



WORLD DISCOVERY  
— HISTORY CULTURE WILDLIFE —

## Himalayan Journey



View of the River Beas from the Span Resort in the Kullu Valley

### DAY 1 – Depart UK.

### DAY 2 - Arrive Delhi.

On arrival in Delhi in the morning you will be met by a representative of World Discovery outside immigration and customs. You will then be taken by private car direct to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Optional sightseeing can be arranged in the afternoon to visit the highlights of India's capital city, including the colossal **Qutb Minar**, the amazing 73-metre high Victory Tower completed in 1236 to celebrate Qutb-ud-Din's defeat of the Turks, and the elegant **Humayun's Tomb**, a fine example of early Mughal architecture.

### DAY 3 – By road to the Himalayan foothills.

Your driver will collect you for an early start, driving north along the former Grand Trunk Road, the main artery of Imperial India which stretched all the way from the capital Calcutta to the fabled Northwest Frontier. A stop will be made around lunchtime at the attractive Mughal gardens at **Pinjore**. Arrive in the late afternoon at the charming Judge's Court in the village of Pragpur, located in the picturesque Kangra Valley.

**Meals included: Full breakfast, dinner.**

## DAY 4 – Pragpur.

The medieval village of Pragpur, with its cobbled streets and mud-plastered houses, has been awarded 'Heritage' status by the State Government. Step back in time as you explore the centre of this friendly place. The Indian National Trust is involved with preserving the buildings of the village, with the active participation of the local community.

**Meals included: Full breakfast, dinner.**

## DAY 5 – By road to the Kullu Valley.

Drive via the city of Mandi, where you will have lunch, to the magnificence of the Kullu Valley, one of India's most beautiful regions. Your accommodation is in the village of Katrain at the Span Resort on the banks of the Beas River.

**Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch.**

## DAYS 6 AND 7 – Kullu Valley.

Two days to relax in the beautiful surroundings, or to explore the hills, orchards and villages of the valley. A steep walk from near your resort takes you up through pine forest to the 16th century **Naggar Castle**, from where there are stunning views of Kullu and the River Beas. A half hour drive north to the head of the valley brings you to the busy town of **Manali**, the main tourist centre of the region, where you can visit the Tibetan Monastery built by refugees, or shop in the colourful bazaars. Also worth seeing in Manali is the 27-metre high, pagoda-style, Hadimba Devi Temple. For the most spectacular views of all you can continue beyond Manali to the dramatic **Rohtang Pass** (3,985m), gateway to Ladakh.

**Meals included: Full breakfast each day.**

## DAY 8 – By road to Simla.

Return down the Kullu Valley to Mandi, where you will again have lunch, before continuing to Simla, the former summer capital of the British Raj, perched on a ridge at 2,213 metres.

**Meals included: Full breakfast, lunch.**

## DAY 9 – Simla.

During the days of the Raj, the Imperial Government used to decamp from Calcutta to Simla for 6 months of the year, to escape the fierce heat of the Indian plains. Rudyard Kipling captured the unique flavour of Simla life in his classic 'Plain Tales from the Hills', and even today there are clear reminders of that era, in the form of the Mall, Christ Church, the Town Hall and the Post Office, as well as many mock-Tudor lesser buildings in the Upper Town. Simla is a place to stroll through and enjoy, with (weather-permitting) views of the distant snow-capped Himalayan peaks. One popular early morning walk (fairly strenuous) is the summit of Jakhu Hill for one of the finest views of the mountains.

**Meals included: Full breakfast.**

## DAY 10 - Drive back to Delhi.

Drive back down the Grand Trunk Road to Delhi. Accommodation this evening is at a modern hotel located close to the International Airport.

**Meals included: Full breakfast.**

## DAY 11 – Depart for home.

Private transfer to the airport for your international flight home.

**Meals included: Full breakfast.**