THE BREADTH OF INDIA

Featuring the Pushkar Camel Fair and the Ajanta & Ellora Caves

November 12-24, 2015

with Professor Caroline Elkins

HBS ALUMNI TRAVEL
EXPERIENCED REQUIRED

No experience is required, but in order to fully enjoy the trip's activities, trip participants should be reasonably fit, in good health, and have a spirit of adventure.


**DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY**

**Thursday - Saturday, November 12 - 14
ALOFT / MUMBAI, INDIA**

Depart home on Thursday, arriving into India on Friday afternoon. Arrive into Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport (BOM) in Mumbai, and transfer to your hotel. The next day, embark on a tour of Mumbai—explore colonial Mumbai including the Victoria Terminus, an outstanding example of Victorian Gothic Revival architecture in India, blended with themes deriving from Indian traditional architecture. Visit the Prince of Wales Museum, home to approximately 50,000 exhibits of ancient Indian history. Visit Dhobi Ghat, a well-known open air laundromat where washers known as Dhobis, work in the open to wash clothes. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure before your welcome dinner.

*Overnight: The Oberoi, Mumbai (B, L, D - Saturday ONLY)*

**Sunday, November 15
MUMBAI / AURANGABAD / AJANTA CAVES**

Fly to Aurangabad. After breakfast at your hotel, embark on a visit to the Ajanta Caves. Explore these Buddhist caves dating back as early as the 2nd century AD, and enjoy the paintings and sculptures of Ajanta, considered masterpieces of Buddhist religious art.

*Overnight: The Taj Residency (B, L, D)*

**Monday, November 16
ELLORA CAVES / AURANGABAD / DELHI**

After breakfast, embark on a morning excursion to the Ellora Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Stop en route at the Daulatabad Fort, a 14th century fort city. Arrive at the Ellora Caves, a series of 34 monasteries and temples that bring ancient India to life. Explore the complex dug in the wall of a high basalt cliff during 600-1000 AD, and visit the sanctuaries devoted to Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism. This afternoon, transfer to the airport and fly to Delhi. Enjoy dinner at your hotel.

*Overnight: The Oberoi, New Delhi (B, L, D)*

**Tuesday, November 17
DELHI**

This morning, embark on a city tour of Delhi. With roots dating back to before the Common Era, Delhi is now one of the largest metropolises in the world, and the second largest city in India. Visit Humayun’s Tomb, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Next, stop at Nizamuddin Dargah, a mausoleum to one of the world’s most famous Sufi saints. Take a traditional rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk, the major street of Old Delhi, which features one of India’s oldest, busiest markets and is home to some of the most historic and important buildings in Old Delhi. After lunch, continue to Qutub Minar, including stops at Jama Masjid Mosque, India’s largest mosque, and India Gate, a war memorial whose design was inspired by the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. Arrive at Qutub Minar, a magnificent representation of Indo-Muslim architecture that attracts more visitors than the Taj Mahal.

*Overnight: The Oberoi, New Delhi (B, L, D)*

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Contact us today to reserve your space: 1-800-422-1636 or 1-617-496-0806, or email alumni_travel@hbs.edu
DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Wednesday, November 18
DELHI / JAIPUR / PUSHKAR

After breakfast, fly from Delhi to Jaipur and drive 3 hours to Pushkar for its annual Camel Fair. Pushkar is a pilgrimage town famous for its sacred lake and the only Brahma temple found in India. Come November, local Rajasthanis, along with tourists from all over the world, converge to experience the vibrant activity that is the Pushkar Camel Fair. Gaily attired locals, rich Rajasthani music, camel races, and recitations of holy scriptures ensure that the Pushkar Camel Fair is a feast for the senses. Livestock traders from all over India come to trade and sell their prized camels and cattle. Fortune tellers offer to reveal your fate while artisans in front of colorful stands exhibit their beautiful handicrafts.

Overnight: Pushkar Tented Camp (B, L, D)

Thursday, November 19
PUSHKAR / JAIPUR

Enjoy a final morning exploring the Pushkar Camel Fair. After lunch, drive to Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. Constructed in 1727, Jaipur was once a royal city, and is now home to more than two million residents. Jaipur is often called “the Pink City,” because city’s monuments, avenues, and stucco buildings were painted pink in preparation for a visit by the Prince of Wales in 1853.

Overnight: The Oberoi, Rajvilas (B, L, D)

Friday, November 20
JAIPUR

After breakfast, enjoy a morning tour of Amber Fort. Perched upon a hill overlooking Maotha Lake, the citadel dates back to the tenth century, and is an interesting example of combined Hindu and Muslim artistic styles. Next, explore The City Palace, a complex that is now both a museum and a royal residence. Built in the early eighteenth century, it features an imposing blend of Rajasthan and Mughal architecture. Next visit the Maharani Palace, a museum featuring the royalty’s weapons, including a ruby and emerald-encrusted sword given to Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh by Queen Victoria. Explore the Govind Jev Di temple, which is visited by thousands daily during the seven prayer offerings dedicated to the Hindu god Krishna. From here, travel to the Hawa Mahal. Known as the “Palace of Winds,” the five-story masterpiece was molded in the form of Lord Krishna’s crown. End the day at the Jaipur Observatory. Built in the mid-eighteenth century under Maharaja Raj Singh II, the observatory is composed of fourteen large astronomical instruments used to measure time and celestial altitudes, predict eclipses and track stars. Almost all of the devices are of an enormous scale — giant sundials and astrolabes — ensuring an interesting, experiential visit.

