

# MOGHULS, MAHEL & MAYHEM , (WHI)

Kathmandu to Delhi 16 Days, departing 26th December 2021



## TRIP OVERVIEW

**Trip Style:** Overlanding

**Route:** Kathmandu to Delhi

**Duration:** 16 Days

**Transport:** Overland Expedition Vehicle, Private Bus, Tuk Tuk, Boat

**Accommodation:** Comfortable Hotel 5 nights  
Basic Hotel 5 nights  
Camping 3 nights  
Guesthouse 2 nights

**Meals:** Breakfasts x 12, Lunches x 5, Dinners x 5

**Physical Challenge:** ● ● ○ ○ ○

Your itinerary may include easy-paced day walks, bike rides, and other activities that are not too strenuous.

**Lifestyle Challenge:** ● ● ○ ○ ○

You may be camping some of the time but the pace of the trip is fairly relaxed and the facilities and road conditions are generally of a high standard.



# DAILY ITINERARY

## Day 1 - Kathmandu (26th December 2021)

**Border Information:** If you are joining the trip in Kathmandu, you will most likely enter Nepal at Kathmandu Tribhuvan International Airport (IATA code: KTM).

Wrapped around the Himalayan mountain range is the remarkable country of Nepal. It is the birthplace of the Buddha and is a land of legend and beauty. Within its narrow confines Nepal contains an utterly spectacular variety of culture and landscapes. Nepal has a stunning natural beauty and a simple charm.

*Please note: If joining in Kathmandu you will be met by a local guide on the first day where you will have a brief meeting at 6pm. On the second day you will be transported by private transport to Chitwan National Park where you will join your overland leaders and truck!*

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Kathmandu before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Kathmandu.

Accommodation: Hotel Tibet A""

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Visit the beautiful and tranquil Durbar Square in the nearby medieval town of Bhaktapur and visit its nearby museums

Entrance: 1,500 NPR

Visit the oldest Hindu temple still in use in the Kathmandu Valley

Entrance: 300 NPR

Visit the ancient stupa of Boudhanath. It is one of the largest stupas in the world and on clear days offers views of Everest

Entrance: 400 NPR

Visit Durbar Square, the heart of the old town from where kings once ruled

Entrance: 1,500 NPR

Swayambhunath, or Monkey Temple as it is known, is an ancient religious complex atop a hill in the Kathmandu Valley. It has ancient carvings, superb views of the surrounding valley and is crowded with monkeys mingling with the visitors.

Entrance: 200 NPR

Visit the former royal palace of Narayanhiti and see the crown jewels of Nepal

Entrance: 500 NPR

Visit the sacred Hindu Pashupatinath Temple, dedicated to Nepal's unofficial national deity

Entrance: 1,500 NPR

Visit Lalitpur city and view a mass of temples in the Newa architecture style

Entrance: 1,000 NPR

Get out of the city and explore the nearby national park of Sundarijal and see its idyllic waterfalls and rock formations

Entrance: 600 NPR

## Day 2 - Chitwan NP (27th December 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will leave Kathmandu after breakfast, driving through stunning scenery down to the Terai grasslands. Our destination is Chitwan National Park, where we will stay for the next 2 nights.

If we arrive in good time we will make a visit to Bis Hazaar Tal, also known as 20,000 Lakes, which is a wetland area near the Royal Chitwan National Park. Here we will get the opportunity to see peacocks, wild boars, deer and there is also a slim chance of seeing tigers and rhinos. If we cannot visit 20,000 Lakes today we will make our visit tomorrow.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Witness the fascinating and impressive local tradition of Tharu stick dancing

Included

### Optional Activities

Explore the heart of the incredible Chitwan National Park on a jeep safari (alternative to the 20000 Lake excursion)

Jeep Safari : 3,500 NPR

## Day 3 - Chitwan NP (28th December 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we'll spend the day exploring the National Park by canoe and on foot, and there is the option to take a jeep safari! There will be an opportunity to see a traditional Nepali dance demonstration in the evening.

In Chitwan we will stay in a local guest lodge.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Explore the heart of the incredible Chitwan National Park on a jeep safari (alternative to the 20000 Lake excursion)

Jeep Safari : 3,500 NPR

## Day 4 - Gorakhpur (29th December 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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**Border Information:** Exit Nepal at Belhiya, enter India at Sonauli.

Today we enter the legendary country of India. India has so much to offer, from the beautiful landscapes of the Himalayas, to the amazing temples and coastlines, rich culture, and of course the food!

This morning we have a fairly relaxed start to the day before packing up and driving to the border. We will cross the border to India and continue on a short drive to the town of Gorakhpur

## Day 5 - Varanasi (30th December 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will continue driving and reach the holy city of Varanasi in the evening.

## Day 6 - Varanasi (31st December 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will get up very early for an included boat trip down the Ganges. This is a magical time of day to see the famous ghats&nbsp;and watch the morning rituals of the thousands of people who come here to purify themselves in the holy river. We will have auto-rickshaws for the rest of the day to explore the rest of the city - we will have the opportunity to use them to visit a traditional silk workshop and the Mother India temple.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

At dawn drift down the holy River Ganges in Varanasi

Included

### Optional Activities

Visit the Mughal-era mosque of Gyanvapi in Varanasi

Entrance: Free

Visit the ancient site of Isipatana and the museum in the town of Sarnath one of the most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage sites in the world and where many Buddhist nations have built temples in their national styles

Giant Buddha Statue: Free

Explore the stupas and temples of Varanasi

Entrance: Free

## Day 7 - Khajuraho (1st January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have a full days drive to the town of Khajuraho.

