

# Holy Ganga â€" Haridwar Tour

# Starts At Delhi Airport / Railway Station Ends At Delhi Airport / Railway Station

# **Itinerary**

DAY 1 DELHI €" HARIDWAR €" RISHIKESH (6 €" 7 HRS)

Arrival at Delhi Airport / Railway Station, Proceed to Rishikesh, drive of 6 – 7 Hrs. Rishikesh – has been a part of the legendary 'Kedarkhand' (the present day Garhwal). Legends state that Lord Rama did penance here for killing Ravana, the demon king of Lanka; and Lakshmana, his younger brother, crossed the river Ganges, at a point, where the present 'Lakshman Jhula' bridge stands today, using a jute rope bridge. Spend a leisure time at nearby local shopping or eater at end of Laxman Jhula on other side. O/N Rishikesh.

#### DAY 2 RISHIKESH €" HARIDWAR (1 HR)

Morning after breakfast leave for visit to Holy Haridwar is an important pilgrimage city in India. The River Ganges, after flowing from its source at Gaumukh at the edge of the Gangotri Glacier, enters the Indo – Gangetic Plains of North India for the first time at Haridwar, which gave the city its ancient name, Ganga dwAira. Haridwar is regarded as one of the seven holiest places to Hindus. According to the Samudra manthan, Haridwar along with Ujjain, Nasik and Allahabad is one of four sites where drops of Amrit, the elixir of immortality, accidentally spilled over from the pitcher while being carried by the celestial bird Garuda. This is manifested in the Kumbha Mela being celebrated every 3 years in one of the 4 places, and thus every 12 years in Haridwar. Amidst the Kumbha Mela, millions of pilgrims, devotees, and tourists congregate in Haridwar to perform ritualistic bathing on the banks of the river Ganges to wash away their sins to attain Moksha. Brahma Kund, the spot where the Amrit fell, is located at Har ki Pauri (literally, "footsteps of the Lord") and is considered to be the most sacred ghat of Haridwar. There are several temples and ashrams located in and around the city. Mansa Devi Temple Situated at the top of Bilwa Parwat, literally meaning the Goddess who fulfills desires (Mansa), is a popular tourist destination, especially because of the cable cars. which offer a picturesque view of the entire city. The main temple houses two idols of the Goddess, one with three mouths and five arms, while the other one has eight arms. A must visit to Har Ki Pauri in Evening for famous Ganga Aarti (Prayer) â€" This sacred Ghat was constructed by King Vikramaditya (1st century BC) in memory of his brother Bhrithari. It is believed that Bhrithari came to Haridwar and meditated on the banks of the holy Ganges. When he died, his brother constructed a Ghat in his name, which later came to be known as Har-Ki-Pauri. The most sacred ghat within Har-ki-Pauri is Brahmakund. The evening prayer (Aarti) at dusk offered to Goddess Ganga at Har-Ki-Pauri (steps of God Hara or Shiva) is an enchanting experience for any visitor. A spectacle of sound and colour is seen when, after the ceremony, pilgrims float diyas (floral floats with



lamps) and incense on the river, commemorating their deceased ancestors. Thousands of people from all around the world do make a point to attend this prayer on their visit to Haridwar. Back to Hotel. O/N Rishikesh.

## DAY 3 RISHIKESH €" DELHI (6 €" 7 HRS)

Morning after breakfast leave back for Delhi. Journey of 6 – 7 Hr. Drop at Delhi Airport / Railway Station. Journey Ends Here.

## **Others**