

FEB. 28 - MAR. 14, 2025

 COLUMBIA | Alumni

with optional
Varanasi Post-Tour

INTRIGUING INDIA

Orbridge



Dear Fellow Columbian,

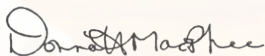
Travel with alumni and friends from February 28 to March 14, 2025 on an unforgettable journey through India's interior. Explore the vibrant tapestry of India's culture and history while exploring iconic landmarks and UNESCO World Heritage Sites, joining wildlife game drives and connecting with residents in local villages.

Immerse yourself in India's enigmatic history, stroll through buzzing bazaars, embark on captivating wildlife odysseys and stand in awe before a myriad of architectural masterpieces. This in-depth sojourn underscores ancient treasures, modern marvels and transcendent experiences. After fulfilling days of exploration, retire to five-star hotels, each an oasis of luxury and comfort.

The Columbia Alumni Association's (CAA) mission is to cultivate a global community of Columbia alums, students, faculty, and staff to explore interests, exchange ideas, and take actions that enrich one another, the University, and the world. Continue your Columbia education through new intellectual, cultural, and geographical horizons with the CAA Travel Study Program, one of the many benefits offered to Columbia alumni.

Shared with participants from cosponsoring alumni associations, this small-group itinerary is sure to fill quickly. Please contact the CAA Travel Study Program office at (866) 325-8664, or at travelstudy@columbia.edu for more details and to reserve your place today.

Kind regards,



Donna H. MacPhee '89CC, P: '17CC
Vice President for Alumni Relations
President, Columbia Alumni Association

Intriguing India | Itinerary and Highlights

Day 1: EN ROUTE FROM U.S.

Day 2: ARRIVE IN DELHI, INDIA Upon arrival an Orbridge representative will be waiting to assist with your transfer to the hotel. Take time to settle into your five-star accommodations.
Overnight: The Imperial

Day 3: OLD DELHI | NEW DELHI After breakfast depart for a panoramic tour of Old Delhi passing by the Red Fort and Jama Masjid. Walk through Chandni Chowk before touring New Delhi. Later, meet with an art historian for an enriching discussion on Delhi's history and culture.
Overnight: The Imperial (B,D)

Day 4: DELHI | AGRA After breakfast depart for Agra. This evening experience a breathtaking sunset at the Taj Mahal.
Overnight: Jaypee Palace (B,L,D)

Day 5: AGRA Begin today with another enchanting experience witnessing sunrise over the Taj Mahal. After, return to the hotel for breakfast. Then visit Agra Fort, an artisan's marble workshop, and Wildlife S.O.S.
Overnight: Jaypee Palace (B,L)

Day 6: AGRA | BHARATPUR Following breakfast journey to Bharatpur. Check into your hotel before gathering for lunch. This afternoon engage with locals during a village stroll. Tonight experience the dramatic performance of Raas Leela, an indigenous form of Hindu dance theatre.
Overnight: The Bagh (B,L,D)

Day 7: BHARATPUR | RANTHAMBHORE Set out to explore Keoladeo National Park—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—and its bird sanctuary.
Overnight: Ranthambhore Kothi (B,L,D)

Day 8: RANTHAMBHORE Today features morning and afternoon game drives deep into the jungles of Ranthambhore National Park. Later visit Dastkar, a non-profit NGO that works to support traditional Indian craftspeople by promoting local art.
Overnight: Ranthambhore Kothi (B,L,D)

Day 9: RANTHAMBHORE | JAIPUR Take one final game drive before journeying to Jaipur. Embrace leisure time before dinner to explore your stunning hotel.
Overnight: Jai Mahal Palace (B,L,D)

Day 10: JAIPUR Visit two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Hawa Mahal and Amer Fort.
Overnight: Jai Mahal Palace (B)

Day 11: JAIPUR Explore the City Palace and Jantar Mantar Observatory.
Overnight: Jai Mahal Palace (B,L)

Day 12: JAIPUR | FLIGHT TO UDAIPUR After arrival embark upon a boat ride to cruise Lake Pichola, one of the oldest and largest lakes in Udaipur.
Overnight: Taj Lake Palace (B,L)

