

## FREDDIE FANS AND CLOSE BUDDIES OF MR. MERCURY

### **DAY 01**

#### ***Arrive Delhi by International Flight***



**WELCOME TO INDIA** – One Nation, countless destinations. A land of rich heritage that's ancient. The mystique of India, its history of 5000 years, philosophy, religions, fabulous historical monuments all add to its bewildering diversity to create a unique and colorful mosaic. This is the wonder that is India, come, enjoy and experience it.

Reception upon arrival at the International airport and transfer to **HOTEL TAJ MAHAL \*\*\*\*\***

**Delhi** – Capital of modern India. Many dynasties and rulers have flourished on its regal soil over the last 3000 years. The legacy still survives in many monuments varying from the 13<sup>th</sup> century mausoleum of the Lodi Kings to the buildings of British India's imperial past like the Parliament House and the Presidential Estate.

***Overnight stay at Hotel.***

### **DAY 02**

#### **DELHI**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning sightseeing tour of Old Delhi begins with a visit to Jama Mosque, the largest mosque in India, built in 1650 AD. This is followed by a drive past the Red Fort (Closed on Mondays) (1639-48), built by Emperor Shah Jahan, creator of The Taj Mahal. Later proceed to Raj Ghat - the site of the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi.

Afternoon sightseeing tour of New Delhi begins with a drive past Safdarjang's Tomb (1753 AD) while we are on the way to the Qutab Minar (1193 A.D.). This striking medieval tower of victory, built by the slave dynasty, is 73 m high. Within the Qutab complex, amidst the ruins of Quwat-ul-Islam mosque, stands the Iron pillar which has stood the vagaries of weather and has not rusted for over 1500 years. Continue your tour to visit the Humayun's Tomb. Later drive through the Embassy area, Diplomatic enclave, stop for a quick photo shoot at India Gate and Rashtrapati Bhawan (Presidential Estate formerly Viceroy's House) and Connaught Place, New Delhi's main shopping area.



***Overnight stay at Hotel.***

**DAY 03**  
**DELHI-PATNA-BODHGAYA**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from hotel to the airport in time for:

Leave: Delhi                      at 1125 hours                      by IC-407  
Arrive: Patna                      at 1255 hours

Reception upon arrival at the airport and drive to Bodhgaya (120 kms/4 hours) enroute visiting Nalanda and Rajgor.

Nalanda is a celebrated monastic establishment, 10 kilometers north of Rajgir. Buddha and Mahavira both visited this site; Ashoka, the Maurya emperor also came here to worship the sanctity of Shariputra, the disciple of Buddha. By the 07<sup>th</sup> century, Nalanda became the outstanding center of Mahayana Buddhist learning, a famous university, with shrines and monasteries filled with scholars from many parts of Asia. Huen Tsang, the well-known Chinese traveller who studied at the university in the 7<sup>th</sup> century has left a glowing account of its activities, which has attracted students from all over India, South East Asia and China. By the 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, as Buddhism declined in the region and Muslim influence increased, Nalanda fell into disuse and was eventually abandoned. Visit the archaeological Museum, which has almost all the sculptors, exhibited, and discovered here. A fine seated Naga deity dates from the 07<sup>th</sup> century; most of the other examples are from 08<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> century Pala period. Among the delicately modeled Pala bronzes are several fine standing Buddha images, their hand held out in protection, a seated Buddha figure and standing Tara.



Rajgir still preserves the name of the ancient capital of the Magadha kingdom, Rajagriha. Buddha frequently visited this city during the reigns of the two early kings of the Magadha dynasty. From this center, a new religion spread throughout the region. After the death of the leader, in the middle of the 05<sup>th</sup> century BC, the first Buddhist council was held here. Rajgir is also sacred to the Jains. Mahavira, a contemporary of Buddha spent many rainy seasons here. Jain temples continue to be built in the vicinity. The Japanese made Vishwa Shanti Stupa on top of a hill, which is worth seeing.

Continue drive to Bodhgaya and upon arrival check-in at: **HOTEL LOTUS NIKKO\*\*\***

***Overnight stay at Hotel.***

## **DAY 04**

### **BODHGAYA**

Breakfast at the hotel.

