






STARS OF THE EAST -2024

An Adventure with Sudhakar S Selwyn
FEB / MAR -2024

| <u>Base Trip</u> | | <u>Hotels</u> |    |
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| <u>19 Nights</u> <u>20 Feb</u> To <u>10 Mar 2024</u> | | | |
| Kolkata | 3 nights | 1 Night Peerless In 2 Nights Glenburn Penthouse | |
| Shanthi Niketan | 2 nights | Artist Home | |
| Bishnupur Jhargram | 2 nights | Rajbari Tourism Complex | |
| Mayur Bhanj | 2 nights | Belgadia Palace | |
| Aul | 2 nights | AUL Royal Palace | |
| Dhenkanal | 2 nights | Dhenkanal Royal Palace | |
| Bhubaneswar | 2 Nights | Hotel Fortune Park | |
| Puri | 3 Nights | Mayfair Heritage | |
| Delhi | 1 Night | Radisson Airport | |

Unique Features of this Adventure

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Single Supplement (Only 3 rooms) USD 565 Single supplement Only 7 Travellers for this trip Unique Heritage Palaces for overnight Artist's Home overnight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routes less travelled Day in Artist's life Craft Village visit Fishing with fisherman in the coast UNESCO Heritage Sites in Puri Eco Tourism interaction with | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage walk in Kolkata Boat safari at Bhitarkanika National Park Chilka Lake boat ride Mangalazodi Wetlands Tribal Interaction Local coastal cuisine of Odisha |
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INCLUSIONS

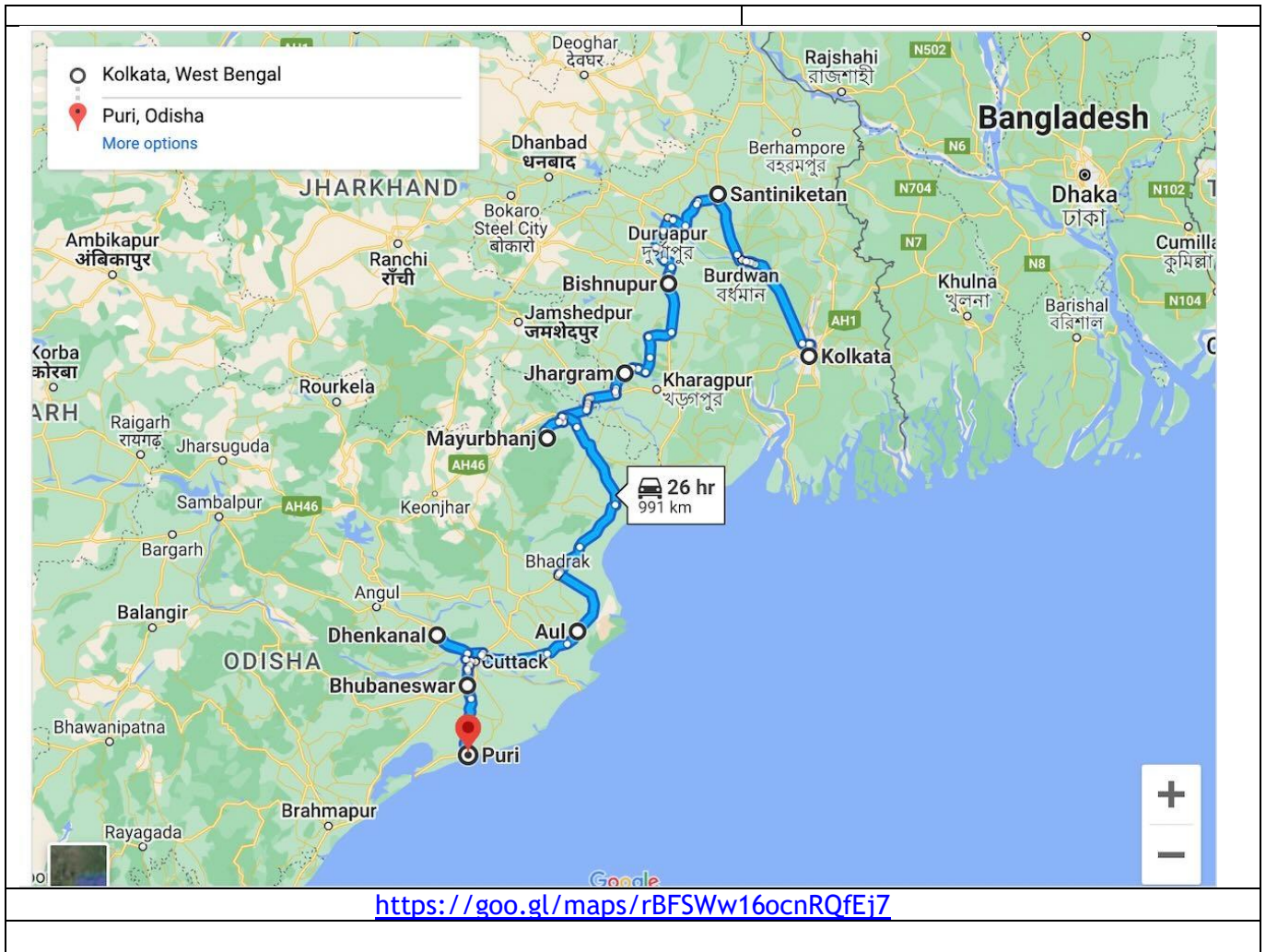
- Twin /Single Bedded Rooms
- All meals as per the Program
- Domestic air tickets
- All entrance fees
- All the local Guide Fees
- Services of Tour Leader
- All Airport transfers
- Bottled water, soda and soft drinks
- Gratuities for Porters, Meals & miscellaneous

