



India Tour | 1 – 16 October 2019

Join us as we take you on a journey of discovery, showing you the beauty & colour of India and some special lesser known places of interest & amazement. We will visit Delhi, Amristsar, Varanasi, The Golden Triange-Rajasthan & Cochin ...ending in the exotic south as we journey on the backwaters of Kerala.

India | October 2019

1 October | CAPE TOWN / JOHANNESBURG - DELHI

We depart Cape Town/Johannesburg for our overnight flight to Delhi, via Dubai.

2 October | Arrive Delhi (2 nights) | D

On arrival, we will be met and transferred to our hotel.

Perhaps there is no other capital city in the world so steeped in history and legend as the Indian **capital, Delhi**. It was the magnet, which drew **Mongols, Turks, Persians, Afghans, Mughals and the British**, all of whom contributed to its glorious but turbulent past. The fascination with Delhi was such that even though it was abandoned many times, its rulers returned again and again, re-building it at least seven times. Today, the twin cities of **Old and New Delhi** still intrigue Indians and tourists alike, as the cultural and political capital of the largest democracy in the world.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

3 October | Delhi | BD

After breakfast, we will tour **Old Delhi**. Our first stop is **Raj Ghat** to see the **Memorial to Mahatma Gandhi**, then proceed to visit Jama Masjid, the **largest mosque in India**. We continue with a drive past the **Red Fort** of Delhi, to be followed by a fun rickshaw ride through the narrow lanes of the old city market.

In the afternoon we will **tour New Delhi**, visiting **Qutab Minar** – originally intended to be the most glorious victory tower in the world, as well as the prototype of all minars in India. We will admire **The India Gate**, the 42-metre high War Memorial Arch, continuing past Parliament House, the Secretariat Buildings and the Vice Regal Palace, now the official residence of the **President of India**. We end the day's touring by visiting the **Laxminarayan Temple**, a modern **Hindu temple**, and drive through Connaught Place, the shopping arcade planned as part of "Lutyens' Delhi".

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

4 October | Delhi – Amritsar (2 nights) | BD

In the morning we will transfer to the Delhi railway station for our 6 hour **train journey to Amritsar**.

Afternoon at leisure.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

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5 October | Amritsar | BD

After breakfast we will have a **half day tour of Amritsar**, visiting the **Golden Temple** - the sacred **Sikh sanctuary** spread out in a vast complex around a huge water tank in the midst of which stands a marble sanctum where the holy book of the Sikhs, the **Guru Granth** is reverently placed. The roof of the sanctum is **gold-leafed**. The community kitchen provides free meals to up to 10,000 pilgrims or visitors a day. We will take a walk past the busy bazaars of the city, visit the historic **Jallianwalah Bagh** where General Dyer's bullets killed hundreds of innocent Indians.

In the late afternoon we drive to the **Wagah Border** to witness the **retreat ceremony**. It is a 35km road to Lahore, the India-Pakistan border, also known as "Attari (India)-"Wagah" (Pakistan) border.

A visit to the border is a fascinating experience, especially at sun-set, when the retreat ceremony takes place with the **Border Security Force** on the Indian side and the **Sutlej Rangers on the Pakistan side** putting on a well-coordinated and spectacular display.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

6 October | Amritsar–Varanasi (2 nights) | BD

Today we will take a flight to Varanasi, via Delhi.

Fly Amritsar - Delhi / Fly Delhi – Varanasi

On arrival we will be transferred to our hotel.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

7 October | Varanasi | BD

In the early morning we will enjoy a **boat cruise on the river Ganges**. The western banks of the Ganges has a string of **Ghats** - the chain of stone steps, all built with pavilions, palaces and terraces, most of which are mainly used as **Dharamsalas** where the pilgrims stay during their visit to the holy city. At dawn, the Ghats are abuzz with activity of the devotees performing their ablutions in the river, or offering prayers to the rising sun and performing other **religious rituals**. A **boat ride** along the Ghats gives you a great view of this activity. The sunrise on the Ganges is uplifting experience.

Return to hotel for breakfast.

