Enchanted India
JANUARY 27–FEBRUARY 7, 2016
Dear Members,

India is both complex and diverse, with its intricate mosaic of luxurious palaces, sacred temples, ancient religions, age-old customs, and dramatic landscapes.

We welcome you to join the Art Institute on this custom-designed journey through one of the world’s most intriguing places. Our program begins in India’s capital, Delhi, where we will visit important monuments including India Gate, Humayun’s Tomb, and the 13th-century Qutb Minar. We will also spend a day at the India Art Fair—an internationally-acclaimed modern and contemporary art fair held in New Delhi.

We’ll continue to Varanasi, on the banks of the Ganges River. The holiest of the seven cities sacred to Hinduism and Jainism, it also played an important role in the development of Buddhism. In Varanasi, the “eternal city,” we will visit Sarnath, where it’s said Buddha preached his first sermon in 528 B.C.; take a private sunset boat ride on the Ganges River; and experience the mesmerizing evening aarti ceremony. We will also learn about the ancient art of silk weaving.

In Agra, we’ll tour the 16th-century Agra Fort and gaze upon the mesmerizing Taj Mahal, built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan for his wife, Mumtaz, as the ultimate monument to love.

In the “pink city” of Jaipur, we’ll visit the imposing hilltop Amber Fort and tour the City Palace’s stunning collections of art and antiques.

Our journey ends in India’s “maximum city” of Mumbai, where modern skyscrapers and gracious colonial buildings coexist with a vibrant contemporary art scene.

Space is limited for this exclusive program. I hope you will join us for a week of unforgettable cultural exploration.

Sincerely,

Aleksandra Matic
Associate Director of Member Travel
Art Institute Study Leader

Lucas Livingston is the Art Institute’s assistant director of senior programs. He received degrees in ancient civilizations from Notre Dame and the University of Chicago. Prior to joining the Department of Museum Education in 2004, Lucas worked in the Art Institute’s Department of Asian Art, where he assisted with administrative aspects of the exhibition Himalayas: An Aesthetic Adventure, featuring nearly 200 objects on loan from international private and museum collections. He also assisted with collection management and conducted guided tours of exhibition and permanent collections. Lucas has lectured extensively on the Art Institute’s collections of Classical, Egyptian, and Asian art, including the treasures held within the Art Institute’s Alsdorf Galleries of Indian, Southeast Asian, Himalayan, and Islamic Art. Lucas continues to serve as Museum Education liaison to the departments of Asian and Ancient and Byzantine Art, and previously led Art Institute travel programs to Egypt, Jordan, Greece, and Turkey.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

DELHI, INDIA

Upon arrival in Delhi, you will be met by a local Cox & Kings representative and accompanied to the 5-star Lodhi Hotel, ideally situated in the heart of New Delhi.

Accommodation: The Lodhi (3 nights)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

DELHI

Begin your visit of Delhi, the “Jewel in the Crown” of India, with its many buildings designed by British architect Edwin Lutyens. See India Gate and pass by the Presidential Palace. Then continue to two of the most important monuments of Delhi’s past—Humayun’s Tomb, a forerunner of the ornate Mughal style of architecture later perfected in the Taj Mahal—and the Qutb Minar, a 234-foot-high fluted minaret built in the 13th century. In the afternoon, enjoy private, curator-led tours of the National Gallery of Modern Art and the National Museum.
**FRIDAY, JANUARY 29  DELHI**

Visit the India Art Fair, an international modern and contemporary art fair held in Delhi that features paintings, sculptures, photography, mixed media, prints, drawings, and video art by international and Indian artists. The fair includes an art education series with guided walks conducted by students and curators of art history.

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**SATURDAY, JANUARY 30  DELHI TO VARANASI**

In the morning, travel to the airport for your morning flight to Varanasi. Also called the “Eternal City,” Varanasi is Hinduism’s most important city. It is located on the banks of the sacred Ganges River and has been a center of learning and civilization for over two thousand years. In the afternoon, visit Sarnath, an area of great archaeological, historical, and religious importance. Here in 528 BC, Buddha is said to have preached his first sermon, which became the basis of Buddhist teaching. Later, proceed by car and rickshaw to the ghats (steps leading into the Ganges River), embark on a private sunset boat ride on the Ganges, and experience a mesmerizing evening aarti ceremony.

