

Mughal Renowned Architecture Features

(12 Days & 11 Nights)

Day 01: (Mon – Arrive Islamabad)

On arrival at Islamabad Airport, our Japanese Speaking Guide will welcome you at airport with transport. Transfer to Hotel for check in. Overnight at the hotel

Day 02: (Tue - Islamabad-Faisal Mosque - Monument – Rohtas Fort - Lahore)

After breakfast, proceed to visit of Faisal Mosque in Islamabad. This is the 2nd largest Mosque in Pakistan, located in the national capital city of Islamabad. Then visit **Pakistan Monument** at Shakar Parian “Sweet Hills”. It is a national monument representing the Nation’s four provinces and three territories. After a competition among many renowned architects, Arif Masood’s plan was selected for the final design.



After visit, drive to Lahore via Rohtas Fort. **Rohtas Fort** (World Heritage Site): It is one of the most imposing historical monuments, which represents the Pathan period of architecture style in Pakistan. The Fort is the symbol of strength and determination of its builder Sher Shah Suri who ruled over India only for six years, 1540-45 A.D, but even during that short period he created many splendors including Rohtas Fort and the Great Grand Trunk Road, connecting Kabul with Calcutta.



Enjoy the hot lunch at the local restaurant at Dina. Continue our drive to Lahore.

Arrive and check in to hotel.

Day 03: Wed: (Lahore - Delhi)

Morning transfer to Lahore Airport and fly to Delhi by PK 270 at 13:15 Pm
Lunch Enroute in the flight **OR** Lunch Box from Lahore, arrive Delhi and transfer to Hotel For Dinner & overnight.

Day 04: (Thu – Delhi - Agra)

Morning proceed to visit the main City Attractions of New Delhi; **Jamia Masjid**, one of the largest mosques in the world and in India, it was built by Shah Jahan. It was known as **central mosque of the old Delhi** in the time of Shah Jahan. He completed this mosque in the year 1656 and made it the biggest and best known mosque all over India. The name of **Jama Masjid** was put on the Friday noon prayer which used to be given at this mosque. The capacity of this mosque is about 25000 people which are more than any other mosque in India. The history of Jama Masjid included the blood-shedding work of about 5000 laborers for making this mosque. The cost of this mosque at the time period of Shah Jahan was estimated to be about 1 million rupees.



Continue your visit to **Raj Ghat**, a memorial built to commemorate the site of Mahatma Gandhi's cremation. Originally it was the name of a historic Ghat of Old Delhi on the Banks of Yamuna River. Close to it and east of Daryaganj was "Raj Ghat Gate" of the walled city, opening at Raj Ghat on Yamuna River. Then to next visit **Qutub Minar**. It is made of red sandstone and marble and decorated with verses from the Qur'an. Stop next at Humayun's Tomb made by Mughal emperor dating back to the 1500s.



After some refreshment, we will pass through **India Gate** – constructed in the memory of Indian soldiers who died in World War I. Along the way, your guide will point out architectural and cultural features of these important monuments.



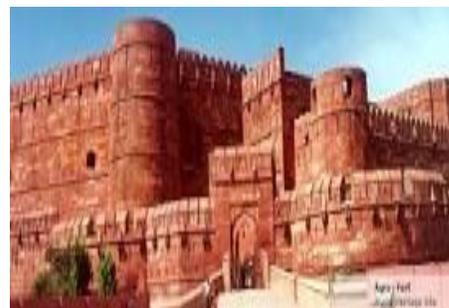
At the last, we will continue our drive to **Agra (180 Kms & 3 Hrs)**, a city in northern India's Uttar Pradesh State. Arrives & transfer to hotel for Dinner & overnight.

Day 05: (Fri – Full day Agra)

After breakfast, proceeds for full days visit to Agra city including; **Taj Mahal**, is a white marble mausoleum located on the southern bank of Yamuna River in the Indian city of Agra. It was built in 1632 by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan to house the tomb of his favorite wife of three, Mumtaz Mahal. The famed mausoleum complex, built over more than 20 years, is one of the most outstanding examples of Mughal architecture. It is built of shimmering white marble that seems to change color depending on the sunlight or moonlight hitting its surface. It remains one of the world's most celebrated structures and a stunning symbol of India's rich history.



Then we will continue our visit to **Agra Fort**, near the gardens of the Taj Mahal stands the important 16th-century Mughal monument known as the Red Fort of Agra. This powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses, within its 2.5-km-long enclosure walls, the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. It comprises; Jahangir Palace, Khas Mahal, and Diwan-e-Khas and two very beautiful mosques.



