accordance with our *Terms and Conditions*.

Due to the circumstances, including but not limited to, like closure or maintenance of monuments, weather, time, or traffic, etc., the planned visit or activity will be arranged on the next day if possible. No refund can be made if it's failed to do so.

OTHER EXPENSES DURING TOURS

Tipping & gratuity guidelines, tour guide - as you depart from the tour, reward a good guide in each city by tipping USD10- 15 per person per day, driver USD5- 10 per person per day, based on the satisfaction you have received from them, bellman by tipping USD3-5 Per bag, however these are guidelines are optional.

PERSONAL EXPENSES - Meals, laundry, telephone bills, beverage, extra local running for transport which is **not** included in your itinerary, (transport for sightseeing excursion will be provide between 0900hrs – 1730hrsMax.), Video & Camera fees charged at monuments directly , tips for guides, driver , travel Insurance for personal injury & loss of personal belongings.

Notes – The above quote is valid for 14 days only & No reservations has been made, To guarantee the above quote a written booking request or purchase order must be received by Nanda Travel within the validity period

DEPOSITS, FINAL PAYMENT

A non-refundable deposit of 35 % of the tour fee on a per person basis must be paid after all reservations are confirmed. **We accept cash or cheque only.** Bookings for this deposit not received are subject to cancellation without notice. If *G.C Nanda* is unable to confirm the requested arrangements the deposit will be fully refundable. Deposits vary for each tour operator, hotel, or provider of any service contained in the program and will be payable according to the *General Terms and Conditions* of each operator. Please note that firm reservations cannot be made for any pre-booked accommodation until the required deposit is received. The balance payment must be received not less than 30 days prior to departure. If the balance payment is not received by us on the due date, we reserve the right to treat the booking as cancelled and to apply the appropriate cancellation charges.

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AMENDMENT FEES

For each amendment requested after confirmation additional charges will be levied by hotels, ground operators or airlines. An amendment constitutes a change to an existing booking and not a transfer to another tour, wherein cancellation fees may apply.

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

Cancellations are subject to a fee as follows:

– **0-59 days, or less, prior to departure: 100% of total cost**

Cancellations will also be subject to cancellation fees levied by each operator according to their respective *Booking Terms and Conditions*. Please note that it is your responsibility to request from us the details of *Terms and Conditions*, and to ensure that you have understood their contents. The payment of your deposit constitutes an acceptance of those terms and conditions and your acknowledgement that you will be bound by their cancellation fee charges. No refund is made on any pre-booked accommodation, coach tours, villas hotel, cruising or other travel not utilised. No refund is available for cancellation after the tour has commenced or in respect of any tours, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilised.

INSURANCE

It is strongly recommended that, at the time of booking, you purchase a comprehensive travel insurance policy of your choice. We suggest that the policy should include, but not be limited to the following features: Loss of deposit through cancellation, personal baggage, loss of money, medical expenses, additional expenses to cover hotel accommodation should the tour or holiday need to be extended or curtailed due to illness while overseas, or due to the need to return to Hong Kong because of unexpected death or illness of a close relative. **Please consult us on the insurance policy most suitable for your needs.**

VISA, TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Passengers should familiarise themselves with any and all health or visa requirements that may be applicable in the areas they intend visiting. They shall be responsible for all exits, entry, health and other documents required by laws, regulations, orders, demands or requirements of the countries visited or transited. Each person shall carry a valid passport at all times. Kindly note that passport and visa requirements are not our responsibility and we are not liable for any loss or expense due to a passenger's failure to comply with the above or any statutory requirement made in any country whatsoever.

PRICE

All prices shown are subject to variation without notice.