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After breakfast we will have a **city tour of Varanasi**, situated on the banks of the Ganges, the **city of Learning and Burning** (because of the almost continuous cremations of the dead) from time immemorial, has been the religious and spiritual centre of the Hindus faith. All Hindus desire to be here at least once in their life time. We visit some of the important temples. **Bharat Mata Mandir** - a unique temple inaugurated by **Mahatma Gandhi** which houses one of the most perfect relief maps of India and is dedicated to Mother India, **Durga Temple**, dedicated to **Goddess Durga** consort of Lord Shiva. We drive past the beautiful **Tulsi Manas Temple**. Later we drive through the largest **Residential University of Asia** - Banaras Hindu University, founded by Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya.

In the afternoon we visit **Sarnath**, a fabled place which bears testimony to its great past where **Lord Buddha** delivered his **first sermon** to his disciples, explaining the Principles of Buddhism. The remains date back to as far as the **3rd Century BC** when Emperor Ashoka founded various institutions, stupas, monasteries and Pillar Edicts. We visit the art collection at the Archaeological Museum, where the main attraction is the superb **Capital from Ashokan Pillar - the Ashokan Symbol** of four back-to-back Lions which have been adopted as the state symbol of **Independent India**.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

8 October | Varanasi – Agra (2 nights) | BD

Morning transfer to the Varanasi Airport for our flight to Delhi.

Fly Varanasi – Delhi 10h30 – 12h10

On arrival in Delhi, we will be met & transferred by road to Agra.

On the right bank of the River Yamuna, Agra reigns over a glorious past created by warriors as skilled in art and architecture as they were on the battlefield. The city's historical origins before the Mughal Conquest are dim and it was for all intents and purposes founded by the **Mughal Emperor Babur**. To the art lover and the traveller seeking the wonders of India, Agra is the goal of a pilgrimage, its shrines being the **Taj Mahal and Agra Fort**.

Dinner & overnight.

9 October | Agra | BD

We start our day with a visit to the world famous **Taj Mahal, built by Shah Jahan** in 1653 in memory of his Queen Mumtaz Mahal, to enshrine her mortal remains. This architectural marvel is a perfectly-proportioned masterpiece fashioned from white marble which stands testimony to the skill of 20,000 craftsmen brought together from Persia, Turkey, France and Italy which took **17 years to complete**, this 'Love Poem in Marble'.

We continue to the **Agra Fort** containing the halls of Private & Public Audiences & other Palaces. Shah Jahan looking wistfully at the Taj Mahal from the Fort spent here many years of confinement at the hands of his son Aurangzeb,

Dinner & overnight.

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10 October | Jaipur (2 nights) | BD

After breakfast we transfer to Jaipur, a city built by **Sawai Jai Singh** which is amongst the first of India's planned cities. The ancient heart of Jaipur, know as the **Pink City** still beats in its fairy tale palaces; rugged fortresses perched on barren hills and broad avenues. Jaipur has a timeless appeal in its colourful bazaars which delight for its **Rajasthan** handlooms and trinkets. Beautifully laid-out gardens and parks, attractive monuments and marvellous heritage hotels, once the Residence of **Maharajas**, are worth admiring and make a trip to the **Pink City** a memorable one.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

11 October | Jaipur | BD

In the morning we will stop at the **Hawa Mahal – Palace of Winds**, for a photo stop, before continuing to **The Amber Fort**, a romantic Rajasthani Fort Palace. The rugged, time-ravaged walls of this Fort may not look beautiful from the outside, but the interior is a virtual paradise. Inside the Fort we visit the Jag Mandir, or the Hall of Victory, where we see the famed **Sheesh Mahal** - a room with all the four walls and ceiling completely embedded with glittering mirror pieces, which were specially imported from Belgium.

In the afternoon we will do a **city tour of Jaipur**, visiting the **Maharaja's City Palace**, the former Royal residence where a small portion is still used by the **Royal Family of Jaipur**. Built in the style of a fortified campus, the Palace covers almost one-seventh in area of the walled part of the city. One of the major attractions is the Armoury Museum, housing an impressive array of weaponry pistols, blunderbusses, flintlocks, swords, rifles and daggers.

Later we visit the **Jantar Mantar**, which is the **largest stone and marble crafted observatory** in the world. Situated near the gate of the City Palace, the observatory has 17 large instruments, many of them still in working condition.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

12 October | Jaipur - Udaipur (1 night) | BD

After an early breakfast, we transfer to the Jaipur Airport for our flight to Udaipur.

