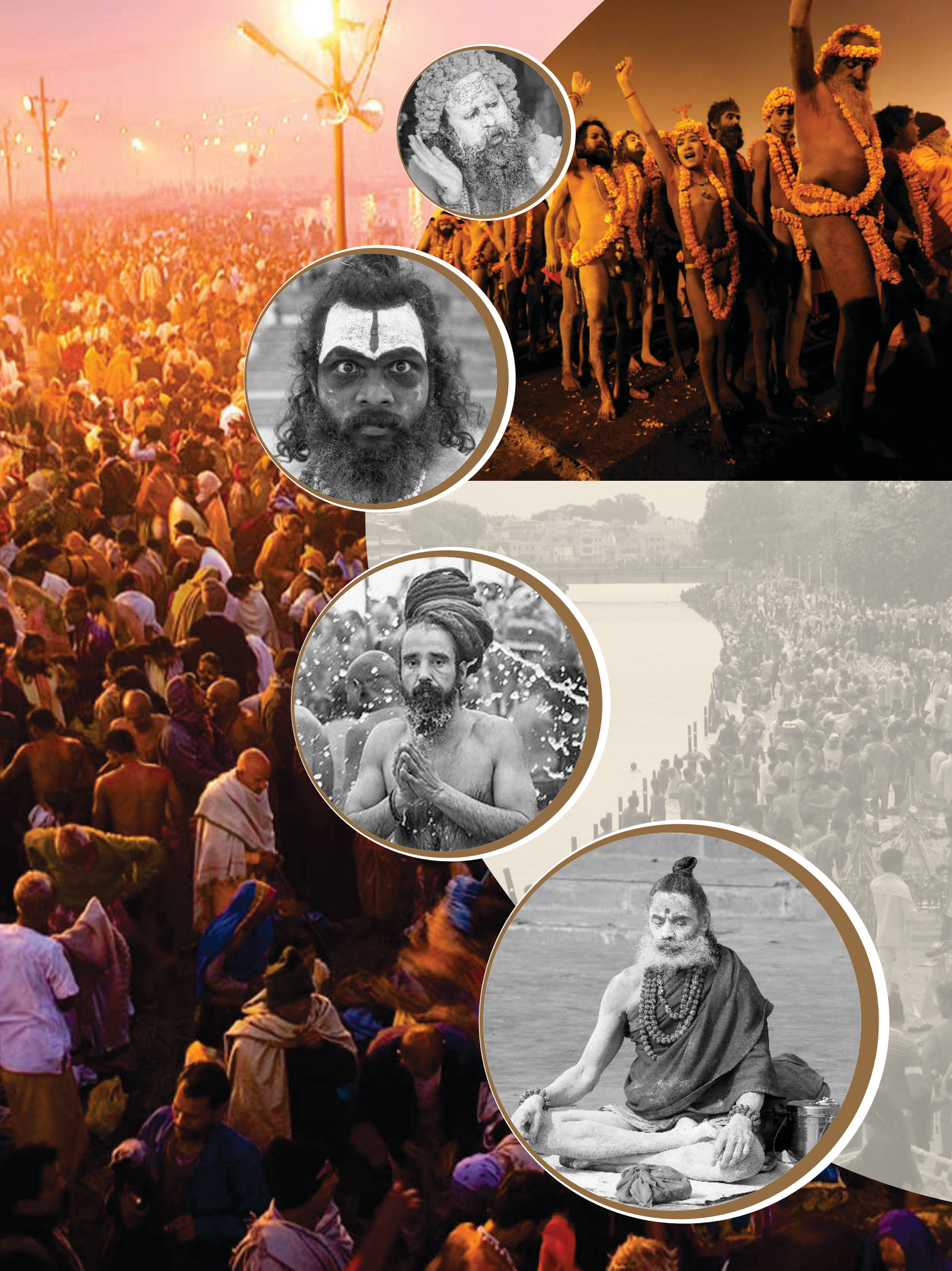


Prayagraj (Allahabad) 2025
Maha Kumbh Mela







Prayagraj (Allahabad) 2025 Maha Kumbh Mela

13 JANUARY - 26 FEBRUARY

There is no better occasion to visit India than during Kumbh Mela which is not only the greatest Indian Festival but is also the largest gathering of people for the spiritual benefit and attracts millions of devotees from all over the world who assemble at Allahabad on the banks of the three holy rivers (Ganga, Yamuna and mythical Saraswati) known as Sangam to gain redemption by washing their sins. A dip in the Sangam at the time of Kumbh Mela is believed to attain moksha from vicious cycle of birth and rebirth.

The festival is once-in-a-lifetime experience for every visitor who is curious about Hindu religion and philosophy. The whole atmosphere during Kumbh Mela is bursting with sounding bells, chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras, procession of Naga Sadhus and other Akhaaras on camels and elephants in their gold and silver chariots being pulled by devotees, as they display their strength and skills is a pure enchantment for the soul.

Kumbh has different significance for different people. It depends on how one wants to perceive it. For those, looking for spirituality, it is a place which is divine with all spiritual gurus around you. For the travellers, it is an experience to come across the largest gathering of like-minded people not only from India but around the world. For photographers, it offers an opportunity to capture images of various moods, attires and faith of people which they cannot find anywhere else. For researchers, it is a project on how an urban settlement can be created in such a short time with existence of urban-religious interface.



PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Prayagraj (Allahabad) is an important city of great religious and historical significance. It was formerly known as Prayag 'Place of sacrifice'. It is believed to be the spot where Lord Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. There is not much known about the ancient history of Prayagraj and it was controlled Mughals in 16th century. The city was named Allahabad or 'City of Gods' by the Mughal Emperor Akbar. In 1765, the British established a garrison at the fort of Allahabad. The city played a significant role during India's struggle for independence. Recently it's name has been changed to Prayagraj.

SANGAM

On the outskirts of Prayagraj is the holy site of Sangam where Kumbh Mela is held. Sangam is a Sanskrit word which means Confluence. It is here, three of the holiest rivers of India - Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati meet according to the Hindu Mythology. Of these three, the river Saraswati is invisible and is said to flow underground and join the other two rivers from below. Here the muddy and pale-yellow waters of the Ganges merge with the blue waters of Yamuna. Many tirtha yattris reach this point by boats to bathe from platforms erected in the Sangam. During the Kumbh Mela, it is believed that all Gods come as humans to take a dip at the Sangam.

It is not only Sadhus for whom Ghats of Sangam become their temporary home, but it gives an opportunity to all visitors who are fascinated by Hindu mythologies and culture, to witness the same in the grandest of fashions and seeing endless millions, pilgrims and Sadhus,



gathered as far as the eyes can see, on the Ghats is an indescribable feeling which happens only at Sangam.

HOW TO REACH PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)

BY AIR

Prayagraj is served by the Prayagraj (Allahabad) Airport (Bamrauli Air Force Base) and is linked to Delhi by direct flight from various Indian cities Mumbai, Delhi, Pune, Bhopal, Bengaluru, Lucknow, Dehradun, Bhubneshwar.

BY RAIL

Prayagraj is the major hub and headquarters of the North Central Railway. It is therefore well connected to major cities in India by trains.

BY ROAD

Prayagraj is connected by Highway NH2 which runs through the middle of the city. Besides There are other National and state highways that link Prayagraj to all other parts of the country.

DISTANCES FROM ALLAHABAD

- VARANASI - 120 KM
- DELHI - 670 KM
- LUCKNOW - 200 KM
- KOLKATA - 750 KM
- KHAJURAHO - 280 KM
- AGRA - 470 KM

CLIMATE

WINTERS (DECEMBER - FEBRUARY)

Prayagraj has the typical humid subtropical climate just like most of cities located in North-central India. The winter season, cool and dry, lasts from December to February (also the season in which the Kumbh Mela will be organized), with average maximum temperature ranging between 25°C to 30°C and average minimum of 5°C to 10°C. Dense fog, especially in the month of January is common. Carry warm clothes with you when traveling to Prayagraj in this season.

CLOTHING

Visitors should respect local codes of dress and behaviour. The Indian subcontinent is conservative, so women should avoid wearing shorts, mini-skirts and bare backed dresses. Pants are acceptable. Women should wear long pants or skirts to the ankles, Punjabi outfits or Saris. No short skirts or shorts are allowed. Women have to be fully clothed when they bathe in the Ganges. They will not be allowed to wear swimsuits. Carry lightweight clothes that can be laundered easily.

During January / February, you will need light woolens, sweaters, a light jacket or wool wrap.

IMPORTANT BATHING DATES

The main ritual performed at that Kumbh Mela is the ritual bath or Shahi Snan on most auspicious days. Hindus believe that submerging themselves in the sacred waters on the most auspicious day of the new moon will absolve them and their ancestors of sin, thus ending the cycle of rebirth. Pilgrims start lining up to bathe from very early morning on this day.

As the sun comes up, the different groups of sadhus move in procession towards the river for a bathe. The Nagas usually lead, while each group tries to outdo the others with more grandeur and fanfare. The moment is magical, and everyone is absorbed in it.

13 JANUARY, 2025: PAUSH PURNIMA

Paush Purnima is the full moon day in the Hindu month of Paush. It is an important bathing date in the famous Prayagraj Magh Mela. Paush Purnima is also celebrated as Shakambari Jayanti. On the occasion of Paush Purnima, thousands of people converge at the temple town of Prayag (Prayagraj) for the holy bath at Sangam – the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and Mythical Saraswati rivers. Heavy rush is witnessed in Hindu temples across India on the day.

14 JANUARY 2025 : MAKAR SANKRANTI (SHAHI SNAN)

According to ancient Indian tradition, Kumbh Mela marks its beginning on Makar Sankranti, the day when the sun and moon enter Capricorn and Jupiter enters Aries which is considered to be particularly auspicious because as per ancient belief, the path from our Earth to other higher planets is open on this day, enabling the soul to attain the heavenly world. On this day at dawn, an immense crowd of millions of pilgrims walk towards the Sangam and there are people chanting and flags and banners flowing all over.

29 JANUARY 2025 : MAUNI AMAVASYA SNAN (SHAHI SNAN)

The Amavasya of Magh Masa is called the Mauni Amavasya. Sun and Moon enter and the Capricorn sign, because of the transit, on this day. This day is celebrated as the birthday of Manu Rishi. It is believed, Lord Brahma gave origination to Maharaja Manu and queen Shatrupa. Hence, this day is considered as the beginning of the universe creation. Capricorn sign has the Yoga of Sun and Moon which increases the significance of this Amavasya. Bathing in Sangam of Prayagraj, gives virtues to an individual, on this day. According to some scholar, Maun Vrat should be observed. Maun (silent) Vrat (Vow) means to control all our senses. It depends on a person for how long he wants to observe silence. People take the resolution of Maun Vrat for a day, or a month, or for one year.



