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Geringer Global Travel Debuts Summer Special Program to India

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Susan Geringer, owner of Geringer Global Travel and expert on travel to India, has created "Beauty and Buddhism," a 13-day journey through northern India's rural villages and cities, including Delhi, Leh, Alchi, Nubra and Agra. This trip can be customized and combines cultural immersions in local villages, visits to ancient Buddhist monasteries and palaces, along with rafting and optional camel riding excursions. Pricing starts at \$1,939 per person land only based on double occupancy and is valid now until Sept. 30, 2011.

The new itinerary starts in Delhi with a tour of both Old Delhi and New Delhi. Sightseeing includes the Parliament House, the Red Fort (seat of the Moghul Empire) and Humayun's Tomb. The next three days are spent in Leh, capital city of Ladakh, which is a historical trans-Himalayan transit point for caravans of the bygone Silk Route and still feels like a trading post of the ancient past. Leh is one of the highest inhabited regions of the world and is surrounded by the towering Himalayas. This peaceful city is home of two notable Buddhist monasteries, a palace, a mosque, and exciting bazaar. Leh is rich in tradition and offers some of the purest Tibetan culture that exists today.

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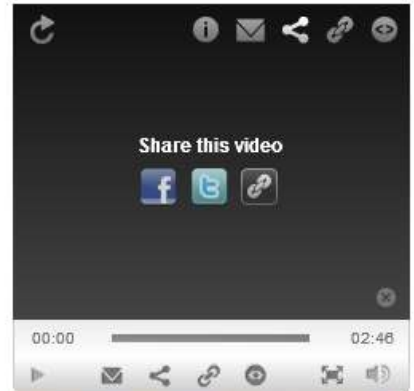
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The journey to Alchi continues deep into the Indus Valley to discover more about the Ladakhi way of life. Alchi is known as the "mural wonderland" because of its collection of wall paintings, painted chortens and fine statues that hint at the rich and powerful society that thrived here in the 10th century. Guests also will explore the hilltop monasteries that are still home to Buddhist monks. The Phyang Monastery is also home to 900-year-old museum with an impressive collection of Chinese, Tibetan and Mongolian fire arms and weapons.

From Alchi, guests will be driven to Rizong Gumpa in Lamayuru to visit an ancient amphitheater covered with colorful shrines along the valley. The focal point of this monastery is a cave where the great Indian Saint Marpa is said to have meditated. In the 13th century this was one of the most powerful and religious monasteries throughout Tibet. Guests also will experience a rafting trip down the Indus River from Phey village to Nimu. The trip passes amazing rock formations, valleys, monasteries and mountains, before enjoying a picnic lunch.

Guests also explore the Nubra Valley, which is known for its trekking and houses several Buddhist monasteries such as Sumur and the 350-year-old Diskit gumpa. Here guests will have the option to participate in a white sand dune camel ride. The next day will be spent walking up to Diskit monastery to observe Morning Prayer ceremony with the 120 resident monks.

Guests then travel to Agra, including a visit to the Agra Fort built by Emperor Akbar of the Mughal Empire in 1565, and a sunset viewing of the Taj Mahal. The last day will be spent visiting the imperial "ghost city" of Fatehpur Sikri built of sandstone by Emperor Akbar. Today, this city is a complex of empty palaces, forts and mosques all representing a variety of architectural styles. Afterwards, guests are driven back to Delhi where they will fly home. For more information, call 877-255-7438 or 203-216-7106, email susan@qerinqerglobaltravel.com or visit www.qerinqerglobaltravel.com.



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