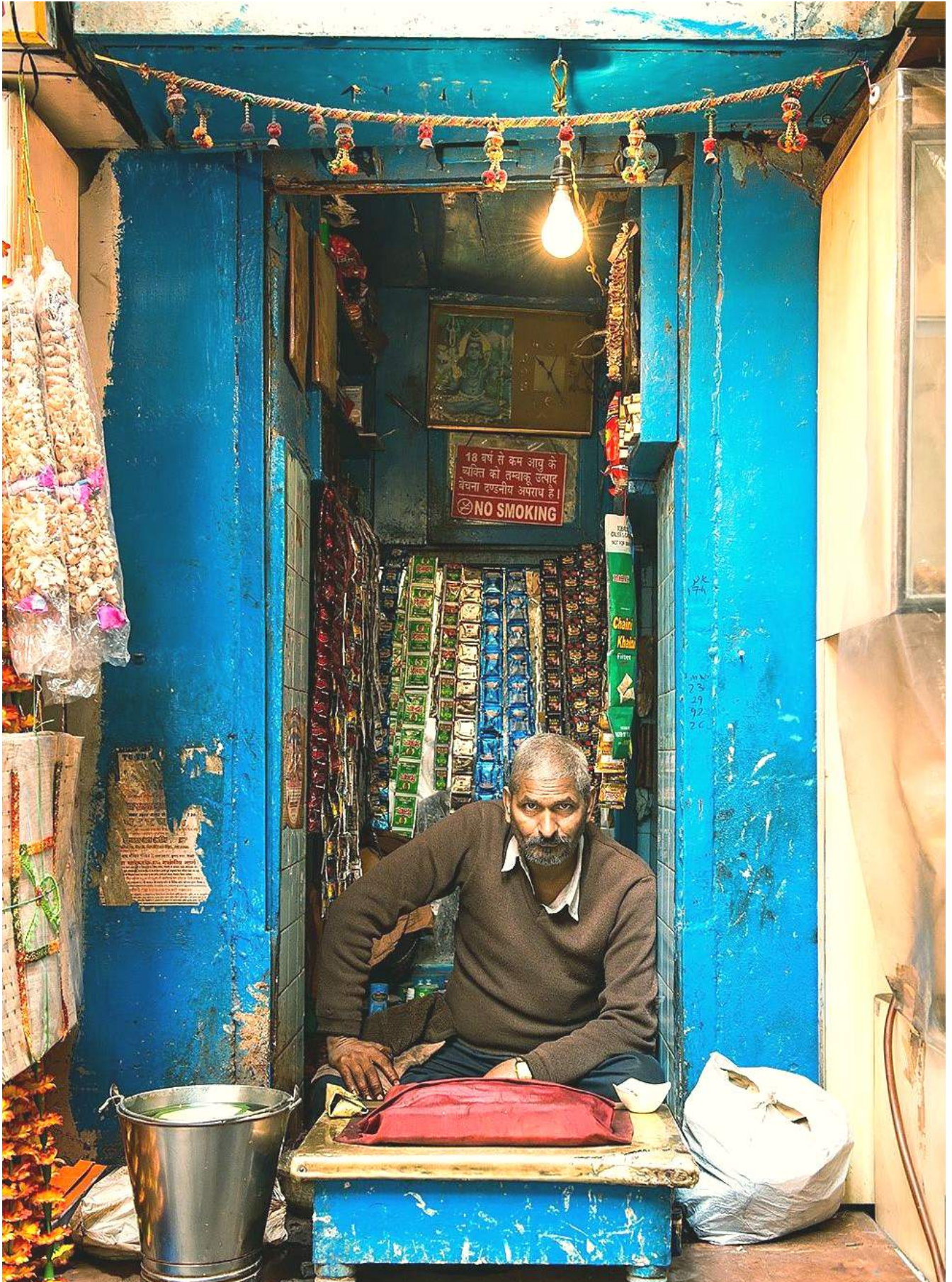


IN - ROUTE

A COLLECTION OF EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES

THE
CULTURAL
EDITION



INDIA + NEPAL + **BHUTAN** + SRI LANKA



FEATURED STORY

KUMBH 2019

THE WORLD'S LARGEST HUMAN
GATHERING



**TRAVELLING - IT OFFERS
YOU A HUNDRED ROADS
TO ADVENTURE, AND
GIVES YOUR HEART
WINGS!**



IBN BATTUTA

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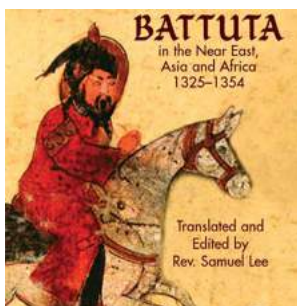
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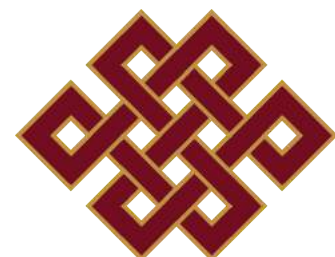
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A MYSTERIOUS LAND



The Kingdom of Bhutan - a small Himalayan country located in the east of Nepal, nestled between Tibet and India. Bhutan is also known as the “**Happiest**” country in the world. Upon your arrival, the country welcomes you with affectionate people, **monasteries** and **stupas** scattered across the enchanting countryside. You will experience Bhutan's very special architecture in the **dzongs**, which are fort - monasteries that were built in the 14th century and after, without the use of drawings or nails. Bhutan is a dream come true for organizations looking for a unique and exciting destination to reward their star performers. The hidden **treasures** of this Himalayan kingdom promise to enthrall and delight travellers to Bhutan.

