



## 4N/5D Puri & Chilika

### Description

#### Day 1: Arrival at Puri Rly. Stn.

Arrival at Puri Rly. Stn. Receive and transfer to hotel. After freshen up visit the world famous Lord Jagannath temple. The majestic Jagannath Temple in Puri is a major pilgrimage destination for Hindus and is a part of the "Char Dham" pilgrimages. Jagannatha is not the only deity worshipped in the temple, though it is known as the 'Jagannatha Temple'. The deities of the Puri temple are generally known as the Trimurti (trinity) and also as Chaturdhamurti. The temple was originally built by the Kalinga ruler Anantavarman Chodaganga (1078 – 1148 CE). Much of the present structure was built by King Ananga Bhima Deva in the year 1174 CE. It took 14 years to complete and was consecrated in 1198 CE. Continue to drive towards Konark the Chariot of the Sun God temple, built by Laqngula Narasingh Deva in 13th century A.D.. The Sun temple is known for its exquisite and intricate architecture and sculptures, an UNSECO World Heritage List of monument. The word 'Konark' is a combination of two words 'Kona' and 'Arka'. 'Kona' means 'Corner' and 'Arka' means 'Sun', so when combines it becomes 'Sun of the Corner', dedicated to Sun God. Konark is also known as Arka khetra. There are three different sides of the temple, positioned in proper direction to catch the rays of the sun at morning, noon and evening. King Narasimhadeva the great ruler of the Ganga dynasty had built this temple, with the help of 1200 artisans within a period of 12 years (1243-1255 A.D.). Since the ruler used to worship the Sun, the temple was considered as a chariot for the Sun God. Konark Temple was designed in the form of a gorgeously decorated chariot mounted on 24 wheels, each about 10 feet in diameter, and drawn by 7 mighty horses. It is really difficult to understand, how this huge temple, every inch-space of which was so wonderfully carved, could have been completed within such a short time. Whatever that might be, the Konark temple even in its present ruined state, still a wonder to the whole world. Great poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote of Konark: "here the language of stone surpasses the language of man."

Drive back to Puri, evening enjoy beach marketing and relax on beach. Overnight at hotel.

#### Day 2: Puri

After freshen up in hotel visit Gundicha temple, the abode of Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra for 9 days in-between Rath Yatra festival to Bahuda Yatra. Then visit Raghurajpur is 12Km from Puri- the artisans' village, is a living museum itself. Every household has a painter and can show you lavishly painted, the age-old tradition paintings on canvas, silk (tassar) and other

varieties like Pattachitra, papiermache, masks, stone idols, sculptures, wooden idils and toys and many more. The recently drawn mural paintings on the house walls are a step forward to make impression about survival of the past glory. One can contact any house in this village for the painting. The village ambience is also heart touching. This is a Heritage Craft Village of Odisha. Then visit Sakhigopal also known as SakhigopalSatyabadi-is famous for the shrine of Lord Krishna. Although the Sakhigopal temple was built during the 19th century, the legend has it that the Krishna image was brought here by King Prataprudra Deva after his victory over Kanchi (South India). The life-size image is standing with flute and Radha is standing on the left side. The images are very beautiful and impressive. Back to Puri. Free at beach for beach activities.

Back to Hotel overnight at Hotel.

### **Day 3: Puri - Bhubaneswar. (60 km) 2hrs approx**

After breakfast drive to Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar Known as the "Temple City", founded during the Kalinga empire over 3,000 years ago, Bhubaneswar today boasts of a cluster of magnificent temples, which once boasted of more than 2000 temples. still preserves over 500 of India's finest temples. Enroute Pipli the artist village where locals produce appliqué art- a process of cutting coloured cloth into shapes of animals, birds, flowers, leaves, gods, goddesses and other decorative motifs and stitching them over a piece of cloth. These creations are fabricated into lampshades, handbags, cushion covers, or even garden umbrellas. Continue with Dhauli, where a modern peace pagoda and ancient rock edicts mark the emperor Ashoka's conversion to Buddhism. Dhauli, a sacred Buddhist site on the banks of then river Daya, where the great Kalinga war was taken place. Revered by Buddhists as the place where ancient Indian emperor Ashoka renounced violence and embraced Buddhism, the site pagoda, and see two of the rock-carved edicts declaring Ashoka's new religious principles that date from 260 BC. Then view some rock-cut caves, medieval Hindu temples, and the renovated Shiva temple near Pagoda. Also visit Lingaraj Temple Constructed in 650 A.D. this temple is a unique specimen of Oriyan style of architecture. The most special feature of this temple is the presence of one thousand lingas in the north-west corner of the complex. Dedicated to Lord Shiva as the name suggests, the temple was built sometime in the 7th century by the King Jajati Keshari. The Lingaraj Temple houses a Shivalingam that rises to a massive height of 8 inches above the floor level and is about 8 feet in diameter as well. Lingaraj Temple is a spectacular specimen of Orissa style of temples with a hint of Kalinga style of architecture, covering a vast area of 2,50,000 sq ft., stand tall 180 ft. As many as 150 smaller shrines dot the temple complex. Non Hindus are not allowed inside the temple. Then visit Rajarani temple A popular 11th-century the Raja Rani Temple is locally known as the 'love temple' because it contains some sensuous carvings of women and couples. No images can be found inside the sanctum, and hence the temple is not associated with any particular sect of Hinduism. This is perhaps exactly where the charm of the temple comes from: the temple belongs to no specific sect and is open to all people irrespective of the deity that they worship and admire. However, the figures of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati carved on the walls strongly indicate that the temple has certain associations with Shaivism.

