



**BETTERWORLD**  
ADVENTURES

Allianz  
Global Assistance

**SLUMaid.org**  
A project of New Millennium Network Ltd

# India volunteer adventure



Join with other Year 12 & 13 students on this life-changing humanitarian volunteering adventure in India's Golden Triangle



- Spend three fascinating weeks in one of the most unique countries on the planet
- Wander the ancient lanes of the world's oldest city at Varanasi, on the sacred River Ganges
- Watch the sun rise over the sublimely beautiful Taj Mahal in Agra
- Discover the power of the human spirit teaching slum children in Delhi
- Travel like a local, on long distance overnight train journeys across India
- Experience the majesty of elephants at a conservation project in Jaipur

**21 days NZ\$6,900**

\*Terms & Conditions apply  
Final itinerary, activities  
and price subject to change.

- All Inclusive fully escorted tour. Minimal additional costs.
- Includes flights, transfers, insurance, accommodation, meals and listed activities\*

**ONLY 22 PLACES!**

Email: [info@betterworldadventures.com](mailto:info@betterworldadventures.com)





# What's Included?



Wherever possible, known costs that will be incurred by all participants have been included up-front. Additional costs are minimal, and mostly personal. No surprises, no significant extras!

- 21 day fully escorted tour
- 2 tour leaders, including a teacher from your high school
- Tour leaders available to students 24/7
- Economy-class return airfares to India ex Auckland
- All airport transfers (including to and from Auckland)
- Indian entry visa (for New Zealand passport holders)
- Comprehensive Travel and Medical Insurance
- All accommodation (single gender, twin or multi-share basis)
- 3 meals per day (excluding weekends when breakfast/lunch will be replaced with brunch)
- Tour tipping (drivers, guides, group waiters)
- Indian SIM card with data (for unlocked devices)
- 1 day escorted tour of Delhi
  - Visit major attractions including Chandni Chowk, Old Delhi Humayun's Tomb, Connaught Place, India Gate
  - Visit to Dilli Haat Artisans craft market in Delhi
- NGO guided Delhi slum tour
- Visit to the Amer Fort, in Jaipur
- Guided tour of the highlights of the Jaipur walled city markets
- Day experience at a working elephant sanctuary, caring for a retired elephant
- Berth on 1,200km overnight sleeper train from Jaipur to Varanasi
- Guided walking tour of the Old City and Ghats of Varanasi
- Dawn or dusk boat cruise on Ganges River to view waterfront religious rites
- Berth on overnight sleeper train from Varanasi to Agra
- Heritage village walk in Agra
- Entrance to Taj Mahal, Agra
- Extensive pre-departure orientation

## Includes all meals



19 Breakfasts  
15 Lunches  
19 Dinners



Hotel (8 nights)  
Dormitory (11 nts)  
Night flight (2 nt)



## Exclusions

- Passport fee
- Vaccinations
- Public transport
- Personal spending



\* Suggested itinerary only. Itinerary amendment and activity substitutions may be made at the discretion of the tour organisers. Supplier costs and currency fluctuations prior to departure may increase or decrease the total trip price by a marginal amount.

# Incredible India Volunteer Adventure

## Golden Triangle Itinerary\*

### Incredible India:

*Travelling to India is one big adventure. It is a country that is larger than life, saturating your senses with its chaos, its crowded streets, its timeless living history, its vibrant colours, its famously exotic food, its cacophony of sounds, and its extreme contradictions. Embracing the unexpected is an important part of any trip to India! Learning to relax, go with the flow and dive headfirst into new experiences will facilitate a much deeper understanding of the nation and culture.*

*The area known popularly as the Golden Triangle in Northern India provides the perfect setting for this outstanding cultural exploration - a journey that will bring the complex history of this extraordinary country to life. Witness the Mughal splendours of Delhi and Agra, discover the 'Pink City' of Jaipur, and soak up the ambience of holy Varanasi. This wonderful introduction to the magic of India includes lavish palaces, vibrant bazaars, sacred sites, and the incomparable and unforgettable Taj Mahal.*

*This is your chance to discover the beating heart of India. But this isn't just the India you see on postcards. Experience the humanity and dignity of Indian slum life, and meet Indian travellers aboard cross-country. One thing's certain: you won't return home quite the same after the adventure!*



### Volunteering in India. *Change someone's life; possibly your own.*

*One of the greatest catalysts to personal growth for young people is their participation in a charitable community service. A significant part of our trip focuses on interaction with the Indian people through volunteering with the NGO **SlumAid**, teaching English and hygiene skills to children within the slum communities of Delhi and Jaipur. Contrary to most expectations, volunteering in a slum isn't all about poverty and desperation. The memories you will take away from working to improve the lives of slum families is the humanity you discovered, and the fun and laughs that shared with the local people.*

*95% of volunteers say their experience challenged their view of the world, so it is not unreasonable to think that that your Indian volunteer experience has the potential to profoundly affect you for the rest of your life. Your volunteering will not only benefit the lives of other people, but will also give you confidence, purpose, cultural sensitivity, communication skills, responsibility, and possibly develop life-long friendships.*



