

# NORTH INDIA

## Spiritual & Cultural Tour



TOUCH OF  
**SPIRIT**  
TOURS





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TOURS

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Discover North India's spiritual richness, amazing culture and breathtaking beauty on this wonderful 16-day Journey. Commencing from Delhi on 2nd December 2014.

## Day 1

On arrival in Delhi, you will be welcomed and transferred to your hotel. Later, we have combined sightseeing of Old and New Delhi. Overnight Delhi.

## Day 2

After breakfast, we drive to Haridwar, one of the seven holiest Hindu places of pilgrimage in India. Here we visit Mansadevi Temple and various ghats. In the early evening we witness the evening prayer performed at the River Ganges. Overnight Haridwar.

## Day 3

Visit Rajaji National Park for a morning jeep safari. Rajaji has an abundance of wildlife including elephants, tigers, panthers, deer, sambhar, wild boar, goral, Himalayan black bears and sloth, and over 400 bird species. Drive a short distance to Rishikesh for some free time and in the evening, you will experience the Aarti ceremony at the Ghats. Overnight Rishikesh.

## Day 4

Early in the morning we visit the holy river Ganges for a dip (optional of course!) After breakfast, visit Muniki-Reti or the "sands of the sages", the Neelkanth Mahadev temple which is believed to be the site where Lord Shiva drank the venom that came out during the churning of the ocean, Laxman Jhoola a suspension







bridge across the Ganges, Ram Jhula, Gita Bhavan and other sacred sites. In the evening, visit the Triveni Ghat to witness a special prayer ceremony. Overnight Rishikesh.

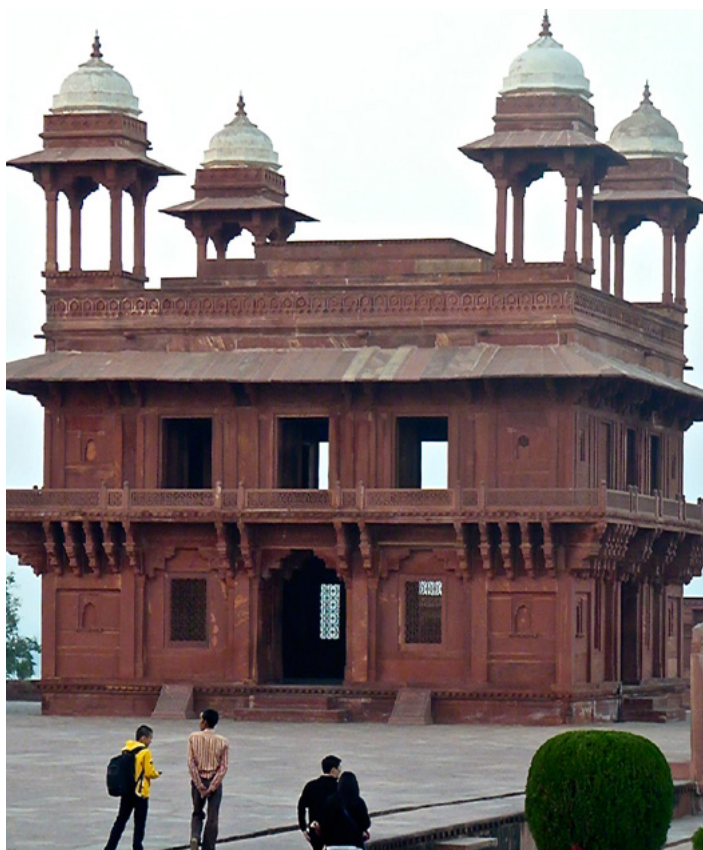
### Day 5

Take a scenic mountain drive to Joshimath, a holy town located in the Chamoli District of Uttarakhand. Perched at an elevation of 2000 metres above sea level, this place is surrounded by snow-capped Himalayan Ranges. It is a revered site for Hindus and is home to numerous temples. Joshimath is one of the four maths founded by Adi Guru Sri Shankaracharya during the 8th century. This math is devoted to the sacred Hindu text called the Atharva Veda. Overnight Joshimath.



### Day 6

Visit the Adi Badri Temples, the Narsingh Temple and Kalpavriksha, a 1200 year old tree where it is believed that Adi Guru Sri Shankaracharya meditated. Enjoy some free time in the afternoon to stroll around this picturesque town or relax. Overnight Joshimath.



### Day 7

Take a scenic drive to Rudraprayag, one of the five confluences of Alaknanda River. Overnight Rudraprayag.

### Day 8

Drive to Uttarkashi for our stay at Tapovan Kuti (Chinmaya Mission). It was here that Swami Chinmayananda spent a total of seven years studying





at the feet of his teacher, Swami Tapovan Maharaj.  
Overnight Uttarkashi.

### Day 9

Savour the breathtaking views, the sound of the river Bhageerathi flowing at the foot of the mountain and the divine vibrations all around this incredibly beautiful place. Enjoy ashram activities and nature walks. Overnight Uttarkashi.

### Day 10

Drive to Dehradun airport for a short flight back to Delhi. Enjoy some free time in the afternoon. Overnight Delhi.

### Day 11

This morning we have a short flight to Varanasi, one of the world's oldest, continually inhabited cities and described as the 'beating heart' of the Hindu universe. Enjoy an afternoon excursion to Assi Ghat. Overnight Varanasi

### Day 12

Witness the early morning Hindu Prayer rituals as you take an early morning Ganges boat ride. Return to the hotel for breakfast and a rest. Gain insight into the life of this ancient place as you take a walking tour of the winding alleyways of Varanasi's old city. You will also visit some other interesting sites. In the evening attend the aarti ceremony at the Ghats. Also called 'Fire Puja', the ceremony is a dedication to the River Ganges, the Sun, Lord Shiva, Fire and the whole universe. Overnight Varanasi.







### Day 13

This morning we visit nearby Sarnath, where Buddha gave his first sermon. Visit the archaeological site, the museum and other amazing sights before we transfer to the airport for a short flight back to Delhi. Overnight Delhi.

### Day 14

Today we have a guided tour of the world-famous Taj Mahal, described as the most extravagant monument ever built in the name of love. We also visit the colourfully decorated 'Baby Taj' and Fatehpur Sikri, a magnificent ghost city built in 1571 by the Moguls, before a short drive to Bharatpur. Overnight Bharatpur.

### Day 15

Experience an early rickshaw ride in the Keoladeo Ghana National Park, host to approximately 380 bird species from across the globe. We then have a short drive to Mathura, famed as the birth-place of Lord Krishna. The place is closely linked with many episodes in the early life of Krishna. Here we visit Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi and Dwarkadish Temple. We then visit Prem Mandir in Vrindavan before driving to Delhi. Overnight Delhi.

### Day 16

After breakfast, transfer to Delhi airport for flights home.



## ADDITIONAL INFO

Your 16-day experience includes all land transport, very comfortable hotels, internal flights, ashram stay, all tours, entrance fees, local guides, guide tips, bottled water, many meals, vedic philosophy classes, Australian tour leader.

Price \$3,240 per person, twin share.  
Single supplement: \$720.

For bookings and enquires 1300 722 932 info@touchofspirittours.com.au



### For booking information contact:

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Please note: The itinerary may be subject to change depending on altered circumstances.

