

Introduction

A warm 'Namaste' to you on the Hop-on Hop-off Delhi sightseeing tour!

We hope you have a wonderful time. Delhi, a megapolis of more than 20 million residents, is one of the world's oldest inhabited cities. It's a place where the antique past frequently jostles with the modern present. For instance a 12th century mosque sits serenely next to luxury boutiques and an upscale restaurant; the towering 13th century Qutub Minar observes the gleaming new metro speed past; and the grand 17th century Red Fort casts a wry smile as your modern bus slowly inches its way through the narrow, crowded streets of Old Delhi. You will find that there isn't any other place quite like Delhi. Enjoy your tour!

1 HOHO Centre Our starting point for the tour. Download your **FREE Mobile Audio Guide** tour here, or in the bus.

2 Gurudwara Bangla Sahib A serene place of worship of the Sikhs, a religion that was born in the 15th century. You'll need to deposit your shoes at a counter before you enter. The main hall with its gilded pillars and large chandelier, known as 'Durbar Sahib'. The Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth is kept on a golden throne standing on a platform covered with stunning gilded inlay work on marble. In the Gurudwara, you'll also find a unique institution - the langar or free kitchen where volunteers serve simple, hot vegetarian food to rows of seated devotees and anyone else who wishes to partake of the meal.

3 National Philatelic / Metro Museum The National Philatelic Museum has an extensive stamp collection including the first stamp issued in India. In addition, stamps depicting India's culture, heritage, eminent personalities

15 Humayun's Tomb Built in the memory of the second Mughal emperor, Humayun, this magnificent tomb, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the precursor to the Taj Mahal. A grand, beautifully proportioned sandstone and marble structure lies in the centre of a lush green char-bagh garden. Apart from the main tomb, the complex has many other interesting monuments - such as the tomb of Isa Khan Niyazi (an enemy of Humayun's), the Bu Halima's Gate and Arab Sarai Gate and the tomb of Humayun's barber! But more interesting than all of these is the fascinating story of Emperor Humayun - usually regarded as the unluckiest Mughal Emperor. But was he? Find out in the **CaptivaTour FREE mobile audio guide app** by downloading the Humayun's Tomb tour.

16 Purana Qila Did we mention Delhi has a lot of old ruins? - well this is so old, they just called it Purana Qila, or Old Fort. While the main fort was built in the 16th century, this was a site of ancient habitation as pottery dated to 1000 BCE was found here! This is thought to be the site of the legendary city of Indraprastha. There are some interesting monuments inside - including the Qila-e-Kuhna mosque built by Sher Shah Suri and the octagonal Sher Mandal building, a library and observatory.

17 Science Museum The National Science Centre is Delhi's premier children's science museum. It has exhibits across areas such as -Water, Nuclear power, Human biology, pre-historic life etc. Multimedia presentations and films on science and lectures are organised once in a while.

The imposing Red Fort exudes a regal aura - after all it was built as the capital of Mughal Delhi by Emperor Shah Jahan (who also built the Taj Mahal). The Red Fort is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Inside you'll see the pioneering Chhatra Chowk Bazaar, the striking pillared Divan-e-Aam Hall and many other structures,

18 Red Fort



and famous institutions are displayed. Recommended for stamp-enthusiasts! **Metro Museum:** In a short period of time, the Delhi metro has become the city's lifeline. This museum (the only one in the world inside an operating metro station) chronicles the Metro's story and key landmarks. You can also buy souvenirs here.

4 India Gate



India Gate, designed by Edwin Lutyens, the chief architect of New Delhi is Delhi's most iconic (and photographed) monument! Originally called the All India War Memorial, it was built in 1931 in memory of the 82,000 Indian soldiers who died fighting for the Allies in World War 1 and for the British in the Third Anglo-Afghan War. Just beneath the soaring archway, is the 'Amar Jawan Jyoti' - a simple structure consisting of a plinth, with a rifle and a helmet on top. It is a tribute to the 'Immortal Soldier' that was installed after the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971.

5 National Gallery of Modern Art The National Gallery of Modern Art (or NGMA) is one of the world's largest modern art museums, housing artworks from the 1850s onwards. (For the uninitiated, 'modern art' refers to work produced from the 1860s to the 1970s). It has around 17,000 works including of famous artists like Rabindranath Tagore, Raja Ravi Varma, Amrita Sher-Gil, Rashtrapati Bhavan, a staggering 340-room mansion located on a sprawling 320-acre estate is the official residence of the President of India. It was originally built by the British (designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens) for the British Viceroy - which is why it was built like a palace. You can explore 3 different circuits - (1) The Main building & Central lawn (2) Museum Complex (3) Gardens. For tourist interested in visiting Rashtrapati Bhavan, prior online booking can be made on the link - <http://rashtrapatisachivalaya.gov.in/tbtour/>

6 Rashtrapati Bhavan



each with fascinating stories. The Red Fort was an ultra-luxury palace complex, and the residence of one of the richest persons on the planet. Those riches are long gone, but the Red Fort still holds something precious within its now-bare walls - the many fascinating stories of the people who once lived here. The story of the Red Fort is of a monument which had a tumultuous past - that saw dizzying heights of power followed by a steep fall from grace and terrible tragedy. But does it finally get its redemption...? You can find out in the **CaptivaTour FREE mobile audio guide app** by downloading the Red Fort tour.