**Full day visit Gaya and Bodhgaya.**



Bodhgaya , the place where Buddha attained enlightenment is the most important Buddhist pilgrimage site in the world. The focal point of this place is the Mahabodhi tree ,”the tree under which Buddha attained wisdom” while the Temple marking the sacred spot is known as Mahabodhi Temple.

**Gaya** - this town was closely associated with Buddhism being in close proximity to Bodhgaya. But since 10<sup>th</sup> century, Gaya has been an important Hindu religious center, where Hindu pilgrims come from all over India to offer ‘Pindas’ or funeral cakes for the peace of the departed souls. The centre of pilgrimage is the Sikharn style Vishnupad Temple, constructed

in 1787 by Queen Ahalya Bai of Indore. Inside is a 40 cm long footprint of Lord Vishnu, imprinted in solid rock and surrounded by a silver plated basin.

*Overnight stay at Hotel.*

## **DAY 05**

### **BODHGAYA-VARANASI**

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, drive from Bodhgaya to Varanasi (230 kms/6 hours).

On arrival check in at **HOTEL TAJ GANGES \*\*\*\*\***

*Overnight stay at Hotel.*

## **DAY 06**

### **VARANASI**

Early morning boat ride on the river Ganges. The best time to visit the Ghats is dawn when pilgrims take their morning dip. The most famous Ghat is the Dasaswamedh Ghat from where we begin this tour. Enjoy the boat ride while looking out for people on the ghats – the women bathing discreetly in their sarees, the young men displaying prowess in yogic postures & the Brahmin priests offering prayers for one and all. Amidst all this you may also come across the burning ghats which are cremation sites for the dead.

Breakfast at the hotel.



After breakfast, proceed for a city tour of Varanasi – The tour will include visits to the numerous temples, which dot the banks of the river. During the tour you will be able to walk through the narrow lanes and stop by at the bazaars to have a look at, among other things, the world famous Banaras silks.

In the afternoon, visit the buried city of Sarnath, north east of Varanasi – it is as holy to Buddhists as Varanasi is to Hindus. Having achieved enlightenment at Bodhgaya, Buddha came to Sarnath to preach his message of the way to Nirvana. Later, Ashoka, the great Buddhist, emperor erected magnificent Stupas and monasteries at Sarnath. What is visible today are the ruins of a once flourishing Buddhist monastery and a fine museum which houses an excellent collection of Buddhist art and sculptures.

*Overnight stay at Hotel.*

## **DAY 07** **VARANASI-KHAJURAO**

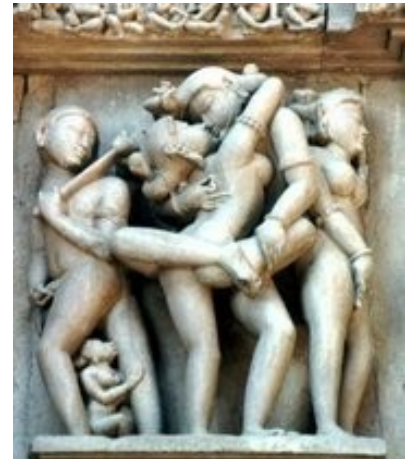
Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from hotel to the airport in time for:

Leave: Varanasi at 1225 hours by 9W-723  
Arrive: Khajuraho at 1320 hours

Reception upon arrival at the airport and transfer to **HOTEL TAJ CHENDELA \*\*\*\*\***

In the afternoon, proceed for a sightseeing tour of Khajuraho - The tour will include a visit to the famous Chandela Dynasty Temples, which are set in a lovely grass park. These temples are amazing – rising in many peaks and spirals intricately carved and designed with statues and friezes. The erotic carvings on these temple walls have made this one of the most talked about tourist site in the country and, perhaps, unmatched in the world.



*Overnight stay at Hotel.*

## **DAY 08** **KHAJURAO-JHANSI-AGRA**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Khajuraho to Jhansi (172 kms/5 hours) enroute visiting Orcha. Orcha - overlooked by the modern era, this beautiful medieval town, was once the capital of Bundela Kings. Built along the banks of the river Betwa, through a rugged countryside, it still retains the captivating air of a bygone era. Amongst the various imposing edifices, of particular interest are the Jehangiri Mahal, built by Raja Bir Singh Deo to commemorate the visit of the Moghul Emperor Jehangir. The Raj Mahal and the Laxminarayan temple are both noted for their fine frescoes and mural paintings.



Continue drive to Jhansi Railway Station in time to board train for Agra.