Discover the true meaning of bliss in interactions with monks in monasteries. Understand the significance of ‘**Gross National Happiness**’, a development index unique to the country. Meet the royal family of Bhutan for a glimpse into customs and culture. Trek to surreal monasteries atop steep cliffs overlooking verdant **valleys**. With its unsurpassed scenery and unique blend of **culture**, Bhutan provides the perfect backdrop for your group arrangements.



A TIGER'S NEST IN THE WORLD'S HAPPIEST COUNTRY

SIMPLY AMAZING & BREATHTAKING

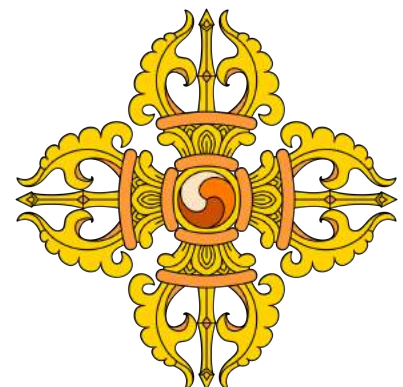


THE CLIMB TO THE TIGER'S NEST IS STEEP, BUT THE VIEW OF THE PARO VALLEY IN BHUTAN FROM THIS MONASTERY SITUATED 3,000 FEET ABOVE IS WORTH THE STRENUOUS HIKE.

The Tiger's Monastery, or the Taktsang Monastery, is said to be the holiest site in the land of the Thunder Dragon.

According to legends, this is the place where Guru Rinpoche, also known as Padmasambhava, came more than a thousand years ago, on the back of a flying tigress, to find refuge in the caves here. He meditated for three years and then embarked on a journey to convert the Bhutanese to Buddhism.

The monastery was built nine centuries later in the 1600s to commemorate this auspicious beginning. After he died later in Nepal, his body is believed to have been miraculously returned to the monastery.



