# Travel to India broadens

one!

## Jim Gold International Folk Tours and Lee Otterholt present:

### India!

Folk Dancing, Folk Music, Art, History, Culture, Adventure!





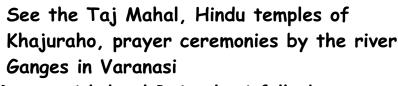
November 7-21, 2016

Delhi, Udaipur, Pushkar, Jaipur, Agra, Khajuraho, Varnasi, Pushkar Fair











- Kathak dance workshop in Varanasi.
- ★ International folk dancing with Lee.
- ★ Folk dances of India at the Pushkar Fair
- ★ Price includes city tours, hotels, airport transfers, internal air flights, boat trip, two meals daily, entrance fees, and dance events!





cities, golden beaches, misty mountain retreats, colorful people, and rich cultures and festivities. India's history goes back to 3,200 BC when Hinduism was first founded. Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism. Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Islam all exist within the country today. Its great natural wealth has lured a succession of traders and foreign influences. The cultural diversity and rich traditional pattern of Indian society is reflected in **India's treasure** 



of folk dances. Each Indian folk dance represents the culture and ethos of a particular region or a group of people. Most dances describe and explain the Indian art of living, are full of variations in themes, forms, and styles. Folk dances continue to be characterized by spontaneity of participation, with no barriers between the performers and audience.

#### **Itinerary**

Day 1: Monday, November 7: DELHI: Arrive in Delhi, sprawling on the banks of the River Yamuna, the capital of India, typifies the soul of the country. The legacy of that past survives in the many monuments left behind by the regents, each a chronicle of the glory of its time and an imprint of each ruler's character. Meeting assistance on arrival and transfer to Met hotel.



Day 2: Tuesday, November 8: DELHI: Breakfast at Hotel. Morning at leisure to adjust with time



difference etc. Afternoon tour of New Delhi includes a drive along Rajpath to photograph the Parliament House, President's Palace and India Gate, a memorial to India's soldiers. Your final stop is at the Qutab Minar and ruins of Hindu temples destroyed during the Outabshahi period. Folk dancing participation and learning. Bhangra: One of the most popular dances of North India, Originally, Punjabis performed Bhangra to celebrate the success of the harvest.



Giddha: is Punjab's most famous folk dance for women. Giddha is a freestyle dance with spontaneous and creative movements displaying the excitement and high-spirited mood of the moment.

Haryana Dhamyal: The folk dance of Haryana is known as the 'Dhamyal' or the 'Duph'. The dance can be performed by men alone as well as with women. Phag: The dance done basically in the lunar month of Phalgun seeks to celebrate the colorful festival of Holi.

#### Day 3: Wednesday, November 9: DELHI - Mughal Historic Heritage Walk in Old Delhi

Experience the newest Delhi attraction- metro train to Chawri Bazaar in old Delhi. Board tricycle rickshaw to Khari Baoli (spice market). The market has been operating since 17<sup>th</sup>



century. Walk in Chandni Chowk area, first stopping at the Town Hall, built in 1865. Visit Gurudwara Shishgani Sahib: where the 9<sup>th</sup> Sikh Guru Teg Bahadur was beheaded during Aurangzeb's reign. On to Ballimaran, past Mirza Ghalib's Haveli (Museum). Ghalib was the great India poet who wrote in Urdu and Persian. Pass through narrow streets full of shops



doing brisk business. Watch how merchandise is sold only in Specific Street as the Indian merchants have long practiced guild trading. Board our bus to visit Mahatma Gandhi Memorial at Raj Ghat; Jama Masjid before returning to Hotel. This evening enjoy the folk dancing.

#### Day 4: Thursday, November 10: DELHI / UDAIPUR

Transfer to airport to board flight to Udaipur, "Venice of the East." This lake city is perhaps the most romantic of all the Indian centers. Late afternoon, boat trip around the Lake Pichola and visit the Jagmandir, an island palace on the lake. Overnight at hotel Udai Kothi.