Fly Jaipur – Udaipur 07h25 - 08h30

In the afternoon we will do a tour of Udaipur, visiting the **City Palace**, built in 1725, which houses the stud, glittering Belgium Mirrors, **Moti Mahal** and the **Palace of Lord Krishna** all of which are ornately decorated. Later we visit the **Jagdish Temple**, built in 1651 and dedicated to Lord Vishnu, the Preserver in the **Hindu Trinity of Gods**. We also visit the **Sahelion Ki Bari gardens** of the **Maids-Of-Honour**, with beautiful lawns, gardens and fountains.



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We end with a drive around the **Fatehsagar Lake**.

In the evening we will enjoy a **Boat Cruise** on the **Pichola Lake**, 4km long and 3km wide, surrounded by splendid hills, palaces, temples, **bathing ghats** and embankments. We visit the **island palace Jag Mandir** which is beautifully set in the lake.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

13 October | Udaipur – Cochin (1 night) | BD

After breakfast, we will take a flight to Cochin via Mumbai.

Fly Udaipur – Mumbai 10h00 - 11h35 / Fly Mumbai – Cochin 13h25 – 15h35

On arrival we will be transferred to our hotel.

In the evening we will enjoy a **Katakali dance show**.

Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

14 October | Cochin – Alleppey (1 night) | BLD

After breakfast we drive to Alleppey to board our private **Houseboat**, cruising the **backwaters** of Alleppey. Our meals will be **cooked and served on board**. The coastal **town of Alleppey on the Arabian Sea**, known for its cashew nuts, coir trade, rice, pepper crops & coconuts, is also known as the **Venice of the East** for its numerous canals that meander through the town. Bathing in the **Backwaters** on the Vemband Lake is refreshing.

Overnight at anchorage on Lake Vembanad on the houseboat.

15 October | Alleppey - Cochin (1 night) | BD

After a leisurely breakfast we return to Cochin for a **city tour**, visiting the **Dutch Palace**, the **Jewish Synagogue**, **St Francis Church** and the **Santa Cruz Basilica**. While driving along the coastline, at the Harbour's mouth, one can also view the unique and still-in-use "**Chinese Fishing Nets**" which were introduced by the Chinese traders in the 14th Century. The tour ends in the 500 year-old **Fort Kochi**, where you can walk through the historical Dutch and Portuguese buildings.

Early dinner and overnight at our hotel.

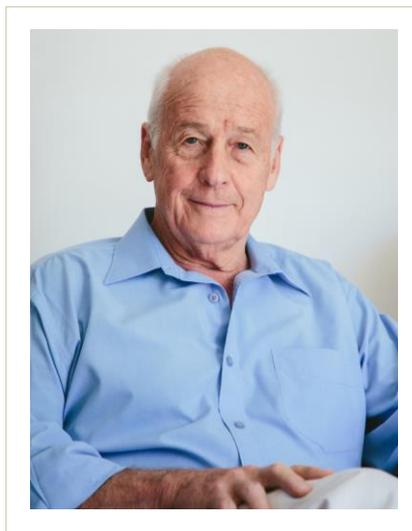
16 October | Cochin – South-Africa | B

Very early wake up call for our transfer to the Cochin Airport, to fly home via Dubai.

India Map



Meet your Titch Tour Leaders



Tour leading for his favourite tour company, Titch Tours is one of Michael's many retirement hobbies and fun, supporting his daughter Mandi Aliverti.

Titch Tours offers regular, fully-escorted tours to exotic destinations, catering for the "mature traveller". Michael has been leading tours for over 40 years, starting as early as his University days; that passion is still with him. He is fortunate to have his partner Linda Godlonton accompanying him, assisting him on most of the tours.

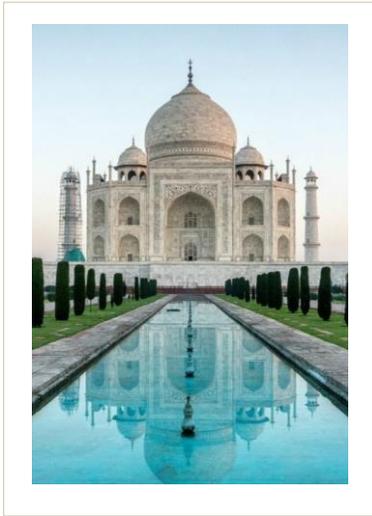
Michael loves life and seeks at all times to share his love of travel, as well as his travel brand of *joie de vivre*, with his fellow travellers, who become lifelong friends.