TRADITIONAL HOT STONE BATH



A JOURNEY OF

Extraordinary Experience

REJUVENATION IN BHUTAN

In the past, families would soak themselves in a hot bath after their seasonal farm work during the harsh winters. The long, healing bath relaxed their tired bodies and soul, and always helped them get rid of any physical ailment they were affected with during months of toiling on fields. Families would participate in this tradition for weeks, following it up by eating rich and nutritious food. They believed that this made their bodies more receptive to the medicinal powers of the water. Many families would even get an astrologer to pick the most auspicious day, so the bath would have the maximum impact.

There are few things in life that promise as much serenity and satisfaction as a luxurious hot bath. The happiest country of the world, Bhutan, lives by this philosophy, and its hot bath also claims to cleanse a person of no less than 80 skin ailments.



THE EXPERIENCE PERIYAR

Periyar Tiger Reserve

Visit the farmlands of a village hidden in the valley behind the mountains of Periyar Tiger Reserve in a bullock cart.

The village is rich in bird diversity (New explorations for a serious bird watcher, also wonderful beginning for a novice)



BULLOCK CART DISCOVERIES

With vineyards, diverse agricultural crops of mangoes, tamarind, onions, sunflower, jasmine and a score of other vegetables, the village will take your breath away when the guides start to interpret how farming has woven delicately with the culture and the life of the natives.

To feel the slow pace of the village life, to be part of the innocence, to take away you between cock and stick fights, to quench the thirst with the nectar from tender coconuts.

Conducted by a group of people who were engaged in sandalwood smuggling, later surrendered before the Forest Department. The profit from this program goes to rehabilitate this group of people.

The program starts at 6 am in the morning and at 2.30 pm in the afternoon and is a half -day package.

THE EVENT TIHAR FESTIVAL

/ 9



Tihar is a religious Nepali festival which is celebrated for five days in November

On the five days of Tihar, the following traditions are commonly practiced in Nepal:

Day Three: In the morning of day three, cows are worshipped. They are considered to be the symbols of prosperity and so wreaths and tika are placed upon them. In the evening of the third day, the Hindu goddess of wealth is worshipped by lighting up oil lamps in doorways and windows of homes. Music, singing, and dancing are also done door-to-door in exchange for tips. Those tipped spend the night celebrating their new-found wealth.



Day One: On this day, crows and ravens are worshiped and fed sweet foods and delicacies which are left for them to find on Hindu roof tops. The cawing of the gathering crows is a symbol of sadness to Hindus, and feeding the crows is considered to prevent various calamities.

Day Two: Day two is the day of the dogs. Dogs are thought to be messengers of the god of death and are worshipped on this day every year. You will see dogs wearing wreaths, and bearing red or white dots ("tika") on their foreheads.





Day Four: On the fourth day, oxen are worshipped in much the same way as the cows and dogs. Some, though not all Hindus, worship toward Goverdhan mountain on this day and make a “mini-mountain” of cow dung to represent it. Wasting nothing, even dung has a productive use in Nepal.

Day Five: The final day of Tihar has sisters putting tika on their brothers' foreheads to secure for them a long and happy life. This tradition is based on the story of a Hindu goddess who did the same to her brother. At special ceremonies, sisters encircle brothers and put seven-coloured tika on their foreheads, and gifts are also exchanged.

THE STAY

CONRAD BENGALURU

Conrad Bengaluru is now open soaring 24 stories above Bengaluru's Central Business District. It offers 285 guest rooms and suites with picturesque views of the Ulsoor Lake. The hotel meeting and event spaces are among the largest and most elegant in the city. Five eclectic dining options, the signature Conrad Spa, and infinity pool are now open for inspiring and impressive stays, on business and leisure.

Floor-to-ceiling windows in spacious guest rooms and suites offer panoramic views of the city and the lake. These contemporary accommodations comprise a range of amenities, featuring a 42-inch HDTV, plush sofa seating by the window, an artistic jewellery box, a marble bathroom with a soaking tub, walk-in rain shower, bathrobes, and premium bath amenities. WiFi access, multiple power connections, and plenty of storage space are ideal for long-staying business guests and families on vacation.

