

# CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

CHINA | INDIA | JAPAN | SOUTH AFRICA | SRI LANKA | THAILAND | VIETNAM

2025 & 2026



**The UK's Leading Specialist Touring Operator**

Fully Inclusive Touring | Authentic Experiences | Outstanding Guides





# THE WENDY WU TOURS DIFFERENCE

## OUR REPUTATION AND YOUR PEACE OF MIND

We have won our industry's 'Best Long Haul Specialist Tour Operator' award for 15 years running, we have a 5-star TripAdvisor rating, a Gold Award Feefo Accreditation and 98% of our customers would recommend travelling with us! We are also fully ABTA and ATOL-protected.

## OUR EXPERTISE

No one knows our destinations like we do, and we are passionate about sharing the best of them with you, so there is no one better to recommend the very best tours and experiences for your holiday.

## OUTSTANDING GUIDES

Our much-loved National Escorts, whose knowledge and dedication have won us the best reputation in the industry, will make your holiday with us truly extraordinary.

## EXCEPTIONAL VALUE AND INCLUSIONS

Flights, accommodation, meals, touring, trains, cruises, evening shows, amazing guides and visas... we include it all.



We are delighted to introduce you to our Christmas Collection: a specially curated selection of our award-winning tours departing over the festive period.

Each full of Christmas spirit, on these tours you will not only discover the incredible sights of some of our favourite destinations but also create extra magical memories thanks to the host of festive experiences on each itinerary which are unique to these special Christmas departures.

Perhaps you'll be toasting Christmas Day at the Taj Mahal, sailing through the scenic delights of Vietnam's Halong Bay or on safari in the heart of South Africa's Kruger National Park. You could be exploring snow dusted temples in Japan, lush tea country in Sri Lanka or sipping champagne on the Great Wall of China...what a change from the usual Christmas routine!

As with any Wendy Wu tour you'll enjoy meticulously planned holidays where everything is taken care of including flights, accommodation, meals, transfers, entrance fees and guiding... even your visa, and you'll spend it in the company of our famous National Escorts, true connoisseurs of your chosen destination.

Join us on a Wendy Wu tour next Christmas and unwrap the gift of a holiday that transcends borders, time zones, and expectations. Let the joyous countdown begin!

Wendy Wu – Founder, Wendy Wu Tours



吴玲 Wendy

Wendy Wu – Owner, Wendy Wu Tours

## FANTASTIC OFFERS

We are renowned for our amazing Business Class and Premium Economy upgrades, which make your holiday all the more special, and we work with leading airlines to offer you regional departures, so travelling with us is more convenient than ever.

## COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

We hand-pick comfortable hotels in great locations, have a 'seat and a half' policy on our coaches and include all meals on our Classic tours, so you can relax and enjoy your holiday with us, knowing everything is taken care of.

## AMAZING TOURS & AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

On tour with us, you will be immersed in culture and history through experiences such as meeting local families, learning ancient traditions and watching cultural shows. We also include delicious local meals in each region. Look out for the 'Authentic Experiences' box on each tour page!

## TIPPING MADE EASY

We will advise you how much and when to tip and our National Escort will take care of it on your behalf.

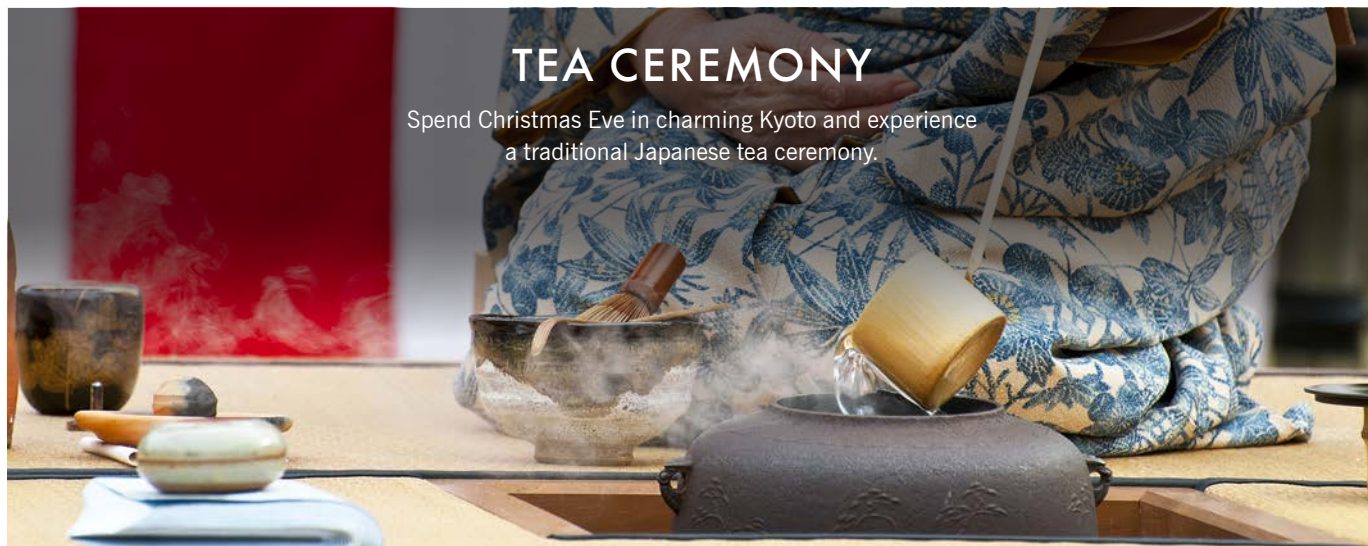
## OUR ONLY GOAL

We are only satisfied when you come back to travel with us again and again – only then do we know that we've done a good job of serving you.



# Christmas & New Year's Highlights

It's the most magical time of the year, so it's only right to pack our Christmas tours with unique experiences and Christmas and New Year celebrations. You'll find our favourites highlighted on each tour page, within the 'Special Festive Experiences' box, but here are a few examples of what you can look forward to...



## TEA CEREMONY

Spend Christmas Eve in charming Kyoto and experience a traditional Japanese tea ceremony.



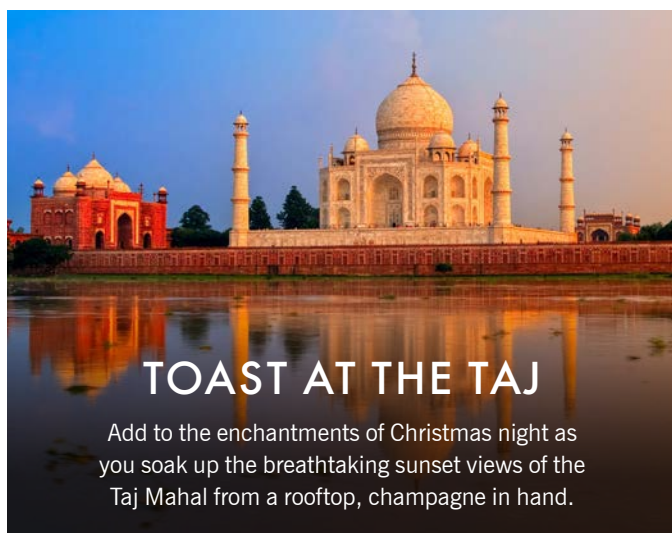
## VIETNAM VISTAS

Take a two-night Christmas cruise on Vietnam's spectacular Halong Bay. Wake to a breathtaking sunrise on Christmas Day, then sail into Lan Ha Bay and indulge in activities like swimming or kayaking before a festive drinks reception on board.



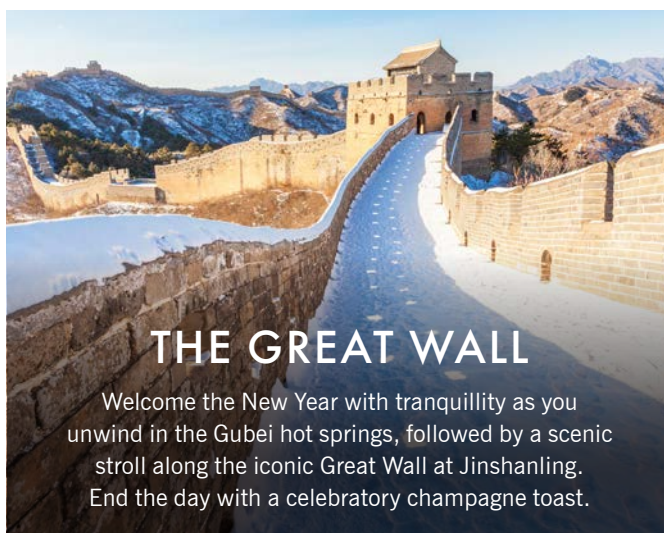
## MAJESTIC MOMENTS

On Christmas day, see the elephants at Chiang Mai's Thai Elephant Care Centre in Thailand. This sanctuary warmly welcomes you to share the joy of the season as you meet and learn about these magnificent creatures.



## TOAST AT THE TAJ

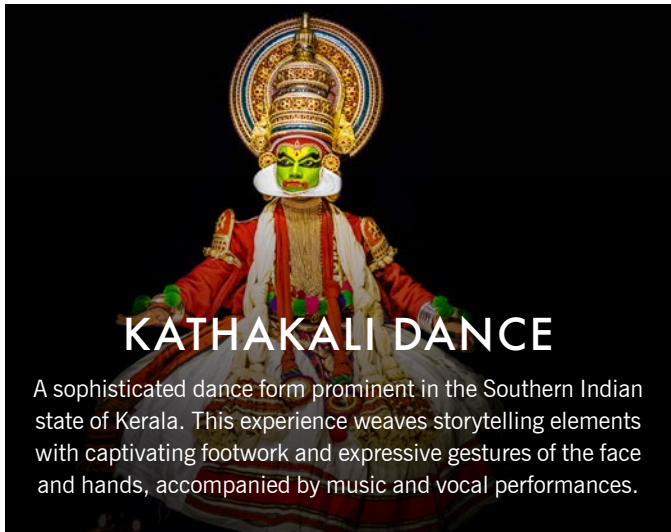
Add to the enchantments of Christmas night as you soak up the breathtaking sunset views of the Taj Mahal from a rooftop, champagne in hand.



