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### Nuova Delhi

The seven times destroyed capital city, Delhi speaks through its diverse ethnicity, culture and tradition, food and language. The country, Delhi boasts of being the perfect blend of history and modernity. From temples to nightclubs, there is something for everyone which makes it an ideal destination. Top places to visit in Delhi includes: The Red Fort, Qutub Minar, India Gate, Jama Masjid, Humayun's Tomb, Chandni Chowk and Lotus Temple. & nbsp;





Delhi is undoubtedly the most multi-ethnic city in the country that has preserved its history but has not forgotten to develop in its due course to become one of the most modern and tolerant cities in the country. political and business center of the Laden with few of the best universities in the world. Delhi also boasts of the best research centers, theaters, performing art centers and museums. The city features architectural brilliance of the British and Mughal buildings such as the Rashtrapati Bhawan and Red Fort to the contemporary brilliance of several amusement parks, shopping malls, and party hubs. Not only is warriors coveted. the city popular for its culture and celebrations, it is also known for its diversely Delhi, being a melting pot of diverse delicious food from all the regions of the country. From multi-cuisine buffets to street cultural kaleidoscope. It is but natural that food - you will find it all here to satisfy the foodie in you. The city has been an imperial colourful events and festivals celebrated by capital for the most part of the last thousand years, was the British colonial capital, is the capital of the Indian Republic, Independence Day, Republic Day, and has, for all these centuries, attracted migrants from vastly different geographies and cultures in search of a living, money, fame or patronage.

higher education hub, sees more than 2.5 lakh migrants coming in every year and welcomes an average of 15 million tourists each year. It is home to the Indian Parliament, the Supreme Court, and to homes and offices of Central ministers and the bureaucratic elite. It hosts three World Heritage Sites (Qutub Minar, Humayun's Tomb and Red Fort), many posh colonies as well as slum areas. It has grown to a total area of about 1.483 sq km. For its role as Commonwealth Games host for 2010. Delhi has seen modernisation-on-steroids. But the swanky redesigned airport, new Metro lines or speedy flyovers still lead you to places where emperors sighed, poets dreamed and

ethnicities and cultures, makes for a rich the city often bursts into a frenzy of its denizens. Some of the festivals and events celebrated here include International Trade Fair, Book Fair and Auto Expo.

Delhi is now a metropolis of more than 16 million people. It's a business, finance and



#### **India Gate**



Near Rajpath, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India

If you're flying to Delhi, you can probably 5 Sights spot this architectural beauty, India Gate, through your flight's window on a clear day, or when it is beautifully lit up during evenings. The monument commemorates the 90,000 soldiers of the British Indian Army who lost their lives in World War I and the Third Anglo-Afghan War. Originally called All India War Memorial, this is undoubtedly one of the most prominent landmarks in the capital city. The structure is made of red and slightly pale sandstone and granite adding a level of magnificence to the structure.

Originally as a part of the structure, a

statue of George V, the then Emperor of

later moved to Coronation

India Gate became the site of

immortal soldier").

India's independence,

Park along with a number of other British Raj era statues. After

Unknown Soldier, known as Amar

Jawan Jyoti ("the flame of the

India stood under the now vacant canopy in

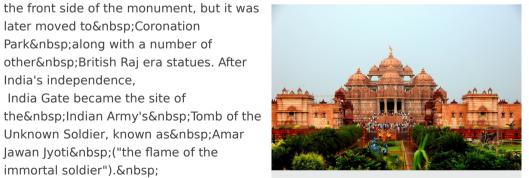
boating spot, and sprawling green lawns. is also dotted abundantly with ice-cream vendors, hawkers and people who organise spirituality. This is a pretty huge complex camel and elephant rides, making it a India Gate is also renowned for the grand Indian Republic Day Parade, hosted here every year on 26 January. So, if you are planning a trip to Delhi during that time, don't miss visiting this place. &nbsp:

Dedicated to Lord Swaminarayan, the Akshardham Temple in The area has a water-stream, an erstwhile Delhi has been built following the Vastu Sashtra and ideal for a stroll in the morning or evening. It Pancharata Sashtra. The temple is symbolic of the Indian culture, architecture and and will take up most of the day if you plan favourite spot for Delhiites to go for picnics, to see it all. Below are the highlights of the temple.

