

VARANASI-GAYA-AYODHAYA-PRAYAGRAJ (4 NIGHTS & 5 DAYS)

5 Days/4 Nights

Highlights:

- *Varanasi:* Evening Aarti on the Ganges, Sunrise boat ride, visits to Durga Temple, New Vishwanath Temple, and Sankat Mochan Temple.
- *Bodhgaya:* Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhi Tree, and Vishnupad Temple.
- *Prayagraj:* Sangam (confluence of Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati), Patalpuri Temple, and Hanuman Mandir.
- *Ayodhya:* Nageshwarnath Temple, Ramkot, and Hanuman Garhi.
- *Cultural immersion:* Witness ancient rituals and explore historic sites.

Itinerary:

Day 1	Varanasi	 No image available  No image available  No image available  No image available You will be met by our representative at airport and transfer to the hotel. Briefing (Varanasi): Picturesquely situated on the crescent shaped left bank of the holy River Ganges, Varanasi, one of the ancient seats of learning in India, is said to be a compound of the names of two streams, the Varuna and the Assi, which still flow in the north and south of the city respectively. This name seems to have been corrupted, in medieval times to Varanasi, which was in use till May 1956, when it was changed to Varanasi, by an order of the Government of India. Varanasi is the most popular pilgrimage point for the Hindus and one of the seven holiest cities. In Hinduism it is believed that those who die and are cremated here get an instant gateway to liberation from the cycle of births and re-births. Considered as the abode of Lord Shiva, Varanasi is situated on the banks of River Ganges, which is believed to have the power of washing away all of one's sins. Reach and check in at the hotel Later you will proceed for the sightseeing tour of Varanasi. Witnessing the Evening Aarti ceremony on the Ganges. Aarti Ceremony: A group of priests daily in the evening at this ghat perform "Agni Pooja" (Worship to Fire) wherein a dedication is made to Lord Shiva, River Ganga (the Ganges), Surya (Sun), Agni (Fire), and the whole universe Overnight will be at Varanasi.
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Day
02

Varanasi –
Bodhgaya

Drive to Daswamedh Ghat early in the morning at 5:45am and take a boat ride on the sacred river Ganges to see the cremation Ghats and witness the living traditions of one of the world's oldest and most important religions. (To start at 0500 hrs. for the best lifetime experience) For you to appreciate this remarkable city, we'll transfer you to the banks of the River Ganges before the sun rises. where at sunrise the sight unfolds before you.

Thousands of faithful come daily to the banks to bathe and pray while in the background, temples and palaces rise in tiers from the water's edge. Return for a walk through the cobblestone streets along the banks of "Ganga". Return back to the hotel for breakfast and later start your drive for Bodhgaya Briefing (Bodhgaya): Bodhgaya continued to function as a centre of Buddhist scholarship and pilgrimage up to at least the beginning of the 15th century. Bodhgaya is one of the sacred places for the Buddhists as well as for the Hindus. Here under the Bodhi Tree, Gautama attained supreme knowledge to become Budhha, the 'Enlightened One'. The tree from the original sapling still stands in the temple premises. It is the most important Buddhist pilgrimage centre as Buddhism was born here. Bodhgaya today is a place of attraction for the entire Buddhist world and groups of pilgrims and visitors come to visit it all the year round, some to pay their obeisance to this great edifice of veneration, whereas for some to come and see this great edifice of history. Mahabodhi Temple: It is believed that 250 years after the Enlightenment of the Buddha, Emperor Asoka visited Bodh Gaya. He is considered to be the founder of the original Mahabodhi temple. It consisted of an elongated spire crowned by a miniature stupa and a chhatravali on a platform. A double flight of steps led up to the platform and the upper sanctum. The mouldings on the spire contained Buddha images in niches. Some historians believe that the temple was constructed or renovated in the 1st century during the Kushan period. With the decline of Buddhism in India, the temple was abandoned and forgotten, buried under layers of soil and sand. The temple was later restored by Sir Alexander Cunningham as part of his work for the British Archaeological



Day 03 Bodhgaya-Varanasi

Have an early breakfast at the hotel. Later proceed for the temple visit. Vishnupad Temple: The Mangla Gauri shrine who is believed to be the first wife of Lord Shiva is worshiped here. The two rounded stones that symbolize the breasts of the mythological Sati have been considered sacred among Hindus. The most attractive destination in Gaya is Vishnupad Temple. The temple is located on the bank of river Falgu River and has footprint of Vishnu incised into a block of basalt. People believe that Lord Vishnu killed Gayasur by placing his foot on Gayasur's chest. Later drive for Varanasi. Reach and check in at the hotel. Later proceed for Temple visit. Durga Temple: Durga temple, also known as the "monkey temple" is one of the important temples of Varanasi. This temple is dedicated to Goddess Durga. The Durga temple was built in the eighteenth century. A Bengali Maharani built the Durga temple in Nagara Style (the North Indian style of temple architecture). It is stained red with ochre and has a multi-tiered shikhara (spire). The Durga temple is situated on a rectangular tank, called the Durga Kund. According to the Puranas, Goddess Durga has kept this place for many centuries and protects the holy city, Varanasi. The new Vishwanath temple of Varanasi: Is located in the premises of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU). It is also called the Birla temple as the famous industrialist family of India, the Birlas, constructed it. The New Vishwanath Temple is dedicated to lord Shiva and is a replica of the original Vishwanath temple. The temple is built in white marbles, and was planned by Madan Mohan Malviya, the founder of the Banaras Hindu University. The most important characteristic of the new Vishwanath temple is that it is open to people from all castes and religions. The huge campus of New Vishwanath Temple is a delight to the eyes of visitor. . The interior has a Siva lingam and verses from Hindu scriptures are inscribed on the walls. Sankat Mochan temple: Is one of the sacred temples of Varanasi. It is located in the southern part of Varanasi, near the Banaras Hindu University. It is dedicated to the Hindu God, Hanuman. The word "Sankat Mochan" means one who helps in removing sufferings i.e. Lord Hanuman.