Mandi was born practically with a backpack on her back and a head filled with dreams of adventure., given that both her parents worked in the industry. It's no surprise that Mandi went on to complete studies in travel and marketing before jetting off to explore the world. She later returned to South Africa where she worked in the family travel businesses Titch Travel & Titch Tours for 12 years, before being appointed as MD of Titch Tours back in 2008. In addition she holds the appointment as MD of Travel Concepts, as part of the Concepts Collection Group.

Mandi is married to her Italian husband Federico and they have 2 children, Gabriella and Claudio. Mandi, like her dad promises to share her love of travel and all places foreign!

Information & Costs for India



Indian Tour :

Includes:

All accommodation, guided touring & entrance fees.
Internal airfares : Amritsar-Delhi-Varanasi-Delhi/Jaipur-
Udaipur-Mumbai-Cochin
Train : Delhi-Amritsar
Meals as indicated with Breakfast **(B)**, Lunch **(L)**, Dinner **(D)**

Excludes:

Airfare estimate on Emirates Airlines:

South Africa–Dubai–**Delhi/Cochin**–Dubai–South Africa
Ex Cape Town / Johannesburg from R 10 900

Per person sharing R 36 000

Single Supplement R 9 000

Based on 15 passengers

You will visit all the places included in the itinerary.
However, Titch Global Tours reserves the right to amend the itinerary according to conditions before, or at the time of, travel.

Estimated costings & Itinerary as at August 2018.



Travel Information:

VISA & IMMIGRATION

- South African passport holders need to apply for an E-Visa online, free of charge
- All other passport holders require a Visa at a cost of +/- R800

PACKING ESSENTIALS

- Light cotton shirts & shorts
- Long trousers/slacks
- Lightweight but warm jacket for cool evenings
- Sun hat with wide brim
- Comfortable shoes / hiking boots
- Long cotton socks
- Swimming costume

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT INDIA

- The incredible colour & vibrancy of the people
- The chaotic organisation that seems to work
- The beautiful & well preserved forts & palaces
- The delicious & very varied cuisine
- The interesting layers of religion & class

WEATHER IN OCTOBER

- October is what we call the 'in-between-month', the monsoon has broken & there can be some short rains at times. Weather is warm.
- Best to pack onion-style: many layers which can be removed

CURRENCY

- The currency for India is the Indian Rupee
- 1 ZAR = 54.88 INR

Titch Global Tours Booking Form | India | October 2019

Please complete this booking form and return it with your deposit of R 10,000 and photo-copy of your passport to Travel Concepts.

Name as per passport:				Title:	
Name you wish to be called:		Maiden name (if applicable):			
Address:					
Telephone:		Work -		Cell -	
Home -					
Fax:		Email:			
Nationality:		Id no:			
Passport no		Date of birth:			
Date of issue:		Date of expiry:			
Alt passport no:		Nationality:			
Date of issue:		Date of expiry:			
If you have two passports, which one will you be travelling on:					
Smoking:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Special meal requests:		
Seating request (on flight):					
Please note that we can only request your choice of seating and cannot confirm it.					
Accommodation - I would like to share with:				Single <input type="checkbox"/>	
In the case of passengers travelling alone who wish to share twin accommodation, we endeavour to fulfil these requests. However, should this not be possible, a single room supplement will be payable.					
Name of next of kin /friend:		Relationship:			
Address:		Tel:		Email:	
<p>I enclose my cheque for the deposit of R 10,000 (or will do so, or have done so by eft) to secure a place on the tour. Furthermore I confirm I have read, understood and accept the terms & conditions (as overleaf) of travelling on tour with Titch Global Tours, a division of Travel Concepts. I also note that the balance of the cost of the tour is payable 6 weeks before departure; costed August 2018, based on 15 full paying passengers. Please contact us if you are 85 years or older at time of travel before booking.</p> <p>Signed this.....day of.....2017 Signature</p> <p>Method of payment: tick applicable one</p> <p>Air ticket: Bank transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> No. _____ Expiry date: _____ 3 digit code: _____</p> <p>Card type: _____ Bank name: _____</p> <p>Land & Deposit (no credit card): bank transfer <input type="checkbox"/> cheque <input type="checkbox"/></p>					
Bank details:		Name: Travel Concepts Bank: Standard Bank Cape Town Branch Code: 051001		Account no.: 0624830802 Swift Code: SBZAJJ	
Distinctive Travel Concepts CC T/A Travel Concepts 1 Park road, Gardens, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa Telephone: 021 426 5809 Fax: 021 426 5721 Registration No. 2008/001007/23					

Terms & Conditions | Titch Global Tours

A Division of Travel Concepts

Accommodation | Comfortable 4 star hotels & 1 night on a traditional house boat in Kerala.

