



9/21/2016

INDIA/NEPAL 16 DAYS ITINERARY OCT 2017

SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR ACHI TSEPAL & FRIENDS

Celebrating the 800 year anniversary of Lord Jigten Sumgon achieving Parinirvana



Lord Jigten Sumgon (1143-1217 AD)



This is a unique opportunity to experience India and a Buddhist celebration with a Tibetan insider, Achi Tsepal, who understands the cultures of the western world and those of the East. Join us on a pilgrimage starting in New Delhi and then continuing to Dehra Dun in the Himalayan foothills and the center of Achi's exiled Tibetan Drikung community at the Jangchubling monastery. This trip celebrates the 800 years since the passing of Lord Jigten Sumgon, the founder of the Drikung Kagyu sect of Tibetan Buddhism. (see <http://www.drikung.org/>) We end the tour with an excursion to Nepal and the birth place of the Buddha, Lumbini. Hidden Treasure Tours recognizes the urgent need to fund programs in Drikung, Tibet that support the educational needs of Tibetan children. Achi's charity The Children of Tibet Trust was registered in the U.S. to support the 365 children in Drikung in their educational endeavors. A donation from each participant's tour cost will go to the Trust and we encourage you to consider additional contributions after you have travelled. For more information click here: <https://childrenoftibet.org/>



During our time in Dehradun we will also be accompanied by Khenpo Samdup, a long time student of His Eminence Garchen Rinpoche. Khenpo Samdup taught for five years in the Kagyu College at the Jangchubling Monastery. At Garchen Rinpoche's request, Khenpo Samdup has been named the Spiritual Director of the Gar Drolma Buddhist Center in Dayton Ohio, and the Drikung Dharma Surya Center in Fairfax, VA. Khenpo Samdup is best known for his kind, soft manner and his unassuming humility. Once you get to know him, you become aware of his great knowledge of Buddhist philosophy and Dharma scripture and practices. For more information click here: <http://drikungdharma.org/>

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OCT 14, 2017 USA/DELHI: Make your way to the airport to your flight to Delhi.

OCT 15 ARRIVE DELHI: upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.
Overnight Avalon Courtyard Hotel or similar on bed & breakfast basis
<http://www.avalonhospitality.com/avaloncourtyard/>

The capital of India, Delhi blends an historic past and a vibrant present. The Imperial city planned for the British by Lutyens is set in parks and shaded avenues. Legend has it that Delhi, then called Indraprastha, was originally founded around 1200 B.C. by the Pandavas, the august heroes of the epic Mahabharata. Present day Delhi is built around the ruins of seven ancient cities.



OCT 16 DELHI: Morning proceed for a full day city tour of Old and New Delhi visiting the Jama Masjid, drive past the Red Fort, Raj Ghat, Lotus Temple, Qutab Minar, drive past the India Gate, Parliament and President's house etc.

OCT 17 DELHI/AGRA: after breakfast you will be driven to Agra, upon arrival check into the hotel. Rest of the evening at leisure.
Overnight at Pushp Villa in Agra bed & breakfast basis
<http://www.hotelpushpvilla.com/>



OCT 18 AGRA/DELHI: Morning visit to the Taj Mahal and also visit Agra Fort, afternoon drive to Delhi, upon arrival check into the hotel.
Overnight Avalon Courtyard Hotel or similar on bed & breakfast basis
<http://www.avalonhospitality.com/avaloncourtyard/>

Taj Mahal is regarded as one of the eight wonders of the world, and some Western historians have noted that its architectural beauty has never been surpassed. The Taj is the most beautiful monument built by the Mughals, the Muslim rulers of India. Taj Mahal is built entirely of white marble. Its stunning architectural

beauty is beyond adequate description, particularly at dawn and sunset. The Taj seems to glow in the light of the full moon.

OCT 19 DELHI/DEHRADUN: After the breakfast drive to Dehradun, upon arrival drop at the Buddhist festival venue.

Overnight Doon Castle or similar on bed & breakfast basis

<http://www.hoteldoocastle.com/>

Dehradun is the provisional capital of Uttarakhand state. It is nestled between the Himalayan foothills to the north and the Shivaliks to the South. The town offers breathtaking scenery. Dehradun is situated at an altitude of 1400 ft in the Doon Valley between two of the most important rivers in India, the Ganga and Yamuna. The town also serves as a convenient base for visiting the area's many tourist sites.

OCT 20-25 DEHRADUN: six full days to enjoy the festival at the Drikung Kagyu institute with daily transfers to/from the monastery. We will also take excursions to other Hill Stations during this time. **Overnight Doon Castle or similar on bed & breakfast basis**

The Drikung Kagyu Order was founded in 1179 by Kyobpa Jigten Sumgön. It is headed by the two Kyabgon Rinpoches, His Holiness the Drikung Kyabgon Chetsang and His Holiness the Drikung Kyabgon Chungtsang. While Chungtsang Rinpoche resides in Lhasa, Chetsang Rinpoche has established the Drikung Kagyu seat in exile in Dehra Dun, in the northeast of India. This festival commemorates the 800th anniversary of Lord Jigten Sumgon entering Parinirvana.



OCT 26 DEHRADUN/DELHI/KATHMANDU: This morning you will be driven to New Delhi's airport for your flight to Kathmandu. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. If time permits there will be a walking tour of Kathmandu City.

Overnight Hotel Vajra in Kathmandu on bed & breakfast basis.

<http://www.hotelvajra.com/>

Kathmandu City: Kasthamandap, the source of the name Kathmandu means 'made from the timber of a single tree'. Also known as Kantipur, the capital Kathmandu is the hub of Nepal's art and culture. It is a place for rest, relaxation and easy-day sightseeing of historic and artistic temples and monuments. Kathmandu Durbar Square with its arrays of temples, Seto Machhindranath and the ancient palace of the former Nepali Royals enriches your experience of the centuries old civilization.