Day 13: UDAIPUR Visit the City Palace museum overlooking Lake Pichola. Tonight gather for a lovely farewell dinner.
Overnight: Taj Lake Palace (B,L,D)

Day 14: UDAIPUR | FLIGHT TO DELHI After a leisurely morning take the group flight to Delhi. Later gather for a final dinner.
Overnight: Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport (*not pictured*) (B,D)

Day 15: DELHI | DEPART FOR U.S. Following breakfast take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)



Activity Level: Activities are generally not very strenuous, but a considerable amount of walking can be expected. It is our expectation that guests on this program are able to follow a guide at an average pace for three hours through paved and unpaved streets, over even and uneven terrain, and up and down stairs without assistance. Due to the nature of some structures, handrails may not be present, and facilities for people with disabilities may be limited. Participation in itinerary activities is up to the individual.



What's Included

- 13 nights luxury hotel accommodations
- 13 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 8 dinners
- Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director and expert local guides
- Private motor coach transportation
- Admission to all locations listed on the itinerary
- Internal airfare between Jaipur, Udaipur and Delhi
- Luggage portorage
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, porters, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times



Jaipur Market



Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary



Amer Fort

Accommodations *(subject to change)*

THE IMPERIAL

Situated on a plush, manicured landscape, this property is a welcoming oasis amid the intensity of Delhi.



JAYPEE PALACE

This property welcomes guests with ornate, well-appointed rooms and unique leisure options.



THE BAGH

Delight in the property's modern comforts blended seamlessly with the surrounding flora and fauna.



RANTHAMBHORE KOTHI

Built in the style of British bungalows, this property features lush gardens, a welcoming staff, and delicious cuisine.



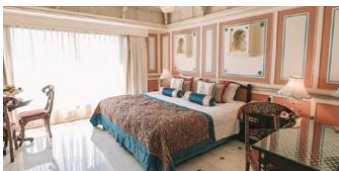
JAI MAHAL PALACE

Built in 1745, this award-winning property has been the residence of three Prime Ministers of Jaipur.



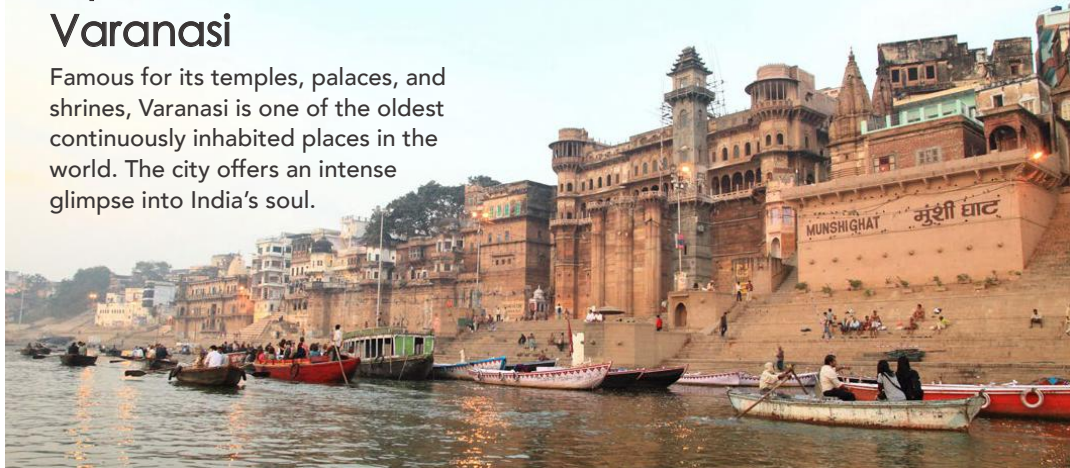
TAJ LAKE PALACE

Enjoy 360° views of Udaipur, vibrant guest rooms, and luxurious amenities.



Optional Post-Tour Varanasi

Famous for its temples, palaces, and shrines, Varanasi is one of the oldest continuously inhabited places in the world. The city offers an intense glimpse into India's soul.



