
DECCAN ODYSSEY

“INDIAN ODYSSEY”



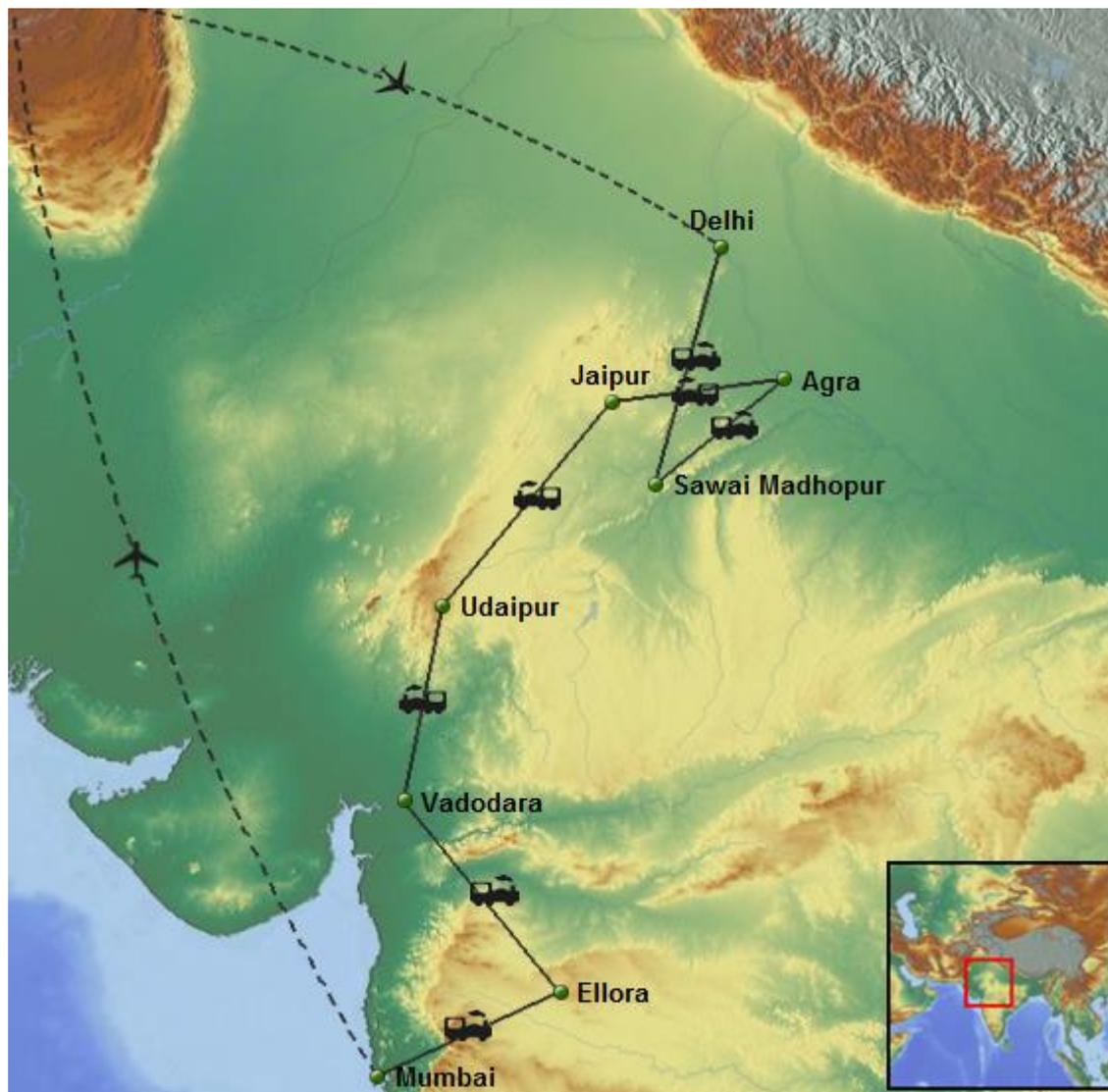
Over a billion people, several hundred dialects, 29 states, and a cultural diversity that baffles the mind and cannot be put in words...Each of India's states - and the uncountable villages within- has a distinct history, cultural markers and allure. It is a land of a thousand untold stories.



Between destinations... journey within and without...

