

# \*11D10N India, Nepal, Varanasi, Sarnath, Bodh Gaya, Rajgir, Nalanda, Vaishali, Kusinara, Savatthi, Lumbini, Kathmandu\*

# **Greatest Values of All**

- Mahaparinibbana Vihara
- Boudhanath Stupa (UNESCO)
- Ramagama & Kesariya Stupa Asokan Lion Pillar at Vaishali
- Isipatana, Deer Park
- Gijjhakuta Vulture Peak
- Mahabodhi Temple Complex (UNESCO)
- Nalanda Mahavihara Ruins (UNESCO)
- Kapilavatthu & Mayadevi Temple (UNESCO)

FREE upgrade to Excellent-Cuisine Restaurants & Private Tour\*

## Itinerary

#### Day 1 Travel to Dashashwamedh Ghat, Varanasi

- 1535 Arrive at Varanasi Airport by Thai Smile WE 327
- 1630 Meet & greet by tour guide at the airport's arrival gate
- 1635 Travel to Dashashwamedh Ghat, Varanasi, 01h10m, 25km
- 1800 Watch the Ganga Aarti, performed daily by a group of priests at the Dashashwamedh Ghat
- 1930 Enjoy authentic Indian Dinner at Palace on Ganges
- 2100 Check in hotel in Varanasi for 1-night
- 2200 Before we say good night

### Day 2 Discover the Holy Site of Isipatana Deer Park

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel 0600
- 0700 Travel to Sarnath, 0h30m, 8.2km
- 0730 Discover Isipatana Deer Park, the holy site where the Buddha delivered the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta
- Pay homage at Dhammarajika Stupa & Dhammekh Stupa 0830
- 1000 Explore the ancient heritage in Sarnath Museum
- 1200 Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at Rangoli Restaurant
- 1300 Travel to Bodh Gaya, 05h45m, 246km,
- 1900 Enjoy Indian Set Dinner at the hotel
- 2000 Check in hotel in Bodh Gaya for 2-nights
- 2045 Walk to the Mahabodhi Temple, UNESCO World Heritage Site
- 2100 Pay homage to the Buddha at the Mahabodhi Temple
- 2115 Perform evening puja at Mahabodhi Temple
- 2230 Before we say good night

### Day 3 Explore the Holy Sites in Mahabodhi Temple

- 0500 Walk to Mahabodhi Temple for morning puja & meditation
- 0515 Perform puja & practice meditation at the Sacred Bodhi Tree
- 0630 Explore the holy sites in Mahabodhi Temple Complex, built by Emperor Asoka in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C, a UNESCO World **Heritage Site:** 
  - The Main Temple, faces east and contains a gilded statue of the seated Buddha holding earth as witness to his Enlightenment achievement



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- Sacred Bodhi Tree, to the west of the main temple, the shades under which Siddhartha Gautama meditated and attained Enlightenment. This peepal tree's botanical name is Ficus religiosa. It was under this tree that the Buddha spent the 1<sup>st</sup> week in meditation after attaining Enlightenment. The present tree is probably the fifth succession of the original tree which was earlier destroyed several times by man-made misery and natural calamities
- Animisa-locana Cetiya, situated at the north east of Mahabodhi Temple, this is the place where the Buddha spent the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in meditation in standing posture gazing at the Bodhi Tree with motionless eyes for one whole week
- Cankamana, is the place where the Buddha spent the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in meditation practicing walking meditation, the raised platform with lotus flowers mark the spot where the Buddha kept his feet while walking
- Ratanaghara or the Jewel House, located at the north-west of the main temple, is the place where the Buddha spent the 4<sup>th</sup> week in meditation
- Ajapala Nigrodha Tree, the pillar marks the spot where the tree once stood marking the place where the Buddha spent the 5<sup>th</sup> week in meditation after attaining Enlightenment and delivered a discourse on the equality of mankind
- Mucalinda Sarovar, the lake where the Buddha spent the 6<sup>th</sup> week in meditation after his Enlightenment
- Rajayatana Tree, situated to the south of the Temple, this is the tree where the Buddha spent the 7<sup>th</sup> week in meditation
- 0800 Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
- 0900 Visit Brahmayoni Hill, where the Buddha delivered the fire sermon, (Adittapariyaya Sutta) to a thousand former fire-worshipping ascetics, who all became enlightened while listening to this discourse
- 1030 Transfer to Sujata Village to visit the Sujata Stupa and temple
- 1300 Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at the hotel
- 1400 Travel to Pragbodhi Hill, 0h45m, 21km
- 1500 Walk uphill to discover a small cave where Siddhartha Gautama spent 6 years for austerity practices
- 1600 Hike up to the top of Pragbodhi for a panoramic view of Gaya
- 1700 Transfer back to the hotel for rest and refresh
- 1800 Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Dinner at hotel
- 1900 Perform evening puja at Mahabodhi Temple
- 2030 Practice meditation at the Sacred Bodhi Tree
- 2230 Before we say good night