Leave: Jhansi at 1800 hours by SHATABDI EXP  
Arrive: Agra at 2025 hours

Reception upon arrival at the Railway Station and transfer to **HOTEL ITC MUGHAL \*\*\*\*\***

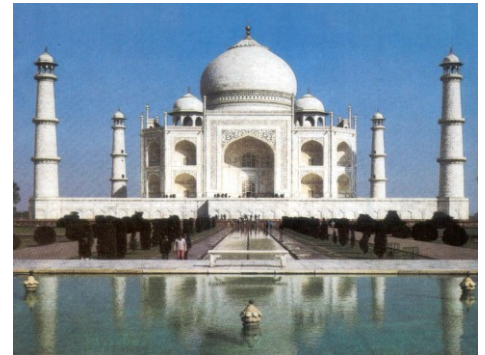
**Agra** – The ancient city once the capital of the Mughal empire in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century, depicts a gorgeous panorama of majestic architectural creations and a rich tradition of art and culture. Agra houses one of seven wonders of the world, the marble symphony of Emperor Shah Jahan - “The Taj Mahal”. Discover the dazzling creations of their craftsmen in other architectural marvels in Agra, the quintessential Mughal City.

**Overnight stay at Hotel.**

## **DAY 09** **AGRA**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning, proceed for a city tour where you will experience the TAJ MAHAL (**closed on Fridays**). An extravagant marble monument of love, built by Shah Jahan in 1653 as a memorial to his queen Mumtaz Mahal. This beautiful mausoleum in pure white marble took 22 years and 22000 craftsmen to build. Continue your tour to the Agra Fort, the original red sandstone fort built by Moghul Emperor Akbar in 1565. The Forts maze of courtyards, its marble mosque and lavish private chambers reflect the grandeur of the Mughal Empire.



Afternoon at leisure.

**Overnight stay at Hotel.**

## **DAY 10** **AGRA-JAIPUR**

Breakfast at the hotel.



Morning, drive from Agra to Jaipur (221 kms/6 hours) enroute visiting Fatehpur Sikri. This deserted, red sandstone city, built by Emperor Akbar, between 1570 and 1585, now glows in its magnificent past. This was once the capital of the Moghul Empire for a short period but later abandoned due to scarcity of water. Here you will visit the Bulund Darwaza (The Gate of Victory), which is said to be the tallest gateway in the world. In the northern part of the courtyard is the superb white marble tomb of the famous Sufi saint - Shaik Salim Chishti. This tomb was built in 1570 and legend says that the Moghul Emperor Akbar was without a male heir because of which

he made a barefoot pilgrimage from Agra to seek the blessings of this saint. The saint foretold the birth of a son, and in gratitude Akbar named his son Salim, who was later called by the title Jehangir.

**Jaipur** - The capital of Rajasthan, this picturesque city is a symphony in pink, a color which signifies hospitality in Rajput culture. Built by Raja Jai Singh in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, it is surrounded by hills topped with rugged fortresses and dotted with fairy tale palaces. Ambling camels and brightly dressed locals, reflect Jaipur's desert heritage while the teeming markets display a profusion of handlooms and crafts. Come visit the city of love, legends and lore.

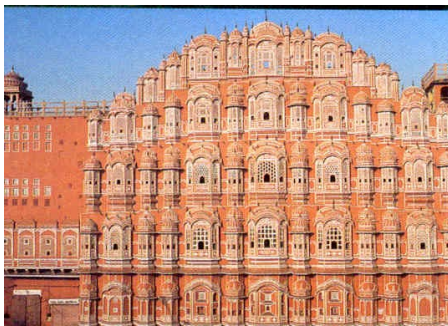
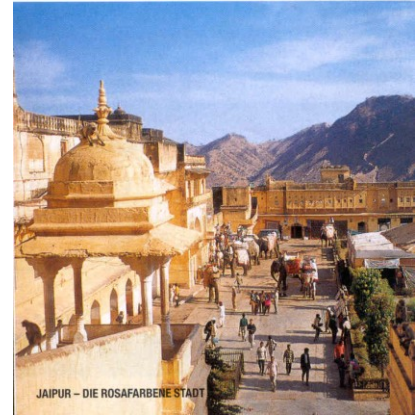
Continue your drive to Jaipur and upon arrival check-in at: **HOTEL RAJPUTANA SHERATON\*\*\*\*\***