Day
04

Varanasi-
Prayagraj-
Ayodhaya

Have your breakfast at the hotel. Later drive for Ayodhaya enroute visitng Prayagraj Briefing (Prayagraj): Being the second oldest city of India, in the North Indian state of Uttar Pradesh and administrative headquarters of Prayagraj District. Prayagraj is one of the fastest growing cities in India at present. It is located 205 kilometres (127 mi) south of state capital Lucknow. The ancient name of the city Prayag (Sanskrit rferes to it as a "place of sacrifice") and is believed to be the spot where Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. It is one of four sites of the mass Hindu pilgrimage Kumbh Mela, the others being Haridwar, Ujjain and Nashik. It has a position of importance in Hindu scriptures for it is situated at Triveni Sangam, the confluence of the holy rivers Ganges and Yamuna, and the ancient Sarasvati . Later proceed for the sightseeing tour of Prayagraj. Sangam: Around 7 km from Civil Lines, overlooked by the eastern ramparts of the fort, wide flood plains and muddy banks protrude towards the sacred Sangam. At the point at which the brown Ganges meets the Greenish Yamuna, pandas (priests) perch on small platforms to perform puja and assist the devout in their ritual ablutions in the shallow waters. Beaches and ghats are littered with the shorn hair of pilgrims who come to offer pind for their deceased parents. The sacred Sangam is the confluence of three of the holiest rivers in the Hindu mythology – Ganga, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati. At the Sangam, the waters of the Ganges and the Yamuna can be distinctly seen merging into one. It is during the Kumbh / Ardh Kumbh that the Sangam truly comes alive, attracting the devout from all across the country. The holy Sangam is the site for Annual Magha Mela/Ardh Kumbh/Kumbh Mela. Boats are available for visitors. Patalpuri Temple : Patalpuri is an underground temple, inside the Allahabad fort. In this temple lies the Akshaya Vat – or the immortal tree. It is believed that Lord Rama, has visited the temple and the temple was also seen by the famous Chinese traveller and writer Hiuen Tsang during his visit to this place. Hanuman Mandir : The Hanuman Mandir near Sangam is unique in North India, for its supine image of Hanumana. The big idol of

Day 05	Ayodhya- Varanasi	 No image available  No image available  No image available  No image available Have your early breakfast at the hotel. Later proceed for the sightseeing of Ayodhya. Nageshwarnath Temple :The temple of Nageshwarnath is said to have been established by Kush the son of Rama. Legend has it that Kush lost his armlet, while bathing in the Saryu, which was picked up by a Nag-Kanya, who fell in love with him. As she was a devotee of Shiva, Kush erected this temple for her. It is said that this has been the only temple to have survived till the time of Vikramaditya, the rest of city had fallen into ruins and was covered by dense forests. It was by means of this temple that Vikramaditya was able to locate Ayodhya and the sites of different shrines here. The festival of Shivratri is celebrated here with great pomp and splendor. Ramkot : The chief place of worship in Ayodhya is the site of the ancient citadel of Ramkot which stands on an elevated ground in the western part of the city. Although visited by pilgrims throughout the year, this sacred place attracts devotees from all over India and abroad, on `Ram Navami', the day of Lord's birth, which is celebrated with great pomp and show, in the Hindu month of Chaitra (March-April). The Hanuman Garhi : Situated in the center of the town, this temple is approachable by a flight of 76 steps. Legend has it that Hanuman lived here in a cave and guarded the Janambhoomi or Ramkot. The main temple contains the statue of Maa Anjani, with Bal Hanuman seated on her lap. The faithful believe that all their wishes are granted with a visit to this holy shrine. Later drive for Varanasi to connect your flight for next destination. Later you will be transferred to the airport as per your departure schedule. Return back with the mesmerizing tour of Divine Destinations. TOUR ENDS
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Inclusions:

Ø Accommodation on Double/Twin sharing basis

Ø Breakfast & Dinner Included

Ø All transfers and sightseeing by AC Transport

Ø One Exclusive morning boat ride in Varanasi(Rowing Boat)

Ø One Boat Ride in Prayagraj

Toll, parking and driver allowance

Exclusions:

Tour Notes:

Note :

The Given rate will not be valid from 13-18 Nov.'24

GST 5% Extra on total bill amount

If the suggested hotel is not available on the given date will provide same category of hotel.

Rooms & rates are subject to availability at the time of confirmation

Contents:

This itinerary takes you on a spiritual journey through Varanasi, Bodhgaya, Prayagraj, and Ayodhya. Experience the sacred Ganges Aarti, visit the Mahabodhi Temple where Buddha attained enlightenment, and explore Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Rama. Witness ancient rituals, explore historic temples, and soak in the rich cultural heritage of these holy cities. The tour offers a deep connection with India's spiritual roots, concluding with a return to Varanasi.

Payment Terms:

Cancellation Policy: