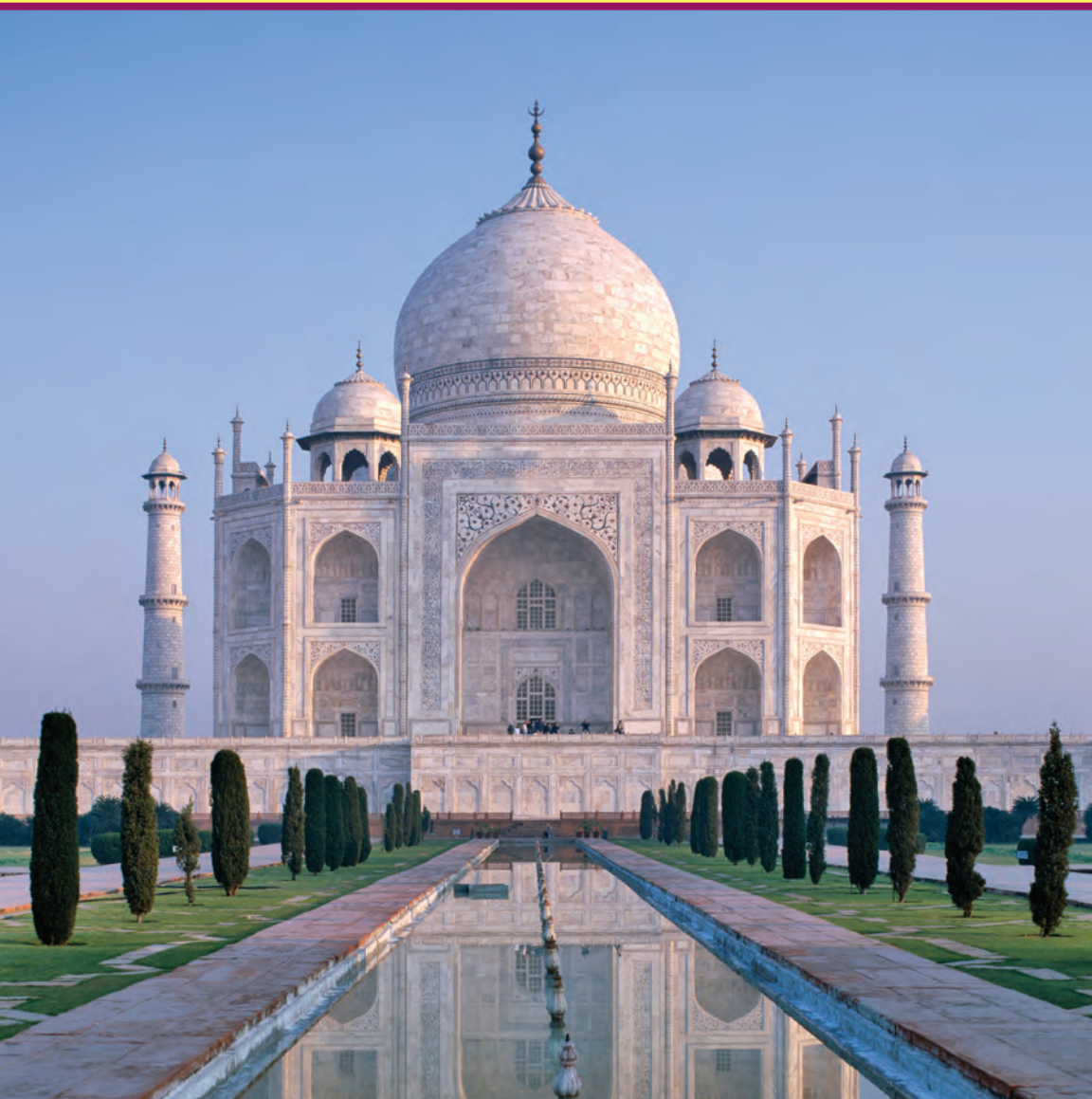




Mystical India

with Ranthambore Tiger Preserve
October 22-November 7, 2023

17 days for \$5,587 total price from San Francisco
(\$4,795 air & land inclusive plus \$792 airline taxes and fees)



**An Exclusive Small Group Tour
for the Commonwealth Club**



Dear Club Travelers,

We invite you to join us on an exclusive 17-day small group tour of Northern India. Discover sites steeped in history, with art and architecture that reveal domestic and foreign influences on India's culture.

