

ROMANCE IN THE HILLS

Date:	Pre / Post Conference Dates
Time:	06:00 hrs on day 01 – 2150 hrs on day 03
Meeting Point:	Respective hotel lobby
Rate per Person:	INR 10250 per person (minimum 2 paying person travelling together)
Train Fare Extra	INR 1800 per person extra for sector Delhi-Kalka / Kalka-Shimla / Shimla – Kalka & Kalka – Delhi
Including Services:	Accommodation for 2 nights in First Class category hotel on room, breakfast & taxes on twin sharing basis, Private transport, English speaking guide & Entrance Fee

Day – 01

Delhi / Kalka / Shimla

By Train

After an early buffet breakfast at the hotel, Check out from hotel and transfer to New Delhi station to board the Kalka Shatabdi Express train to Kalka leaving New Delhi at 07:40 hrs and arriving Kalka at 1145 hrs.

Upon arrival at Kalka Train station, transfer from Shatabadi Express to the Toy Train that will chug through the Shivalik range to Shimla the erstwhile Summer Capital of the British India.

Departure by Himalyan Queen from Kalka at 1210 hrs and arrive at Shimla at 1720 hrs.

Meandering on these trains is a galvanizing experience as one passes through the breathtaking landscapes of majestic Himalayas, tunnels/ bridges and lush green valleys embellished with pine, oak trees. This magnificent train was inaugurated by the British viceroy, Lord Curzon in November 1903, almost covering the distance of 96 km from Kalka through the curving tracks, up to Shimla hills- the summer capital of colonial India. The train passes through 103 tunnels, 969 bridges, 919 curves and 20 railway stations in its entire journey.

Upon arrival in Shimla transfer and check-in at hotel.

The British called **Shimla** the "Queen of Hill Stations." Situated in the northwest Himalayas, Shimla the summer capital of India before independence is now the capital of Himachal Pradesh. Shimla derives its name from "Shyamala":- the goddess Kali, whose temple existed in the dense forest that covered Jakhu Hill in the early 19th century. The English named it Shimla. Covering the area of 18 sq. km. at a height of 7,238 ft. Shimla is surrounded by pine, deodar, oak and rhododendron forests. Its well-developed facilities, easy accessibility and numerous attractions make it one of Indian's most popular and biggest hill-stations.

After freshening up we will proceed for a guided acquaintance stroll on The Mall.

OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL

Day – 02

Shimla

After buffet breakfast at the hotel, we will be met by our guide who will guide us for a walking tour through the heritage of Shimla that includes the visits to the heritage buildings that were built during the British period and are still known for their elegant architecture. For example: Ellerslie (Himachal Pradesh Secretariat building), The Vice Regal Lodge, State Museum, Gorton Castle, The Railway Board Building, Christ Church, Gaiety Theatre, Scandal Point, The Combermere Bridge.

Walk down on the **Mall**, from this central area, the town spills downwards, with winding roads linking up settlements and stone steps connecting each layer, open only to the pedestrians. Dominating the eastern end of the Ridge is the **Christ Church**, which was consecrated in 1857. It is a prominent yellow painted building with a Victorian-Gothic spire. Next to the church is the mock-**Tudor Library**, built in 1910. It has a collection of historical books and subscribes to most English language dailies. On the other extreme of the central square is the **Scandal Point**. The place got its curious name after the daughter of a high-ranking British officer eloped with the Maharaja of Patiala from here.

Afternoon visit the most impressive colonial edifice of Shimla, the **Viceregal Lodge**, now known as the Rashtrapati Niwas (President's House). Sitting on the flat top of Observatory Hill, this Elizabethan mansion was built in 1888 for Lord Dufferin.

Return to your hotel after tour.

OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL

Day – 03

Shimla /Kalka / Delhi

By Train

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

Later in time transfer to Shimla railway station to board the Himalyan Queen for Kalka at 1030 hrs. It reaches Kalka at 1605 hrs.

Arrive Kalka and connect New Delhi Shatabdi at 1745 hrs which arrive New Delhi at 2150 hrs.

Arrive Delhi. Transfer to international airport or city hotel as per the case may be.

*****END OF SERVICES*****

Toy Train