ROUTE MAP

Route: Delhi – Sawai Madhopur – Agra – Jaipur – Udaipur - Vadodara – Ellora Caves – Mumbai





Between destinations... journey within and without...

ITINERARY

DAY 1: DELHI BY FLIGHT

Arrive at Delhi. You will be met and assisted by a Secrets of India's representative who shall handover your travel documents and transfer you to train station to complete the check-in formalities. .

This fascinating city has been in existence since the 6th century BC and has seen ups and downs from the rule of the Pandavas right up to the British Raj. Delhi is not only the metropolis of India but also the museum of its past. Because of its location on the banks of the river Yamuna, many cities have risen and fallen here over the last five millennia; many dynasties ruled from there and the city is rich in the architecture of its monuments.

Dinner will be served on-board in comfort of Deccan Odyssey.

Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Dinner

DAY 2: SAWAI MADHOPUR BY TRAIN

One can almost sense a life of the wilderness, as the train arrives in Sawai Madhopur, a city named after its founder Maharaja Sawai Madho Singh I. A visit is arranged to the Ranthambore National Park, wherein are located the ruins of a 10th century fort. This wildlife sanctuary is considered to be the country's best for observing and photographing the activities of the tiger. The park, covering an area of 392sq kms is home to more than 300 species of birds. The tiger, hyena, ratel, jackal and fox are among those constituting the carnivorous population here. Sawai Madhopur is known for its exclusive toys, ethnic ornaments and costumes.

After the game drive, a safari canter will take you back to train for lunch on board.

Later, proceed for a village tour and interact with locals. After this, it is time for high-tea at the Sawai Madhopur Lodge, which served as a royal hunting ground for the erstwhile royal family of Jaipur.

Return to the train as it leaves for Agra.

Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 3: AGRA BY TRAIN

Enjoy breakfast in the restaurant car.

Move on to pay a visit to Taj Mahal, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. A pristine monument of undying love; It was built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved queen Mumtaz Mahal.



Between destinations... journey within and without...

Agra is also known for its splendid marble inlay work like the Pietra Dura work on the Taj, leather goods and jewellery.

Later, Itmad-ud-daulah followed by lunch at the palace hotel

Afterwards explore the popular Agra Fort

Enjoy a private shopping tour or enjoy a spa treatment as optional activities.

The luxury coach will take you back to train

Dinner will be served in the restaurant car

Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 4: JAIPUR BY TRAIN

Enjoy breakfast in the restaurant car.

Jaipur, one of the well planned cities of the world of its time. This capital city of Rajasthan, popularly known as the Pink City, was founded by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, in 1727 A.D. To explore the city, an air-conditioned coach takes you to your first stop Amber Fort. Ride on caparisoned elephants adds to the ambiance at the Amber.

Visit Hawa Mahal or the Palace of Winds, which is a remarkable five storied building along the main street of the old city in pink splendor with semi-octagonal and delicate honey-combed sandstone windows. This is followed by a visit to Albert Hall and the City Palace, home of the erstwhile royal family. Right across the road from the City Palace is the Jantar Mantar, the largest observatory built by the Sawai Jai Singh II.

Savor the Lunch at luxury hotel followed by a cultural program.

After lunch, you can either indulge in a spa session in a city hotel or take a stroll in the colorful markets of Jaipur which are stocked with handicraft, paintings, bangles, lehenga cholis and other knick-knacks.

The Luxury coach will take you back to train.

Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 5: UDAIPUR BY TRAIN

Breakfast will be served in the restaurant car



Between destinations... journey within and without...

Arrive into Udaipur, which is considered to be one of India's most lovely locales and is a medieval town. Set on the shores of Lake Pichola and surrounded by hills, Udaipur grew in complete contrast to the harsh deserts of the rest of Rajasthan.

Enjoy boat cruise in Lake Pichola, which is an artificial fresh water lake, created in the year 1362 AD - The picturesque boat ride on Lake Pichola not only provides the best scenic view of the lake and the mountains in the city, but also presents some of the most important historical monuments, fine havelis, temples and palaces, including the City Palace dotted along the lakeside.

Later, visit the City Palace, standing on the east bank of Lake Pichola. The complex is a massive series of palaces built at different times from 1559. The balconies of the palace provide panoramic views of the Lake Palace Hotel and Jag Mandir on one side, and the city of Udaipur on the other. The paintings, mosaics, intricately carved 'chhatris' and the architecturally brilliant facade all contribute to making your visit to the City Palace a truly memorable experience.