This distinctive journey includes visits to the historic districts of Old and New Delhi, one ancient and the other built by the British; Agra, stronghold of the medieval Mughal Empire and home to the sublime Taj Mahal; and Jaipur, the "pink city" in the princely state of Rajasthan. Enjoy a two-night stay at Ranthambore Tiger Preserve, home to the elusive Bengal tiger. Visit pastoral Kalakho and meet local Meena tribespeople. Finally, explore Varanasi, India's holiest city, experiencing life along the sacred Ganges. An optional 6-day/4-night post-tour extension to Nepal is also available.

Space is limited to 24 guests, and we expect this tour to fill quickly. Your deposit is fully refundable up until 95 days prior to departure. Book risk-free today!

Sincerely,

Kristina Nemeth, Director of Travel

COMMONWEALTH CLUB RESERVATION FORM: MYSTICAL INDIA

To reserve your place on tour, **please call The Commonwealth Club at (415) 597-6720 or e-mail travel@commonwealthclub.org**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with a Commonwealth Club representative.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to The Commonwealth Club's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **The Commonwealth Club**
110 The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94105

MYSTICAL INDIA • OCTOER 22-NOVEMBER 7, 2023

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an air upgrade to _____

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability) ☐

Post-Tour "Nepal" Extension: Please sign me/us up ☐

We require membership in the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. Please check one of the following options:

☐ I am a current member of the Commonwealth Club.

☐ I will visit commonwealthclub.org/membership to sign up for a membership.

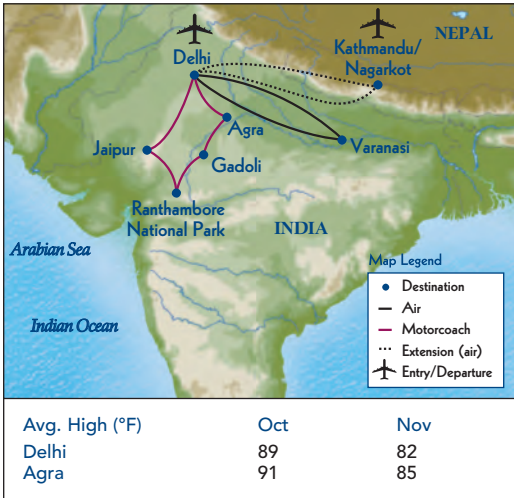
Tour membership limited to 24 guests

Mystical India

with Ranthambore Tiger Preserve

17 days for \$5,587 total price from San Francisco
(\$4,795 air & land inclusive plus \$792 airline taxes and fees)

Mystical and spiritual, chaotic and confounding, India overflows with riches. While staying at excellent hotels, we travel the classic Golden Triangle: bustling Delhi; Agra, home of the sublime Taj Mahal; and Jaipur, great city of the Rajput. We also search for elusive Bengals at Ranthambore Tiger Preserve, and absorb the holiness of Varanasi.



Sunday, October 22: Depart U.S. for Delhi, India

Monday, October 23: Arrive Delhi We arrive in India's hyperactive capital late evening and transfer to our hotel.

