

India

The Golden Triangle

8 Days

India is a kaleidoscope of culture, heritage, adventure and religion - a destination so diverse and intricately woven in its customs and colours that even a lifetime is not long enough to explore this magical country in its entirety! On this short but incredible adventure to this amazing country we will gain an insight into the reality of rural India as well as seeing many of the major cultural highlights that this wonderful country has to offer.



[Learn more about our Carbon Labels](#)

Your Recommended Educational Journey

Days 1 - 2

Depart UK / Arrive Delhi

LD

We depart the UK on an overnight flight. Upon our arrival in Delhi, we will be met by our friendly Trip Leader and transferred by coach to our hotel in the city. After a short rest, and chance to freshen up, we will head out on a rickshaw ride to explore the old city—a truly Indian experience! Sights on our tour will include: Chandni Chowk the oldest spice bazaar in the city and Raj Ghat, the cremation place of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of modern India.

Day 3

Train to Agra

BLD

Rising early we'll catch a morning train to Agra. Gazing out of the train window is a wonderful way of seeing the countryside and watch the locals as they go about their daily lives. On arrival in Agra we'll have the chance to visit Agra Fort which lies across the Yamuna River. It was here that Aurangzeb, the third son of Shah Jahan, kept his father under house arrest. It offers a fantastic view of the Taj Mahal from the little octagonal tower at the fort. After this we will visit the amazing Taj Mahal, the seventh wonder of the world, up close. Built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, the Taj is his glowing tribute to his lady love Mumtaz Mahal. It is often considered the most complete and perfect of the wonders of the world.

Day 4

Fatepur Sikri and Karauli

BLD

After departing Agra this morning we will head towards Karauli. En-route we will make a stop at the one-time capital of the Mughal empire, Fatehpur Sikri. This is a very relaxing place to visit as we wander amongst the features of the deserted ancient city. Time permitting, we will also visit a Mosque and Hindu temple just opposite.

We will stop for lunch along the way and arrive in Karauli later in the afternoon. Here, we will stay in a beautiful Heritage Hotel and after we have had a chance to settle in our Trip Leader will take us on a walk through the village. This delightful town was founded in 1348 and is packed with rural ambience and traditional temples. This is a genuine experience of rural India and the locals are always happy to see us.

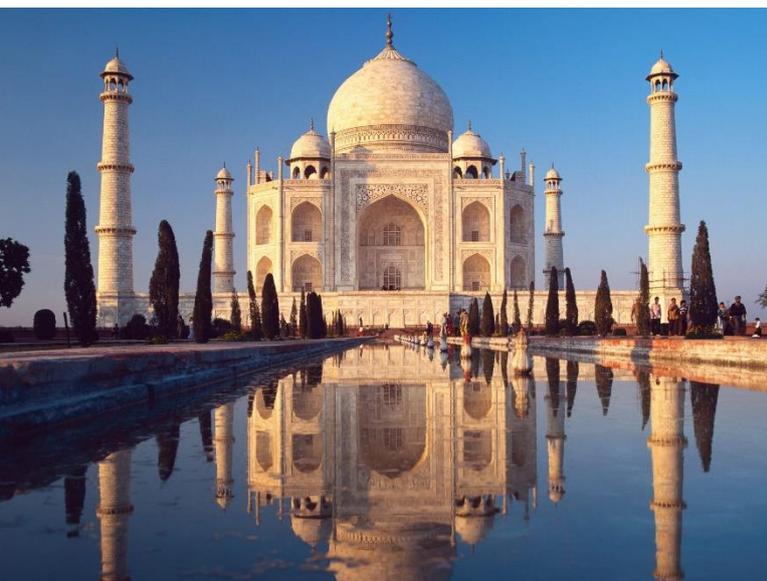
Day 5

Jaipur

BLD

This morning we will make our way to Jaipur, a friendly, busy town crammed with palaces and bazaars full of jewellery, textiles and folk-based arts. Jaipur is a favourite for many travellers. Upon our arrival we will check into our hotel before heading out to explore this exciting city. We will have the opportunity to see the outside of many historical buildings and to explore the famous pink markets—did you know Jaipur was painted pink in 1876 by Maharaja Ram Singh to welcome Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales as pink denotes the colour of hospitality!

