

APPROVED BY MINISTRY OF TOURISM
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



MERRYGO TRAVELS Pvt. Ltd.

3, MUNICIPAL MARKET, PLAZA OUTER CIRCLE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, NEW DELHI - 110001 (INDIA)

PHONES:- (+91) 9899696918, 9312214798 WHATSAPP:- (+91) 9899696918

USA- (001) 718 360 2363, UK- (0044) 207 096 0602

Email:- info@indiatourplan.com

Web site:- <http://indiatourplan.com> & www.merrygotravels.in

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Buddhist Pilgrimage tour

Starts:- Delhi

Ends :- Delhi

Duration:- 10 Days / 09 Nights

Places Covered:- Delhi, Lucknow, Sravasti, Lumbini, Kushinagar, Vaishali, Patna, Nalanda, Rajgir, Bodhgaya, Varanasi, Delhi.

Day 01:- Arrive Delhi, meet & assist at the airport & transfer to the hotel. Time to rest and relax after your journey and acclimate to the new time zone OR Depending on the available time, visit the ancient capital city, with its magnificent Red Fort the pageant of Indian History, from its origin around 1200 BC, through the periods under the Sultans in the 10th century and Mughals from the 14th Century. Visit the famous Gandhi Memorial, Raj Ghat, Jama Mosque, Gauri Shankar Temple & Chandni Chowk. Then in afternoon visit New Delhi where ornate buildings recall the days when India was jewel in the crown of the British Empire. Visit Qutab Minar, India Gate, Humayun's tomb, Safdarjung tomb, The President's House, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial, Lotus Temple & Laxmi Narayan Temple. Overnight in Delhi hotel.

Day 02:- Delhi / Lucknow/ Sravasti – After breakfast, drop at the train station to take a train from Delhi to Lucknow. On arrival Lucknow, drive to Sravasti. On arrival transfer to hotel. Evening free at leisure. Overnight stay at hotel in Sravasti.

Day 03:- Sravasti / Lumbini – After Breakfast at Hotel, Proceed For Sightseeing to visit - **Maheth:** Identified With The Remains of The City, Maheth Cover An Area of About 400 Acres...Excavations Have Exposed the Massive Gates of The City, Ramparts And Also The Ruins of Other Structures, Which Stand Testimony to The Prosperity of Ancient Sravasti, **Saheth:** Known Primarily As The Site of The Jetvana Monastery, Saheth Covers An Area of 32 Acres. Lying About A Quarter of A Mile to The South-West of Maheth, It Became an Important Place of Pilgrimage, Adorned With Numerous Shrines, Stupas And Monasteries. Then Drive to Lumbini (260 Kms, 6-7 Hrs approx). On Arrival Check-In to Hotel. Overnight Stay at Hotel in Lumbini

Day 04:- Lumbini / Kushinagar – After Breakfast, Proceed For Sightseeing of Birth Place of Lord Buddha **Lumbini:** The History of This Place Dates Back to The Time of Birth of Lord Buddha Around 560 B.C. The Sites to Visit Here Are Grand Stone Pillar Erected By Emperor Ashoka In 249 B.C. Shrine of Maya Devi (Buddha's Mother). It Contains A Stone Relief Depicting Buddha's Nativity Scene. Then Drive to Kushinagar (120 Kms, 03 Hrs approx.). On Arrival Check-In to Hotel. After Some Rest Proceed For Sightseeing Visiting

Nirvana Temple- This Temple Houses the 6 meter Long Statue of Reclining Buddha Which Was Unearthed In 1876. Carved From Chunar Sandstone, the Statue Has an Inscription Below That Dates

The Statue of the 5th Century A.D. Ramabhar Stupa - Referred to As The Mukta Bandhan Vihar In Ancient Buddhist Texts. This Stupa Marks The Site Where The Lord Buddha Was Cremated. This Large Stupa Rises to A Height of 49 Ft. Overnight Stay at Hotel In Kushinagar.

Day 05:- Kushinagar / Vaishali / Patna – After Breakfast at Hotel. Drive to Patna (270 Kms. 6-7 Hrs approx.) Sightseeing of Vaishali - A Special Place For The Buddhists As Buddha Delivered His Last Sermon Here And Announced His Impending "Nirvana". The second Buddhist Council Held after 100 Years of Buddha's Parinirvana" Also took Place here. After Sightseeing Drive to Patna. On Arrival Check-In the reserved hotel. Overnight Stay in Patna.

Day 06:- Patna / Nalanda / Rajgir / Bodhgaya – After Breakfast, drive to Bodhgaya. Sightseeing of Nalanda (90 Kms, 3:30 Hrs approx.) On Arrival Sightseeing Ruins of Nalanda University - The Centre of One of The Oldest Known Universities of The World The Ruin Contains A Number of Buddhist Stupas & Chaityas, Monasteries, Hostels, Cells Or Rooms On Four Sides With A Central Courtyard. Overnight in Bodhgaya Hotel.

