

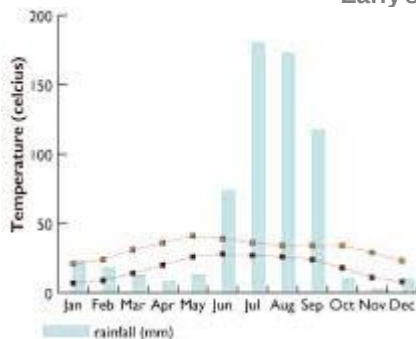
9D7N INDIA Kashmir Tulip Festival + Golden Triangle

08 – 16 April 2015

Or if you have your own group, you may choose your own dates

BEST TIME TO GO. For the Kashmir Tulip Festival is Mid-of April .

Enjoy 3 seasons in one trip : Winter at Gulmarg
Spring at Srinagar
Early summer in Delhi



1) **AGRA** – twin UNESCO World Heritage attractions: Taj Mahal and Agra Fort

2) **JAIPUR** – Amber Fort, City Palace, Hawa Mahal and UNESCO World Heritage Jantar Mantar observatory

3) **DELHI** – Lotus Temple, Raj Ghat, Red Fort, Jama Masjid, etc.

4) **ABHANERI STEPWELL** – one of India's deepest stepwell

5) Kashmir **Tulip** Festival
6) Super Deluxe House boat
7) Sunset at Lake Dal
6) Snow at Gulmarg

DAY 1: Delhi arrival

Catch an evening flight to Delhi. Transfer to check into hotel to overnight in Delhi.

DAY 2 : Delhi – Srinagar (B/L/D)

After an early breakfast, you will be transferred to Delhi airport to catch your flight to Srinagar.

Jet Konnect # 9W – 920 hrs / Arr. 1030 hrs)

Flight Schedule may change:

Upon arrival straight drive to Gulmarg along the scenic valley and check into your hotel for overnight stay.

Gulmarg is one of the beautiful place in Kashmir valley. Gulmarg, is situated at an altitude of 2730 meters above sea level and has a gently sloping topography. The 'Gulmarg' name was given by Sultan Yusuf Shah in the 16th century, who was inspired by the sight of its grassy slopes filled with wild flowers.



. The snow-clad peaks and the lovely landscapes of Gulmarg have provided background for several Bollywood ventures. There is immense beauty and various adventure activities that make Gulmarg more than a cool hill resort.

Here you will enjoy **Gondola ride** for a fun-filled ride of a most unusual kind, Gulmarg's newly constructed Gondola lift through pine-clad slopes is an experience of a lifetime. This Gondola will take you up above 10,000 feet and is one of the highest in the world.

DAY 3 : Gulmarg – Srinagar (B/L/D)

Morning at leisure to walk around and capture the beauty of Gulmarg. Later embark on your drive to Srinagar, via Tangmarg – for a short visit along this little town and lunch at Tangmarg Downhill restaurant (mutton & Kashmiri Pulao).

Upon arrival in Srinagar visit the old city covering old bazaar narrow alleys & old Shahi Hamden Mosque. Later check into your House boat for 02 night stay. Evening, enjoy our Shikara ride & sun set on the famous Dal-Lake.



DAY 4 : Srinagar (B/L/D)

Today, enjoy the morning to visit **Tulip Garden** to enjoy Tulip festival. Tulip festival is held annually in the month of April when tulips are in full bloom. The garden looks like a silken carpet of bright colored sprawling tulips. Best time to visit is March-April. Nature is subjected to local condition and weather at the time of visit.

Nearly 60 varieties of beautiful and vibrant tulips grow in this garden, spread over 5 hectares of land. Tulips remain in bloom just for 15-20 days depending upon the temperature. "Red, yellow, variegated, pink, white, orange, light blue, and magenta are the main colors of tulips. The scene is simply charismatic with floral charm. The view remains in the memory of a visitor forever. Cultural programs, Kashmiri folk songs, sale of local handicrafts, and preparation of traditional Kashmiri cuisine forms an eminent part of the entertainment of visitors during the festival.

Also visit **Hazratbal Mosque** which is the most important Muslim Religious situated on the western shore of Dal Lake. Its pristine white marble elegance is reflected in the waters of the lake.