## THE GREAT WALL

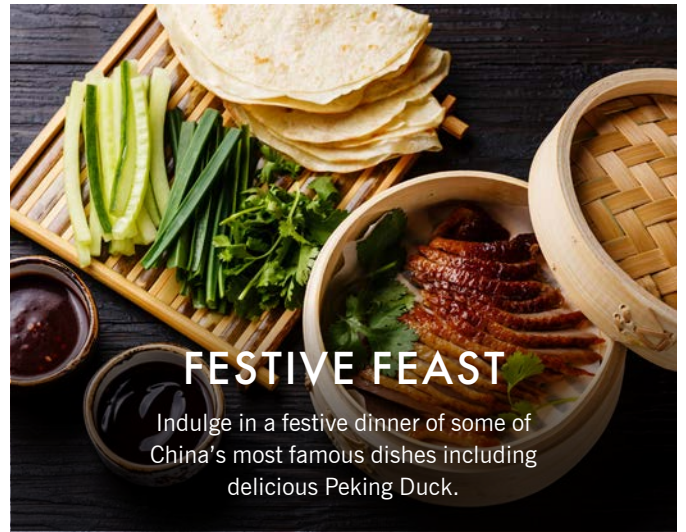
Welcome the New Year with tranquillity as you unwind in the Gubei hot springs, followed by a scenic stroll along the iconic Great Wall at Jinshanling. End the day with a celebratory champagne toast.





## KATHAKALI DANCE

A sophisticated dance form prominent in the Southern Indian state of Kerala. This experience weaves storytelling elements with captivating footwork and expressive gestures of the face and hands, accompanied by music and vocal performances.



## FESTIVE FEAST

Indulge in a festive dinner of some of China's most famous dishes including delicious Peking Duck.



## TEA PLANTATION

Immerse yourself in the magic of Christmas morning in Sri Lanka at a picturesque tea plantation, adorned in a handmade silk saree or sarong, as you learn to harvest tea leaves.



## THE WINELANDS

Spend Christmas surrounded by the spectacular scenery of the Cape Winelands, tasting delicious local wines and enjoying a sumptuous lunch at a vineyard.



## ICE & SNOW FESTIVAL

Enter the enchanting world of Harbin's Ice & Snow Festival, wandering through a winter wonderland of huge ice sculptures.



# Our Award-Winning Guides

ESCORT, GUIDE...WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM, OURS BRING THE BRILLIANCE



Our National Escorts are the stars of the show – it is their unrivalled knowledge, enthusiasm and expertise that take a Wendy Wu Tour from excellent to extraordinary.

You'll be accompanied by one of these passionate, caring professionals throughout your group taking care of you every step of the way. Many of our guides have been working with Wendy Wu Tours for years, garnering accolade after accolade from our very happy customers.

We task them with the responsibility to keep you safe, happy, inspired and entertained whilst you are away, and they respond with gusto, guiding you through the intricacies and eccentricities of the exotic corners of the world with expert ease.

But it's not just their professionalism that makes them so good at what they do. All our guides are born and raised in the country that you are exploring, giving them an unparalleled knowledge of the destination.

They are also excellent at communicating that knowledge, meaning that you get a greater understanding of recent history and learn about local heritage, culture and way of life.

## ALL OF OUR NATIONAL ESCORTS AND TOUR GUIDES

Are experienced and qualified in guiding

Are fluent in English

Are born and raised in the local area making them unparalleled experts

Benefit from rigorous training programmes

Are on hand to look after you every step of the way







“The first thing to say is that our Japan tour ranks among the best we have ever been on, particular praise must however go to our tour guide, the best guide we have ever had the pleasure of leading a tour group. She was an absolute mine of information about all things Japanese, worked tirelessly to ensure that everything ran smoothly and had a great sense of humour that made every day an enjoyable experience. She should be declared a Japanese National Treasure!”





# CHRISTMAS IN VIETNAM

13 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £4,390

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Spend Christmas in Halong Bay
- ✓ Discover Saigon's fascinating history
- ✓ Be charmed by Hoi An's Old Town
- ✓ Explore Hue's Imperial Citadel
- ✓ Wander charming Hoi An
- ✓ Paddle boats on the Mekong Delta
- ✓ Tour Hanoi by rickshaw

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches & 11 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees



Celebrate Christmas on Halong Bay

## ► AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- Celebrate Christmas with a two-night cruise through the stunning Halong Bay and Lan Ha Bay. Indulge in a festive feast and drinks reception with a Vietnamese twist!
- Explore the vibrant streets of Hanoi's Old Quarter by cyclo, stopping off at a café to sample a traditionally made, local speciality egg coffee.
- Try your hand at ancient cultivation techniques with members of the local farming community in Tra Que village and enjoy a cooking demonstration of a regional speciality.



Spend two nights cruising Halong Bay over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO SAIGON

Fly overnight to Saigon, Vietnam's most evocative city. The afternoon is at leisure before this evening's welcome dinner.

### DAY 3: SAIGON & CU CHI

Spend the morning discovering the guerrilla warfare tactics of the Viet Cong at the famous Cu Chi Tunnels. Stop for lunch at an organic farm before returning to Saigon for an afternoon city tour. This fascinating city is a blend of colonial architecture and modern innovation, wearing its history on its sleeve. Visit the poignant War Remnants Museum, along with the Reunification Palace, the French Colonial Central Post Office, and the 19th-century Notre-Dame Cathedral, decorated with festive lights.

### DAY 4: MEKONG DELTA

Head southwest to Ben Tre for a boat trip on the Mekong Delta. Paddle through the palm-lined canals, stopping to visit a bee farm for a cup of honey tea. After lunch, visit the beautiful gardens of the Vinh Trang Pagoda en route back to Saigon.

### DAY 5: CHARMS OF HOI AN

Take a short flight to Danang and transfer to Hoi An. This UNESCO-listed town is a delight to explore, with traditional silk lanterns lining the streets and gondolas bobbing on the river. Visit an old merchant family's house, Quan Cong Temple, the elaborate Japanese Bridge and the bustling market before dinner. Afterwards, why not visit one of the town's legendary late-night tailors? The clothes-makers here are famous for their ability to deliver high-quality, custom-fit clothing in just 24-hours.

### DAY 6: TRA QUE VILLAGE

Head out into the countryside to Tra Que, a cooperative farming community that supplies many local restaurants in the area with vegetables and herbs. Their secret: instead of traditional fertiliser or chemicals, they use an all-natural seaweed found in the village lagoon. Enjoy the lush green countryside, stroll through the gardens to see the farmers at work and try your hand at their traditional techniques. This afternoon is at leisure.

### DAY 7: IMPERIAL HUE

Drive across the famously scenic Hai Van Pass to reach Hue. This atmospheric city was once the seat of the Nguyen emperors, who ruled Central Vietnam in the 19th century. Visit the UNESCO-listed Imperial Citadel and the Forbidden Purple City. Later, visit the Thien Mu Pagoda and take a cruise on the Perfume River.



Explore Hue's imperial monuments





Kayak in Lan Ha Bay

**DAY 8: ROYAL TOMBS & FLY TO HANOI**

Spend a morning at the Royal Tomb of Minh Mang, exploring its peaceful gardens and scenic pools. After lunch, fly to Hanoi, Vietnam's leafy, laid-back capital.

**DAY 9: EXPLORE HANOI**

Take a walking tour of the Ho Chi Minh Quarter, learning the story of its namesake – the former kitchen boy who rose to the status of revolutionary leader and eventually president. See his Mausoleum, the Presidential Palace, and the humble Stilt House he called home. Also, visit the One Pillar Pagoda and the Confucian Temple of Literature. End the day's explorations with a rickshaw tour through the Old Quarter and enjoy a flavoured Vietnamese egg coffee.



Discover the famous Cu Chi Tunnels

**DAY 10: CHRISTMAS EVE IN HALONG BAY**

Board a traditional sailing ship on Halong Bay and cruise out into its tranquil waters. A UNESCO World Heritage Site and a vision of awe-inspiring beauty, it's easy to see why it is one of Vietnam's most beloved destinations. Enjoy excursions such as kayaking or exploring island caves this afternoon.

Tonight, relax and enjoy Christmas dinner – Vietnamese style! The festive meal is served on Christmas Eve in Vietnam thanks to French influences left over from the colonial period. Enjoy the celebrations with newfound friends and your National Escort as the stars glimmer over the bay.

**DAY 11: CHRISTMAS DAY IN LAN HA BAY**

Begin a Christmas Day like no other – watching the sun rise over Halong Bay. Sail into Lan Ha Bay – Halong's equally beautiful but lesser-known twin. Today, choose from included activities such as kayaking at Ho Ba Ham (Three Tunnel Lake) or let a local fisherman row you around a floating fishing village, home to multiple generations of fishermen and their families. Enjoy a Christmas drinks reception on deck this evening before a second night on board.

**DAY 12: RETURN TO HANOI**

Rise early on Boxing Day for a beautiful sunrise over the bay. Return to Hanoi after brunch on deck and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

**DAY 13: FLY HANOI TO UK**

Fly back to the UK, arriving home the same or the following day.

**CLASSIC**  
VIETNAM

## PHYSICAL RATING

**IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?**

December is a perfect month to visit Vietnam, so why not celebrate Christmas with us? Explore the historic cities of Saigon and Hanoi, and immerse yourself in the charms of Hoi An and imperial Hue. Come Christmas Eve, embark on a wonderful two-night cruise into the waters of Halong Bay.



See Christmas lights in Saigon

**PRICES & DEPARTURES**

Departing days of the week vary

**2025 DATE**

15 Dec - 27 Dec **£4,390**

**2026 DATE**

15 Dec - 27 Dec **£4,590**

**Flight and supplement information**

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,590 (Saigon - Hanoi)
- Single room from £940
- Tipping paid locally US\$80



Wander charming Hoi An



# CHRISTMAS IN THAILAND

13 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON

£4,790



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Marvel at Bangkok's Grand Palace
- ✓ Ride the 'Death Railway'
- ✓ Explore the ruins of Ayutthaya
- ✓ Visit a hilltribe community
- ✓ Stroll through Chiang Rai
- ✓ Learn to cook in Chiang Mai

Visit an elephant sanctuary on Christmas Day

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches & 11 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation and eco-lodge
- Touring with guides and entrance fees



Learn to cook traditional Thai cuisine

## ▶ AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- ▶ Start your Boxing Day with a vibrant Thai cooking class. As you chop, stir, and sauté, discover the secrets to crafting authentic dishes, then indulge in a delicious feast of your own creations.
- ▶ Get into the holiday spirit with a delicious Thai Christmas dinner. This festive feast, infused with all the fragrant flavours and aromatic spices of the region, will be served with warm, Thai hospitality.
- ▶ A magical Christmas morning with a difference, visit a local elephant sanctuary and spend some time getting to know the residents, hearing their stories, and learning about their quirks and charms from their caretakers.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO BANGKOK

Arrive in Bangkok, Thailand's capital city, and enjoy time at leisure before your welcome dinner.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE BANGKOK

Bangkok's dazzling neon signs, charming architecture, Thai cuisine and lively markets make for an exciting introduction to this fascinating country. Embark on a Bangkok city tour, exploring the sparkling Grand Palace, Wat Pho and Chinatown before cruising down Chao Phraya River on a longboat to Pak Khlong Talaat Flower Market, whilst enjoying an alternative view of the city.

