

**UCLA** alum

# India's Ganges River

ART, HISTORY & CULTURE  
OF EASTERN INDIA



January 13 to 23, 2026

**D**iscover the lifeblood of Eastern India as you sail the storied Ganges River aboard the deluxe *Ganges Voyager*. Cruising round-trip from Kolkata, the City of Palaces, anchor at small ports where you can experience village life, meet local people and learn about art, culture and religion. In this part of the world, at an intersection of three iconic faiths, tour holy buildings and pilgrimage sites for Hindus, Muslims and Christians. Stroll through bazaars and flower markets; observe potters, weavers and other artisans crafting their wares. Ride in rickshaws, sample unforgettable cuisine and delight in the music and dance of the region. Tour villages and towns, taking in breathtaking architecture and beautiful river views along the way.

### Exclusive Highlights

- Journey round-trip from Kolkata aboard *Ganges Voyager*, an exclusively chartered, deluxe riverboat, with a night at *Taj Bengal, Kolkata*.
- Observe weavers in the village of Fulia, known for Jacquard and Jamdani saree weaving.
- The Golden Triangle & Varanasi Pre-Tour Extension.



*Above: A view of the Mayapur Chandrodaya Mandir from the Ganges  
Cover: A ceramic idol of the Goddess Devi Saraswati*

**Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,**

On this 10-night program, fall in love with the incredible variety of Eastern India. Visit grand temples and humble weavers' cottages; learn about iconic faiths and watch local artisans; stroll through tiny villages and take in the vast expanse of the river.

Immerse yourself in the age-old history of this storied region. Explore the vibrant, fragrant Mallick Ghat Flower Market, which has been selling flowers every day for 165 years. Duck into Kumartuli, a traditional potters' quarter in North Kolkata that is over 300 years old. Delight in the diverse range of architectural styles, from Kolkata's opulent Victoria Memorial to the 108 sloped brown roofs of Rajbari Temple.

Travel in comfort and luxury on the *Ganges Voyager* for seven nights, enjoying fabulous cuisine, with all shipboard gratuities and beverages included. Consider extending your adventure by booking the Pre-Tour Extension of seven nights in the Golden Triangle and Varanasi, featuring incredible highlights from Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Varanasi.

We hope you will join us on this Ganges River journey, and fall in love with the people, the history and the culture of Eastern India. Book now, while there is still space and Extended Savings available!

Sincerely,



Christel Aragon  
Director, Alumni Travel

UCLA Alumni Travel is an advantage reserved for UCLA Alumni Association sustaining donors. Sustaining donors include Gold, Life and Blue Members as well as anyone who has made a qualifying donation of \$100 or more to the UCLA Alumni Association Support Fund in the past year.

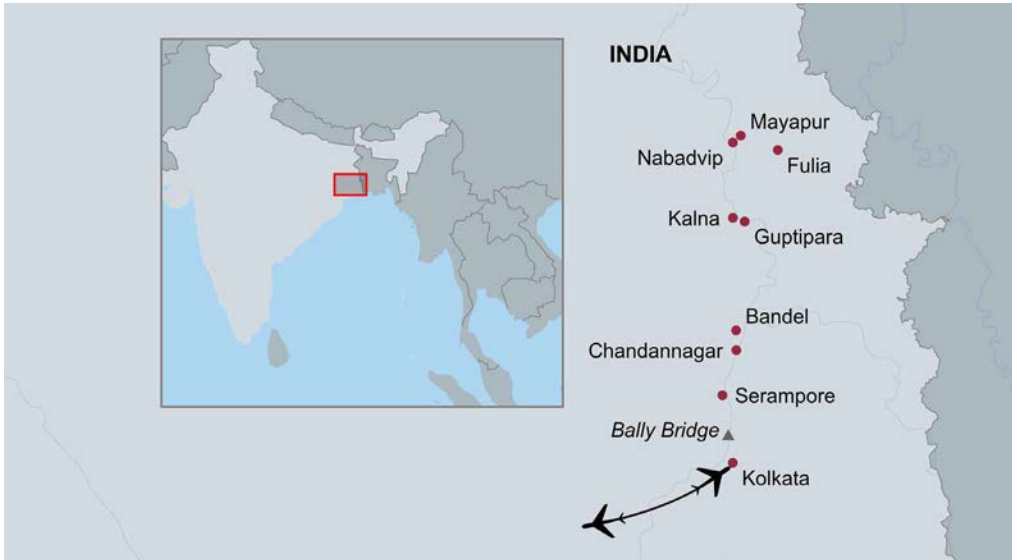
For further information, please contact UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613.