#### Day 5: Friday, November 11: UDAIPUR – Ranakpur & City tour

Morning drive to Ranakpur. See the fabulous 500 -year old Jain Temples, superbly preserved in near perfect condition. Distinctive feature are the 29 halls of the main temple, some octagonal and many more than one story high, are dissected by 1444 pillars, each sculpted with unique designs which no two are the exactly alike. Return back to Udaipur for Lunch. Afternoon city tour of Udaipur.



#### Day 6: Saturday, November 12: UDAIPUR / AJMER/ PUSHKAR

After breakfast travel by train to Ajmer, a popular pilgrimage centre for the Hindus as



well as Muslims. Especially famous is the Dargah Sharif-tomb of the Sufi saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti, which is equally revered by the Hindus and Muslims. Continue to Pushkar. Pushkar is situated at the foot of the hills which add to its beauty. Five rivers, Suprabha, Kanaka, Prachi Nanda, and Saraswati flow here and make the place more beautiful and serene. Pushkar Fair is one big occasion to witness the riot of colors in Rajasthan. Pushkar is a



pilgrimage destination for the Hindus. Rest and later join in to see the fair festivities. Overnight at Royal Safari Camp hotel.

#### Day 7 and 8: Sunday and Monday, November 13-14: PUSHKAR FAIR

The Pushkar Cattle Fair is one of the largest in India and the only one of its kind in the entire world. During the fair, people from rural India flock



to Pushkar, along with camel and cattle for several days of livestock trading, horse dealing, pilgrimage and religious festival. Pushkar becomes a cultural phenomenon when colorfully dressed devotees, musicians, acrobats, folk dancers, traders, comedians, 'sadhus' and tourists reach here during Pushkar fair. Explore Pushkar, there are many sites that you can visit. Witness and photograph the various



competitions like camel racing, turban tying and long mustaches competitions among others. Pushkar is also home to the only temple dedicated to Lord Brahma. Nov 14 is full moon day and pilgrims come to bathe in the lake. It is considered to be the most auspicious day of the fair. Prayer ceremonies are organized in the evening at the temple, which you will be able to experience and photograph.



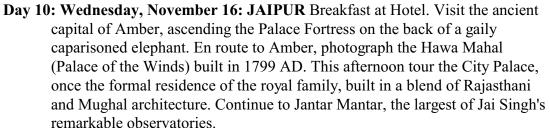
#### Day 9: Tuesday, November 15: PUSHKAR /JAIPUR

Travel by road to Jaipur, owing its name to the great warrior, astronomer, Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II. Meeting assistance and transfers to Hotel. This evening enjoy a Rajasthani dinner & folk dances presentation. Overnight at Raj Palace hotel.





**RAJASTHANI FOLK DANCES**: The vast unending expanse of burning hot sand that makes up the Thar Desert of Rajasthan hosts one of the most vibrant and evocative music cultures of the world. The heady, hypnotic combination of rhythm and melodies sung and played by the Langas and Manganiars are part of the eternal appeal of this mysterious and wondrous land.Rajasthan has great variety of dances, which are simple expressions of jollity and festivity. During your stay you will be able to see, learn and participate on some of the folk dances of Rajasthan.





#### Day 11: Thursday, November 17: JAIPUR / FATEH PUR SIKRI/ AGRA



Travel by express train to Bharatpur, then overland to Agra, Stop en route at Fatehpur Sikri, a deserted capital city, built by Emperor Akbar in 1569. Continue to Agra, a place where no other historical monument has evoked as much admiration as the Taj Mahal. After settling in at the Hotel, visit the Taj Mahal, built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan between 1631-52, as a memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal (Jewel of the Palace). Extended stay allows you time to view and photograph Taj both during day light and sunset. Overnight at Four Pt Sheraton hotel.

#### Day 12: Friday, November 18: AGRA / KHAJURAHO

See Agra Fort built by three of the greatest Mughal emperors. Then fly to Khajuraho, a city of living temples, of the Indo-Aryan type and generally classified as "Nagara" or North Indian. These temples were built during the Chandela period, a dynasty that survived for five centuries before falling to the onslaught of Islam. This evening visit the eastern group of temples comprising mainly the Brahamin and Jain shrines close tothe present Khajuraho village. Overnight at Radisson Khajuraho hotel.