### DAY 4: BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI

Begin the day at the Maeklong Railway Market and enjoy the spectacle as vendors quickly pack up their stalls to let trains pass directly through the market, then hop in small boats to explore the bustling canals of Damnoen Saduak Floating Market. Then head west to Kanchanaburi, a town in a beautiful natural setting made famous by 'The Bridge on the River Kwai' and the infamous Thai-Burma 'Death' Railway. Here, learn the tragic story of Allied POWs at the Thai-Burma Railway Museum, then pay respects to the victims at the Allied War Cemetery.

### DAY 5: RIDE THE DEATH RAILWAY

Start the day at Hellfire Pass, visiting the Hellfire Pass Memorial Museum to hear its story before taking an atmospheric walk through this dramatic railway cutting. Then, board a vintage train for a short journey on the Death Railway itself, passing through the picturesque scenery along the River Kwai, to cross the eponymous bridge.

### DAY 6: DISCOVER AYUTTHAYA

Journey through the countryside to discover the historic ruins of Ayutthaya, the historic capital of Siam from 1350 until its destruction by Burmese invaders in 1767. Explore its atmospheric gilded palaces, pavilions, and gardens, together with its ruined stupas. Enjoy lunch at the local restaurant and travel to Bangkok for your flight to Chiang Rai.

### DAY 7: EXPLORE CHIANG RAI

This morning, head out to admire the area known as the 'Golden Triangle'; the point where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet. This area was once a hub of opium production, but since the 1970s, Thailand has been promoting local initiatives to enable locals to switch to other sources of income, such as tea, coffee, and tourism. Continue to Mae Sai, the northernmost point of Thailand and an important trading town on the Myanmar border. Return to Chiang Rai for dinner; afterwards, you may wish to explore the colourful night market.



Explore Chiang Rai's night market





## CLASSIC THAILAND



PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

This Christmas, discover the magic of Thailand. You'll explore beautiful scenery and experience rich culture all while enjoying the sunny days and balmy nights that December brings.



Ride the Thai-Burma Railway



Discover Ayutthaya

#### DAY 8: VISIT A TEA PLANTATION

Drive through rolling countryside to Mae Salong Mountain, known for its hill tribes and tea plantations. From the base of the mountain, travel by truck to a plantation, where you will have the opportunity to sample the local tea. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting Doi Tung Palace and the vibrant Mae Fah Luang Garden.

#### DAY 9: ADMIRE THE WHITE TEMPLE

Depart Chiang Rai. Explore Wat Rong Khun, the bizarre and fascinating White Temple then stop at a local market. This afternoon is spent crossing the countryside, passing forests, farms, and villages to reach the Hmong Hilltribe Lodge. Here you will be guests of the Hmong community. This evening, enjoy a barbecue dinner and a cultural show.

#### DAY 10: CHRISTMAS EVE IN CHIANG MAI

Depart the lodge and take a relaxed bamboo rafting trip on the Mae Daang River. Sit back and enjoy the passing scenery as your boatman steers you along the river. Afterwards, head to Chiang Mai and visit a social enterprise café. This little restaurant offers life-changing vocational training to reformed women from Chiang Mai's Correctional Institution. The skills they learn here enable them to reintegrate into society with the skills for a new career. This afternoon, visit two of Chiang Mai's most important temples, Wat Chedi Luang and Wat Phra Singh.

#### DAY 11: CHRISTMAS DAY WITH ELEPHANTS

Enjoy a wonderful start to Christmas Day – a visit to an elephant sanctuary! The centre is located in the beautiful Mesa Valley and offers a

peaceful retirement home for elephants rescued from illegal logging camps and elephant shows. Meet one of their caretakers, who will guide you through the centre, explaining all about the work they do and the cheeky inhabitants! Return to Chiang Mai and sit down to a Thai Christmas dinner at a lovely traditional restaurant.

#### DAY 12: TAKE A COOKING CLASS

Spend Boxing Day morning at a cooking class, learning to cook traditional Thai cuisine and enjoy your creations for lunch. Later, drive to Wat Doi Suthep, a beautiful hilltop temple with panoramic views across the countryside. You will have the choice of climbing the Naga staircase (300 steps) or catching the cable car to visit the exquisite golden pagoda. This evening, enjoy a typical Khantoke dinner while watching a performance of traditional song and dance from Northern Thailand by various hill tribes.

#### DAY 13: FLY CHIANG MAI TO UK

Fly to the UK arriving home the same or the following day.



Visit a tea plantation

#### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

##### 2025 DATES

15 Dec - 27 Dec £4,790

##### 2026 DATES

15 Dec - 27 Dec £4,790

##### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,990 (Bangkok - Chiang Mai)
- Single room from £490
- Tipping paid locally US\$75



Admire the White Temple



# CHRISTMAS IN INDIA

15 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON

£4,090



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

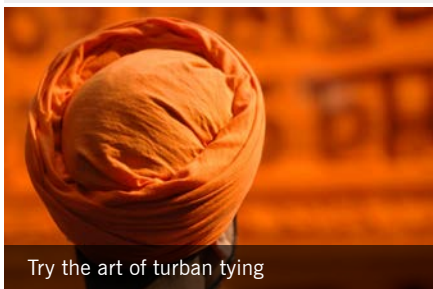
- ✓ Immerse yourself in Delhi
- ✓ Spot tigers in Ranthambore
- ✓ Marvel at the Taj Mahal
- ✓ Experience a religious ceremony on the Ghats
- ✓ Visit a vintage car museum
- ✓ Discover the step wells of Bundi



Admire Udaipur's City Palace

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches & 13 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders



Try the art of turban tying

## ► AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- Immerse yourself in the art of turban tying, delving into the intricacies of this practice, learning to drape and style a turban, an iconic symbol of Indian heritage and pride.
- Sip champagne from a rooftop offering unparalleled views of the majestic Taj Mahal. As the sun's golden hues paint the sky and cast a warm glow over this iconic monument, you'll find yourself in a place where the present and the past blend seamlessly.
- With its enchanting storytelling and artistic presentations, "Mohabbat the Taj" offers an immersive experience that beautifully commemorates the love story that gave rise to one of the world's most iconic monuments. It's a journey through time that captures the essence of love and devotion.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: ARRIVE DELHI

Arrive in Delhi for a two-night stay. Upon your arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure.

### DAY 3: DELHI

After breakfast, start your day of sightseeing around Old and New Delhi. Travel to Khari Baoli Spice Market and enjoy a rickshaw ride before visiting Jama Masjid. Continue to Lakshmi Narayan Hindu Temple, followed by a brief photo stop at India Gate. End your day with a visit to Humayun's Tomb and the Qutab Minar.

### DAY 4: DELHI TO JAIPUR

Upon arrival in Jaipur, enjoy an enlightening visit to the Turban Museum, where you will participate in an interactive demonstration on the art of turban tying and the various styles of wearing them. As a cherished keepsake, you get to take these turbans with you.

### DAY 5: JAIPUR

Embark on a journey through Jaipur's treasures: the delicate Hawa Mahal (photo stop outside), the imposing Amber Fort, and the resplendent Hall of Victory. Immerse yourself in living traditions as you engage in block painting and witness the intricate art of carpet weaving.

### DAY 6: JAIPUR TO PUSHKAR

Begin your day by journeying to Pushkar, where you have time to wander through the vibrant local markets and marvel at the architectural beauty of the Brahma Temple. Later engage in a private religious ceremony on the Ghats of Pushkar sarovar (lake), one of the ten holiest sites in the world.

### DAY 7: PUSHKAR TO UDAIPUR

After breakfast, drive to Udaipur and check in at your hotel. Later this afternoon, you will visit the Vintage and Classic Car Museum, with its collections of some of the rarest classic and vintage cars. This museum is owned by the Royal Family of Udaipur and is located in the premises of the Garden Hotel, outside the City Palace complex. In these gardens, you will sit down to High Tea before returning to your hotel.

### DAY 8: UDAIPUR

Today's adventure is a journey into the heart of Udaipur's culture. Drive around the tranquil expanse of Fateh Sagar Lake and discover the Folk Museum's indigenous heritage treasure trove. The Mewar Art Gallery offers history and modern expression captured on canvas. The highlight will be a visit to City Palace, a regal testament to the city's majestic past.

### DAY 9: UDAIPUR TO BUNDI

After breakfast you will set off for Bundi, with sightseeing stops en route. First, visit the awe-inspiring Chittor Fort, one of India's largest, which stands proudly on a hill top, commanding a panoramic view over the town of Chittorgarh. Then, explore the majestic Vijay Stambh, before arriving in Bundi.

### DAY 10: BUNDI TO RANTHAMBORE

Enjoy discovering this town with its hidden treasures, from the amazing stepwells to Taragarh Fort. There are 50 stepwells dotted throughout the town, and although most are dried up, the stunning remnants of the past are still present. Taragarh Fort is known for its size and architecture and was constructed in the





## CLASSIC

INDIA



### PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Enjoy a festive season like no other. From the classic sites of India's Golden Triangle to discovering magical Udaipur and participating in Christmas Eve and Christmas Day festivities, this itinerary is packed with unforgettable moments.



Be captivated by the Taj Mahal on Christmas Day



Spot tigers in Ranthambore National Park

8th century atop a steep hillside offering panoramic views of the city below. Arrive in Ranthambore, where you will overnight.

#### DAY 11: RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK

Immerse yourself in the wilderness of the park with both morning and afternoon canter safaris, offering you the exciting opportunity to encounter the local wildlife. Each safari, spanning two to three hours, will take you through rugged, unpaved tracks, providing you with opportunities to witness the animals in their natural habitat.

#### DAY 12: CHRISTMAS EVE IN AGRA

Travel to Agra, with a captivating stop en route at Fatehpur Sikri. Explore its wonders, including the Tomb of Chisti and the Panchal Mahal Palace. Arrive at your hotel, where the festive ambiance will get you in the Christmas Eve spirit! There is a special option available this evening – a magical Christmas Midnight Mass at St Mary's Church. This promises to be the pinnacle of your Christmas celebrations, adding even more joy to your experience.