Airline Clause | The carrier(s) concerned will not be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not aboard the aircraft or conveyance. The passenger ticket in use by the airline concerned, when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airline(s) concerned and the purchaser of this tour and/or the passengers.

Baggage | On the airline, one piece of luggage per person not exceeding 20 kilograms (on an exceptional basis this may be increased to 23 kilograms) plus one piece of cabin luggage/carry-on, not exceeding a total length of 115cm.

Cancellation | All cancellations must be made in writing. Titch Global Tours reserves the right to claim all or a portion of the fares paid by passenger(s) who cancel(s) reservations. In accordance with standard procedures adopted by tour operators worldwide, Titch Global Tours reserves the right to cancel the tour prior to departure without any further liability to Titch Global Tours, other than making an appropriate refund, at the discretion of Titch Global Tours, of amounts paid to Titch Global Tours in respect of the tour.

Fares/Flights | The tours are generally costed excluding international airfares. Accordingly Titch Global Tours recommends the air carrier, according to the destination of the tour, based on convenience of the flights/connections recommended and competitive pricing.

Gratuities | Tips for personal services are not included. Tips for the guides and drivers are not obligatory, but are customary and are left to the discretion of the travellers; ideally these are collected by the tour leader at the beginning of the tour.

Insurance | Comprehensive insurance cover is strongly recommended and is obtainable through Titch Global Tours, which constitutes an additional expense. Please note if you are 85 years or older at the time of travel to contact us regarding your insurance.

Itinerary | The itinerary is subject to alteration, without notice, where necessary, according to the conditions en route.

Meals | Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner daily shall be supplied, as specified in terms of the itinerary and subject to clause 8 above, by the symbol B, L or D.

Terms & Conditions | Titch Global Tours

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Liabilities | Titch Global Tours, its employees, the Tour Operators and/or their agents, in making arrangements for the tour, act as agents only and on condition that they shall not be held liable for injury, damage or any loss arising in respect of their services. Participation in the tour is strictly undertaken at the traveller's own risk. Titch Global Tours warrants that whilst it will use its reasonable endeavours to ensure that the services are carried out timeously, and accordingly it cannot warrant such services and cannot be held liable for any claims of whatsoever nature by any person whatsoever, arising directly or indirectly out of, or in consequence of its services.

Not included in tour price | The tour specifically excludes all entertainment not shown in the itinerary, insurance cover, flights/fares, gratuities, meals or food purchased over and above the tour menus, morning and afternoon teas, beverages, wines, spirits, laundry, optional tours, additional portorage, telephone calls or any other incidental expense etc.

Passport and Visas | Travellers will be advised of visa requirements, if any, in relation to the destination(s) of the tour. Travellers are furthermore requested to ensure that their passports are valid for at least 6 months after the end of the tour, and that there are a minimum of 2 (two) blank and consecutive pages in the passport still unused for the purpose of applying for a visa, if required.

Payment | A deposit of R 10 000 is required at the time of booking. The cost of the tour in question will be based on the advertised minimum full-paying passengers. In the event that less than the minimum number of full-paying passengers are on the tour, the tour cost may change, in which event the traveller will be entitled to withdraw from the tour if desired, and will be refunded any monies paid for the tour, provided the payment for the tour has not already been remitted to the destination country/countries in question.

Name: Distinctive Travel Concepts cc

Bank: Standard Bank Cape Town

Branch Code: 051001

Account No: 0624830802

Swift Code: SBZAJJ

Indemnity | Titch Global Tours, its employees, tour operators and/or their agents are indemnified from any liability in making arrangements for the tour and Titch Global Tours, its employees, tour operators and/or their agents will not be liable for injury, damage or any loss which may be occasioned by carrying out the arrangements of the tour or otherwise in connection therewith.