

explore **India** 











North India Hills & Beyond Tour

Delhi-Shimla-Mandi-Dharamshala-
Amritsar-Rishikesh



TOUR INFO

	STARTING Delhi		ENDING Delhi		DURATION 13 Days		TOUR STYLE Private
	LANGUAGE English		GROUP SIZE Max 10		TOUR TYPE Multi-Day Tours		PHYSICALITY Low

MAP OF TOUR



ITINERARY

Day 1: Delhi

Welcome to Delhi, the nation's capital, a vibrant city with an unbelievable amount of history! Your tour guide will meet you at the airport, and then you will transfer to your hotel. Depending on your arrival time and how tired you are, the tour guide will plan the rest of the day with you accordingly, which could include some sightseeing, plus a welcome dinner.



Day 2: Delhi

Today, you can do any of the city tours or slum tours that we do. We suggest visiting Sanjay Colony, a small slum built on 25 acres of land located in the south of Delhi near the Bahai Lotus Temple and the ISKCON temple in the morning. Learn about the working and residential life and witness how, despite the challenging living conditions, it remains an area charged with positive energy and a strong community. You will also learn about the NGO programs directly supported by your visit.

In the afternoon, we suggest doing some more traditional sightseeing of your choice such as visiting India Gate, Qutub Minar, Humayun's tomb, Agrasen ki Baoli (a stepwell) and Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, a Sikh temple and one of the largest community kitchens in India which feeds more than 10,000 people per day. If you still have the energy in the evening, you can explore old Delhi and go on our popular food tour if you wish!

Day 3: Delhi/ Shimla

Today we leave for Shimla by taking a 4-5 hour train ride from Delhi in the morning, across the state of Punjab, to Chandigarh. On arrival in Chandigarh, you'll be transported by private vehicle to Shimla. Once you arrive, take some time to explore the town's charm on an orientation walk with your tour guide.

Day 4: Shimla

In the morning, we'll visit the church on Mall Road before stopping at a viewpoint that provides sweeping views of the Himalayas. We will then visit the Jakhu Hanuman Temple and its entourage of monkeys at the top of the mountain, accessible by ropeway, where we will also see a magnificent Hanuman statue (Monkey God), the largest in India.

We'll take you to the Viceregal Lodge, where the partition agreement between India and Pakistan was made. We will then see the handicrafts in Lakkar Bazaar before coming back to the hotel to relax.

Day 5: Shimla/ Mandi

Today's journey takes us to Mandi, a charming village located on the banks of the Beas River. This quaint town boasts a rich cultural heritage of both historical and theological significance. Once a part of the salt route to Tibet, it now serves as the gateway to the stunning Kullu Valley.



Day 6: Mandi/ Dharamshala

In the morning, we'll travel from Mandi to Dharamshala by car (6- 7 hours). This is quite an adventure where you will enjoy great views of the Himalayas along the winding roads. We will stay in McLeod Ganj, a hilltop retreat, home to the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government in exile, and busy with robed monks strolling between monasteries. Later in the evening, we will visit a local family and enjoy a Himachali-style dinner. After dinner, you can spend the rest of the evening wandering the peaceful streets, which are set against the backdrop of the Himalayas.

Day 7: Dharamshala

We'll spend the day exploring McLeod Ganj and its surroundings, in the morning visiting the iconic Dalai Lama Temple. The Dalai Lama visits this important pilgrimage spot, located near His Holiness's residence, a few times every year to preach and to bless the people. Then we will visit a Tibetan Museum where you will see the history of the Dalai Lama and his followers' exile to India and the Struggle for freedom from China. After that, we will see the beautiful Bhagsunag Shiva Temple, tucked into the mountains, and then see some tea gardens and monasteries in the area. We will visit Norbulingka Institute, which preserves and develops Tibetan arts and culture. If you are a cricket fan, you can also see the Himachal Pradesh cricket stadium, one of the most beautiful sports venues in the world.

