



Buddham Sharanam Gachami' The various destinations covered in this package take you to the world-renowned holy sites that have held significance in Buddha's life like Lumbini, Kapilavastu, Bodhgaya, Sarnath, Kushinagar, Patna, Rajgir and Vaisali. All the sacred sites have been associated with Lord Buddha right from his birth to the rise of Buddhism in India.

**Day 01 : Arrive Delhi**

Upon arrival in Delhi, meet and assist and then transfer to your hotel. Rest of the day free at leisure. O/N in hotel.

**Day 02 : Sightseeing tour in Delhi**

After breakfast, proceed for full day sightseeing tour of both old and new Delhi. O/N in hotel.

**Day 03 : Fly to Lucknow and drive to Saravasti (134 kms/03 hrs)**

After breakfast, transfer to domestic airport to board flight for Lucknow. Upon arrival, meet and assist and then drive to Saravasti. Saravasti was one of the six great cities of India in the days of the Buddha. It has the distinction of being a place where the Buddha preached most of his sermons. Here he is said to have performed many miracles, and levitated. During the monsoon, he used to stay at the Jetavana monastery on the outskirts of this town. The monastery was donated to him by Sudatta, the richest merchant at the time. Ashoka visited the place in the 3rd century a.d. and issued an inscription to commemorate the event. Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 04 : Saravasti – Lumbini (123 kms/04 hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Lumbini (Nepal), after doing all the entry formalities enter Lumbini. Lumbini is the place where the Buddha, known as the Tathagata\* was born. The birthplace of the Gautama Buddha, Lumbini, is the Mecca of every Buddhist, being one of the four holy places of Buddhism. It is said in the Parinibbana Sutta that Buddha himself identified four places of future pilgrimage: the sites of his birth, enlightenment, first discourse, and death. All of these events happened outside in nature under trees. Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 05 : Lumbini – Kushinagar (146 kms/05 hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Kushinagar crossing into Indian border. Kushinagar or Kushinara of Yore is the place where the Lord Buddha died, at the age of 80 and was cremated and achieved the state of Parinirvana. Kushinagar is situated about 55 kms. away from Gorakhpur and a revered place for Buddhist

pilgrims. In ancient times, Kushinagar was known as Kushinara and was a small town of not great significance in the Malla kingdom. The main tourist attraction in Kushinagar is the Mahaparinirvana temple, containing the reclining statue of Lord Buddha. Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 06 : Kushinagar – Patna (253 kms/06 hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Patna enroute visit Vaishali. Vaishali, the birthplace of Lord Vardhman Mahavira, last Tirthankar of Jainism, is equally sacred for the Buddhists. Lord Buddha gave his last preaching in this city and announced his Mahaprayan. In tribute to Buddha, king Ashoka erected a pillar (Famous lion pillar) here. 100 years after the death of Lord Buddha, the second great Buddhist council was held here. Two stupas were made in remembrance of the event. Today Vaishali is a small town and is surrounded by mango and banana groves. Upon arrival in Patna, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 07 : Patna – Rajgir (108 kms/02 hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Rajgir. Rajgir, "House of the King", is an important religious place for Hindus, Buddhists and Jains. This ancient town has reference in Mahabharata, Buddhist and Jain texts. Lord Buddha lived here in the sixth century BC while Vardhman Mahavir spent 14 years here. It was in Rajgir that Lord Buddha delivered some of his famous sermons. Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 08 : Rajgir – Bodhgaya (70 kms/01 hour)**

After breakfast, drive to Bodhgaya. Bodhgaya is a small town in the state of Bihar and is one of the most venerated of the Buddhist sites in India. It is the place where Buddha attained spiritual enlightenment while he was meditating under the Bodhi tree. That particular tree later on came to be known as the Mahabodhi tree. Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 09 : Sightseeing tour of Bodhgaya**

After breakfast, proceed for sightseeing tour of the town. O/N in hotel.

**Day 10 : Bodhgaya – Varanasi (242 kms/06 hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Varanasi. Known by many as the city of Lord Shiva, Varanasi is a very holy and religious Hindu Indian city, with much to offer is steady stream of pilgrims and tourists. Much of its undeniable and quite unique character is provided by the River Ganges (Ganga), which winds its way through Varanasi and its lined with places of interest. Upon arrival, check in at your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 11 : Day tour of Sarnath**

After breakfast, proceed for full day tour of Sarnath. Sarnath, about 10 km from the holy city of Varanasi, is the place where Buddha chose to deliver his first sermon. The celebrated Mantra, 'Buddham Sharanam Gachhami', owes its origin to Sarnath. On the day before his death Buddha included Sarnath along with Lumbini, Bodh Gaya and Kushinagar as the four places he thought to be sacred to his followers. It makes Sarnath one of the most venerated Buddhist places. Besides Buddhism, Sarnath is also connected with Jainism. O/N in hotel.

**Day 12 : Fly back to Delhi**

After breakfast, transfer to airport to board your flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, meet and assist and then transfer to your hotel. O/N in hotel.

**Day 13 : Final departure**

Final departure transfer to airport to board flight for home.

**COST PER PERSON**

<b>BASIS</b>	
02 PAX	USD 1275 PP
03 PAX	USD 1205 PP
04/06 PAX	USD 1165 PP
SGL ROOM SUPPL.	USD 495

The cost includes:

- Accommodation on BB basis except in Sarvasti, Kushinagar and Bodhgaya which will be on half board basis.
- Meeting and assistance.
- Arrival/Departure transfers.
- Necessary sightseeing tours inclusive of entrance fees with local English speaking guide.
- A/C vehicle with driver throughout.
- Service tax.

The cost excludes:

- Airfare and taxes.
- Any kind of insurance claims.
- Expenses of personal nature and so on.
- Tips, telephone, laundry etc.

<b>HOTELS USED</b>	
Delhi	Godwin Deluxe
Saravasti	Lotus Nikko
Lumbini	Lumbini Hokke
Kushinagar	Lotus Nikko
Patna	Hotel Chanakya
Rajgir	Indo Hokke
Bodhgaya	Lotus Nikko
Varanasi	Ganges View

**(During the time of booking, if any of the above hotels is waitlisted/sold out, alternate hotels will be provided which will be at par)**