OCT 27 KATHMANDU/BHAIRAHAWA/LUMBINI/KATHMANDU: This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Bhairahawa departing at 0840am. Upon arrival

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you will be met and driven to Lumbini [45 mins.] Visit Lumbini garden the birthplace of Lord Buddha and see the surrounding monasteries. Later this afternoon you will fly back to Kathmandu where you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Overnight Hotel Vajra in Kathmandu on bed & breakfast basis.



It was in Lumbini, around the year 563 BC, that one of history's greatest and most revered figures, Siddhartha Gautama – better known as the Buddha – was born. It's no great surprise to learn that the World Heritage-listed Lumbini is of huge religious significance and attracts Buddhist pilgrims from around the world.

Located 22km west of Bhairawa, the spiritual heart of Lumbini is Maya Devi Temple, which marks the spot where Queen Maya Devi gave birth to Siddhartha Gautama. In the adjoining sacred garden you'll find the pillar of Ashoka, ancient ruins of stupas, and maroon- and saffron-robed monks congregating under a sprawling Bodhi (pipal) fig decorated with prayer flags.

Maya Devi Temple is set in the middle of the large 4km by 2.5km park grounds known as the Lumbini Development Zone. Designed by Japanese architect Kenzo Tange in 1978, it's still a work in progress that comprises landscaped lakes and numerous monasteries that have been or are being constructed by Buddhist communities from around the world. Cited as evidence of good karma by some Buddhist devotees, none of the temples or monuments at Lumbini were seriously affected by the 2015 earthquake.

Most people rush through Lumbini, allowing only a few hours to look around. However, you could easily spend one or two days exploring the zone and its monasteries, and soaking up the peaceful atmosphere.

OCT 28 KATHMANDU/USA: Today visit monasteries in Boudhanath.

Boudhanath: This Stupa, eight kilometers east of Kathmandu City is one of the biggest in the world of its kind. It stands with four pairs of eyes in the four cardinal direction keeping watch for righteous behavior and human prosperity. King Man Dev built this Buddhist stupa at the advice of Goddess Mani Jjogini. It is built on an octagonal base inset with prayer wheels. Houses of Lamas ring the shrine or Buddhist priests.



The rest of the day is available for shopping and your room will be available until departure for the airport and your flight back to US.

OCT 29 ARRIVE USA: Welcome Home!



-INDIA/NEPAL 16 days Itinerary Achi Trepa Group

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Sample airfares: Wash. Dulles/Delhi & Kathmandu/Wash. Dulles - \$999/person incl tax* + \$35/person issuing fee

***based on Qatar Airlines Oct 2016 rates as 2017 rates haven't been released yet**

Additional airfare: Delhi/Kathmandu- \$160/person incl tax* + \$35/person issuing fee

***based on Oct 2016 rates as 2017 rates haven't been released yet**

Domestic air fare subject to change, check in baggage limit of 15 kg and cabin baggage limit of 7 kg

Land Package Tour cost – valid for October 2017

10 – 14 persons: USD 2583 per person**

15 – 19 persons: USD 2255 per person**

20 – 25 persons: USD 2075 per person.**

Single room supplement: USD 525.**

** Prices are based on check payment with 4% extra for credit cards

A deposit of \$500/person is required to hold the land space. Airline seats will have to be issued at the time of booking. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure.

Hotels foreseen (3 star / similar type guest house)

15 to 17 Oct: Avalon Courtyard in Delhi for 02 nights on bed & breakfast basis.

<http://www.avalonhospitality.com/avaloncourtyard/>

17 to 18 Oct: Pushp Villa in Agra for 01 night on bed & breakfast basis.

<http://www.hotelpushpvilla.com/>

18 to 19 Oct: Avalon Courtyard in Delhi for 01 night on bed & breakfast basis.

<http://www.avalonhospitality.com/avaloncourtyard/>

19 to 26 Oct: Doon Castle in Dehradun for 07 nights on bed & breakfast basis.

<http://www.hoteldoycastle.com/>

26 to 28 Oct: Hotel Vajra in Kathmandu for 02 nights on bed & breakfast basis.

<http://www.hotelvajra.com/>

Tour cost includes:

Accommodation on twin sharing basis as per the above details.

Daily breakfast at the hotels.

Services of local English speaking guides for Agra sightseeing.

All transfers and sightseeing using an air-conditioned Coach with driver.

Daily roundtrip transfer in Dehradun to/from Drikung Kagyu Institute.

Excursions to other Hill Stations while in Dehradun.

Monument entry fees

Meeting and assistance by our office representative at all places.

Rickshaw rides in Old Delhi.

All present applicable taxes.

airfare: Kathmandu/Bhairahawa/Kathmandu

Hidden Treasure Tours PreTour info



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Tour Cost Does NOT Include:

- # Any expenses of personal nature such as laundry, drinks (alcoholic & non alcoholic), phone calls, Tips at hotels/restaurants/guides and chauffeur, still & video camera charges etc.
- # Any Lunch & Dinners
- # Any tours in Dehradun.
- # Air tickets to India and back, India and Nepal Visa fees, airport tax and travel insurance etc.
- # Any domestic air tickets, airport departure tax if any.
- # Any expenses caused by reasons beyond our and our associate offices control such as flight delays, rescheduling or cancellations, any accidents, medical evacuation riots, strikes, political unrest, natural disasters etc.
- # Any other taxes or service charges that could be enforced during travelling period will be extra and needed to be borne by the guests.
- # # Trip cancellation insurance- available through Hidden Treasure Tours
- # Any other expenses not specified above