Visit the ghats at Pushkar

#### DAY 13: CHRISTMAS DAY IN AGRA

Wake on Christmas Day and head straight to the spellbinding Taj Mahal – what a wonderful way to start such a special day. Enjoy some time to explore this magnificent monument at your leisure. Visit the Itmad-ud-Daulah, nicknamed the Baby Taj, before continuing to the impressive Agra Fort. After enjoying a Christmas lunch feast filled with lots of entertainment and celebrations, you will be taken to a rooftop restaurants to sip on a glass of chilled champagne as you watch the pinks, yellows and reds of the sun set shift across the marbled surface of the Taj Mahal. To conclude this magical Christmas Day, enjoy a live musical drama – Mohabbat the Taj – a show depicting the romantic love story of Emperor Shahjahan and his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. This is a true Bollywood experience.

#### DAY 14: DRIVE TO DELHI

Drive to Delhi, where you will check in to your hotel. You have the day at leisure to explore or pick up some last-minute shopping before your farewell dinner tonight.

#### DAY 15: DRIVE TO DELHI

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home.

### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

#### 2025 DATES

13 Dec - 27 Dec £4,090

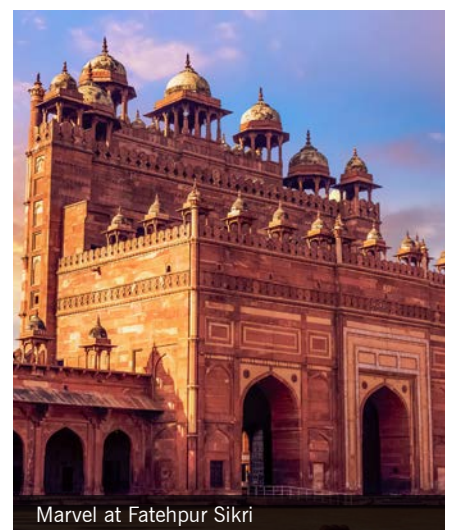
#### 2026 DATES

13 Dec - 27 Dec £4,290

#### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,290 (Delhi - Delhi)
- Single room from £780
- Tipping paid locally US\$90

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Marvel at Fatehpur Sikri



NEW

# CHRISTMAS BEYOND THE BRAHMAPUTRA

18 DAYS FROM

PER  
PERSON

£6,490

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE  
FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Stay at the The Elgin, Darjeeling
- ✓ Explore the sights of Kolkata
- ✓ Sail the Brahmaputra in a luxury riverboat on a seven-night cruise
- ✓ Safari in Kaziranga National Park



Cruise the Brahmaputra on board ABN Charaidew II

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 16 breakfasts, 15 lunches & 16 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders



Explore Darjeeling's Christmas markets

## ► AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- Wander among the stalls of Darjeeling's vibrant Christmas markets, browsing stalls selling a range of handicrafts, winter clothes and local products, searching out unique souvenirs under the twinkling lights of the hill station's colourful Christmas decorations.
- Start your Christmas Day celebrations in a unique and spectacular way by rising early to watch the first rays of the sun turn the snowcapped peak of the world's third tallest mountain, Kanchenjunga, flaming red.
- See in the new year floating on the tranquil waters of the Brahmaputra, enjoying a special celebratory dinner in the convivial atmosphere of your ship's dining room before raising a toast as the clock strikes midnight.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO KOLKATA

Fly overnight to Kolkata, a vibrant city in the far east of India. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE KOLKATA

The capital of West Bengal and widely considered India's cultural capital, Kolkata is a place of fascinating contrasts, something that you will explore on today's tour of the city. See landmark sights like Birla Planetarium, Belur Math, Dakineshwar Kali Temple and the spectacular white marble edifice of the Victoria Memorial before, this evening, taking a walking tour to Park Street, the famous thoroughfare in Kolkata's downtown area.

### DAY 4: BRITISH KOLKATA

The capital of the British Raj between 1858 and 1911, Kolkata is home to a series of colonial sights which you will visit on this morning walking tour, including the stately Dalhousie Square. This afternoon, you'll pay a visit to Mother House, a quiet convent that was home to Mother Teresa and still houses her missionary sisters today. Visit her tomb and a small museum dedicated to her life and work.

### DAY 5: TRAVEL TO GANGTOK

Transfer to the airport and fly to Bagdogra. On arrival, drive to Gangtok, winding through the incredible landscapes of Sikkim, with towering Himalayan peaks as your backdrop.

### DAY 6: EXPLORE GANGTOK

Sikkim's bustling state capital, Gangtok sits on the side of a hill overlooking the valleys and peaks of the Himalayan foothills. Today you will explore it, visiting the 18th-century Rumtek, the

region's most spiritually significant monastery, Enchey Monastery with its colourful prayer hall, the Tashi Viewpoint, where you'll get spectacular views of Mount Khangchendzonga and more. You'll also fly your way up the cable ropeway for panoramic views of the city and its surroundings.

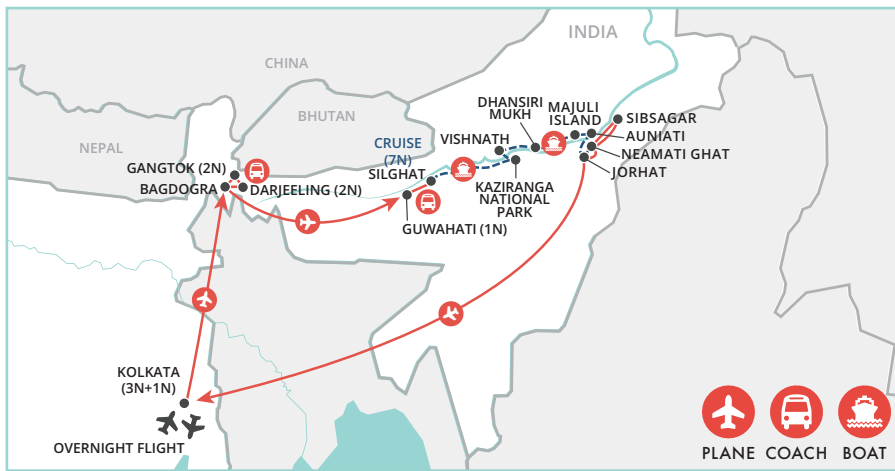
### DAY 7: TRAVEL ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Soak up the incredible scenery as you travel through the Himalayan foothills on Christmas Eve. Stop at the Ravangla Buddha Park to admire a 40-metre-tall copper Buddha set against a mountainous backdrop. You'll find Darjeeling festooned in festive cheer, with twinkling lights, colourful decorations and Christmas trees, the colder climes and snowy mountain views adding to the Christmas ambiance. This evening, following a delicious Christmas Eve dinner, enjoy an atmospheric midnight mass at a local church.

### DAY 8: CHRISTMAS DAY IN DARJEELING

Merry Christmas! Start the day in spectacular fashion, travelling up Tiger Hill to watch the sun rising over the 8,586 metre Kanchenjunga (weather dependent). Sit down to a hearty Christmas lunch before an afternoon ride on the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway's 'toy train' from Darjeeling to Ghoom. Visit Ghoom Monastery before returning to Darjeeling to tour the Padmaja Naidu Zoological Park, the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and Tibetan Refugee Center. This evening, enjoy a stroll through the lively Christmas market.





## CLASSIC INDIA



### PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Celebrate Christmas in the spectacular mountain-backed landscapes of Darjeeling before setting sail on the sacred Brahmaputra River. Explore the nature, culture and unique heritage that lives on its river banks, seeing in the New Year onboard, in style.



See a snow-capped Kanchenjunga Mountain



Catch sight on the endangered one-horned rhinoceroses in Kaziranga National Park

#### DAY 9: FLY TO GUWAHATI

Transfer back to Bagdogra airport and fly to Guwahati. The rest of the day is at leisure.

#### DAY 10: BOARD YOUR CRUISE

Transfer to Silghat, a port on the Brahmaputra River, where you'll board your river cruise vessel. With a spa, saloon, and spacious sun deck along with cool and roomy cabins with floor-to-ceiling sliding windows for optimum views, there is no better to explore the rich riverbanks of the mighty Brahmaputra. Cast off and begin your upstream cruise, enjoying lunch and dinner onboard.

#### DAY 11: KAZIRANGA SAFARI

This morning, disembark from the ship and take a jeep safari into the central range of the Kaziranga National Park. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kaziranga is best known for its population of Indian one-horned rhinoceros and is a designated tiger reserve. Alongside these two magnificent creatures, Kaziranga is also home to elephants, sloth bears, pangolin, water buffalo, swamp deer and a number of species of primate, among much more, and is an important habitat for birds. Enjoy a riverside lunch at Diphlu River Lodge before hopping back into jeeps to explore the park's western reaches, where there is even more wonderful wildlife to spot.

#### DAY 12: TEA ESTATE

Spend the morning on a tea experience on a picturesque Assam tea estate. Here you'll learn all about the production process, from plucking the leaves to brewing a cup. Back on the boat, cruise upstream, passing through more of Kaziranga National Park's spectacular wilderness, spotting wildlife on the banks of

the river as you go. Drop anchor near Biswanath village.

#### DAY 13: BISWANATH VILLAGE

Head into the village, where there is a rich, cultural heritage to explore. Biswanath's ghat is home to a cluster of temples dedicated to different gods, including an Ahom-era Shiva temple – discover these and have a wander through the town, soaking up the beautiful riverside and rural surroundings. Continue cruising through Kaziranga National Park, keeping a look out for wild elephants. Then, spend the afternoon up on the ship's sun deck where you may be lucky enough to spot a member of a small population of the endangered Ganges River dolphins.

#### DAY 14: NEW YEAR'S EVE – DAY OF CRUISING

Today, New Year's Eve you'll be able to sit back, relax and watch the river landscapes drift by as you cruise upstream. There will be one stop at a rural riverside village for a walking tour. This evening, you'll be served a celebratory dinner with a cheers at midnight – what a way to see out the old year and see in the new one!

#### DAY 15: MAJULI ISLAND

Explore one of the world's largest river islands, Majuli, which is a fascinating microcosm of local culture. Visit two of the island's tranquil satras (monasteries) that have been essential in preserving Assamese art and culture and enjoy a traditional dance performance. Cruise farther upstream to Salmara Ghat, visiting a nearby village that is known for its traditional handicrafts, to see the artisans at work.

#### PRICES AND DEPARTURES

##### 2025 DATES ABN Charaideo II

18 Dec - 04 Jan **£6,490**

##### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £5,890 (Kolkata – Kolkata)
- Single room from £670
- Tipping paid locally US\$176

Call for our 2026 pricing and departures

#### DAY 16: VISIT SIBSAGAR

Transfer by car to Sibsagar. Once the capital of the Ahom kings, explore the remnants of a fascinating culture with visits to old temples and examples of innovative engineering. Return to the ship and cruise back to Neamati Ghat for your final night onboard the ship and a farewell dinner.

