APT

# India & Sri Lanka featuring Bhutan & Nepal 2020/21

**Classic Journeys** All the must-see sights by land and rail while staying in the finest hotels, palaces and resorts.

Small Group Journeys On the road less travelled, a more in-depth and intimate exploration awaits.

Tailor Made Journeys Bespoke holidays crafted by us, just for you.





All-inspiring. All taken care of. So you can Live Fully.



To choose the unknown. The challenging. The charming. Finding yourself in colour cities. Spiritual cities. Supersize cities. Losing yourself in moments. Along sacred rivers. Atop mountains. Over distant tracks. Remembering what it's like to feel free. Adventure. Laughter. Comfort. Emerging from lost empires. Heading into the wild. Reaching for sky-high kingdoms. For your Shangri-La. A tiger's gaze. A rhythmic rail odyssey. A hint of spice. Sunrise safaris. Champagne sunsets. Ancient cultures. New ways. Eternal views that let you soar. Deep-diving into the world once more. The pleasure of knowing the little things have been looked after so you can Live Fully in each and every unforgettable moment.

Extraordinary moments in travel. Made possible every day with APT. After adventure? Something quite different. With time and space to seize the day... or just relax and let it slip away. Then APT's journeys to the Indian subcontinent are for you. India. Sri Lanka. Bhutan. Nepal. Simply select your destination, choose your travel style and then head to the Trip Finder – you're on your way.



# India – South

Nothing prepares you for India's profusion of sensory wake-up calls. Colour. Sounds. Sheer humanity. So easing your way in through Kerala's charming backdoor, in India's sleepy southern state, is the perfect introduction.

## India – East

Brace yourself for Bollywood and big-city life as you fly north to Mumbai. Search for Asiatic lions in Sasan Gir National Park. Then make tracks aboard the luxury Deccan Odyssey through the imperial cities of Udaipur and Jodhpur. Before heading south, once more, for Bengal tiger safaris in the wilds of Ranthambore National Park.

## India – North

Continue your luxury Deccan Odyssey rail journey through India's coveted Golden Triangle. Explore the colour cities of Jaipur and Agra to unearth treasures like The Taj Mahal. While New Delhi's depth and size will open your eyes and, further west, Varanasi's Ganges River quiets the soul.

## Sri Lanka

Circle around Sri Lanka from Negombo to Colombo. Trawling cities and coastline for the finest seafood. Melting horizons. Pockets of history. Taking a turn inland to find time-worn temples. Jungle kingdoms. Safari adventure. All on this teardrop-shaped isle where high tea can be an everyday affair.

## Bhutan

Expect the unexpected in this humble Buddhist kingdom. Here, you'll find Gross National Happiness is really a 'thing'. Come face-to-face with a takin (Bhutan's national animal). And find your own happy place amid some of the eastern Himalaya's most uplifting mountain scenes.

## Nepal

With a centrepiece like Mt Everest, this Himalayan nation is hard to beat. But not only is it a Nirvana for trekkers seeking to scale the world's highest peak, Nepal solicits your attention with its Buddhist stupas, action-packed adventures and access to rhino safaris in Chitwan National Park to the south. Jodhpur • Udaipur • Modhera & Patan Little Rann of Kutch Palitana Sasan Gir

Mumbai •



# Welcome to APT's India & Sri Lanka





# Contents

# **Travel Styles**

**16** Travel Styles Overview

**18** Classic Journeys Small Group Journeys

20

32

34

36

38

Luxury Dining

Freedom of Choice

Signature Experiences

APT Concierge

**21** Tailor Made Journeys

# **All-Inspiring Luxury**

**24** All-Inspiring Luxury Overview

**26** All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

**28** Luxury Stays

**30** Luxury Rail

**31** Luxury Service

# Trip Finder

**42** Trip Finder Overview

62 Bhutan & Nepal

**44** India **70** Tailor Made Journeys

**54** Sri Lanka

# The Details

**78** Trip Visual Index

**80** Freedom of Choice

**83** Extend Your Stay

**84** Stopovers **86** APT Club

**88** Glossary

90

General Information & Conditions







**Travel Styles** 

We understand that one type of holiday does not fit all. So we've created APT travel styles. Different ways to see the world. Some cover the bucket list but others are more extensive. We'll also include two travel styles in the same holiday, so that your experience is perfectly aligned with why you want to go, your interests and your fitness level.



# **Classic Journeys**

Cover the best of India from south to north by luxury rail. Cruises along Kerala's backwaters and Varanasi's Ganges River with safaris in Ranthambore National Park are all included. Stay in high-end hotels, once home to Maharajas, and aboard the Deccan Odyssey train conjured from bygone times. Dine like royalty, knowing many meals are included. And with just 30 guests, you'll have time to explore as you like.

# Travel Styles overview



# **Small Group Journeys**

By rail and roads less travelled, see so much more of the Indian subcontinent. Sri Lanka. Bhutan. Nepal. Exclusively limited to no more than 17 guests, these journeys step it up for the inquisitive traveller. Those keen to discover it all more authentically, from jungle interiors to kingdoms in the clouds, with time to explore the unsung heroes of each destination.



# **Tailor Made Journeys**

If our brochure dates don't fit with your holiday plans or you're just after your own private adventure, then this could be the journey for you. Tap into our expertise, at home and overseas. Tell us about your dream locations. How you like to travel and what's on your wish list. We have the network, experience and understanding to curate your ideal holiday, down to the last detail. So let's collaborate and tailor a journey that's just made for you.

# Classic Journeys / 01

You've made that leap of faith. Swapped your everyday for something new. Now it's time to sit back and see India, on a Classic Journey by land and rail. Effortlessly and in luxury. Each destination highlights new discoveries. Colourful. Cultural. Wonderful. Each stay is your invitation to relax. Pause. In stylish oases of calm. Close to everything. Where you're known by name and treated to life's finest.

#### The Must-See Sights & Experiences

From Kochi to New Delhi, we explore India's leading cities and landmarks including the legendary Taj Mahal. These are the cornerstones of our itineraries but there are also those first-hand encounters in between. See Asiatic lions and tigers in the wild. Meet with a local guru on the banks of the Ganges River. Learn from the best during a Bollywood dance lesson. We know you're here to relax but we also understand you're here to take on the world, one travel experience at a time.

#### **Exclusive Access**

Some itineraries feature exclusive access to venues that are normally off-limits. This might be a private viewing of the Mughal jewels or dinner with Indian aristocracy. Experiences reserved for you and a lucky few.

#### **A Little Luxury**

On a Classic Journey, you're surrounded by the finer things in life, from stays in stunning properties to dining that really raises the bar. But it's those luxury touches that you won't forget. The perfect coffee at breakfast. The pillow menu. The sheen on newly polished shoes. Daily reminders that your comfort is our goal.



Above Aboard the Deccan Odyssey train / Ganges River, Varanasi, India

# Small Group Journeys / 02

Ideal for those seeking deeper connections with the people they meet and places they visit. Small group journeys offer more travel options and more time with the focus firmly on you.

### It's All About You

This is a journey where you'll always be treated as an individual and never just as a number. There's time to ask your tour director or expert guide those burning questions and to dine or discover new places on your own terms.

#### **Exclusive Access**

Some itineraries reserve you private access to experiences that are usually restricted. For instance, in Bhutan we've arranged for you to meet with Buddhist monks at a monastic school and be led in a meditation class.

#### Authentic & Boutique Properties

For your accommodation, authentic hand-picked hotels are chosen either for their one-of-a-kind settings, architectural or cultural significance. We ensure the cuisine is exceptional and locally inspired, and it goes without saying that service is second to none and your comfort is always paramount.

#### Stay Longer, Explore More

Longer stays in each location allow you more freedom and permit us to include more in-depth experiences, like hearing about an Everest mountaineer's adventures firsthand.



Above Celebrate life one moment at a time

# Tailor Made Journeys/03

Design your ideal travel agenda with our Tailor Made Journeys. Tell us when, where and how you'd like to go, so that we can craft your dream holiday. One that's your perfect fit.

### It's Your Call

This is your chance to personalise your private adventure with APT. Choose from our full range of destinations, accommodation and sightseeing to design your journey. By air, land or rail, we can guide you on what might work best.

### **Quality & Expertise**

Tap into our expertise to discover a world where no detail has been spared. We include the finest accommodation, exceptional dining and experiences as diverse as wildlife safaris to yoga lessons in iconic settings.

#### Personalised Experience

The spotlight's on you and your travel interests. If you'd like to see more of Jaipur while your travel partner prefers a spa treatment, no worries. Our local English-speaking guides are available to show you around. For the bigger picture, we'll help organise your itinerary to run smoothly from A to B.

#### Peace of Mind

We're all about the safest possible touring in the most luxurious fashion. Rest assured that no matter where you are in the world, when you're with APT you're in good hands.



Above Bahiravokanda Vihara Buddha statue (White Buddha), Kandy, Sri Lanka



**All-Inspiring Luxury** 

Unlike other holidays where you spend weeks, months or even years researching and planning, at APT, we like to make things as easy as possible for you. Our holidays are what we like to call, All-Inspiring Luxury. So instead of you wasting your time stressing about every little detail, you book knowing that we've got everything covered. And when you're away, everything you need is included. It's the sort of luxury that sets you free.



# All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Our prices always cover everything as detailed, including transfers, gratuities, meals and sightseeing. Plus, all prices are guaranteed once your deposit has been paid, so you can relax knowing the price won't be affected by currency fluctuations.



## Luxury Rail

Step aboard a world inspired by the Maharajas of old. The Deccan Odyssey embodies a bygone era but with every modern amenity. As you escape the crowds for the convenience of rail travel, you'll be transported to some of India's most compelling destinations.

/ 02



# **Luxury Stays**

Our stays are more than just where you sleep. They are experiences in their own right. Throughout your journey, you're welcomed to former palaces of the Maharaja, set close to iconic sites. Opulent hotels in the heart of town. Resorts in lavish coastal locations – irresistible and impossible to leave.

# **Luxury Service**

Anticipating your needs is our expertise. Throughout your journey, an APT tour director is by your side, while local experts join you along the way. Nothing is ever too much trouble, so we invite you to simply sit back and relax while we take care of all the details.

# All-Inspiring Luxury overview

/ 05



# **Luxury Dining**

Take a seat at some of the best dining settings in the Indian subcontinent for food that leaves you craving more. Spice-infused. Fragrant. The culinary hallmark of each region you explore. Along with fine beverages and a giant serve of foodie flare and passion.



## **Signature Experiences**

These are experiences that offer a far greater reach than regular sightseeing. All included and at no extra cost. So as you're winging your way past Mt Everest or viewing the jewels of Mughal kings and queens, you'll know these are defining moments in your travels. lise of the second seco

## **Award-Winning Travel**

Among numerous accolades, APT was voted Best International Tour Operator from 2014 to 2015 by the Australian Federation of Travel Agents. We're also proud of the 98% satisfaction rating we receive from our travellers, and are committed to maintaining it.



# **Freedom of Choice**

We understand that different travellers like different things. That's why we work with you to personalise your journey to suit your interests. Mix and match a wide selection of cultural, culinary, active and wellness activities, and the best part is they're all included.



# **APT Concierge**

When you arrive somewhere new, the first thing you want to do is get out and explore. But it can be difficult to know where to start. With our new personal APT Concierge app, exclusive to APT guests, it's easy to familiarise yourself and feel like a local wherever you are.



# **Live Fully**

With every detail taken care of behind the scenes, you're 100% free to be whoever you want to be. Join a Bollywood dance class in Mumbai. Jump in a rickshaw to explore Old Delhi or head off on safari in Ranthambore National Park. Every day is yours to live fully.



# All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always. / 01



From the moment you leave home to the moment you return, everything you need and nothing you don't is included in the trip price. Which means you're 100% free to make the most of every moment, without the hassle of wondering what it's all going to cost.

### Included on Your APT Journey:

Award-winning service Smaller group sizes – just 30 guests or less Fully escorted touring Expert local guides Signature Experiences unique to APT Freedom of Choice inclusions Luxury service on the Deccan Odyssey Luxury hotels Complimentary Wi-Fi APT Concierge app All gratuities All internal flights included Return airport transfers and porterage



# Luxury Stays / 02



We've scoped out the views and sampled the menus, to ensure each stay wraps up your day. Enjoy warm welcomes to prime properties in some of the world's best locations.

# Our hotel stays embellish your day. Enhance your evenings. High-end havens of calm. Anticipation. Sophistication.

### India

Stay in properties that hold their own to the iconic places they often neighbour. A short stroll to the Taj Mahal, the Oberoi Amarvilas opens to views of this world-famous testament to enduring love. Near Ranthambore National Park, we've tracked down the Oberoi Vanyavila, where you can join Bengal tiger safaris from the luxury of another goldstandard Oberoi property. While in the imperial city of Jaipur, it's your turn to be ushered through the regal halls of the Taj Jai Mahal Palace hotel.

#### Sri Lanka

Wake up in palatial ocean-front hotels, luxurious nature sanctuaries and a lavishly-styled tea factory, as you tour this teardrop-shaped isle. Springboards to ancient worlds. Safari adventure. Balmy beaches. Stay in Colombo's Galle Face Hotel, a landmark to past colonial grandeur. While Chena Huts, close to Yala National Park, redefine their name with a chic safari vibe and every creature comfort.

#### Bhutan

Like everything else in this discreet Himalayan kingdom, luxury is informed by Buddhist ethos. The grandeur of the Taj Tashi hotel, nestled in the Thimphu Valley, includes herbinfused pillows for meditation, hot stone baths at the hotel's spa and delicious Bhutanese cuisine. At Punakha Valley's Dhensa Boutique Resort, you'll find pared-back luxury and locally sourced meals make way for divine mountain views.

#### Nepal

Break from the buzz of city life during a stay at Dwarika Boutique Resort, in the heart of Nepal's capital Kathmandu. The Dwarika family have painstakingly preserved this residence's heritage, alongside the pool, Ayurvedic spa and yoga classes, where you're invited to bliss out. Then head for the jungles of Chitwan National Park to stay in unrivalled luxury on the banks of the Rapti River. Enjoy views to the Himalayas across the lowlands of southern Nepal, the breathtaking location for your safari adventure. Aboard your luxury Deccan Odyssey rail journey you'll part ways with the crowd, to recapture the romance of rail travel from Rajasthan to Ranthambore National Park. This is your ticket to an unforgettable rail experience. Sit back. Slow down. Let India arrive on your doorstep.

### **Travel in style**

Climb aboard your rolling hotel outfitted with all the amenities you'd expect on an APT holiday. Deluxe cabins par excellence with private ensuites and panoramic windows.

#### Your Own Private Butler

Aboard the Deccan Odyssey, cabins are serviced by a private butler to ensure everything is perfection every day. Garment pressing. Tea or coffee service. Shoe shining. Unpacking. Packing. Let your butler take care of it all.

#### Live the life

Your journey really is as special as each destination when it comes to life aboard the Deccan Odyssey. And the ease of unpacking just once, bypassing traffic and busy airports, make this journey all the more unmissable. On board, you can treat yourself to a spa, sauna or workout in the gym. Be pampered at the beauty salon or kick off your heels in the lounge/bar, which can double up as a dance floor by night. Dining takes place in the train's two restaurant cars, serving a wide selection of local and western dishes, with a range of beverages on offer, as each day flows into the next.



# Luxury Rail / 03

Our luxury service goes above and beyond. Seamless connections. Intuitive gestures. 24/7. Your tour director remembers your name and your drink preferences. They're here to help. You're in expert hands. Free from obligation, so you can make every holiday moment count.

### **Tour Directors**

When it comes to service, rest assured that nothing is too much trouble and everything will be taken care of throughout your APT travel adventure. Your APT tour director is with you from start to finish – navigating through new destinations and connecting the dots for you along the way. They take real pride in going the extra mile to ensure your journey exceeds your every expectation. While our experienced drivers know just how to get you from A to B in comfort and safety.

### Local Experts

It takes a local to show you the places that only a resident really knows. That's why we employ local guides because there's no one better to show you around.

#### **Arrive in Style**

With a friendly face to greet you as you step off your flight, and a vehicle at the ready to whisk you away, you'll feel like an A-list celebrity on every APT journey.



Left Deccan Odyssey train / Above Taj Tashi Thimpu hotel, Thimpu, Bhutan / Above Right Taj Palace hotel, New Delhi, India

# Luxury Service / 04



# Luxury Dining / 05



India's gastronomic adventure is as much a star attraction as the destinations where you dine. While Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Nepal have their own takes on out-of-this-world cuisine.

# A meal for two. A celebration with friends. Dining should always be an affair to remember.

#### India

There's nothing as delicious as tasting your way through India. Discover cuisine that astonishes. Authentic regional fare that narrates the flavours of its origin. Aromatic Mughalinspired dishes masterminded by expert chefs. Keralan curries conjured up in cooking classes. And western-style favourites for when your taste buds just need to mix it up.

#### Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's culinary melting pot is full of surprises. Laden with the cultural influences that have touched this spice isle over the centuries. From fragrant fish curries to hoppers (think pancakes) and coconut relish. There's no shortage of ways to explore the island's cultural fabric through phenomenal food and one-of-a-kind dining venues.

#### Bhutan

This high-altitude kingdom offers plenty of choice when it comes to dining. In a richly biodiverse land where agricultural and fresh organic produce play a dominant role, try everything from Bhutanese dumplings to the national favourite Ema Datshi (chilli and cheese stew). Of course, eastern and western options are on offer whenever you like.

#### Nepal

Imagine scaling Mt Everest and returning to your first proper meal in possibly months. So it's no surprise that Nepal's capital Kathmandu covers an impressive range of international cuisine. If you're after something local, Nepal serves up an incredible variety of curries, soups and stews based on the ethnicities that inhabit this Himalayan nation.



# Freedom of Choice / 06



We take care of all the finer details but we leave all the exciting decisions up to you. Our Freedom of Choice concept allows you to personalise your journey according to your interests. In many destinations, you can choose a cultural, gourmet or nature-based activity to suit your pace. The choice is yours and the best part is they're all included.

(a) Look for the logo throughout itineraries for your Freedom of Choice inclusions.

### To Culture & Heritage

You know you're in for a treat when you can access landmarks like India's Taj Mahal, take a heritage walk through Jaipur or visit a museum in Thimpu. But it's often the modest discoveries – expressions, encounters, a lesson learnt, a smile shared – that mean the most.

### O Gourmet Delight

You'll enjoy gourmet experiences in some of the world's top destinations when it comes to Indian, Sri Lankan, Nepalese and Bhutanese cuisine. Dining extends beyond the plate, to the service with which it is delivered and the surrounds in which it is served. Interactive culinary classes in authentic venues reveal the secrets of local cuisine, while tours of local produce and artisanal markets are included from Mumbai to Kandy and Negombo to Paro.

### Relax & Revive

'Live Slow' is part of the Indian subcontinent's subtext, found during your yoga session by the Ganges River, in the serenity of Ayurvedic spa treatments or throughout a lesson about Vedic culture's health philosophy. All available to you with APT.

### (A) Get Active

Chances are you already enjoy a walk or a hike but with APT it's a heritage walk in India, a village visit in Sri Lanka or a trek to Bhutan's Tiger's Nest Monastery. Whether you choose to reach for the skies or take it slow, we've got it covered.

See pages 80-81 for a full list of Freedom of Choice inclusions in each destination.



# Signature Experiences / 07


Forget cookie-cutter experiences. We focus on those defining travel moments found in each destination. Signature Experiences – a flight over Mt Everest. A martial arts lesson. No matter what they are, we'll ensure they become some of your favourite holiday highlights.

🕸 Look for the logo throughout itineraries for your Signature Experiences.

## Moments that shift your perception. Expand your world view. Shared long after.

#### Meet the Jeweller of the Mughals

You'll discover that the city of Agra's wonders extend beyond the Taj Mahal, when you meet the current owners of the Kohinoor Jewellers. One of the oldest and finest jewellery brands in India. Take a look at treasured pieces, inspired by the Indus Valley, the Himalayas and contemporary art trends. Crafted by their ancestors for Mughal royalty.

#### Wing Your Way Around Mt Everest

Feel on top of the world during a flight over the Himalayan peaks. From Kathmandu, ascend for an eagle-eye view of the 8,848-metre national icon, Mt Everest. Your trusted pilot provides informative narration throughout.

#### **Try Your Hand at Martial Arts**

Originating in India 5,000 years ago, Kalaripayattu is one of the oldest martial arts traditions in the world. Often considered to be the origin of all martial arts, using movements people appropriated long ago to defend themselves against animals, learn from a Kalaripayattu master during an interactive lesson.

#### Dine on Wheels in Nuwara Eliya

Embark on a unique dining experience on wheels, aboard carriage TCK 6685, on the Nuwara Eliya's discontinued Udupussellawa line. Savour its former glory days as polished teak and brass fittings gleam in the candlelight over dinner.



When you arrive somewhere new, the first thing you want to do is get out there and explore. But it can be difficult to know where to even start. With our personal APT Concierge app, exclusive to APT guests, you'll feel like a local wherever you are. Wander the streets and alleyways independently. Find hidden treasures and iconic sights. And take your time on your terms, so you can live fully in each and every unforgettable moment.

Accessible via a smart phone or tablet device, APT Concierge is available to download for free on Apple and Android devices.

# **APT Concierge** / 08



#### **Interactive Maps**

Discover hidden gems anywhere you go and build a personal travel guide. With detailed maps available for download and offline use, continue to explore even without a Wi-Fi connection.

#### **Day-to-Day Essentials**

Enjoy a wealth of meteorological data for each city you visit, track how you are spending your holiday funds, search multiple currencies, make quick currency conversions and check the time back home. Feel prepared wherever you go!

#### **Personalised Information**

Free yourself of pages and pages of trip information – this is the central hub for your daily movements and journey. Keep everything on the app for easy access and convenience, even when you're offline.

#### **Real-Time Updates**

Keep abreast of the rest and receive daily updates and travel advice from your APT cruise or tour director. To ensure that you receive your real time, valuable and relevant updates, push notifications must be enabled.



Before your trip, download the free app by using your smart phone or tablet device to scan the adjacent QR Code or searching for APT Concierge in the App Store or Google Play. Find the icon on your device and tap to open.



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**Trip Finder** 

## Trip Finder overview

STYLE DURATI		NAME	DESTINATION	PG	
India					
Classic Journey	17 Days	Spirit of India	Kochi to New Delhi	46	
Classic Journey	23 Days	Contrasts of India	Kochi to New Delhi	50	
Sri Lanka					
Small Group Journey	13 Days	Spirit of Sri Lanka	Negombo to Colombo	56	
Small Group + Classic Journey	30 Days	Spirit of Sri Lanka & India	Negombo to New Delhi	58	
Bhutan & Nepal					
Small Group Journey	15 Days	Passage Through Bhutan & Nepal	Kolkata to Kathmandu	64	
Classic + Small Group Journey	31 Days	Passage Through India, Bhutan & Nepal	Kochi to Kathmandu	66	







Above Taj Mahal, Agra, India

# India

Escape to Kerala for a laid-back look at India's sleepy south side. Far from the frenzied charm of Mumbai and New Delhi, kick back and cruise the waterways around coastal Kochi. Then fly north to a world where times have turned. Where it's now the modern-day traveller ushered through the halls of Maharaja's palaces, reimagined as sleek hotels. Where you're invited to royal hunting grounds of old, for prized snapshots of tigers on safari. Tour Mughal forts. Imperial cities. The Taj Mahal. Taste food fit for royalty and reconnect with the remarkable in the everyday.

## **Spirit of India**

Kochi to New Delhi

By land and rail, there's no better way to see the swirl of colour, cities and culture that so vividly animate the Indian subcontinent. Explore India's sultry southern shores by land. Then make tracks on a luxury rail journey aboard the Deccan Odyssey.

## **Trip Snapshot**

Duration 17 days, 16 nights/Travel Style Classic Journey/Visit 12 placesGo For Kerala backwaters, the Taj Mahal, a Bengal tiger safari

Below Lake Pichola, Udaipur, India



## Signature Experiences

- Enjoy a traditional Kathakali dance performance.
- Discover one of India's oldest martial art practices, Kalaripayattu.
- Learn how modern and traditional dance forms blend during a Bollywood dance lesson.
- Soin a champagne reception and tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum, home to exquisite Mughal artefacts.

Signature Experience

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

Freedom of Choice



#### Day 01: Arrive Kochi

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BI D

Welcome to India! We'll meet you on arrival and take you to your hotel in the ocean-bound oasis of Kochi. It's time to explore this spice-laden city, located on the tropical Malabar Coast. A port known as 'the Queen of the Arabian Sea', which has lured traders for some 600 years.

Two Nights: Le Méridien Kochi.

#### Day 02: Kochi

Today you're in expert hands, as you're guided through the heritage area of Kochi (also known as Cochin). Discover one of the world's finest natural harbours with a stroll through Jewtown and a visit to the ornate Paradesi Synagogue. Later, wander along the city's scenic promenade and take a look at the cantilevered fishing nets, introduced to the region by Chinese fishermen in the 14th century. Then head to St Francis Church, built in 1516, to explore Kochi's Portuguese, Dutch and British colonial history, before taking a seat at a traditional Kathakali dance performance. This evening's welcome dinner with fellow guests rounds off the day. **BLD** 

#### **Trip Overview**

#### Day 03: Kochi, Kumarakom

(b) Time-honoured traditions are the order of today. After breakfast, travel to Kumarakom with a stop off at Kumbalanghi Village to discover an ancient way of life. Breaking for lunch and time to check into your hotel, this afternoon choose to join a Keralan cooking demonstration or opt for an Ayurvedic lecture and massage, to soothe mind, body and soul. **BL** 

Two Nights: Kumarakom Lake Resort.

#### Day 04: Kumarakom

(i) It's time to dial back in this balmy Keralan city. Ease into the day as you like or join a yoga class. Then cruise Kerala's backwaters, tracing the Malabar Coast aboard a houseboat. These waterways once ferried rice and spices, and now offer a window onto islands, lagoons and India's longest lake, Vembanad Lake. Tonight springs to life with a display of India's traditional martial art, Kalaripayattu. Originating in Kerala and considered one of the oldest forms of martial art, Kalaripayattu has since caught on in Bollywood movies. This evening serves up a delicious seafood dinner. **BLD** 

#### Day 05: Kumarakom, Kochi, Mumbai

After breakfast, transfer to board your flight to Mumbai, home to India's Bollywood movie scene. Touch down and master some moves with a Bollywood dance lesson. Then settle into your hotel before dinner tonight, a haven away from it all in central Mumbai. **BD** 

Stay: Mumbai, Taj Mahal Palace.

#### Day 06: Mumbai, Embark Deccan Odyssey

Rise and shine early with an introduction to the Koli fisher-folk at the Khar Danda Koliwada indoor fish market. Then, delve into the sights of Mumbai. Visit highlights including India Gate, the Hanging Gardens, Kamla Nehru Park and Mani Bhawan (the National Ghandi Museum, dedicated to India's best-known Indian activist). There's a stop by Dhobi Ghat, Mumbai's vast open-air laundromat before we whisk you away to the World Heritage-listed Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, to board your luxury Deccan Odyssey train. Here, you'll be greeted with a glass of bubbly and dinner, aboard your hotel on wheels for the next eight days. **BLD** 

Seven Nights: Deccan Odyssey.

Day	Destination	Included Highlight	Day	Destination	Included Highlight	
01	Kochi	Arrive Kochi	11	Sawai Madhopur	Ranthambore	
02	Kathakali dance	Sawai Maunopui	National Park			
02	KUCHI	performance	12	Jaipur	Amber Fort	
03	Kumarakom	Freedom of Choice	13		Disembark Deccan	
04	Kumarakom	Keralan backwaters cruise		New Delhi	Odyssey, Freedom	
05	Mumbai	Bollywood dance lesson			of Choice	
06	Mumbai	Embark Deccan Odyssey		New Delhi	Humayun's Tomb	
07	Vadodara	Laxmi Vilas Palace	15	Varanasi	Aarti fire ceremony	
08	Udaipur	City Palace	16	Varanasi	Ganges River cruise	
09	Jodhpur	Mehrangarh Fort	17	Varanasi,	Varanasi,	Freedom of Choice,
10	Agra	Taj Mahal		New Delhi	Farewell	



Above Tigers in the wild / Right Ganges riverfront ghat, Varanasi, India

#### Day 07: Vadodara

Wake to new horizons each day, starting in the city of Vadodara. After breakfast, head inland to the World-Heritage listed Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park. A site that offers historical glimpses of Hindu, Muslim and Jain architecture. There's time to relax over lunch before returning to Vadodara to explore the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum. The museum is housed in the Maharaja's Laxmi Vilas Palace, where a traditional Indian high tea is served, followed by a colourful folk performance. **BLD** 

#### Day 08: Udaipur

Views of the Aravali Ranges roll by over breakfast, as you journey on to Udaipur, India's 'City of the Lakes', also crowned the 'Venice of the East'. Nowadays, best known as a centre for performing arts and crafts, brimming with trinkets and handicrafts. Start your exploration on a tour to navigate the elaborate City Palace complex, which is located on the east bank of Lake Pichola. The palace was built from 1553 onwards by a string of rulers over some 400 years. Later, set out by boat across the lake to see the palace's fusion of architectural styles - Rajasthani, Mughal, Medieval, European and Chinese - from the water. Then take a break for lunch, which is back aboard the Deccan Odyssey before strolling around the Old Town as you choose this afternoon. BLD

#### Day 9: Jodhpur

Meander through the Blue City of Rajasthan this morning. Set against the epic Thar Desert, Jodphur is the former capital of the Marwar kingdom, packed with temples, forts and palaces to unearth. After lunch, join a walking tour to the rocky heights of the Mehrangarh Fort, over 400 feet above the surrounding desert. Within the fort complex, which is one of India's largest, you'll visit the Turban Gallery, the Old Clock Tower market and striking havelis (townhouses). Dinner tonight is a royal affair with a Marwar barbecue held in the maharaja courtyard at the fort. **BLD** 

#### Day 10: Agra, Taj Mahal

Prepare for a day of pinch-yourself moments with a stop in Agra, home to some of the Mughal era's most significant architecture. Begin by exploring Agra Fort, one of India's finest Mughal forts, before marvelling at the Taj Mahal, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Built by Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, this white marble mausoleum is festooned with precious and semi-precious stones in her honour. A champagne reception and an exclusive tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum follow before lunch and time to shop at a local market. Reboard your train for dinner tonight, bound for the wilds of Ranthambore National Park. **BLD** 

#### Day 11: Sawai Madhopur, Ranthambore National Park

Following breakfast, this morning, step out on a village walking tour in Sawai Madhopur, to experience rural life firsthand. Break for lunch back on board before this afternoon's spectacular safari adventure, which takes place in one of India's best tiger reserves, Ranthambore National Park. A world away from the 24-hour cities, you've already witnessed. Here, it's time to get back to nature, keeping a look out for an array of wildlife: Bengal tigers, leopards, long-eared hedgehogs, sloth bears and much more that all call this park home. This evening, you'll dine aboard your train en route to Jaipur. **BLD** 

#### Day 12: Jaipur

The pink city of Jaipur beckons today. Rajasthan's capital is within striking distance to the imposing cliffside Amber Fort complex, your first discovery for the day. Hidden within its sandstone walls, you'll find marbled frescoes and the Sheesh Mahal, 'Palace of Mirrors'. Then continue on to the iconic gardens and buildings of the City Palace in Jaipur, once the official seat of the Maharaja of Jaipur. After, there's time to explore the 18th-century World Heritage-listed observatory, Jantar Mantar. Lunch then leads to some leisurely souvenir shopping at a local market. **BLD** 

APT

#### Day 13: Disembark Deccan Odyssey, New Delhi

(b) Leaving the Deccan Odyssey one last time, head for a cycle-rickshaw tour of Old Delhi, the best way to navigate the labyrinthine lanes of Shahjahanabad, Old Delhi's walled city. A stop at the highly decorative Jama Masjid brings home the magnitude of India's largest mosque, which can house up to 25,000 people. After lunch, we'll take you to your hotel for time to do as you like. This evening, there's a gratifying range of dining options available. **BD** 

Two Nights: Delhi, Taj Palace Hotel.

#### Day 14: New Delhi

Today, meeting a local family for a cooking demonstration and lunch is a great way to learn more about New Delhi and its locals. Later, city landmarks sweep past with a drive by Rashtrapati Bhawan (the official residence of the President of India) and a visit to India Gate and Humayun's Tomb. Tonight, you'll dine at the Masala Library restaurant. **BLD** 

#### Day 15: Varanasi

After breakfast, head for the airport bound for Varanasi, where we'll meet and transfer you to your hotel in the city centre. Varanasi perches dramatically over the sacred River Ganges, so an evening prayer cruise and fire-lit Aarti ceremony seem a fitting start to your stay here. You'll make your way through the streets of Varanasi's Old City with a guide, before returning to your hotel for dinner tonight. **BD** 

Two Nights: Varanasi, Taj Gateway Hotel.