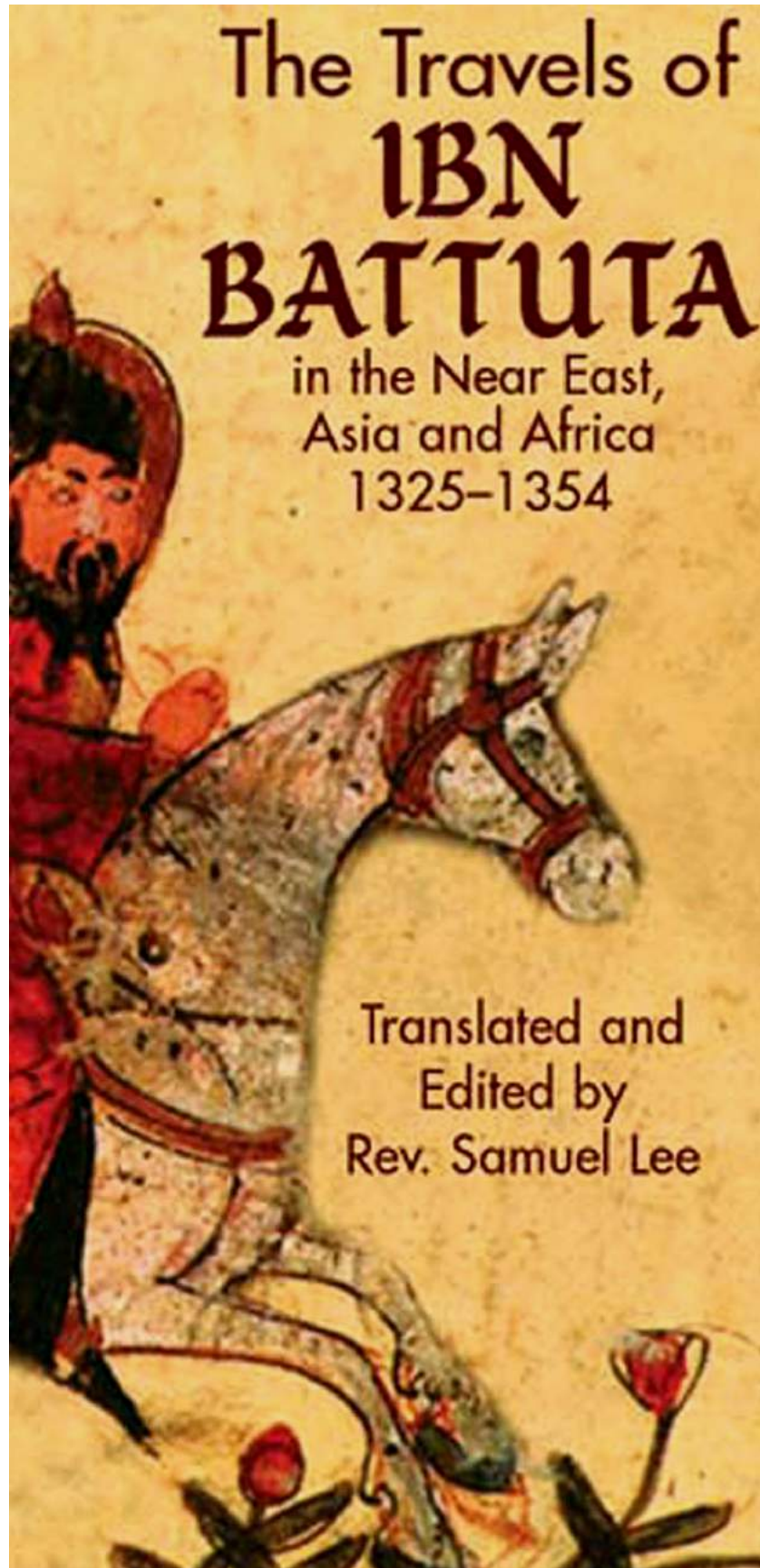


THE BOOK

THE TRAVELS OF IBN BATTUTA

In the Near East, Asia and Africa, 1325-1354

The Arab equivalent of Marco Polo, Sheikh Ibn Battuta (1304-77) set out as a young man on a pilgrimage to Mecca that ended 27 years and 75,000 miles later. The only medieval traveller known to have visited the lands of every Muslim ruler of his time, Ibn Battuta was born into a family of highly respected religious judges and educated as a theologian. Leaving his native city of Tangier in 1326, he travelled – over the next several years – to East Africa, Byzantium, Iraq, southern Russia, India, Ceylon, and China. His account of the journey, dictated on his return, not only provides vivid accounts of an odyssey that took him to exotic lands, but also describes in great detail Muslim maritime activities in the Middle and the Far East, fascinating elements of foreign architecture, and agricultural activities of diverse cultures. A rare and important work covering the geography and history of the medieval Arab world, this primary sourcebook will be welcomed by students and scholars for its inherent historical value.



FEATURED STORY



THE WORLD'S LARGEST RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL

THE CULTURAL CONFLUENCE
AWAITS YOU

The Kumbh is a gathering which happens after every 6 years. It is an opportunity for travellers to get a glimpse into spiritual liberation. This journey not only takes to the most sacred festival of the Hindus but also give them a taste of the varied flavours of the country across some of the hubs of spirituality in India.

The Kumbh Mela is a phenomenon that is a part of the cultural ethos of India since time immemorial. The festival goes much deeper than the visual flares and unless one looks deep into it the true significance of the Kumbh cannot be realised. The Mela, as it is called, is held every three years. The locations change hands between four holy places in India.

The literal translation of 'Kumbh' is nectar. Legend has it that mela goes back to a time when the gods used to reside on earth, and were weakened by a sage's curse, causing the demons to cause havoc in the world.