3 FEBRUARY 2025: BASANT PANCHAMI (SHAHI SNAN)

Vasant Panchami marks the beginning of the spring season. The festival of spring is celebrated with full vivacity and joy amongst the Hindu people. In Hindi language, the word “Basant/Vasant” means “spring” and “Panchami” means the fifth day. Vasant Panchami falls on the fifth day of the Indian month, Maagh (January-February). This festival is also known as Saraswati Puja.

12 FEBRUARY 2025: MAGHI PURNIMA SNAN

Magh Purnima or Magha Pournami, also known as Maha Maghi, is one of the auspicious bathing dates for Hindu devotees. Purnima is considered as significant in terms of spiritual practice and performing religious rituals. Samudra Snan or Punya Nadi Snanam (holy dip in holy waters) on MahaMaghi is highly meritorious deed.

26 FEBRUARY 2025: MAHA SHIVRATRI

Maha Shivratri a Hindu festival celebrated annually in honour of the god Shiva. There is a Shivaratri in every luni-solar month of the Hindu calendar, on the month's 13th night/14th day. It is observed by remembering Shiva and chanting prayers, fasting, doing Yoga, and meditating on ethics and virtues such as self-restraint, honesty, non-injury to others, forgiveness, and the discovery of Shiva. This is an important and the last day of Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj in 2025 and after this day, the next Maha Kumbh at Nasik-Trimbakeshwar will happen in 2027.

Mauni Amavasya Special Tour

(6 NIGHTS / 7 DAYS)

DAY 01: 26TH JANUARY 2025: ARRIVAL DELHI

Arrival at Delhi airport. You will be greeted by our representative at the airport and transferred to hotel in chauffeur driven vehicle. Check in at the hotel. Depending on your flight arrival time and interest, you may go for city tour of Old Delhi or New Delhi or a combined tour. Overnight stay.

DAY 02: 27TH JANUARY 2025 : DELHI-PRAYAGRAJ (BY FLIGHT)

Transfer to New Delhi airport to catch flight for Prayagraj. On arrival, meeting and assistance at the airport and transfer to Luxury Camp. Prayagraj was formerly known as Prayag – which means 'Place of sacrifice' in Sanskrit. It is believed to be the spot where Lord Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. The Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj is a confluence of three rivers, the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati of these three, the river Saraswati is invisible and is said to flow underground and join the other two rivers from below. At the confluence of these two great Indian rivers, where the invisible Saraswati conjoins them. It is here that the greatest event on earth takes place known as Kumbh Mela. The festival is once-in-a-lifetime experience for every visitor who is curious about Hindu religion and philosophy. The whole atmosphere during Kumbh Mela is bursting with sounding bells, chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras, procession of Naga Sadhus and other



Akhaaras on camels and elephants in their gold and silver chariots being pulled by devotees, as they display their strength and skills is a pure enchantment for the soul. Later part of day is to experience yourself the spiritual atmosphere of Kumbh Mela. Overnight stay in Camp.

DAY 03: 28TH JANUARY 2025: PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)

Today, you can spend day to live among the Sadhus, who have dedicated their entire lives to meditation and fulfilling spiritual deeds. It is indeed a unique experience of life during Kumbh Mela. There are many Ashrams which are set up for this special occasion where the Sadhus along with disciples stay and have discourses about religion and Hindu philosophy. You may also join them and take advantage of their preaching. You may

take permission to sit inside if you wish to learn what the Sadhus have to say about Hinduism and spiritualism as these saints have a good knowledge of religion. You may also get an opportunity to even interact with them and take pictures of them with their permission. Although they may not talk much, but, if you have patience and are respectful, you may initiate a dialogue and discuss Hindu philosophy and religion with them. The other activities may be taking a dip in holy Ganges at Sangam. Overnight stay in Camp.



**DAY 04: 29TH JANUARY 2025:
PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)
(MAUNI AMAVASYA - MAIN BATHING DATE)**

Today is the day for which pilgrims eagerly wait for years as it is Mauni Amavasya, one of the most auspicious days for Kumbh Mela. Early morning visit Triveni Ghat (Sangam) to witness the holy pilgrims taking bath on the main bathing day known as Mauni Amavasya Snan. The Amavasya of Magh Masa is called the Mauni Amavasya. Sun and Moon enter and the Capricorn sign, because of the transit, on this day. This day is celebrated as the birthday of Manu Rishi. It is believed, Lord Brahma gave origination to Maharaja Manu and queen Shatrupa. Hence, this day is considered as the beginning of the universe creation. Capricorn sign has the Yoga of Sun and Moon which increases the significance of this Amavasya. Bathing in Sangam of Prayagraj, gives virtues to an individual, on this day. According to some scholar, Maun Vrat should be observed. Maun (silent) Vrat means to control all our senses. It depends on a person for how long he wants to observe silence. People take the resolution of Maun Vrat for a day, or a month, or for one year. The whole day is dedicated to indulge in activities in the Fair and after hectic day, return to camp for relax and overnight stay.

**DAY 05: 30TH JANUARY, 2025
PRAYAGRAJ-VARANASI (120 KM, 3 HOURS)**

Morning breakfast at the camp site and then visit the fair

again. After lunch leave for Varanasi. On arrival at Varanasi, check in at the hotel. Varanasi is most important place of pilgrimage for Hindus and the sight of devout praying standing water deep in Ganges.

In the evening visit Dashashwamedh Ghat. Ganga Aarti is performed daily by a group of priests there. It is a great moment that one must not miss. The Aarti in the evening will enchant you with spiritual thoughts and positivity. Overnight stay.

