



Pandaw River Expeditions

EXPEDITION No 7

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. With fascinating visits to 'Mishing' people who live on the world's largest river island, tea plantations and many exotic Satras to explore, your Assam adventure will leave lifetime-lasting memories.

Please note our Brahmaputra programme will start in October 2020.

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

DAY 1

GUWAHATI

Transfer to your Pandaw vessel via a visit to the 'Kama-khya Temple', devoted to the goddess of desire. Set sail passing Peacock Island, famous for the endangered Golden Langur. Enjoy an evening welcome dinner and talk.

[MORE ABOUT GUWAHATI](#)

DAY 2

SAILING TOWARDS SILGHAT

Spend the day enjoying the stunning natural scenery and wildlife of the Brahmaputra River. Observe river dolphins and birds of prey as we pass uninhabited islands and the fragile communities that live here. After tea enjoy a talk on 'The River Brahmaputra and the tribal life that exists alongside'.

[MORE ABOUT SAILING TOWARDS SILGHAT](#)

DAY 3

SILGHAT

Pass Tezpur and a gigantic 3 Km long arched bridge arriving at Silghat, where we take an excursion through stunning countryside to a tea estate and factory producing the famous Assam tea.

[MORE ABOUT SILGHAT](#)

DAY 4

KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK

Our expedition continues with a visit to the UNESCO accredited Kaziranga National Park where we enjoy a safari searching for the elusive Greater One-Horned Indian Rhinoceros and Indian tiger. We continue to Bagori, where by open jeep we further explore the wildlife of this magnificent park. We also travel to Biswanath Ghat and discover the charming village by small boat where women weave colourful traditional handicrafts by the riverside.

[MORE ABOUT KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK](#)

DAY 5

RIVER SAFARI

After more dramatic scenic cruising, we take a boat safari on the Eastern range of Kaziranga where River Dhansiri and River Brahmaputra meet. Here, observe wildlife at its most natural including pied kingfishers, eagles, vultures, water buffalos, monitor lizards and otters. Dinner is enjoyed al fresco on a deserted island.

[MORE ABOUT RIVER SAFARI](#)

DAY 6

TOWARDS MAJULI

Visit a local village on what is the world's largest river island and home to the ethnic 'Mishing' people. Here, women weave on hand-looms to create characterful costumes and we enjoy a demonstration of a Dhoti & Chaddor - traditional dresses for the men and women of the Mishing communities. It is a pleasant place to explore.

[MORE ABOUT TOWARDS MAJULI](#)

DAY 7

MAJULI, NEAMATI GHAT AND SIBSAGAR

Arrive at the ancient town of Majuli, where we explore the impressive Satras dating back to the 15th century. We continue to Sibsagar, capital of the Tai-speaking Ahoms who came from Yunan and China in the 13th Century AD. Explore the Shiva Dol, built in 1734, the highest Shiva temple in India. Our day is completed with an insight into the making of Assam tea from a tea estate family.

[MORE ABOUT MAJULI, NEAMATI GHAT AND SIBSAGAR](#)

DAY 8

JORHAT

Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport.

[MORE ABOUT JORHAT](#)

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

DAY 1

ARRIVAL NEW DELHI

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

Meals: none.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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.

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

ARRIVAL NEW DELHI

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

Rest of day at leisure.

Meals: none.

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.

DAY 3

DELHI - JAIPUR

This morning, driver to the jewel of India's crown, the royal heritage state of Rajasthan. Arrive in the pink coloured capital city of Jaipur and transfer to your hotel (5hrs).

