



2025 January Goddess Tour: Highlights of South and North India: Nature, Culture, and Culinary

Highlights:

- *Enjoy a private celebration in a South Indian Temple.*
- *View the Taj Mahal in the morning and evening.*
- *Ride elephants into the palatial Amer Fort.*
- *Witness the kite and lantern festival of Makar Sankranti.*
- *Bathe and walk with elephants*
- *Wander the thousand-year-old stone forts and temples of Gingee.*

Itinerary Overview:

10 Days: Chennai-Pondicherry/Auroville-Mahabalipuram-Jaipur-Agra-Delhi

Arrive in Chennai

Late evening or early morning arrival. Transfer to the hotel and rest up.

Welcome to South India where you will get your first glimpse of the Bay of Bengal.

Hotel: The Leela

Day 1-Overland Chennai - Pondicherry-Approximately 4 hour drive

After breakfast, meet and greet and drive overland to Pondicherry.

After lunch, stroll through the area known as the “French Riviera of the East,” visit the local temple to experience a special temple blessing. Afterward, stroll the Promenade by the Bay of Bengal.

Hotel: Villa Shanti



Day 2--Pondicherry

Morning visit to the local fish, produce, spice, and flower market. Enjoy a visit to the handmade paper factory, the Aurobindo Ashram, and the numerous shopping opportunities.

Optional: Enjoy an afternoon massage at the Quiet Healing Center located right on the seashore.

Hotel: Villa Shanti



Day 3-Auroville

Auroville is known as the city of unity and has residents from over forty-nine countries. Morning visit to the magical Matramandir. Enjoy a quiet moment inside this spectacular temple.

After lunch, visit the picturesque Irumbai Temple, located in the rural village of Irumbai.

Optional: Ride electric bikes through the forest or explore the countryside by horseback.

Hotel: Villa Shanti or similar



Day 4-- Pondicherry-Mahabalipuram- Approximately 2.5 Hour Drive

Morning at leisure for shopping or optional spa, city bike ride or cooking class.

Afternoon drive to Mahabalipuram.

Visit Mahabalipuram, an ancient port for the Pallava kings during the 7th and 8th centuries whose shore temple and rock carvings are now a World Heritage site. Mahabalipuram has some of the most important buildings in Indian architectural history. The tradition of carving continues today with the presence of stone sculptors all over the city

Hotel: Kaldan Palace



Day 5: Mahabalipuram-Chennai-Jaipur-Approximately 1.5 Hour drive to airport. Approximately 3 Hour Flight.

Early morning departure to the airport for flight to Jaipur.

Hotel: Samode Haveli

Day 6-Jaipur

Morning excursion by elephant into Amer Fort. Amer is a fascinating blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture. Built in the 16th century by Raja Mansingh in red sandstone and white marble, the palace complex is broken into spectacular compartments such as the Jai Mandir, Sheesh Mahal, Sukh Niwas, Ganesh Pol, and the Temple of Kali. We will also visit a traditional step well and Jagat Temple in the ancient village of Amer. Afternoon visit to the Wind Palace (Hawa Mahal) and Januarytar Mantar followed by leisure time in the old city for shopping.

Evening witness the kite festival and lantern lighting festival of Makar Sankranti.

Hotel: Samode Haveli



Day 7: Jaipur

Visit to a beautiful elephant sanctuary. We will feed, bathe and walk with elephants.

Dinner in a traditional “haveli,” with a cooking class demonstration hosted by a lovely local woman on a Jaipur rooftop.

Hotel: Samode Haveli

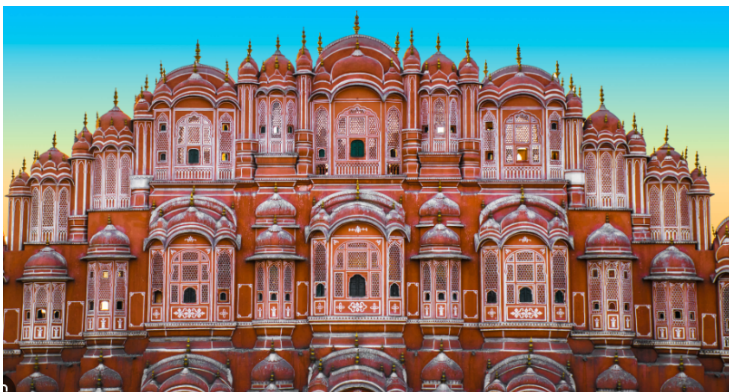


Day 8--Jaipur

Visit Galta Monkey Temple, a local pilgrimage site located in the crevices of the surrounding hills.

After Lunch, leisure time to explore the city and do some shopping.

Hotel: Samode Haveli



Day 9: Overland to Agra via Kahledo National Park-Approximately 4.5 hours. 3ish Hours to Bird Sanctuary and then 1.5 hours to Agra.

After breakfast, drive to Agra with a stop at Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary.

Late afternoon visit to Mehtab Bagh where you will have the opportunity for your first glimpse of the Taj Mahal during sunset.

