

<u>Pilgrimage to Bodhgaya Feb-Mar 2020</u> <u>Customised and Accompanied by Ajahn Dhammasīha</u> (24 Day Long Tour and 17 Day Short Tour Options Available)



Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood

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TRAVEL

"And for what reason, Ananda, is the Tathāgata, the Worthy One, the perfectly enlightened Buddha, deserving of a stupa?

Numerous people will fill their heart with joyful confidence when they contemplate: 'This is the stupa of that Blessed one, worthy and perfectly enlightened!'

Once their heart has been suffused with joyful confidence at that location, then, at the breakup of the body, after death, they will be reborn in a happy destination, in the heavenly world." Dīgha Nikāya/Long Discourses #16.31

"And when they offer flowers or incense or fragrant powder, or worship, or brighten their mind and gain faith at that location, that will be for their immense benefit and happiness for a long, long time."

Dīgha Nikāya/Long Discourses #16.30

Introductory Remarks

- This tour is intended as a pilgrimage, and the main focus will be on Dhamma practice. It is not meant for the conventional touristic purpose of 'sightseeing'.
- Teachings will be based on the early part of the Pali Canon, the most authentic record of the original teachings of the Buddha himself. Later traditions, commentaries, legends, elaborations and stories will not figure prominently.
- Teachings will focus on essential Dhamma meaning and practical value to support one's development of the Noble Eightfold Path.

Historical and architectural details, cultural and artistic developments throughout the long Buddhist history, names of kings who built this or that kind of stupa or temple at exactly this date with that kind of materials and techniques and so on, will not be given much attention at all.

• We will not be content just to 'have been there' with the physical body. (And take a selfie to prove it to others ;-) What really counts is to actually arrive with the mind and connect with the amazing energy in the holy sites. This takes more time, and we will try our best to provide that space to settle in, and tune in, and contemplate, and meditate.

That does not necessarily mean spending hours in full lotus seat in motionless posture. We can connect independent of posture, whether sitting on the floor or on seats or rocks, or walking or circumambulating or standing. All that's really required is spending sufficient quiet time in the site, with the heart gradually opening up and allowing the energy in, and it will all happen by itself!



Sat 15 Feb Arrival in Gaya & Drive to Rajgir (D)

Meeting & assistance on arrival at Gaya Airport and drive to Rajgir or Rājagaha (By surface: 60 kms/2 hours approximately). On arrival check in at hotel

Rājagaha was the capital of Magadha, one of the two most powerful kingdoms in the Buddha's time, ruled by king Bimbisāra. It is the location where:

- The first monastery was offered to the Buddha, the Veluvana (Bamboo Grove)
- Where the Budha recited the Ovādapāţimokkha on Māghā Pūjā during the great assembly of 1250 enlightened disciples
- Where the two chief disciples Ven Sāriputta & Ven Mahāmoggallāna met the Buddha and attained enlightenment
- · Where Devadatta plotted the assassination of the Buddha
- Where Sakka (king of the Tāvatiņsa Devas) visited the Buddha and attained sotāpatti ('stream entry')
- Where the Buddha subdued the wild elephant Nāļāgiri
- Where the Sāmaññaphala Sutta was taught to King Ajātasattu, who had murdered his father Bimbisāra.
- And where the first Buddhist council after the Buddha's Parinibbāna took place (plus many other events too numerous to mention)

(B, D)



Rajgir, Veluvana

Sun 16 Feb

Visit the Veluvana ('Bamboo Grove') Monastery, the first monastery ever accepted by the Buddha. Here the 'Great Assembly' (Sāvakasannipāta) took place on Māghā Pūjā with 1250 Arahants, who were all ordained by the Buddha personally, had all the psychic and powers, gathered spontaneously without prior announcement. Then the Buddha recited the famous Ovādapātimokkha (Dhammapada #183-185), which

expounds the essentials of Dhamma-practice in just 16 lines of verse, starting with:

Sabba-pāpassa akaranam Sacitta-pariyodapanam

kusalassa upasampadā etaṃ Buddhāna-sāsanaṃ (...)

