



# Pandaw River Expeditions

EXPEDITION No 1

## THE BRAHMAPUTRA

7 NIGHTS

The mighty Brahmaputra river in Northern India originates high in the Himalayas before flowing through the scenic Assam Valley where UNESCO protected national parks and remote rural communities provide the traveller with the most wonderful and authentic expedition. We are pleased to operate this new program with safaris in search of the Greater One-Horned Indian Rhinoceros and Indian tiger. We also visit tea plantations and artisan villages, temples and War Graves.

**YOUR SHIP - [RV KINDAT PANDAW](#)**

**[MORE IMAGES OF THE RV KINDAT PANDAW](#)**

**Cruise Price Includes:** Transfer to/from Ship, entrance fees, guide services (English language), gratuities to crew, main meals, local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes.

**Price Excludes:** International flights, laundry, all visa costs, fuel surcharges (see terms and conditions), all beverages except local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes, tipping for guide and drivers.

**Please Note:** We suggest to change money at a bank at the international airport before exiting (currently there is shortage of new money bills in India).

# UPSTREAM ITINERARY

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## DAY 1

### GUWAHATI

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Transfer to ship from airport and explore this pleasant Assami city visiting the Nilachai Hill temple and Commonwealth Graves. Late afternoon cast off upriver.

[MORE ABOUT GUWAHATI](#)

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## DAY 2

### SAILING

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Sail all day making headway against strong currents through the lush Assami countryside stopping for some exercise in a village of market gardens.

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## DAY 3

### TEZPUR

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Exploring the town by trishaw we visit the De Parbatia temple with its richly carved portals and Cole Park with its collection of medieval carvings collected from across the region.

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## DAY 4

# NAMERI NATIONAL PARK

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After an early breakfast, drive for some two hours to the Nameri National Park at the foot of the blue hills of Arunachal Pradesh, the old North East Frontier Agency. Here, we take a float trip of around two hours down the Jia-Bhoreli River through the park. There are excellent bird-watching opportunities here (look out for the great Hornbills) and, perhaps, the chance of sighting wild elephants. After lunch, take a village walk before returning to the ship. Continue upstream, passing below a seemingly endless new bridge across the vast width of the riverbed, to moor at Silghat.

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## DAY 5

# KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK

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Jeep safari to Kaziranga an area of approximately 430 sq kms, this UNESCO World Heritage is home to the world's largest population of the Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros as well as the Indian Wild Water Buffalo. It has the highest density of Royal Bengal Tigers with one every five sq. km. The park an incredibly rich biodiversity hotspot with its marshy swamps and thickets of elephant grass, this park supports large populations of Indian elephants, Indian bison, swamp deer, and capped langurs.

Besides wildlife, Kaziranga National Park is also a birding paradise. A few of the bird species found here are the oriental honey buzzard, black-shouldered kite, white-tailed eagle, himalayan griffon to mention a few.

[MORE ABOUT KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK](#)

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**DAY 6****TEA GARDENS**

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Return downstream to visit a tea estate and historic plantation house on the way. Learn about the tea production process from start to finish in this idyllic setting.

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**DAY 7****SUALKUCHI SILK VILLAGE**

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Sailing down past Guwhati moor here in the afternoon to see silk production from the cocoon, to spinning and weaving to make the typical saree worn by Assami women.

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**DAY 8****GUWAHATI**

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Disembark in the morning and transfer to airport.

# STATEROOM

## The Pandaw stateroom is the most celebrated feature of our ships.

Finished in brass and teak, the main and upper deck rooms are very spacious at 168 square feet (15.6 sqm). Much loved by all our passengers we have ensured that with each ship we build the stateroom remains the same. Our cabins do not have mini-bars, satellite TV's, internet or phones. Pandaw passengers usually want to escape from the tiresome features found in international business hotels.