Overnight: The Oberoi, Rajvilas (B, L, D)
DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Saturday, November 21
JAIPUR / BHARATPUR / FATEHPUR SIKRI / AGRA
Drive to Agra with visits to Bharatpur and Fatehpur Sikri en route. No more than 35 miles from Agra lies the city of Bharatpur in Rajasthan. Founded in 1733 AD, Bharatpur is nicknamed the “Eastern Gateway to Rajasthan.” Enjoy lunch in Bharatpur before continuing onto Fatehpur Sikri. Built by the Mughal Emperor Akbar in the sixteenth century, many artists and visitors find Fatehpur Sikri an inspiration of design, architecture, and spiritual expression.
Overnight: The Oberoi, Amarvilas (B, L, D)

Sunday, November 22
AGRA
Rise early this morning to watch the sun rise over one of the “Seven Wonders of the World” - the Taj Mahal. The most recognizable site in all of India, the Taj Mahal was completed in 1648 and is often called the finest example of Mughal architecture, due to its combination of Indian, Persian, and Islamic design elements. Tour the interior chambers, which are intricately decorated with calligraphy panels, inlayed flowers, and lapidaries. Explore the palace garden’s reflection pool, tree-lined walkways, sunken flowerbed and fountains, and the surrounding buildings, including the Taj Mahal Mosque, The Great Gate, and additional mausoleum tombs. The sheer size of the compound, coupled with the ornate décor and beautiful symmetry will leave you mesmerized. After returning to the hotel for breakfast, enjoy a tour of Agra Fort, also known as the Red Fort of Agra. The fort is essentially a walled city, and one of the most important architectural sites in India. The fort dates from the eleventh century, but the current incarnation was built in the mid-sixteenth century. The most famous feature of the Agra Fort is the Delhi Gate, which features inlay work of white marble. This evening, enjoy a final visit to the Taj Mahal at sunset. Return to the hotel for a farewell dinner.
Overnight: The Oberoi, Amarvilas (B, L, D)

Monday, November 23
AGRA / SIKANDARA / DELHI / ALOFT
After breakfast, drive 5 hours to Delhi with a visit to Sikandara en route. Located just outside of Agra, Sikandara is home of the Tomb of Akbar the Great, an important Mughal architectural masterpiece built at the start of the seventeenth century. The tomb building, which was planned by Akbar himself as was the custom, is a four-tiered pyramid constructed in deep red sandstone with rich, white marble details. Arrive in Delhi and depart for home on international flights, arriving the following day.
Day Room: Radisson Blu (B, L)

Tuesday, November 24
ARRIVE HOME

OPTIONAL POST-TRIP EXTENSION
VARANASI
Known as the Holy City of India, Varanasi is the most popular pilgrimage destination for Hindus, famous for its temples, shrines, and rich cultural heritage. Located on the River Ganges, Varanasi is one of the oldest cities in the world and has been a center of spirituality, philosophy, music, and learning for over 3,000 years.

A detailed itinerary with cost information will be sent to confirmed travelers or upon request.

contact us today to reserve your space: 1-800-422-1636 or 1-617-496-0806, or email alumni_travel@hbs.edu
RESERVATION FORM

Please make checks payable to “HARVARD UNIVERSITY” and mail reservation to:
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124 Mount Auburn Street, 6th Floor
Cambridge, MA 02138

TRIP DEPOSIT (NON-REFUNDABLE)
☐ Enclosed is my check for $________________________ ($1,000 per person) made payable to Harvard University
☐ Please charge the following card for $________________________ ($1,000 per person)

VISA        AMEX        MASTERCARD
Card No. ______________________________________
Expiration _________________ CVC _______________

TRAVELER INFORMATION

# of People in Group _______ # of Rooms Needed _______
Name 1 (as on passport) ____________________________
Date of Birth ____________
Name 2 (as on passport) ____________________________
Date of Birth ____________
Street Address ____________________________________
City _____________________________________________
State ___________ Zip Code ________________
Phone _________________ Mobile ___________________
E-mail ___________________________________________

ROOM PREFERENCE (circle one)
SINGLE          DOUBLE one bed | two beds

SINGLE TRAVELERS
☐ I prefer single accommodations
☐ I plan to room with ______________________________
☐ I prefer to share accommodations (If a roommate is not available, I will pay the single rate)

By submitting my non-refundable $1,000 trip deposit I am registering for The Breath of India: Featuring the Pushkar Camel Fair and the Ajanta & Ellora Caves, November 12-24, 2015.
I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program posted on the trip web page and agree to them.

SIGNATURE                                  DATE

SIGNATURE                                  DATE