Abstain from any evil deed, and fully purify your mind - accomplish what is good and true, that is what all the Buddhas teach (...)

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Pūjā, Meditation, Recitation of Ovādapāțimokkha, Dhammatalk & Discussion

If possible, we may also pay respects to the stupa build by King Ajātasattu for his 1/8th share of the original relics of the Buddha.

Mon 17 Feb Rajgir, Sattapāņi Cave (B, D)

Visit to Sattapāņi Cave, where the first council was held after the Buddha's Parinibbāna by 500 arahants to collect all his teachings. Questioned by Ven Mahākassapa, Ven Ānanda recited all the Suttas the Buddha ever taught him, and Ven Upāli recited the complete Vinaya (monks & nuns rules of discipline).

Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

The walk up and down the mountain offers splendid views over Rājagaha and the surrounding hills, where thousands of monks used to practise in countless monasteries, caves, gorges and other remote locations.

On the walk up the hill we will pass the Pipphali tower, where Ven Mahākassapa used to live in a small cave. There, the Buddha cured him of a life-threatening illness by reciting the well-known Bojjhanga Paritta to him (Saṃyutta Nikāya/Connected Discourses, 46 Bojjhangasaṃyutta, #14)

Tue 18 Feb Rajgir, Indasālā Cave (B, D)

Visit to Indasālā Cave, where Sakka approached the Buddha together with the Tāvatimsa Devas in order to learn his Dhamma (Dīgha Nikāya/Long Discourses #21). He poses a series of questions to the Buddha:

- What fetters are the cause that beings are unable to live in peace and concord, but always end up in conflict and harming each other?
- How to practise restraint of the sense faculties?
- Have all the various spiritual teachers reached the highest attainment? (...)

While listening to the Buddha's exposition, the king of the gods attains sotāpatti (stream entry) and declares himself a disciple of the Blessed One.

Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

The cave is located on a steep slope and affords beautiful vistas over the wilderness & Ghora Katora lake below. If time/conditions permit, we can also visit newly restored Giriyek stupa nearby in impressive location on top of hill, with ancient 7m wide stone path leading up to it.



<u>Wed 19 Feb Rajgir, Nālandā (B, D)</u>

Nālandā is the birthplace of Ven Sāriputta, and over many centuries one of the largest universities in the world developed in this location. At its peak from around 500 to 1000 CE, it was famous throughout the whole Buddhist world, and employed more than 1000 professors, who were lecturing some 10,000 enrolled graduate students. The massive brick foundations have survived to this day, and allow us to imagine the days when profound philosophies of the Mahāyāna &



Vajrayāna traditions were created and researched among these walls.

Guided tour of the extensive, park-like landscape of magnificent ruins; and final session with Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion at the main Stupa originally dedicated to Ven Sāriputta.

Thu 20 Feb Rajgir, Latthivana (Jethian/Yesthivana) (B, D)

When the Buddha approached Rājagaha in a glorious procession followed by 1,000 Arahant bhikkhus, King Bimbisāra and the majority of the whole population welcomed him first at this location. The Buddha taught them a gradual discourse culminating in the four noble truths, and the king and numerous of his followers had the dust-free, stainless vision of Dhamma arising in their heart:

"Everything subject to causation is also subject to cessation"

Pūjā, meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion at the Suppatittha Cetiya

Surrounded by high, rugged mountains and thick jungle, Jethian still has a beautifully quiet atmosphere, as it is not yet so popular on the pilgrimage circuit. On the way, visit Bimbisara's jail, where he was imprisoned by his own son, observe the 2,500 year old Chariot tracks of ancient Rajagaha, and visit the ruins of Jivaka's Mangogrove Monastery ('Ambavana'), where the Buddha surrounded by 1,250 Arahant disciples delivered the famous 'Sāmaññaphala Sutta' (Dīhga Nikāya/Long Discourses #2) to the patricide king Ajātasattu.