Many passengers describe life on board a Pandaw more like being a guest on a private motor yacht than a cruise ship. Where we go and what we see is intrepid in extreme. What you come back to is a floating base of discreet comfort, caring service and all the good things one looks for in life. All our cabins have the same size and Pandaw signature amenities. Choose from Main Deck, Upper Deck or Premium Upper Deck (Mekong only).

### **Special to Your Stateroom**

- Fruit and flowers on arrival
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water

# PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

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## DAY 1

### ARRIVAL KOLKATA

Welcome to Kolkata! Transfer from the airport to your hotel. Rest of day at leisure.

Meals: none.

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## DAY 2

### CITY TOUR OF KOLKATA

In the morning, join the Heritage Tram Ride across the Old Town to witness the bygone era of charming Bengali colonies, chic cafes and traditional houses. Visit the sacred Hooghly Riverside to witness WWII built Howrah Bridge, 1906 Howrah Junction Railway Station still housing St John Church, Old Court House, and Colonial Secretariat Buildings. Next stop, the riverside located Mullik Ghat to explore some of India's most colourful Flower Bazaar Markets. Continue to Victoria Memorial, a landmark of Kolkata dedicated to UK's Queen Victoria and now serves as a royal museum of British Rule in India. Next, arrive at the country's iconic Eden Garden Cricket Stadium.

Visit Mother Teresa's Mission and House. Later, discover the curious lanes of Kumartuli. The tour ends at Kolkata's New Market area to enjoy novelty of street shopping and bargaining with the locals.

Transfer back to your hotel.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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**DAY 3**

## **DEPARTURE KOLKATA**

Transfer to airport for your domestic flight to starting point of your cruise (Guwahati or Jorhat).

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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**DISCOVER**

### **Exploring Kolkata 2 Night Pre Tour**

**Kolkata is locally regarded as India's cultural capital and where India and British Raj collide. Visit the city's highlights before or after the cruise.**

**This is a private tour.**

**Rates include:**

Transfer airport to hotel v.v, two nights accommodation at Oberoi Grand Kolkata (or similar), deluxe room including breakfast, excursion including entrance fees as per itinerary, one domestic flight Kolkata to Guwahati or Jorhat with 20kg check-in luggage.

# Note

- Please advise arrival/departure flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Apply for Indian visa before departure
- Check in time 14.00 / Check out time 11.00

\* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you an alternate accommodation if the requested hotel would not be available.

OBEROI GRAND KOLKATA

15

Jawaharlal Nehru Road

Kolkata - 700 013

India

Tel: +91 33 2249 2323

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

## PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

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### DAY 1

## ARRIVAL NEW DELHI

Welcome to India! Transfer from airport to your hotel. Rest of day at leisure.

Meals: none.

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## DAY 2

# CITY TOUR OF DELHI

Today's tour includes heritage rich Old and New Delhi including a Heritage Walk inside India's largest Mosque 'Jama Masjid' built in 1644 AD showcasing finest Islamic style of architecture. Explore real life of Old Delhi through maze like streets of the iconic Ancient Bazaar 'Chandni Chowk' and Asia's largest Spice Market. Experience colonial-era at 'Lutyens Delhi' including Mahatma Gandhi Museum 'Birla House', Temple 'Bangla Sahib Gurudwara' and volunteer inside its holy Community Kitchen that daily feeds over 10,000 devotees, pilgrims and homeless. Visit Ceremonial Boulevard 'Raj Path' to witness 'Sir Edwin Lutyens' finest works from 1920's British Raj Era including Colonial Government Buildings, India Gate, President and Parliament House from outside.

Journey to the City Centre Market 'Connaught Place' named after the 'Duke of Connaught' and surrounds the central park of Delhi.