# Day 4 Hike up to Explore Gijjhakuta Vulture Peak

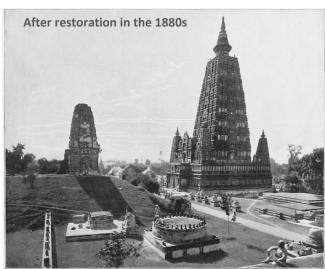
0600 Walk to Mahabodhi Temple for morning puja & meditation

0615 Perform puja & practice meditation at the Sacred Bodhi Tree



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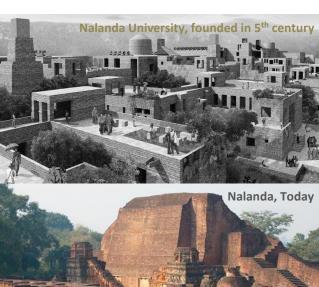


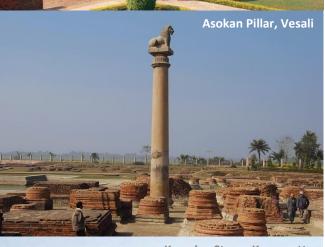






0800	Enjoy breakfast at hotel
0900	Travel to the ancient city of Rajgir, 2h30m, 72km
1130	Stop by at the eastern gate of Rajgir to visit the Bimbisara Jail
1300	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at the hotel
1400	Check in hotel in Rajgir for 2-nights
1500	Hike up to explore Gijjhakuta Vulture Peak, one of the
	several sites frequented by the Buddha and his disciples for
	training, retreat and the scene for many of his discourses
1530	Along the way, stop by to visit the Boar's Grotto where
	Venerable Sariputta attained enlightenment
1600	Snapshot photo of the surrounding hills of the ancient Rajgir
1830	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Dinner at the hotel
2000	Before we say good night
<u>Day 5</u>	Explore the famed Nalanda Mahavihara Ruins
0500	Enjoy breakfast at hotel
0600	Travel to Veluvana, Bamboo Grove, to visit the park where
	the Buddha spent his 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> rain-retreats in Rajagaha
0615	Perform morning puja and meditation at the Veluvana,
	the Bamboo Grove
0800	Hike up to the peak of Sattapanni Hill to explore the
	Sattapanni Caves, where the First Buddhist Council was held
	after the Mahaparinibbana of the Buddha
0930	Snapshot photography at Sattapanni Cave overlooking the
	farm lands below
1100	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at the hotel
1200	Travel to the archaeological site of Nalanda, 0h45m, 19km
1300	Visit the Xuan Zang Memorial Hall & explore the famed
	Nalanda Mahavihara ruins and Archaeological Museum
1830	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Dinner at the hotel
2000	Before we say good night
Day 6	Explore the Asokan Lion Pillar at Ancient Vesali
0500	Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
0600	Travel to Patna, the capital of Bihar, 2h50m, 108km
0900	Explore the ancient heritage of Patna Museum
1100	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at Lemon Tree Hotel
1200	Travel to the ancient city of Vesali, 2h0m, 59km
1400	Explore the 3 <sup>rd</sup> century B.C Asokan Lion Pillar
1600	Discover the Vijjians Stupa, the place where the Ratana Sutta
	discourse was delivered by the Buddha
1730	Check in hotel in Vesali for 1-night
1830	Enjoy Indian Buffet & Set Dinner at the hotel
2000	Before we say good night
<u>Day 7</u>	Explore the Main Sites of Mahaparinibbana Vihara
0600	Enjoy breakfast at the hotel





Kesariya Stupa, Kessaputta



**Xuan Zang Memorial Hall** 



0700

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Travel to Kushinagar Town, 3h45m, 177km