Fri 21 Feb Rajgir, Gijjhakūța (B, D)

Early morning dawn-to-sunrise meditation on Gijjhakūṭa ('Vulture's Peak'). The Buddha had a little Kuti here, his favourite solitary retreat near Rajagaha. Many important suttas and events in the Buddha's life happened in this location. Here Devadatta hurled the huge rock towards the Buddha and injured him, and here the 4 Great Deva-kings approached the Buddha and recited to him the famous 'Āṭānāṭiya Paritta':

"Vipassissa namatthu, cakkhumantassa sirīmato..." 👘

Dīgha Nikāya #32



Just below the peak is the Sūkarakhata Lena ('Boar's Cave'), where Ven Sāriputta attained enlightenment while listening to the Buddha teaching the 'Dīghanakhasutta' (Majjima Nikāya/Middle Length Discourses #74). Ven Mahāmoggallāna's cave is a little further down.



Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

The Vulture's Peak is also of enormous significance to the Mahayana, and in particular to the Zen/Chan tradition, as many of their foundational teachings like Heart & Lotus Sūtra and Prajñapāramitā Sūtras have Gijjhakūta as their setting. It is claimed to be the location where the Buddha transmitted the "essence of Zen" to Ven Mahākassapa by silently holding up a flower, who was then regarded as the first Patriarch of Zen.

After the meal at hotel, in the afternoon visit the modern Vishwa Shanti Stupa. Accessible by ropeway, this beautiful stupa was built by Japanese Buddhists as part of 80 worldwide 'Peace Pagodas'. Enjoy sweeping views over the surrounding hills, and hopefully we'll also find some quiet spot for another meditation session.

Sat 22 Feb - Rajgir to Bodhgaya (By surface: 60 Kms/2 Hours approx..) (B, D)

After breakfast drive to Bodhgaya and check in at hotel - very auspiciously, we arrive on the New Moon Uposatha Day

Bodhgaya is the most sacred site of Buddhism, original location of the Buddha's the 'Sammāsambodhi' ('Perfect Awakening'), and has been a centre of pilgrimage ever since. The magnificent Mahābodhi Temple was built around 400 CE, but ultimately fell into disuse and ruins with the disappearance of Buddhism in India. Renovated and made accessible again to pilgrims by the efforts of the Mahabodhi Society in the last century, the main focus of devotion is centred on two localities:



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1. The huge Bodhi tree at the eastern end of the Temple, with an ancient stone slab directly beneath it. This is believed by many to be the original 'Vajirāsana' ('Diamond Throne') where the Buddha was seated when the knowledge and vision arose in him:

"My release is unshakable, this is the last life, now there is no more rebirth."

Samyutta Nikāya/Connected Discourses 56.11 'Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta'

2. The powerful large Buddha statue inside the temple, which is placed on a very ancient shrine. Many believe the foundations of this shrine have been erected on the original Vajirāsana, where the Buddha was seated when he attained the deathless, supreme freedom from bondage, Nibbāna.

However, the whole area around and inside the Temple is suffused with an amazing, sublime and intense energy, and the pilgrims may wish to explore different spots where they can most successfully tune in and connect with these vibes in their meditation.

Sun 23 Feb Bodhgaya, Mahābodhi Temple (B, D)



Directly after his supreme enlightenment, the Buddha spent several weeks meditating in the immediate vicinity of the Bodhi Tree. He would sit without movement for 7 days at a time in the lotus position in deep meditation "experiencing the bliss of liberation". Having emerged from this profound samādhi, he would then spend all night in walking meditation, contemplating 'dependent origination' ('paticca-samuppāda') in forward and reverse order. The long-stretched shrine

on the north face of the temple still indicates the spot of the Buddha's walking meditation.

A continuous stream of devotees is circumambulating the Temple at all times during opening hours, and pilgrims can thus alternate their sitting meditation with walking meditation at any time by simply joining this joyful procession.

