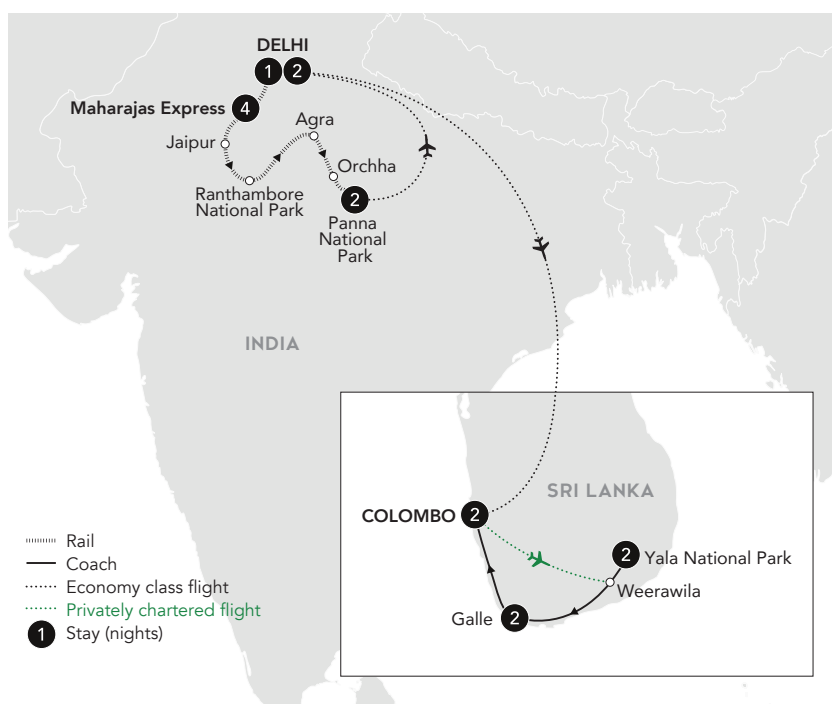


INDIA SRI LANKA & THE MAHARAJAS' EXPRESS

Discover India and Sri Lanka in seamless style. Behold the treasures of India during our four-night rail journey aboard the Maharajas' Express, and while enjoying stays in palatial accommodation. Admire the Mughal architecture of the Taj Mahal and go in search of Royal Bengal tigers. In Sri Lanka, we explore vibrant Colombo, encounter wildlife on safari, and enjoy a serene oceanfront setting. Reserved for no more than 28 guests.



A JOURNEY OVERVIEW

Delhi – Jaipur – Ranthambore National Park – Agra – Orchha – Khajuraho – Panna National Park – Delhi – Colombo – Yala National Park – Galle – Colombo

16 Days
Departing 1 October 2027

Day 1 Delhi (India)

Your private transfer delivers you to Leela Palace. Relax and acquaint yourself with our opulent accommodation before meeting your fellow guests and Tour Host Team at this evening's Welcome Dinner.

Day 2 Delhi

Set out on a discovery of Old Delhi this morning. Absorb the grandeur of the 17th-century Jama Masjid mosque, comprising marble domes, towering minarets, and sweeping courtyards. A cycle rickshaw ride navigating a labyrinth of bustling alleyways offers us a different perspective of the city. Afterwards, wander the vast grounds of Raj Ghat, home to the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial. A drive then takes us past the imposing Red Fort.

Relax during lunch at Haveli Dharampura, a restored 200-year-old mansion.

In New Delhi, we stand before the world's tallest brick minaret, Qutab Minar. During a drive through the upscale neighbourhood of Lutyens Delhi, look upon the grand India Gate.

Choose from a selection of dining venues this evening.

Day 3 Delhi, Embark Maharajas' Express, Jaipur

After breakfast, we transfer to the station to meet the Maharajas' Express. Greeted with a level of fanfare usually reserved for royalty, we stroll the red carpet and board our comfortable train. Leaving the platform, the Maharajas' Express begins its southward journey to Jaipur. Following lunch aboard the train, alight to admire the Amber Fort, its exterior featuring an exquisite display of glass inlay. Making our ascent to the fort's entrance by jeep, take in spectacular hillside panoramas before stepping inside to see the mesmerising Palace of Mirrors and Hall of Victory.

Day 4 Jaipur

After spending the night aboard our train, we alight to continue our exploration of Jaipur. At the City Palace, admire the extensive art collection once owned by the Maharajas of Jaipur. Return to the train and take your place in the dining car for a gourmet lunch. Afterwards, enjoy the comforts of your well-equipped cabin, or mingle with fellow guests in the lounge or bar cars. Tonight, indulge in a royal dinner at Taj Rambagh Palace. The Maharajas' Express departs Jaipur this evening, as we make our way to the city of Sawai Madhopur.

Day 5 Ranthambore National Park, Fatehpur Sikri

Alighting early this morning in Sawai Madhopur, we take the road a short distance to Ranthambore National Park. Here, an early morning game drive brings us up-close to some of the park's many wildlife species, including sambar deer, sloth bears and hyenas. Should we be fortunate, one of the resident leopards, known for their elusive nature, may even come into view. Return to the Maharajas' Express for breakfast, as we continue to the town of Fatehpur Sikri. Now abandoned, the elaborate royal palace complex was once the domain of the Emperor Akbar. A guided tour of the UNESCO World Heritage site gives us an in-depth look at its ornate architecture, towering gateways and grand audience halls. Back aboard the Maharajas' Express, we continue our journey to Agra.

Day 6 Agra

As we arrive in Agra, we spy the unmistakable marble domes of the Taj Mahal, framed by lofty minarets and further embellished by the gardens and pools of its extensive grounds. We take a tour of this enduring symbol of love, a masterpiece of symmetry and intricate craftsmanship. Adjourn to the nearby Taj Khema for breakfast. The grounds here grant us further perspectives of the Taj Mahal's iconic form. Back aboard our train, savour a delicious lunch while rolling on toward Orchha.

Day 7 Orchha, Khajuraho, Disembark Maharajas' Express

Explore the Orchha Fort this morning. Overlooking the Betwa River, the sprawling complex features two distinct palaces, the Jahangir Mahal and the Raja Mahal. Built in the 16th-century by the Bundela dynasty, the fort represents a stunning blend of Rajput and Mughal architecture. Following our tour here, a discovery of Orchha's nearby village takes place aboard tuk tuks.

Return to the Maharajas' Express for the final time and continue to Khajuraho. The collection of temples here are of both Hindu and Jain origin. Built between 950 and 1050 CE, during the Chandela dynasty, the structures exemplify Indo-Aryan architecture, while they are also known for their many erotic sculptures. Following our tour of the World Heritage site, we check into the Oberoi Rajgarh Palace.

Day 8 Panna National Park, Khajuraho

Another thrilling wildlife experience awaits this morning as we arrive at Panna National Park. Aboard jeeps, our guides take us out on safari, in search of some of the tigers that inhabit the reserve here.

Spend the afternoon as you please, selecting from the following Your World experiences:

- ★ Return to the grounds of Panna National Park for another game drive.
- ★ Explore a local village on foot or by electric rickshaw.
- ★ Meet with a local historian, who will reveal stories of a fascinating past at the Oberoi Rajgarh Palace.

Choose between our hotel's two restaurants for dinner this evening.

Day 9 Panna National Park, Delhi

Make the most of our remaining time in Panna National Park with an early morning safari. Return to the hotel for breakfast and a morning at leisure. Later today, we transfer to the airport for our return flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, we check into the Oberoi Gurgaon, located conveniently near the airport, for an overnight stay. Acquaint yourself with our latest residence during dinner here this evening.

Day 10 Colombo (Sri Lanka)

Take your morning at leisure before a scheduled flight delivers us south to Colombo. From here, we are transferred to the Galle Face Hotel. Take the rest of the day on your own schedule and enjoy the comforts of your Junior Suite Balcony Sea View room. Choose your preferred dining venue this evening, from a selection of local restaurants.

Day 11 Colombo

Admire the private art collection of Geoffrey Bawa, this morning at Number 11, the Geoffrey Bawa Residence. Afterwards, enjoy lunch at the Gallery Café, which is housed within the offices of the late architect. This afternoon, embark on a guided walk of Sri Lanka's capital with local expert Mark Forbes. Begin at the Old Dutch Hospital, now home to boutiques and restaurants. At Colombo Fort, discover local history, as told through its colonial buildings and monuments. Stop for a cup of Ceylon tea before heading to Pettah Bazaar, a thriving and colour marketplace.

Tonight, take the opportunity to meet a renowned Sri Lankan cricketer. Our host regales us with accounts of memorable matches and events during their time on the international sporting stage. This exclusive event takes place at the prestigious Sinhalese Sports Club and is followed by a special dinner, complemented by an evening of Sri Lankan dance and culture.

Day 12 Yala National Park

After breakfast at our hotel, we transfer to the airport for our charter flight to Weerawila, before transferring to Yala. For the next two nights, we enjoy the extraordinary setting of Uga Chena Huts, along the boundary of Yala National Park. After lunch, an afternoon game drive grants us opportunities to spot Sri Lankan leopards, sloth bears and elephants, among many other species. Enjoy your evening at leisure, accompanied by the sights and sounds of Yala's remarkable wilderness.

Day 13 Yala National Park

Rise early this morning for another game drive through the park. Yala's expert rangers direct our attention to local wildlife, which may include spotted deer, mugger crocodiles, and wild buffaloes. Also keep watch for flocks of migratory birds and other birdlife. Later today, our resort's chef takes us through a traditional cookery demonstration. Learn the techniques employed by Sri Lanka's culinary experts to create their appetising, spice-infused dishes. Following today's lunch, further explore the wilderness along the park's boundary. Tonight, enjoy sunset drinks along the beach before dinner.

Day 14 Galle

Round Sri Lanka's coast to arrive at its southern tip and the town of Ahangama. Within the lush setting of Villa Mayurana, we learn about the cultivation and harvesting of cinnamon. One of the estate's experts also demonstrates the art of peeling, curling and grading the cinnamon. We appreciate the flavour of cinnamon further during a lunch inspired by the property's plantation. Traverse the coast this afternoon to witness the spectacle of stilt fishermen, perched high upon their wooden poles. Once more, we select our preferred dining venue from a selection of local restaurants. We spend our final two nights at the refined residence, Amangalla.

Day 15 Galle

After breakfast this morning, take a walking tour of the World Heritage site, Galle Fort, accompanied by an expert guide. Built in the 16th-century by the Portuguese, it was further fortified by the Dutch, before being taken over the British. The successive colonial powers all left their mark on the fort and its attendant town, which today is recognised as the best example of a fortified city built by Europeans in South and South-East Asia. Tonight's Farewell Dinner takes place at our hotel.

Day 16 Galle

Our remarkable journey reaches its conclusion today, as you join your airport transfer.