Transfer back to your hotel.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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### **DAY 3**

## **AGRA**

Drive to Agra, the Mughal Era city that is home to the wonder of the world 'Taj Mahal'! After check-in at the hotel, continue with a Heritage Walk inside India's finest Mughal fortress The Red Fort of Agra, an acclaimed UNESCO heritage site and the imperial residence of 16th century rulers of the 'Mughal Dynasty'. If time permits, visit marble workshops renowned for finest Mughal artwork. Enjoy traditional Indian Chai Tea prepared and served on-spot along with Indian delights.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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### **DAY 4**

## **AGRA - NEW DELHI**

Start the day with a Sunrise Grand Tour of the Taj Mahal, which was built in 1630 by Mughal Emperor 'Shah Jahan' in memory of his beloved wife 'Mumtaz Mahal' who died giving birth to their 14th child.

Transfer back to Delhi for a last overnight near the airport before your cruise.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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### **DAY 5**

## **NEW DELHI DEPARTURE**

Transfer to airport for your domestic flight to starting point of your cruise (Guwahati or Jorhat).

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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**DISCOVER**

## Delhi & Taj Mahal 4 Night Pre Tour

**Visit historic Delhi influenced by 1850's British Raj and 1630's Mughal Empire. Continue to Agra to marvel at one of the World's greatest monuments: the Taj Mahal.**

**This is a private tour.**

### **Rates include:**

Four nights accommodation at advertised hotels (or similar), including breakfast, excursion and entrance fees as per itinerary, one domestic flight Delhi – Jorhat or Guwahati including check-in luggage of 20kg.

## Note

- Please advise arrival/departure flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Apply for Indian visa before departure
- Check in time 14.00 / Check out time 11.00
- Radisson Blue Compulsory meals: Christmas Eve Gala Dinner (24DEC) USD 68 per person and New Year's Eve Dinner (31DEC) USD 156 per person
- Radisson Blue, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 99

- Oberoi Amarvilas Agra, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 332

\* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you an alternate accommodation if the requested hotel would not be available.

## POST-TOUR EXTENSION

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### DAY 1

## ARRIVAL KOLKATA

Welcome to Kolkata! Transfer from ship to airport for your domestic flight to Kolkata. After arrival, check-in at your hotel. Rest of day at leisure.

Meals: none.

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## **DAY 2**

# **CITY TOUR OF KOLKATA**

In the morning, join the Heritage Tram Ride across the Old Town to witness the bygone era of charming Bengali colonies, chic cafes and traditional houses. Visit the sacred Hooghly Riverside to witness WWII built Howrah Bridge, 1906 Howrah Junction Railway Station still housing St John Church, Old Court House, and Colonial Secretariat Buildings. Next stop, the riverside located Mullik Ghat to explore some of India's most colourful Flower Bazaar Markets. Continue to Victoria Memorial, a landmark of Kolkata dedicated to UK's Queen Victoria and now serves as a royal museum of British Rule in India. Next, arrive at the country's iconic Eden Garden Cricket Stadium.

Visit Mother Teresa's Mission and House. Later, discover the curious lanes of Kumartuli. The tour ends at Kolkata's New Market area to enjoy novelty of street shopping and bargaining with the locals.

Transfer back to your hotel.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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## **DAY 3**

# **DEPARTURE KOLKATA**

After breakfast transfer to the airport.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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**DISCOVER**

## Exploring Kolkata 2 Night Post Tour

**Kolkata is locally regarded as India's cultural capital and where India and British Raj collide. Visit the city's highlights before or after the cruise.**

**This is a private tour.**

### **Rates include:**

Transfer airport to hotel v.v., two nights accommodation at Oberoi Grand Kolkata (or similar), deluxe room including breakfast, excursion including entrance fees as per itinerary, one domestic flight after the cruise from Guwahati or Jorhat to Kolkata with 20kg check-in luggage.

## Note

- Please advise arrival/departure flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Apply for Indian visa before departure
- Check in time 14.00 / Check out time 11.00

\* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you an alternate accommodation if the requested hotel would not be available.

OBEROI GRAND KOLKATA

15

Jawaharlal Nehru Road

Kolkata - 700 013

India

Tel: +91 33 2249 2323

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

## POST-TOUR EXTENSION

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### DAY 1

## ARRIVAL NEW DELHI

Transfer to airport for your domestic flight to New Delhi, followed by transfer to your hotel. Rest of day at leisure.

