

All Women Trip to India

North India & Bengal

20 Days | Nov 11 - Nov 30, 2023

You are invited to join **Roke (Krishnakali)** on a journey to her/their beloved homeland, India. For the 4th year, **Cardamom Affair** will host a small group of queer/women guests as they experience India through the eyes of one of her own.

Roke was born and raised in Kolkata, India. Though she came to the USA 30 years ago, and calls the Bay Area her other home, she spends 3 months every year in India. Roke is a Psychosomatic Counselor, Teacher of Vedic-Shamanic Practices, and a Transformative Travel Coach for India. Her intention for creating these trips is to allow India to work her transformative magic on you, by changing your perspectives and expanding your view of life.

Why have a Cardamom Affair?

1. You come to India as a guest of Roke, not a mere tourist.
2. Being with Roke, you receive an insider's sense of India, but from the place of ease, comfort, and safety that we are used to in the western world.
3. Her company at all times as your hostess and facilitator of your inner journeys, in addition to having local guides in most places, deepens your experience of India.
4. The activities and pacing of the group are influenced by your needs and interests.
5. Providing choices and flexibility is of utmost importance to us. Most days you can choose to do what the group is doing or go on your personal quest.
6. Roke facilitates 6 Discovery Sessions, before going to India (through zoom and/or in person meetings). You get to connect with fellow travelers, as you prepare for and learn about India. Traveling with people you already know enhances the journey.

TOUR PRICE

PACKAGE	# DAYS	PRICE
North India & Bengal	20 days	\$5500

The total price of this trip of 20 days is \$5500.

- It includes all accommodations (1 room shared by two people), meals, domestic transportations in India and tickets to all places and events.
- It does not include the price of the flight to India and back.

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

These experiences have been hand-crafted by Roke based on her vision of bringing the diverse uniqueness of India and taking into account the wide range of interests her guests may have.

These options are available in addition to visiting important historic, architectural, or spiritual sites at each place. As a group we will choose a few experiences in each destination. Individuals can choose to do any of the others at an additional cost.

Group experiences included in the trip will be confirmed after discussion with the guests who will be on the trips.

- **Kolkata:** Tram Ride through interesting neighborhoods (books, theater, Anglo-Indian), Meeting with a group of women, Heritage Walking & Photography Tour, Make and serve tea at a roadside tea shop, Spend time with the Queer Bengali community.
- **Amadpur:** Bike Ride, Swimming and fishing in the pond, tribal art, basket weaving, drumming-singing-dancing with indigenous women, making paper from recycled clothes, teaching and performing with the village kids, a cultural-spiritual-philosophical discourse with the village priest and grandmothers, and photography tour of the village.
- **Varanasi:** Visit Silk-Handloom neighborhood, Cultural Tour of the ghats, Death Ritual with a Hindu Priest, Discourse with a Classical Music Teacher, Explore buddhism with a Monk in Sarnath, Vedic Prana Yoga session.
- **Agra:** Cooking Demo followed by Dinner with an Indian family.
- **Jaipur:** Play with the elephants, get unique jewelry made at a silver factory, visit Sanganer - a block printing town, meet an astrologer, visit the flower market and bangle alley, volunteer at an NGO, meet with a local astronomer and visit one of the oldest astronomical sites in the world.
- **Jodhpur:** Desert Safari (camel or jeep), Historic Walking & Photography tour of the blue city, Get clothes made, Have dinner on the fort walls on a hill watching the night lights of the city and enjoying a music performance.
- **Udaipur:** Class on Miniature Painting or Cooking, Bike Tour, Sunset boat ride on the lake, Folk dances performance, Visit to a puppet factory, Watch sound & light show at the palace, Go hiking up to a hilltop temple.
- **Delhi:** Heritage walk, Visit Old Delhi Spice & Fabric Market, Food Ritual in a Gurdwar, Meeting with a Queer group, visit Bahai Lotus Temple, Enjoy an Indian Show.

TENTATIVE TRIP ITINERARY

#	Date	Details	Overnight
1	11/11, Sat	Kolkata	Kolkata
2	11/12, Sun	Drive to Amadpur - Kali Puja	Amadpur
3	11/13, Mon	Amadpur - Kali Puja Immersion	Amadpur
4	11/14, Tue	Train to Bodhgaya	Bodhgaya
5	11/15, Wed	Bodhgaya	Bodhgaya
6	11/16, Thu	Train to Varanasi	Varanasi
7	11/17, Fri	Varanasi	Varanasi
8	11/18, Sat	Flight to Delhi	Delhi
9	11/19, Sun	Flight to Jodhpur	Jodhpur
10	11/20, Mon	Jodhpur	Jodhpur
11	11/21, Tue	Drive to Pushkar	Pushkar
12	11/22, Wed	Pushkar	Pushkar
13	11/23, Thu	Drive to Jaipur	Jaipur
14	11/24, Fri	Jaipur	Jaipur
15	11/25, Sat	Jaipur	Jaipur
16	11/26, Sun	Drive to Ranthambore	Ranthambore
17	11/27, Mon	Safari	Ranthambore
18	11/28, Tue	Train to Bharatpur - Drive to Agra	Agra
19	11/29, Wed	Taj Mahal & Drive to Delhi	Delhi
20	11/30	Fly out to USA	-

CONTACT

Contact Roke Noir Chaudhuri at 510.681.9740 or cardamomaffair@gmail.com for more information. Shorter versions of trips can be arranged. Convenient payment plans available.

Visit the official website at www.cardamomaffair.org and follow the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cardamomaffair

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