Also visit, Mughal Gardens, Nishat Bagh (The Garden of Pleasure) and Shalimar Bagh (Abode of love) etc.

DAY 5: Srinagar - Jaipur (B/L/D)

Morning at leisure at your HouseBoat at the Dal Lake, later after breakfast, you will be transferred to Srinagar airport to catch your flight to Delhi.

Indigo Airlines # 6E – 554 (Dep. 1110 hrs / Arr. 1235 hrs)

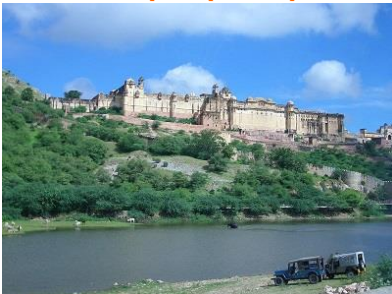
Transfer to **Jaipur**. Popularly known as the Pink City because of its pink colored



buildings, it was founded in 1727 AD by one of the greatest rulers of the Kachhawaha clan, the astronomer king Sawai Jai Singh. It was designed by the brilliant architect Vidyadhar Bhattacharya. Afternoon, visit **Birla Temple**,** originally known as Lakshmi Narayan Temple. Dedicated to Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmi, this temple is a proud architectural landmark of Jaipur. Built in pure white marble, the Birla Temple is unlike the traditional ancient Hindu temples and is built with a

modern approach. ** if time permit (no flight delay from Srinagar), otherwise we will do this visit early tomorrow . Overnight in Jaipur.

DAY 6: Jaipur (B/L/D)



This morning enjoy excursion out to **Amber fort** where you will enjoy an Elephant ride (if not available, Jeep ride) to reach the top of the fort. The fort is a fine amalgamation of Hindu and Muslim architecture and ornamentation, built in the 16th century. The highlight at the fort will be visiting **Sheesh Mahal (Palace of Mirrors)**.



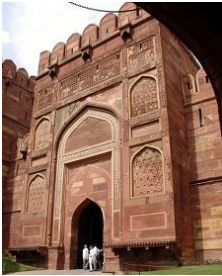
Return to Jaipur city to visit the **City Palace** complex with its various museums where you can see a beautiful collection of Royal

Rajput, weapons and miniature paintings. Then visit the fascinating **UNESCO World Heritage Jantar Mantar** (Observatory), the ancient astronomical observatory built by the Maharaja of Jaipur, which is the largest stone observatory in the world. Also visit **Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds)**, a remarkable five storied building along the main street of the old city with semi-octagonal and delicate honey-combed sandstone windows.

Rest of the day at leisure to explore many facets of **Jaipuri crafts** such as semi precious jewels, pottery, colourful embroidered fabrics with mirror work, woven carpets etc – watch artisans at work and enjoy souvenir shopping in this colourful city of Jaipur. Overnight in Jaipur.

DAY 7 Jaipur - Abhaneri Step Well - Agra (B/L/D)

After breakfast, transfer to **Abhaneri** to visit the amazing **stepwell** (or 'baoris') and **Harshat Mata Temple**. According to a legend, the village is so called because the Goddess Harshat Mata, who is portrayed in a joyous mood and is believed to spread brightness or "abha" all around. The village's original name was Abha Nagri and its present name is Abhaneri. It is believed that the celebrated king Raja Chand established the village. On the other hand mythological Raja Chand could be King Bhoja, who ruled over the Gujar kingdom in the ninth century AD.

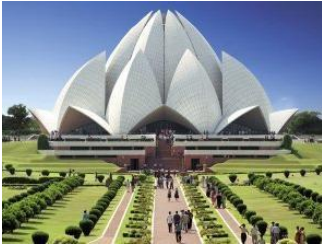


Arrival in **Agra** and visit **UNESCO World Heritage Agra Fort**. Ever since Babur defeated and killed Ibrahim Lodi at Panipat in 1526, Agra became an important center of Mughal Empire. Akbar chose this city on the bank of River Yamuna as his capital and proceeded to build a strong citadel for the purpose. It is said that he destroyed the damaged old fort of Agra for the purpose and raised this grand group of monuments instead in red sandstone.



