



## BEST OF BUDDHIST TOUR

**Day01: Arrive Gaya** On arrival Gaya airport. Welcome & assistances in airport, then you will be transfer to Bodhgaya hotel. After Dinner, Overnight in a hotel at Bodhgaya. **Day02: Bodhgaya:** Breakfast at the Hotel. After Breakfast full day excursion to Bodhgaya and Gaya. We will be visiting The Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhi Tree, Great Buddha Statue, Niranjana River, and Sujata Temple and lots of other significant temples. The Mahabodhi temple built on the east of the sacred tree stands majestically 17 feet high on base 5 feet square and consists of a soaring pyramidal tower surmounted by a stupa. The Vajrasana or Diamond Throne lying between the Bodhi Tree and the temple marks the actual spot where Buddha sat in meditation and attained supreme knowledge. A gilded Buddha smiles upon the visitors from a niche in the wall of the temple, and his footsteps carved in stone hold flower offerings from the devout. Unbelievable peace pervades the atmosphere giving credence to legend Besides the Mahabodhi temple; we would visit several Buddhist temples built by the followers of Buddhism from all over the world. Dinner & Overnight at the Hotel. **Day03: Bodhgaya Rajgir Nalanda Patna: (176 Kms / 6 Hrs)** After Breakfast proceed to Rajgir. Lord Buddha spent many months of retreat during the rainy season here, and use to meditate and preach on Gridhakuta, the "Hill of the Vultures". Lord Mahavir spent 14 years of his life at Rajgir and nalanda. It was in Rajgir that Lord Buddha delivered some of his famous sermons and converted king Bimbisara of the Magadha Kingdom and countless others to his creed. Here we will visit the monastery of VenuvanaVihar built by King Bimbisara for Lord Buddha to reside. This was the King's first offering to Lord Buddha. Then drive toward Nalanda, which is 12kms. Drive (15 minutes), and It was one of the oldest Universities of the World & International Centre for Buddhist Studies, Nalanda was one of the greatest monastic universities of the ancient world University established in 5th century BC. It is believed that Lord Buddha and also the founder of Jainism religion Lord Mahavir taught at this university for years. There is even a monument to facilitate Chinese traveler monk and writer Hiuen Tsang who studied at this university in the 7th century A.D. After the visit proceed to Patna Arrival in Patna check in at hotel. Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel **Day04: Patna Vaishali Kushinagar (260 Kms. / 7 Hrs.)** After Breakfast drive to Kushinagar (approx 260 Kms / 7 hrs) enroute visit Vaishali (Ashokan Pillar). Vaishali mentioned in the Ramayana and in the Buddhist literature, is reputed as the birthplace of Lord Mahavira and the capital of Lichchavis from early times. It was the scene of the Second Buddhist council held about a hundred years Lord Buddha's death. According to the historians, Vaishali is one of the first democratic republics of the world. A recent excavation has brought Vaishali in the limelight and the historical and archaeological importance of the area has resurfaced. In Vaishali we will be visiting Ashoka Pillar, Buddhastupa and Shantistupa. After visit proceed to kushinagar on arrival check in at hotel. Dinner & overnight stay at a hotel. **Day05: Kushinagar- Lumbini (120Kms / 3 Hrs)** After Breakfast Proceed to visit Mahaparinirvana Temple (where Buddha took his last breathe) and Rambhar Stupa (cremation site of Lord Buddha) and Japan Temple. Afternoon drive (170 kms / approx 04 hrs drive) to Lumbini (in Nepal). Kindly obtain double entry visa for India & single entry visa for Nepal). On arrival, check in at hotel. Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel. **Day06: Lumbini- Sravasti:( 202Kms / 6 hrs.)** After breakfast leave for Lumbini- the birthplace of Lord Buddha. The birthplace of Lord Buddha where he known as Gautam in his childhood, Lumbini is situated in the southern Terai plains of Nepal. Lumbini is also a World Heritage Monument of UNESCO. Also visit the Ashoka Pillar. It was built in the year 259BC, by King Ashoka of India. When he constructed this pillar, the King exempted the villagers from paying tax and gave out 100 golden coins to the people. In the 07th century, the pillar was struck by lightning and split into two parts. The site was lost for six centuries and covered with dense forest before being re-foundin1895. After Visit Drive to Saravasti (180 kms). Enroute visit Kapilavastu (10 kms). On arrival check in at hotel. Dinner & overnight in at hotel. **Day07: Sravasti & Varanasi (302Kms./ 8 Hrs)** Breakfast at hotel. Proceed for visit Saheth (Jetvanaram) & Maheth (AngulimalCaves). Afternoon drive to Varanasi, on arrival check in to the hotel. Dinner & Overnight in at hotel. **Day08: Varanasi**

Early Morning enjoy Tea/ coffee at the Hotel. After the Tea / coffee enjoy boat ride in Holy River Ganges. Return to the Hotel for Breakfast After breakfast and proceed to Sarnath. It enjoys the extraordinary privilege of Lord Buddha delivering his first sermon after attaining enlightenment 2500 years ago. It is about 10 km from Varanasi and holds a number of Buddhist sites that include the famous Dhamekh Stupa, the seat of the holy 'Buddha'. You can also visit the ruins of Dharmarajika Stupa and Mulagandhakuti Temple, where Lord Buddha is said to have rested and meditated while in Sarnath. The Ashoka Pillar built by the emperor Ashoka is a must see in Sarnath. Afternoon return to hotel Evening free at leisure. Dinner & Overnight at hotel in Varanasi. **Day09: Varanasi Departure:** Breakfast at hotel. Later morning free for own activities. Proceed to International Airport to connect to your onward flight. **Tour Concludes** The above cost includes the following services: • 8 Nights' accommodation on twin sharing basis. • 8 Dinner & 8 Breakfast at the Hotel • Meeting and assistance at airport by our representative. • Arrival & Departure transfer by Air-condition vehicle as mention on the cost sheet • Sightseeing tours by Air-condition vehicle with English Speaking Guide & Applicable Entrance fees as per the Itinerary only