**Overnight stay at Hotel.**

## DAY 11 JAIPUR

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning, proceed for an excursion to Amer Fort, which is located 12 kms outside Jaipur. The original Palace was built by Raja Mansingh and later additions were made by Sawai Jai Singh. One of the finest example of Rajput architecture, it was the ancient capital of Kaishhawah rulers. Enjoy the ascent to the Palace on the back of a brightly caparisoned elephant. Visit the multiple chambers and hallways of the palace which are famous for their design and decorations. This unique capital of the erstwhile warrior kings of Rajasthan is a must on every tourist itinerary to the state.



Afternoon, proceed for a city tour to visit the unique Jantar Mantar, which is a magnificent stone observatory built by Raja Jai Singh in 1728 and drive past the Hawa Mahal, an intriguing “Palace of Winds”. This was really a facade built in 1799, to allow royal ladies to view the city from the windows. Later visit the opulent City Palace, the former royal residence built in a blend of Rajasthani and Mughal style which has grand museums displaying an excellent collection of miniature paintings, costumes and armory.

**Overnight stay at Hotel.**

## DAY 12 JAIPUR -MUMBAI-GOA

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from hotel to the airport in time for:

Leave: Jaipur	at 0810 hours	by 9W-2052
Arrive: Mumbai	at 0945 hours	

Connect flight for Goa

Leave: Mumbai	at 1200 hours	by 9W-475
Arrive: Goa	at 1300 hours	

Reception upon arrival at the airport and transfer to **HOTEL TAJ EXOTICA \*\*\*\*\***

**Goa:** The most comprehensive beach resort in the country. Inland, 451 years of Portuguese rule has imbued Goa's towns and villages with a unique culture. Panjim, the capital city and Margao an important town, have private houses and government buildings dating back to Portuguese times. Unforgettable Goa, a heady blend of serenity and excitement down a 100 km coastline, studded with some of the world's most beautiful beaches – Calangute, Colva, Baga, Dona Paula, Bogmalo. Idyllic seaside stretches where you create your own kind of holiday.



Rest of the day at leisure. **Overnight stay at Hotel.**



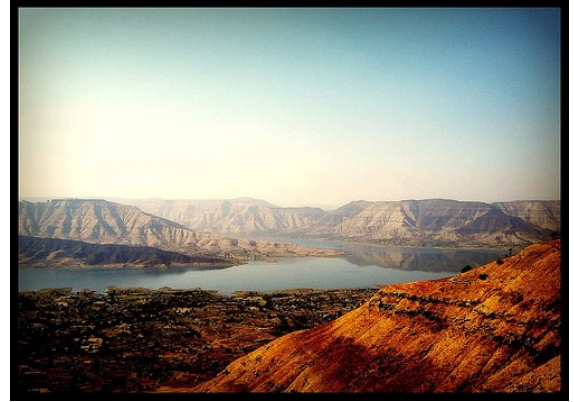
## **DAY 16**

### **MUMBAI-PUNE-PANCHGANI**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning drive to Panchgani (310 kms/7 hours) **enroute lunch at Farhang Irani's (Freddie's best friend and band member in school ) 'Bounty Sizzler ' Restaurant.**

Panchgani, the town in the midst of five hills, is an eternally beautiful hill station, a favourite escape clause for the Mumbai-weary. Panchgani is perennially fresh and inviting; its bracing climate complements the verdant surroundings. Flanked by tableland and craggy cliffs, Panchgani is 1334 m, just 38 m lower than Mahabaleshwar.



On arrival check-in at: **HOTEL IL PALAZZO (HERITAGE)**

Afternoon visit Table Land and Bazaar.

**Overnight stay at Hotel.**

## **DAY 17**

### **PANCHGANI-MUMBAI-ABROAD**

Breakfast at the hotel.

**St.Peter's School Tour Schedule. Duration 4.5 hours:**

**0730 hrs** : The school tour guide will join the fans at the hotel to partake of breakfast at 7.30am.

**0830 hrs** :The tour transport leaves for school to commence the tour at 8.45 am.

Through an interesting commentary the fans will be conducted around the following places on the school's 60 acre lush campus.

