

Agra City Guide

How to time your Taj Mahal visit, what else to see in Agra, and what to know before you go — built to pair with Indroam's North India itinerary templates.

MORE THAN A DAY TRIP

Most visitors come to Agra for one building, and the Taj Mahal earns the trip — but the city also holds a Mughal-era fort and a near-ghost-town palace complex that are easy to skip if you're rushing through on a single day from Delhi. This guide covers how to time the Taj well and what else is worth the extra hours.

GETTING AROUND

- Agra is a common day trip or overnight stop from Delhi by car, train, or the high-speed Gatimaan Express
- Autorickshaws and app-based cabs cover the city; the area immediately around the Taj Mahal restricts vehicle access for pollution control, so the last stretch is on foot or by electric shuttle
- Fatehpur Sikri, the abandoned Mughal capital, is a worthwhile half-day trip outside the city center
- Plan around the Taj Mahal's closure on Fridays, when it's closed to general visitors
- Many visitors base in Delhi or Jaipur and treat Agra as a focused one- or two-night stop rather than a longer base

TOP SIGHTS & EXPERIENCES

- The Taj Mahal at sunrise, when light, temperature, and crowds are all at their best
- Agra Fort, a red sandstone Mughal fortress with views back toward the Taj across the river
- Mehtab Bagh, a garden across the river offering a different angle on the Taj at sunset
- Fatehpur Sikri, a UNESCO-listed abandoned capital city built by Akbar
- Itmad-ud-Daulah's Tomb ('Baby Taj'), an earlier, smaller marble tomb that influenced the Taj's design

PRACTICAL TIPS

- Security screening at the Taj Mahal is thorough — large bags, food, and some electronics may be restricted
- Buying tickets online in advance, where available, can save time over buying at the gate
- Dress modestly and comfortably for walking on stone surfaces that get hot in direct sun
- Agra's touts and unofficial guides near the Taj are persistent — official guides can be arranged at the entrance if wanted
- Winter mornings can be foggy enough to delay the clearest views of the Taj — a slightly later sunrise slot sometimes works better in Dec–Jan

Ticket categories, closure days, and security rules change periodically — confirm current details before your visit.