#### The Monument

The unique feature in the architectural plan is the complete absence of steel. The temple contains 234 ornate pillars, 9 domes and 20,000 statues and sculptures. The walls of the main monument are covered top to bottom with carvings of dancers, deities, flora and fauna. One can see a blend of various architectural styles used across India

#### **Swaminarayan Akshardham** Temple



N.H.24, Noida More, New Delhi 110092, India

#### The Central Dome

A huge statue of Swaminarayan stands under the central dome. The statue is surrounded by several other spiritual gurus of the sect as well as prominent Indian deities. Each statue is made of an amalgamation of 5 elements ( Pancha dhatu).

Hall of Values (Shahajanand Pradarshan)

life events of Swaminarayan and his message about the importance of humility, kindness, devotion to God and serving others.

The Theatre (Nilkanth Kalyan Yatra)

Here you can see a movie made of the pilgrimage of Nilkanth Varni, and 18th century child-yogi. This film was shot in 108 Indian locations - from the icy peaks of the Himalayas to the jungles and shores of South India.

The Boat RideA 12-minute boat ride takes

of the Indian heritage. From ancient Vedic villages and bazaars to famous discoveries and inventions by Indian sages and scientists, the entire boat ride is a beautiful experience in its own. Musical Fountain

#### Dilli Haat



(Yagnapurush Kund)A fascinating blend of Vedic Yagna Kund and a musical fountain. This hall features a diorama portraying the this stepwell features 108 miniature shrines and 2,870 steps. The design in the Akshardham Temple is in accordance with the geometric calculations of the Jayaakhya Samhita that is a testimony of the paintings, fabrics, saris, pottery, furniture, advanced mathematical prowess of the Vedic scholars, In the centre lies a lotus shaped kund (pond) which becomes the site with D.C.Handicrafts are eligible to put up of the musical fountain show in the evenings. The show portrays the concept of however, some handicraft sellers are 'Circle of Life' Garden of India (Bharat Upvan) The grounds surrounding the Swaminarayan Akshardham Temple is very well laid with manicured lawns, trees and flowers interspersed with sculptures and bronze statues of freedom fighters, scholars inimitable ethnic wares, savouring the and eminent Indian personalities.

> Food Court (Premvati Ahargriha) This is a vegetarian food court which is modelled after the famous Ajanta and Ellora evening with the entire family.It is a popular Caves. 'Ayurvedic Bazaars' also forms part of attraction and shopping hub of the city. This the theme. A number of traditional Indian cuisines are available here.

To sum it up, the temple will take you into a different parts of India. different world altogether, with its intriguing historical paraphernalia, beauty and simplicity.



Sri Aurobindo Marg, Laxmi Bai Nagar, New Delhi 110023, India

Dilli Haat is a must visit place if you are on aThink Delhi and you're probably thinking numerous little kiosks sell jewellery, Only those craftsmen who are registered their stall. Some shops are permanent, allotted stalls on a rotational basis at nominal payment for a period of 15 and cultural activity here. You could get an the minar is the Quwwat-ul-Islam Masjid. altogether delightful experience buying from Nagaland, Kahwa & Danner, Kebabs from behind it. Jammu, Pooranpoli from Maharastra or the Gujrati Dhokla or by simply relaxing in the colourful urban haat-style market is a great Qutub Minar, made of red and buff place to pick up interesting baubles and souvenirs and try out local delicacies from

#### **Qutub Minar**



Aurobindo Marg, Mehrauli, New Delhi, Delhi 110030, India

vacation in the capital. Under the open sky, about Mughal emperors. However, the pre-Mughal dynasties also left a mark on the scene of architecture and the Qutub Minar and of course, food from across the country complex stands tall as an evidence of this. It was built by Qutub-ud-din Aibak and Iltutmish. The most outstanding structure here is a huge brick minaret, the tallest of its kind in the world. The visitors are not allowed to climb the stairs inside the minaret, which lead right to the top of the Days. One sees a synthesis of crafts, cuisine structure to a height of 73 m. At the base of Another curiosity-inducing piece of architecture here is the Iron Pillar. This 7m. delicacies of different states which could be high pillar has withstood elements of nature momos from Sikkim, Bamboos hot chicken over centuries and has an interesting legend

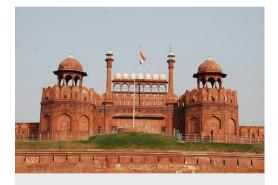
> sandstone was once the highest tower in India. The minaret was constructed with its first storey initially built for the purpose of giving calls for prayer (azaan) by Qutub-uddin Aibak. Thereafter, subsequent storeys were added to the structure by his successor and son-in-law, Iltutmish. All the storeys are encircled by a balcony that is supported by stone brackets which are decorated with a honeycomb design.

