



**Commonwealth  
Club Travel**

Informed Travel for the Discerning Mind



Journey to  
**NORTHERN INDIA**

*with Diwali: The Festival of Lights*

**17 Days, October 23 - November 8, 2013**

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*Featuring Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Varanasi*

*Optional extension to the Pushkar Camel Fair*

Dear Traveler,

Home to the ancient Indus Valley Civilization and a region of historic trade routes and vast empires, the Indian subcontinent was identified with its commercial and cultural wealth for much of its long history. Four of the world's major religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism—originated here, and the art, architecture and sights continue to beckon travelers from all over the world.

Today India is also the most populous democracy in the world and a leader in technology development. It offers remarkable perspectives on where the modern world intersects with life as it has been lived for centuries. Our itinerary includes the capital Delhi; Agra's Taj Mahal, a poem in marble, built by Emperor Shah Jahan; the rose pink city of Jaipur; the forts and palace in Jodhpur; the 15th-century Jain temple at Ranakpur with exquisite marble carvings; Romantic Udaipur with its lakes and palaces; and finally, the sacred Hindu city of Varanasi.

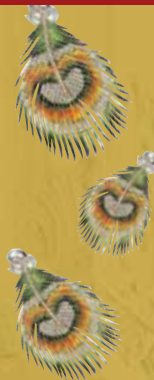
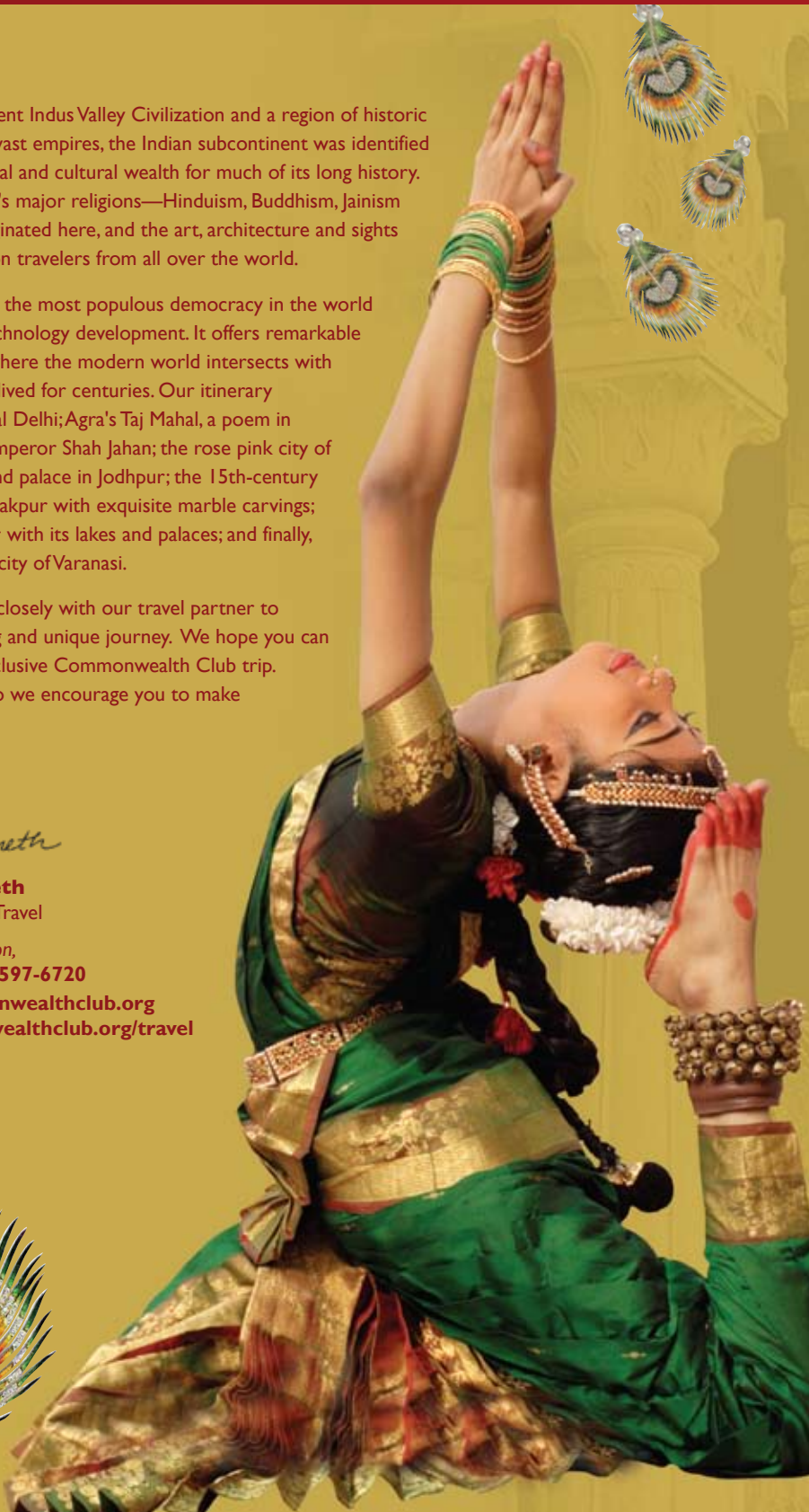
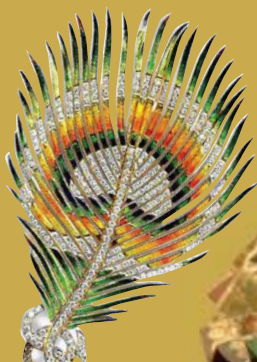
We have worked closely with our travel partner to design an engaging and unique journey. We hope you can join us on this exclusive Commonwealth Club trip. Space is limited, so we encourage you to make reservations now!

