



Private Group Tour: Australia Tibet Council Dharamsala / 13 Days (No trek)

Day 1 / 18 October 2009

Delhi

Upon arrival we are met at the airport and transferred to our hotel. Our airport representative will be waiting for us in the arrival hall, located after passing out of the customs area and beyond the travel desks and exchange counters. Look out for the Gecko's signboard. The drive from the airport to the hotel is around 45 minutes.

Day 2 / 19 October 2009

Overnight train

After breakfast there is a briefing to outline the holiday itinerary and also cover many aspects of travelling in India. Please bring your passport and travel insurance documents to this meeting. There are no plans for the morning, you may wish to head out and explore the colourful Janpath Bazaar. In the afternoon we travel to the railway station and board an overnight sleeper train bound for Dharamsala.

Meals included: 1 breakfast

Day 3 / 20 October 2009

McLeod Ganj

On arrival in Dharamsala, we will be transferred by road to McLeod Ganj, around a half an hour drive. Known as 'Little Lhasa' due to its large population of Tibetan refugees, McLeod Ganj is the head-quarters of the Tibetan Government in Exile, and also residence of the 14th Dalai Lama. After settling into our hotel, the afternoon is free to explore the township.

Day 4 / 21 October 2009

McLeod Ganj

Today we will visit Tibetan Children's Village, an integrated community for the care and education of orphans, semi-orphans and destitute Tibetan children in exile. All of the children at Tibetan Children's Village live in groups called Khim-tsang. Each Khim-tsang is a self-contained family group with two foster parents. Children are raised as brothers and sisters and share in the household chores. We have the opportunity today to witness their lifestyle, and mix with the children.

Meals included: 1 breakfast

Days 5-10 / 22-27 October 2009

McLeod Ganj

Own arrangements in McLeod Gang. Accommodation and breakfast included only.

Meals included: 6 breakfasts

Day 11 / 28 October 2009

McLeod Ganj

Located east of Dharamsala is the Norbulingka Institute, an educational complex dedicated to the preservation of the Tibetan cultural heritage. The centre provides training, employment and basic care for many qualified Tibetan refugees, and houses a library, a research centre, a cultural academy and a literary research centre. Today we witness traditional arts including woodwork, sculpture, thankgka painting and appliqué. We also have plenty of time to explore the stunning Japanese-influenced gardens.

Meals included: 1 breakfast



Day 12 / 29 October 2009

Overnight train

We have a final morning in McLeod Ganj, before transferring to the railway station for our overnight train back to Delhi.

Meals included: 1 breakfast

Day 13 / 30 October 2009

Tour ends

We arrive in Delhi early this morning. We have plenty of time before our flight departs, so you may wish to ask your tour leader to assist you in booking some sightseeing, as there is plenty to see in Delhi. Humayun's Tomb and Safdarjang's Tomb are great examples of Mughal architecture and design. The narrow streets of Old Delhi are worth exploring, with the highlights being Red Fort and the impressive Jama Masjid (Great Mosque). Raj Ghat is a monument that marks the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated. Hauz Khas Village is a great place to escape the hustle and bustle of downtown - a chic artistic enclave set right next to the remnants of a historical site. In the evening we will be transferred to the airport to meet our ongoing flight.