Day 13: Saturday, November 19: KHAJURAHO / VARANASI

Morning visit architectural marvels of "The Khajuraho Temples" with erotic carvings were built 1000 years ago with art and architecture merged to perfection. The western group, largest and most important is situated at the axis of the Lalguan-rajnagar road. Fly to Varanasi, one of the oldest living cities in the world. This evening attend a colorful prayer ceremony by the river Ganges. Overnight Radisson Varanasi.

#### Day 14: Sunday, November 20: VARANASI:

Early morning boat ride on the holy river Ganges to see the devout praying and bathing on the Ghats (Banks), with funeral pyres burning in the distance.

After breakfast, we do a half-day city tour of Varanasi visiting the Temples

and by lanes. Rest of the morning is at leisure. **Kathak dancing workshop** with local teacher including transport by tricycle rickshaws! (Bus cannot go to the dance studio in old city.) Afternoon excursion to Sarnath, a place where Buddha preached his first lessons on Nirvana. Later visit the museum with its fine collection of Buddhist artifacts.



Day 15: Monday, November 21: VARANSI / DELHI/ DEPART

Transfer to airport for flight to Delhi and onward connection to your international flight.



#### **About Lee Otterholt:**

Lee Otterholt, born in the USA of Norwegian-American parents, has lived and worked most of his life in Norway as a professional dancer, teacher, and choreographer. He founded the Center for International Folk Dance in Oslo; he was also professor of dance folklore at the Norwegian National College of Ballet, and University College of Oslo. Lee established folk dance and performing groups in Norway, taught at festivals and workshops throughout Europe, United States, and East Asia, and is the author of folk dance and instructional manuals used in Norwegian schools. Lee was one of the choreographers for the Opening Ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer.

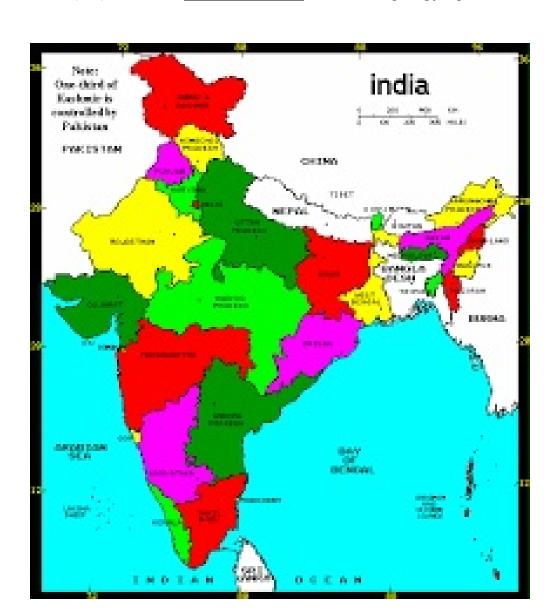
#### Visit www.jimgold.com to see YOUTUBE tour videos!

**Land Only: \$3995** 

**REGISTRATION I can't wait to go!** Enclosed is my registration deposit of \$200 per person. Single supplement: \$1295. Internal India air flights: \$395. Hotel taxes and service charges: \$85. Gratuities: \$95 Program subject to change without notice. Group air: Minimum 10 people needed for group air rate to apply. If not met, additional fees will be added. Air taxes and fuel surcharges not guaranteed until ticketing one month before departure. Group rate: Minimum of 15 people required or additional fees may apply. Cancellations 45 days prior to departure: Refund 50% of total price. Cancellations less than 30 days: No refund. Travel insurance recommended. **Total balance due July 25, 2016**.

Name				
Address				
No. of people	Phone(	)	Email	

Make checks payable to: **Jim Gold International, Inc.** 497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 U.S.A. Phone (201) 836-0362 www.jimgold.com E-mail: Jimgold@jimgold.com



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**Reservations:** Deposits and Payments: Deposit of \$200 per person is required at time of reservation. Balance is due 90 days prior to departure date.

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