Circumambulation, Pūjā, Chanting, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

As the Mahābodhi Temple is a very busy place during pilgrimage season, we will have to improvise finding the most suitable spot for our group activities according to situation on the ground. Additionally, there will be opportunity for pilgrims to disperse and find their own favourite location for meditation, contemplation, devotional practice, or simply sitting and absorbing and "taking it all in"



Mon 24 Feb Bodhgaya, Pragbodhi (B, D)

Visit the cave where the Bodhisatta practised austerities so extreme that he almost died from malnutrition and utter exhaustion. The atmosphere of intense ascetic energy is still palpable in this confined, tiny space.

Fortunately for us all, on the brink of death the Bodhisatta remembered his experience of first jhāna as a small child sitting beneath a rose apple tree, and he realized that the refined bliss of samādhi is the correct path to enlightenment:

"I am not afraid of that happiness which is aloof from sensuality and unwholesome states!"

Majjhima Nikāya/Middle Length Discourses #36

Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

Climb up to top of hill to see remains of ancient stupas, and enjoy views reaching as far as the spire of the Mahābodhi Temple in the distance.

In the evening, further opportunities for practice at Mahābodhi Temple

Tue 25 Feb Bodhgaya, Sujātā Stupa & Various Monasteries (B, D)

Lady Sujātā offered a meal of refined milk-rice to the Bodhisatta on the day of his Supreme Awakening. Two offerings of almsfood are exceeding all other food offerings, and are of greater karmic reward and greater benefit to the donor than all others: the meal consumed by the Tathāgata on the day he attains perfect enlightenment, and the one he consumes on the day he attains Parinibbāna (Dīgha Nikāya/Long Discourses #16.26 Mahāparinibbānasutta)

We visit the ancient stupa that commemorates Lady Sujātā and her exalted offering that provided strength to the Tathāgata on the night of his utmost exertion, giving him the energy to battle and defeat Māra and his army of defilements.

Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion.

Afternoon opportunity to visit monasteries of the various Buddhist traditions in Bodhgaya.

In the evening, further opportunities for practice at Mahābodhi Temple.



Wed 26 Feb Bodhgaya, Gayāsīsa (B, D)

Having finally gained the faith of the 1,000 fire worshipping Brahmin ascetics through a long series of miracles of psychic power, the Buddha took them all on top of Gayāsīsa hill and expounded the 'Ādittapariyāya Sutta / Fire Sermon' to them (Saṃyutta Nikāya/Connected Discourses 35.28):

"The world is burning, monks! And what is this world, that is burning? The eye is burning, forms are burning, eye consciousness is burning..."

While listening to this discourse, through letting go of clinging the minds of 1,000 bhikkhus were released from all defilements. This is the highest number reported in the suttas of simultaneous attainment of Arahantship, and it established the Buddha as the foremost spiritual teacher with the largest following of disciples.

Pūjā, Chanting of Fire Sermon, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

In the evening, further opportunities for practice at Mahābodhi Temple

Thu 27 Feb Bodhgaya, Gurpa Mahākassapa's Mountain (B, D)

Visit the mountain where Ven Mahākassapa is reported to have attained Parinibbāna. He is the only disciple the Buddha ever exchanged robes with, and he was declared the foremost of all those who observe ascetic practices ('dhūtanga'). He was the most respected and senior disciple alive after the Buddha's Parinibbāna, and he called and presided over the first council that collected and rehearsed all known suttas the Buddha had taught.

See the crack in the rock which opened when struck by Ven Mahākassapa's staff in order to let him pass through to reach the top of the cliffs. Visit the cave he lived in, and enjoy beautiful views over the surrounding wilderness.

Pūjā, Meditation, Dhammatalk & Discussion

Fri 28 Feb Bodhgaya (B, D)

Pūjā, Chanting, Meditation, Dhammatalks & Discussion at the Mahābodhi Temple

Alternatively, options in the afternoon for those who prefer more sightseeing or shopping





LONG TOUR - Includes 10 More Nights at Bodhgaya with Monks. No Vehicle, No Guide

29 Feb to 10 March Bodhgaya Including Full Moon 🕑 on 08 March (B, D)

10 Days with Regular Meditation at Mahābodhi Temple, Hotel in Walking Distance

The longer version of our pilgrimage is ideal for all those who wish to spend more time at Bodh Gaya, in order to have plenty of opportunity to develp meditation under the Bodhi Tree in the very location where the Lord Buddha attained supreme, unshakable liberation.

