



Golconda Fort, Hyderabad

A Grand Heritage Tour of India

4 - 18 March 2018

“This was a first-class tour with outstanding leaders (John and Susi Richardson), well thought out, imaginative and comprehensive programme. It was wonderful - thank you.”

Participant, Tales of the Raj, 2014



Jon Baines
tours



A tiger in Pench

India is a land like no other in the richness and diversity of its people, its culture and its history. It is home to one of the world's oldest religions and some of its most beautiful man made structures. It boasts spectacular landscapes and a vibrant society clinging to ancient traditions whilst embracing the modern world.

This tour explores the great heritage of India, following in the footsteps of the Mughals and the Raj. Visit the princely city of Hyderabad, the jungles of Pench (the setting for Kipling's *The Jungle Book*) and the elegant city of Lucknow, renowned for its cuisine and for being the centre of the uprising against the British in 1857. Continue to Chandigarh, Le Corbusier's modernist city, and onto the summer retreat of Shimla. Finish in Delhi, the capital of the Raj after 1911 and a city with rich Mughal and colonial history as well as a vibrant contemporary culture. Expert tour leaders John and Susi Richardson will share their knowledge and personal family connections with India throughout the tour.

Arrive in Hyderabad, a tale of two cities in one. Its teeming heart is one of India's most evocative ancient quarters with its stunning Islamic architecture, while its high tech city – or 'Cyderabad' – to the west glitters with malls, multiplexes, sleek clubs and restaurants.

Transfer to your hotel near the city centre and settle in before an optional film in the evening.

Spend the next day exploring this fascinating city, including the monumental Golconda Fort – Hyderabad's most impressive sight atop a 120m high hill with stunning vistas from the summit - the tombs of the aristocratic Paigah family and the opulent Chowmahalla Palace compound with its grandiose buildings and courtyards. In the afternoon visit Charminar, Hyderabad's principal landmark, built in 1591 to commemorate the founding of the city. The huge four-column, 56m-high structure has four arches facing the cardinal points, with minarets atop each column (hence the name Charminar, 'four minarets'). Return to the hotel in the



Chowmahalla Palace, Hyderabad



Martiniere School, Lucknow

evening to hear Susi Richardson give a talk on her long family connections in India.

Next morning set out for the Salar Jung Museum, an eclectic collection amassed by a grand vizier to the seventh nizam. In the afternoon visit the palatial Palladian British Residency, which features in William Dalrymple's *White Mughals*, and the magnificent eighteenth century tomb for Mah Laqa Bai, a renowned Urdu poet, courtesan and philanthropist.

Set off for the airport the following day to fly to Nagpur via Bombay. Arrive in the afternoon and transfer to the Mahua Resort in beautiful Pench National Park, the setting for Kipling's *The Jungle Book*.

The next two days mirror each other in their pattern of rising early for a jeep safari in the park, returning for breakfast at the hotel. Hear John Richardson give a range of fascinating talks (details in the itinerary) over the two days alongside time at leisure before heading out again for a late afternoon game drive, when different creatures will be afoot.

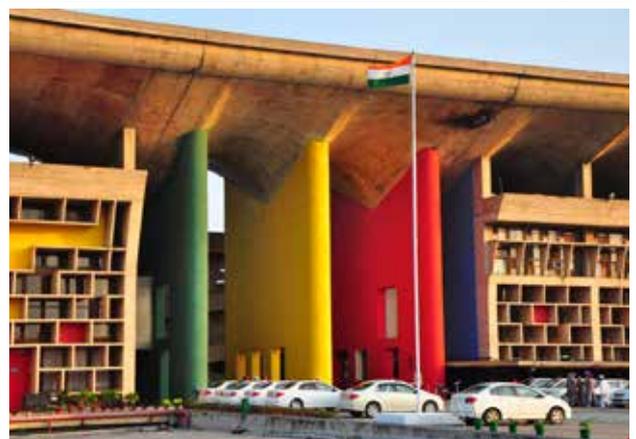
Drive back to Nagpur airport the following morning to fly to Lucknow via Delhi. Arrive in the afternoon and transfer to the hotel.