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

DAY 4

JAIPUR

Begin the day with a morning ceremony of Indian turbans and stoles. Explore the uphill located Amber Fortress, a “must see” of Jaipur. Built in the 16th century by Rajput commander ‘Raja Man Singh I’, the fortress offers magnificent hilltop views with an intricate Mirror Palace and fine blends of Hindu- Rajasthani architecture. Next a photo-stop outside the Water Palace ‘Jal Mahal’ located in the center of ‘Man Sagar Lake’ housing various migratory birds. Arrive in the heart of the Old City to visit the Astronomical Observatory ‘Jantar Mantar’. Visit the residence of the Royal Family locally called Jaipur City Palace and Museum. Built in 1700 AD by ‘Raja Jai Singh II’, this Palace is a paradise of Royal heritage history as it houses rare galleries from the British Raj and Rajput Era. Later, take a walking tour through Jaipur’s most colorful bazaars. Visit Jaipur’s most distinctive landmark: The Palace of Winds, ‘Hawa Mahal’ built in a unique pink-colored beehive design that is certainly hard to miss.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

DAY 5

JAIPUR - AGRA

Drive to Agra. Enroute visit spectacular Underground Step-wells 'Chand Baori' that lie hidden deep in the village of 'Abhaneri'. This 10th century built zigzagged stepwells is a geometric wonder where Royals used to picnic, and today a popular spot through the film 'Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'.

Arriva at 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.

DAY 6

AGRA - 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 (4hours) for a last overnight near the airport before your cruise.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

DAY 7

NEW DELHI DEPARTURE

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

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.



DISCOVER

India's Golden Triangle 6 Night Pre Tour

We are pleased to present this unique opportunity to combine a fabulous 7-night cruise and a 6-night tour of the Golden Triangle visiting most popular cultural gems in historic Delhi, Agra, the Taj Mahal and the imposing capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

This is a private tour.

Rates include:

Six nights accommodation at advertised hotels (or similar), including breakfast, excursion and entrance fees as per itinerary, one domestic flight Delhi to Guwahati or Jorhat including 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
- Radisson Blue Agra Compulsory meals: Christmas Eve Gala Dinner (24DEC) USD 68 per person and New Year's Eve Dinner (31DEC) USD 156 per person
- Radisson Blue Agra, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 99
- Taj Jai Mahal Palace, Jaipur Compulsory meals: Christmas Eve Gala Dinner (24DEC) USD 212 per person and New Year's Eve Dinner (31DEC) USD 283 per person
- Taj Jai Mahal Palace Jaipur, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 216
- Oberoi Amarvilas Agra, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 332
- Oberoi Rajvilas Jaipur, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 903

* 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

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.

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.

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.

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.



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

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POST-TOUR EXTENSION

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.

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.

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.

DAY 4

AGRA - JAIPUR

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Continue the jewel of India's crown, the royal heritage state of Rajasthan, and arrive in its pink colored capital city 'Jaipur'. Enroute visit spectacular Underground Step-wells 'Chand Baori' that lie hidden deep in the village of 'Abhaneri'. This 10th century built zigzagged stepwells is a geometric wonder where Royals used to picnic, and today a popular spot through the film 'Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'. Check-in at your hotel in Jaipur.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

DAY 5

JAIPUR

Begin the day with a morning ceremony of Indian turbans and stoles. Explore the uphill located Amber Fortress, a “must see” of Jaipur. Built in the 16th century by Rajput commander ‘Raja Man Singh I’, the fortress offers magnificent hilltop views with an intricate Mirror Palace and fine blends of Hindu- Rajasthani architecture. Next a photo-stop outside the Water Palace ‘Jal Mahal’ located in the center of ‘Man Sagar Lake’ housing various migratory birds. Arrive in the heart of the Old City to visit the Astronomical Observatory ‘Jantar Mantar’. Visit the residence of the Royal Family locally called Jaipur City Palace and Museum. Built in 1700 AD by ‘Raja Jai Singh II’, this Palace is a paradise of Royal heritage history as it houses rare galleries from the British Raj and Rajput Era. Later, take a walking tour through Jaipur’s most colorful bazaars. Visit Jaipur’s most distinctive landmark: The Palace of Winds, ‘Hawa Mahal’ built in a unique pink-colored beehive design that is certainly hard to miss.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

DAY 6

JAIPUR - DELHI

Travel back to Delhi (5 hrs) for a last overnight near Delhi airport.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.

DAY 7

DELHI DEPARTURE

Transfer to Delhi airport.

Meals: breakfast at your hotel.



DISCOVER

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- Oberoi Rajvilas Jaipur, peak surcharge 20DEC-05JAN per room per night USD 903

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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](#)