



JOURNEYS *with Nikki*

Experience India. With an American of Indian ancestry.

Activity Level - Easy to Moderate

Journey starts at Varanasi, ends at Delhi



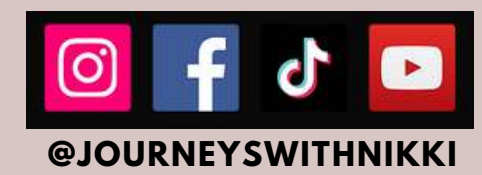
DIWALI DHAMAKA

VARANASI - KOLKATA - JAIPUR - UDAIPUR

OCT 26 - NOV 4, 2024 (10D/9N)

DIWALI CELEBRATIONS IN FOUR
UNIQUE CITIES

GET \$400 OFF YOUR INTERNATIONAL TICKETS WHEN YOU BOOK THROUGH US!



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EXPLORE *cultures* OF THE WORLD *with* JWN

- We are Experiential travelers. We want to experience authentic cultures of the world on our own terms.
- We stay in hotels that afford us comfort (Boutique hotels, Heritage hotels, 3 or 4 star hotels), we travel with ease through carefully designed historical, cultural and nature tours that allow the perfect mix of exploration, experience and downtime. The **JWN** traveler does better than Time Travel!
- Every journey with JWN offers you very local experiences. Celebrate with an Indian family! Attend a wedding! Ride a bullock cart! Learn how to cook local Indian food! Dine with a local family! Be draped in local dresses! Learn local handicrafts and take home unique souvenirs!

DISCOVER YOURSELF!

JWN Overview: I've always said that we Indians need an excuse to celebrate something! To eat and drink and be merry!

Diwali is a festival that most every Indian looks forward to, even if it is not celebrated at home, religiously. There is a lot of color, cheer and goodwill in the air. It's something like Christmas in the US. Whether or not you're a Christian, you celebrate it in some form or fashion!

Diwali, the "Festival of Lights," is a dazzling spectacle that transforms India into a land bathed in warm, golden hues. Celebrations last across many days culminating with the Lakshmi Puja. Diwali is to India, what Christmas is to Western countries.

Celebrated across the country, it holds immense significance as a victory of good over evil, commemorating the return of Lord Rama after his 14-year exile. Homes are adorned with intricate rangolis (colorful floor patterns), symbolizing prosperity and good luck. The air itself crackles with anticipation as people prepare for the main night.

As dusk descends, the brilliance of Diwali takes center stage. Millions of diyas (earthen lamps) are lit, illuminating homes, streets, and temples. The darkness is virtually banished, replaced by a breathtaking display of flickering light. Fireworks paint the night sky with vibrant colors, adding to the joyous cacophony. Cities like Jaipur, adorned in warm pink hues, and Udaipur, with its shimmering lakes reflecting the diyas, become even more captivating during this festival.



DIWALI DHAMAKA

VARANASI - KOLKATA - JAIPUR - UDAIPUR

10D / 9N | 12 GUESTS | OCT 26 - NOV 4, 2024
MODERATE, INVOLVING SOME AMOUNT OF WALKING, STANDING

#NORTH INDIA | HISTORY | CULTURE | PHOTOGRAPHY | PEOPLE | FESTIVAL

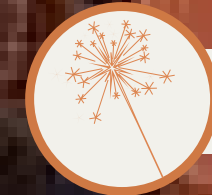


“Stop worrying about the potholes in the road and celebrate the journey.”

DIWALI IN VARANASI

Diwali in Varanasi: A Celebration Beyond Illumination

- Participate in festivities and cultural performances
- Witness Special Diwali processions
- Special Pujas (prayers) and meditation on the sacred ghats of the Ganges river
- Ganga Aarti
- Boat ride on the Ganges
- Experience the spiritual energy of the city
- Explore ancient ghats and temples
- Visit Kashi Vishwanath Temple, one of the holiest shrines
- Attend a classical music performance
- Explore alleys for hidden gems and workshops



VARANASI



KOLKATA



JAIPUR



UDAIPUR

DIWALI IN KOLKATA

- Kali Puja: The City's Crown Jewel - special puja in Kolkata
- Boat rides on the magical Hooghly River that is all illuminated for Diwali
- Witness the special Ganga Aarti ceremony on the river
- Cultural processions and floats
- Visit the Victoria Memorial, reminiscent of Buckingham Palace
- Explore the colonial architecture, bustling markets, and hidden alleyways
- Foodie Adventure on the Streets of Kolkata
- Take a nostalgic tram ride through the charming neighborhoods of North Kolkata, a bygone era preserved amidst the bustling city
- Explore Kolkata's Artistic Spirit and Hidden Gems
- Visit Shantiniketan
- Explore exquisite handcrafted items from Shantiniketan, a center for art and craft revival
- Shopping! Leather goods, textiles, sweets, unique black pottery, Dokra craft, conch shell products and many more!