#### Day 16: Varanasi

There's so much to see along the Ganges shoreline where traders and locals still gather on the steps of the riverbanks, just as their ancestors did. Today on a cruise, float past the burning ghats (steps) where ceremonial cremations are still carried out in the traditional way. Back in the city, discover the spiritual heart of modern-day India on a visit to Sarnath, an important Buddhist centre. **BD** 

#### Day 17: Depart New Delhi

(b) With time after breakfast, you could join a yoga session on the banks of the Ganges River or meet with a local guru to learn about traditional Indian music. Later, we'll take you to the airport for your included flight to Delhi, which then connects with your onward flight. **B** 

## All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Experiences in 12 destinations. Freedom of Choice inclusions in three locations. Luxury dining – a total of 41 meals. Expert APT tour director. Seven-night Deccan Odyssey rail journey.



### Trip from \$21,695 per person twin share

Dates and Prices (NZ\$)	Twin From	Solo From
17 Days Kochi to New Delhi (INKRDV17)		
2020 October 5; November 2	\$21,695	\$27,195
<b>2021</b> February 22; March 22	\$21,695	\$27,195

Please note: Prices listed are indicative and may not be available on all departure dates listed. Prices are seasonal and are subject to change. Prices include porterage, gratuities and sundries. Disruptions to itinerary may occur. See pages 90-91 for further information as well as all terms and conditions.

For the most up-to-date prices and Superdeal savings, visit aptouring.co.nz/INKRDV17

## **Contrasts of India**

Kochi to New Delhi

Ease and versatility are key when exploring India's collage of cultural contrasts. A combined journey by land and luxury rail ensures you won't skip a thing – from the south's shimmering backwaters to the rural and urban jungles of the north.

## **Trip Snapshot**

Duration 23 days, 22 nights / Travel Style Classic Journey / Visit 15 places Go For The Taj Mahal, Bengal tiger safari, Asiatic lion safari, Ganges River cruising

Below Houseboat, Kerala, India



## Signature Experiences

- 😥 Enjoy a Kathakali dance performance.
- Discover one of India's oldest martial art practices, Kalaripayattu.
- Eearn some Bollywood dance moves during a dance lesson.
- Dine out with an aristocratic Rajasthani family for an evening of tradition.
- So Join a champagne reception and tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum.

#### Key

	Signature	Experience
--	-----------	------------

Freedom of Choice

BLD Breakfast Lunch Dinner

#### Day 01: Arrive Kochi

Welcome to India! We'll meet you on arrival and take you to your hotel in coastal Kochi. Two Nights: Le Méridien Kochi.

#### Day 02: Kochi

Today you're in expert hands guided through the heritage Fort Kochi area, via Jewtown and the Paradesi Synagogue. Soak up the scenic promenade and see cantilevered Chinese fishing nets before visiting St Francis Church. Later, take a seat at a Kathakali dance performance and enjoy a welcome dinner. **BLD** 

#### Day 03: Kochi, Kumarakom

(b) Time-honoured traditions are the order of today. Travel to Kumarakom via Kumbalanghi Village to see an ancient way of life. Breaking for lunch and time to check into your hotel, perhaps join a Keralan cooking demonstration or an Ayurvedic lecture and massage. **BL** 

Two Nights: Kumarakom Lake Resort.

#### Day 04: Kumarakom

Ease into today as you like or join a yoga class. Then cruise Kerala's backwaters aboard a houseboat. Tonight, before dinner, enjoy a traditional martial art display, Kalaripayattu. **BLD** 

#### Day 05: Kumarakom, Kochi, Mumbai

Transfer to board your flight to Mumbai, home to India's Bollywood movie scene. Touch down and master some moves with a Bollywood dance lesson. Then settle into your hotel before dinner tonight. **BD** 

Stay: Mumbai, Taj Mahal Palace.

#### Day 06: Mumbai, Embark Deccan Odyssey

Start today early with an introduction to the Koli fisher-folk at the Khar Danda Koliwada indoor fish market. Visit highlights including India Gate, the Hanging Gardens, Kamla Nehru Park, Mani Bhawan and Dhobi Ghat. Then board your luxury Deccan Odyssey train. **BLD** 

Seven Nights: Deccan Odyssey.



## Day 07: Vadodara

Head from Vadorada to World-Heritage listed Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park. Relax over lunch before seeing the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum, in the Maharaja's Laxmi Vilas Palace. Enjoy an Indian high tea before a folk performance. Dine on board tonight. **BLD** 

#### Day 08: Palitana

In the town of Palitana today, your destination is an intricate Jain temple system high on a hilltop. Meet with a local Jain monk to learn how this religion shares similarities with Buddhism. **BLD** 

#### Day 09: Sasan Gir

Set out early to Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary. You'll be joined by an expert guide to seek out the rare Asiatic lion. Outside of Africa, this is the only place wild lions can be found. Later, a traditional dance performance at Gir Gateway Hotel precedes sunset views over the 4th-century Somnath Temple. **BLD** 

#### **Trip Overview**

Day	Destination	Included Highlight
01	Kochi	Arrive Kochi
02	Kochi	Kathakali dance performance
03	Kumarakom	Freedom of Choice
04	Kumarakom	Keralan backwaters cruise
05	Mumbai	Bollywood dance lesson
06	Mumbai	Embark Deccan Odyssey
07	Vadodara	Laxmi Vilas Palace
08	Palitana	Jain temples
09	Sasan Gir	Asiatic lion safari
10	Little Rann of Kutch	Wild Ass Sanctuary
11	Modhera, Patan	Rani Ki Vav
12	Nashik	Pandavleni Caves

Day	Destination	Included Highlight
13	Mumbai	Disembark Deccan Odyssey, Freedom of Choice
14	Jaipur	Amber Fort
15	Jaipur	Freedom of Choice
16	Sawai Madhopur	Local craft village
17	Ranthambore	Ranthambore National Park
18	Agra	Taj Mahal
19	New Delhi	Freedom of Choice
20	New Delhi	Old Delhi rickshaw tour
21	Varanasi	Aarti fire ceremony
22	Varanasi	Ganges River cruise
23	Varanasi, New Delhi	Freedom of Choice, Farewell





Above Explore ancient stepwells / Right Agra Fort, India

#### Day 10: Little Rann of Kutch

The salt desert of Little Rann of Kutch sets the scene for today's wildlife adventure. This haunting moonscape is a haven for birds and the setting for your desert safari. Followed by a visit to the Wild Ass Sanctuary, to see local protected fauna. After a bite to eat at the Rann Riders Safari Resort, a village tour introduces you to regional culture, before returning back on board for dinner at the end of the day. **BLD** 

#### Day 11: Modhera, Patan

Digging deep into India's history this morning, visit the 8th-century fortified town of Patan. Here, spend time exploring the Hindu Sun Temple of Modhera. Later, the 11th-century inverted temple and well complex of World Heritage-listed Rani Ki Vav (Queen's Stepwell) reveals its splendid depths. You're also invited to visit a traditional Gujarat home, where you'll learn all about the royal history of the region's patterned silk sari. **BLD** 

#### Day 12: Nashik

Today, journey underground to see the ancient Pandavleni Caves in Nashik. A group of 24 Buddhist cave temples, carved out of the cliffface between the first century BC and third century AD. Back above ground, take your time over a lunch with local wine at the nearby Grover Zampa vineyards. **BLD** 

#### Day 13: Disembark Deccan Odyssey, Mumbai, Jaipur

(b) Returning to Mumbai today, disembark from the Deccan Odyssey one last time, 13 Day (INKRM13) guests leave the tour here. If you're continuing to Jaipur, we'll transfer you to the airport for your included flight and arrange your check-in to your hotel. There's a number of dining options on offer tonight. **BD** 

Three Nights: Jaipur, Jai Mahal Palace.

#### Day 14: Jaipur

Rajasthan's capital Jaipur is within striking distance to the cliffside Amber Fort complex, your first discovery for today. Then continue to the gardens and buildings of the City Palace in Jaipur. There's time to explore the 18th-century World Heritage-listed observatory, Jantar Mantar before lunch and a trip to the local market. Tonight, dine with Indian aristocracy on fine Rajasthani cuisine and enjoy a firsthand narration of the family's ancestry. **BLD** 

#### Day 15: Jaipur

(b) Why not seize the sunrise with an optional hot air balloon ride over Jaipur (own expense). Then the day is yours. You could explore Jaipur's bustling bazaars, head off on a city heritage walk or visit the village of Sanganer, famed for its handicrafts. Tonight, enjoy a light and sound show at Amber Fort. **BD** 

#### Day 16: Jaipur, Ranthambore National Park

Make the trip to Ranthambore today, home to one of India's best tiger reserves. After checking into your hotel, there's time to get to know the local village and visit the Dastkar Centre, displaying local crafting skills. **BD** 

Two Nights: Ranthambore, Oberoi Vanyavilas.

#### Day 17: Ranthambore National Park

Get back to nature In Ranthambore National Park today. A world away from the 24-hour cities you've already witnessed. Accompanied by a naturalist, you'll head out on morning and afternoon game drives in search of an array of wildlife – Bengal tigers, leopards, long-eared hedgehogs, sloth bears and much more that all call this park home. **BD** 

#### Day 18: Ranthambore, Bharatpur, Agra

With your eye on the prize, Agra's Taj Mahal, first travel by train to Bharatpur to see Emperor Akbar's abandoned 16th-century capital Fatehpur Sikri. Later, arrive in Agra for a tour of one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Taj Mahal, built by Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. A champagne reception and tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum follow, before dinner tonight. **BD** 

Stay: Agra, Oberoi Amarvilas.

#### Day 19: New Delhi

(b) Before moving on to New Delhi, spend time in Agra this morning, discovering one of the finest Mughal forts in India. Agra Fort was built by Emperor Akbar in 1565 and is one of the city's most historic sites. This evening, you'll be in New Delhi before you know it, perusing the dinner menu at your hotel. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Delhi, Taj Palace Hotel.

#### Day 20: New Delhi

Travel by rickshaw through Old Delhi. The best way to unravel its labyrinth of tiny lanes and see the main street Chandni Chowk. Then visit India's largest mosque, Jama Masjid. After lunch, iconic sights sweep past you with a drive by Rashtrapati Bhawan (the official residence of the President of India) and a visit to India Gate and Humayun's Tomb. Tonight, you'll dine at the Masala Library restaurant. **BLD** 

#### Day 21: Varanasi

After breakfast, it's time to head for the airport bound for Varanasi. On arrival, transfer to your hotel conveniently located in the city centre. Varanasi perches dramatically over the sacred River Ganges, so an evening prayer cruise and fire-lit Aarti ceremony seem a fitting start to your stay here. Later, you'll make your way through the colourful streets of Varanasi's Old City with a guide, before returning to your hotel for dinner this evening. **BD** 

Two Nights: Varanasi, Taj Gateway Hotel.

#### Day 22: Varanasi

There's so much to see along the Ganges shoreline where locals, traders and merchants still gather on the steps of the riverbanks, just as their ancestors did. Today, on a cruise along this mighty river, float past the burning ghats (steps) where ceremonial cremations are still carried out in the traditional way. Back in the city, you'll discover the spiritual heart of modern-day India on a visit to Sarnath, an important Buddhist centre. **BD** 

#### Day 23: Depart New Delhi

(b) With time after breakfast this morning, you could join a yoga session on the banks of the Ganges River or meet with a local guru to learn about traditional Indian music. Later, we'll take you to the airport for your included flight to Delhi, which will then connect with your onward flight. **B** 

## All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Experiences in 15 destinations. Freedom of Choice inclusions in four locations. Luxury dining – a total of 55 meals. Expert APT tour director. Seven-night Deccan Odyssey rail journey.



### Trip from \$18,695 per person twin share

2021 Dates and Prices (NZ\$)	Twin From	Solo From
23 Days Kochi to New Delhi (INKRMV23)		
March 15	\$30,145	\$39,945
13 Days Kochi to Mumbai (INKRM13)		
March 15	\$18,695	\$23,745

Please note: Prices listed are indicative and may not be available on all departure dates listed. Prices are seasonal and are subject to change. Prices include porterage, gratuities and sundries. Disruptions to itinerary may occur. See pages 90-91 for further information as well as all terms and conditions.

For the most up-to-date prices and Superdeal savings, visit aptouring.co.nz/INKRMV23



Above Sri Lankan elephants at sunset

# Sri Lanka

Irresistible. Find Sri Lanka's sea-drenched shores washed new each day. Where stilt fishermen stand guard in the shallows. Their treasures surface at dawn in the flurry of local fish markets. Seafood unlike anywhere else. Lip-smacking dishes of crab. String hoppers. Spicy sambal. Found in cities where the Dutch, British and Portuguese once staked their claim. But this isle's interior conceals a more distant past. Giant Buddhas loom in silent cave temples. Relics of lost worlds rise from the jungle floor and spine-tingling safaris seek out elusive leopards. Yet, there's always time for high tea at a hilltop plantation too.

## **Spirit of Sri Lanka**

Negombo to Colombo

This is a journey of intrigue and wonder. Where mist-wrapped hills conceal lost kingdoms. Where tangled jungle makes way for pulse-racing safaris. And where you'll be drawn to your own discoveries as you experience the peace and power of Sri Lanka.

## **Trip Snapshot**

Duration 13 days, 12 nights/Travel Style Small Group Journey/Visit eight placesGo For Dambulla Cave Temple, Sigiriya Rock Fortress, safaris, seafood

#### **Trip Overview**

Day	Destination
01	Negombo
02	Negombo
03	Dambulla Cave Temple
04	Sigiriya Rock Fortress, Freedom of Choice
05	Freedom of Choice, Polonnaruwa, Minneriya
06	Kandy, Freedom of Choice
07	Kandy, Freedom of Choice
08	Nuwara Eliya
09	Nuwara Eliya
10	Yala National Park
11	Yala National Park
12	Galle, Colombo
13	Farewell

## Signature Experiences

- Indulge in local specialities as you dine by candlelight in a cavern at the Caves of Heritance.
- Dine in a converted Railway Carriage restaurant at the Heritance Tea Factory, in Nuwara Eliya.

#### Key

Signature Experience

#### (b) Freedom of Choice

BLD Breakfast Lunch Dinner

#### Day 01: Arrive Negombo

Welcome to Negombo! This coastal city north of the capital Colombo offers a laid-back introduction to Sri Lanka. We'll meet you on arrival and take you to your hotel.

Two Nights: The Heritance Negombo.

#### Day 02: Negombo

This morning, get a feel for the Sri Lankan way of life, exploring the streets and secret corners of Negombo with local expert Mark Forbes. Later, discover a fish market where seafood is king, which will surprise the senses with intense smells and flavours. Then, as the sun sets, it's time to kick back on a leisurely cruise across the city's lagoon before dinner. **BD** 

#### Day 03: Dambulla

Some monuments simply take your breath away and today the Dambulla Cave Temple is no exception. After breakfast, make your way to this World Heritage-listed Buddhist temple system, one of the largest and best-preserved in Sri Lanka. The temple's five shrine rooms are all in caves, housing ornate statues and ancient artwork relating to the life of Buddha. Your venue for dinner tonight is in the Caves of Heritance, where you can dine by candlelight on divine Sri Lankan dishes. **BLD** 

Three Nights: Heritance Kandalama.

#### Day 04: Sigiriya Rock Fortress

(b) Today, brace yourself for perhaps Sri Lanka's most dramatic sight. Sigiriya Rock Fortress rises from the forest floor, an extraordinary monument to the reign of King Kasyapa, centuries ago. This ancient World heritage-listed citadel commands spectacular views if you're up for the climb. Then with time on your hands back at your resort, you might like to head out on a village trek, cycle around the local countryside or indulge in a spa treatment. This evening, taste your way through a seven-course feast for dinner. **BD** 

#### Day 05: Polonnaruwa, Minneriya

(b) Set out for a day's adventure, beginning in the ancient city of Polonnaruwa after breakfast. This World Heritage-listed archaeological park etches a lost kingdom into an ethereal landscape. Moving on this afternoon to Minneriya National Park for a safari, where the chance to see Sri Lankan elephants in their natural habitat is a must. As you return to your resort tonight, there's time to relax and choose from a range of dining options. **BLD** 

#### Day 06: Kandy

(b) Once the gardens of royalty, be wowed by giant trees and vivid floral displays at the Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya, on the outskirts of Kandy. Swapping serenity for city buzz, take a tuk tuk city tour of Kandy and visit the iconic Temple of The Buddha's Tooth before enjoying a cultural show. This evening, relax over dinner at your hotel. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Kandy, Earl's Regency.

#### Day 07: Kandy

(b) What will you do today? Spend time closer to home exploring a local fresh produce market with a culinary expert, gathering ingredients for your Sri Lankan cooking class. Or make your way to Tamarind Gardens, a sustainable community farm and restaurant. Here, you'll be treated to the paddock-to-plate ethos of its farm as your lunch is prepared before your very eyes. Later, there's time to get involved in village life as you learn about incense stick making. **BLD** 

#### Day 08: Nuwara Eliya

Kandy's tropical climate and lush surrounds make this the perfect tea-production region. Best viewed by rail, hop aboard a scenic train through undulating tea plantations en route to Nuwara Eliya. Arrive at your hotel to sit back and enjoy the views over high tea. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Nuwara Eliya, Heritance Tea Factory.