**DAY 06: 31ST JANUARY 2025
VARANASI**

Early Morning, take a boat cruise on the river Ganges to visit Bathing Ghats. See Varanasi come alive along the banks of the river and people bathing in the holy water and worshipping the rising sun. Witness the conclusion of life at the riverbank holy cremation grounds. Then city tour of Varanasi visiting various temples.

In the afternoon, we shall have excursion to Sarnath, a well-known Buddhist site and a popular tourist destination. The place became famous when the Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. It is one of the holiest places in Asia. Return to hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 07: 1ST FEBRUARY 2025

Morning at leisure. Then transfer to Varanasi airport to catch flight for onwards destination.



Basant Panchami Special Tour

(6 NIGHTS / 7 DAYS)

DAY 01: 31ST JANUARY, 2025 ARRIVAL DELHI

Arrival at Delhi airport. You will be greeted by our representative at the airport and transferred to hotel in chauffeur driven vehicle. Check in at the hotel. Depending on your flight arrival time and interest, you may go for city tour of Old Delhi or New Delhi or a combined tour. Overnight stay.

DAY 02: 1ST FEBRUARY, 2025 DELHI- PRAYAGRAJ (BY FLIGHT)

Transfer to New Delhi airport to catch flight for Prayagraj. On arrival, meeting and assistance at the airport and transfer to Luxury Camp. Prayagraj was formerly known as Prayag – which means 'Place of sacrifice' in Sanskrit. It is believed to be the spot where Lord Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. The Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj is a confluence of three rivers, the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati of these three, the river Saraswati is invisible and is said to flow



underground and join the other two rivers from below. At the confluence of these two great Indian rivers, where the invisible Saraswati conjoins them. It is here that the greatest event on earth takes place known as Kumbh Mela. The festival is once-in-a-lifetime experience for every visitor who is curious about Hindu religion and philosophy. The crowd and confusion of buyers and sellers, the native groups in every imaginable costume, and many are half or full naked or wildly clad. The whole atmosphere during Kumbh Mela is bursting with sounding bells, chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras, procession of Naga Sadhus and other Akhaaras on camels and elephants in their gold and silver chariots being pulled by devotees, as they display their strength and skills is a pure enchantment for the soul. Later part of day is to experience yourself the spiritual atmosphere of Kumbh Mela. Overnight stay in Camp.

DAY 03: 2ND FEBRUARY, 2025 PRAYAGRAJ

Today, you can spend day to live among the Sadhus, who have dedicated their entire lives to meditation and fulfilling spiritual deed. It is indeed a unique experience of life during Kumbh Mela. There are many Ashrams which are set up for this special occasion where the Sadhus along with disciples stay and have discourses about religion and Hindu philosophy. You may also join them and take advantage of their preaching. You may take permission to sit inside if you wish to learn what the Sadhus have to say about Hinduism and spiritualism as these saints have a good knowledge of religion. You may also get an opportunity to even interact with them and take pictures of them with their permission. Although they may not talk much, but, if you have patience and are respectful, you may initiate a dialogue and discuss Hindu philosophy and religion with them. The other activities may be taking a dip in holy Ganges at Sangam. Overnight stay in Camp.



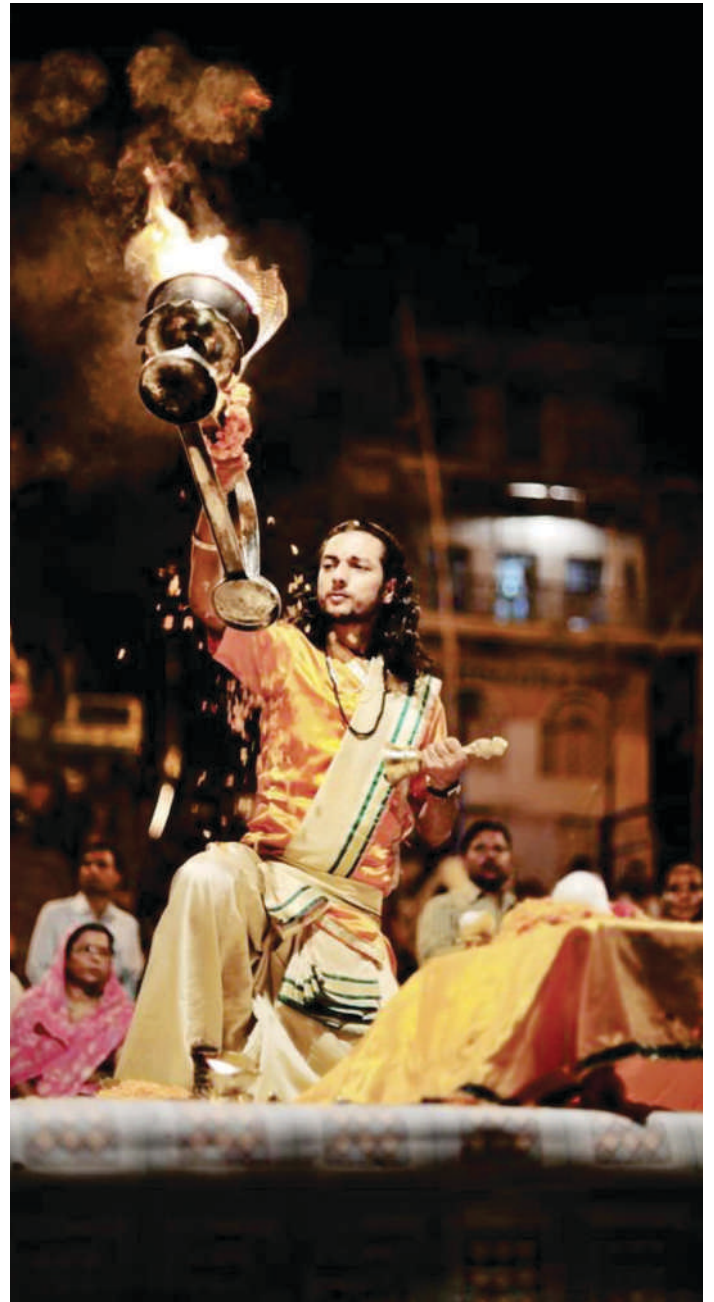
DAY 04: 3RD FEBRUARY, 2025
PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)
(BASANT PANCHAMI - MAIN BATHING DATE)