Day 15: DELHI | FLIGHT TO VARANASI After lunch explore the old city of Varanasi. Walk through Vishwanath Gali and its famous shopping street. Bargain for deals, and enjoy browsing for modern and traditional apparel, home decor, and local snacks and sweets. Just before sunset gather to witness the thousand-year-old aarti ceremony. Worshipers pray near the Ganges by the light of candles and lanterns, dedicating this light as a sacred offering to deities. Witnessing this ancient ceremony is a unique opportunity to experience Indian culture and community. Return to the hotel for dinner.
Overnight: Taj Ganges (L,D)

Day 16: VARANASI Early this morning embark upon a boat ride down the Ganges. Watch the rising sun cast its glow over the water as the morning air fills with the aroma of sandalwood and jasmine. Later, visit Sarnath, an important archaeological site that according to tradition is where Buddha first taught his followers after reaching enlightenment. Explore the temple and admire the great craftsmanship of Buddhist art. Tonight revel in the company and talent of a trained classical musician.
Overnight: Taj Ganges (B,L,D)

Day 17: VARANASI | FLIGHT TO DELHI After breakfast, return to the airport for the flight to Delhi. Enjoy the day at leisure at the hotel before gathering together for a final dinner.
Overnight: Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport (B,L,D)

Day 18: DELHI | DEPART FOR U.S. After breakfast take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

What's Included

- 2 nights luxury accommodations at the Taj Ganges (or similar) and 1 night at Radisson Blu Plaza Delhi Airport (or similar)
- 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 3 dinners
- Admission to all sites listed in the 4-day itinerary
- Touring by an English-speaking guide
- Round-trip airfare between Delhi and Varanasi
- All gratuities and portorage
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times



INTRIGUING INDIA

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 14, 2025

Varanasi Post-Tour: March 14-17, 2025

Reserve by Credit Card:

Phone: (866) 325-8664

Scan / Email to: travelstudy@columbia.edu

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to **Orbridge, LLC**

Mail to: Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program

P.O. Box 930, Riverside, CT 06878

For more information: Please call (866) 325-8664

or visit <http://alumni.columbia.edu/travel>.

Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Standard	\$7,499	\$6,995
Deluxe	\$9,399	\$8,895
Single Standard	\$9,499	\$8,995
Single Deluxe	\$11,399	\$10,895

Deluxe Accommodations Upgrades Include:

Imperial Delhi (Grand Heritage Room), Jaypee Palace (Junior Suite), Ranthambhore Kothi (Regal Room), Jai Mahal Palace (Luxury Terrace Room), and Taj Lake Palace (Palace Lake View Room). Availability limited; first-come, first-served.

Varanasi Post-Tour		
Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Double	\$2,399	\$2,195
Single	\$2,899	\$2,695

Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

Check ACH (Automated Clearing House) MasterCard/Visa American Express Discover

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Name (as printed on card): _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____


DEPOSIT:

_____ guests joining program (\$850/person) +

_____ guests joining post-tour (\$500/person) = **TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$** _____

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. [Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green.](https://www.orbridge.com/going-green)

*Special group rates; limited offer. Single availability limited. Internal airfare between Jaipur, Udaipur, and Delhi is included. Airfare otherwise not included. For the Post-Tour, round-trip airfare between Delhi and Varanasi is included. Airfare otherwise not included. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.



COLUMBIA | Alumni

Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program
PO Box 930
Riverside, CT 06878

INTRIGUING INDIA

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 14, 2025

Special Rate:

Save more than **\$1,000** per couple

30-DAY REFUND GUARANTEE

What Guests Are Saying ...

We were very pleased with all facets of the trip. We thoroughly enjoyed our guided trip with Orbridge! Thank you for making it a wonderfully memorable trip!

~Nancy M., Ankeny, IA

How to single out anything? I certainly enjoyed the variety of experiences, ranging from historical and cultural buildings and monuments, to the wildlife preserves! I feel that I had an overwhelming and life-affecting introduction to the rich gifts of India, even if it's just the small part of India that we sampled!

~Laura D., Marietta, GA

We reserve the right to cancel or substitute faculty. We cannot guarantee the size of the Columbia group. The Columbia Alumni Association may receive nominal compensation for this travel program contingent upon a minimum number of Columbia University affiliated participants traveling under the auspices of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program.

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