The entire monument contains numerous inscriptions in Arabic and Nagari, Ouwwat- emperor Shah Jahan, the ul-Islam Mosque, which is the earliest mosque built by the Delhi Sultans, lies in thevisit same premises.&nbsp:

Built in the 16th century by the Mughal Red Fort in Delhi is one of the best places to

Iltutmish--all of which are made of red sandstone and have numerous engravings crossed by a wooden draw-bridge. on their walls. &nbsp:

**Red Fort** 



Netaji Subhash Marg, Chandni Chowk, New Delhi, Delhi 110006, India

The premises also contain other buildings-- The walls of the fort alone are about 2 km. Ala'i-Darwaza, Ala'i Minar and the tomb of long, and surrounded by a deep forbidding moat, which in earlier times could only be The Red Fort was built when Shah lahan transferred his capital from Agra to Delhi. This grand structure in red stone is a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Delhi, from where the prime minister addresses the nation every year on Independence Day (15 Audience. This is where the king had his August).

> The fort is better planned than the Agra Fort. The entire monument is enclosed by a rubble stone wall. It has 14 gates in all, out of which the most important ones are--Lahori, Mori, Ajmeri, Turkman, Delhi and Kashmir gates. The structure is in the form of an octagon with long extended walls on the east and west. There are two main gates on the west and south. The Red Fort is constructed out of red sandstone along with marble that has been extensively used in the construction of the palaces within the fort.

As one enters the monument from the western gateway, one can locate the Naggar Khana. This is a small area where ceremonial music was played before the royalty entered the Diwan-i- Am. The Diwani-Am used to be the Hall of Public Audience, were state administrative affairs were discussed and concerns shared by the general public with the king. Further ahead of the Diwan-i-Am, lies the Diwan-i-Khass, which is also known as the Hall of Private private soirées. These two important halls are flanked by the Tasbih-Khana and the Hammam on their sides. Visit this fort and get an insight into the historical heritage of India.

Where To 5 Places

**Bukhara** 



Hotel ITC Maurya, Sardar Patel Marg, Akhaura Block, Diplomatic Enclave. Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, Delhi 110021. India

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Winner of innumerable food awards, high on every food critic's list and a regular on food journals and discussions, Bukhara has certainly earned its grand status. A rustic, urban setting welcomes you to one of the best Indian restaurants in the world. Bukhara's colonial charm will astound and surprise you. Part of every foodie's dream, the food at Bukhara is a blast of authentic flavours and spices. It's not just Bill Clinton who drools over their simple, excellent menu. The star is the tender Sikandari raan, marinated overnight. Dal Bukhara, famous worldwide for its absolutely divine taste, works wonders in leaving you speechless. Watch your meal being prepared at the lively open kitchen complete with a grill and open stove, or settle in to pleasant conversations and soothing music. All in all, Bukhara is an enticing ride of mind blowing food. So, gear up to be part of a splendid culinary experience.

#### **Indian Accent**



At The Manor Hotel, 77, Ground Floor. Near Khaitan House Friends Colony, New Delhi, Delhi 110065, India

+91-11-43235151|+91-11-432351001+91-9871117968 A restaurant that the New York times

declares should be on your list of places to visit this year, Indian Accent is one of the best fine-dining restaurants in the capital. The path-breaking eclectic  $\overset{\cdot}{\text{menu}}$  locals as well as the expat community. containing dishes like Achaari New Zealand Founded with the concept of reinventing Lamb Shank and Spicy Wild Mushrooms, appealing to both your adventurous and traditional sides. The pièce de résistance of Indian accent is a tasting menuis not working! The menu is innovative, the comprising of 11 exclusive dishes created by decor quirky and service efficient. It is chef Manish, that are totally worth their cost. Each dish is heavenly with exquisite presentation and brought to the table by the chef himself. A part of a boutique hotel, the restaurant has a very cosy, elegant décor with a helpful and well-informed staff. There is a bar and a private dining room available for the guests as well.