Hotel: ITC Mughal



Day 10: Agra

Today, visit two UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Agra Fort and the immortal Taj Mahal. The Taj is flawless in its proportions and breath-taking in its beauty — a vision of unrivaled magnificence. Pay your first visit to the masterpiece this morning with the rising sun. Continue to the impressive Agra Fort. Built of red sandstone and marble, Agra Fort presents a formidable exterior and a graceful interior.

Overland to Delhi. Shopping at Khan Market then check into a hotel for rest and relaxation before the international flight

Hotel: ITC Mughul

Price:

\$6200.00 based on double occupancy.

\$1860.00 Single occupancy supplement

Cost Includes:

- Accommodation in four and five-star hotels (listed in itinerary).
- Hotel nights for pre and post late night/morning arrivals and departures.
- All Indian Domestic Airport transfers.
- Private Air-Conditioned Car with Driver for transfers and sightseeing as per the itinerary.
- Breakfast daily.
- All Taxes including Government and Service Tax.
- Local English-speaking guides in each city.
- Sightseeing per the above itinerary.
- Monument / Entry Charges per itinerary.
- Domestic Airfare (Chennai-Jaipur)
- Recommended Packing List, Reading List, Shopping, Spa, and Restaurants.

Cost Excludes:

- Personal Expenses such as Laundry, telephone calls, tips, bottled water, Liquor, travel insurance etc.
- Monument Camera Fees.
- Additional sightseeing or use of the vehicle not mentioned in the itinerary.
- Any other costs NOT mentioned under “Includes” header.
- Add-on available to Varanasi, email rohini@goddessstravels.com for more information.

“I cannot praise and recommend Goddess Travel's India trips enough! I was fortunate to have the opportunity to make a return trip to India with Rohini and this amazing trip surpassed my highest expectations. Rohini helped me plan a trip with a small group of friends and she over-delivered on every account. Every aspect of our trip was spectacular! The hotels were magnificent, the meals were incredible and Rohini's attention to detail was beyond extraordinary. We were delighted everyday with wonderful authentic experiences. If you want to truly experience the whole of India with a

complete immersive experience, Goddess Travels will provide this and much more! Thank you, Rohini and Goddess Travels for giving us an amazing lifetime trip!" Debbie, USA, 2023

"Nearly 5 years ago after being introduced to Rohini, I told someone "India isn't on my bucket list, yet if I ever decide to go, Rohini is the one I'll trust." And trust her I did in November 2023. Everything went perfectly from the time we touched down in Delhi until we flew back home two weeks later. Highlights included local guides and tourist attractions such as the Taj Mahal, Mother Ganga, and Buddha's first sermon site. In addition we were able to feel the local culture at the markets in Old Delhi, on a country train ride in Deogarh where I fed the wild monkeys, and at the pyres in Varanasi. What an amazing trip!!! I'd highly recommend."- Angie, USA, 2023

"For anyone out there with even a modicum of hesitation about traveling to India, I recommend with all my heart that you accompany Goddess Travels for what will be an amazing life experience. From the moment you exit customs upon arrival until the day you find yourself walking to your departure gate for your return flight home, every aspect of your journey will be expertly handled. I often felt like royalty being seamlessly transferred from the plush air-conditioned van to wherever was next, be it a tuk-tuk, train, boat, airport or hotel. It was a pleasure to have the luxury of traveling stress free without ever concerning yourself with the details that foreign travel typically entails. India's vibrant culture heightens all your senses, and after each full day of immersing yourself into their way of life, you'll savor the oasis of your first class hotel room, very often a room in an actual palace. There is no place in the world like India, and for those adventurous travelers who are fortunate to experience its magic, be prepared to cherish your journey for the rest of your life." - MIndy, USA, 2023

"I very recently returned from a two week tour of India, led by Rohini Grace of Goddess Travels. I had never met Rohini but my very good friend had toured with her before and I trusted my friend that I would not regret making the investment in time and money with Rohini. I was NOT at all disappointed. This trip was not easy in that the flight was very long and traveling at this day and age is challenging and very stressful. She reassured us and answered questions and even held my hand through the travel process. While in India we took two additional domestic flights. She had everything scheduled and all we had to do was follow our leader. We took a train ride and she handled the transporting of us to do that with grace and ease. No delays or questions were asked as to drivers taking us to attractions and from cities to cities. It was all handled by Rohini without a glitch. Rohini made the journey worth it. Her passion and excitement for her beloved India exuded through her. She put all of us first and never her own needs and wants. Rohini was very approachable and endearing and I feel I made a new friend. She is a beauty! Admittingly I was nervous for my safety in India but Rohini and her assistant Shanti (also very fun and experienced) made me feel secure. The hotels were absolutely perfect and stunning. This was a life-changing trip of a lifetime and one that will be in my memory for the rest of my days. I highly recommend Rohini Grace and Goddess Travels." Ellen, USA, 2023

Visit goddesstravels.com for more Testimonials and Information.