DIWALI IN JAIPUR - UDAIPUR



Diwali Delights: A Tale of Two Rajasthani Cities

Jaipur, better known as ‘The Pink City’, offers a grand and vibrant celebration with a touch of royalty.

- Hawa Mahal, the “Palace of Winds” is illuminated by diyas, a celebration fit for royalty
- Watch vibrant royal processions and cultural performances depicting scenes from the Ramayana
- Explore bustling markets overflowing with handcrafted Diwali decorations

Udaipur, known as the ‘City of Lakes’, provides a serene and picturesque setting, with shimmering lakes adding a touch of magic.

- The City Palace and Jag Mandir Palace, rising from the lake, are illuminated, creating a magical scene
- Enjoy a magical boat ride on Lake Pichola at night with enchanting reflections of diyas dancing on the water's surface
- Enjoy traditional Rajasthani folk music and dance performances
- Witness the serene beauty of Diwali puja ceremonies performed on the ghats of Lake Pichola.
- Visit local markets to find unique Rajasthani souvenirs

Travel is not a destination. It is a journey.



DISCOVER YOURSELF!

- Long before you start your travels, we start your experiential journey with you. The group will meet virtually and start getting to know each other.
- You will be given some basic written material to read and videos of India to help you familiarize yourself with the history and culture of the region you're visiting.
- You will be guided to basic language courses that will allow you to learn the basics of the local language so you can enjoy basic communication with the locals. You might be able to strike a great bargain with these skills too!
- If you wish to, you can join our three hour course in photography that will allow you to take better photographs when you're there, suitable for social media and also for serious photographers.
- We want to make sure we are a good fit for each other! Schedule a call with us! Talk to Nikki!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Why do you call your tour a ‘journey’?**
 - We believe the journey IS our destination. It is not about seeing a particular monument or sight, but the whole experience of getting there that is important. At JWN, we love seeing our guests grow as they travel with us, learning about a new culture, new traditions, a new language, making new friends, and most of all, learning more about themselves and challenging themselves.
- **I’ve heard that India can be very challenging to a foreigner. How will I be able to navigate this?**
 - When you travel with JWN, we have you covered. Nikki herself will travel with you from Day 1 through Day last and help you learn the ropes. She will take care of the logistics, guide you with cultural nuances and help make your journey smooth. Having lived in India several decades, she is familiar with all things Indian, and brings a unique perspective of both cultures to your journey.
- **Is it safe for a foreign woman to travel to India?**
 - By staying informed, taking precautions, and respecting local customs, women can have a safe and enjoyable experience when visiting India. JWN helps show you the ropes for all this.
- **Is India friendly to foreigners?**
 - Indian people are known for their warm hospitality and friendliness towards tourists.
- **Why should I choose JWN for my tour?**
 - Having lived for long periods in both countries, JWN hosts are fluent with customs and cultures of both countries, forming the perfect bridge for your experience. JWN has an extensive Indian network that can provide most every kind of option. It also covers ALL meals (except the last dinner), ALL domestic transportation and offers unique local experiences that would normally be inaccessible to foreign tourists.

10D/9N ALL-INCLUSIVE COST USD 5,865



WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE 'ALL-INCLUSIVE COST'?

- Local Airport transfer to hotel
- **All accomodation, as per itinerary**
- Twin occupancy, 3 - 4 star hotels and camps
- **All meals (except last day lunch and dinner)**
- Entry ticket costs to monuments
- Local transportation, as per itinerary
- Professional, local guides
- All experiences
- Lunch with a local family
- *as per availability
- **FREE TIME** to explore built into every journey

NOT INCLUDED IN COSTS

- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Last day dinner
- Optional excursions and tours, activities not listed above
- Gratuities and tips for personal services
- Drinks
- International Round Trip Ticket

GET \$400 OFF YOUR INTERNATIONAL TICKETS WHEN YOU BOOK THROUGH US!

What you should know to

PLAN YOUR TRIP



CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations prior to 30 days from Day 1 of the Journey

- Get 80 % refund (minus non-refundable deposit)

Cancellation between 30 days and 15 days from Day 1 of the Journey

- Get 50 % cash refund
- 90% cash voucher for same trip till one year
- 80% cash voucher for any other journey till one year

Cancellation less than 15 days from Day 1 of the journey/ In case of no show

- No refund

THIS JOURNEY REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF 4 GUESTS

DISCOVER YOURSELF!



SCHEDULE A CALL WITH NIKKI

Email: journeyswithnikki@gmail.com
Phone/text/WhatsApp - +1 904-990-6499

Schedule a call at
<https://journeyswithnikki.youcanbook.me>
or scan the QR code.

Let's get to know each other and see if
we're a good fit for each other! 😊



SCAN TO BOOK A
CALL WITH NIKKI



RESERVE YOUR PLACE ON THE TOUR

Choose your payment option and reserve your spot on
the journey with a non-refundable deposit of USD 500.

JWN will take a maximum of 12 people on a tour!



@JOURNEYSWITHNIKKI