#### Hauz Khas Social



12, Hauz Khas Village, Next to Delhi Art Gallery, Hauz Khas

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An uber chic chain of restaurants, Social Offline landed on the country's gastronomic Everything from entrées to desserts is scene with a bang.

Hauz Khas Social is one of their outlets in Delhi which became an instant hit with the socialising, the restaurant seamlessly blends a cafe culture with a workspace. This urban hangout lets you network even when the net advised to make reservations in advance as the place is almost always full.

#### Varg



The Taj Mahal, Lower Lobby Level, 1 Mansingh Road, New Delhi 110001, India

+91-11-23026162

Varg- the silver lining is an Indian cuisine fine dining restaurant in The Tai Mahal lobby. The restaurant is run by eminent chefflourishes by Morimoto himself. The Hemant Oberoi. His culinary skills are noteworthy and are reflected in the preparation and presentation of the food. amazingly prepared and absolutely finger licking.

#### Wasabi By Morimoto



1. Lower Lobby Level. Near Kapurthala House, Taj Mansingh Hotel Road, South Block, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India

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Masaharu Morimoto - Celebrity chef who is also known as the Iron Chef, and Taj group have collaborated to set up this contemporary Japanese restaurant. As much a modern lapanese restaurant as a showcase for Morimoto's own brand of flamboyant Japanese cuisine, it has some outstanding dishes on the menu. So, while

the entire vegetarian menu has been done by the Tai, most of the menu consists of restaurant offers a private dining room featuring lovely pink onvx walls, which are lit from behind and can seat up to 8 people. Oyster Foie Gras is one of the signatures and a must-try. The oysters are lightly steamed and set with a piece of Foie Gras brilliant and innovative. Warm Carpaccio of White Fish is another treat, as is the Grilled Wagyu with three sauces. Those whose palate veers towards the tried and tested can order from the Teppanyaki menu. It is deservedly popular. At Wasabi, even the flowers that are on the plate as decoration are not only edible but also delicious. The desserts in the form of Green Tea Ice Cream. Tofu Cheesecake and Chocolate Tart are innovative. Certainly a must-visit!



#### DAY 1: JANTAR MANTAR - RED FORT - AKSHARDHAM TEMPLE

Historical & Heritage

Duration of visit: 30 Mins - 1 Hr Timings: 6 AM to 6 PM Entry Fee: Rs.5 for Indians, Rs.100 for Foreigners

At a distance of 3 km from Delhi Junction Railway Station, Jantar Mantar is one of the best historical places in Delhi situated in Parliament Street near Connaught Place. Jantar Mantar was declared a national monument in 1948

#### DAY 2: BIRLA TEMPLE

Pilgrimage

Duration of visit: 1 Hour Timings: 4.30 AM - 1.30 PM and 2.30 PM - 9 PM Entry Fee: Free entry

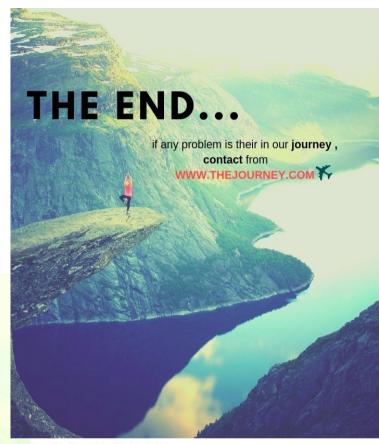
At a distance of 4 km from New Delhi Railway Station and 2.5 Km from Jantar Mantar, Lakshmi Narayan Temple also known as the Birla Mandir is situated at Mandir Marg near Connaught Place in New Delhi

#### **DAY 3: JAMA MASJID**

Historical & Heritage | Pilgrimage

Duration of visit: 1 Hour Timings: 7 AM to 12 PM and 1.30 PM to 6.30 PM Entry Fee: Free. Photography fee: Rs. 200

At a distance of 3.5 km from New Delhi Railway Station, Jama Masjid or Masjid-i-jahan-Numa is located in the center of old Delhi near the famous Red Fort. This is one of the largest mosques in India and one of the last monuments built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan.



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