Today is the one of the most auspicious days for Kumbh Mela. Early morning visit Triveni Ghat (Sangam) to witness the holy pilgrims taking bath on one of the most auspicious days for Shahi Sana known as Basant Panchami. The day of Basant Panchami marks the beginning of the spring season. The festival of spring is celebrated with full vivacity and joy amongst the Hindu people. In Hindi language, the word "Basant/Vasant" means "spring" and "Panchami" means the fifth day. In short, Basant Panchami is celebrated as the fifth day of Spring Season. Vasant Panchami falls on the fifth day of the Indian month, Maagh (January-February). This festival is also known as Saraswati Puja. The whole day is dedicated to indulge in activities in the Fair and after hectic day, return to camp for relax and overnight stay.

DAY 05: 4TH FEBRUARY, 2025
PRAYAGRAJ-VARANASI (120 KM, 3 HOURS)

Morning breakfast at the camp site and then visit the fair again. After lunch leave for Varanasi. On arrival at Varanasi, check in at the hotel. Varanasi is most important place of pilgrimage for Hindus and the sight of devout praying standing water deep in Ganges.

In the evening visit Dashashwamedh Ghat. Ganga Aarti is performed daily by a group of priests there. It is a great moment that one must not miss. The Aarti in the evening will enchant you with spiritual thoughts and positivity. Overnight stay.



DAY 06: 5TH FEBRUARY, 2025
VARANASI

Early morning, take a boat cruise on the river Ganges to visit Bathing Ghats. See Varanasi come alive along the banks of the river and people bathing in the holy water and worshipping the rising sun. Witness the conclusion of life at the riverbank holy cremation grounds. Then go for city tour of Varanasi visiting various temples.

In the afternoon, we shall have excursion to Sarnath, a well-known Buddhist site and a popular tourist destination. The place became famous when the Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. It is one of the holiest places in Asia. Return to hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 07: 6TH FEBRUARY, 2025
DEPARTURE

Morning at leisure. Then transfer to Varanasi airport to catch flight for onwards destination.

Mauni Amavasya & Basant Panchami

Special Tour

(10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS)

DAY 01: 27TH JANUARY 2025

ARRIVAL DELHI

Arrival at Delhi airport. You will be greeted by our representative at the Airport and transferred to hotel in chauffeur driven vehicle. Check in at the hotel. Depending on your flight arrival time and your interest, you may go for city tour of Old Delhi or New Delhi or a combined tour. Overnight stay.

DAY 02: 28TH JANUARY 2025

DELHI - PRAYAGRAJ (BY FLIGHT)

Transfer to New Delhi airport to catch flight for Prayagraj. On arrival, meeting and assistance at the airport and transfer to Luxury Camp. Prayagraj was formerly known as Prayag – which means 'Place of sacrifice' in Sanskrit. It is believed to be the spot where Lord Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. The Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj is a confluence of three rivers, the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati of these three, the river Saraswati is invisible and is said to flow underground and join the other two rivers from below. Here the muddy and pale-yellow waters of the Ganges merge with the blue waters of Yamuna. At the confluence of these two great Indian rivers, where the invisible Saraswati conjoins them. It is here that the greatest event on earth takes place known as Kumbh Mela. The festival is once-in-a-lifetime experience for every visitor who is curious about Hindu religion and philosophy. The whole atmosphere during Kumbh Mela



is bursting with sounding bells, chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras, procession of Naga Sadhus and other Akhaaras on camels and elephants in their gold and silver chariots being pulled by devotees, as they display their strength and skills is a pure enchantment for the soul. Later part of day is to experience yourself the spiritual atmosphere of KumbhMela. Overnight stay in Camp.

DAY 03: 29TH JANUARY, 2025

PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)

(MAUNI AMAVASYA - MAIN BATHING DATE)

Today is one of the most auspicious days for Kumbh Mela. Early morning visit Triveni Ghat (Sangam) to witness the holy pilgrims taking bath on the main bathing day known as Mauni Amavasya Snan. The Amavasya of Magh Masa is called the Mauni Amavasya. Sun and Moon enter in Capricorn sign, because of the transit, on this day. This day is celebrated as the birthday of Manu Rishi. It is believed, Lord Brahma gave origination to Maharaja Manu and queen Shatrupa. Hence, this day is considered as the beginning of the

universe creation. Capricorn sign has the Yoga of Sun and Moon which increases the significance of this Amavasya. Bathing in Sangam of Prayagraj, gives virtues to an individual, on this day. According to some scholar, Maun Vrat should be observed. Maun (silent) Vrat means to control all our senses. It depends on a person for how long he wants to observe silence. People take the resolution of Maun Vrat for a day, or a month, or for one year. The whole day is dedicated to indulge in activities in the Fair and after hectic day, return to camp for relax and overnight stay.