We will have a combination of mostly personal meditation and some group practice, with walking, sitting, chanting, circumambulating, devotional practices, Dhammatalks & Discussions, Q&A on meditation, and simply enjoying the most profound spiritual atmosphere that can be found on this planet. Very auspiciously, we will experince the Full Moon Uposatha (2) as the final culmination of our pilgrimage on Sunday 8 March.

Also opportunities for individual visits of various monasteries, temples and Buddhist institutions in Bodhgaya, or some exploration of the tiny side alleys and simple village life, or some shopping at Tibetan market and devotional shops, or some recuperation time at hotel or pilgrims cafes, according to individual preferences of pilgrims

Tue 10 March Depart Bodh Gaya to Bangkok/Brisbane (B)

After breakfast transfer to airport to board flight to Bangkok

TG 2328	10 MAR	GAY/VNS/BKK	1445/1630/2145
TG 473	11 MAR	BKK/BNE	0001/1205



HOTELS ENVISAGED - (MAIN GROUP) 14 Nights/15 Day Tour Based on minimum 20 pilgrims on the 14 day tour. 7 pilgrims on the last 10 days in Bodhgaya.

TOUR PRICE LONG TOUR

DETAILS	TOUR PRICE in AUD
20 pilgrims travelling together on TWIN sharing basis	AUD 4088.00 per person
Single Room Supplement	AUD 1650.00 per SINGLE

HOTELS ENVISAGED LONG TOUR

DATE	СІТҮ	HOTEL	NIGHTS
15-22 Feb'20	Rajgir	Indo Hokke	07 Nights
22 Feb'20 – 10 Mar 20	Bodhgaya	Maya Heritage	17 Nights

THE ABOVE COST INCLUDES:-

- \checkmark 24 Night's accommodation on Twin occupancy inclusive of all taxes.
- ✓ Includes International Airfares and associated taxes and Govt. Charge's.
- \checkmark 1-night stay in Bangkok on the way over breakfast not included.
- \checkmark Daily Breakfast & Dinner included at hotel of stay as indicated in Itinerary as "B,D"
- \checkmark All transfers, excursions and sightseeing tours to be by A/C Deluxe Large coach
- \checkmark Services of Accompanied English speaking Guide from 15 Feb-03 March 2020
- ✓ Monument/Museum entrance fees as per itinerary
- \checkmark Assistance at airports by our representatives
- ✓ All presently applicable Governments taxes
- \checkmark 2 Bottle of mineral water in coach per person per day

THE COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- \checkmark Any item of personal nature such as table drinks, Laundry, Telephone calls.
- ✓ Camera fees (Still/video) at any monuments
- \checkmark Any tipping, gratuities or porterage anywhere
- \checkmark Lunches on any of the days
- ✓ Any Visa Fees
- ✓ Any Domestic air fare
- ✓ NO VEHICLE NO GUIDE SERVICES FROM 29th FEB 2020 till 10th MAR 2020
- ✓ Early Check-in & late check-out



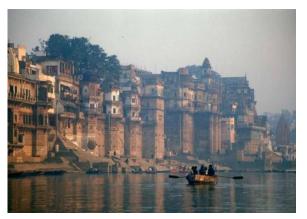
SHORT TOUR - Includes 3 Nights in Varanasi, Local Guide, No Monks

Sat 29 Feb Bodhgaya to Varanasi by Flight (B, D)

Transfer to Gaya airport to board flight to Varanasi (AI433 – 1415/1450 HRS) Meet on arrival at Varanasi airport and transfer/check-in at hotel

Later free time for silk shopping

Sun 01 March Varanasi (B, D)



Early morning **boat cruise** on river Ganges. The western banks of Ganges has a string of Ghats the chain of stone steps, all built with pavilions, palaces and terraces, most of which are mainly used as Dharamsalas where the pilgrims stay during their visit to the holy city. A Boat ride along the Ghats gives you vantage views of the activity. The Sunrise of the Ganges is a soul-lifting experience.

