

Travel With Me
P.O.BOX 1856
MANDURAH WA 6210
Tel: +61 8 9581-5944
Email: enquiries@travelwithme.com.au
Website: www.travelwithme.com.au
ABN: 88009206151



Royal on Wheels - Luxury Train India

Duration	:	9 Days / 8 Nights
Departure Dates	:	25 September 2018
Tour Type	:	Fully escorted Luxury Rail Journey

Day 1 : 25 Sept – Arrive Delhi

Welcome to India!!! Upon arrival at the airport, TOTAL HOLIDAY OPTIONS Executive will meet you at the arrival lounge holding a placard. Thereafter he will assist you with transfer and check-in at the hotel. After hotel check-in, have some free time on your own to adjust to the new time zone. Stay overnight in Delhi

Hotel: ITC Welcome Hotel (5* Luxury)

Day 2 : 26 Sept – Delhi Sightseeing; Palace on Wheels

After breakfast at the Hotel, proceed (around 0900 hrs) for guided sightseeing tour of Old & New Delhi. Begin with **Old Delhi** visit **Jama Masjid** - the largest mosque in India built in red sandstone. Between the mosque and Chandni Chowk is a narrow shop-lined street along which you will be transported by **cycle rickshaws** on your most photogenic journey of the tour. Drive past **Red Fort Palace**, built by Emperor Shahjahan.

Later drive past **New Delhi**, built in a typically British colonial style and designed by **Lutyens** with tree-lined avenues, colonial bungalows. The drive will include photo opportunities at some of the following attractions - the exterior the Parliament House, the War Memorial Arch (**India Gate**) and the Vice Regal Palace, now the official residence of the President of India in New Delhi. Conclude your tour with visit to **Qutub Minar**; built at a height of 72.5m, and is one of the most important landmarks of Delhi, with calligraphically decorated interiors and inscriptions of verses of the Holy Quran. In time transfer to the Railway station to get on board the **palace on wheels**.



You will be treated like Maharaja & Maharani on welcome by garlanding, Tikka and turban with a glass of wine. The Capital city of modern India is a city known for its rich valorous and exotic history. Once the fabled city of the heroes of the Mahabharata and ruled by the Rajputs before they were displaced by foreign invaders. The tour starts in the evening with a ceremonial welcome aboard the Palace on Wheels at Safdarjung New Delhi. You will be introduced to your fellow travellers. Feel free to explore your new palace, and acquaint yourself with its various facilities. Relax with a drink at the bar.

Dinner will be served on board in its two restaurants.

Day 3 : 27 Sept - Jaipur

Your tour begins at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of wind) followed by the amazing Jantar Mantar-Astronomical Observatory, which is to be explored at leisure.

The home of the erstwhile rulers. The city palace now a museum is of full royal splendour. Jaipur also offers a great shopping experience since the city is the country's capital as far as handicrafts are concerned which includes a very extensive range as well as it is a major International centre of cutting and polishing of Gems and stone. Also, Jaipur is known all over the world for hand block printing on textile.

Lunch at Amber Fort; soon after reaching Amber you will enjoy the festively decorated elephant ride up to the fort. After lunch, visit Amber fort the best example of the splendid fusion of Rajput and Mughal style of Architecture. The hall of victory Jai Mandir has a stunning ceiling adorned with mirror work an inlaid panel.

Return to train by bus for freshening up. After rest enjoy

sumptuous dinner in one of the best hotel of Jaipur return to Palace on Wheels.

Day 4 : 28 Sept – Sawai Madhopur

The Ranthambore tiger reserve at the junction of the Aravalli and the Vindhya ranges is a unique juxtaposition of natural and historical richness, standing out conspicuously in the vast, arid and denuded tract of eastern Rajasthan, barely 14 Kms from Sawai Madhopur. A 1000-year-old Ranthambore Fort of great historical importance atop a high hill stands tall and remains of the historical past cenotaphs, tombs, stepped well, summer palace etc, have all merged harmoniously into the sprawling forest.

Three big lakes- Padam Talav, Malik Talav and Raj bagh- are alike turquoise studded in the vast tract. Though a delicate ecosystem, Ranthambore is dynamic in the diversity and density of fauna it supports. Tiger at the apex of the food chain lords over the kingdom in a subtle way. Solitary by nature it operates with stealth. Quite naturally tiger sighting is always a matter of chance, though evidence of its activities is equally exciting. Other than tigers you may have the opportunity to see different species of mammals, spotted deer, sambhar, wild boar, Indian Gazelle, Jungle cat, Panthers, Jackal, Hyenas Rarely sloth bears and almost 300 different kinds of birds.

Return to Palace on Wheels.

Lunch on Board. Enjoy the afternoon on train as it travels the lush green countryside before arriving at Chittorgarh

Chittorgarh Fort is considered as the largest fort of India, built by various Mauryan rulers during 5th to 8th century period, this fort covers an area of 680 acres most of the structures inside the fort premises are in ruins. But a glimpse at this giant abode of Rajput still fills one with thrill. The fort is accessible after ceremony seven gates. Rana Kumbha palace and Padmini Palace in the fort are considered as masterpieces of Rajput architecture Padmini Palace had been the residence of beautiful queen Rani Padmini.