Lucknow has long been famous for its culture, elegance and rich cuisine. It was also the setting for the 140-day Siege of Lucknow in 1857. Spend

the following day exploring the city, including a visit to the colossal tomb of Bara Imanbara and the Rumi Darwaza and take horse drawn carriages to the Hussainabad Complex. Visit the Memorial Park and the historic Rav Advani Bookshop and hear John give a talk on the Lucknow Uprising and Siege. In the evening take a tour of Lucknow's street markets and sample its delicious street food.

The following morning visit the Alambagh, Dilkusha Palace and its gardens, the prestigious La Martinière boarding school and Sikander Bagh. Drive past Shah Najaf, Moti Mahal, Chater Manzil, and Farhad Buksh Palace and the riverbank to view the bridges on the way to lunch. In the afternoon visit the Lucknow Residency, which became the stage for one of the most dramatic events of the mutiny and still bears the battle scars today and hear an on site talk on Augusta Shakespear.

Next morning fly to Chandigarh via Delhi. Chandigarh is unique in India, famously



Imambara, Lucknow (top);
High Court building, Chandigarh (above)



designed by the Swiss architect, Le Corbusier, who designed a sweeping modernist vision in reinforced concrete. Its quirky offerings include the wonderful Nek Chand Rock Garden, a surreal fantasy created by a former transport official. Visit the Rock Garden in the afternoon, as well as the lovely Rose Garden with over 1500 varieties of rose.

The following day visit the Chandigarh Museum and Art Gallery, which boasts an excellent collection of artworks and treasures. In the afternoon board the *Himalayan Queen* toy train and enjoy the spectacular scenery as you ride to Shimla, where you will transfer to the hotel.

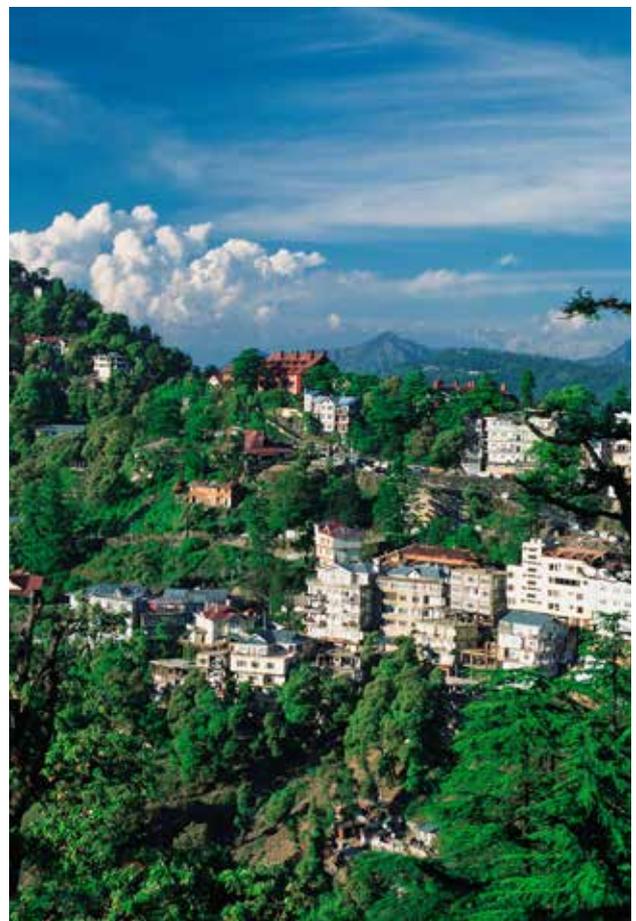
Shimla was the official summer capital of the Raj, to whose lush green peaks the government fled each year to escape the summer heat of the plains. Shimla's Victorian heritage can be seen in buildings such as the Vice Regal Lodge, Gaiety Theatre, Christ Church and the Bishop Cotton School, which you will explore the following day. Drive back to Chandigarh the next day to connect with your flight to Delhi. Arrive in the afternoon and transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day will be at leisure before hearing John give a talk on "Edward Thackeray and the Siege of Delhi".

