



INDO ASIA TOURS
since 1987

cultural
core

india

nepal

bhutan

sri lanka

bangladesh

tibet

messages of appreciation...

It is almost 30 years that Gebeco / Dr. Tigges have been working together with Indo Asia Tours. One can say that we grew along together. We owe it to the extraordinary commitment of the staff of Indo Asia that our India business in the many years could develop so much and our collaboration be so successful. Customer satisfaction has been and is always at the center. This is particularly true for the reps who care "as a mother" (as the feedback of many Gebeco customers) to our guests.

For it all a big thank you!

Sigrid Grüneke,
Gebeco , Germany

We have just returned from our tour to India, which included our tour of Southern India and Varanasi that you arranged for us.

It was a wonderful tour from the moment your local representative met us at Trivandrum to our departing flight from Varanasi. Your pre-departure service was amazing – very quick responses to all our e-mails with many sensible suggestions to help us organise our itinerary. I would like to make special mention of our driver, Kumar, who was fabulous and very patient with us! The driver is one of the most important elements in such a holiday because he is with you nearly every day!

The local guides were always very punctual, helpful and knowledgeable. The hotels were very good value for money and again we must make special mention of the Hotel Jukaso Ganges in Varanasi - the location was unbelievable – right on the Ganges.

We travel overseas every year and this was one of the best holidays we have had. All in all excellent value for money and we would have no hesitation in recommending your services to other travellers.

Thank you,
Sue and Malcolm Wilson,
Australia

I want to thank you all your arrangement for our visit in Delhi in October. Everything was OK! It was a ten points trip!!! And we were more than satisfied! Thank you! We want to come to India once more in future!

Greetings
Terhi and Erkki,
Finland

Thank you all for organizing the trip to India and Bhutan. I really enjoyed it. Also it was nice to meet you. Thanks for all your attention and kind cooperation. Sunil, it was great to have dinner at Samode Palace. Vinay, I liked to travel with you through Bhutan. Laxmikant, thanks for organizing my tour to Khajuraho and Varanasi, both fantastic places. I had a good time.

See you soon and take care.
Henk Halferkamps,
Rama Tours, Holland



From the Directors' desk...

Welcome to the home of one of the oldest civilisations on earth. Be mesmerised by the sights, sounds and flavours of ancient history, heritage and culture.

Travel beyond the regular guidebooks with our experienced travel specialists who enlighten and stimulate you with their knowledge in subjects ranging from art, architecture, archaeology, culture and history.

Our cultural holidays have been carefully researched giving emphasis to the unique cultural diversity of India and its sub-continent in language, religion, art, customs, traditions and local cuisines.

Guests are pampered with stays at classic and unique Royal Palace and heritage hotels that reflect the cultural ethos of the region, with exquisitely appointed guest rooms and suites, internationally acclaimed cuisine and exceptional leisure facilities designed to create a delightfully memorable travel experience. We also offer the experience of staying with families from different walks of life in the form of home stays.

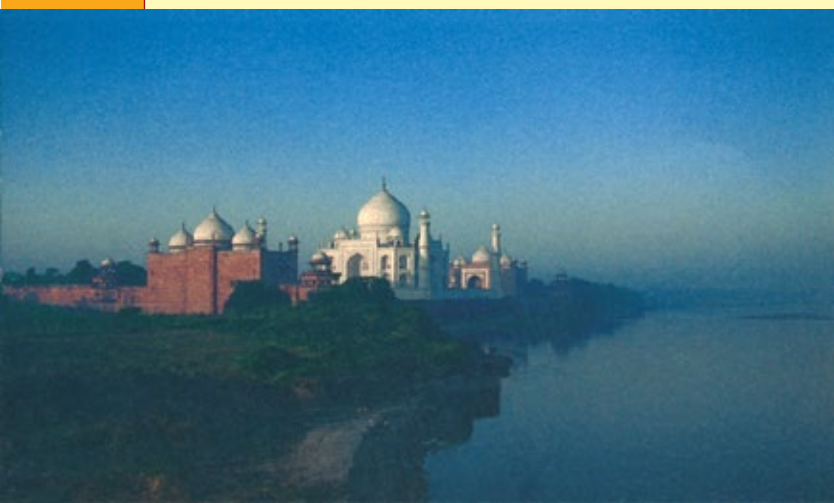
For an out-of-the-ordinary experience we offer exotic, exciting yet serene luxury river cruises filled with activities, shore excursions and gourmet cuisines that truly enable you to immerse yourself in the local traditions and culture. You also have the option of chugging along on one of the many luxury trains that help to heighten your cultural experience.