Accommodation: The Gateway Ganges (2 nights)

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**SUNDAY, JANUARY 31  VARANASI**

In the early morning, take a boat ride along the bathing ghats on the Ganges River. View the cremation and Deswameedha ghats, and continue to the Kashi-Vishwanath Temple, the most sacred of shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva, patron deity of Varanasi. Reconstructed in the 18th century, it features gold plating on the boats known as shikaras—a gift of the one-eyed Sikh king, Maharaja Ranjit Singh. See Bharat Mata Mandir, a unique temple dedicated to Mother India and inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi, then visit a sari-weaving center.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1
VARANASI TO AGRA

In the morning, travel to the airport for your flight to Agra. Upon arrival, be accompanied to the five-start Oberoi Amarvillas overlooking the Taj Mahal. Agra grew in prominence after the arrival of the Mughals in 1526 and reached its zenith between 1556 and 1658 under Akbar, Shah Jahan, and Jehangir. Under the rule of Akbar, Agra became a leading center of art, science, commerce, and culture. Visit the impressive 16th-century Agra Fort and end the day viewing the sunset over the Taj Mahal. Built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan between 1631 and 1652 as a tomb and memorial for his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, the Taj Mahal is believed to have taken 18 years and over 20,000 craftsmen to build.

Accommodation: The Oberoi Amarvillas (1 night)
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2  AGRA TO JAIPUR

Drive to Rajasthan’s capital city of Jaipur, known as India’s “pink city.” En route, visit Fatehpur Sikri, an imperial capital frozen in time. Built by Akbar the Great around 1570, it lies on a rocky ridge about two miles long and one mile wide. Fourteen years later, Akbar abandoned this short-lived capital because of a water shortage. The perfectly preserved public halls and private residences speak of a telling unity—an epic poem in red sandstone.

Accommodation: The Oberoi Rajvilas (3 nights)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3  JAIPUR

Enjoy a visit to the hilltop fortress of Amber. Visit the famed palaces with its intricate architectural decoration and discrete courtyards. En route, see the Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds), a landmark of Jaipur standing five stories high. Continue to the Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing. Located a short distance from the Amber Fort, the museum is dedicated to the art of block printing and displays a varied selection of block-printed textiles alongside images, tools and related objects. For the rest of the afternoon, relax, and enjoy amenities offered by your hotel. Transportation to independent explorations may be arranged at a supplementary cost.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Visit the City Palace—a unique complex of several smaller palaces, pavilions, gardens, and temples. The most prominent and most visited structures in the complex are the seven-story Chandra Mahal, housing a museum filled with art and antiques and serving as the residence of the present-day royal family. In the afternoon, visit the Jantar Mantar outdoor observatory, one of five astronomical wonders built by Sawai Jai Singh in 1726—makes accurate predictions even to this day. Then visit the Albert Hall Museum for a tour of textiles, carpets, paintings, sculpture, pottery, and arms and armor, and return to your hotel for the remainder of the afternoon. Transportation for independent exploration may be arranged at a supplementary cost. In the evening, enjoy a dinner of local Rajasthani specialties.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Enjoy an early-morning escort to the airport for your flight to Mumbai. Upon arrival, transfer to the five-star Taj Mahal Palace Hotel. Visit the former Prince of Wales Museum, now known as the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS). This museum houses approximately 50,000 objects of ancient Indian history as well as international collections art, archaeology and natural history. Continue to the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, which opened to the public in 1872 as the Victoria and Albert Museum. It is Mumbai’s oldest museum, and showcases the city’s cultural heritage and history through its collection of fine and decorative arts. The permanent collection includes miniature clay models, dioramas, maps, lithographs, photographs, and rare books documenting the life of the people of Mumbai and the history of the city from the late 18th to early 20th centuries.