Delhi is a vast and teeming metropolis that is as fascinating as it is overwhelming at first glance. Next morning explore imperial Delhi, visiting Flagstaff Tower, the Mutiny Memorial, Kashmir Gate, Skinner's Church and the majestic Red Fort, built in 1648. In the afternoon take a sightseeing tour of Old Delhi, which was the capital of Mughal India and contains some medieval treasures. Visit the immense Jama Masjid Mosque and travel through the narrow lanes of the Chandni Chowk in a rickshaw, visiting the spice market and Jewellers' Lane, before a farewell dinner in the evening.

Depart the hotel for the airport to connect with your return flight the next morning.

"Splendid hotel, fascinating boat trip and some interesting off-beat visits."

David Forsyth, *A Cruise Through History Along the Hooghly River, 2017*



High Court building, Chandigarh (top); Shimla hill station (above)

Itinerary 4 - 18 March 2018

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

3 nights Hyderabad – 3 nights PENCH – 3 nights Lucknow – 1 night Chandigarh –
2 nights Shimla – 2 nights Delhi

4 Mar (Sun)	Hyderabad B D	12 Mar (Mon)	Lucknow B D
Pm	Arrival and transfer to the hotel	Am	Visit Alambagh, Dilkusha Palace and its park, the La Martinière School and Sikandar Bagh. Drive past Shah Najaf, Moti Mahal, Chater Manzil and Farhad Buksh Palace via the riverbank to view the bridges on the way to lunch
Eve	Optional Film: "Love and Betrayal" - the story of a British resident in Hyderabad	Pm	Visit the Lucknow Residency with on site talk: " <i>1835: Home of Augusta Shakespear</i> "
5 Mar (Mon)	Hyderabad B D	13 Mar (Tues)	Lucknow / Chandigarh B D
Am	Visit Golconda Fort, tour Paigah Tombs and visit Chowmahalla Palace	Am	Fly to Chandigarh via Delhi
Pm	Visit the Charminar district	Pm	Explore Chandigarh, "the best-planned city in India", including Nek Chand's Rock Garden and the Zakir Hussain Rose Garden
Eve	Talk: " <i>Thackerays and Shakespears; my family in India</i> " Susi Richardson	14 Mar (Wed)	Chandigarh / Shimla B D
6 Mar (Tues)	Hyderabad B D	Am	Visit the Chandigarh Museum and Art Gallery
Am	Visit the Salar Jung Museum	Pm	Take the <i>Himalayan Queen</i> toy train to Shimla and transfer to the hotel
Pm	Visit the British Residency and the Mah Laqa Bai's tombs	15 Mar (Thur)	Shimla B L D
7 Mar (Wed)	Hyderabad / PENCH B D	Am	Full day to explore Shimla including the Vice Regal Lodge and the Gaiety Theatre
Am	Fly to Nagpur via Bombay	Pm	Vegetarian thali lunch. Visit Christ Church and Bishop Cotton School
Pm	Arrive and transfer to PENCH National Park and check into the Mahua Resort	16 Mar (Fri)	Shimla / Delhi B L
8 Mar (Thur)	PENCH B L D	Am	Drive to Chandigarh
Am	Early morning jeep safari in PENCH National Park. Return for breakfast. Talk: " <i>Sir William Sleeman and the suppression of Thugee</i> " and " <i>Wolf Boys</i> "	Pm	Fly to Delhi. Arrive and transfer to the hotel
Pm	Late afternoon game drive	Eve	Talk: John Richardson " <i>Edward Thackeray and the Siege and Assault of Delhi, 1857</i> "
9 Mar (Fri)	PENCH B L D	17 Mar (Sat)	Delhi B D
Am	Early morning jeep safari in PENCH National Park. Return for breakfast. Talk: " <i>Tiger Henry Shakespeare – Author of The Wild Sports of India 1860</i> "	Am	Visit the Flagstaff Tower, the Mutiny Memorial, Kashmir Gate, Skinner's Church and the Red Fort
Pm	Late afternoon game drive	Pm	Visit Jama Masjid Mosque and the old winding lanes of the Chadni Chowk Bazaar by rickshaw
10 Mar (Sat)	PENCH / Lucknow B D	18 Mar (Sun)	Delhi B
Am	Drive to Nagpur airport for flight to Lucknow via Delhi	Am	Depart Delhi
Pm	Arrive Lucknow and transfer to the hotel		
11 Mar (Sun)	Lucknow B D		
Am	Visit the Bara Imanbara and the Rumi Darwaza. Ride in tongas (horse drawn carriages) to Hussainabad Complex		
Pm	Visit the Memorial Park and the Rav Advani bookshop. Talk: " <i>The Great Uprising, the Siege of Lucknow and Edward Thackeray VC</i> "		
Eve	Culinary and cultural tour of Lucknow markets		