Indo Asia Tours is committed and dedicated to the conservation and upkeep of natural heritage and environment. We also take great pride in the safety and comfort of our clients by providing quality vehicles and excellently trained drivers who act as your guides while on the road.

We continually strive to offer the most customised Culture Tour packages that take you on a medley of culturally rich destinations, offering a spectrum of intoxicating cultural cocktail. We offer a varied selection of tours across the sub-continent and with just a few highlighted examples of our tours mentioned ahead we hope simply to whet your appetite.

Sudesh Behal
(Director)

Sunirmol Ghosh
(Director)





Indo Asia Tours is a leading Destination Management Company that specialises in the Indian sub-continent making it possible for our customers to explore and imbibe the rich cultural heritage and diversity of the region. We provide personalised experiences that not only make your travel exciting but also give you memories to cherish for a life time.

We are led by a team that is both experienced and respected in the industry. The identity of our company, our philosophy and our approach to our clients all revolve around our motto of **“Welcome a Tourist and send back a Friend”**. It is towards this end that we customise every travel plan to suit the unique needs of every traveller thus making for an exceptional travel experience.

Corporate Social Responsibility:

Indo Asia strives towards developing sustainable community programmes that are viable in the long term and aid in rejuvenating the local economy through practices that are environmentally responsible.

We promote several “green” activities and programmes that are executed with the aid and participation of our international partners as well. We encourage our international partners to donate part of the profits raised from their operations in India for the betterment of the underprivileged in the areas visited by their clients.

Our endeavor is to make a positive contribution for the underprivileged and the environment by supporting a wide range of socio-economic, educational, health and eco-friendly initiatives. Our goal is to infuse measurable and sustainable practices throughout the organisation with the participation of employees, customers, business partners and other stock holders.

As part of our corporate responsibility we have adopted a village called Nadha in Madhya Pradesh for integrated rural development. Thus far the building for a primary school is in place; a primary health care centre has been constructed and we are aiding and educating the local farmers in growing organic food and helping them market it.

We ensure that we promote and execute trips that are sustainable and eco-friendly.

In recognition of our efforts we have been nominated by the Ministry of Tourism, India for the best sustainable itinerary and have also won the National Tourism Award for Best Innovative Project by promoting innovative sustainable programmes.

For more details on our CSR initiatives, please visit <https://www.indoasia-tours.com>





cultural core

“ A nation's culture resides in the hearts and the soul of its people.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

In a land that is both colourful and vibrant there is no shortage of cultural delights. It is reflected in the clothes we wear, the food we eat, the festivals we celebrate and even in how we mourn our dead. In Bhutan they celebrate their victory over the Tibetan forces at the Punakha Drubchen, in India the defeat of the forces of evil are celebrated at Holi and Diwali with an eruption of lights, colour and joyous abandonment.

Our culture can also be seen carved or embossed on the sides of temples, forts and palaces. Some of the greatest examples can be found at the Taj Mahal, one of the seven wonders of the world and in the many gigantic forts that the kings called home.

Music and dance beat a hypnotic rhythm that enchants the onlooker. You may find it at a street corner or in the halls of an auditorium and it will give you a brief glimpse into a fine art tradition that goes back several millennia.

As you explore the region small cultural glimpses will catch your eye; men and women folding hands while greeting an elder or stooping to touch their feet to obtain their blessings.