Exclusions

1. International Airfare
2. Health and Trip Insurance
3. Visa Fees
4. Gratuities of House Keeping, Guides, Driver, Tour Leader

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| Day | Destination | Activity | Hotels |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|--|
| Day 1 20 Feb 2024 Tuesday | Kolkata | Arrival and transferred to hotel in the city | Peerless Inn |
| Day 2 21 Feb 2024 Wednesday | Kolkata | <p>Kolkata, Bengali Kalikata, formerly Calcutta, city, capital of West Bengal state, and former capital (1772–1911) of British India.</p> <p>The city's former name, Calcutta, is an Anglicized version of the Bengali name Kalikata. According to some, Kalikata is derived from the Bengali word Kalikshetra, meaning "Ground of (the goddess) Kali."</p> <p>Kolkata (Calcutta) was once known as the city of palaces and if one were to transfer that epithet to present times one will have to add 'decrepit' before palaces. If we take the birth of the city from the arrival of Charnock, the East India Company agent, on its shores in 1690 then it's a rather young city which looks rather old thanks to its lack of upkeep. We often joke in our tours that the city has a lot of its heritage intact thanks to its economic stagnancy. It would be funny if it weren't so scathingly true.</p> <p>After our Breakfast, we drive to the old town and check into our Heritage Hotel. Later we set for a Orientation walk around the Hotel</p> | <p>Glenburn Penthouse https://glenburnpenthouse.com</p> <p>D</p> |
| Day 3 22 Feb 2024 | Kolkata | After breakfast, we will be doing a heritage walk. Kolkata, with her historic buildings, quaint yellow Ambassador taxis, | Glenburn Penthouse |

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| Thursday | | trams, iconic bridges, Hooghly River, ancient mansions with their peeling paintwork, markets overflowing with fresh produce and goods, Durga puja, delicious food, Chinatown, and a hundred other interesting sights, sounds and tastes, is a city full of color and character. The best way to know and understand this city is by foot and that will show this city in a whole new intimate light to the traveler. We stop in the old town for our lunch. Kali temple, Indian Coffee House and the River side market will be some of the places we come across today. Later in the evening, we will sit together for our dinner | B, L, D |
| Day 4 23 Feb 2024 Friday | Kolkata Shantiniketan | After a relaxed Breakfast, we set in for a four-hour drive to a city called SANTINIKETAN. Shantiniketan, a veritable abode of peace and tranquility, is famous for the world renowned Viswa Bharati University founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1921. If you'd ask a Bengali, you'd find that Shantiniketan is not a place – it's a way of life. As the name suggests, it is the "abode of peace", and it's very ambience transports you to another world! Shantiniketan is only a couple of hours by road from the city of Kolkata and well-connected by rail. Even then, the place has maintained its idyllic, old-world charm. After a four-hour bus ride, we settle in the homes of the Artists for our experience in this Artist's town. Later we have time to engage with the Artist and his family and their work. | Artist Home B, L, D |
| Day 5 24 Feb 2024 Saturday | Shantiniketan | https://www.theheritagelab.in/shantiniketan-art-tour/ Today, we will go on an art excursion, led by the artist himself around Shantiniketan. | Artist Home B, L, D |
| Day 6 25 Feb 2024 Sunday | Shantiniketan Bishnupur Jhargram | After breakfast, we drive to Bishnupur. Bishnupur is a town in the Bankura District of West Bengal and located at about 132 km from Kolkata. It is famous for its terracotta temples and Baluchari sarees. The town has a glorious past that is reflected in its rich architecture, music and handicrafts such as pottery and weaving. It prospered in the 17th and early 18th centuries. Ruled by a line of Hindu Rajas of the Malla dynasty, Bishnupur developed a unique form of architecture and has perhaps the most brilliant and detailed terracotta work in Eastern India that has withstood the ravages of time. In the afternoon, we explore the terracotta temples and other important sites in Bishnupur. Later after lunch, we drive to Jhargram for our overnight. | Rajbari Tourism B, L, D |
| Day 7 26 Feb 2024 Monday | Jhargram | Jhargram is in the western part of Paschim Medinipur. Beyond the Gangetic plains of Bengal, Jhargram offers the most exotic undulating topography culminating in hill ranges of Belpahari, Kankrajhor in the North to the serene and meandering Subarnarekha River in the South. It is a paradise for nature lovers with bountiful forests of sal, teak, peasal and mahul, wild elephants, deer, and birds in its vicinity. It is a favorite destination for people who love forests. The ancient temples, royal palaces, cultural feasts of folk music and tribal dance, makes it an extremely attractive destination for tourists who enjoy discovering the unknown and unaffected beauty of nature in this area. After a leisure drive through the beautiful landscape, we arrive in Jhargram and explore this unexplored town. Later we check into | Rajbari Tourism B, L, D |
| Day 8 27 Feb 2024 Tuesday | Jhargram Mayurbhanj | We hop into the neighboring state ODISHA today. Our adventure here begins with the visit to Royal family of Mayurbhanj: The Belgadia. Staying with Local host, Sharing their Experiences, culture, food and stories. | Belgadia Palace https://www.thebelgadiapalace.com |