Return to Hotel for breakfast.

After breakfast proceed for visit to Sarnath- 10 kms from Varanasi bears testimony to its great past where Lord Buddha delivered his first sermon to his disciples, expounding the principles of Buddhism. Visit Sarnath Migadaya & Mulagandhakutivihara evening chanting of Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta.



Mon 02 March Varanasi (B, D)

After breakfast proceed for visit to Sarnath, 10 kms from Varanasi. At the Deerpark ('Migadāya) the Buddha delivered his first discourse to the group of 5 disciples, the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta, that expounds the Middle-Way ('Majjhimā Pațipadā') and the 4 Noble Truths.



Tue 03 March Varanasi to Bangkok/Brisbane (B)

After breakfast transfer to airport to board flight to Bangkok

TG 2328	03 MAR	VNS/BKK	1630/2145
TG 473	04 MAR	BKK/BNE	0001/1205

TOUR PRICE SHORT TOUR

DETAILS	TOUR PRICE in AUD
20 Pilgrims travelling together on TWIN sharing basis	AUD 4173.00 per person
Single Room Supplement	AUD 1482.00 per person

HOTELS ENVISAGED SHORT TOUR

DATE	CITY	HOTEL	NIGHTS
15-22 Feb'20	Rajgir	Indo Hokke	07 Nights
22-29 Feb'20	Bodhgaya	Maya Heritage	07 Nights
29 Feb – 03 Mar 2020	Varanasi	Madin Varanasi	03 Nights

THE ABOVE COST INCLUDES:-

- ✓ 17 Night's accommodation on Twin occupancy inclusive of all taxes. 1 Night stay in Bangkok on the way over Breakfast not included.
 - Domestic flight Gaya to Varanasi.
- ✓ Daily Breakfast & Dinner included at hotel of stay as indicated in Itinerary as "B,D"
- \checkmark All transfers, excursions and sightseeing tours to be by A/C Deluxe Large coach
- ✓ Services of Accompanied English speaking Guide from 15 Feb-03 March 20
- ✓ Monument/Museum entrance fees as per itinerary
- \checkmark Assistance at airports by our representatives
- ✓ All presently applicable Governments taxes
- \checkmark 2 Bottle of mineral water in coach per person per day

THE COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- \checkmark Any item of personal nature such as table drinks, Laundry, Telephone calls.
- \checkmark Camera fees (Still/video) at any monuments
- \checkmark Any tipping, gratuities or porterage anywhere



- \checkmark Lunches on any of the days
- √ Visa Fees
- ✓ Early Check-in & late check-out

<u>NOTE</u>

1. Kindly note that names of hotels mentioned above only indicate that our rates have been based on usage of standard rooms as specified above and it is not to be construed that accommodation is confirmed at these hotels until and unless we convey such confirmation to you. In the event of any of the above-mentioned hotels not becoming available we shall book alternate accommodation at a similar or next best available hotel and shall pass on the difference of rates (supplement/reduction whatever applicable) to you.

Holiday Variations/Travel and Accommodation

If for unforeseen circumstances beyond our control require us to make necessary change to your holiday due to safety reasons, we reserve the right to cancel or reschedule itineraries whilst in India. Where it is necessary to change a hotel, Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood reserves the right to substitute accommodation of at least a similar standard.

Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood is not itself a carrier, hotelier or a coach operator. The flights, cruises, rail, and coach journeys, other travel and hotel accommodation with any other components included in your holiday package are provided by reputable carriers and hoteliers on their own conditions. It is important to note, that all bookings with Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood is subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by the various service providers involved in your travel booking.

Consular Assistance and Registration

The Australian Government recommends that Australians whilst in India should register their presence with the Australian High Commission.