Lunch at Jagmandir Palace, later return to the comforts of the Deccan Odyssey

Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 6:

VADODARA

BY TRAIN

As you enjoy breakfast this morning the Deccan Odyssey arrives at the capital of the Gaekwads - Vadodara, located along the seasonal river Vishwamitri.

Breakfast over, you will disembark and proceed to visit Champaner - Pavagadh Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the only complete and unchanged pre-Mughal Islamic city in India. This concentration of largely unexcavated archaeological, historic and living cultural heritage properties is cradled in an impressive landscape. Marvel at the Jami Masjid (Great Mosque) built in 1513 representing a perfect blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture which was a model for later mosque architecture in India.

Drive back to Vadodara for a leisurely lunch on board the Deccan Odyssey.

After lunch, you will visit the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum, originally constructed as a school for the Maharaja's children. Today, art lovers can view a large number of works of art displayed in the museum including a collection of the paintings of Raja Ravi Varma and other renowned European Masters as well as a collection of sculptures in marble and bronze.

Enjoy high tea at the resplendent Laxmi Vilas Palace, built in 1890, and the residence of the Royal family even today. Reputedly four times the size of Buckingham Palace, its overwhelming Durbar Hall boasts a Venetian mosaic floor, Belgian stained glass windows and walls with intricate mosaic decorations. The palace also houses a remarkable collection of old armoury and sculptures in bronze, marble & terracotta by Fellici. Witness a folk performance typical of the region as you savour some of the special delicacies from the Royal kitchens.

Return to the Deccan Odyssey for dinner.



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Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 7: ELLORA CAVES BY TRAIN

As you enjoy breakfast, the Deccan Odyssey arrives at Aurangabad, from where a scenic drive takes you to the Ellora Caves, carved into the side of a basaltic hill 30 km from the city. The finest specimen of cave-temple architecture in India, the site encompasses 34 rock-cut shrines representing Buddhist, Jain and Hindu art dating from the 4th to 5th century AD. The 12 caves to the south are Buddhist, the 17 in the centre Hindu, and the 5 caves to the north are Jain. The most remarkable is the Kailash temple, meant to be a replica of Shiva's celestial abode on Mt. Kailash. It is the best example of rock cut architecture and an engineering marvel.

Visit the exceptional Ellora Caves, a World Heritage site. The city itself has deep Mughal influences and there are several monuments of note here; the Daulatabad Fort, Bibi-ka-Makbara and the city's 52 gates, each with its own history, amongst them.

Return to the Deccan Odyssey for dinner

Overnight: Train
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 8: MUMBAI BY TRAIN

Early this morning, after breakfast, you will disembark at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Railway Station, Mumbai.

Bid farewell to the Deccan Odyssey as your royal passage through the grand vistas of India comes to an end.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Please note venue of meals & timings of sightseeing's would be subject to change as per Indian railways norms.



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Departure Dates (2017)

Month	Dates
October 2016	22
November 2016	19
December 2016	17
January 2017	14
February 2017	04
April 2017	08

**Rates are available on enquiry from Guidepost Tours
valid from Oct 2016 till Apr 2017**

Inclusions

- Accommodation in Deluxe cabin/Presidential suite with attached bath
- All meals including tea, coffee and mineral water
- Transport for sightseeing in deluxe coaches
- Monument entry fee to all palaces, museums & parks
- Still camera fees
- Service tax of 4.50%

Notes

- Deccan Odyssey does accommodate children but we ask parents to be mindful of the sophisticated adult atmosphere we endeavor to maintain.
- One child up to 5 years of age shall be allowed free of cost in the deluxe cabin, subject to sharing of the double bed with parents. This is subject to availability of double bed at the time of booking.
- For families, with a child between 6-12 years of age, or with two children with one child below 5 years and another between 6-12, we recommend the presidential suite which has a double bed in the bedroom and can be shared with child below 5 years and a sofa cum bed in the living room which can accommodate the older child. In this case, the child/children will be accommodated free of cost.
- In case of two children between 6-12 years of age travelling with their parents, you will have to take 2 cabins. The first child pays 25% of the adult fare and the 2nd child will have to pay 50% of the adult fare. One of the parents will have to be present with the child/children