#### **Day 1 - 2: "Svaagat he" Welcome to India**

*It takes approximately 16-20 hours of flying time from New Zealand to the capital city of Delhi, in the north of India.*

#### **Day 3 - 4: Delhi Exploration**

*With a population of 19 million people, India's capital, Delhi is a sprawling city that contrasts the ancient and modern. Old Delhi was the capital of Muslim India between the 12th and 19th centuries and has Muslim mosques, forts and monuments. New Delhi was created as India's capital by the British, with imposing architecture, planned gardens, and modern megamalls.*

*We will take a walking tour through the heart of Old Delhi with a charity that works with street children. Exploring the narrow streets surrounding Jama Masjid, the largest and best-known mosque in India. Take a cycle rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk—the colourful market of the old city. Also, in New Delhi, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Humayun's Tomb, a magnificent Persian style tomb standing in the centre of stunning gardens, and bargain for Indian textiles and souvenirs at the Dilli Haat artisan's market.*





### **Day 5-9: Volunteering with SlumAid, Delhi**

### **Day 10-11: Jaipur Exploration**

From Delhi we travel by train to the “Pink City” of Jaipur, in the state of Rajasthan. We will visit the spectacular UNESCO World Heritage Amber Fort and the iconic Hawa Mahal “Palace of the Winds” with its honey-combed pink facade filled with concealed windows where royal maidens once secretly watched the streets below. Walk through the crowded bazaars of the old walled city and possibly get an ornate henna design on your hands from a talented street artist. Expect to see camel carts and elephants, scooters, trucks and rickshaws all jostling for space on the roads.

Elephants have been part of Indian culture for centuries. Jaipur has become a centre for the care of retired domesticated elephants. You will spend a fascinating morning at an elephant sanctuary, learning about these beautiful and majestic animals. You will have a hands-on experience with the elephants, helping to feed and bath them, and learning how domesticated elephants are decorated to participate in religious festivities.

### **Day 12-16: Volunteering with SlumAid, Jaipur**

### **Day 17-18: The Holy City of Varanasi**

Varanasi is India, unfiltered. It is one of the oldest continually inhabited cities in the world, where religion and spirituality are intricately intertwined with everyday life. There is much to take in, with scenes that you may find shocking or inspirational.

Many Hindus make a pilgrimage to the Ganges River in Varanasi to participate in religious ceremonies to wash away their sins, or to cremate deceased family members, believing that if the ashes are washed away in the river, their soul is guaranteed to be transported to heaven and to escape the endless cycle of rebirth.

Your first experience in Varanasi will be accompanying an expert local guide on a walking tour through this centuries old living labyrinth of narrow streets just wide enough for a pedestrian, a motor scooter, or a wandering cow. Witness an evening Aarti ceremony where devotees use fire to make spiritual connections.

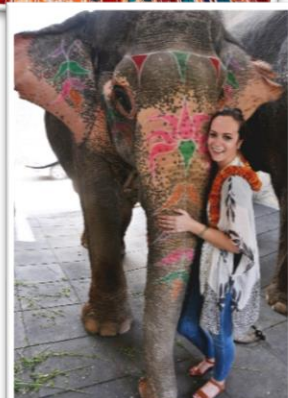
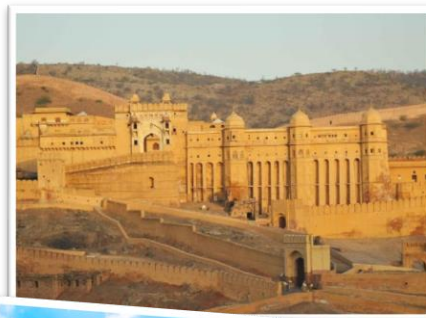
On our second day in Varanasi we're on the river at sunrise, to see pilgrims bathing, praying and even exercising, on the river bank. Then take a city tour to a number of important city temples, and an excursion to Sarnath, where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon almost 3,000 years ago.

In the evening we return to board another sleeper train for our onward travel to Agra, home of the magical Taj Mahal.

### **Day 19-20: Agra and the Taj Mahal**

After arriving into Agra, we'll visit the impressive Agra Fort, a fortress, palace and prison built of red sandstone by Akbar in 1565. In the afternoon we take a Heritage Walk through the village of Kachhpura gaining an insight into village life. Finally, we'll stroll through Mehtab Bagh Park with panoramic sunset views of the iconic Taj Mahal across the Yamuna River. The next morning, we make an early start to the magnificent Taj Mahal. It is one of the seven wonders of the world and considered one of the most beautiful monuments ever created. 20,000 men laboured for over 18 years during the 17th century to build the Taj as a monument to the second wife of Emperor Shah Jahan. In the afternoon, we board our coach heading to the Delhi international airport for departure from India.

### **Day 21: Homeward bound**



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