DAY 04-07: 30TH JAN – 2ND FEBRUARY 2025: PRAYAGRAJ

The next few days, you can spend to live among the Sadhus, who have dedicated their entire lives to meditation and fulfilling spiritual deed. It is indeed a unique experience of life during Kumbh Mela. There are many Ashrams which are set up for this special occasion where the Sadhus along with disciples stay and have discourses about religion and Hindu philosophy. You may also join them and take advantage of their preaching. You may take permission to sit inside if you wish to learn what the Sadhus have to say about Hinduism and spiritualism as these saints have a good knowledge of religion. You may also get an opportunity to even interact with them and take pictures of them with their permission. Although they may not talk much, but, if you have patience and are respectful, you may initiate a dialogue and discuss Hindu philosophy and religion with them. The other activities may be taking a dip in holy Ganges at Sangam. Overnight stay in Camp.

DAY 08: 3RD FEBRUARY, 2025 PRAYAGRAJ (BASANT PANCHAMI - MAIN BATHING DATE)

Today is the day for which pilgrims eagerly wait for years as it is Basant Panchami, one of the most auspicious days for Kumbh Mela. Early morning visit Triveni Ghat (Sangam) for one of the most auspicious days for Shahi Snan known as Basant Panchami. The day of Basant Panchami marks the beginning of the spring season. The festival of spring is celebrated with full vivacity and joy amongst the Hindu people. In Hindi language, the word "Basant/Vasant" means "spring" and "Panchami" means the fifth day. In short, Basant Panchami is celebrated as the fifth day of Spring Season. Vasant Panchami falls on the fifth day of the Indian month, Maagh (January-February). This festival is also known as Saraswati Puja. The whole day is dedicated to indulge in activities in the Fair and after hectic day, return to camp for relax and overnight stay.



DAY 9: 4TH FEBRUARY 2025 : PRAYAGRAJ-VARANASI (120 KM, 3 HOURS)

Morning breakfast at the camp site and then visit the fair again. After lunch leave for Varanasi. On arrival at Varanasi, check in at the hotel. Varanasi is most important place of pilgrimage for Hindus and the sight of devout praying standing water deep in Ganges.

In the evening visit Dashashwamedh Ghat. Ganga Aarti is performed daily by a group of priests there. It is a great moment that one must not miss. The Aarti in the evening will enchant you with spiritual thoughts and positivity. Overnight stay.

DAY 10: 5TH FEBRUARY 2025: VARANASI

Early morning, take a boat cruise on the river Ganges to visit Bathing Ghats. See Varanasi come alive along the banks of the river and people bathing in the holy water and worshipping the rising sun. Witness the conclusion of life at the riverbank holy cremation grounds. Then city tour of Varanasi visiting various temples.

In the afternoon, we shall have excursion to Sarnath, a well-known Buddhist site and a popular tourist destination. The place became famous when the Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. It is one of the holiest places in Asia. Return to hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 11: 6TH FEBRUARY 2025: DEPARTURE

Morning at leisure. Then transfer to Varanasi airport to catch flight for onwards destination.



Special Kumbh Mela Tour

(11 NIGHTS / 12 DAYS)

This tour can be combined with a special day of
Shahi Snan during Kumbh Mela

DAY 01: ARRIVAL DELHI

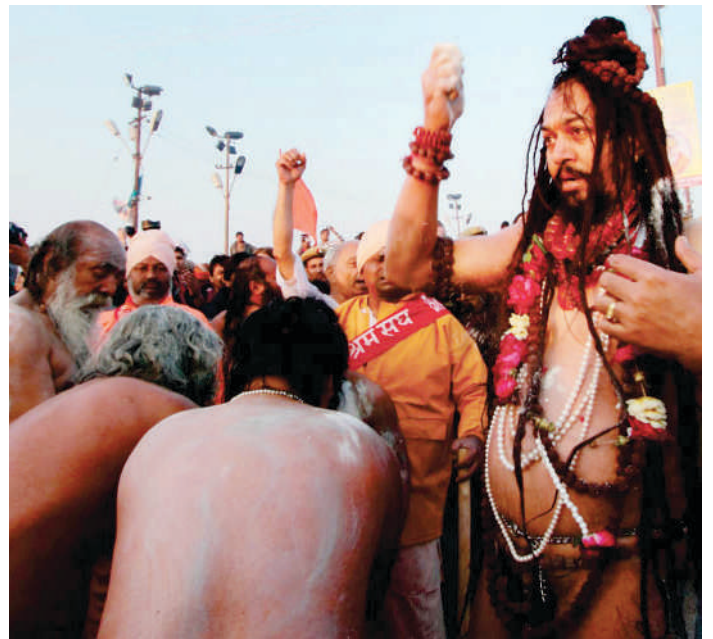
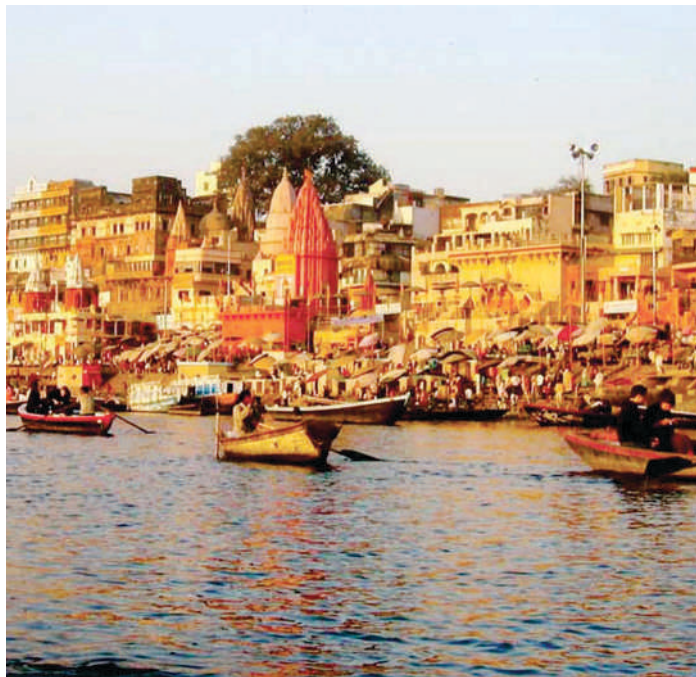
Arrival at Delhi airport. You will be greeted by our representative at the Airport and transferred to hotel and check in at the hotel (at 1200 hours) and start your exploration of India with a city tour of Old Delhi. Our first stop is Jama Masjid, built in 1650, it is one of the largest mosques in Asia. Enjoy rickshaw ride in the narrow lanes and alleys of the ancient bazaar of Chandni Chowk. On your way before returning to hotel we take a tour of the India Gate, Parliament Buildings and President House and finally return to hotel for overnight stay. (This tour is possible only if your flight arrives in the morning).