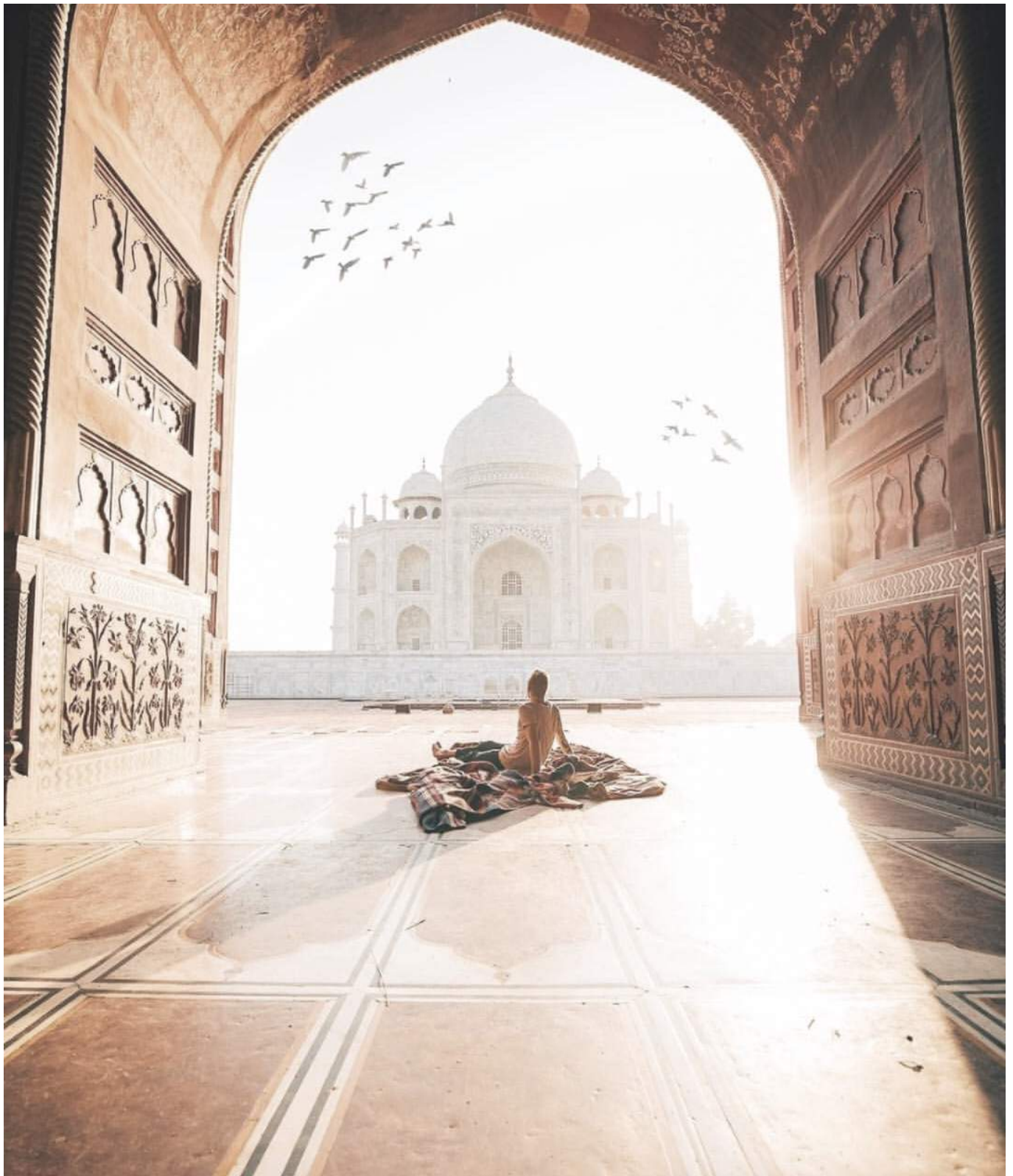
That is when Lord Brahma, also known as the creator god in Hinduism, advised them to churn out the nectar of immortality with the help of the demons. When the demons to know of the plan, they chased the gods for 12 days to get hold of the nectar. During the chase, some of the nectar fell at the four locations, where the mela is now held.

It is believed that the Kumbh Mela is held on the dates when the waters of these sacred rivers turn into nectar, and those who bathe in these sacred waters during the Kumbh are eternally blessed by the divine, as all their sins are washed away.

Watch the sky redden and witness a wave of pilgrims advancing towards towards the sangam. And when night falls, witness thousands of campfires burning along the riverbanks, amidst brightly decorated pandals (tents) while losing yourself in the rhythmic chants and lectures on the realms of spiritual and philosophical.

THE JOURNEY

Incredible India



A journey of 14 days through some of the spectacular destinations of India
MUMBAI - UDAIPUR - NARLAI - JODHPUR - JAIPUR
- SAWAI MADHOPUR - AGRA - DELHI

- **Interact with the dabbawalas (one of the largest operating food delivery chain), visit the dhobi ghat (open air laundry that's over a century old), and the Gateway of India.**
- **Experience a boat ride in lake Pichola at sunset.**
- **Cycle through the countrysides of Udaipur to soak in the local culture.**
- **Participate in a Bollywood dance workshop and get grooving to the tunes.**
- **When in India, be a Indian - dress in ethnic kurta-pyjama and sari - the Indian attire to a musical evening followed by dinner near a stepwell.**
- **Walk through a village, take a horse ride, go bird watching while sipping tea at a tiny hamlet in Narlai.**
- **A cricket match with locals.**
- **Cook up a storm when you visit a local's home in Jodhpur.**
- **Zipline over the city of Jodhpur from Mehrangarh Fort!**
- **Practice Yoga in an abandoned fort located inside a forested venue.**
- **Hike through a forest to a village and interact with the local tribes.**
- **Witness or participate in a game of camel Polo in Jaipur.**
- **Dinner in a forest venue - Dera Amer.**
- **Try your hands at the art of tie and dye or block printing and take it back as a souvenir.**
- **Spot the wild cats as you embark on a safari of the Ranthambore National Park.**
- **Witness the Taj Mahal at sunrise.**
- **Farewell dinner at the rooftop of a heritage haveli.**

