



## ONE DAY AGRA TOUR



### Day 01: Delhi - Agra-Delhi

**7.00 AM:** Pickup from the hotel and drive to **Agra (230 Kms) 4.5 Hrs.**

Agra was once the capital of the Mughal empire and even today it seems to linger in the past. Not surprising, for the Mughal emperors with their passion for building, endowed the city with some of the finest structures in the world. It is very easy to slip away here through the centuries into the grandeur and intrigues of the Mughal court. Agra is an old city and it is said that its name was derived from Agrabana, a forest that finds its mention in the epic. In more recent times Agra came into prominence when Sikandar Lodi made it his capital city in 1501. The Lodi rule was to end very soon and Agra passed into the possession of the Mughals.

On arrival, we will proceed to visit **Taj Mahal**. (Taj Mahal is the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage. Defined as "A Tear on the Face of Eternity", this white-splendored tomb was built by Emperor Shah Jahan in the memory

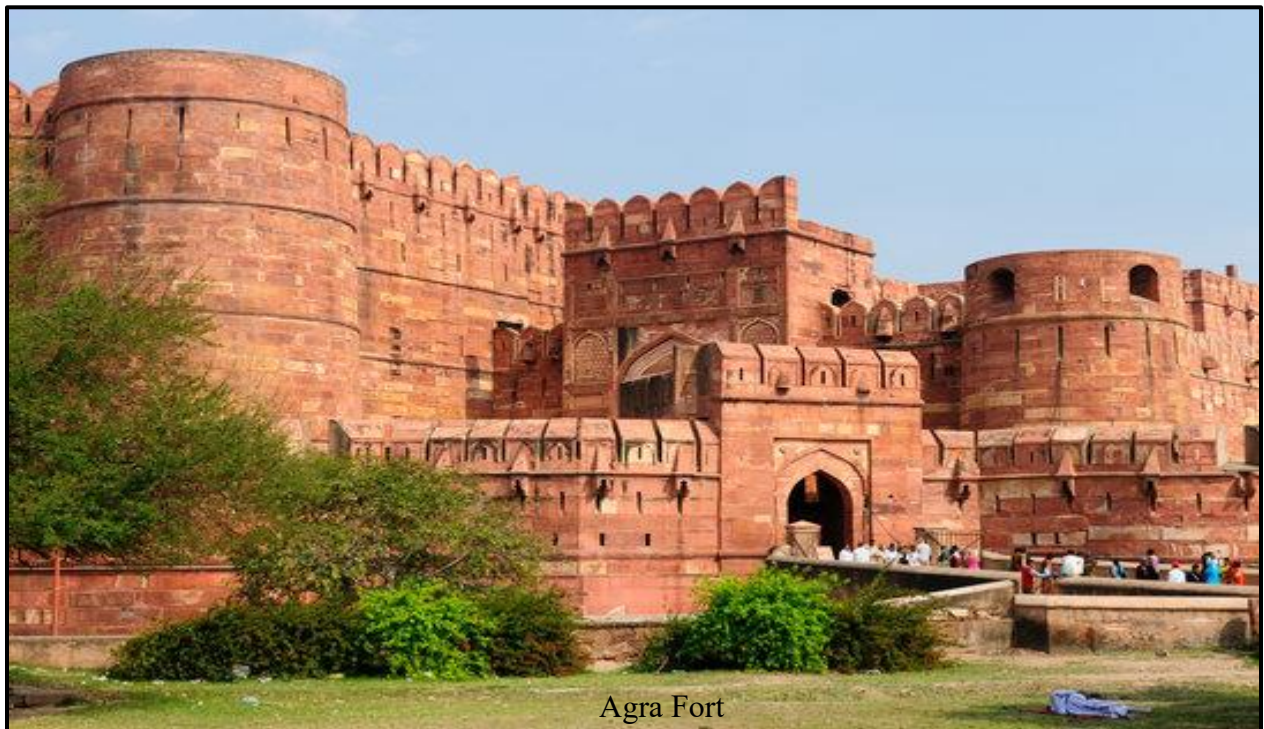


of his favourite wife, Arjumand Banu Begum, better known as Mumtaz Mahal ("Chosen of the Palace"). The unique Mughal style architecture combines elements & styles of Persian, Central Asian, and Islamic architecture. Most striking are the black and white chessboard marble floor, the four tall minarets (40 m high) at the corners of the structure, and the majestic grand dome in the middle. On closer inspection, the lettering of the Holy Quran verses around the archways appear to be uniform. The lettering spacing and density has been customized to give this impression to the viewer. The impressive Pietra dura artwork includes geometric elements & style, plants & flowers, which are common in Islamic architecture.

After Taj Mahal we will stop for a buffet Lunch in Agra[On direct payment].

Post Lunch you will visit **Agra Fort** (Near the gardens of the Taj Mahal stands this important 16th-century Mughal monument known as the Red Fort of Agra. Often, the Agra Fort is overshadowed by the pristine beauty of the Taj, but for those looking for something beyond romance, the Agra Fort is worth seeing. Akbar, the greatest empire-builder of the Mughals, commissioned the Agra Fort in 1565, and his grandson Shah Jahan, pulled down many of the original buildings and replaced them with marble ones, while Aurangzeb added the ramparts. Situated on the bank of river Yamuna, the Agra Fort today, stands as a citadel of the past that has witnessed centuries slip by. Built in red stone, the Agra fort stretches almost two kilometres on the bank of the Yamuna. A huge wall that stands 69 ft in height encircles the crescent shaped fort).

Later in the day drive back to Delhi. We will drop you in Delhi.



Agra Fort