In India the arrival of a guest is seen as the arrival of God to our doorstep. We welcome guests not only into our homes and lives but encourage them to be a part of our culture and traditions. So, we look forward to having you with us, sharing a cup of tea and walking the footsteps of our history and culture with us.



In an age of fiefdoms and kings, an age of war and uncertainty the sires of old built bastions of strength and magnificence to project their might, showcase their culture and to protect their citizens. The fruit of their labour has stood the test of time, not just their time but ours as well. Even now after centuries of the ravaging of time these palaces and forts stand and remind us of the power they witnessed, love that flourished, war and battle strategies that devastated and of men who became legends



Royal Splendour

*DELHI ✎ *JAIPUR ✎ *JODHPUR ✎ *KUMBHALGARH ✎ UDAIPUR ✎ *CHITTORGARH ✎ BIJAPUR ✎ KOTA ✎ BUNDI ✎ KARAULI ✎ GWALIOR ✎ *AGRA ✎ DELHI

All across the length and breadth of India you will find cities and towns that are home to the remnants of what were once pillars of strength and splendour. Every fort and palace from Kashmir in the north to Kanyakumari in the south and from Gujarat in the west to Assam in the east has a story to be told. Whether they are intact or crumbling these forts and palaces stand testament to a flourishing culture, mighty kings and queens, undying love, fearsome battles, cruel punishments and economic and political decisions .

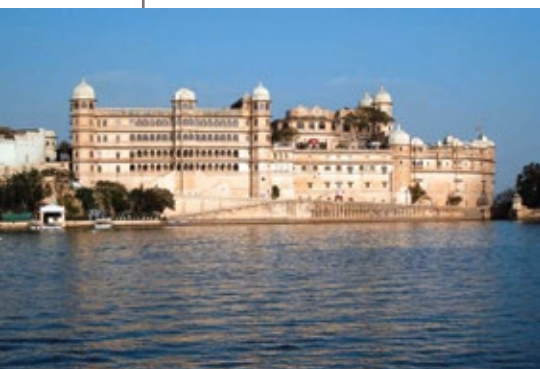
As you step through these palaces the stories of magnificently brave kings and just as courageous queens ring out and resonate through the walls. The Chittorgarh Fort has the dubious honour of seeing three mass suicides by its queens, their attendants and young children in the face of imminent defeat of their armies. It also has stories of devotional love resonating through its walls with the tale of the Divine love that Meera felt for Lord Krishna going so far as to drinking a cup of poison given to her as a blessing by the Lord.

Whispers are also heard singing the tales of love everlasting. The Taj Mahal saw the birth of one such great love story when King Shah Jahan

spent nearly quarter of a century building a mausoleum worthy enough to be the final resting place of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Even the beacon of everlasting love, the Taj stands and watches over the king and queen as they sleep their final repose.

Coincidence or legends these tales survive. Tales of love, loyalty, bravery, sacrifice and cruelty are all imbibed in the very essence of the foundations and ring out through the jharokhas (windows) lest they be forgotten. As you touch the walls it seems as though centuries of history is pulsing through the walls into your hands and giving you glimpses into the life and time that was. The tales that flow through these forts and palaces are enough to give you "goose bumps" as you complete your journey through them.

A royal past lives through to the future in each chiselled stone and painting. Generations of royals have frolicked, bruised their knees and commanded armies from these majestic homes. Homes that now beckon you to them and offer a glimpse into the lives, loves and deaths of their masters.