NB: All itineraries are subject to change according to local conditions. This itinerary is ground only and departure and arrival dates may differ.

"It was a delight to travel with John and Susi Richardson. They looked after us superbly."

Sarah Orr, *A Cruise Through History Along the Hooghly River*, 2017



The central courtyard of Lubua Hotel, Lucknow

Hotels

Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Banjara Hills (Hyderabad)

This 5-star hotel is located near the bustling city centre with the city's major shopping malls, movie theatres and gourmet restaurants within a short walk or ride from the hotel. The rooms are spacious and comfortable and amenities include a spa, swimming pool and fitness centre.

Mahua Vann Resort (Pench)

A supremely comfortable and welcoming resort set in more than 11 acres of beautiful grounds, surrounded by seasonal streams on two sides and a pond. This eco resort is abundant with wildlife and has a lovely pool, a restaurant and library, and many peaceful places to enjoy nature.

Lubua Heritage Hotel (Lucknow)

This boutique hotel is inspired by the sprawling traditional bungalow in the art deco style of the early 1900s. The stunning public areas and rooms are modernised and impeccably stylish, with a vast lush green lawn and beautiful outdoor pool.

Lemon Tree Hotel (Chandigarh)

A modern business hotel that embraces a simple yet dynamic and colourful style, The Lemon Tree is well located with excellent hospitality.

Woodville Palace Hotel (Shimla)

Step back into the days of the Raj in the only Palace Hotel in Shimla. This heritage property is the former summer residence of the Raja Rana of Jubbal, and owned and managed privately by the descendants of the Jubbal royal family. Each room has its own individual character inspired by the 1930s art deco era and personal artefacts of the family. Nestled within 4 acres of greenery, Woodville Palace Hotel is a comfortable stroll from the main Mall Road.

The Hans Plaza Hotel (Delhi)

With comfortable, impeccably clean and spacious rooms, the mid range Hans Plaza Hotel provides an unbeatable central location and excellent service. It also has a spa.



The Woodville Palace Hotel, Shimla

Tour leaders

Dr John Richardson is Emeritus Defence Professor of Primary Care and General Practice. He has led study tours worldwide and was a medical escort to parties of veterans on journeys of remembrance for the Royal British Legion. He has also run many history of medicine battlefield tours. He has visited 80 countries and worked in 41 of them as a doctor. John has previously led tours for Jon Baines Tours to China, Central Asia, India, Turkey, Central America, Ecuador and the Galapagos, Namibia, Ethiopia, Indo-China and Burma. He has also given lectures and led on cruises.

Susi Richardson has travelled widely across the world either as an expedition nurse, or as a nurse on war grave pilgrimages for the Royal British Legion, co-tour leader for Jon Baines Tours, or accompanying her husband on his British Army medical officer postings. Five generations of her Shakespear family served in India on her grandmother's side, and three generations of Cooke family on her grandfather's side, covering almost continuously two hundred years of the history of British India in a variety of roles and occupations.

Speaker

Rajesh Rampal is an author and acclaimed authority on 19th century Indian history. He has lectured internationally and has escorted British Army officers and the BBC around Delhi. Rajesh will join the group in Delhi to provide entertaining and informative commentary.