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*Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata*

**To secure your spot, call UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613  
or visit [alumni.ucla.edu/travel](http://alumni.ucla.edu/travel)**



### Day 1 | January 13

Depart your home city for an overnight flight to Kolkata, India.

### Day 2 | January 14

Kolkata, India

Arrive at Kolkata International Airport, then transfer to the deluxe *Taj Bengal, Kolkata* hotel. Spend time at leisure and make your own plans for dinner.

### Day 3 | January 15 B-L-R-D

Kolkata | Embark

Embark the deluxe *Ganges Voyager* and settle in.

This afternoon, set off on a city tour of Kolkata. Discover Benoy-Badal-Dinesh Bagh

(formerly called Dalhousie Square) and its lovely surrounding architecture. Drive past the beautiful and imposing Victoria Memorial, a monument to England's queen, which houses art and museum exhibits. Join your fellow travelers for a Captain's Welcome Reception and Dinner this evening.

### Day 4 | January 16 B-L-D

Kolkata | Bally Bridge

Stroll through the amazing Mallick Ghat Flower Market, which has been selling flowers daily for 165 years! From here we will head to Kumartuli, a traditional potters' quarter in North Kolkata that is over

300 years old. This community is renowned for its talented sculptors and potters. Return to the ship and tuck into a delectable lunch on board as the ship departs Kolkata. We will sail upstream, skirting beneath the famed Howrah Bridge. From the deck, take in the views of the passing colonial buildings.

### Day 5 | January 17 B-L-D

Bandel

Visit the Hooghly Imambara Pilgrimage Center, a Shia Muslim mosque and congregation hall featuring a mix of architectural styles. After lunch on board, hop on an eco-friendly e-rickshaw this

*The Vidyasagar Setu bridge, also known as the Second Hooghly bridge, Kolkata*



## 108 temples at the Rajbari Temple complex in Kalna



afternoon for your ride to the Hindu Shri Hansaswari Temple, with its unique design and rich symbolism. Stroll among the landscaped gardens and soak up the serene atmosphere.

### **Day 6 | January 18** B-L-D

Kalna

Ride e-rickshaws to visit the Rajbari Temple complex, which is dedicated to Krishna, a major deity in Hinduism. Here, 108 temples, many featuring arches and rounded roofs, are arranged around a central garden. Many of the buildings in the complex are covered with intricate terra cotta tiles and figures, depicting

religious stories and scenes from daily life. Afterward, stroll through the local vegetable market on the way back to the ship.

### **Day 7 | January 19** B-L-D

Kalna | Nabadvip | Mayapur

Set out on foot for the village of Nabadvip, where you will meet the locals and learn about everyday life. Visit a workshop where artisans make copper jars, and learn about how spices are used and stored. After lunch onboard, learn about Indian spices and cuisine at a cooking demonstration. This afternoon, take a boat ride to Mayapur and tour the headquarters of the

International Society for Krishna Consciousness. Stroll through the pilgrims' bazaar, meet Krishna's followers and visit the awe-inspiring temple.