Brahmeshwar Temple was built during 11th century A.D in honor of the presiding deity Brahmeshwar, who is a form of Lord Shiva. The 60-feet tall temple was the first to exhibit iron beams in construction and splendid iconography of dancers and musicians on the walls. The porch features carved ceiling with lotus, while the walls have motifs of lion head in abundance. Mukteshwar Temple is one of the most compact and smallest temples in Bhubaneswar, but is renowned for its imposing ceiling that is adorned with eight-petal lotus in the porch, and astounding stone archway. It was for the first time that carved images appeared in temple architecture, exhibiting beautiful lion-head motifs. "Mukteshwar" means "Lord who gives freedom through Yoga." Parshurameswar temple The small but luxuriantly designed temple was built during 7th century and is one of the oldest in Bhubaneswar. The temple exhibits marvelous architectural artwork. After lunch visit Khandagiri and Udaygiri caves and explore the age-old caves of Khandagiri and Udaygiri, carved by Jain Monks in the 1st century BC, and were used as dwellings and meditation quarters, were built under King Kharvela of the Mahameghavahan dynasty. Overnight at hotel. Overnight at Hotel. (If not interested for temples tour can visit State Museum, Tribal Museum, Nandan Kanan).

### **Day 4: Bhubaneswar -Barkul ( Chilka) (90km)- Gopalpur**

After breakfast checkout from hotel drive to Barkul Chilka. Take a boat ride (on direct payment). Enjoy some points by boat like Nalbaan- is a big island in the centre of lake. The island completely submerge in monsoon. It is a treat for bird watchers in winter season. Mangalajodi - is a village located on northern banks of Chilika lake. The bird's paradise hosts more than 3,00,000 birds in its marshy waters. Bird island - watch birds in their natural habitat. Kalijai Island - its a temple of Goddess Kalijai. After lunch drive to Gopalpur. Gopalpur beach is famous for most picturesque seashores and gusty cool breeze all the time. The calmness of the beach is contagious that it soothes the senses. People come to beach for improvement of health. Evening relax at beach.

Overnight at Gopalpur.

Also visit old lighthouse situated on the beach made by Britishers provides a 360 degree view of Gopalpur. Can also visit the fisherman village nearby. Can visit hilltop temple Taratarini, which is a beautiful place of pilgrimage with amidst scenic surrounds.

**Day 5: Departure to Bhubaneswar**

On time pick up from hotel and provide departure transfer to Bhubaneswar Airport or Rly.Stn. for onward journey.

**Includes**

Stay in deluxe hotels, full-day food [4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 snacks & 4 dinners], car as per specified heads, all transfers from & to stations, all sightseeing mentioned in Tour Highlights.

**Excludes**

Any entry fees & whatever not mentioned in Includes.

**Price**

The price of this tour is based on a guaranteed 6 Pax in 2 triple sharing Non AC rooms for 4 nights with a Sumo/ Bolero/ Similar Non AC Car for 5 days. The price will change respect to change in the number of Pax.

**Transport**

For 2-3 Pax: Etios/ Dzire/ Similar & 4-6 Pax: Sumo/ Bolero/ Similar

**Upgrades**

This tour can be upgraded with up to 3\*Star accommodation & premium cars like Xylo/ Innova, location of hotel/ resort might change to nearby locations. Please call +91 9874284569/ 9874361951 for upgrading your package.

**Date**

02/07/2025