Later, we will visit one of the five astronomical observatories built by Maharaja Jai Singh, the founder of Jaipur. 'Jantar Mantar', as these are known are a UNESCO World Heritage site and a fascinating insight into 18th Century astronomy. In the early evening we will take another exhilarating rickshaw ride to the famous Raj Mandir Cinema where we will be able to experience one of the greatest delights of Indian Culture – a Bollywood movie! Be prepared for plenty of singing, dancing and catcalls for the bad guys!



Day 6

Jaipur to Delhi

BLD

On our last day in Jaipur we will drive up into the hills to the old capital of Amber and explore the hilltop fort complex known as the Amber Fort. Built in 1592 and constructed in red sandstone this attractive and opulent palace is laid out over four floors with a courtyard on each. Famous for elephants walking through its doors this palace is the most popular tourist attraction in Jaipur. We'll have plenty of time to explore each level of the palace. We will then have a free afternoon to enjoy the city before catching an evening train back to Delhi.

Days 7 - 8

Return to UK

B

Today we will be transferred to the airport to wave farewell to our Trip Leader and beautiful India ready for our return flight to the UK arriving day 8. This whirlwind tour of India's sights will certainly have whetted our appetite to explore more of this spectacular country.



Look what's included:

- International flights
- All accommodation, transportation and activities
- All food as described above
- Local, bi-lingual, first-aid qualified STC tour leader
- Parent and student trip launch presentation
- Pre-travel training programme
- 1-day offsite safety INSET day for school staff
- ATOL financial protection
- Emergency Medical & Repatriation Insurance
- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Donations to two carbon & conservation charities
- Free Fairtrade t-shirt for every participant and teacher
- Free travel guide book to your destination

What's not included:

- Transport to airport in UK
- Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations or Covid tests
- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters (ask for guidance)
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- Personal effects and cancellation insurance



A word about Responsible Tourism

On our expeditions and educational journeys, we strive to connect teachers and students with the people they meet, nurture the cultures they experience and protect the beautiful environments they are lucky enough to explore.

Many companies talk the talk, few truly walk the walk. While we are far from perfect, we are leading the way in sustainability in the school travel sector. In 2018 we were the first UK travel company to become **Travelife Certified** – a verified sustainability certificate formally recognised by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council.



This is our passion, and we'd love to tell you more about it in due course. In the meantime, for more information on some of the steps we take as a company to make our operations more sustainable, please visit:

<https://www.thestc.co.uk/travel/what-do-we-do/>

Trees for Life

Physical Rating for this trip: Grade 2



Some low level physical activities included in your trip, including walking on uneven terrain, maybe a morning/afternoon trek of two to four hours. That said, no physical preparation is required to make the most of the tour. High humidity and temperatures can occur at certain times of the year.

Cultural Rating for this trip: Grade 3



Students should expect some culture shock. You'll be exposed to signs of poverty. The food will be quite different to home and English, whilst still spoken, will be less prevalent. Respecting the local culture will make it easier to fit in and get the most out of your trip. We're likely to visit remoter locations on this tour where access to western style services may be sporadic. Often on trips of this grading there are parts of the itinerary which are more remote, interspersed with sections which are more 'comfortable'.



Travel Safety & Other Pre-Travel Training

Preparing students and teachers for their upcoming adventure is an opportunity to teach important life skills and a vital part of our overall approach to safety management. Please ask for your quote for the training schedule specific to this educational journey. Topics covered will include:

