

Optional 2-Night India's Golden Triangle & the Sacred Ganges CME AWAY[®] Post-Tour

October 24-26, 2024

Day 1 | October 24, 2024 Varanasi

Disembark and fly from Kolkata to Varanasi, one of the seven holy cities in the Hindu faith. The faithful believe that dying in Varanasi breaks the cycle of rebirth and frees the soul, and every good deed done here confers special blessings on the doer. It draws an unending stream of Hindu pilgrims, who lend the city a special flavor. A panoramic tour shows you some of the highlights of the city. As befits a city legendary for its place in Hinduism, temples abound. Vishwanath Temple, dedicated to Shiva and built in 1776, has pinnacles sheathed in gold. White Marble Tulsi Manas, erected in the 1960s, stands amid lovely gardens; ocher-stained Durga Temple, sacred to the goddess Durga, is sometimes called the monkey temple because of the many monkeys frolicking on the premises. But perhaps the most famous sights of all are the ghats, the broad steps that offer access to the sacred Ganges. Here the faithful come to wash away their sins in the river and to cremate their dead. (D)

Accommodation: Taj Ganges, Varanasi (or similar)

Day 2 | October 25, 2024 Varanasi-New Delhi

Experience a magical moment on Mother Ganga at morning's first light. Step aboard a rowboat and drift quietly along the serene water as the sun rises, listening to the call of birds and the soft splash of the paddle as it dips into the river. All along the ghats, the faithful bathe in the river, murmur prayers and perform private Aartis. As daylight brightens, more people gather on the ghats, washing clothes, practicing yoga, eating breakfast—gradually the pace of daily life picks up, and the sacred merges into the mundane, showing you how closely the two are linked by the holy river.

Next, see how one of the world's great silk-weaving traditions has flourished in Varanasi for more than 500 years, ever since Mughal rulers first encountered the development of the craft in the 15th century. Varanasi artisans still use traditional Mughal motifs as they weave featherlight silk scarves and lustrous brocades. It can take as long as six months for an artisan to weave the six meters of fabric required for the finest sari, which is often embroidered with gold or silver threads and embellished with beading; brides in particular seek out these gorgeous and unique—and costly—sari fabrics. Discover a range of lush and colorful silks as you visit a silk workshop, where the clack of the Jacquard loom keeps alive a craft handed down from generation to generation, and learn a little about the traditional processes used to create these work of art. You'll return to the hotel and have time to explore a little on your own, before transferring to the airport for your flight to New Delhi, where you will check into your luxury hotel for your last night in India. (B&L)

Accommodation: Trident Hotel, Gurgaon (or similar)

Day 3 | October 26, 2024 New Delhi

You'll check out of your hotel and transfer to the New Delhi Airport. Though your Indian adventure has ended, the memories will last you a lifetime. (B)



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What's Included

- 1 night at the Taj Ganges ,Varanasi (or similar)
- 1 night at the Trident Hotel, Gurgaon (or similar)
- Breakfast daily, 1 lunch & 1 dinner
- Flights between Kolkata & Varanasi and Varanasi & New Delhi
- All transfers and transportation
- All service charges, taxes and portorage
- Varanasi panoramic City Tour with private boat viewing of an Aarti ceremony at sunset
- Private boat viewing of life and rituals on the Ganges at sunrise and silk factory visit

What's NOT Included

- Other airfare and airport taxes
- Gratuities
- Personal expenses such as alcoholic beverages, telephone calls and laundry
- Any other services not mentioned in 'What's Included'

Travel Conditions

As with all foreign travel, you may encounter different living standards and practices and different standards and conditions with respect to the provision of services and accommodations outside of Canada. Sea Courses and Uniworld have carefully planned these arrangements to provide maximum enjoyment for participants.



TERMS & CONDITIONS

- This exclusive Sea Courses tour is quoted in CAD and includes all taxes and fees as shown.
- The tour is capacity-controlled and **space is extremely limited. Book early to avoid disappointment.** Sales can be closed at any time. Minimum number of participants required.
- Prices subject to change and are only guaranteed with payment.
- Deposit of \$250 per person due at time of booking. Deposit is refundable up to January 5, 2023.
- Final payment is due June 5, 2024.
- Cancellations after June 5, 2024 are completely non-refundable.
- Tour order and excursions may be changed or substituted if required.



Insurance

When travelling outside Canada, health insurance is required. Contact your travel advisor for more details.

Prices as of November 3, 2023

2 Night Tour in CAD	\$2,159 per person
Single Supplement	\$609

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS POST TOUR!](#)