Day 8: Dharamshala/ Amritsar

Today we will travel down the mountains to reach Amritsar, we will reach by late afternoon. In the afternoon, we'll visit the famous Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib), the spiritual capital of Sikhism and its holiest place of worship. We will also visit one of the biggest community kitchens in the world, which cooks meals for more than 50,000 people per day. In the evening, we will wander around the markets, discovering the local Punjabi delicacies such as sweet lassi, kulfi, and parathas.

Day 9: Amritsar/ Overnight Train

Today, we will spend the whole day touring Amritsar and experiencing the historical significance of Jallianwala Bagh, the site of the tragic 1919 massacre that played a crucial role in India's independence. Later, we will visit the Partition Museum, where we can learn about the biggest human migration and the partition of history. Afterwards, head to the India-Pakistan border to witness the daily flag ceremony, a



military exercise that has been followed by the security forces of both countries since 1959. Finally, take an overnight sleeper train from Amritsar to Haridwar, and rest up for your next adventure.

Day 10: Rishikesh

Start the exciting journey that began with an early morning arrival in Haridwar, followed by a scenic one-hour drive to Rishikesh, the yoga capital of the world. After checking into your hotel, take an orientation walk to explore the area. Our first stop is the Chaurasi Kutia ashram, a once-booming spiritual center. This ashram is now famous for its murals and the Beatles' visit in the 1960s. Admire the faded yet beautiful architecture and the graffiti that reflects the band's influence and the counterculture of the time. In the evening, enjoy a leisurely stroll along the sacred Ganges River, where the temple bells ring and the traditional fire ritual of Ganga Aarti will begin.

Day 11: Rishikesh

The morning is free for you. We can arrange a lesson for you to learn how to play classical Indian instruments such as the sitar or tabla. You can join a session of Hasya yoga (laughter therapy). Or you could simply take time to enjoy the surroundings, engaging in a day of meditation. Later in the afternoon, we will head to Haridwar for a truly unforgettable experience. The Arti ceremony, which takes place in the evening, is a beautiful and spiritual event that you won't want to miss. As you witness the ceremony on the banks of the Ganges River, you will be transported to another world and gain a deeper appreciation for the traditions and beliefs of India and its Culture.

Day 12: Rishikesh/ Delhi

In the morning, we will drive to Haridwar and board a train to Delhi departing at 1.30 pm. The train is expected to arrive at 6.40 pm, after which you will be taken to your hotel.

Day 13: Chitwan National Park

This morning, we will finish the tour and we will transfer you to the airport.



Please Note

Please note that the above itinerary is tentative and can be customized as per your preferences. You can get in touch with us for the pricing.

Enquiry

Excited to experience this journey? [Click here](#) to learn more and fill out your enquiry.



INCLUSIONS:

Meals

All breakfasts are included when staying in hotels/ homestays unless you leave very early in the morning. Lunches and dinners are not included apart from welcome dinners (if applicable) and meals with local families that we arrange.

Transportation

All transport mentioned in the itinerary is included. This includes internal flights, trains, buses, and transfers.

Accommodation

All accommodation mentioned in the itinerary is included.

Activities

Any activities (e.g., camel ride, food tour, city tours, cultural shows) mentioned in your itinerary are included unless we explicitly say that they are optional.

Entry fees for the monuments are not included; this allows you to opt in or out.



Our Model

We believe that tourism can and should be a force for local development. Reality Tours and Travel is a social business that uses a profit-sharing model to fund our sister charity (NGO), [Reality Gives](#).

80% of our post-tax profits go directly to Reality Gives, which runs high-quality education programs in underprivileged areas where Reality Tours also runs tours.



We started over a decade ago in Dharavi (Mumbai), and Reality Gives is now also running classes in New Delhi in the Sanjay Colony slum as well as in Naujheel, a village in rural Uttar Pradesh.





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Thank You!

