



# AMRITSAR SHORTSTAY

Extension | 3 Days | Physical Level 1

Delhi – Amritsar (2N) - Delhi

Travel on the Shatabdi Express train to Amritsar to visit the sacred Golden Temple and experience the extravagant closing ceremony of the border between India and Pakistan.

## TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Daily tours and entrance fees
- Transportation and private transfers as stated
- English speaking guide

## ITINERARY

**Day 1: Delhi to Amritsar**

Meals: None

Transfer from your hotel to Delhi's railway station to board the Shatabdi Express for your 6 hour train journey to Amritsar. On arrival, you will be met and transferred to your hotel for a two-night stay.

In the evening, enjoy a visit to the Golden Temple for the nightly 'Palki Ceremony', an atmospheric ceremony accompanied by drums and hymns, before returning to your hotel.



*Please note: Your seats on the day train to Amritsar will be in an AC Chair Car. You may not be able to purchase any food or drink on the train, so if you need snacks make sure to pre-purchase them before boarding. The train carriages are shared, so at all times please be mindful of your personal belongings.*

**Destination Information**

**Amritsar** - The centre of Sikhism, Amritsar was founded in 1577 by the fourth Sikh guru, Ram Das. Home to Sikhism's holiest shrine, the astonishing Golden Temple, Amritsar is an important part of Sikh history and culture. The city is also one of India's oldest and most fascinating cities divided into two parts; the old city, a swirl of narrow bazaars and historical buildings, and modern Amritsar, gleaming and bustling.

**Day 2: Amritsar**

Meals: B

The day begins with a city tour, where you return to the Golden Temple to soak up the atmosphere, followed by a visit to the infamous Jallianwala Bagh.

This afternoon, drive approximately 1 hour to the India-Pakistan border to witness the fascinating Flag Lowering Ceremony. Due to security regulations, the coach will drop your group at a designated area and you will walk approximately 300 – 400 metres to the border and back again after the ceremony.



Please note: There below rules must be followed during your visit to the Golden Temple:

- At every entrance to Sri Harimandir Sahib, there is a place to store shoes and any luggage, free of charge. Once you have passed over your belongings, you will receive a token that you will return in exchange for your belongings when exiting.
- You will need to switch-off your mobile phone before entering the Sanctum Sanctorum.
- Hands and feet are to be washed and heads are required to be covered before entering the holy complex.
- Cigarettes, tobacco or other intoxicants are strictly prohibited inside the holy premises.
- Photography is allowed only in the outer Parikarma.
- It is strictly prohibited to eat in the Parikarma.
- We suggest that you leave your valuables (including jewellery and money) in your hotel safe, otherwise they will need to be deposited at the counters provided in the Sri Darbar Sahib complex.

### Destination Information

**Golden Temple** - The magnificent Golden Temple is the holiest Sikh shrine and a major pilgrimage destination for Sikhs all over the world. A small part of a large gurdwara complex, the Golden Temple sits on a rectangular platform, surrounded by a white marble corridor and encircled by pilgrims visiting the shrine. The water that surrounds the temple is a sacred pool known as the Amrit Sarovar, said to have healing powers and which the city is named after. The temple is a captivating blend of Hindu and Islamic architecture, crowned by a dome gilded with 750kg of gold.

**Jallianwala Bagh** - A public garden that houses a memorial to the massacre that took place on 13 April 1919 against nonviolent protestors by the British occupying forces.

**Flag Lowering Ceremony** - A daily military practise held at the Wagah Border of India and Pakistan, which is sure to be a highlight of your trip! The ceremony first began in 1959 and involves the security forces of both countries. Beginning at sunset, this remarkable ceremony begins with patriotic songs and a parade on either side of the border gates and ends when the flags are lowered, neatly folded and carried back to their respective camps.

### Day 3: Amritsar to Delhi

Meals: B

Transfer to the railway station and board your return train for Delhi. On arrival, you will be met and transferred to either the airport or hotel where your arrangements end.



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