#### DAY 17: RETURN TO KOLKATA

Bid farewell to your river cruise ship and transfer to Jorhat airport for your flight back to Kolkata. The rest of the day is at leisure.

#### DAY 18: FLY KOLKATA TO UK

Fly home to the UK, arriving the same or the following day.



NEW

# CHRISTMAS IN KERALA

16 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON

£4,890



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Ride a rickshaw through Pondicherry
- ✓ Witness an Aarti ceremony
- ✓ Enjoy a Kalaripayattu performance
- ✓ Taste tea blends in Munnar
- ✓ Attend Christmas mass in traditional attire
- ✓ Cruise Kerala's serene backwaters



Kathakali dance performance

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches & 14 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star - 5 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders



Dress to impress for Christmas mass

## ► CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCES

- Add a vibrant touch to the festive spirit by dressing in traditional, local attire – brightly hued mundus for men and Kerala sarees for women – to attend Christmas mass at St Francis Church in Kochi.
- Visit the skilled artisans of a tile factory in Madurai, watching the transformation from raw materials into beautifully painted and glazed tiles of all different shapes and sizes, each with a unique character.
- Set sail on the beautiful Kerala backwaters on Boxing Day, cruising the picturesque network of rivers, lakes and canals aboard a traditional houseboat called a 'kettuvallam'. Spending a night on board, there is plenty of time to savour the sight of lush greenery, swaying palms and quaint villages on the shore.

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: ARRIVE IN CHENNAI

Fly overnight to Chennai, where on arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the days is yours to start soaking up the local culture, with dinner at the hotel this evening.

### DAY 3: EXPLORE CHENNAI

Your festive adventure begins with the delights of Chennai, the city where many of southern India's artistic, cultural and culinary traditions are kept alive. Start with the sand between your toes at Marina Beach then explore Fort St George and St Mary's Church. Go on to visit the strikingly intricate Kapaleeswarar Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva

### DAY 4: TRAVEL TO PONDICHERRY

Depart Chennai for Pondicherry with a stop en route at the breathtaking Mahabalipuram rock carvings. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, these wonderfully preserved 7th and 8th-century rock cut sculptures show intricate depictions of Hindu mythology. Arrive in Pondicherry.

### DAY 5: RICKSHAW RIDE

A fascinating mix of Indian and French influences with a bohemian vibe, Pondicherry is a place for the spiritually minded. Visit the Sri Aurobindo Ashram and learn more about the city's history at the Pondicherry Museum. Then, board a rickshaw to explore the quaint charms of the colourful French Quarter.

### DAY 6: DRIVE TO VELANKANNI

Head south to the town of Velankanni, home of the revered Roman Catholic shrine, the Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health, which you'll visit this afternoon. A major pilgrimage site, it is believed to be a place of miraculous

healing; soak up the joyous atmosphere as plenty of devotees visit to mark the Christmas season.

### DAY 7: TRAVEL TO MADURAI

Travel to Madurai via Chettinad, pausing to discover the rich cultural heritage of the area with a visit to a tile-making factory, a traditional house and a local market.

### DAY 8: EXPLORE MADURAI

One of the oldest cities in India, Madurai is the soul of Tamil Nadu state and full of cultural treasures. Explore the colourful and deity covered Meenakshi Amman Temple followed by the regal Thirumalai Nayakkar Palace before returning to Meenakshi to experience an atmospheric evening aarti ceremony. Surrounded by believers, burning lamps and whispered devotions, the divine energy will be palpable.

### DAY 9: JOURNEY TO PERIYAR

Travel to Periyar, taking a scenic route that will allow you to explore a spice village and market. This evening, on arrival, watch a Kalaripayattu martial arts show. Originating in Kerala, this dynamic, ancient martial art is characterised by fluid movements, precise technique and a deep connection to its cultural heritage.

### DAY 10: CRUISE LAKE PERIYAR

Venture onto the serene waters of Lake Periyar, surrounded by the wildlife-filled landscapes of Periyar National Park. You may spot elephants, deer and various bird species visiting the lake to drink. Travel to the colonial hill station of Munnar.





## CLASSIC

INDIA



### PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Kerala offers a laidback, tropical-tinged Christmas adventure full of warm sunshine, bright colours, and rich heritage. Explore this cultural melting pot of a state and embrace the seasonal traditions that the locals have made their own.



Admire Meenakshi Amman Temple



Cruise the Kerala backwaters on Boxing Day

#### DAY 11: TEA TASTING

Begin the day with lungfuls of fresh mountain air on a light hike through Eravikulam National Park. Then it's time for tea! Surrounded by picturesque tea estates, learn all about the tea-making process, from bush to brew, at a local tea plantation and the Tata Tea Museum, tasting a variety of blends throughout the day.

#### DAY 12: KOCHI

It's Christmas Eve! Travel to the wonderful Kochi, a city on the Malabar Coast with an intriguingly diverse heritage thanks to its history as a trading port. This evening is all about getting into the Christmas spirit with your travel companions as you indulge in a festive feast full of Kerala flavours. Later, delve into the unique Christmas traditions of Kerala at a midnight mass at an Oriental Orthodox Church.

#### DAY 13: CHRISTMAS DAY

Merry Christmas! Dress to impress in traditional Kerala attire to attend Christmas mass at St Francis Church. Then, savouring some festive sunshine, explore the city and its mix of influences with visits to Santa Cruz Basilica, the Jewish synagogue, the Chinese fishing nets, and local markets. Tuck into Christmas brunch and enjoy the festivities at your hotel in the afternoon. Later, revel in the rich culture of a Kathakali dance performance and a delicious dinner.

#### DAY 14: KERALA'S BACKWATERS

Enjoy a Boxing Day with a difference, boarding a traditional houseboat in Alleppey to cruise the scenic Kerala backwaters. You'll stop to explore as you go – small villages,

churches, and ancient temples to get better idea of the area's rich tapestry. When you moor up for a night on the water, spend the evening enchanted by folk music and dancing.

#### DAY 15: RETURN TO KOCHI

Disembark your houseboat and return by road to Kochi. This afternoon, visit the local markets, including a fragrant spice market.

#### DAY 16: FLY KOCHI TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving the same or following day.



Visit a local tea plantation in Kerala



Take a rickshaw ride in Pondicherry

### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

#### 2025 DATES

13 Dec - 28 Dec **£4,890**

#### 2026 DATES

13 Dec - 28 Dec **£4,990**

#### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,890 (Chennai - Kochi)
- Single room from £1,290
- Tipping paid locally US\$110

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures

### EXTEND YOUR STAY...



#### GOA EXTENSION

5 days from £720pp

#### KOVALAM EXTENSION

5 days from £370pp

#### SHIMLA EXTENSION

4 days from £660pp

Visit page 80 to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



# CHRISTMAS IN SRI LANKA

17 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON

£5,290



FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK



ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Climb Sigiriya Rock Fortress
- ✓ Explore Medieval Polonnaruwa
- ✓ Discover Udawattakele Rainforest
- ✓ Take a street food tour
- ✓ Try your hand at curd making
- ✓ Enjoy a canoe ride

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 15 breakfasts, 14 lunches & 15 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4-star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders



Discover Sri Lankan cuisine

## ► AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- Experience daily life in a Sri Lankan village. Begin with a serene catamaran ride across the lake, followed by a tuk-tuk ride to a village household to engage with the family members and discover the art of cooking an authentic Sri Lankan meal.
- An Udawattakele trek leads you through a lush rainforest teeming with biodiversity. Within its embrace thrives a diverse avian population, making it a haven for bird enthusiasts to see Layard's parakeet, gold-fronted and blue-winged leafbirds.
- Buffalo curd is famous throughout the island, and learning about its fascinating production process, from udder to table, leaves you with an understanding of the intricacies of dairy farming.



Admire the beautiful tea plantations of the central highlands

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: ARRIVE COLOMBO

On arrival, you will be greeted and transferred to your hotel, where you have the rest of the day at leisure to settle in, relax and enjoy your surroundings.

### DAY 3: SIGIRIYA ROCK FORTRESS

After breakfast, you will travel to Dambulla, visiting Sigiriya rock fortress late this afternoon. This impressive landmark is regarded as the world's eighth wonder amongst the locals. Enjoy magnificent views, colourful frescos and beautiful gardens when you reach the top.

### DAY 4: POLONNARUWA

Today you visit Hiriwaduna for a local village experience, enjoying a catamaran ride on the lake, a tuk-tuk trip to a local home and learning to prepare an authentic dish. Next is Polonnaruwa, an ancient capital and UNESCO World Heritage site, full of well-preserved stupas, statues and frescoes.

### DAY 5: ANURADHAPURA

Set off for Anuradhapura, exploring this magnificent ancient city on foot. Visit the massive Buddhist shrines, splendid palaces, parks and pavilions of this sacred city, dating back to the 5th century BC.

### DAY 6: DAMBULLA

This morning visit the fascinating Dambulla Cave Temple, the country's largest and best preserved cave temple. Visit the fragrant spice garden in Matale and arrive in Kandy to view the sacred Temple of the Tooth Relic followed by an amazing cultural dance show.

### DAY 7: KANDY

Embark on a boat ride around the lake offering you breathtaking views of a picturesque city. Later, trek through a long-protected tract of rainforest teeming with a variety of species, including beautiful birds like Layard's parakeet and the oriental dwarf kingfisher.

### DAY 8: CHRISTMAS EVE - NUWARA ELIYA

Board a train to Nuwara Eliya, travelling on what is considered one of the most picturesque rail journeys in the world, passing through a landscape of lush tea plantations and quaint towns. This afternoon, have high tea in the beautiful gardens of the Grand Hotel, before enjoying Christmas Eve festivities and dinner.

### DAY 9: CHRISTMAS DAY - NUWARA ELIYA

Merry Christmas! Start the day with a visit to a tea plantation, dressed in handmade, traditional silk sarees as you mingle with the locals. Return to the hotel for a scrumptious Christmas lunch and plenty more celebrations.



Spot crocodiles in Yala National Park





## CLASSIC SRI LANKA



PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Spend Christmas in Sri Lanka's gorgeous tea country, Nuwara Eliya, as you pluck tea leaves in traditional dress, enjoy High Tea in beautiful surroundings and participate in the celebrations and festivities of the day.



Explore Sigiriya Rock Fortress



Travel to Nuwara Eliya by train

#### DAY 10: UDAWALAWE

After breakfast, proceed to Yala, with a stop at Udawalawe Elephant Transit Home, before a lesson in how to make curd. An essential item in every Sri Lankan pantry, the process of making buffalo curd is a challenging, but fun task. Attempt to milk a buffalo, taste the fresh milk then beginning the curdling process. You'll end up with a fresh pot of curd sweetened with treacle.