Meals: none.

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## DAY 2

# CITY TOUR OF DELHI

Today's tour includes heritage rich Old and New Delhi including a Heritage Walk inside India's largest Mosque 'Jama Masjid' built in 1644 AD showcasing finest Islamic style of architecture. Explore real life of Old Delhi through maze like streets of the iconic Ancient Bazaar 'Chandni Chowk' and Asia's largest Spice Market. Experience colonial-era at 'Lutyens Delhi' including Mahatma Gandhi Museum 'Birla House', Temple 'Bangla Sahib Gurudwara' and volunteer inside its holy Community Kitchen that daily feeds over 10,000 devotees, pilgrims and homeless. Visit Ceremonial Boulevard 'Raj Path' to witness 'Sir Edwin Lutyens' finest works from 1920's British Raj Era including Colonial Government Buildings, India Gate, President and Parliament House from outside.

Journey to the City Centre Market 'Connaught Place' named after the 'Duke of Connaught' and surrounds the central park of Delhi.

Transfer back to your hotel.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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### DAY 3

## AGRA

Drive to Agra, the Mughal Era city that is home to the wonder of the world 'Taj Mahal'! After check-in at the hotel, continue with a Heritage Walk inside India's finest Mughal fortress The Red Fort of Agra, an acclaimed UNESCO heritage site and the imperial residence of 16th century rulers of the 'Mughal Dynasty'. If time permits, visit marble workshops renowned for finest Mughal artwork. Enjoy traditional Indian Chai Tea prepared and served on-spot along with Indian delights.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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### DAY 4

## AGRA - NEW DELHI AIRPORT

Start the day with a Sunrise Grand Tour of the Taj Mahal, which was built in 1630 by Mughal Emperor 'Shah Jahan' in memory of his beloved wife 'Mumtaz Mahal' who died giving birth to their 14th child.

Transfer back to Delhi airport (4 hrs).

**Note:** We advise to book flights out of Delhi 17.00 or later for international, or 16.00 or later for domestic.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

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**DISCOVER**

## **Delhi & Taj Mahal 3 Night Post Tour**

**Visit historic Delhi influenced by 1850's British Raj and 1630's Mughal Empire. Continue to Agra to marvel at one of the World's greatest monuments: the Taj Mahal.**

**This is a private tour.**

### **Rates include:**

Three nights accommodation at advertised hotels (or similar), including breakfast, excursion and entrance fees as per itinerary, one domestic flight Jorhat or Guwahati to Delhi including check-in luggage of 20kg.

## **Note**

- Please advise arrival/departure flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Apply for Indian visa before departure
- Check in time 14.00 / Check out time 11.00
- Radisson Blue Compulsory meals: Christmas Eve Gala Dinner (24DEC) USD 68 per person and New Year's Eve Dinner (31DEC) USD 156 per person
- Radisson Blue, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 99
- Oberoi Amarvilas Agra, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night

USD 332

\* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you an alternate accommodation if the requested hotel would not be available.

## River Conditions Warning!

The rivers you will sail on are subject to seasonal rises and falls of water level, in some places as much as 30 metres. Water levels can change dramatically overnight and a sudden rise can impede our progress upstream considerably and even prevent us from passing under certain bridges. A sudden fall can result in our being unable to get into certain places or go as far upstream as we would hope. Groundings on sandbars are not infrequent and are part of the excitement of any Pandaw expedition. Published itineraries are indicational only and subject to sudden change. In such events alternative itineraries will be provided and we do our best to ensure that if a stop is missed we make up for it with another stop. Passengers are thus forewarned and expected to be flexible and patient. River cruising in Asia can be a dramatic and adventurous experience - not like cruising the controlled waterways of Europe or America. Note also that we operate in areas with little or no developed infrastructure and subject to the strictures of local officialdom. Be prepared for this and it is all more the fun!

## Useful Links

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[General Information & Life on Board](#)

[Visa Information](#)