Tuesday, October 24: Delhi After a morning at leisure followed by a briefing about the journey ahead, we set out to discover Old Delhi. Our first stop is Qutb Minar, the 379-step tower dating to 1192. We continue on to Gandhi Smriti, a museum dedicated to the Indian icon; and pass by India Gate, the majestic arch honoring the 90,000 Indian soldiers who died fighting alongside the British in World War I. Late this afternoon we return to our hotel, where tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner together. *B,D*

Wednesday, October 25: Delhi We encounter more of this pulsating city today, beginning at Raj Ghat, the simple black marble slab honoring Mahatma Gandhi. After stopping for photos at Lal Qila, the Red Fort complex of palaces, we visit a Sikh temple followed by lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon's sights include the red sandstone and marble Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque; and the colorful Chandni Chowk market, where we ride rickshaws. Then the remainder of the day is free for further exploration and dinner on our own. *B,L*

Thursday, October 26: Delhi/Jaipur Today we travel by coach to the "pink city" of Jaipur, one of the great cities of the Rajput, with historic forts, palaces, and gardens. We reach our hotel late afternoon. *B,L,D*

Friday, October 27: Jaipur Our first stop is the stunning Hawa Mahal, the elaborately carved pink sandstone "Palace of the Winds." We continue on to Amber Fort, built by the Kachhawah Rajputs as their capital from 1037 to 1728; Jantar Mantar, the open-air observatory; and City Palace Museum, housing the magnificent art collections of the Maharajahs of Jaipur. *B,L*

Saturday, October 28: Jaipur/Sanganer This morning we visit the village of Sanganer to see traditional

Small Group Tour Highlights

Tours of Old and New Delhi • Home-hosted dinner with Jaipur family • Magnificent Taj Mahal • Two-night stay at Ranthambore Tiger Preserve • Meena tribal home visit • "Pink City" of Jaipur • Holy city of Varanasi • Pilgrimage site of Sarnath temple and museum

| Day | Itinerary | Hotel | Rating |
|-------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Depart U.S. for Delhi | | |
| 2-4 | Delhi | Taj Palace, New Delhi | Deluxe |
| 5-7 | Jaipur | Jai Mahal Palace | Deluxe |
| 8-9 | Ranthambore | Vivanta Sawai Madhopur Lodge | First Class |
| 10 | Gadoli | The Clement Village Retreat | Not rated |
| 11-12 | Agra | Courtyard Marriott Agra | Sup. First Class |
| 13-15 | Varanasi | Taj Ganges, Varanasi | Sup. First Class |
| 16 | Delhi | Hotel Pullman New Delhi Aerocity | Deluxe |
| 17 | Depart Delhi for U.S. | | |

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference. Unrated hotels may be too small, too new, or too remote to be listed.

Cover photo: Visit the Taj Mahal, a UNESCO site considered one of the world's most beautiful buildings.



Visit Amber Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage site, on Friday, October 27.

block printing and handmade paper industries. Later we see local life up close as we explore an outdoor market. Tonight we are dinner guests in the home of a multi-generational Rajasthan family. *B,D*

Sunday, October 29: Jaipur/Ranthambore We travel today to Ranthambore National Park, the former hunting ground of the Maharajah of Jaipur and now a 512-square-mile natural preserve that is home to hundreds of species of birds, reptiles, mammals, and of course, Bengal tigers. This afternoon we take our first game drive through the park. *B,L,D*

Monday, October 30: Ranthambore We take both morning and afternoon game drives today to see not only game (though tiger and leopard sightings are not guaranteed), but also picturesque ruins of forts and palaces. *B,L,D*

Tuesday, October 31: Ranthambore/Gadoli We depart early for Gadoli, where we set out on a village walk to meet local Meena tribespeople in their homes. Tonight we enjoy a traditional folk dance performance. *B,L,D*

Wednesday, November 1: Gadoli/Agra En route to Agra, we stop in the ancient village of Abhaneri to see the fortified Chand Baori step well (c. 800 CE), whose 3,500 steps descend some 13 stories into the ground. Continuing on, we reach the ancient Mughal stronghold of Agra, where this afternoon we visit Itimad-ud-Daulah, the two-story marble “Baby Taj” that inspired the Taj Mahal. *B,D*

Thursday, November 2: Agra This morning we visit the Taj Mahal, the magnificent tomb built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife

Mumtaz. Then we take an Indian cuisine cooking lesson and enjoy the results for lunch. Later: imposing Agra Fort. *B,L*

Friday, November 3: Agra/Delhi/Varanasi We depart by coach this morning for Delhi, where we