#### DAY 11: YALA NATIONAL PARK

In the early morning and late afternoon, you will head off on a jeep safari through Yala National Park. As you embark on a wilderness adventure through Yala's picturesque landscapes, you'll have the chance to encounter not only leopards but also elephants, sloth bears, crocodiles, and a rich variety of bird species.

#### DAY 12: HIKKADUWA

Heading towards Hikkaduwa, visit a cinnamon plantation. Learn all there is to know about the uses and benefits of cinnamon before enjoying the breathtaking views and the chance to try your hand with the tools of the trade in an ambulatory, once used as a resting place for travellers.

#### DAY 13: GALLE FORT

After breakfast, you will be visiting Galle Fort, set on the peninsula within the walled remains of a fortress. Walk to the lighthouse on its perimeter and visit the Old Dutch Church with its tombstone-covered floor before a stroll along the rampart.

#### DAY 14: KOSGODA TURTLE SANCTUARY

A visit to the Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery is a must. Witness the exceptional sight of the eggs hatching or the turtles being returned to

the sea, moving towards the water as they flap their tiny flippers.

#### DAY 15: TRAVEL TO COLOMBO

After breakfast, return to Colombo for a tour of this amazing city. Enjoy New Year's Eve celebrations with a dinner at the hotel.

#### DAY 16: COLOMBO

Spend the start of your New Year wandering through Colombo's markets, strolling along the promenade, or simply relaxing in a café. Enjoy the day at your own pace, taking in the sights and sounds of the city.

#### DAY 17: DEPART COLOMBO

Before your flight (time-dependent), you can explore the vibrant city of Colombo further at your leisure. Later, transfer to the airport to board your onward flight home.

#### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

##### 2025 DATES

17 Dec - 02 Jan **£5,290**

##### 2026 DATES

17 Dec - 02 Jan **£5,490**

##### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £4,290 (Colombo - Colombo)
- Single room from £1290
- Tipping paid locally US\$150

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures

#### EXTEND YOUR STAY...



##### BENTOTA EXTENSION

4 days from £570pp

##### WILPATTU EXTENSION

3 days from £460pp

Visit page 80 to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



Visit Galle Fort



# CHRISTMAS IN JAPAN

16 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £8,190

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Spend Christmas in charming Kyoto
- ✓ Explore the bright lights of Tokyo
- ✓ Admire beautiful Mount Fuji
- ✓ Relax in a rejuvenating onsen
- ✓ Discover traditional Shirakawago
- ✓ Uncover Nara's long history

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches & 14 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 3 star plus – 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees



Enjoy a wagashi-making class

## ► AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- Wagashi are a traditional sweet treat made of fruit, anko and rice flour. Come Christmas morning, sit down with a teacher and learn how to create these beautiful confections from scratch before a traditional tea ceremony demonstration.
- Under a white, snowy blanket, the landscapes of the UNESCO-listed village of Shirakawago are particularly enchanting in the winter. Soak up its peaceful rural scenery and visit one of its famous gassho houses, the steep roofs of which are said to resemble hands in prayer.
- Gazing upon Mount Fuji's beauty, it's easy to see why it has long been held sacred by the Japanese people. In the winter, often backed by crisp blue skies and blanketed in snow, it is even more magical.



Visit the UNESCO-listed village of Shirakawago

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO TOKYO

Fly overnight to Tokyo. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: WONDERS OF TOKYO

Discover Tokyo's most famous highlights, from the lively Shibuya Crossing to explorations of well-known neighbourhoods like Shinjuku. Visit Meiji Jingu, a Shinto shrine surrounded by a small forest within the city, and learn about the emperor who presided over the Meiji Restoration – Japan's transition from feudal state to world power.

### DAY 4: TOKYO

Begin with a visit to the historic Asakusa district to see Sensoji, the city's oldest Buddhist temple, then visit the National Museum in Ueno Park for an insight into the art and archaeology of centuries gone by. Ascend to the viewing deck at the Skytree for a bird's eye view of the city. Later, get in the festive spirit with some time to admire Tokyo's Christmas illuminations.

### DAY 5: HAKONE

Today, head west to Hakone. Around here, winter is considered the best time of year for viewing Mount Fuji, when the skies are often cool and clear, and the mountain is usually wearing its famously beautiful snowcap. Take a cruise across Lake Ashi, then ride a cable car along the Hakone Ropeway to reach Owakudani, known for its volcanic hot springs and steaming vents. The wider Fuji area is your home for the next two nights.

### DAY 6: FUJI FIVE LAKES

Continue your Fuji adventure with a visit to Oshino Hakkai, a charming village filled with mineral-rich ponds and slowly spinning water wheels, before continuing to Kawaguchiko, a town famous for its Fuji views. Visit Fujisan World Heritage Centre, where you can learn about the mountain's significance, and perhaps enjoy a photo opportunity on the viewing deck.

### DAY 7: MATSUMOTO & TAKAYAMA

Head into the foothills of the Japanese Alps, stopping first at Matsumoto to admire its iconic black castle. Its main tower, built in the late 16th century, is the oldest surviving castle tower in Japan. Continue to Takayama, a small city nestled in the mountains of Gifu province.

### DAY 8: TAKAYAMA

Discover this charming alpine city, considered the crown jewel of Gifu province. Explore the traditional streets of the well-preserved old town and visit the excellent Festival Floats Museum before lunch. This afternoon, enjoy some free time to explore, or make use of the onsen facilities at your hotel.

### DAY 9: SHIRAKAWAGO & KANAZAWA

Drive north to the UNESCO-listed village of Shirakawago, famous for its traditional wooden gassho houses. With their steep thatched roofs, often laden in snow, these houses are one of the most iconic winter views in Japan. Visit the largest – Wada House – and learn about life in this remote rural area. Continue to Kanazawa, a serene city known for its samurai history, and check in at your hotel.





## CLASSIC JAPAN



### PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Discover winter's charms in Japan with this immersive mix of cultural exploration and festive cheer. From snow-capped Mount Fuji, to picturesque villages and hands-on experiences in Kyoto, enjoy a Christmas like no other.



See the beautiful Kinkakuji Temple



Discover Oshino Hakkai

#### DAY 10: KANAZAWA TO KYOTO

Visit beautiful Kenrokuen, one of Japan's Three Great Gardens. Here, admire the yukitsuri, a technique using ropes to support the pine trees and their heavy blankets of snow. Later, stroll the Edo-period Nagamachi District and visit one of its old samurai houses. This afternoon, board the Thunderbird train to Kyoto, Japan's cultural heart.

#### DAY 11: CHRISTMAS EVE IN KYOTO

Discover the highlights of Kyoto. Once the capital of Japan, this former seat of power wears its history proudly on its sleeve. Explore the city's most iconic locations, including the photogenic Golden Pavilion of Kinkaku-ji.

#### DAY 12: CHRISTMAS DAY IN KYOTO

Wake to a Christmas day like no other. Spend the morning at a traditional tea house, where you'll don a kimono (optional) and enjoy a tea ceremony and wagashi sweet-making experience. Later, indulge in a special Christmas lunch before an afternoon at leisure to explore Kyoto, call loved ones or simply relax until dinner.

#### DAY 13: BOXING DAY IN NARA

Bid farewell to Kyoto and drive to Nara, another former capital. Visit the UNESCO-listed Todaiji Temple, and meet its sacred deer, who roam here at leisure and enjoy bowing to visitors. Stop by a traditional Japanese garden, then continue to Osaka for dinner.

#### DAY 14: KOYASAN

Drive up into the mountains to admire the tranquil winter beauty of Mount Koya, the heart of Shingon Buddhism. As the year draws to a close, wander through the vast, otherworldly Okunoin Cemetery, with its centuries-old

gravestones, softly-glowing lanterns and towering cedars glittering with frost. Return to Osaka.

#### DAY 15: HIMEJI CASTLE

Drive to Himeji, one of Japan's most magnificent castles. Explore the majestic 17th-century keep before lunch. Drive to Kobe, where you'll visit a small sake brewery museum and a Christmas market before indulging in a farewell dinner. Try Kobe's famous Wagyu beef or an alternative vegetarian dish. Return to Osaka.

#### DAY 16: FLY OSAKA TO UK

Transfer to the airport and fly to the UK, arriving home the same or the following day.



See Kenroku-en's unique winter installations

### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary each year

#### 2025 DATES

14 Dec - 29 Dec **£8,190**

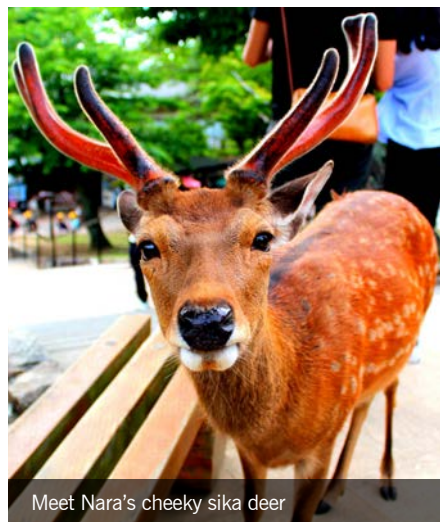
#### 2026 DATES

14 Dec - 29 Dec **£8,690**

#### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £7,390
- Single room from £1,790

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures



Meet Nara's cheeky sika deer



# CHINA: WINTER WONDERLAND

15 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON  
**£5,790**

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE  
FROM THE UK

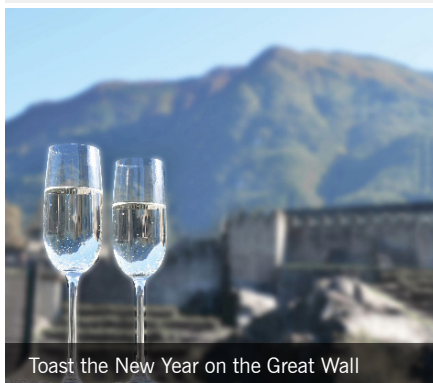
ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Explore Harbin's Ice & Snow Festival
- ✓ Stay overnight at the Great Wall
- ✓ See the adorable giant pandas
- ✓ Feast on China's best delicacies
- ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Travel by bullet train

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches & 14 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders



Toast the New Year on the Great Wall

## ► SPECIAL FESTIVE EXPERIENCES

- Ring in the New Year with a champagne toast on the secluded and lesser visited Jinshanling section of the Great Wall.
- Explore the Christmas markets, cruise the mighty Huangpu River and indulge in Shanghai's gastronomic delights on Christmas Day.
- Spend New Year's Eve in Gubei Watertown at the foot of the Great Wall where you can while away to afternoon wandering the charming, cobbled streets or relaxing in a hot spring before walking on the illuminated wall as night falls.