Responsible Tourism workshop

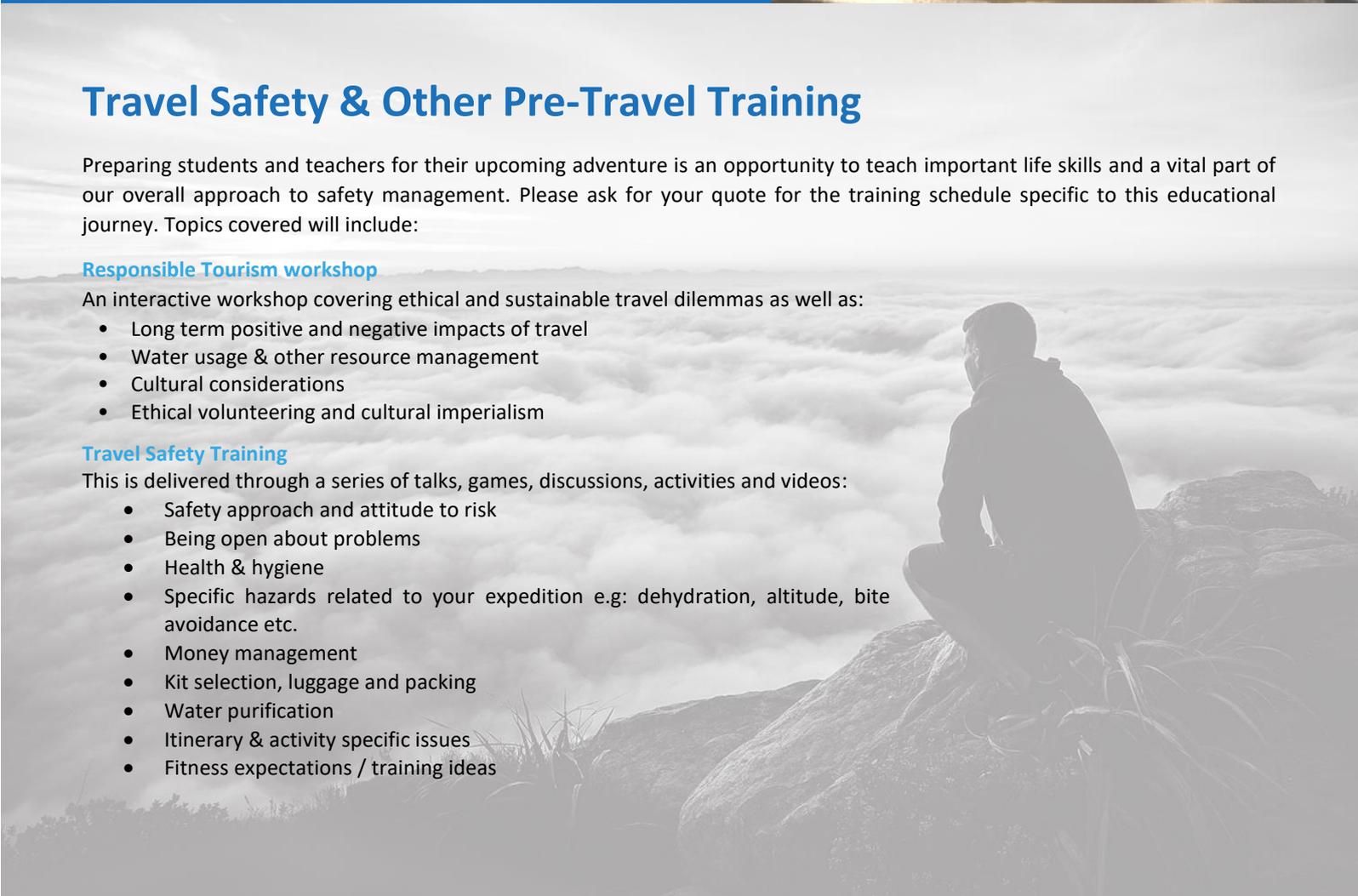
An interactive workshop covering ethical and sustainable travel dilemmas as well as:

- Long term positive and negative impacts of travel
- Water usage & other resource management
- Cultural considerations
- Ethical volunteering and cultural imperialism

Travel Safety Training

This is delivered through a series of talks, games, discussions, activities and videos:

- Safety approach and attitude to risk
- Being open about problems
- Health & hygiene
- Specific hazards related to your expedition e.g: dehydration, altitude, bite avoidance etc.
- Money management
- Kit selection, luggage and packing
- Water purification
- Itinerary & activity specific issues
- Fitness expectations / training ideas





A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your educational journey

1 Ask for your personalised quote & further information

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your adventure itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an adventure that's just right for you and your students. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk and threat assessments to help you with your trip approval process. Ask for posters and your Pre-Booking Information Pack too.

3 Arrange a trip launch evening

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the planned adventure with comprehensive information covering the itinerary, safety management, the build-up to the trip and lots more. There is also plenty of opportunity for questions.



The home of the modern, innovative school expedition, where a sustainable, ethical approach guarantees unique experiences and a life enhancing adventure.



Our school trips and educational tours are all about maximising the learning opportunities of travel. It's all here, the humble school tour has just come of age.



Adventures, holidays and cultural journeys for teachers looking to 'Escape the Classroom' and discover more about our amazing world, its people and places.



"I am being completely serious when I say that I won't ever run a school trip without you guys. I trust you and your team completely - and the in-country staff that you carefully cultivate and train are a cut above the rest."

Teacher feedback, King's High Warwick

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