

Delhi History

Delhi, the capital of India has a strong historical background. It was ruled by some of the most powerful emperors in Indian history.

The history of the city is as old as the epic Mahabharata. The town was known as Indraprastha, where Pandavas used to live. In due course eight more cities came alive adjacent to Indraprastha: Lal Kot, Siri, Dinpanah, Quila Rai Pithora, Ferozabad, Jahanpanah, Tughlakabad and Shahjahanabad.

The local transportation is the lifeline of the capital city of Delhi. More than half of the population in Delhi is dependent on local transport for commuting purposes. The means & modes of transport in New Delhi are many, ranging from the Metro Trains, Local Trains, Buses, Taxies and cabs.

Delhi has always been a vibrant city with a cosmopolitan culture which is reflected in every aspect of life. Delhi has plenty of entertainment spots to choose from. Entertainment Places like cinema halls, pubs, hotels and recreational centers are open on all weekends. It has world class multiplexes like the PVR, Big Cinema, Fun Cinema, DT Cinema etc. Night life in Delhi consists of clubs, bars, restaurants, etc., where you get a world class ambience with quality service.

Auditoriums in Delhi host cultural and recreational concerts all through the year which are seen with great interest by the people of Delhi. Live concerts and dramas take place on a regular basis which adds to the entertainment aspect of the city. With the development of elegant malls and shopping complexes in Delhi, you have the option of shopping and dining under a single roof. These shopping malls cater to a variety of needs by providing services ranging from restaurants, swanky showrooms, cheap grocery stores, play stations and much more.

Delhi is one of the India's busiest entry points. It has a wide range of accommodation available from deluxe five star luxury hotels, with top-notch restaurants, 24-hour coffee shops, swimming pools, travel agents and shopping arcades, Malls to middle-range hotels and guest houses offering good services and a comfortable stay, down to economical tourist lodges. There are a few Tourist Hostels, Working women's Hostels, Service Apartments, Camping Sites and Dharmashalas as well.

22-27 September, India, New Delhi
Correction-Transformation- Re-integration

DELICIOUS CUISINE



From age-old eateries in the by lanes of the Walled City to glitzy, specialty restaurants in five-star hotels, Delhi is a foodie's paradise. Delhi offers a choice of Indian and International Cuisines in different ambiances to suit varied budgets.

For gourmets, Delhi is synonymous with Mughlai and Frontier Cuisine. The best of Mughlai cuisine can be enjoyed at Karim, (both in Jama Masjid and Nizamuddin) where the recipes, dating from the times of the Mughals have been the closely guarded secrets of generations of chefs.

Delhi ka Aangan (Hyatt Regency), Darbar (Ashoka Hotel), and Corbetts (Claridges) are among the many options available in the expensive range, while Gulati Restaurant (Pandara Market), Angeethi (Asiad Village) and Degchi (Regal Building) are among those catering to more modest budgets. The finest Frontier cuisine is available at the Bukhara (Maurya Sheraton), Frontier (Ashoka Hotel) and Baluchi (The Hilton).

At the other end of the scale, there are the many popular roadside eateries around Jama Masjid and Nizamuddin where kababs, rotis and biryani are the order of the day.



Every five-star hotel in the city has a Chinese restaurant, while most markets in South Delhi have a medium-budget Chinese eateries. The popularity of this cuisine can be gauged by the innumerable Chinese food outlets of the "meals-on-wheels" and kiosk variety. The growing sophistication of the Delhite's palate is discernible in the increasing number of specialty restaurants - El Arab (Regal Building), Dum Pukht in Awadh (Maurya Sheraton), Kashmiri food at Chor Bizarre (Hotel Broadway), Thai food at Baan Thai (The Oberoi) and Sukothai (Hauz Khas village), Japanese food at Tokyo (The Ashok) and Osaka (Haus Khas village). Wide array of international cuisines including North West Frontier, Oudhi, Continental, Jain & South Indian Cuisine are available in a variety of Hotels. South Indian food is another favorite, the vegetarian variety of which is best enjoyed at Sagar (Defence Colony), Sagar Ratna (Lodhi Hotel).



The best of continental cuisine can be eaten at five-star hotels, though numerous multi-cuisine restaurants also offer continental food. Keeping pace with the changing face of the city are the growing number of fast food outlets, which serve all a large variety of cuisines

A delightful spot offering a range of Indian Cuisine are the food stalls at Dilli Haat. Here, the cuisine of different states is made available at very moderate rates. Set in the midst of a spacious craft bazaar these cafes are a very pleasant place to enjoy food. For the more intrepid, eateries such as those at Prathe Wali Gali, or chaat at Bengali Market and Sunder Nagar, bhelpuri at Greater Kailash and sweetmeats from Annapoorna and Ghantewala can be part of the gastronomical tour of Delhi.

Delhi is also synonymous with the omnipresent tandoori chicken and tandoori roti, which, when freshly prepared from the tandoor, makes a delicious meal. This is often available at roadside dhabas at a moderate cost.

Delhi is a city that bridges two different worlds. Old Delhi, once the capital of Islamic India, is a labyrinth of narrow lanes lined with crumbling havelis and formidable mosques. In contrast, the imperial city of New Delhi created by the British Raj is composed of spacious, tree-lined avenues and imposing government buildings. Delhi has been the seat of power for several rulers and many empires for about a millennium. Many a times the city was built, destroyed and then rebuilt here. Interestingly, a number of Delhi's rulers played a dual role, first as destroyers and then as creators.

The city's importance lies not just in its past glory as the seat of empires and magnificent monuments, but also in the rich and diverse cultures. No wonder chroniclers of Delhi culture - from Chand Bardai and Amir Khusro to present days writers - have never been at a loss for topics. In Delhi, you will discover that the city is sprinkled with dazzling gems: captivating ancient monuments, fascinating museums and art galleries, architectural wonders, a vivacious performing-arts scene, fabulous eating places and bustling markets.

Delhi has been the political hub of India. Every political activity in the country traces its roots here. This was true even of the mythological era. The Pandavas of the Mahabharata had their capital at Indraprastha, which is believed to have been geographically located in today's Delhi.

Delhi Facts

Area: 1,483 sq km

Latitudinal parallel: 28.3°N

Longitudinal meridian: 77.13°E

Altitude: 293 m above sea level

Population: 16.75 million (Census 2011)

Average Temperature: 45°C (Max) - usually in May - Jun, 5°C (Min) - usually in Dec - Jan

Desirable Clothes: Woollen for winters and light cotton for summers

Rainfall: 714 mm

Monsoon: July to mid-September

Season: Extreme climate with very hot summer and very cold winter

Best time to visit: October to March

STD Code: 011

Languages: Hindi, English, Urdu and Punjabi

Religions: Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, Zoroastrianism, Judaism and Bahai Faith

The capital has a charming mix of old and new world. On one side you can see Old **architectural sites**, **buzzing streets** and exotic markets, and on the other side Delhi has **magnificent Malls**, **swan by over bridges**, modern opulent high rise buildings and lots of greenery.

TIME TO VISIT

The best time to visit Delhi is from October to March when the weather is at its best. During this period flowers are at their blooming best, the weather is pleasant and enjoyable to experience
Incredible Delhi