DAY 2: DELHI - VARANASI

Morning transfer to airport to catch flight for Varanasi. Arrival at Varanasi and transfer to hotel. Varanasi is most important place of pilgrimage for Hindus and the sight of devout praying standing water deep in Ganges. Afternoon, tour of Ganges by boat and experience Aarti ceremony on Ghat there. Return to hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 3: VARANASI

Early morning boat cruise on the river Ganges to visit Bathing Ghats. See Varanasi come alive along the banks of the river and people bathing in the holy water and worshipping the rising sun. Witness the conclusion of life at the riverbank holy cremation grounds. Return to hotel



for breakfast. Later, city tour of Varanasi visiting various temples. Afternoon excursion to Sarnath. It was here that the Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon and set in motion the wheel of law of Buddhist faith. Overnight stay.

DAY 4: VARANASI – PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD) (120 KM, 3 HOURS)

Morning breakfast at the hotel and then leave for Prayagraj. On arrival check-in at Luxury Camp. The Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj is a confluence of three rivers, the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati. Of these three, the river Saraswati is invisible and is said to flow Underground and join the other two rivers from below. The whole atmosphere during Kumbh Mela is bursting with sounding bells, chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras, procession of Naga Sadhus and other Akhaaras on camels and elephants in their gold and silver chariots being pulled by devotees, as they display their strength and skills is a pure enchantment for the soul. Later part of day is to





experience yourself the spiritual atmosphere of Kumbh Mela. Overnight stay in Camp.

DAY 5 & 6: PRAYAGRAJ

The next two days are to witness the greatest Indian Festival which is also one of the largest gathering of people for spiritual benefit in the world and attracts millions of devotees from all over. A large number of Sadhus with their disciples make Prayagraj their home during Kumbh Mela. There are many Ashrams set up for this special occasion where the Sadhus along with disciples stay and have discourses about religion and Hindu philosophy. There may also be an opportunity to even interact with them and take pictures of them with their permission. Take dips in the holy water of Ganges that is said to wash away all the sins of a person. Light a Diya, attend Yoga sessions and make a wish, they do come true! After full day of hustle and bustle, return to Camp for nice and relax in Luxury Camp. Overnight stay.

DAY 7: PRAYAGRAJ – AYODHYA - LUCKNOW (310 KM, 8 HOURS)

Morning leave for Lucknow, enroute visit Ayodhya which is believed to be the birthplace of Lord Rama and the setting of the epic Ramayana. Ayodhya is said to be 9,000 years old and was founded by Manu. Upon arrival, visit Ram Janam Bhoomi, the name given to the site which many Hindus believe to be the birthplace of Rama. We proceed to Lucknow and check in at hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 8: LUCKNOW – AGRA (335 KM, 5 HOURS)

Morning tour of Lucknow which is known for its history, culture and cuisine. The city is home to 'Bara Imambara', a historical edifice with such a marvellous architecture that even modern architects seem to be perplexed by its design. Also visit Jama Masjid. Later we depart for Agra and check in at hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 9: AGRA – JAIPUR (245 KM, 5 HOURS)

Morning city tour of Agra which was once the capital of Mughal India and centre of great power and glory. Visit world famous "Taj Mahal", the monument of love immortalized in marble. While the arch-and-dome profile of clean white marble has become iconic. Then visit Agra Fort, built with red sandstone Agra Fort is a mixture of the Islamic and Hindu styles of architecture.

Later leave for Jaipur. Stop en route and visit Fatehpur Sikri, undoubtedly the best preserved Mughal Palace city of all. Built by Great Akbar around 1570, he used the highest quality craftsman to construct the city only to abandon it some fourteen years later when it is said that the water system failed. Proceed to Jaipur and check in at the hotel. Jaipur city was founded by Maharaja Jai Singh in 1727. Overnight stay.