Post-Tour Extension

November 7-12, 2023

Nepal

6 days/4 nights for \$1,395 total price

Single Supplement: \$375

Absorb the beauty of the Himalayan kingdom – and the warmth of its people – on this special journey featuring sacred shrines, royal cities, and indigenous lifestyles.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation Delhi/Kathmandu, inclusive of airline taxes and fees
- 4 nights’ accommodations: 2 nights in Nagarkot at Club Himalaya Nagarkot (Superior First Class), 2 nights in Kathmandu at Crowne Plaza Soaltee (Superior First Class), day room in Delhi
- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing, including Pashupatinath shrine (UNESCO site); Boudhanath monument; colorful Bhaktapur, “City of Devotees;” Swayambhunath Temple; royal city of Patan; and Kathmandu and environs
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



THE BUTTERFLY COUNTS
NOT MONTHS BUT MOMENTS,
AND HAS TIME ENOUGH.”

– RABINDRANATH TAGORE

board a late afternoon flight to Varanasi, Hinduism’s holiest city. *B,L,D*

Saturday, November 4: Varanasi/Sarnath Before breakfast today, those who wish can join in a private yoga session. Then we visit nearby Sarnath, where the Buddha first taught after achieving enlightenment. One of Buddhism’s four holiest sites, Sarnath draws pilgrims from the world over. We see some of the temples and stupas then tour Sarnath Museum, housing a superb collection of Buddhist artifacts from excavations here. Late afternoon we attend a traditional *aarti* ceremony: as we cruise along the Ganges, we watch as devout Hindus offer their lit lamps to the deities. *B,D*

Sunday, November 5: Varanasi Early this morning we return to the Ganges where Hindu pilgrims perform their rituals along the *ghats* (steps) leading to the river. We visit several *ghats* by boat as we experience for ourselves the spiritual aura of the hallowed Ganges waters. Then we return to our hotel with time to rest before this afternoon’s walking tour



Bengal tiger rests in Ranthambore.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within India
- 15 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, First Class, and unrated hotels
- 32 meals: 14 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Commonwealth Club representative at 15 guests
- Educational program throughout the trip
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We explore Jaipur’s Amber Fort on Day 6.

and private performance of classical sitar. Tonight we celebrate our journey at a farewell dinner at our hotel. *B,D*

Monday, November 6: Varanasi/Delhi We fly this afternoon to Delhi, where the evening is at leisure. *B*

Tuesday, November 7: Return to U.S. Very early this morning we transfer to the airport for our return flight to the U.S.

Tour Departs: October 22, 2023

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|
| San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle | \$5,587 |
| Boston, New York | \$5,387 |
| Denver, Portland | \$5,887 |
| Land Only (transfers not included) | \$4,395 |

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$792, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,495. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: \$4,695 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking, as well as some lengthy coach rides. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

Contact Club Travel at

415-597-6720

travel@commonwealthclub.org
www.commonwealthclub.org/travel

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations, inoculations, and COVID-19 testing; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

Eligibility: We require membership in the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. People who live outside of the Bay Area may purchase a national membership. To learn about membership types and to purchase a membership, visit commonwealthclub.org/membership or call (415) 597-6720.

Responsibility: The liability of the Commonwealth Club, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, the Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations for this tour and not use those provided by Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., we recommend that you do not do so until making your final payment to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. However, if you choose to make your own flight arrangements, the Penn State Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from tour cancellations or changes in this tour.**

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols: The well-being of our guests and staff members on tour will continue to be our highest priorities. To maintain a healthy environment for travel, we will be establishing and adhering to a detailed set of health and safety protocols for all facets of your tour. We are committed to following the guidelines of the State Department, CDC, WHO, and authorities of respective countries regarding travel to a particular destination. Detailed protocols for this tour, based on conditions at the time, will be provided to you prior to your departure.

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. CST #207797 3-40
The Commonwealth Club CST #2096889-40



The Commonwealth Club
110 The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94105

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TO INDIA!

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