#### Day 09: Nuwara Eliya

Test your tastebuds this morning by sampling some of the region's best brews with an expert tea taster. You'll learn how tea leaf varieties, climate, soil conditions and processing influence the quality of the final product. Tonight, take a step back in time with dinner at a converted Railway Carriage restaurant at the Heritance Tea Factory. **BD** 

#### Day 10: Yala National Park

Descend from the mist-shrouded hills of Sri Lanka's interior, back to the island's coastal lowlands. Your hotel for the next two nights sits on the border of the spectacular Yala National Park. Here elephants, wild boar and, if you're lucky, leopards are known to frequent the resort's grounds. This evening feel at one with nature over a barbecue dinner in the heart of the Sri Lankan hinterland. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Yala National Park, Chena Huts.

#### Day 11: Yala National Park

This morning, excitement builds as you board your Jeep safari within the wilds of Yala National Park. From herds of elephants, sloth bears and jackals, to the elusive leopards that can be spotted draped along tree branches, there are a myriad opportunities to view incredible wildlife today. **BLD** 

#### Day 12: Galle, Colombo

It's time to set off to Sri Lanka's capital Colombo, but not before a stop in the fortified port city of Galle. Founded by Portuguese colonists in the 16th century, prepare to be charmed by Galle's eclectic history and culture, as you explore this city's impressive colonial architecture. Later, in Colombo, views of the Indian Ocean from your iconic hotel are hard to beat. **BL** 

Stay: Colombo, Galle Face Hotel.

#### Day 13: Depart Colombo

With one final flourish before your flight tonight, take a guided walking tour of Colombo this morning. A great way to discover the capital's colonial character and convivial feel within the bustle of a major city. Fortified by a final dinner at the Ministry of Crab seafood restaurant, you'll then be transferred to the airport for an evening flight. **BLD** 

## All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Experiences in eight destinations. Freedom of Choice inclusions in two locations. Luxury dining – a total of 32 meals. Everything as detailed including gratuities. Expert APT tour director.





Above Dambulla Cave Temple

### Trip from \$10,195 per person twin share

Dates and Prices (NZ\$)	Twin From	Solo From
13 Days Negombo to Colombo (SL13)		
2020 September 22	\$10,195	\$12,695
October 6, 20	\$10,195	\$12,695
November 10, 24	\$10,645	\$13,445
<b>2021</b> January 12, 26; February 9, 23	\$10,495	\$13,595
March 9, 23, 30	\$11,195	\$14,295

Please note: Prices listed are indicative and may not be available on all departure dates listed. Prices are seasonal and are subject to change. Prices include porterage, gratuities and sundries. Disruptions to itinerary may occur. See pages 90-91 for further information as well as all terms and conditions.

For the most up-to-date prices and Superdeal savings, visit aptouring.co.nz/SL13

## Spirit of Sri Lanka & India

Negombo to New Delhi

What could be better than the luxury of time for an extended discovery of Sri Lanka and India? Time to take in Sri Lanka's lush landscapes and sacred sites. Time to journey through India's southern coast and northern cities by land and by luxury rail.

## **Trip Snapshot**

**Duration** 30 days, 29 nights / **Travel Style** Small Group + Classic Journey / **Visit** 20 places, two countries **Go For** Tea plantations, Sri Lankan leopards, Agra, Bengal tigers

Below Sigiriya Rock Fortress, Sri Lanka



## **Signature Experiences**

- Enjoy dinner by candlelight in a cavern at the Caves of Heritance.
- Dine in a converted Railway Carriage restaurant at the Heritance Tea Factory.
- 😥 Enjoy a Kathakali dance performance.
- Discover one of India's oldest martial art practices, Kalaripayattu.
- Learn some Bollywood moves during a dance lesson.
- Doin a champagne reception and guided tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum.



#### Day 01: Arrive Negombo

Key

**(**7

(**b**)

BLD

Welcome to Negombo! This coastal city north of the capital Colombo offers a laid-back introduction to Sri Lanka. We'll meet you on arrival and take you to your hotel.

Two Nights: The Heritance Negombo.

Signature Experience

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

Freedom of Choice

#### Day 02: Negombo

This morning, explore Negombo with local expert Mark Forbes. Later, discover a fish market where seafood is king. Then, as the sun sets, it's time to kick back on a leisurely cruise across the city's lagoon before dinner. **BD** 

#### Day 03: Dambulla

Enjoy a day discovering the Dambulla Cave Temple, one of the largest and best-preserved Buddhist temple systems in Sri Lanka. Tonight's dinner venue is in the Caves of Heritance where you'll dine on a variety of local Sri Lankan specialties by candlelight. **BLD** 

Three Nights: Heritance Kandalama.

#### **Day 04: Sigiriya Rock Fortress**

(b) Today, brace yourself for perhaps Sri Lanka's most dramatic sight, Sigiriya Rock Fortress, a World Heritage-listed citadel with spectacular views if you're up for the climb. Then with time on your hands back at your resort, perhaps join a village trek, cycle around the countryside or indulge in a spa treatment. Enjoy a seven-course feast for dinner. **BD** 

#### Day 05: Polonnaruwa, Minneriya National Park

Begin today in the ancient city of Polonnaruwa after breakfast. Then continue to Minneriya National Park for a safari, where the chance to see Sri Lankan elephants in their natural habitat is a must. Return to your resort this evening, with time to relax and choose from a range of dining options. **BLD** 

#### **Trip Overview**

Day	Destination	Included Highlight	Day
01	Negombo	Arrive Negombo	16
02	Negombo	Sunset lagoon cruise	17
03	Kandalama	Dambulla Cave Temple	18
04	Kandalama	Sigiriya Rock Fortress,	19
04	Kanualama	Freedom of Choice	20
05	Delephoniumo, Minnerium	Minneriya National Park	21
05	Polonnaruwa, Minneriya	safari to see elephants	22
06	Kandy	Temple of The Buddha's	23
00	Kandy Tooth, Freedom of Choice	Tooth, Freedom of Choice	24
07	Kandy	Freedom of Choice	25
08	Nuwara Eliya	Scenic train journey	00
09	Nuwara Eliya	Tea tasting	26
10	Yala National Park	Journey from hills to coast	27
11	Yala National Park	Jeep safari	28
12	Galle, Colombo	Explore Galle and Colombo	29
13	Colombo	City walking tour	20
14-15	Colombo, Kochi	Fly to Kochi, Kathakali dance show	30

Day	Destination	Included Highlight
16	Kumarakom	Freedom of Choice
17	Kumarakom	Keralan backwater cruise
18	Mumbai	Bollywood dance lesson
19	Mumbai	Embark Deccan Odyssey
20	Vadodara	Laxmi Vilas Palace
21	Udaipur	City Palace
22	Jodhpur	Mehrangarh Fort
23	Agra	Taj Mahal
24	Sawai Madhopur	Ranthambore National Park
25	Jaipur	Amber Fort
26	New Delhi	Old Delhi rickshaw tour, Freedom of Choice
27	New Delhi	Humayun's Tomb
28	Varanasi	Aarti fire ceremony
29	Varanasi	Ganges River cruise
30	Varanasi, New Delhi	Freedom of Choice, Farewell



Above Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka / Right Ganges riverside, Varanasi, India

#### Day 06: Kandy

(b) Wander through the Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya today. Then take a tuk tuk city tour of Kandy and visit The Temple of The Buddha's Tooth. A cultural show precedes a range of dining options found on tonight's menu. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Kandy, Earl's Regency.

#### Day 07: Kandy

(b) The day is yours. You could tour a fresh produce market with a culinary expert in preparation for your Sri Lankan cooking class. Or visit Tamarind Gardens for lunch and to learn of the paddock-to-plate ethos of the farm, as your lunch is prepared before your very eyes. Later, learn about incense stick making. **BLD** 

#### Day 08: Nuwara Eliya

Explore the idyllic tea-production region surrounding Kandy. Best viewed by rail, hop aboard a scenic train to the hillside city of Nuwara Eliya for high tea at your hotel. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Nuwara Eliya, Heritance Tea Factory.

#### Day 09: Nuwara Eliya

Test your tastebuds, sampling the region's best brews with an expert tea taster. Learn about what influences the quality of the final product. Dine in a converted Railway Carriage restaurant at the Heritance Tea Factory. **BD** 

#### Day 10: Yala National Park

Your hotel for the next two nights borders Yala National Park. Elephants, wild boar and even leopards are known to frequent the resort's grounds. Tonight, enjoy a barbecue dinner in the heart of the Sri Lankan hinterland. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Yala National Park, Chena Huts.

#### Day 11: Yala National Park

Excitement builds as you join your Jeep safari within Yala National Park. Look out for leopards draped along tree branches and discover a myriad opportunities to view wildlife today. **BLD** 

#### Day 12: Galle, Colombo

Set off for Sri Lanka's capital Colombo with a stop in the fortified port city of Galle, to enjoy eclectic history and culture. Later, hotel views of the Indian Ocean are hard to beat. **BL** 

Two Nights: Colombo, Galle Face Hotel.

#### Day 13: Depart Colombo

A great way to discover the Sri Lankan capital is on a guided walking tour today. Tonight, dine at the Ministry of Crab seafood restaurant. **BLD** 

#### Day 14: Colombo, Kochi

We'll take you to the airport for your included flight to India, from where you'll be welcomed to Kochi and we'll transfer you to your hotel. **B** 

Two Nights: Le Méridien Kochi.

#### Day 15: Kochi

(x) Today you're in expert hands guided through the heritage Fort Kochi area, via Jewtown and the Paradesi Synagogue. See the promenade and cantilevered fishing nets before visiting St Francis Church. Enjoy a Kathakali dance show and a welcome dinner, this evening. **BLD** 

#### Day 16: Kochi, Kumarakom

(b) Time-honoured traditions are the order of today. Travel to Kumarakom via Kumbalanghi Village to see an ancient way of life. Breaking for lunch and time to check into your hotel, perhaps join a Keralan cooking demonstration or an Ayurvedic lecture and massage. **BL** 

Two Nights: Kumarakom Lake Resort.

#### Day 17: Kumarakom

Ease into today or join a yoga class. Then cruise Kerala's backwaters aboard a houseboat to Vembanad Lake. Tonight springs to life with a traditional martial art display, Kalaripayattu. A seafood dinner rounds off the evening. BLD

#### Day 18: Kumarakom, Kochi, Mumbai

(x) This morning, Transfer to board your flight to Mumbai, home to India's Bollywood movie scene. Touch down and master some moves with a Bollywood dance lesson. Then settle into your hotel before dinner tonight. **BD** 

Stay: Mumbai, Taj Mahal Palace.

#### Day 19: Mumbai, Embark Deccan Odyssey

Rise early to meet the Koli fisher-folk at the Khar Danda Koliwada indoor fish market. Visit highlights including India Gate, the Hanging Gardens, Kamla Nehru Park, Mani Bhawan and Dhobi Ghat. Then board the luxury Deccan Odyssey train for dinner this evening. BLD

Seven Nights: Deccan Odyssey.

#### Day 20: Vadodara

After breakfast, head inland to explore the World Heritage-listed Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park. An ancient site that offers historical glimpses of Hindu, Muslim and Jain architecture. There's time to relax over lunch before returning to Vadodara to explore the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum. The museum is housed in the Maharaja's Laxmi Vilas Palace, where a traditional Indian high tea is served, followed by a colourful folk performance. BLD

#### Day 21: Udaipur

Views of the Aravali Ranges roll by over breakfast, as you journey on to Udaipur, India's 'City of the Lakes'. Nowadays, best known as a centre for arts and crafts. Join a tour to navigate the elaborate City Palace complex, before a boat ride on adjacent Lake Pichola. Lunch is back on board before strolling around the Old Town as you choose this afternoon. BLD

#### Day 22: Jodhpur

Meander through the Blue City of Rajasthan this morning. Set against the epic Thar Desert, Jodphur is packed with temples, forts and palaces to unearth. After lunch, join a walking tour to the rocky heights of the Mehrangarh Fort, some 400 feet above the surrounding desert. Dinner tonight is a royal affair, a Marwar barbecue held in the maharajah courtyard at the fort. BLD

#### Day 23: Agra, Taj Mahal

This morning, prepare for a day of pinchyourself moments with a stop off in Agra. Begin by exploring Agra Fort, one of India's finest Mughal forts, before marvelling at the Taj Mahal. One of the Seven Wonders of the World, this white marble mauseleum was built by Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. Then a champagne reception and tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum follow before lunch and a visit to a local market. Reboard your train for dinner tonight, bound for the wilds of Ranthambore National Park. BLD

## All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Experiences in 20 destinations. Freedom of Choice inclusions in five locations. Luxury dining - a total of 74 meals. A wide range of onboard beverages. Expert APT tour director. Seven-night Deccan Odyssey rail journey.

#### Day 24: Sawai Madhopur, **Ranthambore National Park**

Step out this morning, on a village walking tour in rural Sawai Madhopur, before lunch back on board. This afternoon's safari adventure takes place in one of India's best tiger reserves, Ranthambore National Park. Look out for the array of wildlife - Bengal tigers, leopards, longeared hedgehogs, sloth bears and much more that all call this park home. BLD

#### Day 25. Jaipur

Rajasthan's capital Jaipur is within striking distance to the cliffside Amber Fort complex and hosts the City Palace, your first discovery of the day before seeing the 18th-century observatory, Jantar Mantar. Lunch then leads to shopping at a local market. BLD

#### Day 26. Disembark Deccan Odyssey, New Delhi

(中) Leaving the Deccan Odyssey, take a rickshaw tour in Old Delhi before a visit to India's largest mosque, Jama Masjid, which can house up to 25,000 people. After lunch, drive by Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President of India's official residence) with a stop off at India Gate. Tonight, dine from a range of options. BD Two Nights: Delhi, Taj Palace Hotel.

#### Day 27. New Delhi

This morning, meet with a local family for a cooking demonstration and lunch, the perfect introduction to New Delhi and its locals. Then visit Humayun's Tomb. You'll dine at the Masala Library restaurant tonight. BLD

#### Day 28. Varanasi

This morning transfer to the airport bound for Varanasi, where we'll take you to your hotel. An evening prayer and fire-lit Aarti ceremony along the Ganges River begin your stay here. Later, explore Varanasi's Old City with a guide, before dinner at your hotel tonight. BD

Two Nights: Varanasi, Taj Gateway Hotel.

#### Day 29. Varanasi

Today's cruise along the Ganges floats past the burning ghats (steps) where ceremonial cremations are still carried out in the traditional way. Back in the city, enjoy a visit to Sarnath, an important Buddhist centre. BD

#### Day 30. Depart New Delhi

(b) After breakfast, join a yoga session by the Ganges River or meet with a local guru to learn about traditional Indian music. Later, we'll take you to the airport for your included flight to Delhi, connecting with your onward flight. B



### Trip from \$30,795 per person twin share

Dates and Prices (NZ\$)	Twin From	Solo From
30 Days Negombo to New Delhi (INSKRDV30)		
<b>2020</b> September 22; October 20	\$30,795	\$38,795
<b>2021</b> February 9	\$30,795	\$39,495
March 9	\$31,895	\$40,595

Please note: Prices listed are indicative and may not be available on all departure dates listed. Prices are seasonal and are subject to change. Prices include porterage, gratuities and sundries. Disruptions to itinerary may occur. See pages 90-91 for further information as well as all terms and conditions.

#### For the most up-to-date prices and Superdeal savings, visit aptouring.co.nz/INSKRDV30



Above Tiger's Nest Monastery, Paro Valley, Bhutan

# Bhutan & Nepal

The tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan invites you to live slow. Drink in stupendous views of valley passes in one of the world's most biodiverse nations. Here, Buddhism and ancient culture are interwoven with modern-day life. As bright as the traditional Kira worn by Bhutanese women. In nearby Nepal, touch down in the capital Kathmandu, tucked beneath our highest summit. Mighty. Unrelenting. Mt Everest. City life throngs with anticipation alongside the still quiet of Buddhist stupas. For this is the staging post of hikers' dreams and gateway to rhino safaris in Chitwan National Park to the south.

## Passage Through Bhutan & Nepal

Kolkata to Kathmandu

It's impossible not to feel on top of this world in the Himalayan destinations of Bhutan and Nepal. Nations steeped in religion and tradition and surrounded by gravity-defying mountain scenes. All thoughtfully explored on this small group journey.