█ peak period █ shoulder period

jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

* The Forts in these places are listed in UNESCO's World Heritage Monuments

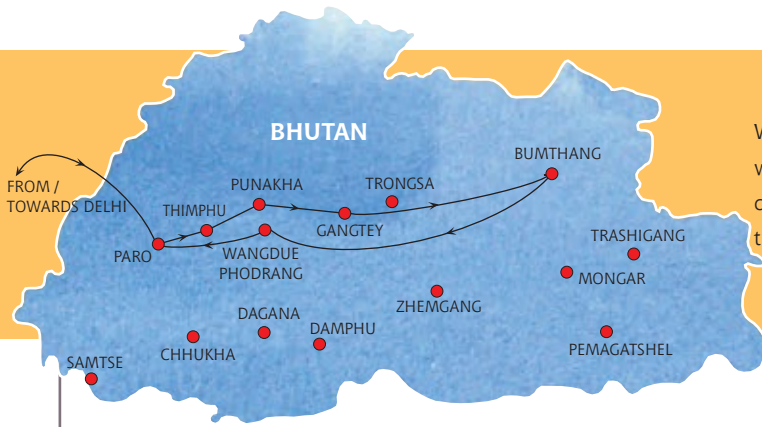
Forts & Palaces



OTHER SUGGESTIVE TOURS

	DECCAN INDIA	SOUTH INDIA	MAJESTIC DZONGS OF BHUTAN	NEPAL & TIBET
■ peak period ■ shoulder period	*HYDERABAD / BIDAR / GULBARGA / BIJAPUR / BADAMI / HOSPET / *HAMPI / HASSAN / MYSORE / BANGALORE	COCHIN / BACKWATER / KOVALAM / PADMANABHAPURAM / KANYAKUMARI / MADURAI / CHETTINAD / TRICHY / *THANJAVUR / KUMBakonam / *MAHABALIPURAM - CHENNAI	PARO / THIMPHU / TRONGSA / BUMTHANG / PUNAKHA / PARO	*KATHMANDU / *LHASA / GYANTSE / SHIGATSE / SAKYA / SHEGAR / ROMBUK / ZHANG MU / KATHMANDU
	■ OCTOBER TO APRIL ■ MAY TO SEPTEMBER	■ OCTOBER TO APRIL ■ MAY TO SEPTEMBER	■ MARCH TO MAY & SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER ■ JUNE TO AUGUST & DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY	■ APRIL TO JUNE & SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER ■ JULY TO AUGUST & NOVEMBER TO MARCH

For more details, please visit <https://www.indoasia-tours.com>



We are the collective consciousness of our life experiences. They make us who we are; binds us to our fellows and also what separates us from each other. Our culture, myths and legends are what bind us together. Coming together in a time of celebration brings all our hearts and souls together.



Thimpu Tshechu

DELHI PARO THIMPU PUNAKHA GANGTEY
BUMTHANG WANGDUEPHODRANG PARO DELHI

"You are invited to the festival of this world and your life is blessed."
- Rabindranath Tagore

Festivals, a time of joy and togetherness, help us to not only keep our legends alive but also give flavour and depth to our culture. As a civilisation grows the boundaries between religions begin to blur especially during the time of festivals. Christmas for instance might not be celebrated in all homes with the same vigour as Christian homes but it can be found lurking in bits and pieces in every home. After all who can resist a jolly and gift bearing Saint Nick?

Bhutan is a country steeped in tradition and thus has an amazingly rich culture that is kept alive by its citizens, who take great pride in showcasing it. Bhutan being a Buddhist state can trace the roots of most of its varied festivals to the Buddhist tradition. However, if you thought that all you get at their festivals is mesmerising chanting and deep reflection you could not be farther from the truth. Bhutanese festivals are boisterous, colourful, and loud. They emanate the pride and happiness that the citizens feel towards their traditions.

Perhaps the most famous and widely known Bhutanese festival is the Tshechu; a four day festival held throughout Bhutan to honour Guru Rinpoche. Padmasambhava, also known as Guru Rinpoche,

introduced Buddhism to Bhutan. He also saved the life of the ailing King by performing a series of ritualised dances. These dances are recreated during the Tshechu all over Bhutan.

Thimphu and Paro hold the biggest Tshechus. Beauty, colour, joy, reverence all come alive at the Thimpu Tshechu. Tshechu meaning 10th day is usually held on the tenth day of a month based on the lunar calendar. The sacred Cham dances were originally performed only by masked monks. But today these dances are performed by trained dancers.