Best regards,



**Kristina Nemeth**  
Director of Club Travel

For more information,  
please call us **415-597-6720**  
[travel@commonwealthclub.org](mailto:travel@commonwealthclub.org)  
[www.commonwealthclub.org/travel](http://www.commonwealthclub.org/travel)





### **Tour Manager**

Arvind Sharma is a graduate in history with special interest in medieval history of India. His specialty includes the religion and culture of India. He has worked as a tour manager for over two decades and has escorted groups of distinguished guests from the U.S.A., U.K. and Europe to various parts of India. With his knowledge of the country, his friends in the Indian travel industry combined with his humor, enthusiasm and friendliness, he makes the ideal tour leader. He enjoys reading and yoga. Born in 1961, Arvind lives in the outskirts of Delhi with his wife.



### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explore the capital city of New Delhi
- Enjoy a pedi-cab (trishaw) ride in Old Delhi
- Experience the mesmerizing Taj Mahal
- Discover the grand forts and palaces of Rajasthan
- Enjoy a thrilling Elephant ride at Amber Fort
- Visit the colorful and vibrant 'bazaars' of Jaipur
- Admire the ornate Jain temple at Ranakpur
- Marvel at the Crystal Gallery at City Palace in Udaipur
- Witness the Hindu rituals on the holy river Ganges in Varanasi
- Enrich your travel experience with lectures and discussions with local experts on topics of regional interest



### **ACTIVITY LEVEL OF THE TRIP**

Moderately active: Faster pace, substantial distances covered, moderate walking and stair-climbing. Participants should be in active good health to fully enjoy this tour.



## TOUR ITINERARY

**OCTOBER 23, WED: DEPART SAN FRANCISCO-** Depart for New Delhi, India.

**OCTOBER 24, THU: ARRIVE DELHI-** Late evening arrival into Delhi. Eight successive cities were built by various rulers in and around present day Delhi. **ITC Maurya**

**OCTOBER 25, FRI: DELHI-** Attend a briefing with U.S. foreign service staff to learn about the work our government is doing in India. We tour New Delhi, visiting the Humayun's Tomb, known as the first example of the Mughal imperial architecture. Visit 800 year old Qutab Minar, a 234ft high sandstone tower. Drive past the President's house along the majestic Rajpath and visit the Temple of the Sikhs. In the evening, attend our welcome reception. **(B, D)**

**OCTOBER 26, SAT: DELHI-** Explore Old Delhi this morning starting with Red Fort, the palace for the Mughal Emperor, Shah Jahan. Enjoy a trishaw ride through Chandni Chowk (the old shopping street) and view Jama Masjid, one of the largest mosques in India. Visit Raj Ghat, a memorial to the great Mahatma Gandhi; tour Akshardham Temple, the largest Hindu temple complex in the world. **(B, L)**