See the spectacular ice sculptures of the Ice and Snow Festival in Harbin

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO SHANGHAI

Fly overnight to the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai, also known as the 'Paris of the East'. Depending on your time of arrival, the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: CHRISTMAS DAY

Your Christmas Day explorations begin with a visit to the peaceful Yu Garden and a walk through the atmospheric alleys of the old town. Next, take a stroll along the Bund to admire the magnificent colonial architecture, followed by a visit to a silk mill. Enjoy lunch at the renowned Lost Heaven, one of Shanghai's must-try restaurants, and then wander through one of the city's festive Christmas markets. Later, cruise on the mighty Huangpu River for spectacular views of the Shanghai skyline. This evening, enjoy a German-style feast.

### DAY 4: TRAVEL TO CHENGDU

This morning, explore the Xintiandi area with its 1920s-style shikumen buildings. Then transfer to the airport for your flight to Chengdu, home of the beloved giant panda.

### DAY 5: VISIT THE GIANT PANDAS

Start your day with a visit to Chengdu's renowned Panda Conservation Base, where you can see and learn about China's celebrated bear. Then, savour the joy of people watching in People's Park, visiting a teahouse and the famous Matchmaker's Corner where parents look for suitable suitors for their children. Tonight, enjoy a traditional Sichuanese hot pot meal.

### DAY 6: TANG DYNASTY DANCING

Board the bullet train to ancient Xian, China's ancient capital. In the evening, enjoy a dumpling feast and Tang Dynasty dancing show.

### DAY 7: SEE THE TERRACOTTA ARMY

After their fortuitous discovery in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of these life-size warriors and visit the Xian Art Ceramics and Lacquer Workshop. Later, take a stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town.

### DAY 8: BULLET TRAIN TO BEIJING

Take the speedy bullet train to Beijing, China's eminent capital city. Later, explore the hutongs and have dinner with a local family.

### DAY 9: NEW YEAR'S EVE

This morning, explore the Summer Palace, the lavish retreat of the Qing emperors before travelling to the charming Gubei Watertown, a beautifully recreated ancient town nestled against the backdrop of the Simatai section of the Great Wall. The afternoon is at leisure - you may wish to wander the town's canals, relax at a hot spring resort, or get cozy at a local teahouse. As the sun goes down, soar up to the heights of the Great Wall by cable car and watch a series of illuminations light up this ancient wonder. Stroll along the top before returning to the town to bid farewell to the past year with a delicious dinner.





## CLASSIC CHINA



### PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Embrace the magic and experience a different side of China. As it transforms itself into a wonderful winter wonderland, spend the season enjoying the company of like-minded people and exploring its many treasures.



#### DAY 10: NEW YEAR'S DAY

Enjoy a leisurely morning before heading to the Jinshanling section of the Great Wall, a much less frequented but spectacular part of the structure. Here you'll take a walk, passing stark but magnificent landscapes, potentially frosted with snow, pausing at a particularly scenic spot for a glass of champagne. Return back to Beijing by road and enjoy an evening at leisure.

#### DAY 11: VISIT THE FORBIDDEN CITY

Head to Beijing's symbolic heart, Tiananmen Square, and stroll into the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. Enter through the Gate of Supreme Harmony to discover a complex filled with imperial treasures. Journey by bullet train journey to Harbin, home to the annual Harbin Ice and Snow Festival.

#### DAY 12: EXPLORE HARBIN FESTIVAL

Today you will visit the Song Hua River, where you can observe ice water swimming, ice windsurfing and other amazing winter activities. Head across to Sun Island, located in the middle of the river. This is a popular outdoor retreat for locals to simply relax, picnic and enjoy the outdoors. This evening, mingle with people from all over the world at the joyous Ice Lantern Festival and admire thousands of spectacular ice-carved animals, plants, and buildings set in the beautifully illuminated festival grounds.

#### DAY 13: VISIT ICE AND SNOW WORLD

This morning enjoy the festivities at Ice and Snow World, viewing the many sculptures on display, usually depicting traditional Chinese fairy tales or world famous monuments.

#### EXTEND YOUR STAY...



#### HONG KONG GLIMPSES STOPOVER

3 days from £380pp

#### ESSENTIAL DUBAI STOPOVER

3 days from £290pp

#### SUZHOU & HANGZHOU EXTENSION

5 days from £1,290pp

Visit page 94 to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.

Decide to take part in a range of optional activities like an ice maze, ice bars and skating (at your own expense). Later tour the city centre, filled with grand European-style buildings, including Central Avenue and Sophia Cathedral.

#### DAY 14: BULLET TRAIN TO BEIJING

Transfer to the train station for your return bullet train journey to Beijing. This evening, tuck into a farewell meal of delicious local delicacy, Peking duck.

#### DAY 15: FLY BEIJING TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

#### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

#### 2025 DATES

23 Dec - 06 Jan **£5,790**

#### 2026 DATES

23 Dec - 06 Jan **£5,890**

#### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £5,090 (Beijing - Chengdu)
- Single room from £1,140
- Tipping paid locally RMB 840

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures





# CHRISTMAS IN CHINA

11 DAYS FROM

PER PERSON £4,190

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE FROM THE UK

ALL MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Walk on the Great Wall
- ✓ Feast on Peking duck
- ✓ Explore the Forbidden City
- ✓ Face the Terracotta Army
- ✓ Travel on a bullet train
- ✓ Watch giant pandas play

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders



Enjoy Peking Duck for Christmas dinner

## SPECIAL FESTIVAL EXPERIENCES

- Trade the customary Christmas turkey for an authentic feast including Peking duck, a cherished Beijing delicacy. Enjoy succulent roasted duck with crispy skin, tender meat, and flavourful accompaniments.
- Experience the thrilling Chinese Acrobatic Show on Boxing Day evening, showcasing gravity-defying acts, intricate balancing, contortion, and daring stunts. It's a captivating fusion of athleticism and artistry that embodies China's rich cultural heritage.
- Ring in New Year's Eve alongside enchanting pandas at the Chengdu Panda Conservation Centre. Witness these gentle giants, learn about their conservation, and support vital preservation efforts.



Enter the Forbidden City through the Gate of Supreme Harmony

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY OVERNIGHT TO BEIJING

Fly overnight to Beijing, China's historical capital. Depending on your time of arrival the rest of the day is yours to start soaking up the local culture.

### DAY 3: CHRISTMAS DAY ON THE GREAT WALL

Merry Christmas! This festive morning is dedicated to China's most iconic sight – the Great Wall. Stretching 4,000 miles from the Shanhaiguan Pass on the east coast to the Gobi Desert in the west, taking a walk on the on this incredible structure is the best way to appreciate both the wall itself and the dramatic scenery that it crosses. Stop by a jade factory to learn about the sacred stone, said to bring fortune and prosperity to those who wear it. Then spend the afternoon at the idyllic Summer Palace, wandering through traditional Chinese gardens and seeing the exquisite architecture. End the day indulging in a Christmas meal, including the local delicacy, Peking Duck.

### DAY 4: IMPERIAL BEIJING

Begin in Beijing's symbolic heart with a stroll across Tiananmen Square, towards the sprawling magnificence of the Forbidden City. A monument to dynasties past, enter through the Gate of Supreme Harmony, into a complex of a thousand rooms and many imperial treasures. Later, soak up the harmonious ambience of the Temple of Heaven, an orderly oasis in a bustling urban landscape. This evening, immerse yourself in the captivating world of Chinese acrobatics through a dazzling performance, a testament to skill and tradition.

### DAY 5: XIAN CITY WALLS

Board the bullet train to Xian, an illustrious and age-old city and one of the four great ancient capitals of China. It is also the capital of Shaanxi province and the starting point of the fabled Silk Road with a history spanning 3,100 years. Arrive and enjoy a leisurely stroll on the beautifully preserved 14th-century city walls that enclose Xian's old town. Tonight, enjoy a delicious feast of traditional Shui Jiao dumplings and experience the grace and beauty of a Tang Dynasty dancing performance.

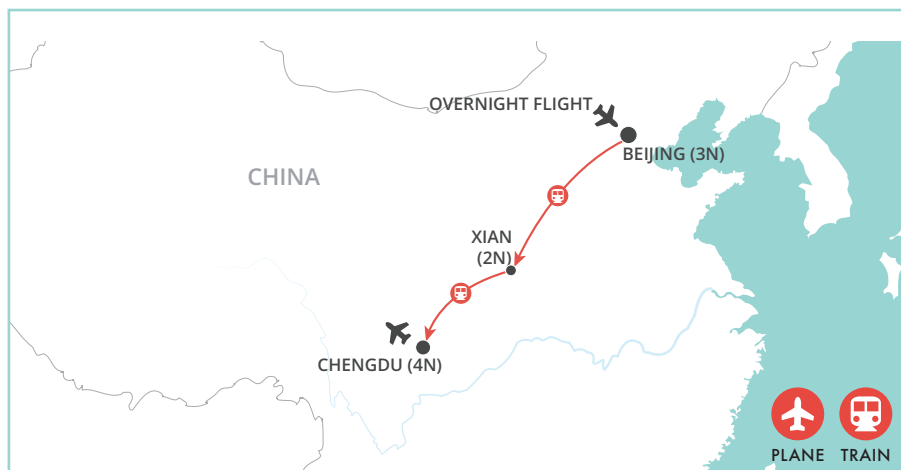
### DAY 6: TERRACOTTA WARRIORS

After their fortuitous discovery by local farmers in the 1970s, the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, has intrigued visitors ever since. Spend the morning viewing the enigmatic ranks of life-sized warriors and horses who stand in their original formations at the exact location they were excavated. Visit the workshop of the craftsmen who recreate terracotta warriors in the style of their ancient counterparts. Next, wander through the Muslim Quarter's bustling streets filled with aromatic food stalls and historic mosques. Enjoy the evening at leisure or join an optional tour of Xian's illuminated streets.

### DAY 7: BULLET TRAIN TO CHENGDU

Begin your day exploring the enchanting Little Wild Goose Pagoda then venture to the Xian Museum to deepen your understanding of the city's fascinating past through its captivating exhibits, artifacts, and stories. In the afternoon, take the bullet train to Chengdu, the capital of the Sichuan province.





## CLASSIC CHINA



### PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Experience an unforgettable, unique blend of cultures with this once-in-a-lifetime Christmas in China special. Embrace the magic as traditional Chinese elements intertwine with Western customs, offering a truly memorable holiday season.