The Department also offers an on-line registration service, accessible via the Internet at address: <u>http://www.dfat.gov.au/travel/index.html</u>

OTHER IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

1. TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly recommend insurance for all travellers, particularly with flights and tours that have cancellation or change of date penalties. In such cases insurance should be purchased when the final payment on the flight/tour is made. We believe high medical insurance cover is essential for travel to such areas as India. Check with us for details. Obtaining Travel Insurance is compulsory for this tour. You may purchase travel insurance from us or any other company. A copy if purchased from another source is required to be forwarded at least 2 weeks before departure.



2. PASSPORTS

All travellers departing Australia must have a valid passport with a minimum validity of 6 months. If you are an Australian Citizen and wish to travel on an Australian passport you can arrange for its issue directly with the Australian Passport Office or through a local Post Office. If you are a permanent resident travelling on a foreign passport you must have it endorsed for re-entry to Australia. Passports are at all times the full responsibility of the Traveller.

3. VISAS

Visas are required for India. Visas are at all times the full responsibility of the Traveller. We could assist in obtaining the visas on confirmation of the tour.

4. HEALTH

Call your local TRAVELLER'S MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE on 1300 655 565 for Mats Clinics and 1300 369 359 for Travel Clinics Australia or see your local doctor.

5. **PRICE CONDITIONS.**

The prices quoted by Cruise and Travel Centre Springwood are based on minimum numbers joining the group and the currency used is Australian Dollars and subject to change <u>by the</u> <u>Airlines or Tour Operator, with or without notice until paid in full.</u>

6. ADVICE ON COUNTRY YOU ARE VISITING

Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) revises and reissues travel advice for many countries. Full text of any advice on the country you are visiting and other valuable information can be found at <u>http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/</u>

7. NEW RULES TAKING LIQUIDS, AEROSOLS AND GELS ON HAND LUGGAGE

To increase your safety, there are new rules about taking liquids, aerosols and gels on flights into and out of Australia. Please click on to the following hyperlink for more details. http://www.dotars.gov.au/transport/security/aviation/LAG/index.aspx

8. PREPAID CASH PASSPORT MULTI-CURRENCY MASTERCARD

To ensure an enjoyable time overseas, Cash Passport, Multi-Currency Master Card will make certain that you carry the right travel money for your destination. * These cards are PIN and Chip protected and not linked to your bank account. Managing your Multi-currency Cash Passport Card is simple. You can check your balances and view your recent transactions online after registering you card with us. * You can withdraw local currency at over 2.1 million ATMs and accepted for purchases at over 35 million MasterCard locations worldwide with no transaction fee**. (** Subject to any surcharge, which may be imposed directly by a merchant). Ask us for more details.



9. **RESERVATION AMENDMENTS.**

If documents have been issued or travel is within 30 days, variable amendment fees imposed by the Tour Operator and Hotels in addition to our charges of \$55.00 (Including GST) p/p per change will apply.

10. <u>Cancellation Clause:</u>

Land Arrangements

Booking cancelled at any time after confirmation up to 60 days prior to departure, but prior to any documents been issued, will be subject to the full deposit taken as cancellation fee. Bookings cancelled within 45 days of departure will incur a minimum fee as given below, per person. No refund is available after the tour has commenced, or in respect of any tours, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised.

If it is necessary to cancel your holiday the following cancellation fees will apply.

45-30 Days before tour - 25% of applicable total cost 29-15 Days before tour - 50% of applicable total cost 14-08 Days before tour - 75% of applicable total cost 07-00 Days before tour - 100% of applicable total cost No Show - 100% of applicable total cost

11. PAYMENT:

An advance non-refundable deposit of \$200.00 P/P is required to reserve the hotels and the balance is required normally 60 days prior to the commencement of the tour. If the full payment is made by Master, Visa or an American Express credit card, a flat administrative charge of 1.5% will be calculated and added to the balance amount due on the date above.

12. DIRECT DEPOSIT AND COMPANY BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR PAYMENTS:

If you are making a direct deposit, you may make arrangements to make the direct deposit of the amount due to any Suncorp Bank.