After lunch, continue your visit to **Jama Masjid in Fatehpur Sikri** is a Mosque in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India, it completed in 1571-5 by Sheikh Salim Chishti. The Imam of the Mosque has been the late Hazrat Shah Muhammad Mazhar Ullah.



Continue to visit **Tomb of Itimād-ud-Daulah**, built between 1622 and 1628 represents a transition between the first phases of monumental Mughal architecture. It was built from red sandstone with marble decorations, as in Humayun’s Tomb in Delhi and Akbar’s tomb in Sikandra, the mausoleum was commissioned by Nur Jahan, the wife of Jahangir, for her father Mirza Ghiyas Beg, originally a Persian Amir in exile who had been given the title of Itimad-ud-Daulah, was also the Grandfather of Mumtaz Mahal, wife of Shah Jahan, responsible for the building of the Taj Mahal.



Moreover, if the time permit, will try to visit **Ram Bagh**, is the oldest Mughal Garden in India. It was built by Mughal Emperor Babur in 1528, five kilometers northeast of Taj Mahal in Agra. The garden is a Persian Garden, where pathways and canals divide the garden to represent the Islamic ideal of paradise, an abundant garden through which rivers flow. The Aram Bagh provides an example of a variant of the charbagh in which water cascades down three terraces in a sequence of cascades.



Two viewing pavilions face the Jumna River and incorporate a subterranean ‘Tahkhana’ (Basement), which was used during the hot summers to provide relief for visitors

In the evening visit the local market of Agra and then back to hotel for overnight stay.

Day 06: (Sat - Agra – Jaipur, 248 Kms & 5 Hrs)

Enjoy breakfast, followed by an approximate five-hour drive to Jaipur. En route, visit the **Red Sandstone Complex** of Fatehpur Sikri, built in 1569 by Emperor Akbar and abandoned 15 years later due to water shortage, visit inside the walls as your guide enlightens you about the Hindu and Muslim Architectural style of the expressive construction, including Jama Masjid, Tomb of Salim Chishti and other historical buildings.



Amber Fort is located in Rajasthan state. It is one of the principal tourist attractions in the Jaipur area, located high on a hill. Amber Fort was built by Raja Man Singh. It was built during (December 21, 1550 – July 6, 1614) in 16th century. Man Singh, one of the first war chiefs or the trusted general of the Emperor Akbar.



Lunch on the way and after lunch, enjoy and admire breathtaking views of **Maota Lake**; provides a serene setting from which to look up at Amber Fort on the hillside. The fort and palace are reflected on the water's surface from the fortress.



Upon arrival at Jaipur, transfer to hotel. After refreshment, enjoy your city tour of Jaipur, whose origins can be traced back to the 18th century, such as the magnificent palaces, temples, lush gardens and pink plastered stone that gives Jaipur the popular name “Pink City.” Dinner & overnight at Hotel in Jaipur.

Day 7: (Sun - Jaipur – Ludhiana, 586 Kms & 9 Hrs drive)

After early breakfast drive to **Ludhiana**. It will take 9 hours air conditioned bus Stop for lunch break at **Haryana**. It is a state in North India with its capital at Chandigarh. It came into existence on 1 November 1966 as a newly created state carved out of the Indian Punjab state on the basis of language.



After lunch, continue our Journey upto Ludhiana.

Upon arrival, check in the hotel and take complete rest after long drive.

Day 8: (Mon - Ludhiana –Amritsar Temple – Wagah (190 Kms) then - Lahore

Morning enjoy the breakfast and continue drive upto Wagah from Ludhiana. Stop at Amritsar to visit the **Golden Temple (Sri Harimandir Sahib Amritsar)** is not only a central religious place of the Sikhs, but also a symbol of human brotherhood and equality. Everybody, irrespective of cast, creed or race can seek spiritual solace and Religious fulfillment without any hindrance. It also represents the distinct identity, glory and heritage of the Sikhs.



Upon arrival at Wagah, first make the clearance & then meet the Pakistani Guide with transport and continue drive to Lahore. If time suits then enjoy the Flag ceremony. **Flag ceremony at Wagha:** Wagha is the only land border open between Pakistan and India. This check-post is about 30 km from Lahore. A daily Flag-lowering ceremony is simultaneously held on Pakistan and India side at Sunset. This half an hour ceremony is attended by a large number of citizens and tourists.