DAY 10: JAIPUR

Morning start city tour of Jaipur visiting City Palace and its museums. The museum contains a fascinating armoury of Rajput weapons; swords of all shapes and sizes, with chased handles, some of them inlaid, enamelled, encrusted with jewels and encased in bold and magnificent scabbards. Nearby is the ornate Hawa Mahal (Palace of winds) which is five stories high and is decorated with delicate screens. Also visit Jantar Mantar, magnificent stone observatory built in 1728. Overnight stay.

DAY 11: JAIPUR – DELHI (260 KM, 5 HOURS)

In the morning, we go for excursion to Amer Fort which is perched on a hill. The architecture of the fort is a unique blend of Rajput and Hindu style. It is a thrilling climb to the fort as its done sitting on an elephant's back. The Fort is known for cobbled pathways with enormous fortification. There are beautiful buildings inside the fort including Sheesh Mahal (palace of glass), Jai Mandir and Sukh Niwas. Later, we proceed to Delhi and upon arrival check in at hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 12: DEPARTURE

Morning transfer to Delhi airport to catch flight for onwards destination.



Prayagraj Kumbh Mela Tour

(3 NIGHTS / 4 DAYS)

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)

Arrival at Prayagraj. On arrival transfer to tented accommodation. Prayagraj was formerly known as Prayag – which means 'Place of sacrifice' in Sanskrit. It is believed to be the spot where Lord Brahma offered his first sacrifice after creating the world. The Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj is a confluence of three rivers, the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati of these three, the river Saraswati is invisible and is said to flow underground and join the other two rivers from below. Here the muddy and pale-yellow waters of the Ganges merge with the blue waters of Yamuna. At the confluence of these two great Indian rivers, where the invisible Saraswati conjoins them. It is here that the greatest event on earth takes place known as Kumbh Mela. The festival is once-in-a-lifetime experience for every visitor who is curious about Hindu religion and philosophy. The crowd and confusion of buyers and sellers, the native groups in every imaginable costume, and many are half or full naked or wildly clad. The whole atmosphere during Kumbh Mela is bursting with sounding bells, chanting of Vedic hymns and mantras, procession of Naga Sadhus and other Akhaaras on camels and elephants in their gold and silver chariots being pulled by devotees, as they display their strength and skills is a

pure enchantment for the soul. Later part of day is to experience yourself the spiritual atmosphere of Kumbh Mela. Overnight stay in Camp.

DAY 2 & 3: PRAYAGRAJ (ALLAHABAD)

These days are to witness the greatest Indian Festival which is also one of the largest gathering of people for spiritual benefit in the world and attracts millions of devotees from all over. A large number of Sadhus with their disciples make Prayagraj their home during Kumbh Mela. To live among the Sadhus, who have dedicated their entire lives to meditation and fulfilling spiritual deeds is indeed a unique experience of life. There are many Ashrams set up for this special occasion where the Sadhus along with disciples stay and have discourses about religion and Hindu philosophy. You may also join them and take advantage of their preaching of divine path of Moksha. There may also be an opportunity to even interact with them and take pictures of them with their permission.

If you go by the Hindu mythologies, then this is the only time and place in the world where you can unburden your sins and achieve 'Nirvana' from the vicious cycle of birth and re birth. Take dips in the holy water of Ganges that is said to wash away all the sins of a person. Light a Diya, attend Yoga sessions and make a wish, they do come true! After full day of hustle and bustle, return to Camp for overnight stay.

DAY 4: DEPARTURE

You will be transferred to Prayagraj airport or railway station or any other place in Prayagraj.



Accommodation in Luxury Camp

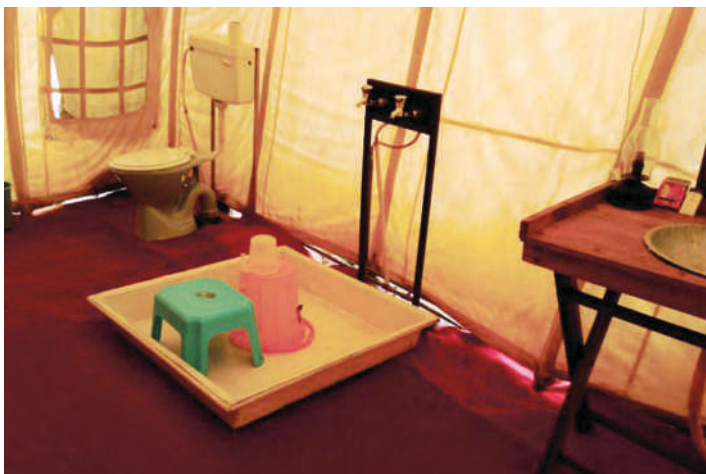


THE LUXURY CAMP

In every Kumbh Mela, we accommodate visitors from across the world in a very comfortable way, with hygienic food in luxury camp. These are equipped with all modern amenities, attached bathroom with hot & cold water and housekeeping services for their comfort.

CAMP FACILITIES

- Attached toilet facility with amenities
- Accommodations with Quality Linens
- Running Water in Toilets with Toiletries
- Multi cuisine Dining Hall
- Guest services (24 hours)





"It is wonderful, the power of a faith, that can make multitudes of the old and weak and the young and frail enter without hesitation or complaint upon such incredible journeys and endure the resultant miseries without repining. It is done in love, or it is done in fear; I do not know which it is. No matter what the impulse is, the act born of it is beyond imagination, marvelous to our kind of people, the cold whites"

- Mark Twain

a famous American writer
after visiting Kumbh Mela in 1895



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