19 Raj Ghat Mahatma Gandhi needs no introduction - he was the leader who led India's struggle for independence from the British using the pioneering non-violent Satyagraha approach. Raj Ghat is a simple but elegant memorial to Mahatma Gandhi - In an open yard a perpetual flame burns in a glass case.

20 CCI The Central Cottage Industries Emporium at Janpath is a government-run showroom for Indian arts and crafts. It offers an authentic collection of objects - clothing, accessories including jewellery, decorative articles in wood, metal and stone, accessories, home decor items, and various gift article options. If you couldn't do your shopping at Dilli Haat (or you did, but would love to do more!), CCI should be your next halt. Enjoy your shopping!

21 Jantar Mantar An interesting 18th-century observatory built by the visionary ruler of Jaipur state, Sawai Jai Singh II, this Jantar Mantar is a smaller version of the one he built in Jaipur city. The strange looking stone-structures all had specific observational uses - though most of the study was done to update the astrological tables.

7 Indira Gandhi Memorial Indira Gandhi was India's first female Prime Minister who had three eventful, if controversial stints at office. She was unfortunately assassinated in 1984 - her memorial points the exact spot where she was gunned down. It also has rare photographs from her life.

8 Nehru Museum Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was India's first Prime Minister and a towering figure on the world stage. This building, known as Teen Murti Bhavan was his residence, was converted into a museum and library after his death in 1964. Some of the rooms, such as the bedroom, the drawing room and the study have been preserved as they were at the time of Nehru's death. It has several exhibits (speeches, newspaper clippings, photographs etc.) from Nehru's life and India's independence movement.

9 Embassy Lane Designed as a wide avenue surrounded by lush green landscaped lawns, this is the heart of the Diplomatic Area in Delhi and houses the embassies of many countries. If you are a foreign tourist, try and see if you can spot your country's embassy!

10 Rail Museum The British introduced railways in India in the 1850s, starting a lifelong love affair between Indians and their trains. The National Rail Museum offers a window into this 160-year-old relationship. Exhibits include: a toy train which would delight children (and the child in us!), locomotives and coaches from various eras (including those that belonged to Indian royalty) and miniature trains - in short, if you are into trains, this place is a paradise!

11 Dilli Haat If you are finding shopping for traditional Indian arts, crafts and textiles stressful... Dilli Haat is your solution. Jointly established by multiple Indian government departments working in tandem (itself a miracle!), it is the premier place in the city for ethnic shopping. Like a traditional Indian bazaar, Dilli Haat is an open air market, with a multitude of stalls given out to the original craftsmen (instead of retailers and middlemen), which means that prices are affordable. You will find a variety of colourful and eye-catching options in apparel, home furnishings, decorative

items, souvenirs etc. At the back of the market there's an open-air Food Court with stalls from different states of India. It's a great place to try out the incredible diversity of cuisines in India!

12 Hauz Khas In the midst of a posh residential neighbourhood with three-storeyed bungalows is the Hauz Khas Village, a village-settlement around the medieval Hauz Khas (a 14th century water tank that has a tomb and Islamic seminary near it). It has become an unlikely hub for high-end restaurants, bars, and coffee shops, posh boutiques and arty establishments.

13 Qutub Minar



This iconic 72.5 metre structure, built in the early 13th century is Delhi's most famous mascot. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is located in Mehrauli, the first of Delhi's many 'cities'. Apart from the beautifully carved tower, there are many other striking monuments in the complex: you can see a mosque that looks like a temple, a 1700-year old iron pillar that hasn't rusted, and see examples of the evolution of architecture in India all at one place. Make sure you download the **FREE mobile app audio guide - CaptivaTour** - and the Qutub Minar tour within, before you start exploring the complex!

This temple, built by adherents of the Bahai faith in 1986, is perhaps the most stunning of their many striking places of worship worldwide. From a central water pool, the temple rises in the shape of a lotus with twenty-seven marble-clad 'petals'. Spend some time in quiet reflection in the serene main temple building.

14 Lotus Temple



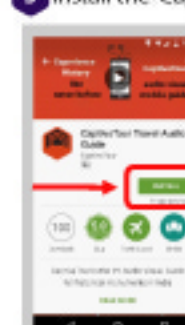
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