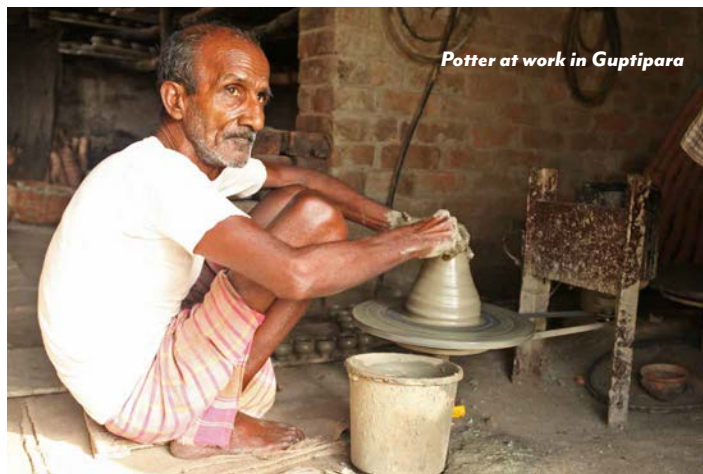
### **Day 8 | January 20** B-L-D

Guptipara | Fulia

Explore the town of Guptipara, where many Vaishnav temples were constructed in the 17th and early 18th centuries. These temples are notable for their fantastic terracotta artworks and designs. Visit a potter's home and interact with artisans creating clay statues and other items. Visit the village of Fulia, which is famous for its distinctive



Hooghly Imambara



Potter at work in Guptipara

Working a loom in Fulia



Lalji Temple, Kalna



Jacquard and Jamdani saree weaving.

**Day 9 | January 21 B-L-R-D**

Chandannagar | Serampore

Chandannagar became a French colony in 1673 and remained one for almost 300 years. On a walking tour, notice the historic colonial buildings, including the former French governor's residence, now converted into a museum. Stop in the museum and Sacred Heart church,

built in 1875. After lunch, visit Serampore, which was part of Danish India under the name Frederiknagore from 1755 to 1845. On a guided walking tour, explore Serampore's old town to see the Danish Tavern, St. Olav's Church and other heritage monuments. Join your fellow travelers for a Captain's Farewell Reception and Dinner on board the ship this evening.

**Day 10 | January 22 B**

Kolkata | Disembark Boat | Return To Home City

Following breakfast, disembark and transfer to Kolkata International Airport for your return flight home. There will be a day room provided at the *Taj Bengal* hotel for those with late departing flights.

**Day 11 | January 23**

Arrive in your home city.

*Note: This is an ACTIVE program. The itinerary is subject to change due to local conditions.*

## Terra Cotta Works

Terra cotta is a popular medium for sculpture worldwide, and especially in East India. The clay material is readily available, easy to work with, brightly colored and durable.

Terra cotta creations are considered to be one of the earliest expressions of human artistry. Sculptures in India date back to the Indus Valley civilization, which flourished from 3300 to 1700 B.C. In Western Bengal, terra cotta sculpting has continued to evolve since then into a prominent art form. Here temples are covered in complex sculptures, depicting religious stories and scenes, with surprisingly intricate details.

Artists also craft terra cotta into clay idols for ceremonies. For centuries, the festival of Durga Puja — a ten-day celebration of the goddess Durga as the mother of all creation — has enraptured the Bengali people. Local potters and sculptors work feverishly to create beautiful clay renditions of Durga in time for the festival. Also popular is the deity Kali, a fierce goddess associated with destruction and power, particularly revered in the Bengali region.





*Lalji Temple, Kalna*



*Ganges River cows, Mayapur*

## PRE-TOUR EXTENSION



# The Golden Triangle & Varanasi

**January 7 to 15** (Program Begins: January 8)

Immerse yourself in the cultural heritage and history of these iconic locations. Begin in Delhi, where you'll tour the colorful city and visit markets, temples and monuments. In Agra, visit the eternal Taj Mahal, unforgettable monument to love. Delight in the vibrant variety of Jaipur on tours of the Amber Fort, Palace Complex and bazaars. Take an included internal flight to Varanasi to explore one of India's oldest and most captivating cities. Visit holy sites, observe prayer rituals, and stroll through markets and museums. Accommodations for 7 nights at deluxe hotels.

**Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$2,995**

**Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$4,595**

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*

## INCLUDED FEATURES

- One-night stay at the deluxe *Taj Bengal, Kolkata*.
- 7-night cruise round-trip from Kolkata, India aboard the deluxe *Ganges Voyager*.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions.
- Included Meals | 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners.
- Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Director accompanies you throughout the program. (1 for every 40 guests).
- During included excursions, our experienced, English-speaking local guides will teach you about the history, culture and natural splendor of the destination.
- Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- Complimentary water is available in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- Hospitality desk at the hotel and aboard the ship.
- Our extensive pre-departure materials better prepare you for your travel experience.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



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*Advantages of booking your air with Gohagan include:*

- Our experts know the best flight itineraries that work with your travel program's start and end times, and they will work to find the best rates comparable to those available to the public.
- Free group transfers and luggage handling for arrivals and departures during the designated transfer window.
- 24-hour emergency support throughout the program to handle any schedule changes and unexpected delays.
- Flexibility to change or cancel reservations up to 60 days prior to departure with minimal penalties on applicable tickets.

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### TERMS

**\* Extended Savings of \$1,000 per person are available when you book by 11/12/25. This offer is available for new bookings only and cannot be combined with any other offer.**

- All rates are in U.S. dollars, per person, based on double occupancy, including taxes.
- Single supplements apply in select categories at 125% of the per person cabin fare, plus taxes, with limited availability. Single rates for all other categories are at 200%. Special Savings still apply. (Cabin fare is the standard rate less taxes.)
- Deposit amount is \$1,500 per person. Final Payment is due at least 120 days prior to departure.
- Full ship information and deck plans are available on our website at [gohagantravel.com](http://gohagantravel.com).
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## GANGES VOYAGER



*Ganges Voyager* offers all-suite cruises with personalized butler service, a high staff-to-guest ratio and warm, friendly service. This colonial-style ship is painted all white in the Georgian manner and features Burmese teak flooring, cane furniture, hand-painted murals and expansive views of the river. Indulge in delectable on-board cuisine, boasting fresh ingredients and regionally inspired menus.

**2026 DEPARTURE DATE** | January 13 to 23 | Tour Begins: January 14

Category	Description	Standard Rate	Extended Savings Rate*
E	Suite with spacious French balcony with floor-to-ceiling glass doors; two twin beds or one queen bed; comfortable seating area; fine wood furniture. 261 sq ft   Main Deck, mid & fwd.	\$6,495	<b>\$5,495</b>
D	Suite with spacious French balcony with floor-to-ceiling glass doors; four-poster bed, hand-painted walls & Persian rugs. 280 sq ft   Upper Deck, fwd.	\$7,795	<b>\$6,795</b>
C	Suite with French balcony & comfortable indoor seating area. 261 sq ft   Upper Deck, mid & aft.	\$8,095	<b>\$7,095</b>
B	Suite with colonial decor, Persian rugs & hand-stenciled walls. Spacious bathroom. 360 sq ft   Upper Deck, aft.	\$9,495	<b>\$8,495</b>
A	Suite with Persian rugs, teak floors, tapestry & writing desk. Spacious bathtub & shower. Daily butler service & in-room dining. 400 sq ft   Upper Deck, fwd.	\$9,995	<b>\$8,995</b>

All suites are river-view and feature: air conditioning; deluxe hotel-style bedding; spacious en-suite bathrooms; hair dryer; slippers & honeycomb bathrobes; spa-quality bath amenities; built-in closet; complimentary Wi-Fi; electronic safe; non-alcoholic minibar; drinking water; flat-screen TV with movie system.

### The Gohagan Difference – An Inclusive Luxury Experience

For your comfort and convenience, our fares are comprehensive. We offer incredible inclusions not typical of all providers.

- Shore Excursions
- Wi-Fi/Internet
- Beverage Package
- Port Charges & Gratuities
- Travel Director(s)

**ALWAYS  
INCLUDED**

To secure your spot, call **UCLA Alumni Travel** at 310-206-0613 or visit [alumni.ucla.edu/travel](http://alumni.ucla.edu/travel)

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*The Ganges Voyager*