### **Trip Snapshot**

**Duration** 15 days, 14 nights / **Travel Style** Small Group Journey / **Visit** Six places, three countries **Go For** Buddhist culture, Mt Everest, Rhino safari

#### **Trip Overview**

Day	Destination
01	Kolkata
02	Paro, Thimphu
03	Thimphu, Freedom of Choice
04	Thimphu
05	Punakha
06	Punakha
07	Paro
08	Paro, Freedom of Choice
09	Paro
10	Kathmandu
11	Kathmandu, Freedom of Choice
12	Chitwan
13	Chitwan
14	Kathmandu
15	Farewell

## Signature Experiences

- Find out about your astrology from the monks of Pangri Zampa.
- Eearn from monks at Nalanda Buddhist Institute followed by a meditation class.
- Attend an exclusive cooking class in Paro to create Bhutanese delicacies.
- Dress up in a traditional Bhutanese Kira to watch a mask dance cultural performance.
- Hear from a Mt Everest mountaineer.
- 😥 Take a scenic flight over Mt Everest.

#### Key

- Signature Experience
- (中) Freedom of Choice
- BLD Breakfast Lunch Dinner

#### Day 01: Arrive Kolkata

Arrive in Kolkata, gateway to your adventure through Bhutan and Nepal. We'll meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel.

Stay: Holiday Inn Kolkata Airport.

#### Day 02: Paro, Thimphu

Board your included flight to the Kingdom of Bhutan this morning, where you're met on arrival and transferred to your hotel in the Bhutanese capital of Thimphu. There's a stop en route in Chuzom to admire its stupas (Buddhist shrines) and a visit to Tachogang Monastery, before checking into your renowned hotel. Later, tour city sights including the National Institute for Zorig Chusum, the National Library and the Folk Heritage Museum. **BD** 

Three Nights: Thimphu, Taj Tashi.

#### Day 03: Thimphu

(b) There's much to discover around Thimphu today. Join a guided tour at the National Textile Museum with an option to view the museum's private collections. Enjoy an insight into local industry at the Handmade Paper Factory with a stop at the National Memorial Chorten. After lunch, visit Buddha Point before travelling to the Mothihang Takin Preserve to meet the takin, the national animal of Bhutan. Round off the day by walking the Sangaygang-Wangditze nature trail. From Sangaygang's viewpoint, the Thimphu Valley stretches out before you. **BLD** 

#### Day 04: Thimphu

After breakfast this morning, tour the fortress of Tashichho Dzong, built in 1641, which still holds court over the surrounding valley. Then visit the vibrant Centenary Farmers Market, packed with colourful handicrafts and local produce. Later, during an interactive lesson, meet with the monks of Pangri Zampa, whose students learn astrology based on Buddhist philosophy. Tonight, dine on Bhutanese specialties at your hotel. **BLD** 

#### Day 05: Punakha

As you travel to Punakha today, via the Dochula Pass, stupas stud sheer valleys, sacred mani walls detail the landscape and colourful prayer flags dance on mountain breezes. In Punakha, visit Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten, a modern-day religious monument, before a raft ride takes you down the Mochu River. Then, enjoy a riverside lunch and a visit to Punakha Dzong, the Palace of Great Happiness. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Punakha, Dhensa Boutique Resort.

#### Day 06: Punakha

€ Enjoy the serenity at Nalanda Buddhist Institute this morning. You'll learn about Buddhism from monks firsthand, followed by a meditation class. Then, wind your way up to Talo village to meet with villagers and experience Bhutanese rural life. Stop via Sangchhen Dorji Lhuendrup Lhakhang Nunnery perched high above the Punakha and Wangdue valleys before lunch back at your hotel. Later, explore the prayer wheels and intricate carvings at Chimi Lhakhang, a Buddhist monastery dating back to 1499. **BLD** 

#### Day 07: Paro

Returning to Paro today, check into your hotel and enjoy lunch. This afternoon, visit the city's former watchtowers, Ta Dzong and Paro Dzong, which are now fascinating museums housing extensive collections of national and historic artefacts. This evening, attend an exclusive cooking class and learn to create traditional Bhutanese delicacies. **BLD** 

Three Nights: Paro, Zhiwa Ling Heritage.

#### Day 08: Paro

(b) Take your pick today. Travel to the cliffside Paro Taktsang or Tiger's Nest Monastery. Take a journey through Bhutan's highest road pass of Chele La for spectacular views, or relax at your hotel with a spa treatment. **BL** 

#### Day 09: Paro

(2) On a visit to the village of Lango, you'll find that tradition still informs much of Bhutanese daily life. Later, enjoy a refreshing stop for lunch and to tour a local brewery. Tonight, dress in a traditional Bhutanese Kira or Gho (for men) and take your seat at a customary mask dance cultural performance, followed by dinner. **BLD** 

#### Day 10: Kathmandu

Wave good bye to Bhutan as you board your included flight to Nepal's capital, Kathmandu. Touch down with time for a city tour, which includes Durbar Square, and a rickshaw ride through Thamel Market. Tonight, dine on Nepalese cuisine and hear from a mountaineer, who has conquered Mt Everest. **BD** 

Two Nights: Kathmandu, Dwarika's Hotel.

#### Day 11: Kathmandu

(b) (c) Excited? Today, you get to see the world's highest peak up close. Early this morning, take a once-in-a-lifetime scenic flight round Mt Everest. Then, with your feet firmly back on the ground this afternoon, return to Patan Durbar Square where you can join your preferred workshop such as thangka painting, pottery or stone carving. **BD** 

#### Day 12: Chitwan

This morning, fly to Bharatpur and transfer to Chitwan National Park. After lunch, head to a nearby river for a tranquil canoeing safari. Rhinos, Asian elephants and birdlife are just some of the many wildlife species found along the riverbanks. Tonight, relax and enjoy a Tharu stick dance performance. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Chitwan, Taj Meghauli Serai.

#### Day 13: Chitwan

Your jungle adventure continues this morning with a walking safari to spot native wildlife, and the chance to discuss your findings with a jungle expert. **BLD** 

#### Day 14: Kathmandu

Wing your way back to Kathmandu one last time, for a tour of the ancient city of Bhaktapur. Tonight enjoy a farewell dinner. **BD** 

Stay: Kathmandu, Dwarika's Hotel.

#### Day 15: Depart Kathmandu

We'll meet and transfer you to the airport for your onward flight.  ${\bf B}$ 

## All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Experiences in five destinations. Freedom of Choice inclusions in three locations. Luxury dining – a total of 35 meals. Everything as detailed, including gratuities. Expert APT tour director.





Above Boudhanath Stupa, Kathmandu, Nepal

### Trip from \$17,195 per person twin share

Dates and Prices (NZ\$)	Twin From	Solo From
15 Days Kolkata to Kathmandu (BN15)		
<b>2020</b> October 21; November 18	\$17,195	\$22,695
<b>2021</b> March 10	\$17,995	\$23,795

Please note: Prices listed are indicative and may not be available on all departure dates listed. Prices are seasonal and are subject to change. Prices include porterage, gratuities and sundries. Disruptions to itinerary may occur. See pages 90-91 for further information as well as all terms and conditions.

For the most up-to-date prices and Superdeal savings, visit aptouring.co.nz/BN15

## Passage Through India, Bhutan & Nepal

## Kochi to Kathmandu

Ready yourself for adventure by air, land and luxury rail. From the heights of Himalayan kingdoms Bhutan and Nepal to the sweeping Indian subcontinent, expect the unexpected. As you reach into ancient worlds, rove on jungle safaris and rediscover how to live fully.

## **Trip Snapshot**

**Duration** 31 days, 30 nights / **Travel Style** Classic + Small Group Journey / **Visit** 18 places, three countries **Go For** Taj Mahal, Asian rhino safari, Mt Everest, Bengal tiger adventure

Below Tashichho Dzong, Thimphu, Bhutan



## **Signature Experiences**

- Discover how modern and traditional dance forms blend during a Bollywood dance lesson.
- Doin a champagne reception and tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum.
- Learn about the benefits of meditation from monks at Nalanda Buddhist Institute followed by a meditation class.
- 😥 Take a scenic flight over Mt Everest.

Signature Experience

Breakfast Lunch Dinner

Freedom of Choice



#### Day 01: Arrive Kochi

Key

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BLD

Welcome to India! We'll meet you on arrival and take you to your hotel in the ocean-bound oasis of Kochi. It's time to explore this spiceladen city, 'the Queen of the Arabian Sea', which has lured traders for some 600 years.

Two Nights: Le Méridien Kochi.

#### Day 02: Kochi

Today you're in expert hands guided through the heritage Fort Kochi area, via Jewtown and the Paradesi Synagogue. Soak up the scenic promenade and see cantilevered Chinese fishing nets, before exploring Kochi's colonial history at St Francis Church, built in 1516. Later, take a seat at a Kathakali dance performance and enjoy a welcome dinner. **BLD** 

#### Day 03: Kochi, Kumarakom

(b) Time-honoured traditions are the order of today. After breakfast, travel to Kumarakom with a stop off at Kumbalanghi Village to discover an ancient way of life. Breaking for lunch and time to check into your hotel, perhaps join a Keralan cooking demonstration or opt for an Ayurvedic lecture and massage. **BL** 

Two Nights: Kumarakom Lake Resort.

#### Day 04: Kumarakom

It's time to dial back in this balmy Keralan city. Ease into today as you like or join a yoga class. Then cruise Kerala's backwaters aboard a houseboat. Tonight springs to life with a traditional martial art display, Kalaripayattu. A seafood dinner rounds off the evening. BLD

#### Day 05: Kumarakom, Kochi, Mumbai

(x) Transfer to board your flight to Mumbai, home to India's Bollywood movie scene. Touch down and master some moves with a Bollywood dance lesson. Then settle into your hotel before dinner tonight. **BD** 

Stay: Mumbai, Taj Mahal Palace.

#### Day 06: Mumbai, Embark Deccan Odyssey

Start today early with an introduction to the Koli fisher-folk at the Khar Danda Koliwada indoor fish market. Visit highlights including India Gate, the Hanging Gardens, Kamla Nehru Park, Mani Bhawan and Dhobi Ghat. Before boarding the luxury Deccan Odyssey train, greeted with a glass of bubbly and dinner this evening. **BLD Seven Nights: Deccan Odyssey.** 

#### **Trip Overview**

Day	Destination	Included Highlight	Day	Destination	Included Highlight	
01	Kochi	Arrive in Kochi	17	Varanasi,	Freedom of Choice, Fly to Kolkata	
02	Kochi	Kathakali dance show	17	Kolkata		
03	Kochi, Kumarakom	Freedom of Choice	18	Paro, Thimphu	Folk Heritage Museum	
04	Kumarakom	Keralan backwaters cruise	19	Thimphu	Freedom of Choice	
05	Kumarakom, Kochi, Mumbai	Bollywood dance lesson		Astrology reading,		
06	Mumbai	Embark Deccan Odyssey	20	Thimphu	Freedom of Choice	
07	) (a da dava	Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park	21	Punakha	Dochula Pass	
	Vadodara		22	Punakha	Meditation class	
28	Udaipur	City Palace	23	Paro	Paro Dzong	
09	Jodhpur	Mehrangarh Fort	24	Paro	Freedom of Choice	
10	Agra	Taj Mahal	25	Paro	Lango Village	
11	Sawai Modhpur	Ranthambore National Park	26	Kathmandu	Durbar Square, Meet mountaineer	
12	Jaipur	Amber Fort			Mt Everest scenic flight,	
13		Disembark Deccan Odyssey	27	Kathmandu	Freedom of Choice	
	New Delhi		28	Chitwan	Chitwan National Park	
14	New Delhi	Humayun's Tomb	29	Chitwan	Chitwan National Park	
15	Varanasi	Aarti fire ceremony	30	Kathmandu	Bhaktapur	
16	Varanasi	Ganges River cruise	31	Kathmandu	Farewell	



Above Rhinos in Chitwan National Park, Nepal / Right Varanasi's riverfront, India

#### Day 07: Vadodara

Head from Vadorada to World-Heritage listed Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park. Relax over lunch before seeing the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum, in the Maharaja's Laxmi Vilas Palace. Enjoy an Indian high tea before a folk performance. Dine on board tonight. BLD

#### Day 08: Udaipur

Journey to Udaipur and explore the City Palace on a tour before taking a boat ride across Lake Pichola. Enjoy a break with lunch back on board and a stroll around the Old Town. BLD

#### Day 09: Jodhpur

Explore the Blue City of Rajasthan in the Thar Desert today. Jodphur is packed with temples, forts and palaces to unearth. After lunch, join a walking tour to Mehrangarh Fort. Dinner tonight is a royal affair, a Marwar barbecue held in the fort's maharaja courtyard. BLD

#### Day 10: Agra, Taj Mahal

Repare for a day of pinch-yourselfmoments. Begin by exploring Agra Fort, one of India's finest Mughal forts, before marvelling at the Taj Mahal, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. A champagne reception and tour of the Kohinoor Gem Museum follow before lunch and time to shop at a local market. BLD

#### Day 11: Sawai Madhopur, **Ranthambore National Park**

Join a village walking tour in rural Sawai Madhopur, before lunch back on board. This afternoon's safari takes place in one of India's best tiger reserves, Ranthambore National Park. Look out for an array of wildlife that calls this park home. BLD

#### Day 12: Jaipur

Rajasthan's capital is within striking distance to the cliffside Amber Fort complex, your first discovery today. Continue to the City Palace in Jaipur before visiting the historic observatory, Jantar Mantar and a local market. BLD

#### Day 13: Disembark Deccan Odyssey, New Delhi

(b) Leaving the Deccan Odyssey this morning, join a rickshaw tour of Old Delhi, then visit India's largest mosque Jama Masjid. This evening enjoy a range of dining options. BD Two Nights: Delhi, Taj Palace Hotel.

#### Day 14: New Delhi

Today, meet with a local family for a cooking demonstration and lunch. Later, take a drive by Rashtrapati Bhawan (the President of India's official residence) with a visit to India Gate and Humayun's Tomb. Tonight, you'll dine at the Masala Library restaurant. BLD

#### Day 15: Varanasi

After breakfast, board your flight to Varanasi, where we'll meet and transfer you to your hotel. Later, join a River Ganges evening prayer cruise and fire-lit Aarti ceremony, before exploring Varanasi's Old City with a guide. BD

Two Nights: Varanasi, Taj Gateway Hotel.

#### Day 16: Varanasi

On a Ganges River cruise today, float past the burning ghats (steps) where ceremonial cremations are still carried out in the traditional way. Back in the city, discover the spiritual heart of modern-day India on a visit to Sarnath, an important Buddhist centre. BD

#### Day 17: Arrive Kolkata

(b) Discover more of Varanasi before boarding your included flight to Kolkata, gateway to your adventure through Bhutan and Nepal. Here, we'll meet and transfer you to your hotel.  ${\ensuremath{\textbf{B}}}$ Stay: Holiday Inn, Kolkata Airport.

#### Day 18: Paro, Thimphu

Board your included flight to the Kingdom of Bhutan this morning, where you're met on arrival and transferred to your hotel in the Bhutanese capital of Thimphu. There's a stop en route in Chuzom to admire its stupas (Buddhist shrines) and a visit to Tachogang Monastery. Later, tour city sights including the National Institute for Zorig Chusum, the National Library and the Folk Heritage Museum. BD

Three Nights: Thimphu, Taj Tashi.

#### Day 19: Thimphu

(A) There's much to discover around Thimphu today. Join a guided tour at the National Textile Museum, then tour the Handmade Paper Factory with a stop at the National Memorial Chorten. After lunch, visit Buddha Point before travelling to the Mothihang Takin Preserve the national animal of Bhutan. Round off the day by walking the Sangaygang-Wangditze nature trail. From Sangaygang's viewpoint, the Thimphu Valley stretches out before you. BLD

#### Day 20: Thimphu

(b) Today tour the fortress of Tashichho Dzong, built in 1641, then visit the Centenary Farmers Market. Later, during an interactive lesson, meet with the monks of Pangri Zampa, whose students learn astrology based on Buddhist philosophy. Tonight, dine on Bhutanese specialties at your hotel. BLD

#### Day 21: Punakha

Travel to Punakha today, via the stunning mountain scenery of Dochula Pass. In Punakha, visit Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten, a modern-day religious monument, before a raft ride down the Mochu River. After, enjoy lunch and a visit to Punakha Dzong. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Punakha, Dhensa Boutique Resort.

#### Brienda Bourique Read

#### Day 22: Punakha

At the Nalanda Buddhist Institute today, learn about Buddhism from monks firsthand, followed by a meditation class. Then, wind your way up to Talo Village to experience Bhutanese rural life. Stop via Sangchhen Dorji Lhuendrup Lhakhang Nunnery before lunch back at your hotel. Later, see Chimi Lhakhang, an ancient Buddhist monastery. **BLD** 

#### Day 23: Paro

Returning to Paro today, check into your hotel and enjoy lunch. This afternoon, visit the city's former watchtowers, Ta Dzong and Paro Dzong, which are now museums housing extensive collections of national and historic artefacts. This evening, attend a cooking class and learn to create Bhutanese delicacies. **BLD** 

Three Nights: Paro, Zhiwa Ling Heritage.