Visit the Grand Buddha



See Pandas in Chengdu on New Year's Eve

#### DAY 8: LESHAN GRAND BUDDHA

Travel to Leshan to visit the Grand Buddha, the world's largest stone-carved Buddhist statue, a UNESCO treasure dating back to the Tang Dynasty. Experience a unique perspective of this colossal masterpiece with a serene boat excursion along the river. Return to Chengdu, visiting the charming old town of Huanglongxi en route.

#### DAY 9: NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH PANDAS

Begin the day at the renowned Panda Conservation Centre, dedicated to the preservation and research of giant pandas. Here you'll see both pandas and red pandas up close as they chomp through piles of bamboo, sleep and play, and learn all about their physiology and conservation. Gain insight into the hard work that goes into caring for and boosting the population of this endangered species. Later, marvel at the ancient Chinese engineering brilliance of the Dujiangyan Irrigation project. Feast on a delicious New Year's meal this evening, inspired by the local Sichuan cuisine, followed by an optional performance of the face changing show at the Sichuan Opera.

#### DAY 10: CHENGDU

Celebrate New Year's Day exploring Chengdu at your own pace, with your National Escort on-hand to ensure a memorable time.

#### DAY 11: FLY CHENGDU TO UK

Fly to the UK, arriving home the same or following day.

#### EXTEND YOUR STAY...



##### SHANGHAI EXTENSION

3 days from £430pp

##### HARBIN ICE & SNOW FESTIVAL

3 days from £1,480pp

##### ESSENTIAL DUBAI STOPOVER

3 days from £290pp

Visit page 94 to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.

#### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

##### 2025 DATES

23 Dec - 02 Jan **£4,190**

##### 2026 DATES

23 Dec - 02 Jan **£4,290**

##### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £3,490 (Beijing - Chengdu)
- Single room from £520
- Tipping paid locally RMB 440



Start your Christmas Day with a walk on the Great Wall



NEW

# CHRISTMAS IN SOUTH AFRICA

16 DAYS FROM

PER  
PERSON

£6,490

FLIGHT INCLUSIVE  
FROM THE UK

MOST MEALS

## TOUR TICKLIST

- ✓ Ride the Graskop Gorge Lift
- ✓ Seek the Big 5 in Kruger
- ✓ Explore charming Knysna
- ✓ See penguins at Boulders Beach
- ✓ Christmas in the Winelands

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 13 Breakfast, 11 Lunches, 10 Dinners
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- 4 star accommodation
- Touring with guides and entrance fees



Join in on an African drum experience

## ► AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES

- Fall into the natural rhythms of South Africa's great wilderness with an African drumming experience. Guided by skilled drummers, learn the intricacies of ancient beats while being part of a beautiful celebration of heritage.
- In Oudtshoorn, known as the 'Ostrich Capital of the World', enjoy a guided tour of an ostrich farm, where you can meet some of the beautiful resident birds. Take part in a feeding session and learn more about the birds themselves and the historical significance of ostrich feathers.
- Spend Christmas Eve on a culinary adventure, immersed in all things Africa. You'll dine on an epic 14-course dinner safari, tasting flavours from across the continent and hearing stories about its origins.



Discover the wonderful wildlife in Kruger

## ITINERARY

### DAYS 1-2: FLY TO JOHANNESBURG

Fly overnight to the vibrant Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city. In recent years, Johannesburg has enjoyed a rapid rise becoming the cultural capital, packed with diverse style, art, music, and gastronomy that is representative of the country as a whole. On arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel, where the rest of the day is yours to relax and start exploring your surroundings. (D)

### DAY 3: TAKE THE PANORAMA ROUTE

Spend some time at Constitution Hill, a living museum that tells the story of South Africa's journey to democracy. Then, depart the city to travel along the Mpumalanga Panorama Route. A breathtaking region of majestic nature, you'll pass mountains, waterfalls and canyons, every view more spectacular than the next. (B,L,D)

### DAY 4: GOD'S WINDOW

Spend the day surrounded by the wonders of the Panorama Route! Ride the Graskop Gorge Lift for mesmerising views over the forest canopy, peek through God's Window for one of South Africa's most glorious views. Then it's on to the Bourke's Luck Potholes to admire the swirling river pools and unique rock formations, and the Three Rondavels of the magnificent Blyde River Canyon. The day ends at your final destination, the wilds of Greater Kruger where there is just time for a dusk safari before settling in to your private game lodge. (B,L,D)

### DAYS 5-6: THE GREATER KRUGER

The next two days will be filled with wonderful wildlife, as you embark on game drives through the wilderness accompanied

by a ranger and tracker, on the look out for The Big 5, and so much more. Your Kruger experience includes a dinner served around a blazing fire under the stars in the traditional boma, followed by an African drumming class, where you'll master the timeless beats of a rich culture and hear stories, songs and folklore through the universal language of rhythm and dance. (B,L,D)

### DAY 7: FLY TO GQEBERHA

Travel back to Johannesburg and fly down to the Eastern Cape, to the coastal city of Gqeberha, formerly known as Port Elizabeth. On arrival, transfer to your hotel in time for dinner. (B,L,D)

### DAY 8: ON THE GARDEN ROUTE

Begin your drive along the Garden Route, a 200-kilometre stretch of road that runs along the gorgeous coastline of the Eastern and Western Cape. Today you'll stop at the Oudebosch Protea Farm to learn about South Africa's national flower, then revel in the celebrated coast-meets-forest scenery of Tsitsikamma National Park. The charming town of Knysna, called 'the jewel of the Garden Route' waits at the end of the journey, renowned for its lagoon, the scenic Knysna Heads and its lively waterfront. (B,L,D)

### DAY 9: EXPLORE KNYSNA

Today will be spent enjoying the Featherbed Eco Experience, an adventure through an unspoiled nature reserve. It begins with a scenic ferry trip across the lagoon, followed by a guided tractor ride to the top of the western Knysna Head, part of the Featherbed Reserve, for panoramic views. There'll be a nature





## GO BEYOND SOUTH AFRICA



PHYSICAL RATING



### IS THIS TOUR FOR YOU?

Enjoy many of the classic Christmas traditions in the height of summer, on this festive adventure through the highlights of South Africa. From the wilds of Kruger to celebrating the season in Cape Town, discover how to do Christmas the South African way.



Visit the renowned Cape Winelands



Uncover natural beauty at the Featherbed Eco Experience

walk through the coastal forests to learn more about the region's unique flora and fauna, finishing off with a delicious lunch in a scenic spot. Continue to Oudtshoorn for the night. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 10: TRAVEL TO CAPE TOWN

From the coast, turn inland and head for the incomparable Cape Town. En route there will be stops at the fascinating Cango Caves for a walk through magnificent underground chambers then see the famous ostriches. Embark on a tractor tour to meet the resident birds before sitting down to lunch, where there is an option to try ostrich meat. Passing through plenty of breathtaking scenery, you'll arrive in Cape Town in the late afternoon. (B,L)

#### DAY 11: DISCOVER CAPE TOWN

Spend today exploring one of the world's most spectacularly set cities, delving into its rich history and vibrant culture. Drive past the Castle of Good Hope, Company Gardens and Houses of Parliament before ascending the iconic Table Mountain (weather permitting) via the cableway. Lunch will be in Cape Town's most colourful neighbourhood, Bo-Kaap, where you will not only get to eat some delicious Cape cuisine but get to help prepare it too! Learn all about the delicious fusion flavours of the city with a cooking demonstration. (B,L)

#### DAY 12: EXPLORE THE CAPE

What better way to spend Christmas Eve than an adventure to the Cape Peninsula. Take a cruise to watch playful seals in their natural habitat and enjoy the breathtaking views over the wild Atlantic along Chapman's

Peak. Savour the rugged beauty of Cape Point, where the Indian and Atlantic oceans meet, visiting Cape Point Lighthouse. End the day at Boulders Beach where you can watch the resident colony of African penguins going about their days in the most charming of ways. Celebrate tonight with an unforgettable dinner at Gold Restaurant, with an immersive and authentic African experience. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 13: CHRISTMAS IN THE WINELANDS

Merry Christmas! This year your Christmas Day will be filled with sunshine, gorgeous scenery and, of course, great wine as you spend the day in the renowned Cape Winelands, a region that is an absolute feast for the senses. Tour the wine towns of Stellenbosch and Franschhoek for amazing wine tasting before enjoying a delectable Christmas lunch with picturesque views over the vineyards to the mountains beyond as you eat. You'll return to Cape Town full of the Christmas spirit! (B,L)

#### DAY 14: CAPE TOWN AT LEISURE

Spend the day exploring - perhaps visit the Two Oceans Aquarium, or shop, as you stroll the V&A Waterfront. Why not take a boat tour to Robben Island or ride the Cape Wheel? There are endless options to keep you busy in this wonderful city. (B,D)

#### DAYS 15-16: DEPART CAPE TOWN

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK arriving the next day. (B)

#### PRICES & DEPARTURES

Departing days of the week vary

##### 2025 DATES

13 Dec - 28 Dec £6,490

##### 2026 DATES

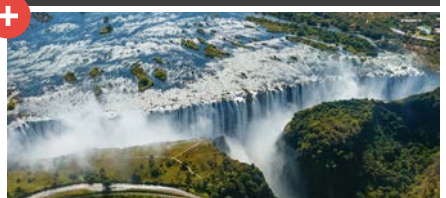
13 Dec - 28 Dec £6,990

#### Flight and supplement information

- Based on London Heathrow departures
- Regional UK departures available
- Flight upgrades available on request
- Land only from £5,490 (Johannesburg - Cape Town)
- Single room from £1,390
- Tipping paid locally US\$180

Call for our 2027 pricing and departures

#### EXTEND YOUR STAY...



##### VICTORIA FALLS EXTENSION

4 days from £1,370pp

##### UMHLANGA BEACH EXTENSION

6 days from £570pp

Visit page 46 to learn more about all of our extensions and stopovers.



# TOP REASONS TO CHOOSE WENDY WU TOURS

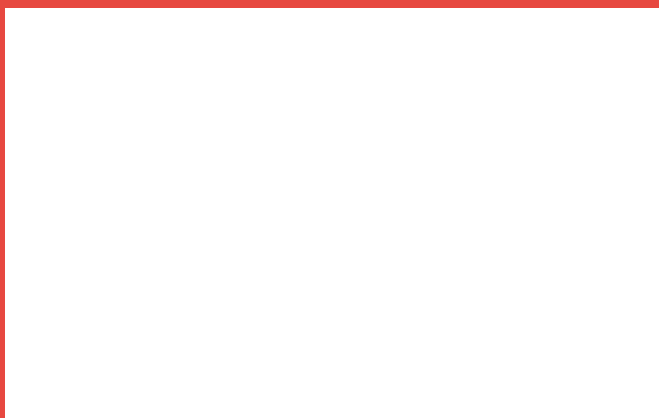
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