



Ipswich Buddhist Centre Indian Pilgrimage 2023

Date(s)	Place	Map Ref
Thu 12/01	Mumbai	1
Fri 13/1 - Sat 13/01	Bhaja Retreat Centre	2, 3
Sun 14/01	Pune	4
Mon 16/01	Ellora	5
Tue 17/01	Ajanta	6
Wed 18/01 - Fri 20/01	Nagpur	7, 8
Sat 21/01	Sanchi	9
Sun 22/01	Lucknow	10
Mon 23/01	Shravasti	11
Tue 24/01	Kapilavastu	12
Wed 25/01 - Fri 27/01	Lumbini	13
Sat 28/01 - Sun 29/01	Kushinagar	14
Mon 30/01	Vaishali	15, 16
Tue 31/01 - Thu 02/02	Bodhgaya	17
Fri 03/02 - 04/02	Sarnath	18
Sun 05/02	Siliguri	19
Mon 06/02 - Tue 07/02	Darjeeling	20
Wed 08/02 - Sat 11/02	Kalimpong	21
Sun 12/02 - Mon 13/02	Pelling	22
Tue 14/02 - Wed 15/02	Gangtok	23
Thu 16/02	Bagdogra/Mumbai	24, 1

Date	Start Day	Activity	Journey	What will we see / do?
12th Jan	UK	Flight to Mumbai	Plane	
13th Jan	Mumbai	Arrive Mumbai & travel to Baja retreat centre & rest	Coach 2 - 4 hrs (63 miles)	Rest at Bhaja retreat Centre
14th Jan	Bhaja-RC	Visit Bhaja & Karla caves		Visit Bhaja & Karla caves
15th Jan	Bhaja-RC	Travel to Pune & explore Pune, Travel to Ellora	Coach 2 - 3 hrs (40 miles)	Explore Triratna Pune
16th Jan	Ellora	Explore Ellora, Travel to Ajanta	Coach 4 - 8 hrs (150 miles)	Travel
17th Jan	Ajanta	Explore Ajanta -Train from Manmad Junction to Nagpur (Nagaloka) (overnight 9 hours)	Train1 10h (250 miles)	Explora Ellora caves
18th Jan	Nagpur	Arrive Nagpur – Drive to Nagaloka – explore / rest	Coach? Local	Nagaloka
19th Jan	Nagpur	Explore Nagpur/Nagaloka	Coach Local	Visit Nagpur University
20th Jan	Nagpur	Explore Nagaloka, Overnight Train to Bhopal for Sanchi	Train2	Day in Nagaloka – Night Train to Bhopal (Sanchi)
21st Jan	Sanchi	Travel to Sanchi Stupa in mornng- Travel to Lucknow – overnight Train	Train3 10hrs (350 miles)	The great Stupa. Day in Sanchi – Night Train to Lucknow
22nd Jan	Lucknow	All Arrive in Lucknow – Explore – Then travel to Shravasti on Overnight Train	Train4 & Coach 3 -6 hrs (110 miles)	Lucknow – JP2 Pilgrims join here – All then on OverNight Train to Shravasthi
23rd Jan	Shravasti	Explore Shravasti	Foot -	Arrive Shravasti late morning, Explore Jetta Grove, Thai Temple, Angulimala Cave, Prince Jeta's treasury, Malagankuti
24th Jan	Shravasti	Travel into Nepal – Visit Kapilavastu, Lumbini	Coach 5 -10 hrs (120 miles)	Explore the ruins of Kapilavastu
25th Jan	Lumbini	Explore Lumbini		Place of Buddha's birth; Asoka Pillar, temple ruin, explore Lumbini Park with many monasteries
26th Jan	Lumbini	Explore Lumbini		
27th Jan	Lumbini	Travel back into India, Kushinagar	Coach 5 -10hrs (90 miles)	
28th Jan	Kushinagar	Explore Kushinagar – Full Day		Where the Buddha attained Parinirvana. Visit Mahaparinirvana temple, with the lying buddha, and the Ramabhar Stupa, marking the site of the Buddha's cremation.
29th Jan	Kushinagar	Morning travel to Vaishali via Kesariya Stupa	Coach 3-6h (134 miles)	Kesariya Stupa, Vaishali home of Vimalakirti. Buddha studied with RamaPutta & Alara Kalama

			miles)	
30th Jan	Vaishali	Explore Vaishali in morning then travel to Bodhgaya via Rajgir, Nalanda and Xuanzang memorial	Coach 4 -8 hrs (106 miles)	Visit Stupa built over some of the Buddha's relics, Kutagarasala Vihara, the coronation tank, Japanese temple, and World Peace Pagoda. Rajgir: Vultures Peak & Nalanda university
31st Jan	Bodhgaya	Explore Bodhgaya		Mahabodhi temple complex with the Bodhi tree
1st Feb	Bodhgaya	Explore Bodhgaya		Free Time in Bodhgaya
2nd Feb	Bodhgaya	Drive to Sarnath, Explore Varanasi for evening Boat trip on Ganges	Coach 4-8 hrs	Varanasi: The Ghats, river trip on the Ganges; fire ceremony.
3rd Feb	Sarnath	Spend whole day in Sarnath, Deer park.		Sarnath: The Deer park & site of 1st teaching; stupa, museum & Gardens.
4th Feb	Sarnath	Midday return to Mumbai from Varanasi Airport (Group2+3) Overnight Train to Siliguri (23:00 Train to Siliguri) (Group1+4)	Train5 12 hrs	All depart Sarnath
5th Feb	Siliguri	Arrive Siliguri – Travel to Darjeeling	Jeep 4 - 5 hrs	
6th Feb	Darjeeling	Travel to Ghoom Monastery on Steam Railway -	Steam Train	Dardo Rimpoche was Abbot of Ghum Monerstry. His main Stupa is here also a Stupa for Lama Govinda.
7th Feb	Darjeeling	Travel to Kalimpong	Jeep 3 hrs	
8th Feb	Kalimpong	Explore Kalimpong – Full Day		Sangharakshita lived in Kalimpong for 14 years
9th Feb	Kalimpong	Explore Kalimpong – Full Day		
10th Feb	Kalimpong	Explore Kalimpong – Full Day		
11th Feb	Kalimpong	Travel to Pelling via Namchi	Jeep 6hrs	The world's largest statue (118 feet) of Padmasambhava at Samdruptse Hill, Namchi. Orchid Festival in February
12th Feb	Pelling, Sikkim	Explore Pelling - -- PemaYangste Monastery		Sangha-Choeling, oldest monastery in Sikkim. PemaYangste contains a large model of the Copper mountain, Padmasambhava's mythic realm.
13th Feb	Pelling, Sikkim	Travel to Gangtok	Jeep 5 hrs	Capital of Sikkim. Height 5,500 ft. Enchey and Rumtek Monasteries
14th Feb	Gangtok, Sikkim	Explore Gangtok		
15th Feb	Gangtok, Sikkim	Explore Gangtok	Fly	Overnight in Mumbai??– dependant on Internal Flights
16th Feb	Bagdogra	Fly back to Mumbai from Bagdogra Airport? Mumbai to UK	Fly	Night Flight – Leave Mumbai at 21:35
17th Feb	UK	Arrive UK at 06:35		Arrive UK at 06:35