“John is an excellent tour leader – calm, relaxed, well-informed and genial.”

Alan Bittles, *The Road to Mandalay*, 2013

The ground only cost of the tour is USD \$4,336 (excludes international flights and transfers)

In India the cost includes:

- Comprehensive briefing notes
- The services of tour leaders (Professor John and Susi Richardson) and speaker (Rajesh Rampal)
- 14 nights' accommodation in medium grade and boutique hotels

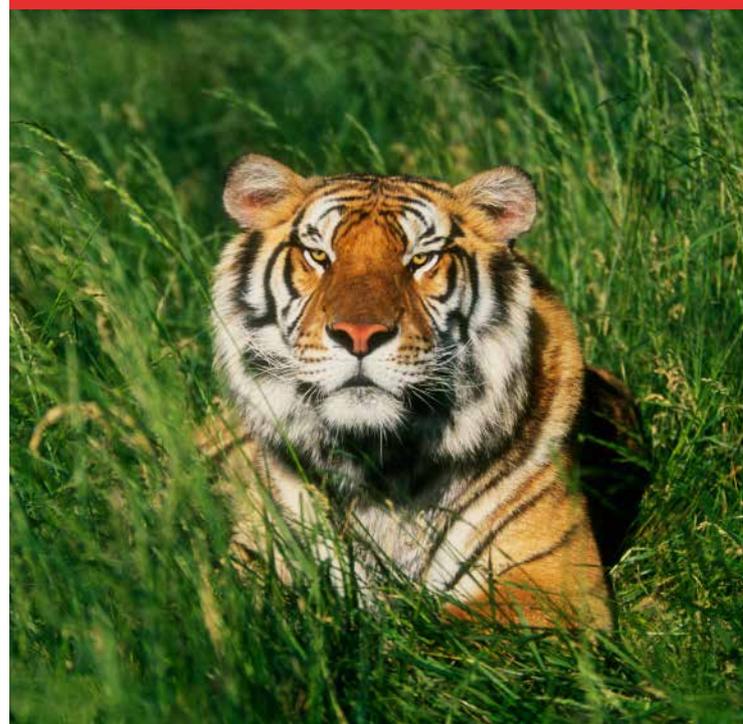
Single room supplement: USD \$974

- Breakfast and dinner daily (all meals in the game park)
- A full cultural itinerary and admission fees where applicable
- Water on the bus
- Full time English speaking national guide
- All transport in India
- Tips

The cost excludes:

- Meals not mentioned
- All personal extras such as laundry, inoculation fees and drinks
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Travel insurance and visas
- International flights and transfers *

* If you require help booking flights to India please contact the London or Melbourne office.



The original Shere Khan in Pench

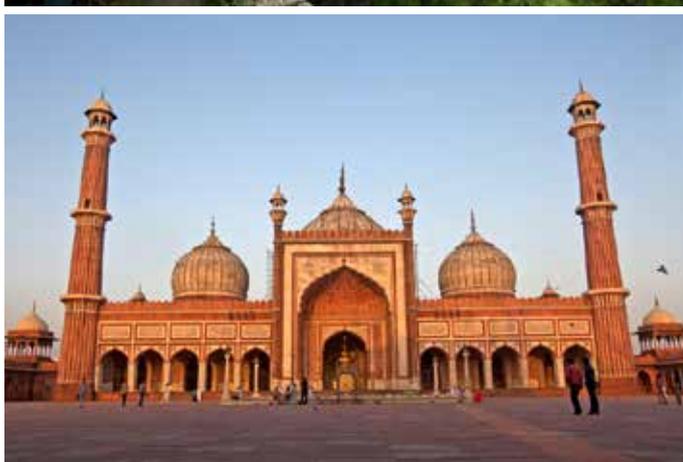
About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.

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Lucknow (top); Chandigarh Museum of Architecture;
Take the toy train to Shimla; Jama Masjid Mosque, Delhi (above)



Jon Baines
tours