**OCTOBER 27, SUN: DELHI, AGRA-** Morning visit the National Museum and proceed

to Agra en route visit Sikandra, the mausoleum of Mughal Emperor Akbar. The earliest reference to Agra is in the epic 'The Mahabharata'. Ptolemy, Alexander the Great's geographer also called it Agra. It was, however, in the medieval period that Agra earned prominence as a capital city under the Mughals. **(B, L) ITC MUGHAL**

**OCTOBER 28, MON: AGRA-** This morning, experience the wonder and beauty of the iconic Taj Mahal. We also visit Agra Fort and learn about the arts of this region with visit to a marble workshop and visit "private collections" of gems/jewelry and embroidery/tapestries. **(B, D)**

**OCTOBER 29, TUE: AGRA, JAIPUR-** Today drive to Jaipur, the rose-pink capital of Rajasthan, surrounded on all sides by rugged hills. En route we stop at Fatehpur Sikri, the once fabled Moghul capital and the ornate step-well at Abhaneri. Experience the flavors of Indian cinema at local movie theatre for a Bollywood movie. **(B, L) ITC RAJPUTANA**

**OCTOBER 30, WED: JAIPUR-** Visit the Amber Palace atop an elephant. Tour the City Palace and Jantar Mantar, an 18th century astronomical observatory. Also, see the ornate and elaborate Hawa Mahal, the Palace of Winds and visit the Albert Museum and art galleries with antique displays and collection of sculptures,

paintings, and objects d'art. Explore the bazaars in the old walled city. Take an early evening walk to explore the street life, small temples, alleys and markets of Jaipur. Enjoy dinner with a Rajasthani royal family at their traditional 'haveli', mansion. **(B, D)**

**OCTOBER 31, THU: JAIPUR, JODHPUR-** Morning drive to Jodhpur. The 15th century city of Jodhpur, with its blend of modern and traditional buildings, stands at the edge of the Thar Desert. The city is dominated by Meherangarh Fort which sprawls across a 350 foot hill. Visit the Umaid Bhawan Palace museum, which houses the priceless collection of the Maharaja of Jodhpur. Later, visit to the downtown Clock Tower Market to see the colorful spice, vegetable, textile and silver markets. **(B, D) VIVANT BY TAJ HARI MAHAL**

**NOVEMBER 1, FRI: JODHPUR-** We will visit the Meherangarh Fort with a magnificent view of this Blue city from the ramparts. Visit Jaswant Thada, the white marble memorial to Maharaja Jaswant Singh II built in 1899. Enjoy a walk through the blue city of Jodhpur. **(B, D)**

**NOVEMBER 2, SAT: JODHPUR, UDAIPUR-** Travel to Rohet, where we board jeeps and explore a remote rural part of western Rajasthan. Expect to meet local people and witness their traditions. We may also encounter the agile black buck, wild camels or flights of rare birds. Continue by bus to Udaipur. En route we visit the Jain temples of Ranakpur - a highlight is meeting with the temple priest. **(B, L, D) FATEH GARH**

**NOVEMBER 3, SUN: UDAIPUR-** Explore the vast and exquisite City Palace of the Maharana, the Jagdish Temple, the Garden of the Maids-of-Honor, and the elegant Crystal Gallery, featuring furniture made from Belgian glass. This afternoon visit a school and take a sunset boat cruise on Lake Pichola. Evening participate in a special religious ceremony and witness the Festival of Lights, Diwali. **(B, D)**

**NOVEMBER 4, MON: UDAIPUR-** Morning at leisure to enjoy your hotel. Afternoon visit the local market and witness an Indian music and dance show. **(B, L)**

**NOVEMBER 5, TUE: UDAIPUR, DELHI, VARANASI-** Fly to Delhi and connect with a flight to one of the oldest and most fascinating cities in India, Varanasi. With its array of shrines, temples, and palaces rising in several tiers from the water's edge, Varanasi is the holiest city for Hindus.



Witness prayer ceremonies on a sunset cruise along the Ganges River. **(B, D) TAJ GATEWAY GANGES**

**NOVEMBER 6, WED: VARANASI-** Enjoy an early morning boat ride on the Ganges River to see Hindu rituals, and take a tour of Varanasi city. Later visit Sarnath, the site where Lord Buddha preached his first sermon. This evening, gather for our farewell dinner. **(B, D)**

**NOVEMBER 7, THU: VARANASI, DELHI-** Fly back to Delhi. A day room is available until the evening. Transfer to the international airport for homebound flights. **(B) RADISSON**

**NOVEMBER 8, FRI: DELHI, SAN FRANCISCO-** Return flight to San Francisco.



## Lecture Program

The program includes a series of lectures and discussions with opportunities for informal dialogue on a wide range of issues and current events.

