

# VARANASI (EXTENSION) ITINERARY

## Feb 16-18, 2018 - Feb 2018 NE India Khasi trip

**16 Feb** Arrive Delhi  
Arrive Delhi and Transfer to Hotel.  
Overnight at Hotel.

**17 Feb** Delhi-Varanasi 6E-308 0855/1020 Hrs

Morning Transfer to airport to connect the flight to Varanasi.

On arrival transfer to the hotel. enroute visit Sarnath. At this site, Buddha preached his first sermon, usually referred to as "Turning the Wheel of the Law" owing to the sanctity of the site, Sarnath rapidly became one of the leading pilgrimage places of Buddhism. Visit the Dhamekh Stupa, the most imposing of Sarnath's monuments is this cylindrical tower (98 ft. high). It is a solid structure with a drum of stonework; the dilapidated upper part is of brick. The designs include luxuriant foliage with stalks, leaves and flowers, various geometric patterns and occasional flowers with birds. Visit the main shrine built in the 03rd BC with delicately carved stone jambs, which are preserved at the doorways. West of the main shrine lies the Ashoka's column inscribed with an edict threatening dissident monks with expulsion. End the tour with a visit to the archaeological museum which demonstrates the importance of Sarnath as an art center for more than a millennium. From the 03rd century BC comes the most celebrated of all the artifacts from Ashoka's reign, the Lion capital that now serves as the emblem of modern India..

Evening view "Aarti" ceremony on the Ghats. Arti Ceremony on the banks of the Ganges. The ceremony addresses the five elements: water, air earth, fire and ether (spirit). Five handsome, young Brahmins perform the ceremony. For the believers, it is a religious experience; for the rest of us it is a beautifully choreographed, colorful performance.

Overnight at Hotel.

**18 Feb** Varanasi-Delhi 6E-991 1955/2135 Hours

Early morning, drive to Daswamedh Ghat and take a boat ride on the sacred river Ganges. Continue by boat to see burning and bathing Ghats.

Followed by sightseeing of Varanasi Half day sightseeing tour of the holy city of Varanasi. Visit some of the many Hindu Temples that line the river Ganges. Stroll along the narrow lanes and bazaars full of shops selling, among other things, the world-famous Banaras Silks. Later Transfer to Airport to connect the flight to Delhi.

On arrival at Delhi you will be met and transferred to Hotel to join the main trip group

### FEES:

The Land/Air package is \$649 double occupancy. Single supplement is \$140.

### COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Any meals other than breakfast.
- Any Visa fee, Airfare
- Any expenses of purely personal nature like liquor, laundry, telephone/fax calls, Insurance, Room service, tips to porters, guides. Any other service or item not specified above.
- 01 Overnight at Lemon Tree Hotel or similar Aerocity hotel on room and Breakfast basis.
- 01 Overnight at Radisson Varanasi on Bed & Breakfast basis at the Hotels mentioned below or similar alternates available. (cont. to next page)

- **All surface transportation by using Air-conditioned Micro Van for (05-07 Pax), Air-conditioned Minivan (08-14 Pax) and Air-conditioned Large Coach (15-30 Pax) for transfers, sightseeing, excursions and intercity travel including the charges of fuel, road taxes, parking and toll charges.**
- **English speaking assistance on arrival and departure at each city**
- **Services of English Speaking Local Guide in Varanasi.**
- **Entrance fee to monuments for single visit.**
- **Morning and Evening Boat Ride on Ganges.**