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0900	En-route, stop by at Kessaputta town to visit Kesariya Stupa, the place where the Buddha delivered the discourse of
	(Kalama Sutta) to the clan called the Kalamas
1000	Continue the journey to Kushinagar Town
1300	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at the hotel
1400	Visit the Ramabhar Stupa, the Buddha's cremation place
1500	Explore the main sites of Mahaparinibbana Vihara
1730	Check in hotel in Kushinagar for 1-night
1830	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Dinner at the hotel
2000	Before we say good night

# **Day 8** Explore the Ruins of Jetavana Monastery

0600	Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
0700	Travel to Savatthi, 5h30m, 237km
1300	Enjoy Indian Buffet or Set Lunch at Lotus Nikko Hotel
1400	Check in hotel in Savatthi for 1-night
1500	Explore the ruins of Jetavana Monastery
1600	Visit Anathapindika Stupa and Angulimala Stupa
1600 1800	Visit Anathapindika Stupa and Angulimala Stupa Enjoy dinner at the hotel

# Day 9 Travel to Lumbini, the birth place of the Buddha

0600	Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
0700	Travel to Sonauli, India & Nepal border, 4h45m, 177km
1300	Enjoy Buffet Lunch at Nansc Hotel in Sonauli Town
1400	Journey to Ramagama Stupa to explore the only stupa
	that contains Buddha Relic, 0h40m, 27km
1500	Perform puja and meditate at the Ramagama Stupa
1700	Travel to Lumbini, the birth place of Buddha, 01h15m, 46km
1830	Check in to hotel in Lumbini for 1 night
1930	Enjoy Buffet or Set Dinner at the hotel
2100	Before we say good night

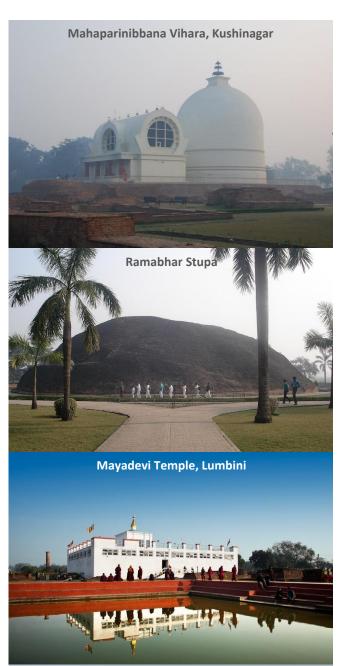
# Day 10 Travel to the Ancient City of Kapilavatthu

	<del>-</del>
0600	Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
0700	Perform puja & meditate at Mayadevi Temple,
	a UNESCO World Heritage Site
0900	Travel to the ancient Kapilavatthu to see the ruins of the
	Sakyan City where the Buddha grew up in, 0h55m, 46km
1000	Explore the home-town of Siddhattha Gotama, Kapilavatthu
1200	Enjoy Buffet or Set Lunch at the hotel
1430	Transfer to Gautam Buddha Airport for flight check-in
1700	Depart for Kathmandu via Yeti Airlines 894
1730	Arrive at Tribhuvan Airport
1830	Meet & greet by tour guide at the airport's arrival gate
1930	Enjoy Nepali Dinner with cultural show at Swagat Restaurant
2030	Tour around the Thamel Night Bazaar



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■ Kapilavatthu Ruins of Sak



2230 Check in hotel in Kathmandu for 1-night

2300 Before we say good night

# <u>Day 11</u> Explore the 6<sup>th</sup> Century Boudhanath Stupa

0600 Enjoy breakfast at the hotel

0700 Explore the 6<sup>th</sup>century Boudhanath Stupa, UNESCO World

**Heritage Site** 

1000 Transfer to the airport for flight check in

1300 Depart for Kuala Lumpur by Malindo Air 183

1955 Arrive at KLIA Terminal, end of the pilgrimage trip,

Sadhu Anumodana!