The details of our account are as follows: Bank: **Suncorp** Branch: **Brisbane** Account Name: **Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood** BSB No: **484-799** Account No: **601673343**

Please forward a copy of the deposit slip to our fax No: 07-3808 4794, when the deposit is completed.



Should you have any queries, or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact our office. Our after-hours number is +61 411 35 35 35 and you may contact us at any time if you do require any assistance.

We greatly appreciate your business and are confident that you will enjoy your pilgrimage in India.

Yours sincerely, Cruise & Travel Centre Springwood

ALL CARE HAS BEEN TAKEN IN PRODUCING THIS QUOTATION, HOWEVER IT IS SUBJECT TO ERRORS AND OMISSIONS (E & OE) DISCLAIMER.

Jayantha Pathikirikorale Marketing Manager / Director



As an **AFTA Travel Agent** we are committed to Value, Integrity and Protection through a <u>Code of Ethics</u>. The AFTA logo represents experience, service, professional conduct, and fully trained staff to provide you with expert advice.

Why use an AFTA Travel Agent?

When you deal with an AFTA Travel Agent you know that you are dealing with somebody who is fully licensed, and bonded with the **ATAS the new Australian Federation of Travel Agents Travel Accreditation Scheme.**

Code of Ethics

ACCURACY - AFTA members will be factual and accurate when providing information in any form about their services and the services of any firm they represent. They will not use deceptive practices.



AFFILIATION - AFTA members will not falsely represent a person's affiliation with their firm.

COMPLIANCE- AFTA members will abide by all Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

CONFIDENTIALITY - AFTA members will treat every client transaction confidentially and not disclose any information without permission of the client, unless required by law.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST - AFTA members will not allow any preferred relationship with a supplier to interfere with the interests of their clients.

CONSUMER PROTECTION - AFTA members will use every effort to protect their clients against any fraud, misrepresentation or unethical practices which may arise in the travel industry.

COOPERATION - AFTA members will cooperate with any inquiry conducted by AFTA to resolve any dispute involving consumers or another member.

DELIVERY - AFTA members operating tours will provide all components as stated in their brochure or written confirmation or provide alternative services of equal or greater value or provide appropriate compensation.

DISCLOSURE - AFTA members will provide complete details about terms and conditions of any travel service, including cancellation and service fee obligations, before accepting payment for the booking.

NOTICE - AFTA members operating tours will promptly advise the agent or client who reserved the space of any change in itinerary, services, features or price. If substantial changes are made that are written within the control of the operator, the client will be allowed to cancel without penalty

QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONALISM - AFTA Members must employ staff who have appropriate qualifications and are committed to continuing professional development, such as (but not limited to) the <u>Australian Travel</u> <u>Professionals Program</u> (ATPP). AFTA members must ensure that all staff offer truly professional advice by being fully informed on the various facets of Australian and International travel.

REFUNDS - AFTA members will remit any undisputed funds under their control within the specified time limit. Reasons for delay in providing funds will be given to the claimant promptly.

RESPONSIVENESS - AFTA members will promptly respond to their client's complaints.

EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN- AFTA members will not provide or assist in the provision of any travel service which, to their knowledge, is to be used for a purpose involving the sexual exploitation of children.

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Cruise &Travel Centre Springwood is an associate member of - American Express and helloworld Group. Tel: 07-3808 2299 Fax: 07-3808 4794 Email: <u>travel@ctcspringwood.com.au</u> Web; <u>www.ctcspringwood.com.au</u> For such long time I've circled in the round of endless birth and death, Searching the builder of this house -Samsāra is just so much pain.

House-builder you are seen - you will not build another house again!
All of the rafters are destroyed, the ridgepole fully broken down.
The mind has stopped constructing now the end of craving is attained.

Dhammapada Verses #153 & 154

Open are the doors to the Deathless, may those willing to listen unleash their faith!

Majjhimanikāya/Middle Length Discourses #26, "The Noble Search"