Accommodation: Taj Mahal Palace Hotel (2 nights)
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

MUMBAI

After breakfast, visit some of Mumbai’s prominent landmarks and observe how the long association with Britain is reflected in buildings that combine Gothic-like flamboyance with Muslim-Indian architectural features. See the Asiatic Library (Town Hall), Horniman Circle, the Cathedral Church of St. Thomas, Mumbai University, and the famous Rajabai Clock Tower. Mumbai has undergone rapid growth and transformation in recent decades, and the city’s art scene has become the most vibrant and exciting on the subcontinent. The city is now home to a host of independent contemporary art galleries featuring the work of renowned and emerging Indian artists. Visit the venerable Chemould Prescott Road Gallery, committed to promoting contemporary art in India and supporting young emerging artists throughout the subcontinent. For the rest of the afternoon, relax and enjoy the amenities offered by your hotel. Travel for independent explorations and optional visits may be arranged at a supplementary cost. In the evening, enjoy a festive farewell dinner at Indigo, located near India Gate.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

FAREWELL TO INDIA

Bid goodbye to India as you are transferred to the airport for your flight home.
Tour Costs

Land Package $9,585
Single Supplement $3,995
Deposit $1,300

Tour price is per person, based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying participants. Land prices are calculated as of January 2015 and are subject to change.

Activity Level
Moderate; city walking tours

Deposit and Full Payment

A deposit of $1,300 per paying participant is required to guarantee participation in the program. A second deposit is due June 13, and final payment is due on October 27, 2015. All payment may be made by credit card or by check payable to Cox & Kings.

Tour Price Inclusions

All internal flights within India (Delhi/Varanasi, Varanasi/Agra, Jaipur/Mumbai), private arrival and departure airport transfers to and from your hotel, all planning, handling and operational charges, accommodation as noted in itinerary, based on double occupancy, privately guided sightseeing in air-conditioned vehicle, services of a professional English-speaking Cox & Kings tour manager and art experts, all entrance fees mentioned in itinerary, breakfast daily, eight dinners, five lunches, porterage, other inclusions as noted in your itinerary, Art Institute of Chicago study leader, and gratuities to guides, drivers, and porters.

Tour Price Exclusions

International airfare, airline taxes, and fuel surcharges, excursions, activities, independent meals, personal items, personal services, travel extensions, personal insurance, any other items not specifically included in the itinerary, passport and visa fees, gratuity to tour manager.

To register for this program, please contact Seema Prakash, Destination Manager, at Cox & Kings:

Cox & Kings
8060 Melrose Avenue, 3rd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90046-7036
Tel:(323) 557-1812
Fax:(323) 655-1774
E-mail: seema.prakash@coxandkingsusa.com
Toll-free: (800) 999-1758
www.coxandkingsusa.com
Cancellation Policy
Should you wish to cancel your travel arrangements, you must notify Cox & Kings in writing. Please note that deposits are refundable minus a per-person administrative fee of $400 if the cancellation is received more than 91 days prior to departure. We cannot give any allowance or refund for meals, rooms, excursions, etc. that have not been consumed or utilized, when these services have been included in the price of the program. For notification received within 90 days of departure, the following cancellation charges are applicable:

- Written cancellations received 90 or more days before departure: $400 per-person administrative fee
- Written cancellation received between 89 to 61 days prior to departure: 20% of total land-program price
- Written cancellation received between 60 to 31 days prior to departure: 50% of total land-program price
- Written cancellation received 30 days or less prior to departure: no refund

Travel Insurance
All tour participants are strongly encouraged to purchase travel insurance, regardless of present good health. Should one need to cancel participation in this travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Cox & Kings must strictly abide by the cancellation terms outlined above. Purchasing travel insurance is the best way to protect your financial investment in the trip against unexpected complications. A travel insurance brochure will be sent upon receipt of registration and deposit.

Waiver and Release
In order to participate in this travel program, you will be required to complete an Art Institute of Chicago Waiver and Release form that will be provided to you prior to departure.

Complete and return registration form with a copy of your passport to:
Cox & Kings
ATTN: Seema Prakash
8060 Melrose Avenue, 3rd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90046-7036
Tel: (323) 557-1812 | Fax: (323) 655-1774
E-mail: seema.prakash@coxandkingsusa.com
Toll-free: (800) 999-1758
www.coxandkingsusa.com
# Enchanted India

**JANUARY 27–FEBRUARY 7, 2016**

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- Please send mailings to my e-mail to receive information more quickly.

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**Deposit by:**

- Visa, MasterCard, or American Express
- Check (payable to Cox & Kings)

To pay via credit card please phone Seema Prakash at (323) 557-1812 or (800) 999-1758.

**Rooming Options:**

- Double Occupancy
  - We prefer separate beds
- Single Supplement ($3,995)
- I will share a room with:
  - [ ]
- I would like a roommate but agree to pay the single supplement if one is not found.