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Tour Code : VNSKTM11D		Tour Fare (MYR) ( Per person per package )					
Class	Hotel 1-nights in Varanasi (VNS), 2-nights in Bodhgaya (BGY), 2-nights in Rajgir (RJG), 1-night in Vaishali (VSH), 1-night in Kushinagar (KSG), 1-night in Savatthi (SVT), 1-night in Lumbini (LMB), 1-night in Kathmandu (KTM)	02 ADT	03-05 ADT	06-08 ADT	09-11 ADT	12-14 ADT	Single Supp.
Tourist	VNS: Hotel New Temple's Town, (DLX) BGY: Hotel Bodhgaya Gautam, (DLX), Rating: 7.3 RJG: Hotel Nalanda Regency, (DLX), Rating: 7.3 VSH: The Vaishali Residency, (STD) KSG: Hotel Adelphi Grande, (DLX) SVT: The Lotus Sutra Hotel, (STD) LMB: Lumbini Zambala Hotel, (STD) KTM: Hotel Thamel, (STD), Rating: 8.3	5309	4489	3769	3079	3199	1259
Standard	VNS: Hotel Tridev, (DLX), Rating: 8.0 BGY: Hotel Taj Darbar, (Triple Room), Rating: 8.1 RJG: Hotel Nalanda Regency, (DLX), Rating: 7.3 VSH: The Vaishali Residency, (STD) KSG: Hotel Adelphi Grande, (DLX) SVT: The Lotus Sutra Hotel, (STD) LMB: Hotel Nansc, (DLX) KTM: Hotel Moonlight, (DLX), Rating: 9.1	5439	4619	3899	3499	3269	1299
Superior	VNS: The Amayaa Hotel, (SUP), Rating: 7.2 BGY: Bodhgaya Regency Hotel, (DLX), Rating: 7.4 RJG: The Rajgir Residency, (DLX), Rating: 7.3 VSH: The Vaishali Residency, (STD) KSG: Lotus Nikko Hotel Kushinagar, (DLX) SVT: Lotus Nikko Hotel Sravasti, (DLX) LMB: Hotel Lumbini Garden New Crystal, (SUP) KTM: Hotel Shambala, (DLX), Rating: 8.5	6229	5409	4659	4259	4039	1819
Deluxe	VNS: Ramada Plaza JHV, (SUP), Rating: 7.6 BGY: The Royal Residency Bodhgaya, (DLX) RJG: Indo Hokke Hotel Rajgir, (STD) VSH: The Vaishali Residency, (STD) KSG: The Royal Residency Kushinagar, (DLX), Rating: 7.9 SVT: The Sravasti Residency, (DLX) LMB: Lumbini Hotel Kasai, (STD) KTM: Hotel Yak and Yeti, (DLX), Rating: 7.7	7249	6419	5639	5269	5049	2419

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#### **Inclusive of:**

- 10 Nights Hotel Accommodation (2-nights in Bodhgaya, 2-nights in Rajgir, 1-night in Vaishali, 1-night in Kushinagar, 1-night Lumbini, 1-night in Savatthi, 1-night in Varanasi and 1-night in Kathmandu)
- 10 Breakfasts, 9 Lunches and 10 Dinners
- Welcome drinks at the hotel
- Air conditioning Private Land Transportation
- One way domestic air fare (Bhairahawa Kathmandu)
- Entrance Fees according to the itinerary
- English Speaking Tour Guide Service
- Daily 2 bottles of mineral water per person
- Garland on arrival

#### **Exclusive of:**

- International Air Tickets, Airport Taxes & Travel Insurance
- Indian Visa
- Compulsory Tipping for Tour Guide & Driver: RM 95 per person
- Surcharge for Mandarin Speaking Guide
- High Season Surcharge: TBA

#### **Terms & Conditions**

- 1. Booking Period: 01st April 2019 23rd March 2020
- 2. Travelling Period: 01st April 2019 31st March 2020
- 3. Child Share with 2 Adults in One Room
  - a) Child with Extra Bed : Chargeable at 75% of adult twin share rate according to the total of adults-pax-range
  - b) Child without Extra Bed: Chargeable at 50% of adult twin share rate according to the total of adults-pax-range
- 4. Child Share with 1 Adult in One Room: Chargeable at 100% of adult twin share rate according to the total of adults-pax-range. The definition of Child is the age from 2 to 11 years old
- 5. Minimum 02 person travelling & valid for Malaysian & Asian passport holder only
- 6. The logistic time for the itinerary is subject to change without prior notice
- 7. For GIT (15 adults & above) booking, kindly email to <a href="mailto:sales@stctravel.com.my">sales@stctravel.com.my</a> for special rates
- 8. We reserve the right to change the rates as the rates are subject to currency fluctuations
- 9. Any unutilized services, unused tours or hotel rooms are non-refundable
- 10. Early Bird Discount or Advance Booking Discount of 2%:
  Valid for confirm reservation made 6 months in advance of the travelling date will be entitled for the Advance Booking Discount of 2 % off the tour fare
- 11. This package is subject to service/handling fee of RM100 per person.



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