Day 07:- Early Morning Observe Sil. Breakfast at Hotel. Then visit Mahabodhi Temple - The Main Shrine of Supreme Enlightenment, The Mahabodhi Temple Is Unique Amongst Other North Indian Temples as it is an Architectural Amalgamation of Many Centuries & Cultures. The Bodhi Tree is situated inside this Temple Premises (Under Which Buddha attained Illumination). It Is Believed to Be the

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Fourth or Fifth Generation off springs of The Original. Afternoon Sightseeing of Niranjana River, Sujata Village & Monasteries of Different Countries (Optional). Overnight Stay at Hotel in Bodhgaya.

Day 08:- Bodhgaya / Varanasi – After Breakfast, drive to Varanasi. On the way, Sarnath Temple tour which is 10 kms north east and is a thriving center for Buddhists. Sarnath- situated about 10 Km from Varanasi Is the Place Where Buddha Preached His First Sermon after He Had attained Enlightenment at Bodhgaya. At Museum in Sarnath you can see The Ashok Pillar with Its Four Guardia Lions That Has Been as India's National Emblem. Arrive Varanasi and check in the reserved hotel. Evening visit the Ghats of River Ganges for a mesmerizing Aarti (Prayer), where every evening at dusk, thousands of devotees and tourists gather on the steps of Dasaswamedha Ghat (River Bank) for the Ganges Aarti (Fire worship) ceremony. As the darkness descends, it's a highly charged spiritual extravaganza where oil lamps are lit, bells clang, incense burns and Bhajans (devotional prayers) are chanted. Many devotees light a small basket of flowers and set it adrift on the Ganges. Overnight in Varanasi hotel.

Day 09:- Dawn boat ride on Ganges – of all the experiences in Varanasi, there is nothing quite as humbling as an early morning boat ride on the Ganges. Set your alarm for a pre-dawn start. The driver takes you to the Dasaswamedha Ghat or Assi Ghat for the ride. Sitting in your rickety wooden rowing boat, there's an eerie sense of peace on the river until the sunrise bathes the river banks in gold and reveals the moving theater of spiritual devotion. All along the river banks, crowds of people are bathing, performing praying ceremony, praying to the Sun god and washing away the sins of Life. Then after breakfast, city tour like Vishwanath temple, Banaras Hindu University, Archaeological museum etc. Evening, drop at the train station for your onward journey to Delhi. Overnight in Train.

Day 10:- Arrive Delhi, pickup from the train station and drop at the airport for your onward journey. ***** THE TOUR ENDS*****

INCLUDES:-

- A/c car with Driver as mentioned in the itinerary.
- All fuel costs, state taxes, toll taxes, parking fee, permits.
- All **sightseeing** at the visiting places as per the itinerary.
- Driver's **allowances** (like food, accommodations etc.)
- **Train Tickets** from Delhi – Lucknow + Varanasi – Delhi in A/c Class.
- All **airport** and **station transfers** as per the itinerary.
- **Hotels** all places with Air conditioned rooms, breakfast & taxes.
- **Sunrise Boat Ride, Evening Aarti, Sarnath Temple tour & city tour in Varanasi.**

EXCLUDES:-

- Anything not mentioned in the "Includes" column.
- Any personal nature expenses like tips, food (lunch & dinners etc), shopping, laundry, camera charges, Payments for personal charges like liquors, wine, mineral water, telephone charges, Portorage at hotels and airports, insurance etc.
- Entrance fee in monuments/ places of visit, cost of local guides if hired at the monuments.
- **G.S.T. (Indian Government Tax) and the money transfer fee (if any).**
- Time wasted/ PERSONAL cost incurred in extreme situations like mishaps, strikes, political unrest, vehicle breakdowns etc.
- The prices are subject to change without any prior notice depending on the availability of the hotels/ flights etc unless booked and paid for. We have made no reservations yet.
- Any early check in or late checkout (In any hotel) is not guaranteed and subject to the sole discretion of the hotel. We are not responsible to secure early check in or late checkout unless you pay an extra night for that respective hotel.
- We shall not be responsible for any closure of monuments/ museums/ places of visit due to regular practice or special features (As governed by the governing authorities or the Government).
- Christmas/ New Year Eve or any other seasonal supplement charges (If applicable).
- Any Airfare/ Train tickets etc. (Unless mentioned in the inclusion column).

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Note:- Special Numerology/ Astrology/ Hypnotherapy/ Past Life Regression Therapy Sessions Arranged in Delhi. Cycling/Bike Tours & Personal Yoga Sessions in Delhi:- If you are interested, please feel free to ask for further details.

PRICE:-

This tour will cost **US\$ / EUROS/ GBP XXX (Indian Rs. XXX)** per person on Twin/ Double/ Triple share basis. The prices depends on various factors like number of people travelling, hotel and car categories used, any specific fixed/ rough/ estimated budget to follow, dates of travel, how many people are travelling, etc. SO PLEASE **CONTACT US** for personalizing this tour. The prices can change depending on the fluctuations in the rate of exchange between US\$/ Euros/ GBP and Indian Rupee, the government taxes, gas prices, flight/ train fares etc. (If any). No bookings are done yet and the prices/ availability can change without prior notice depending on the governing factors like availability, room category etc. All prices when quoted, will be tentative price unless booked and paid. A change in date/ hotel/ vehicle type etc will change the prices.