

**GOLDEN TRIANGLE
WEEKEND TRIP**

WEEKEND OVERVIEW

The Golden Triangle is the highlight of anyone's trip to India and is a must see! During the three days we will explore the bustling streets in Delhi as well as Agra – both offering a unique experience.

As a small group, we will travel this incredible route where you will be able to try some mouth-watering cuisine from the markets of Delhi while stopping at the India Gate, Lotus Temple and other famous landmarks. You will also have some free time in Delhi to explore everything this amazing city has to offer!

You will be up early to see the sunrise behind the Taj Mahal – arguably the most beautiful building in the world! Learn all about its history and construction on a guided tour and ensure you get the must have photo on the famous bench!

Wander the walled city known as Agra Fort a UNESCO World Heritage Site. As you walk through the many courtyards your amazement will grow as the scale of what was built here begins to sink in!

Our structured weekend trips will ensure you get the most out of your time and a member of our local team will accompany you throughout. In order to maximise time and to provide comfort, you will be transported by private minibus.

Each trip leaves on a Friday morning and returns on the Sunday evening. The cost to take part in the trip is **£199 per person**.

The following are included within this fee:

- All transport (private mini-bus)
- Accommodation (hotels / guesthouses)
- Three meals per day
- Any entrance fees

START DATES

We will be running the Golden Triangle weekend trip on the following dates (subject to minimum numbers reached):

12th January 2024 – 14th January 2024
9th February 2024 – 11th February 2024
8th March 2024 – 10th March 2024
12th April 2024 – 14th April 2024
10th May 2024 – 12th May 2024
7th June 2024 – 9th June 2024
12th July 2024 – 14th July 2024
9th August 2024 – 11th August 2024
13th September 2024 – 15th September 2024
11th October 2024 – 13th October 2024
8th November 2024 – 10th November 2024
13th December 2024 – 15th December 2024

10th January 2025 – 12th January 2025
7th February 2025 – 9th February 2025
7th March 2025 – 9th March 2025
11th April 2025 – 13th April 2025
9th May 2025 – 11th May 2025
13th June 2025 – 15th June 2025
11th July 2025 – 13th July 2025
8th August 2025 – 10th August 2025
12th September 2025 – 14th September 2025
10th October 2025 – 12th October 2025
7th November 2025 – 9th November 2025
12th December 2025 – 14th December 2025

Additional start dates can be added if there are at least 4 participants looking to take part. Please feel free to ask within the TMR India Facebook group to find other interested volunteers.

BOOKING YOUR PLACE

You can simply add this weekend trip when applying for any programme in India under 'Optional Extras'.

If you have already signed up for one of our



volunteer programmes in India and would like To add this weekend trip, you can simply request this within your My Trip account.

Places on our weekend trips are non-refundable and non-transferable between volunteers.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – DELHI, MARKETS & FREE TIME

We will set off from our volunteer accommodation around 6am to make the long journey to Delhi (around 5 hours in total). Stopping for breakfast en-route, we plan to arrive in the capital around 12pm.

After checking into the hotel, we will head to the local markets and also stop off for some lunch. The afternoon will be free for you to explore the hustle and bustle of the crowded streets and markets where you must try some mouth-watering street food!

DAY 2 – EXPLORING DELHI

We have an action-packed day waiting for us as we set off to explore Delhi.

Our sight seeing tour of the city will start at the famous India Gate. Standing at 42 metres tall, many people often say that the India Gate is similar to the Arc-de-Triomphe. Much like it's French counterpart, the war memorial commemorates the 70,000 Indian soldiers who lost their lives fighting for the British Army during the First World War.

After taking some photos we will then leave for Dilli haat, an exclusive place for a genuine Indian shopping trip. This open-air food plaza and craft bazaar is spread over 6 acres and the small thatched roof cottages and kiosks give the plaza a village like atmosphere.

Most famous for their handicraft and hand-made

items, this is the perfect time to buy someone back home a souvenir or gift from your travels in India.

After spending around an hour exploring the maze of stalls, we will make the short journey to Agrasen ki baoli.

Designated as a protected monument, this 60 metre long and 15 metre wide historical step well was originally built in the 14th century to harvest water.

It's impossible to describe the experience of walking through an unassuming gateway to be greeted by a vertiginous plunge. Standing on the ground level, the cascading steps go four levels into the earth.

With a quick tour of the step well, we will make the 30 minute trip to The Lotus Temple.

Constructed in 1986, the temple is built in the shape of a lotus flower and welcomes over 10,000 tourists each and every day. Around the blooming petals there are nine pools of water, which light up from the natural light – a spectacular sight.

The house of worship is dedicated to the oneness of humanity and religion and welcomes people from all religious beliefs.

Our next stop on our busy schedule is to Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple. Hailed as an eternal place of devotion, purity and peace, Akshardham is Delhi's largest temple.

Constructed in 2005, artisans used ancient techniques to carve the pale red sandstone into elaborate reliefs, including 20,000 deities, saints and mythical creatures.

Depending on the time, we may be able to make a quick stop at Chandni Chowk.



After a busy day exploring everything Delhi has to offer, we will make our way to Agra – a journey that takes around 4 hours.

DAY 3 – THE TAJ MAHAL & AGRA FORT

Saving the best until last, the Taj Mahal needs no introduction, but we will give it one anyway! Arguably the most beautiful building in the world, the Taj Mahal is a symbol of India that is a must see on any trip to the country.

Everyone will be up bright and early to make our way to the Taj Mahal for sunrise – be sure to bring your camera with photo opportunities galore on offer. Watching the sunrise behind the Taj Mahal is magical and the early morning light turns the dome of the temple a soft, golden colour.

An English-speaking guide will teach you all about the story that inspired the building of the Taj Mahal and the sad tragedy involved in creating it.

After a morning you will never forget, we will head to the nearby town of Agra and it's historic fort. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is not to be missed and is often described as 'the walled city'. As you walk the maze of courtyards and buildings you will be in awe of the sheer size of what once stood here!

Just before we head back to Jaipur, we will stop off at Agra Bazaar. The market has many shops selling handicrafts and marble works and is the perfect place to put your bargaining skills to the test.

After a busy weekend, taking in everything the Golden Triangle has to offer, we will make the journey back to Jaipur – around a 4 hour drive.

ACCOMMODATION

Over the course of the weekend you will be staying at hotels / hostels.

Although the accommodation will be fairly basic (please remember you are in India!), the rooms will be comfortable and clean – perfectly adequate for the trip ahead.

All rooms will be on a shared basis and are equipped with ceiling fans and western toilets.

MEALS

You will be provided with three meals a day that will consist mainly of local Indian cuisine. Generally your breakfast and dinner will be served at the hotel and lunch while on the move at a local restaurant.

TRANSPORT

As you're probably aware, India is a huge country. With this in mind, there will be quite a bit of travelling to get around the Golden Triangle.

The group will travel by private air-conditioned mini-bus or car, offering you the most comfortable and speedy option possible.

One of our local team members will accompany you throughout the trip.

If you want to take part on this amazing trip and the dates fall on your last weekend in India, then you can still take part! Please arrange your return flight from India for Monday to ensure you have sufficient time to get to the airport.