## HOTEL RATINGS

Delhi	ITC Maurya	5 Star
Agra	ITC Mughal	5 Star
Jaipur	ITC Rajputana	5 Star
Jodhpur	Vivanta by Taj Hari Mahal	4 Star Superior
Udaipur	Fateh Garh	4 Star Superior
Varanasi	Taj Gateway Ganges	4 Star Superior
Delhi	Radisson	5 Star

## YOUR TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

Air: All internal air coach class within India.

Hotels: Accommodations are provided in luxury, deluxe, superior first class. All have private bathroom facilities. Tour prices are based on double occupancy in a twin-bedded room. All applicable hotel room taxes and service charges are included.

Meals: are included as indicated by the symbols: (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch and (D) Dinner. Most hotels offer a full American buffet breakfast and lunch/dinner buffets with choices of continental and Indian food. Tea/coffee/bottled water is included with group meals. Bottled water is included and available on the coach throughout the trip.

Transfers: are included as per itinerary for passengers who arrive and depart on the exact dates and flights of the tour. Non-group transfers can be arranged with our tour operator.

Sightseeing: Comprehensive sightseeing in each city and entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary are included by air conditioned motor coach or private automobile with drivers and English speaking local guides.

Tour Staff: Services of an India expert tour manager are provided from the first point of arrival until departure. Commonwealth Club tour representative also accompanies with a minimum of 10 travelers.

Gratuities: On the main tour, all tips to transfer reps, porters at hotels/airports, and restaurant staff for group meals are included. (not included on tour extensions).

## TOUR PRICES

per person,  
double occupancy

### Land Only

15-24 persons

**\$4,995**

10-14 persons

**\$5,495**

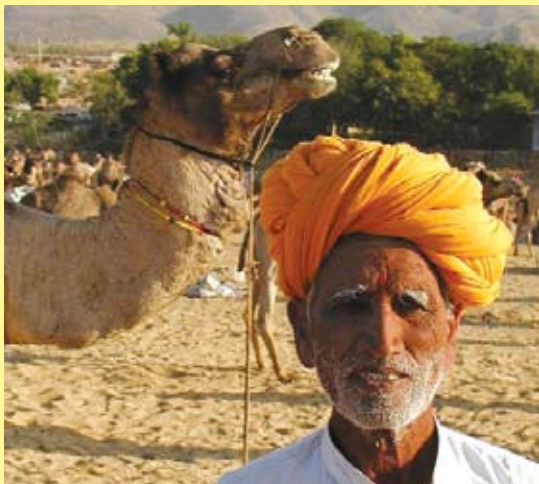
Single room supplement

**\$1,595**

*Approximate coach class airfare San Francisco/New Delhi round trip \$1,550 per person including taxes.*

## TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, passport and visa fee, insurance, any meals and transportation that is not part of the itinerary, foreign airport taxes, excess baggage charges, gratuities for activities on your own, beverages, laundry, phone calls, faxes, and any other such items of personal nature. Not included are tips/gratuities to bus driver (suggested \$5 per person, per day) and to your India tour manager (suggested \$10 per person, per day).



## POST TOUR EXTENSION: PUSHKAR CAMEL FAIR (5 DAYS)

Thu., Nov. 07 – Varanasi/Delhi. Today fly with the main group to Delhi. CROWN PLAZA GURGAON

Fri., Nov. 08 – Delhi/Chomu. Drive to Chomu Palace, a grand Heritage hotel, located next to a village. Later enjoy an escorted easy walk through the colorful local bazaar behind the hotel. (B, L, D) CHOMU PALACE

Sat., Nov. 09 – Chomu/Pushkar. Morning, drive to Pushkar to attend the Pushkar Camel Fair. In the afternoon, witness the festivities. (B, L, D) WELCOMHERITAGE ROYAL TENTS

Sun, Nov. 10 – Pushkar. Full day witness the festivities. (B, L, D)

Mon., Nov. 11 – Pushkar/Jaipur/Delhi/USA. This morning, witness the festivities. In the afternoon, drive back to Jaipur airport for your flight to Delhi. Stay in Transit and connect homebound flight. (B)

Tue., Nov. 12 - Depart Delhi. Homebound Flights.