#### Day 24: Paro

(2) Take your pick today. Travel to the iconic cliffside Taktshang Monastery or Tiger's Nest. Take a journey through Bhutan's highest road pass of Chele La for spectacular views, or relax at your hotel with a spa treatment. **BL** 

#### Day 25: Paro

Solution of the village of Lango, you'll find that tradition still informs much of Bhutanese daily life. Later, enjoy a refreshing stop for lunch and to tour a local brewery. Tonight, dress in a traditional Bhutanese Kira or Gho (for men) and take your seat at a customary mask dance cultural performance, followed by dinner. **BLD** 

#### Day 26: Kathmandu

★ Today, board your included flight to Nepal's capital, Kathmandu. Touch down with time for a city tour, including Durbar Square, and a rickshaw ride through Thamel Market. Tonight, dine on Nepalese cuisine and hear from a mountaineer, who has climbed Mt Everest. BD

Two Nights: Kathmandu, Dwarika's Hotel

## All-inspiring. All taken care of. Always.

Experiences in 17 destinations. Freedom of Choice inclusions in six locations. Luxury dining – a total of 76 meals. Everything as detailed, including gratuities. Expert APT tour director.

#### Day 27: Kathmandu

(b) (c) Early this morning, take a once-in-alifetime scenic flight round Mt Everest. Then, visit Patan Durbar Square to join your preferred workshop such as thangka painting, pottery or stone carving. **BD** 

#### Day 28: Chitwan

This morning, fly to Bharatpur and transfer to Chitwan National Park. After lunch, head to a nearby river for a canoeing safari. Rhinos, Asian elephants and birdlife are just some of the many wildlife species found along the riverbanks. Tonight, relax and enjoy a Tharu stick dance performance. **BLD** 

Two Nights: Chitwan, Taj Meghauli Serai.

#### Day 29: Chitwan

Your jungle adventure continues this morning with a walking safari to spot native wildlife, and the chance to discuss your findings with a jungle expert. **BLD** 

#### Day 30: Kathmandu

Wing your way back to Kathmandu one last time, for a tour of the ancient city of Bhaktapur. Tonight enjoy a farewell dinner. **BD** Stay: Kathmandu, Dwarika's Hotel.

#### Day 31: Depart Kathmandu

We'll meet and transfer you to the airport for your onward flight.  $\ensuremath{\textbf{B}}$ 



### Trip from \$37,195 per person twin share

Dates and Prices (NZ\$)	Twin From	Solo From
31 Days Kochi to Kathmandu (INBN31)		
2020 October 5; November 2	\$37,195	\$48,195
<b>2021</b> February 22	\$37,995	\$49,195

Please note: Prices listed are indicative and may not be available on all departure dates listed. Prices are seasonal and are subject to change. Prices include porterage, gratuities and sundries. Disruptions to itinerary may occur. See pages 90-91 for further information as well as all terms and conditions.

For the most up-to-date prices and Superdeal savings, visit aptouring.co.nz/INBN31



# **Tailor Made Journeys**



# **Tailor Made Journeys**
Travel should be a joy, and as such, planning your Tailor Made Journey should be too. This is why APT have considered how to make the process as simple as possible. You select the exciting elements including destinations and sightseeing, leaving the logistics up to our expert team.

It's is as easy as one, two, three...



### **Tell Us About Yourself**

For APT's specialist team to craft an itinerary specific for you, they first need to learn a bit about who you are. What are your interests, your personality, passions and drives? And of course, is there anything that you absolutely cannot miss?

### Tailor it to You

Your expert planner will consider everything, and come back to you with a comprehensive travel proposal as to how your journey might shape up to look. Together you'll customise this draft until it's everything you wanted.



### **Experience the World**

Everything has been taken care of, and your dream holiday has been meticulously planned to a tee. The last thing for you to do is set off and experience the world. Get packing!



# India



Blessed with infinite travel options, knowing where to start in India and Sri Lanka can be a challenge. Here are some example itineraries, to give you a flavour of what your travel adventure to the Indian subcontinent might look like.

For more Tailor Made inspiration visit: aptouring.co.nz/tailormade

### Days 01-02: Delhi

See New Delhi on a visit to India Gate, Rashtrapapati Bhawan and Humayun's Tomb. Then travel by tuk tuk to Chandni Chowk's markets and Jama Masjid mosque.

Two Nights: New Delhi, The Taj Mahal Hotel.

### Days 03-04: Agra

In Agra, explore the Red Fort's Pearl Mosque and mirrored palace. Then look on in awe at the Taj Mahal, both at sunrise and at sunset. **Two Nights:** Agra, Oberoi Amarvilas.

### Days 05-06: Jaipur

Jaipur's treasures include Amber Fort, the City Palace, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) and the ancient observatory Jantar Mantar. We'll ensure you'll see them all.

Two Nights: Jaipur, The Taj Jai Mahal Palace.

### Days 07-09: Udaipur

Take in this 'Venice of the East' by boat, on Lake Pichola, with a walking tour of the Old Town and City Palace. Three Nights: Udaipur, Taj Lake Palace.

### Days 10-12: Jodhpur

Cover Jodphur on a tour, which includes Ranakpur Jain temple, Bishnoi tribal village, Mehrangarh Fort and Sandar Bazaar. **Two Nights:** Jodhpur, Taj Umaid Bhawan Palace.

### Day 12: Depart Jodhpur

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



# India

### Days 01-02: Kochi

Once an important spice-trading centre, Kochi (or Cochin) has been under Portuguese, Dutch and British rule at various times throughout history. Board a local ferry to Mattancherry to see giant Chinese fishing nets dotted along the coast of Port Cochin. Visit the Dutch Palace, built by the Portuguese in the 16th century, and the Paradesi Synagogue, the oldest active synagogue in the Commonwealth. In the evening, take a seat at a Kathakali dance performance, specific to this region.

Two Nights: Kochi, Taj Malabar Resort & Spa.

### Days 03-04: Kerala Backwaters

Spend the night on a traditional houseboat as you navigate a serene network of canals, lagoons and lakes that run parallel to the coast of the Arabian Sea. Along the way, visit local villages and keep an eye out for unique riverine species including crabs, frogs and mudskippers, and waterbirds like terns, kingfishers and cormorants.

Stay: Kerala, traditional houseboat.

### Days 05-07: Goa

Round off your Indian discovery with a relaxing stay in Goa. Where you'll find a heady blend of Indian and Portuguese cultures. Dine on local seafood, and spend time shopping and exploring fascinating local architecture. Alternatively, simply kick back by the pool or at the beach.

Two Nights: Goa, Taj Fort Aguada.

### Day 07: Depart Goa

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

# Sri Lanka

### Days 01-03: Colombo

Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of Colombo. Stroll through the Sri Lankan capital's business district, steeped in colonial history. Explore the historic sights of the city's port terminus including the Old Lighthouse, the Old Dutch Hospital and the World Trade Centre. Then take a tuk tuk through the narrow streets of Pettah, where you'll find the elaborate Res Mosque and many a bargain in this colourful district's market stalls. Enjoy evenings with a cold beer and seafood feast, featuring specialty crab dishes, in Colombo's ocean-front restaurants.

Three Nights: Colombo, Galle Face Hotel.

### Days 04-07: Cultural Triangle

In Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle, you'll find ancient jungle kingdoms, cave temples and safari adventure. Climb the 5th-century Sigirya Rock Fortress to survey a land lost in time. Tour the World Heritagelisted Dambulla Cave Temple and the remains of a royal city at Polonnaruwa. While jungle adventure also beckons on a safari through Minneriya National Park in search of Asian elephants.

Four Nights: Heritance Kandalama.

### Days 08-10: Bentota

Unwind on the tropical coast of Bentota. Spend your days on balmy beach walks, enjoying a range of watersports and indulging in soothing spa treatments and shopping.

Two Nights: Taj Bentota Resort and Spa.

### Day 10: Depart Bentota

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your onward flight.



The Details

# Trip Visual index





# Freedom of Choice<sup>™</sup> Sightseeing

# (b) Personalise your holiday with a choice of included sightseeing options.

6

India

Jaipur

Culture & Heritage Gourmet Delight

\$ \$

Meenakari craftsman for some tea.

Active Exploration Relax & Revive

Sri Lanka

# Kandalama



## (A) Bicycle Tour

Head out on a leisurely bike ride through the countryside to experience local life at its most idyllic.



# 🕅 Village Trek

Enjoy a glimpse of village life and explore the stone ruins and miniature forests found in the surrounding countryside.

### 🕙 Spa Treatment

Take a break from sightseeing and unwind with a rejuvenating spa treatment at your hotel.



## Sanganer Excursion

see the Tripolia Gate.

() Heritage Walk

Enjoy an excursion to the small village of Sanganer, famous for its hub of craft workshops and beautiful blue pottery.

Bazaars, Cuisines and Crafts of Old Jaipur

In the heart of the Pink City, take a tour and gain

a fascinating insight into the busy bazaars and handmade crafts of Jaipur. Join a fifth-generation

Set out on a guided walk to learn more about the city's intricate old temples and painted havelis. Navigate through the city's bustling lanes and



Spa Treatment

Relax and rest your legs with a rejuvenating spa treatment at your hotel.

# **Kumarakom**



### Ayurvedic Philosophy

Study the 5,000-year-old Indian health practice that has its origins in the Vedic culture of India. Enjoy a massage and experience the balance between mind. body and spirit.



# (C) Kerala Cooking Demonstration

Learn the intricacies of Keralan cuisine with a cooking demonstration. You'll master the art of preparing seafood curries and other local favourites.

### Varanasi



### 🕅 Classical Indian Music Guru Meeting

Attend a live Indian classical music concert featuring instruments such as the sitar, tabla, sarangi and flute. After the performance, hear tales from the musicians over a cup of tea.



### ( Yoga Session

On the banks of the Ganges River, rejuvenate your mind, body and soul with the 5,000-year-old practice of yoga

# Nepal

Kandy

## Kathmandu







### (D) Thangka Workshop

Used to depict the life of Buddha and other historical events, learn of the complex cornerstone techniques used in the Thangka style of art, to create intricate paintings.

### Pottery Workshop

Steeped in Buddhist tradition, take an insightful look at the fine workmanship of Bhutan's best sculptors and admire examples of Bhutanese art interpreted through pottery.

### (jii) Stone Carving Workshop

Learn about the various techniques of stone carving during this informative workshop. An age-old heritage which has been passed down through generations and lives on today.

# O Cooking Class

Discover the secrets of Sri Lankan delicacies as you learn to prepare local cuisine through an interactive and fun culinary experience.



Committed to sustainability and community service, immerse yourself in village life at Tamarind Gardens, overlooking the picturesque Victoria reservoir.

# Bhutan

## Paro



## (र्फ्रे) Paro Taktsang

Trek to Tiger's Nest Monastery for unrestricted views of the Paro Valley. This outstanding monastery is one of the most venerated sights of pilgrimage in the Himalayas, and a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

### (h) Chele La Pass

At 3,988 metres, Chele La Pass is one of the highest observation decks in Bhutan. Here, take in stunning views as well as a forest of poles with fluttering flags, which locals fly to scare demons.

### 🕹 Spa Treatment

Unwind and soothe your soul with a rejuvenating spa treatment. What will you choose? Perhaps an indulgent one-hour massage is just what you need.

## Thimphu







### (B) Weaving Demonstration

Weaving is an integral part of Bhutanese culture and tradition. Here, watch an experienced weaver at work, creating intricate patterns with spectacular colour combinations.

### Dyeing Program

All fabrics and textiles that are authentic to Bhutan are intricately hand woven. Join a workshop on natural dyes and the art of yarn dyeing, to learn about local textile production.

### () Private Collection Viewing in Textile Museum

Inside the national textiles museum in Thimphu, learn about Bhutan's living national art of thagzo (weaving) and enjoy the opportunity to view a private display of thagzo artefacts.

# Freedom of Choice<sup>™</sup> Dining

# (b) Enjoy a tantalising selection of dining experiences in the following locations.

# India

## Delhi



### Orient Express

Themed around the legendary train that travels across Europe, this award-winning restaurant serves up the best of European cuisine in a setting similar to a compartment of the iconic Orient Express.

### Spicy Duck

Experience one of Delhi's latest culinary destinations, Spicy Duck. This stylish restaurant brings a little taste of China to the heart of India. Established by Chinese expats, expect authentic flavours in absolute luxury.

### **Capital Kitchen**

Enjoy stylish alfresco dining, paired with an equally stylish, yet familiar menu featuring comfort foods from around the globe. Imagine Indian, Asian and Western classics in a warm, atmospheric setting.

### Jaipur



### Cinnamon

Enjoy a sumptuous meal in the erstwhile dining room of the Prime Minister of Jaipur State. Choose from cuisines from the four Indian Princely States – Rajputana, Awadh, Hyderabad and Kashmir.

### Giardino

Set against the backdrop of the hotel's landscaped garden, this open-air restaurant serves traditional Italian cuisine in a fun, al fresco environment.

# Sri Lanka

# Kandalama





### Kandy







### Far Pavilions

around the globe.

Kaludiya Restaurant

Experience gastronomic delights as you sample an array of cuisines, surrounded by mountains.

Savour the very best of fusion cuisine at Kaludiya

Restaurant. From oven-baked red snapper to Irani-

an mutton kofta, the dishes at Kaludiya showcase a

sophisticated blend of cultural influences from

### **Royal Spice**

Enjoy traditional dishes from a land of mystique, with a selection of authentic and fresh flavours.

### Mountbatten Lounge

Savour iconic pub favourites in an informal and relaxed atmosphere, at this lounge named after British Lord Mountbatten.

# Freedom of Choice™ – Notes

All Freedom of Choice Dining options are subject to availability and seasonal opening times of restaurants. Venues are subject to change. Limited numbers and dining times apply.



# **Extend Your Stay**

If there's no rush to return to reality then why not stay on a while in India, Sri Lanka or Nepal? Lose track of time in one of these luxury hotels or head out and explore some more.

Your APT adventure draws to a close. You've enjoyed every minute but wouldn't it be great to have one last hurrah! Have more time. We offer extended stays at some of the best hotels in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal, where you can stay longer and spend more time. Exploring. Sightseeing. Dining. Turning those last pages of your holiday novel beside the hotel pool.

We choose our hotels and resorts for their location, reputation and ability to effortlessly enhance your holiday experience. Even when you've waved goodbye to your APT adventure, you'll experience the same exemplary level of attention and service as before. We've made your decision to linger a while, an easy one.

Kvin koodSolo kromNegombo\$215\$390The Heritance\$215\$390Colombo\$185\$370Galle Face Hotel\$185\$370Kochi\$160\$320Le Méridien\$160\$320Mumbai\$440\$825Taj Mahal Palace\$440\$435Yaransi\$230\$435Kathmandu\$340\$435Dwarika's Hotel\$340\$635			
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Taj Mahal Palace \$440 \$825 Varanasi Taj Gateway Hotel \$230 \$435 Kathmandu	Le Méridien	\$160	\$320
Varanasi   Taj Gateway Hotel \$230 \$435   Kathmandu	Mumbai		
Taj Gateway Hotel \$230 \$435 Kathmandu	Taj Mahal Palace	\$440	\$825
Kathmandu	Varanasi		
	Taj Gateway Hotel	\$230	\$435
Dwarika's Hotel \$340 \$635	Kathmandu		
	Dwarika's Hotel	\$340	\$635



Top Left Taj Gateway Hotel, Varanasi, India / Bottom Left Le Méridien, Kochi, India / Above Galle Face Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka

\*All pre/post accommodation availability and rates are indicative only and may vary depending on trade fairs and seasonal events. Includes transfers and breakfast.

# Stopovers

Adapt your adventure as you go with a stopover in the Maldives or Singapore. You're on the road anyway so perhaps add in a blissful beach break or stylish city stay for good measure.

# **5 Day Maldives Stopover**

# Escape from it all on an idyllic Indian Ocean atoll

## Day 01: Arrive Maldives

Welcome to Male, the capital of the Maldives. Densely packed and pocket-sized, Male teems with life. You're still worlds away from your dreamy atoll destination, but as we transfer you by boat to the white sand coral cay of Dhidhoofinolhu, the luxurious Lux\* South Ari Atoll drifts into view. You have arrived.

Four Nights: Dhidhoofinolhu, Lux\* South Ari Atoll.