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| | | <p>Interact with local people who are involved in different type's art & craft making. You can buy different type Textiles, art and crafts from the villagers; it will give them sustainable benefits to the villagers. Visit to the Birds Paradise Mangalazodi village. Travel to isolated Wildlife region of Odisha; experience the beauty of the Eastern Cost of Odisha & its landscape, each day is designed to fill your insight in a holistic way with interaction with locals and their livelihood.</p> <p>Later we check into a beautiful Heritage Home Palace called Belgadia Palace built in 18th Century brick built double story building in a classical western style. The Palace is home to Royal family of Mayurbhanj, Odisha</p> | B, L, D |
| Day 9 28 Feb 2024 Wednesday | Mayurbhanj | <p>Our stay here will bring the following experiences for us to learn and understand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal Cuisine of Mayurbhanj with Street Food of Baripada • Visiting tribal villages & make art with them like Dhokra Brass metal work • Black Stone Carving Temple: Kiching Temple • Similipal National Park | Belgadia Palace B, L, D |
| Day 10 29 Feb 2024 Thursday | Mayurbhanj AUL | <p>After breakfast check out and transfer to AUL Royal Palace. The Killa Aul Palace established by Raja Ram Chandra Deb in 1590 AD at the bank of river Kharsrota a tributary of River Bramhani. This palace is now the residence of present king Braja Keshari Deb; His ancestors are belonged to the last independent king Gajapati Mukunda Deva of Khurda. His royal family has 426 years of history, which carries the royal stories of Odisha.</p> <p>Aul Palace architecture and its structure is a blend of old medieval art with "Garh", Deoris, courtyards and colonial design with rooms which has present day amenities. The Palace has 7 beautiful rooms with bathrooms, the old Darbar, Temple and Courtyards. The views from the palace are the cows grazing on sandy islands, fishing boats and water birds right outside the terrace. The river encircles and touches the palace walls from its west and north sides giving it a look of a river side fort.</p> | AUL Royal Palace http://killaulpalace.com B, L, D |
| Day 11 01 Mar 2024 Friday | AUL | <p>After Breakfast ready to explore the land of crocodiles in their own Mangrove habitat. Half day boat safari to Mangrove Forest, enjoy the serpentine creeks, and watch out for birds, particularly different varieties of Kingfisher. Keep looking for estuarine crocodiles basking in the sun. Also visit Bagagahan Bird Sanctuary, climb to watch tower, look for Pelican & different varieties of Storks. Visit Crocodile Museum at Dangamal.</p> | AUL Royal Palace B, L, D |
| Day 12 02 Mar 2024 Saturday | AUL DHENKANA L | <p>Morning check out and transfer to another Royal palace of Dhenkanal, enroute visit Buddhists site of Ratnagiri (Diamond Triangle). Half day Excursion to Ratnagiri (Archeological site of a Buddhist Monastery from 4th to 8th Century AD) with Monastery parts and many votive Stupa, all different Buddhist sculptors with Chaita Hall and a Huge stupa from where caskets of Buddha's relic is available Later in the day, transfer to Dhenkanal Royal palace. A truly royal eastern retreat, Dhenkanal Palace, the residence of the former Rajas of Dhenkanal is now a heritage homestay where one can experience history, tradition, art, culture and heritage of Dhenkanal.</p> | Dhenkanal Royal Palace http://www.dhenkanalpalace.com B, L, D |
| Day 13 03 Mar 2024 Sunday | DHENKANA L | <p>The last ruler, Raja Shankar Pratap Mahindra Bahadur (1925 – 65), was the seventeenth ruler since the foundation of the State and the first ruler in Orissa to merge with India</p> | Dhenkanal Royal Palace |