## TOUR EXTENSION PRICES Per Person sharing basis

Double Occupancy

**\$1,395**

Single room supplement

**\$550**



# RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!



Trip#: \_\_\_\_\_ **17 Days, October 23 - November 08, 2013**  
For Office Only: B# \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/s (as it appears on passport)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Tour Reservations:

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

- Land Only  Call me with an air quote
- I prefer single accommodations at an additional **\$1,595** (limited availability)
- Sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (Send separate form.)
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is not available at this time, and pay the single supplement, pending availability. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

## Tour Deposit

Enclosed is a deposit of \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$700** per person required) to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to Worldview Tours.
- Charge my deposit to  Master Card  Visa  American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature as it appears on credit card)

I have read and agree to conditions, cancellation and refund policies, as stated on this brochure.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Each tour member must sign)

## Please sign, date and return to:

**Commonwealth Club Travel**  
595 Market Street, 2nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: **415-597-6720** or **800-933-7548**  
Or Fax this reservation form to **415-597-6729**

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by **July 26, 2013** (90 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa or American Express. Make deposit checks payable to **Worldview Tours** and mail to **Commonwealth Club Travel**.

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact us no later than 60 days prior to departure and we will be happy to book your reservations.

For more information, call **415-597-6720**

email [travel@commonwealthclub.org](mailto:travel@commonwealthclub.org)

Fax **415-597-6729**

or visit [www.commonwealthclub.org/travel](http://www.commonwealthclub.org/travel)

## RESERVATIONS

A \$700 deposit, along with the completed Trip Registration Form will reserve a space for you. Final payments are due 90 days prior to departure.

## UNUSED TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

No refunds are made for any missed services including hotel accommodations and meals.

## BAGGAGE

One checked bag not to exceed 44 pounds, plus one carry on not to exceed 11 pounds is allowed per person on internal flights.

## CANCELLATION

If you must cancel your trip, your deposit and all payments will be refunded, less a cancellation fee. If written notice of cancellation is received more than 90 days prior to departure, the fee is \$350. For 89-60 days, 50% of the tour cost, 59-45 days, 75% of the tour cost, after that 100 % of the tour cost. Trip no-shows will not receive a refund. Trip cancellation/interruption insurance is highly recommended.

## RESPONSIBILITY- AN IMPORTANT NOTICE

Commonwealth Club, Worldview Tours and cooperating agencies act only in the capacity of agent for the participation in all matters relating to transportation and/or all other related travel services and assume no responsibility for injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service, including but not limited to that resulting directly or indirectly from: acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays and expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, pilferage, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, government restrictions or regulation, discrepancies or change in transit

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*Continued...*

over which it has no control. Prices are subject to change without notice. Tour plan, sequence of cities visited or even number of nights in each city as advertised can change due to change in logistics at the time of travel. We reserve the right to provide alternate hotels if mentioned hotels become not available for any reason. If for any reason beyond our control, scheduled flights or airfares are changed, any increase in airfare will be collected from tour members, and any decrease will be refunded. The airlines used are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board the aircraft.

### **RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

By making a deposit on any of Commonwealth Club /Worldview Tours sponsored trips, I/we am/are aware that during the expedition, tour, trip, cruise or vacation that I am participating in, booked through Worldview Tours, and their agents and associates, certain risks and dangers may occur, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling down country roads or in villages/game parks in buses, cars, vans, jeeps, rivers in inflatable rafts, hiking through mountainous terrain, sailing on open waters, accident or illness in remote places without medical facilities, forces of nature and travel by air, automobile, jeeps or other conveyance. In consideration of, and as part payment for, the right to participate in such trips or other activities and the services arranged by the Commonwealth Club and Worldview Tours, and their agents or associates, I/we have and do hereby assume all of the above risks and will hold Worldview Tours and their agents and associates harmless from any and all liability, action, causes of debts, claims and demands of any kind and nature whatsoever which may arise of or in connection with my trip. The terms hereof shall serve as a release and assumption of risk from my heirs, executors and administrators and for all members of my family.

### **ARBITRATION**

Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this agreement or the performance, including without limitation any claim related to bodily injury, property damage or death, shall be settled by binding arbitration in Newport Beach, California, in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then existing.

Worldview Tours CST#2002060-10  
Commonwealth Club Travel CST#2096889-40



Commonwealth Club Travel  
595 Market Street, 2nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105

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An exclusive **Commonwealth Club Travel** experience, October 23 - November 08, 2013