### Day 02-04: South Ari Atoll

For the next three days, everything is geared to your complete relaxation. Powder-white beaches that ribbon into azure seas, whose translucent depths glitter with marine life and abundant coral reefs. The choice is yours. Kick back above or below the water, the ultimate playground for aquatic adventures. With a resident marine biologist on hand, seek out the local whale shark for a swim with the largest fish on earth. Snorkel the colourful reef system that encircles your private island abode or explore the surrounding seas in-depth on a scuba dive (additional expense). On land, the LUX\* South Ari Atoll has thought of everything. From the two infinity pools, floodlit tennis courts and wellness centre and spa, to the five gourmet restaurants and five stunning bars, you'll want for nothing. **B** 

### Day 05: Depart Maldives

After a leisurely breakfast, we'll transfer you to the airport for your onward flight. **B** 

2020	Prices	(NZ\$)
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5 Day Maldives Stopover (STOMLE5)		
Accommodation	Twin From	Solo From
Beach Pavilion	\$3,595	\$5,595
Beach Villa	\$4,095	\$6,495
Beach Pool Villa	\$5,645	\$9,395
Romantic Pool Water Villa	\$6,445	\$10,845

Please note: For terms and conditions, see pages 90-91.



# **3 Day Singapore Stopover**

# Explore a sophisticated city full of green spaces

### Day 01: Arrive Singapore

Singapore cuts a fine city skyline on your arrival today. We welcome you to your hotel in Southeast Asia's Lion City, where the rest of the day is yours to do whatever you wish.

Two Nights: Your choice of hotel (see fare box opposite).

### Day 02: Singapore City Tour

Get to know the highlights and hidden corners of Singapore on a guided tour. You'll see sights including the Civic District, Parliament House and City Hall, with a stop at Merlion Park for views of Marina Bay. Then pay a visit to the Thian Hock Keng Temple, one of the oldest Buddhist-Taoist temples on the island. Later, there's time to meander through Chinatown and visit a local handicraft centre, before continuing to the National Orchid Garden within the Botanic Gardens, home to over 60,000 orchid plants. Finish your exploration with one of two options. Visit Little India to breathe in the heady scent of jasmine and spices. Alternatively, set off for the Gardens by the Bay and discover this inspired nature park that spans 101 hectares. Take your time seeing the Flower Dome, the world's largest green house. Witness the 35-metre waterfall and stroll above the jungle canopy via the aerial walkway at Cloud Forest. **B** 

### Day 03: Depart Singapore

After a leisurely breakfast, we'll transfer you to the airport for your onward flight.  ${\bf B}$ 

2020	Prices	(NZ\$)
------	--------	--------

3 Day Singapore Stopover (STOSIN3)		
Accommodation	Twin From	Solo From
Carlton City Hotel	\$795	\$1,495
Fort Canning	\$895	\$1,645
Fairmont Singapore	\$995	\$1,895
Mandarin Orchard	\$895	\$1,645
The Fullerton Hotel	\$1,145	\$2,145

Please note: For terms and conditions, see pages 90-91.





# Live Fully and you will be rewarded

When you book your first adventure with us, it happens, you become an APT Club member. Of course this means exclusive privileges, priority treatment and receiving a whole range of extras without ever needing to ask. But beyond all these, it really is about moments and how to make the most of them. Because when you discover the world with APT, you become the centre of ours.



Above The Collection range of travel goods



### From the Moment You Book

- Be among the first to learn about our latest offers and new destinations.
- Receive invitations to special events and By Invitation member only tours.
- Have access to APT's exclusive apps, APT Concierge and APT Snap*n*Send.
- · Acquire membership of our Solo Traveller Club upon request.
- Enjoy access to our dedicated APT Club hotline for your every enquiry.

### Be Recognised Over & Again

The more you experience with us, the greater the rewards. From the moment you book with APT, you will be given your Silver Membership, complete with a leather travel wallet and matching luggage label. But this is just the beginning. From here on, your adventurous spirit will see you progress to Gold, Platinum and even Diamond Membership, for those of you who travel with us the most.

### **All With Our Compliments**

As an APT Club member, you could receive all kinds of luxury travel goods from The Collection, including packing cells, a toiletry bag, backpack, a mobile power bank and a universal travel adaptor pack, or even a new iPad Mini with tablet sleeve. You may also be rewarded with private, chauffeurdriven, home-to-airport transfers and even accommodation before or after your APT journey.

For more information, visit aptouring.co.nz/aptclub

# Glossary

# Your guide to understanding the intricacies of travel with APT.

# a

# **Adaptors & Electricity**

Electricity is 220V throughout India and Sri Lanka. In Bhutan and Nepal, electricity is 230V.

A plug adaptor is necessary if you plan to bring items from home.

# Allergies

If you have a food allergy or another condition that needs to be managed on tour, please advise your booking agent as soon as possible, as most suppliers require advance notice to accommodate this.

# Altitude

Bhutan is located on the edge of the Himalayan Mountains, and as a result, most of the country is at a much higher altitude than you are probably used to. On your itinerary, you will experience altitude anywhere from 1,250-3,100 metres above sea level. If required, cans of oxygen will be readily available for purchase. Please consult your doctor should you have any concerns.

# **Audio Guides**

Each guest will have an audio headset. While touring, these lightweight headsets allow you to hear every word of your guide's commentary. Please note, audio guides are not available in Sri Lanka.

# b

# **Bedding Configuration**

On board the Deccan Odyssey bedding can only be configured as twin share.

# **Beverages on Board**

On your rail journey, complimentary coffee and tea are available throughout the day. House wine, local beer and soft drinks are served with lunch and dinner.

During land journeys, complimentary water and tea are offered during included meals. Complimentary alcoholic beverages may also be included with some dinners.

# С

# Climate

Due to its vast size, India has a varied climate. The country has a three-season year – summer, monsoon and winter. The Himalayas block cold winds from reaching most of India so winters remain warm and summers can become very hot. The best time to visit India and Sri Lanka is from late September to March.

Bhutan and Nepal experience all four seasons and the climate varies widely depending on the altitude. The best time to visit Bhutan and Nepal is from September to November for clear sunny skies, and March to April which marks the beginning of spring.

# Currency

The unit of currency in India is the Rupee (INR) and is used throughout the country. ATMs are readily available in major cities. Likewise, the Sri Lankan currency is also called the Rupee (LKR) but is different to the Indian Rupee. It is used throughout the country. ATMs are available in cities and large towns but may be hard to come by in more rural areas.

The unit of currency in Bhutan is the Ngultrum (BTN), which is pegged to the Indian rupee at par. Ngultrum (BTN) is accepted throughout Bhutan, as is the Indian Rupee, except Rs 500 and Rs 2,000 currency notes. ATM facilities are available only in prominent towns.

The currency use in Nepal is the Nepali Rupee (NPR) which is accepted through the country. ATMs are available in major cities.

# d

# Dining

All meals on board your rail journey are included. Meals are served in the dining room/carriages in two seatings. No table reservations can be made.

# **Dress Code**

The dress code is relaxed. Comfortable clothing is ideal during the day, but smart casual clothing for evenings on board the train is recommended. Comfortable footwear is imperative for excursions. If your sightseeing includes places of worship, please ensure your clothes adhere to the dress code. As a general guideline, shoulders and knees should be covered (for both men and women) when entering buildings of a religious nature and family homes. When entering temples and pagodas, shoes may need to be removed. For this reason, please ensure you bring footwear that can be easily removed.

# f

# **Freedom of Choice Inclusions**

Minimum and maximum group numbers may apply on some activities. Due to poor weather and/or venue closures on some dates, some options may not be available. For your convenience, all options will be booked on tour with your APT tour director who will be able to provide you with further information. If your first choice is unavailable, you may be asked to choose an alternative.

# **Flights Within Asia**

Flights included within your tour are booked by APT's ground operators in economy class. Your flight details will not appear on your final documentation, your tour director or local guide will carry all necessary paperwork for these flights. Luggage for all internal flights is limited to 20kg (44lbs).

# g

# **General Physical Fitness**

Tours in this brochure may be physically demanding due the nature of many of the sites you'll be visiting. Some tours will require a good level of fitness and health to participate. Walking tours are often on uneven ground and include many stairs as well as steep inclines. You should be able to stand on your feet for an extended period of time to visit museums, attractions and other sites. These trips may not be appropriate for guests with certain medical conditions and physical restrictions. Please consult your doctor before paying your deposit.

# İ

## Internet

The Deccan Odyssey train is equipped with wireless internet (Wi-Fi). As the train uses a satellite system, routing may cause reception to be restricted at times in certain areas.

# 

## Laundry

Laundry services are available on board the Deccan Odyssey, and price lists will be available in your cabin. Clothes cannot be dry-cleaned on board. Self-service laundry facilities are not available on board. For safety reasons, you cannot use an iron in your cabin.

# m

# Medical

While travelling on the Deccan Odyssey, a paramedic will travel on board the train and accompany you on the excursions. Any treatment may incur additional fees and is not to be used as a substitute for travel insurance.

# S

# Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in any area on board the Deccan Odyssey. The same policy applies for electronic cigarettes.

# V

# Vaccinations

Vaccinations may be required. We suggest you consult your GP or travel clinic prior to your travels for the latest vaccination and medical advice.

# **Visas & Passports**

All passengers must have a passport that is valid for at least six months from your return date. Passengers must consult with the appropriate consulates to ensure that they have any applicable visas for countries included in the holiday package prior to departure. Passengers are solely responsible for meeting necessary passport and visa entry requirements and paying all associated costs. APT is not responsible for delays or missed portions of the holiday package resulting from incorrect travel documents or visas.

At the time of printing, the following applies:

### India

Australian, New Zealand and United Kingdom passport holders require a visa to enter India and can obtain an E-Visa online prior to departure.

This can be purchased at: indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html

### Sri Lanka

Australian, New Zealand and United Kingdom passport holders require a visa to enter Sri Lanka and can obtain an E-Visa online prior to departure.

This can be purchased at eta.gov.lk/slvisa/

## Bhutan

A Bhutanese tourist visa is included in the cost of your tour.

# Nepal

Australian, New Zealand and United Kingdom passport holders require a visa to enter Nepal which can be obtained on arrival at Kathmandu airport.

# **General Information & Conditions**

The following terms and conditions ('booking conditions') form the basis of your contract with Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd ('APT', 'we' or 'our'). Please read them carefully as they set out your and our respective rights and obligations. By asking us to confirm your booking, we are entitled to assume that you have had the opportunity to read, and have read these booking conditions; that you agree to them and that you agree to them applying to your holiday arrangements booked with us and which we agree to make, provide or perform (as applicable) as part of our contract with you. References in these booking conditions to your 'holiday package' are references to the tour or cruise package you have booked with APT. References to "excursions" are references to short trips or tours included or available as part of your holiday package

### Governing law

These booking conditions are governed by the law in force in Victoria, Australia.

**BEFORE YOU BOOK** 

### Prices - Deposits - Discounts - Payments

Prices listed in this brochure are valid at the time of publication but are subject to change. They may be varied by advertising or special offers, or changed after the publication date for any reason, including without limitation, to cover changes in government taxes and charges, exchange rate variations, fuel surcharges, airline charges, a force majeure event or other material increases by suppliers. The most up to date pricing may be found on our website. Prices will be confirmed at time of booking and held during any applicable option period. Once the security deposit is paid the price will be guaranteed (except for any changes resulting from a force majeure event - see below).

A \$1,000 security deposit per person, per holiday package is required within seven days of booking confirmation. Deposit requirements may vary when booking a special offer. Final payment of the balance of your holiday package price is due 100 days prior to departure unless stated in the terms of a special offer. APT reserves the right to cancel any ticket or booking or, refuse to honour any price or carry any passenger where any payment has not been received by APT within the specified time. All fares and charges are in New Zealand currency. Payment in full is required at time of booking for reservations made less than 100 days before departure from Australia or New Zealand. If APT is unable to confirm your reservation, all monies will be refunded.

### Travelling with Minors

Children of less than eight years of age are not permitted on tours and cruises. Minors under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult and share their accommodation with an adult.

### Included in Holiday Package Price

All hotel accommodation, airfares (if indicated in individual itinerary), gratuities for APT staff (see below), airport transfers on the first and last day, sightseeing, specified excursions, meals, admissions, port charges, luggage service (one bag) and the services of a Tour Director and driver as stated in your itinerary.

### Transfers

Airport transfers are included on the first and last day of the tour package or with pre and post accommodation booked by APT. No refund will be given for unused transfers. Transfers cannot be re-routed to other pick-up points or destinations. Passengers who niss the pre-booked transfers must make their own way to/from the hotel at their own expense.

### Not Included in Our Cruise and/or Tour Price

Airfares between New Zealand and Asia, airport taxes, laundry, passport and visa fees, meals or drinks other than those indicated in your itinerary, excess baggage, fuel surcharges and optional , excursions and gratuities

### **Choosing Your Holiday**

The holiday packages contained within this brochure are for departures between 01 January to 30 December 2020. To maximise your enjoyment of your APT holiday and to ensure that it lives up to your expectations it is important that you choose the right holiday package for you. Our brochures contain limited information, however, there is also information available online at aptouring.co.nz and our staff are available to discuss your options.

### Gratuities

Gratuities for all staff on your tour are included and cannot be redeemed for a cash refund.

### Twin or Double Rooms

Accommodation in all hotels, regardless of the rating, is in standard rooms (sometimes named superior/deluxe) based on twins or doubles unless otherwise stated. Cabins onboard the Deccan

### Odyssey will be twin bedding only.

Solo Travellers A limited number of single rooms/suites/cabins may be available by request at time of booking your cruise/holiday package

### Passengers Needing Special Assistance

APT welcomes passengers with disabilities or special needs however, please note the following:

 Any disability or medical condition requiring special attention must be reported to APT at the time of booking including all important information relating to your health, mobility and fitness which may affect your partial or total participation in the cruise or tour. This information is also crucial to allow APT to ensure the tour you have chosen is suitable and meets your needs. Any changes to health,

mobility and fitness must also be reported to APT as soon as possible and prior to departure. Where possible APT will make reasonable adjustments to the tour to accommodate your special needs however, it cannot do so if the adjustment required would be unreasonable in all of the circumstances, including if such adjustments would affect your safety and/or the safety and/or enjoyment of other passengers.

2. If you require special assistance or care (such as pushing a wheelchair, assistance with dressing or assistance with walking), you must travel with a companion capable of providing the required assistance or care. Please be aware that APT does not provide personal assistance. APT is unable to assist any passenger with walking, dining, boarding or disembarking any transportation vehicles (including river and ocean cruise ships and trains). To safely participate in embarkation and disembarkation you must be able to do so without the need for special assistance. You must also be able to do so without unreasonably impacting other passengers' safety and/or enjoyment.

3. While APT will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of disabled passengers, it is not responsible for any denial of services by any third party entities it has travel arrangements with, such as carriers, hotels, trains, restaurants or other independent suppliers, or for any additional associated expenses charges by those parties.

4. Please note coaches, minibuses and trains are not equipped with wheelchair ramps.

### Health & Fitness

A good level of fitness and health is required to participate on APT's holiday packages. In some destinations there are extensive sightseeing excursions by foot which includes the climbing of stairs. Mobility is needed boarding or alighting coaches, river cruise ships and trains. We recommend a visit to the doctor before travelling to overseas destinations and consult with them regarding any vaccinations which may be required. It is your responsibility to advise APT of any pre-existing medical conditions that may affect the normal conduct of a holiday package and the enjoyment of other passengers.

### Visa & Passports

All passengers must have a valid passport that is valid for at least six months after the holiday package return date. Passengers must consult with the appropriate consulates to ensure that they have any applicable visas for countries included in the holiday package prior to departure. Passengers are solely responsible for meeting necessary passport and visa entry requirements and paying all associated costs. APT is not responsible for delays or missed portions of the holiday package resulting from incorrect travel documents or visas. At the prior to departure from New Zealand. Sri Lanka – visa must be obtained prior to departure from New Zealand. Sri Lanka – visa must be obtained prior to departure from New Zealand. Bhutan – visa is included in your package holiday price. Nepal - visa can be obtained upon arrival into Kathmandu.

#### **Rail Excursions**

The timing of the excursions on rail holiday packages may differ slightly for each package. The published times are a guide only and are subject to change without notice. It is impossible for large coaches to be used for some city sightseeing excursions and many towns and cities will be visited by way of walking tours and/or rickshaws or similar

Visiting Temples, Pagodas & Mosques in India & Sri Lanka When entering temples, pagodas and mosques, shoes will ne eed to be removed and arms and knees will need to be covered.

### Freedom of Choice™ & Signature Experience Excursions

Minimum and maximum group numbers apply on some Freedom of Choice Sightseeing and Dining experiences. These are selected whilst on tour and if your first choice of Freedom of Choice Inclusion is unavailable you may be asked to choose an alternative

### Public Holidays/Festivals

Virtually all countries have public holidays, religious or otherwise. The festivities may temporarily disrupt your holiday and some religious holidays may result in a reduction of facilities and entertainment.