DAY WISE PLAN

/ 17



Day 1: Arrive in Mumbai

Day 2: A day in Mumbai and then flight to Udaipur

Day 3: A day in Udaipur

Day 4: Drive from Udaipur to Narlai en route Ranakpur

Day 5: In Narlai

Day 6: In Narlai

Day 7: Narlai to Jaipur en route Pushkar (The longest day on the road)

Day 8: In Jaipur

Day 9: In Jaipur

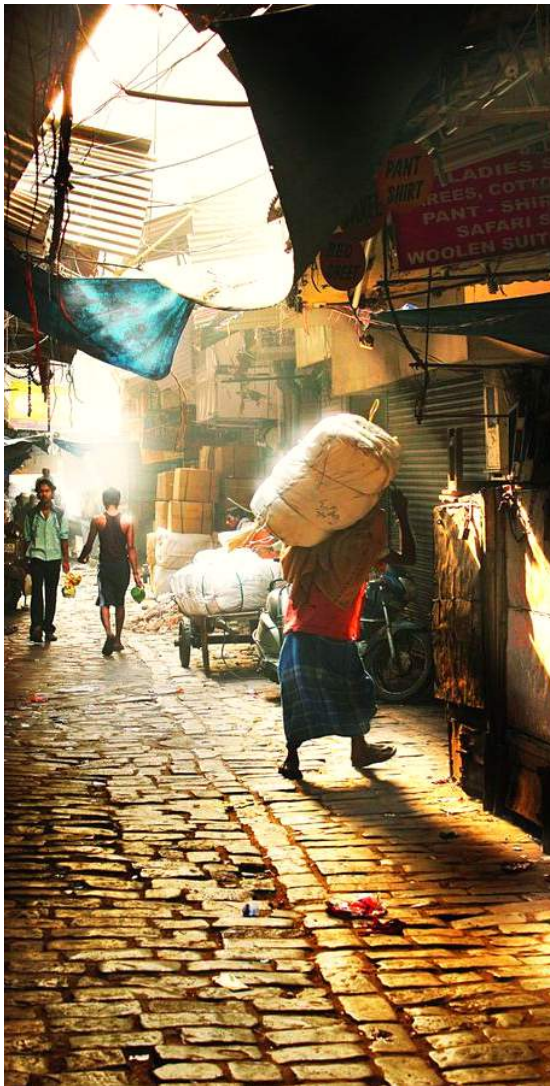
Day 10: Jaipur to Sawai Madhopur en route Talabgaon

Day 11: In Sawai Madhopur

Day 12: Sawai Madhopur to Bharatpur to Agra

Day 13: Agra to Delhi

Day 14: Depart from Delhi



**//WRITE US FOR COMPLETE JOURNEY:
INDIA@INDEBO.COM**



IN -ROUTE



In-Route is a testimony of our vision for the future of travel, endless routes to connecting us back to the roots - of people, places, culture, history and celebrations. It's capsule that brings together the best of the Indian subcontinent. It is imperative that "IN" represent IndeBo, India and the Indian Subcontinent. Through this guide, you will travel to some amazing destinations, celebrate traditional festivals, unearth authentic experiences, savour the delicacies, draw some inspirations, and unravel new mysteries. This is your road to extraordinary experiences. Happy Travelling!

INDEBO - INDIA - IN-ROUTE

A COLLECTION OF EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES



IN-ROUTE GUIDE

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