Assembly Hall - St.Peter's Church - 'Hectics' Band Room - Music Room - Gymnasium - Art Room - Barber Shop - Tuck Shop - School Playgrounds ( 3 levels - Upper field - Middle Field - Lower field , which is overlooking the Sayadri mountain valley with a breathtaking view) - Classroom - Dormitories ( Rhodesia House - Albert House - Flora House - Lawrence Villa) - Hospital - Library - Computer Room ( although not around Freddie's time).

Fans go back to the Assembly Hall for a photo opportunity with Freddie's piano and take a look at the school merchandise on sale display.

**1215 hrs** - Fans assemble with the school boys in the porch outside the dining hall and go in single file into the dining hall for lunch with the boys & school staff - to the accompaniment of 'Queen' recorded music in the background and later , after lunch a 'live' performance of a Freddie song by the school band.

After lunch drive from Panchgani to Mumbai (240 kms/5 hours)

**Same night or early morning take the International Flight back home hopefully taking back cherished memories of Freddie's school & India.**

Leave: Mumbai by International Flight

**Validity : 01 Apr 2011 – 30 Sep 2011**

***(No tours accepted during St Peter's School Winter break for Christmas and New year between 05<sup>th</sup> December 2011 to 09<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012 )***

**Cost per person (on DOB) : USD \$4195**

**Single room supplement : USD \$2395**

***Discounts may apply for Groups of 4 or more.***

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**Air fare supplement for Delhi/Patna , Varanasi/Khajuraho ,  
Jaipur/Mumbai/Goa/Mumbai :USD \$895 per person**

**Cost includes:**

- Accommodation for 15 Nights on the basis of Continental Plan (Room + Breakfast) at all places as per the itinerary mentioned above except at Panchgani which is on Breakfast and Dinner basis.
- Continental Lunch at **Farhang Irani's (Freddie's best friend and band member in school ) 'Bounty Sizzler ' Restaurant.**
- Lunch at St Peter's School in Panchgani .
- Please note the check-in time at all the hotels is 1400 Hours and check –out time is 1200 Hours.
- Arrival /departure transfer, sightseeing tours and surface journey by AC Toyota Innova car for (02 pax),
- Services of Local English speaking Guide as per the itinerary mentioned above.
- 01 Elephant Ride in Jaipur (on way) as per the itinerary.
- Boat ride on River Ganges at Varanasi
- Air Conditioned Executive Chair Car fare Jhansi – Agra
- Entrance Fees to the Monuments at all places as per the itinerary mentioned above.
- Assistance at the airport & hotels at the time of check-in & check –out
- All applicable taxes as on date

**Cost Excludes**

- Air Fare (Supplement given separately)
- Any meals apart from the one mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tips at the hotels /restaurants during the stay
- Nature of personal expenses such as telephone calls, laundry etc.
- Travel or Medical Insurance.
- Portages at the Airports and at the hotels at the time of Check – in & Check –out
- Tips to the local guide or Camera Fees at the monuments wherever applicable
- **Any services not mentioned in the inclusion**

**Important Notes:**

- Please take into account closure day(s) of monument(s) before you decide on a tour start date that will ensure viewing of all monument(s).
- Please advise full names of the clients along with the room configuration as same will be required by the hotel at the time of booking the accommodation.
- The above mentioned quotes are based on (Base Category) of room at all places, incase the clients wish to stay in higher category of room the same can be provided with additional supplement.

## MERCURY TRAVELS

- The air fare mentioned above are based on the present rates floated by the airlines, once we receive go ahead from your end we will try to secure seats in NON REFUNDABLE fare which are quite lower than the rate of the day and published tariff. Please note the NON REFUNDABLE seats are subject to availability.

### **Terms & Conditions:**

**TOUR PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS:** A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required to confirm your booking. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** If you must cancel for any reason, prior to the commencement of the tour the following cancellation penalties will apply:

Upto 60 days \$500 per person.

59-46 days \$800 per person.

45-16 days prior to departure 50% non-refundable

15 days or less NON-REFUNDABLE.

There will be no refund for no-shows.

### **DOCUMENTATION:**

All non Indian passport holders need a valid Indian Visa from country of Origin. Passport must be valid for six months from the date of entry

### **INSURANCE:**

We highly recommend Optional Comprehensive Insurance. This insurance covers hospital and medical insurance as well as baggage, flight and accident insurance. It also covers cancellation penalties if cancellation is due to medical reasons. Some limitations and exclusions may exist.