Later by sunset visit **UNESCO World Heritage Taj Mahal**, amongst the most photographed monument in the world. This brilliant white marble building is a mausoleum built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his 3rd wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Taj Mahal is regarded by many as the finest example of Mughal architecture, a style that combines elements from Islamic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish and Indian architectural styles. Dinner & overnight in Agra.

DAY 8: Agra - Delhi (B/L/D)



Transfer back to **Delhi**. Visit **Lotus temple** (closed every Monday) which is famous in world for its architecture and built by a Persian architect Fariborz Sahba from Canada. Then visit **Raj Ghat** - the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi - Father of the Nation. Then drive by sight-seeing with a photo stop of historical **Red Fort**. Then explore old Delhi by enjoying **Rickshaw ride from Red Fort to Jama Masjid** through the narrow streets of Chandni Chowk market area.

Jama Masjid, is the great mosque of Old Delhi and the final architectural extravagance of the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan with a courtyard capable of holding 25,000 devotees.

Enjoy a drive pass covering **India Gate** (built in the memory of the soldiers who laid down their lives during World War I), **Parliament & President house** and Government buildings. Transfer for dinner and then to airport for 10.05pm flight home.

DAY 9: Kuala Lumpur arrival

Morning arrival 5.55am in Kuala Lumpur.

RATES: per person, based on twin sharing basis, according to group sizes and hotel options as below.

Int'l 4 STAR HOTEL OPTION: (ground tour cost only excluding air ticket costs)

12 or more: RM 2,560

8 to 11 paxs: RM 2,600

6 to 7 paxs: RM 2700

4 to 5 paxs: RM 2,800

Single Supplement: RM 1000

Domestic Air ticket from Delhi – Srinagar – Delhi @MYR 800.00 per person*

***subject to change at any time. Will be re-advised upon booking.**

International Air ticket from KUL – Delhi – KUL @MYR 1,300.00 per person*

***subject to change at any time. Will be re-advised upon booking.**

DELHI: Royal Plaza + JAIPUR: Ramada + AGRA: Clark Shiraz (or similar class)

Srinagar : super Deluxe Houseboat

Gulmarg : The PineSpring (only double rooms are available)

Rates and itinerary subject to changes to FOREX rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, local conditions, etc

INCLUSIVE:

- a) Tour excursion on private basis using air-con car/van/tour bus including greet & meet at the airport.
- b) Int'l 4 * Hotel accommodation / Super Deluxe Houseboat
- c) Meals as per indicated in itinerary above

d) **Tour guide:**

Group size up to 11 persons: separate English speaking tour guides in Delhi, Jaipur & Agra for group size up to 11 persons plus 1 driver

Group size 12 persons or more: 1 English speaking tour guide accompanying throughout the tour plus 1 driver except to Kashmir, where Kashmir will have their Own local guide. Group size above 15 paxs, an accompanying tour leader from EL SOL Travel will be provided.

e) Entrance fees for attractions & activities as per itinerary above

f) 2 bottles of drinking water daily

EXCLUDING:

a) Airtickets, Airport taxes and Airline surcharges.

MALINDO AIR

DAY 1 KUL 18.15 DEL 21.05

DAY 8 DEL 22.05 KUL 05.55 arriving Day 09

Malaysia Airlines

DAY 1 KUL 1825 DEL 2125

DAY 8 DEL 2300 KUL 0655 arriving Day 09

b) India visa: must be done by traveller themselves as required by the India Visa Center.

c) Travel insurance: can be arranged separately, RM52 per person

d) Camera/Video fees at attractions where required

e) Expenses of personal nature like other optional activities not in itinerary, ala-carte drinks during meals, misc. tipping (hotel staff, luggage porters, waiters at restaurants, etc.), laundry charges, etc.

f) Tipping to local Guide & Driver

Recommended : USD 3 per day per person for the Guide

USD 2 per day per person for the Driver

USD 1 per day per person per staff on the Houseboat

(normally there are 2-3 staffs at your service on the Houseboat)

Booking

Call our office at 7984 4560 or write to laura@elsoltravel.com.

All pictures taken are from the Pictures Library, as such, the actual scenery are subjected to local Conditions & Weather at the point of our visit. Itinerary may be subjected to change according to the local conditions at the point of visit. The rates are based on the exchange rate of USD 3.55 and may be changed accordingly.



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