Enjoy Sound and Light show followed by dinner on board

Day 5 : 29 Sept - Udaipur

The capital of the Sisodia Maharanas; enjoy the feeling of being among the Rajput clams of Rajasthan. Spend the day sightseeing at Udaipur. Maharana Udai Singh laid the foundation for a new kingdom Udaipur situated at Lake Pichola where the impressive city palace was lavished with aesthetic and imaginative work of art miniature painting was encouraged. Subsequently, the prince built the seemingly floating Island Palace, the royal summer retreat, offering a spectacular view of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Breakfast on Board. Lunch at the Palace Hotel.

Visit Crystal Gallery-It is a balcony of Fateh Prakash Banquet hall which is having a museum of crystal glass furniture, crockery, chandeliers of old time. Boat Ride and back to train.

Day 6 : 30 Sept - Jaisalmer

The golden city of Rajasthan has a charm of its own. Rawal Jaisal a Bhati Rajput ruler founded the city in 1156 AD. The western citadel of the desert, Jaisalmer has an ancient history linked with its development as a trading centre located en-route one of the two passages that connected India with Persia, Egypt Africa and West. The Bhati Rajput being sole guardians of the city accumulated enough wealth through a tax levied on the passing caravans. Jaisalmer is picturesque, a marvel of beautiful culture and harsh climate conditions. The Sonar Quila Fort, made of yellow sandstone will immediately command your attention here.

The city is also known for its old mansion better known as Havelis. Patwon Ki Haveli and Nathmalgi Ki Haveli, Salim Singh Ji Ki Haveli are most striking architecture with a fine blend of ancient and the medieval era. Shopping and **lunch at Moomal Hotel**. On the sweeping sand dunes, enjoy the romance of solitude at Kuldhara as your camel takes you deep in the Thar desert. The set here is the most awaited experience. As the sun sets the on the rolling golden dunes the surreal experience is worth. Followed by the cultural performance - **campfire with dinner in dunes. Enjoy Rajasthani Food with traditional music. Evening tea**

Day 7 : 1 Oct - Jodhpur

Special welcome on arrival and sightseeing of mighty Mehrangarh fort followed by **lunch at Gorgeous Umaid Bhawan Palace**. The city best known for its indigo-hued homes and buildings, Jodhpur is the former capital of the Marwar. The Mehrangarh Fort was built by Rao Jodha in 1459 and later his successors also added new structures. The fort is situated 120 meters high on a rocky hill and has witnessed the lavish and royal history of Rathore. The fort stands on strong and wide walls, which are 20 to 120 feet high and 12 to 70 feet thick, its gigantic structure and finely carved intricate sculpture are a treat for the eye.

The royal structure boasts their own saga of security and beauty. The Pearl Palace has a delicately carved stone screen, Umaid Vilas displays the Rajput miniature paintings and Ajit Vilas exhibits musical instruments and royal costumes. Shopping for local handicrafts.

Umaid Bhawan Palace world's finest and largest palace in the world. Maharaja Umaid Singh utilized the services of a well-known Edwardian architect, Henry Vaughan Lanchester for construction of this palace. There are 347 rooms in the palace that boast about its grandness and the splendour of the central dome which has become the identity of the palace is 110 feet high. The royal family in still lives in a part of the palace which also has the old clock museum. This is also the venue for lunch. Lunch at 5* hotel. After lunch, back to Palace on Wheels, **dinner on board**.

Day 8 : 2 Oct - Bharatpur

A royal kingdom where the Jats rather than the Rajputs ruled. Bharatpur's Jat History is not too old with Suraj Mal establishing a firm stronghold in a region contested by both the Rajputs and the Mughals. Suraj Mal exploits are legendary, and the fort, Lohargarh, or Iron Fort, has a history that recounts it with pride. The only fort in the state to have bastions of mud, which proved meritorious because they simply swallowed up the cannon shells not allowing them to impact.

The Keoladeo Ghana National Park is one of the finest bird sanctuaries in the world. It was developed by a royal edict when dykes were created so that water could be canalized for the hunting preserve as the Maharaja of Bharatpur wished to create.

Over three hundred species of birds many of them migrant species that come from parts as distant as Siberia and China.

A visit to the world's most well-known monument and well worth its fame. The Taj Mahal built in the memory of his beloved Empress by Emperor Shah Jahan. This marble mausoleum is the greatest gesture of love known to mankind and is breathtaking, bewitchingly beautiful. Land for the building of the Taj Mahal in Agra came from the Maharaja of Jaipur and the marble used in its construction was from the mines of Makrana, also in Rajasthan. The precious stones used in its inlay and craftsmen who were employed for its twenty-two years of construction came not only from India but from all over the World.

Lunch at Palace Hotel. The Taj Mahal is the perfect finale to your Royal Sojourn.

Day 9 : 3 Oct – Delhi – Transfer to airport

Arrival at Safdarjung Railway Station 4.00AM Breakfast on Board 7.00AM De-board/Checkout 7.30AM Send-off ceremony by General Manager CRO, New Delhi 7.30AM

