



BHUTAN & BEYOND

Edit V3 21JUN22

## **KOLKATA CITY STOPOVER – 2 Nights**

### **DAY 1**

### **ARRIVE KOLKATA AIRPORT**

Note: If you are travelling on an e-Visa please ensure you are carrying a hardcopy of the approval and proceed to the e-Visa counters at the end of the Immigration Hall.

Target Tours are our partner operator in India. You will meet our Target Tours travel representative in the arrival hall, after collecting your luggage & passing through customs. The representative will provide a briefing of your tour and introduce you to your driver.

Transfer by air-conditioned private car to your prebooked hotel. The rest of today is at leisure.

Calcutta (now Kolkata) was the capital of India, during the British Raj, when it was a leading centre for commerce and a port of call for east bound ships. Renowned as a centre for culture and learning, the city was patronised by wealthy art connoisseurs, who nourished writers, artists, musicians, filmmakers, philosophers, and scientists. Consequently, it became the social and cultural capital of India. With its rich colonial heritage as well as wonderful mosques, temples, universities and museums, this city has an overwhelming wealth of sights and experiences to offer its visitors.

### **OVERNIGHT STAY AT YOUR CHOICE OF KOLKATA HOTEL**

4-Star [HHI Kolkata](#) in a Superior Room

OR 5-Star [Taj Bengal](#) in a Deluxe Room



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**DAY 2**

**EXPLORING KOLKATA**

**(B)**

Breakfast in the hotel.

Today at 9: 00 AM a local guide will meet you at your hotel this morning for your half day tour exploring Kolkata, which includes visits to the Mulik Ghat Flower Market, Victoria Memorial and the Botanical Gardens.

Located near the southeast end of Howrah Bridge, the vibrant and colourful Mulik Ghat Flower Market is the biggest flower market in Asia. The market transacts millions of rupees of trade a day and employs thousands of people in the process. If you visit at daybreak, you'll avoid the heat and see wholesalers arrive with huge consignments of flowers that are then auctioned to retailers. Many workers live in makeshift shacks, carrying out household chores and bathing and washing clothes and pots and pans from a ghat on the Hooghly River. At around 7.00am, local wrestlers practice their art on a small, caged area of sand set slightly back from the river. Teeming with life and a riot of colour, the market is a photographer's paradise.

The Victoria Memorial is the city's greatest landmark and one of the most solid reminders of the British Raj to be found in India. This huge building is a strange combination of classical European architecture with Mughal influence, and a resemblance can be seen between the Taj Mahal at Agra and St Paul's Cathedral at London. The portraits, statues, paintings & artefacts here tell the story of the British Empire in India at its peak.

On the west bank of the Hooghly River are the extensive Botanical Gardens. This 110-hectare park was set up in 1787 by Colonel Kyd of the East India Company. It has a variety of botanical specimens. The prime attraction of the park is a 200+ year old Banyan tree, said to have the second largest canopy in the world.



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After the tour return to the hotel. The rest of the day is free to relax or:

- Stroll along Book Street where every type of second-hand book is for sale.
- Venture into the narrow confines of Kalighat for a visit to the famed Kali Temple.
- Take a public ferry across the mighty Hooghly River and back.
- Drive over the massive Howrah Bridge and visit historic Howrah Railway Station.
- Take an iconic yellow Ambassador taxi ride; Kolkata is one of the last cities in India in which they are still in use.
- Ride a rattly old tram through the city – an absolute must.
- Visit the famed Eden Gardens Cricket Ground where you can enter the stadium.
- Walk Ashutosh Mukherjee Road for the full Indian street shopping and hawker experience.
- Visit the Maidan – the lungs of the city where dozens of games of cricket are played. Send down a few well-placed bouncers if you really want to thrill the players.
- Take lunch alongside many hundreds of office workers on Russel Street and surrounding streets.
- Enjoy a drink or two at Broadway Hotel, one of the oldest licensed venues in the city, now a venue that draws the young and hip as much as the older regulars.

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**DAY 3**                      **TRANSFER TO KOLKATA AIRPORT**                      **(B)**

Breakfast in the hotel.

Please note hotel check-out time is 10.00am.

Private car transfer to Kolkata airport for your onwards flight.

====END OF SERVICES====

**Cost Includes:**

- Accommodation for 2 nights as per above hotels with breakfast
- Assistance at hotel/airport
- Transfers and sightseeing in air-conditioned Toyota Innova
- English speaking guide for sightseeing tour
- Present applicable taxes as on 28 Feb 2022

**Cost Excludes: -**

- Any meals other than mentioned in itinerary
- International & Domestic Airfares
- Items of personal nature ie. laundry, drinks, phone calls, camera fee, tips etc.
- Entrance fees, Insurance charges, visa charges etc.



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