On arrival we will set up camp before settling in for the evening.

## Day 8 - Khajuraho (2nd January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will head out for an included guided visit to the Khajuraho Erotic Temples. In the afternoon we will have some free time to explore the town or relax back at camp.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Guided tour of the famous erotic temples at Khajuraho

Included

## Day 9 - Khajuraho (3rd January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today is free to explore the area, relax on the banks of the river, or take an optional jeep safari to the nearby Panna National Park in search of wildlife.

## Daily Activities

### Optional Activities

Jeep safari through Panna Game Reserve

Entrance, jeep and guide (price based on 5 pax sharing transport and guide costs): 1,600 INR

## Day 10 - Agra (4th January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast

After breakfast we leave our campsite and head to the city of Agra. Most of today will be spent travelling and we will arrive in the evening.

## Day 11 - Agra (5th January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will have an included day tour of the major sites of Agra, starting with sunrise at the world-famous iconic mausoleum of the Taj Mahal, followed by a visit to the Agra Fort.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Explore the peaceful grounds of the Itmad Ud Daulah mausoleum, often described as a 'draft' of the Taj Mahal  
Included

Visit the Agra Red Fort and see some of the most exquisite architecture of the Mughal Period  
Included

Go on a guided tour of the stunning Taj Mahal, one of the most famous buildings in the world  
Included

## Day 12 - Jaipur (6th January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast

We leave Agra today and head overland to the pink city of Jaipur, stopping en route at Fatehpur Sikri (the old capital of the Mughal Empire).

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Discover the perfectly-preserved 16th-century Mughal capital of Fatehpur Sikri and its beautiful temples and monuments  
Included

## Day 13 - Jaipur (7th January 2022)

Today we will have a full day exploring the sites of Jaipur on rickshaws with our local guide. Whilst in Jaipur there will also be the option for an early morning or late afternoon hot air balloon ride over the city.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Visit the ancient citadel of the Amber Palace a fascinating blend of Hindu and Mughal architecture

Included

Guided tour of Jaipur, the beautiful Pink City

Included

Explore the fascinating 18th-century astronomical observatory of Jantar Mantar

Included

Visit the City Palace, a unique and arresting complex of several palaces, pavilions, gardens and temples that occupies one-seventh of the area of Jaipur

Included

### Optional Activities

Take an unforgettable sunrise or sunset balloon ride over the forts and palaces of Jaipur

1hr flight: 280 USD

Head out to see a Bollywood movie at the Raj Mandir one of India's most famous and elegant cinemas

Entrance: 170 INR

See a traditional outdoor Rajasthani Kathputli puppet show in Jaipur

Entrance per Group: 1,000 INR

## Day 14 - Delhi (8th January 2022)

Today we leave Jaipur and travel to the chaotic Indian capital of Delhi.

## Day 15 - Delhi (9th January 2022)

**Meals:** Breakfast

Today we will have an included guided tour of Old Delhi, heading to the Mughal Jama Masjid mosque, a local tea-maker, a Sikh temple, and the local spice markets. We will also have some free time to freely explore the sights of Delhi in the afternoon.

## Daily Activities

### Included Activities

Take a walking tour through some of the back streets and narrow alleyways of Old Delhi discovering the hidden side of the city

Included

### Optional Activities

Explore the site of Humayun's Tomb a phenomenal early Mughal tomb that is said to be a major inspiration for the Taj Mahal

Entrance: 500 INR

See the India Gate at the end of Delhi's ceremonial axis built to commemorate all Indians who have died in various wars

Entrance: Free

Visit the Indira Gandhi Museum in Delhi dedicated to the former Prime Minister who was assassinated by her own bodyguards in 1984

Entrance: 100 INR

Visit the stunning Mughal-era mosque of Jama Masjid in Old Delhi and climb its iconic minarets for an unrivalled view of the old city

Entrance: 400 INR

See the ground-breaking modern architecture of the Delhi Baha'i Temple known as the Lotus Temple due to its unique shape

Entrance: Free

See some of the incredible artifacts and antiquities in the National Museum in Delhi

Entrance and audio guide: 1,000 INR

Discover the phenomenal 13th Century Qutab Minar and Mehrauli Archaeological Park in the south of Delhi an intricately-carved pillar built during the Sultanate era of Indian history

Entrance and audio guide: 720 INR

Freely explore the colossal Mughal Red Fort in Old Delhi built by the emperor Shah Jahan in 1648 upon moving the capital there

Entrance and audio guide: 620 INR

Explore the Sanjay Colony 'slum' area of Delhi on a guided tour to see the micro-industries, schools and residential life there

Entrance: 1,000 INR

Discover the fascinating modern displays and buildings of the Swaminarayan Akshardham Hindu Temple, reportedly the largest Hindu building in the world

Entrance: 200 INR

## Day 16 - Delhi (10th January 2022)

**Border Information:** If you are leaving in Delhi, you will most likely exit India from Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IATA code: DEL).

Today is the end day for passengers finishing their trip in Delhi. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact your sales agent if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed.

Accommodation:

## ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

### Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

### Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

## Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

**Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564**

## A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

## ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on [customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk](mailto:customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk).

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

### OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.



## SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

## MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

## VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

## NEPAL NOTES

## INDIA NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 3rd April 2020**