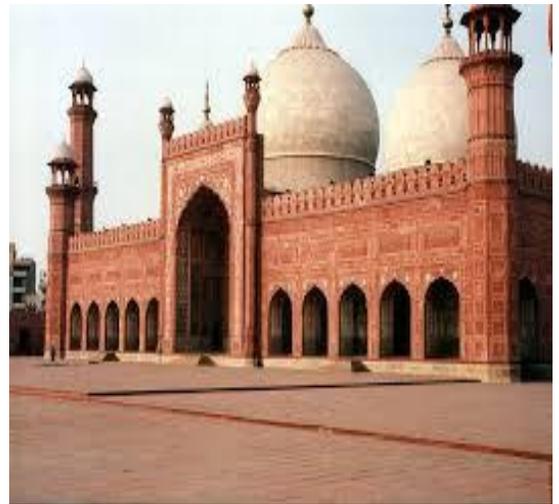
Then continue drive to Lahore. Arrive & transfer to hotel for dinner & overnight.

Day 9: (Tue - Full day Lahore City Tour)

Today, we will enjoy the full day Lahore city sightseeing including; Badshahi Mosque, Lahore Fort, Lahore Museum & Shalimar Garden etc.

Lahore - has been the capital of the Punjab for nearly a thousand years, founded by Mahmud Ghazni. It reached its full glory under Mogul rulers. The third Mogul emperor Akbar held his court in Lahore for the 14 years from 1584 to 1598. He builds the marvelous Lahore Fort, the great Badshahi Mosque and many other. It is the second largest city in the country and an important industrial center.

Badshahi Mosque: The Badshahi Mosque (the 'Royal Mosque') in Lahore, commissioned by the sixth Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb in 1671 and completed in 1673, is the second largest mosque in Pakistan and South Asia and the fifth largest mosque in the world. It is the symbol of beauty, passion and grandeur of the Mughal era. It is Lahore's most famous landmark and a major tourist attraction.



Lahore Fort: The Lahore Fort is located in Lahore. Basic structure was built during the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar between 1556-1605 and was regularly upgraded by subsequent Mughal, Sikh and British Rulers. The Lahore Museum was originally established in 1865-66 on the site of the hall or building of the 1864 Punjab Exhibition and later shifted to its present site located on The Mall, Lahore, and Punjab, Pakistan in 1894.



It has two large gates: One is known as **Alamgiri Gate** build by Emperor Aurangzeb, which opens towards Badshahi Mosque and the other called Masti Gate was built by Emperor Akbar. Now the only Alamgiri Gate is used and the Masti Gate is permanently closed. In 1981, the fort was inscribed as a UNESCO world Heritage Site with the Shalimar Garden.

Lahore Museum – The original old Lahore Museum was made during British Indian times in the 1860s, on the site of the hall or building of the 1864 Punjab Exhibition Hall and the famous gun Zam Zama was installed outside in 1870. This old museum, along with the Punjab School of Arts was looked after by John Lockwood Kipling (1837-1911) later shifted to its present site located on The Mall, Lahore in 1894.



Lunch at local restaurant.

Afternoon proceeds to visit **Shalimar Garden**, was built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in Lahore. The Shalimar Gardens are located near Baghbanpura the Grand Trunk Road some 5 kilometers northeast of the main Lahore city.



Transfer to hotel for dinner & overnight stay.

Day 10: (Wed – Lahore-Islamabad via Hiran Minar)

After breakfast, drive from Lahore to Islamabad. At Sheikhpura, visit Hiran Minar. It is one of the best known and most beautiful. It used to be the favorite hunting spot of all Muslim rulers. It was constructed by Emperor Jahangir as a monument to Mansraj, one of his pet deer. Then continue our drive to Islamabad.



Arrive at Islamabad and transfer to hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 11: Thu: - Full day Taxila & Fly back)

After breakfast drive to Taxila for full day sightseeing, it is 35km from Islamabad and near about 1 hour drives. At Taxila we will visit: Museum, Sirkap city and Jaulian Monastery. **Taxila** - is the main centre of Gandhara. It is over 3,000 years old. Taxila had attracted Alexander the great in 326 BC, and Greek culture came to this part of the world. Taxila later came under the Mauryan dynasty and reached a remarkable level of development under the great Ashoka. During the year 2 BC, Buddhism was adopted as the state religion, until the year 10 AD. During this time Taxila, Swat and Charsadda became three important centers for culture, trade and learning.



Most of the archaeological sites of Taxila (600 BC to 500 AD) are located around Taxila Museum. For over one thousand years, Taxila remained famous as a centre of learning Gandhara art of sculpture, architecture, Education and Buddhism in the days of Buddhist glory. There are over 50 archaeological sites scattered in a radius of 30 kms around Taxila. Some of the most important sites are: Dharmarajika Stupa and Monastery, Bhir Mound, Sirkap, Jan dial Temple and Jaulian Monastery (200 - 600 AD).



Hot lunch will be served at Local Restaurant.

After visit, drive back to Islamabad Airport for your homebound International flight PK852 at 10:35Hors

Day 12: (Fri - Arrive back to Narita)
