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A 15-Day Behind-The-Scenes Women's Journey in India

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Geringer Global Travel is debuting an exclusive 15-day women's journey through Northern India from February 24 – March 9, 2012. Accompanied by Susan Geringer, an India travel and tour specialist, and a woman guide from beginning to end, guests will have a peek into the lives of the benevolent Indian women, from humble widows of Varanasi to the passion goddesses of Khajuraho and the women behind the existence of the Taj Mahal. "The Spirit of the India Women", priced from \$3,865 per person, double, will visit the cities of Delhi, Varanasi, Khajuraho, Agra, Jaipur, Nimaj, Kumbhalgarh, and Udaipur. If booked by October 15, 2011, guests will receive a \$200 discount per person.* For more information, please visit: <http://www.geringerglobaltravel.com/destinations/India-Tours/India-Women-Tour.html>

The journey will begin with a two night stay at The Manor Hotel in Delhi, where guests will meet a female scholar at Delhi University to speak on the "Role of Women with the Change in Society". Guests will enjoy a tour of Old Delhi and New Delhi, including a rickshaw ride at Silver Street. The next day, guests will transfer to Varanasi, the religious capital of the Hindu faith, where a group leader will speak on three important topics: "Religion and Women", "Sensuality and Women", and "The Position of Women in a Patriarchal Family". During the two night stay at the Gateway Hotel Ganges, guests will experience Aarti, a Hindu religious ritual of worship performed at the Ghats of Ganges, take a boat ride down the River Ganges, visit one of the Widows' Homes in Varanasi, and take a city tour including, Banaras Hindu University and an excursion to Sarnath where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon.

On the fifth day, guests will head to the Chandela Hotel in Khajuraho, the city of world famous temples known for their exotic sculptures. In Kharjuraho, guests will experience a light and sounds show and a talk on "Sensuality of Indian Women". Before boarding a train in Jhansi to the Trident Hotel in Agra, guests will visit Orchha's fort complex in Orchha, three palaces placed in an open quadrangle. The following day, a sightseeing tour of Agra will include the Agra Fort and Itmad-Ud-Daulah's Tomb.

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After an early morning view of the Taj Mahal, guests will visit the imperial 'ghost city' of Fatehpur Sikri, a deserted sandstone city, on the way to Jaipur. During the two night stay at Alsisar Haveli in Jaipur, guests will visit the Indian kitchen of one of the noble families, Mandawa, to experience a cooking demonstration and the next day embark on a full-day city tour of Jaipur. Day eleven, guests will check into Nimaj Palace in Nimaj. In the afternoon, proceed for a tour of the tribal settlements and hamlets of the surrounding village area, followed by a gala dinner with folk dancers and musicians. The next day, arrive at the Aoudi Hotel in Kumbhalgarh and receive a tour of Kumbhalgarh Fort, the most important fortresses of the Maharanas of Mewar.

The next morning, guests will continue their journey to Udaipur. On the way, visit Ranakpur Jain temples and SADHNA, a women's handicraft enterprise dedicated to providing an alternative means of livelihood and income for the women of rural, tribal and urban slums of the Udaipur region. On arrival in Udaipur, check into the Karohi Haveli and enjoy a boat ride on Lake Pichola. While in Udaipur, guests will experience "Holi," a colorful festival celebrating the arrival of spring, visit a former nobleman and his wife for dinner to learn about "The Taste of Mewar", and take a half day sightseeing tour of Udaipur city before returning to Delhi for a farewell dinner.

This small group tour, with no more than 15 people, will include: hotels; all meals; chauffeured transportation; train tickets; English-speaking women guide accompanying entire trip; sightseeing; all domestic transportation; all current applicable taxes.

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