### SuperDeals, Fly Deals & Special Offers

Conditions Apply. For full terms and conditions relating to any SuperDeal, Fly Deal or Special Offer on your booking, please go to aptouring.co.nz/specialdeals.

### Other Special Offers

Special deals and special offers other than those advertised in the brochure may be promoted by APT after the brochure is released. These new special deals/offers do not apply to existing bookings unless otherwise stated

### **BOOKING & PAYING FOR YOUR HOLIDAY**

### Airfares

Air travel is arranged with independent airlines. APT will arrange air travel as advertised in connection with your holiday package or as otherwise arranged with APT. All airfares are subject to flight and booking class availability. Airfares will be booked and ticketed upon receipt of your deposit to avoid price or tax increases. Airport taxes vary for each departure point and routing of airline. Airline schedules are subject to change without notice. Once air tickets are issued, airline amendment and/or cancellation fees apply and, in some cases, are non-refundable. Name changes and voluntary date and schedule changes will incur fees. APT is not liable for delays or disruptions of air travel. Once tickets are issued, APT will have no other liability and will not be responsible for refunding the cost of any services booked in conjunction with the flights. Flying outside of the tour date range or re-routing your flight itinerary may incur additional surcharges.

### Flights Within Asia

Economy flights within Asia are included in the price. All internal flights must be booked by APT. Airline schedules and fares are subject to change without notice. Flights will be based on best fare available at the time of booking, however surcharges may apply for bookings made within 140 days of travel. Once air tickets are issued, airline amendment and/or cancellation fees apply and in some cases are non-refundable. Deposits are considered as a guarantee of the invoiced flight arrangements and once deposit received, flights will be ticketed. Name changes and voluntary date and schedule changes will incur fees. The maximum luggage allowance on all flights within Asia is 20 kilograms.

Out of Date Range Flights If airlines have not published their schedule at the time that this brochure was printed, or at the time of booking, APT will estimate the cost of airfares connected with your holiday package. When the airline releases flight inventory and airfares. APT will confirm seats and pricing with you by sending you an updated invoice. Once flights have been confirmed by you and payment has been received, APT will issue your ticket/s.

### **APT Deposit Cancellation Peace of Mind**

Applicable when an upfront fee of \$95 per person is paid with your deposit. The holiday package can be cancelled prior to the final payment date and your deposit will be retained as an APT holding credit to be used for future bookings. If Deposit Cancellation Peace of Mind is claimed, monies held must be used on a future cruise or tour and cannot be redeemed against the original cruise or tour departure date. Deposit held in credit will exclude fees imposed by third parties, including but not limited to air travel, rail travel and hotels. When booking airfares through APT (including when taking advantage of a special offer that includes air travel), standard airline cancellation fees will apply. In some cases, airfares will be nonrefundable. In the event of cancellation, these fees will be deducted from the deposit paid, and therefore the credit being held. APT Deposit Cancellation Peace of Mind applies to new bookings only and is only valid up until 100 days prior to travel. After three years, unused credit funds will incur the original cancellation conditions as per brochure. This does not replace travel insurance, which you are required to purchase at the time of booking.

### Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance is not included in your holiday package. You are required to purchase comprehensive travel insurance that includes (without limitation) coverage for the cost of your holiday package, medical expenses, loss of luggage, cruise and land content and airfare charges that may occur due to cancellation, impossibility of performance or other frustration, disruption, loss of deposit or strikes.

### Travel Information & Documents

After booking you will receive an invoice with all important information relevant to your holiday package. We strongly recommend you check the details carefully and read the included information. Please ensure that you check your flight timings carefully on your tickets, particularly early morning departures. Approximately 21 days before departure you will receive your eticket, together with your final itinerary. However, in the case of late bookings, charges or late payment, tickets may be emailed to you.

### Special Requests

Where a special request (eg. diet, room location, twin or double bedded room, a particular facility at a hotel, flight seat requests and/ or particular meals) is an important factory at hole, ingin sear requests and you must advise us when your booking is made. APT will pass your request on to the hotel, airline or other supplier but cannot guarantee that it will be accommodated. APT will also pass on any dietary requests to the airline but we strongly recommend that you check directly with the airline once your tickets have been issued. The provision of any special request does not constitute a term of your contract with us. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed, all special requests are subject to availability.

Credit Card Surcharges If you pay APT by credit card, a surcharge of between 1% and 3% will be added your tour price.

### IF YOU WANT TO CHANGE OR CANCEL YOUR HOLIDAY

### Changes or Additions to Your Holiday

If you want to change any part of your holiday arrangements after the invoice has been issued, we will do our best to make the change, but it may not be possible. Any request for changes must be made in writing by the person who made the original booking, or his or her travel agent. If it is possible to make the change, it will be subject to an administration charge and payment of any further costs incurred as a result of the change.

### **Cancellation Policy**

For all holiday packages in this brochure, if you choose to cancel the following APT cancellation fees apply:

Days of Notice:	Fee Per Person:
100 days or more	Loss of deposit
99-61 days	50% of holiday package price
60 days or less	100% of holiday package pr

All cancellations must be received in writing by APT and are not effective until this notification has been received. If your holiday has commenced, 100% of the full holiday package price is charged.

There is no refund for unused services or if portions of the holiday package are missed. Additional cancellation fees may also be charged in respect to accommodation reserved outside the holiday package dates. These cancellation fees are in addition to any fees that may be levied by APT and your travel agent (if any). You acknowledge that the amounts estimated under the Cancellation Policy are reasonable and represent a genuine pre-estimate of APT's loss and are otherwise reasonably necessary to protect the legitimate interests of APT

If you request changes after APT has issued your documents, APT may charge you an administration and processing fee of \$70 per person in addition to any applicable cancellation fees.

### **Cancellation of Ticketed Airfares**

An APT cancellation fee of \$50 per person applies for ticketed airfares, in addition to any airline cancellation fees that are applicable.

### **Changes to Ticketed Airfares**

If you wish to amend the date or routing on your ticketed air booking, an APT amendment fee of \$30 per person for the first change and \$85 for any subsequent changes will be charged in addition to airline change fees and additional taxes that are applicable. If you wish to amend an already issued Singapore Stopover package, a \$30 per person APT change fee will apply along with any applicable airline fees. If, for any reason, a name change to a ticketed airfare is required, a \$125 per person name change fee will apply for every change in addition to any applicable airline fees.

### IF WE CHANGE OR CANCEL YOUR HOLIDAY

### **Brochure Accuracy**

APT has endeavoured to ensure that the information given in this brochure about accommodation, itineraries etc., is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to print. However, advertised descriptions and facilities and prices may change after publication. We recommend that you confirm the details of your chosen holiday package at the time of booking. Additionally, flight times, carriers and routes in the brochure are given for guidance only as there may be changes. Final details will be shown on your tickets Holiday package or excursion itineraries may change or be different from those described in the brochure as a result of local conditions, weather conditions and annual events. APT will endeavour to notify you of any significant changes prior to your departure.

Flight Changes The flight timings shown in our brochure, on our website and detailed on your confirmation invoice are for guidance only and are subject to alteration and confirmation. Flight timings are set by airlines and affected by events outside our control. Scheduled and charter flight timings, and days of operation are also subject to change. APT will advise you of any significant changes as soon as it is informed by the airline. Minor timing changes will be shown on your flight tickets. Any change in the identity of the airline, flight timings or aircraft type (if advised to APT) will not entitle you to cancel or change other arrangements without paying any applicable cancellation fees except where specified in these booking conditions. APT does not advise the flight timings of included internal flights in the brochure nor do we provide this on your documentation; only the 'non-included' flights will appear on the itinerary.

### If We Change or Cancel Your Holiday Before Your Departure APT endeavours to provide you with all the services confirmed to you

at the time of your booking. However, we plan arrangements a long time in advance of your departure date using independent suppliers such as airlines, hotels etc., over whom we have no direct control. On occasions changes do have to be made, and APT reserves the right to cancel or amend holiday packages/excursions accordingly. Group tours require a minimum number of bookings in order for the tour to be financially viable and to have a pleasant group atmosphere. In the event that adequate numbers cannot be achieved, it may be necessary to cancel a scheduled departure and offer the nearest possible alternative date (or a full refund of monies paid for arrangements made by APT)

### Force Maieure

Force Majeure means the occurrence of an event that is beyond APT's reasonable control and which could not have been reasonably prevented by APT, which includes, but is not limited to: (a) war, armed conflict, criminal damage, riot, civil strife, industrial dispute, terrorist activity or the threat of any such acts; (b) natural disaster (including but not limited to flooding, fire, earthquake, landslide), adverse weather conditions, high or low water levels; (c) nuclear or other industrial accident causing environmental pollution or contamination; or (d) change in law, meaning, enactment, amendment (including repeal) in the law or administration of any law in Australia or any jurisdiction or territory relevant to the booking contract, which includes changes in statute, regulation, determination, by-law, declaration, licence and the common law as applicable from time

### Termination of Booking Contract or Change of Travel Arrangements due to Force Majeure

If APT, in its reasonable opinion, considers that any Force Majeure event prevents APT (whether directly or through its employees, contractors, subcontractors and agents) from lawfully or safely providing any products or services subject of the booking contract with you, APT may immediately by written notice: (a) terminate the booking contract (in whole or in part); or (b) change your travel arrangements as reasonably practicable to ensure your safety and invoice you for any additional costs.

### Limitation of Liability in the Event of Force Maieure

In the event of a force majeure event making it impossible or unsafe for APT to deliver all or part of the Holiday Package, APT will refund the customer for the unperformed part of the Holiday Package less any reasonable losses incurred before cancellation. Losses may amount to a substantial proportion of the booking price. APT will use reasonable endeavours to minimise losses incurred by customers.

Customers must take out travel insurance to protect themselves against loss in the circumstances.

### ON HOLIDAY Noise & Vibration

You acknowledge and accept that some noise and vibration may be experienced on trains and that APT is not liable to you for any such noise or vibration.

#### Local Purchases

APT is not responsible for any items you may purchase locally i.e. jewellery/furniture etc. You acknowledge that you are solely responsible for any import duty or freight costs.

### APT Tour Directors

A dedicated APT Tour Director will only be available on tours with 10 or more passengers

### Personal Belongings & Lost Items

For security reasons, valuables should be kept to a minimum and packed in your hand luggage along with your medicines, camera, film, electrical or battery-operated appliances. It is your responsibility to look after your property at all times and you must ensure you are adequately covered by comprehensive travel insurance in the event

#### **Disruption to Itinerary Arrangements**

Under normal operating conditions itineraries will be delivered as per the brochure. However, sometimes for reasons beyond our control. it may be necessary to make alterations to your itinerary.

On occasion, significant flooding or low water levels do occur that can cause disruption to itineraries and may lead to early disembarkation. We recommend you take out comprehensive travel insurance that includes coverage of events such as these, as we will not be liable for any direct or indirect costs incurred as a result of such events or other factors beyond our control happening. Published itineraries are indicative only and subject to alterations and delays at short notice, though every effort will be made to ensure that the published itinerary is followed as closely as possible. The Tour Director and local guides are jointly responsible for passengers' comfort and safety. Therefore passengers must accept their decisions and instructions. APT will not be liable for any direct or indirect costs that you incur as a result of any event or factor beyond our control which necessitates a change in your itinerary. Additionally, you are not entitled to any refund for any alterations to your itinerary that are caused or contributed to by any flood or water level events or other such events which are beyond our control.

### ON RETURN FROM YOUR HOLIDAY

Data Protection Policy Any personal information (including sensitive information and health information) that APT obtains and retains from you or about you is necessary for our business purposes. Our Privacy Policy details why we collect this information, who we may disclose it to (including overseas recipients), and the main consequences if we do not collect it. Our Privacy Policy also contains information about how you may seek access to, or correction of, the personal information held about you, and our complaint resolution procedures. Our Privacy Policy is available at aptouring.co.nz/privacy or by request to us. By providing personal or sensitive information to us, you are agreeing to the terms of our Privacy Policy.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### Limitation of Liability

1. Our holiday packages include the services of independent providers, such as hoteliers, airlines, cruise companies and other operators, who are not agents, servants or employees of APT. Although we take care in selecting the independent service providers and the optional excursions conducted by some independent service providers, APT is not responsible for the conduct of the independent service providers, their servants and agents or for any ramifications of that conduct. Optional excursions may, depending on your holiday package, include activities such as climbing, exploring, bike riding, swimming and snorkelling. You accept and assume the risk involved with these activities.

2. If, in the opinion of any representative of APT, your mental or physical condition, or general behaviour is such as to affect your own health and safety, render you incapable to care for yourself, cause you to became a hazard to yourself or other passengers or result in you becoming objectionable to other passengers or staff, you will not be permitted to embark or continue on the whole or any part of the holiday package. Abuse or harassment of any kind toward crew, contracted suppliers or other guests may result in immediate removal from the tour or cruise. APT is not liable to you for any costs associated with such decision and you will not be refunded for any part of the holiday package.

3. APT accepts no responsibility for any death, injury, illness, loss (including loss of enjoyment), damage, detention, delay (including mechanical breakdown) beyond its control.

Any term, condition or warranty express or implied by statute or otherwise in respect to the holiday packages contained in this brochure are excluded to the full extent permitted by law. Nothing in brochure are excluded to the full extent permitted by law. Nothing in these booking conditions excludes, restricts or modifies the application of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth) as amended, consolidated, supplemented or replaced.

5. To the full extent permitted by law, APT's liability arising under or in connection with these booking conditions: (a) is limited to the re-supply of the products or services or the payment of the cost of re-supply of the products or services to you; and (b) excludes liability for any indirect or consequential losses suffered by you or any third party, howsoever caused, including but not limited to pure economic loss or any special, extraordinary or punitive damage to you or any other party

6. Your travel agent will forward deposits and other payments to us on your behalf, but your travel agent is not our agent for the purpose of receipt of monies. Receipt of deposits and subsequent payments by the travel agent does not constitute receipt of those monies by us and the travel agent has no authority expressed or implied to receive monies on our behalf. There is no liability on the part of APT in respect to any monies paid to your travel agent unless and until APT notifies you (by way of a booking confirmation advice or payment receipt advice) that monies have been received by APT. APT reserves the right to cancel any ticket or booking or refuse to carry any passenger where payment has not been received by APT within the specified time.

### Responsible Service of Alcohol

Our staff are trained to serve alcohol in a responsible manner and are obliged by law to refuse service to any guest who is in the reasonable opinion of any employee, intoxicated or behaving in a dangerous, aggressive or offensive manner.

### Medical Assistance

APT does not employ medical staff. If you require medical attention. Local medical services can be contacted immediately. You are responsible for the type or quality of the medical services you may require.

### APT Club

Details including the full range of benefits and conditions may be viewed on our website at aptouring.co.nz/APTClub/ memberbenefits or on page 86-87 of this brochure. Pre and post tour accommodation is only available to the value of \$350 per night per booking. Surcharges will apply if accommodation costs exceed this amount.

### Smoking

For other passengers' comfort there is no smoking on coaches or trains.

### Service Enquiries

If a problem occurs during your holiday you should, in your own interests, advise your Tour Director so that steps can be taken to resolve the matter. If you remain dissatisfied, any complaint must be made in writing to APT within 30 days.

### Luggage Limits

Each passenger is entitled to take one piece of luggage that does not exceed 160 cm (63 inches), or weigh more than 20 kilograms (44 pounds). Dimensions for checked baggage are calculated by adding together the width, height and depth of the piece of baggage. An extra charge will be imposed to cover porterage handling of any additional luggage. Your Tour Director will advise you of the exact additional charge. On internal flights, a luggage limit of 20kg (44 pounds) applies. Airlines may impose excess baggage fees at time of check-in. For passengers travelling in Premium Economy, Business and First Class the luggage allowance will be advised at the time of booking. All luggage is at "owner's risk".

### Maps Within This Publication

Note that maps may not be to scale

### Images Within This Publication

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### Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd

ABN 44 004 684 619. ATAS accreditation #A10825





Robert and Geoff McGeary, and Louise Tandy (née McGeary)

# **Proudly Australian Owned**

It has been a privilege to welcome so many guests aboard APT's award-winning journeys, and a joy to see those guests fall in love with each new experience the world presents. For many years, the unique spirit of our family-owned and operated company has set us apart – 2020 will be no exception. So it is with great pleasure that I invite you to Live Fully with APT.

Seof M. Geary

Geoff McGeary OAM APT Company Owner

# LIVE FULLY

# Call 0800 278 687

aptouring.co.nz

Groups: 0800 278 687 Tailor Made Journeys: 0800 000 308 Email: info@aptouring.co.nz

## Follow us on:



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# International Offices

New Zealand | United Kingdom Europe | North America

ATG PART OF THE APT TRAVEL GROUP Your Travel Agent