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| | | <p>in 1948. The present Raja of Dhenkanal is Brig Raja Kamakhya Prasad Singh Deo Mahindra Bahadur (1941-).</p> <p>After breakfast at Royal palace, Morning photography activities including jungle trekking, tribal village & birding. Sadeibareni Dhokra Craft Village, this village is home to near to 25 families & out of these nearly 12 are awarded from President of India for Dhokra Craft. Later, in the afternoon visit to Jorandha Alekh Mahima Temple, participate in evening prayer with sadhus.</p> <p>Optional activities: Odisha is great place for fishing activities, being a coastal state & availability of Rivers, countryside fishing activities are sighted all around the state. If visitor wish, we can arrange Countryside Sport fishing activities. We have motorboats & basic Fishing equipment's for visitors. Fish available in the sweet waters are all varieties of local carps, varieties of Catfish, Chitals & Murrells are in plenty & big size. Activities time (2 to 5 hours depending on interest).</p> | B, L, D |
| Day 14 04 Mar 2024 Monday | DHENKANAL Bhubaneswar | <p>After breakfast transfer to Bhubaneswar, enroute visit Maritime Museum at Cuttack. Being one of the oldest cities of Odisha, visitors will be exposed to infinite number of Street food in Cuttack. overnight stay at Bhubaneswar.</p> <p>Enroute, we explore the Udayagiri caves and the tribal museums.</p> | Hotel Fortune Park B, L, D |
| Day 15 05 Mar 2024 Tuesday | Bhubaneswar | <p>After breakfast, 8:30 AM Proceeds for Old town Heritage Walk: Lingaraj Temple (11th Century), Parshurameswar Temple (7th Century) & Mukteswar Temple (9th Century) enroute Bindu Sagar Lake.</p> <p>Then visit Rajarani Temple (11th Century) lunch Temple Kitchen of Ananta Vasudeva & refreshment.</p> <p>Later, in the evening we will explore the popular Food streets of Bhubaneswar.</p> | Hotel Fortune Park B, L, D |
| Day 16 06 Mar 2024 Wednesday | Bhubaneswar KONARK PURI | <p>After breakfast, check out and drive to Dhauli (Ashoka King Stone Encrypt, Santi Stupa, (Place where Great Kalinga was fought between King Ashoka and Kalinga), Pipili (Appliqué work village) local market & Konark Sun Temple, then visit Chandrabhaga Sea Beach and visit Puri. Overnight at Puri.</p> | Mayfair Heritage B, L, D |
| Day 17 07 Mar 2024 Thursday | PURI | <p>After breakfast, explore around Jagannath Temple then visit Raghurajpur Heritage Village (Painting village for two hours). On the way also enjoy the Chita--paintings on the walls of the houses. Situated amidst groves of coconut, palm, mango and jack fruit, the main village has two streets with over 120 houses, most decorated with mural paintings, where the painters reside and practice their Pattachitra craft, besides many others that practices throughout the village, including traditional masks, stone idols, papier Mache, sculptures, and wooden toys.</p> <p>Later we get back to our hotel</p> | Mayfair Heritage B, L, D |
| Day 18 08 Mar 2024 Friday | PURI CHIILKA Mangalazodi PURI | <p>This morning we drive to explore Chilika Lake: Asia's largest estuarine water lagoon covers an area of 1100 sq Km with combination of salt and fresh water. The lake is separated from the Bay of Bengal by a narrow sandy ridge, called Ramsar Wetland. For it biodiversity, this lake attracts millions migratory bird in winter. It also home to a diverse range of aquatic life, including 225 species of fish and the playful Irrawaddy Dolphin. Boat ride to the Mouth of Chilika Lake: the point where sea meets the lake, visit to Rajhans Island. Later return to Puri.</p> | Mayfair Heritage B, L, D |

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| Day 19 09 Mar 2024 Saturday | PURI Bhubaneswar Kolkata / Hyderabad / Delhi | Later in the morning we will be transferred to airport to connect to Kolkata or international flight from Bhubaneswar. | Hotel Airport B |
| Day 20 10 Mar 2023 Sunday | | Departure Transfer | B |

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