The dancers and the public alike recreate the magic by continuously repeating the mesmerising dance performed by Padmasambhava in the hope that they too, like their King might be saved from the eternal cycle of birth and rebirth.

Colourful masked dancers lost in the streets of history, the promise of the eradication of all sins are just some of the many reasons to lose yourself in a past that comes to life right before your eyes.

We have over 40 different tours celebrating various festivals, during different seasons across the sub-continent waiting for you to join them and celebrate with us.



festival months

jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
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Festivals



OTHER SUGGESTIVE TOURS

PERAHERA FESTIVAL SRI LANKA	SOUTH INDIA TEMPLE FESTIVAL	SAGA DAWA FESTIVAL TIBET	DURGA PUJA FESTIVAL IN BANGLADESH
<p>COLOMBO / PINNAWALA / DAMBULLA / POLONNARUWA / MATALE / KANDY / NUWARA ELIYA / YALA / KATARAGAMA / GALLE / COLOMBO</p> <p>■ JULY OR AUGUST</p>	<p>CHENNAI / KANCHIPURAM / MADURAI / CHETTINAD / PERIYAR / BACKWATER / COCHIN / MARARIKULAM / COCHIN</p> <p>■ FEBRUARY OR MARCH OR APRIL</p>	<p>KATHMANDU / LHASA / GYANGTSE / SHIGATSE / SAKYA / SHEGAR / ZHANG MU / KATHMANDU</p> <p>■ MAY OR JUNE</p>	<p>DHAKA / TANGAIL / SRIMONGOL / COMILLA / DHAKA</p> <p>■ OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER</p>

■ festival months

For more details, please visit <https://www.indoasia-tours.com>

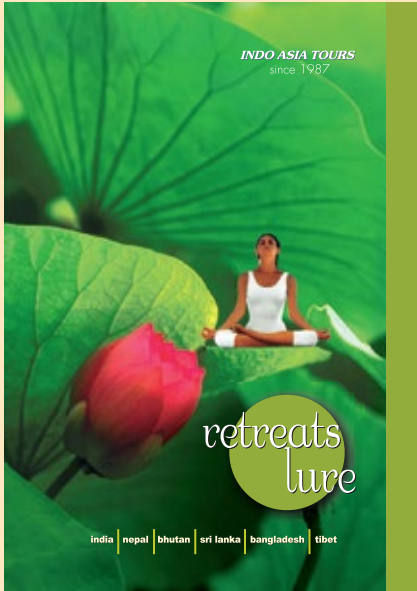
Religion



OTHER SUGGESTIVE TOURS

	RELIGIONS OF INDIA	FOOTSTEPS OF ST. THOMAS	HINDUISM IN NEPAL	BUDDHISM IN BHUTAN
■ peak period ■ shoulder period	DELHI / AMRITSAR / DHARAMSHALA / MCLEOD GANJ / KANGRA / PRAGPUR / CHINTPURNI / CHANDIGARH / HARIDWAR / RISHIKESH / AGRA / DELHI	COCHIN / MALAYATOOR / KODUNGALLUR / KOTTAYAM / KUMARAKOM / PERIYAR / MADURAI / TRICHY / TANJORE / VAILANKANNI / PONDICHERRY / MAHABALIPURAM / CHENNAI.	KATHMANDU / DAKSHINKALI / PHARPING / PATAN / MANAKAMANA / POKHARA / PASHUPATINATH / BOUDHANATH / SAYAMBHUNATH / SANKHU / BHAKTAPUR / CHANGU NARAYAN / KATHMANDU	PARO / THIMPHU / PUNAKHA / PARO
	■ OCTOBER TO APRIL ■ MAY TO SEPTEMBER.	■ OCTOBER TO APRIL ■ MAY TO SEPTEMBER.	■ APRIL TO JUNE & SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER ■ JULY TO AUGUST & NOVEMBER TO MARCH	■ MARCH TO MAY & SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER ■ JUNE TO AUGUST & DECEMBER TO FEBRUARY

For more details, please visit <https://www.indoasia-tours.com>



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Bangalore Chennai

