

Holi, the festival of colors, marks the arrival of spring and is celebrated every year in the month of March. People greet each other with colored powders, singing and dancing to the tune of the drum beats.



Holi Festival of Colors

Every year, thousands of Hindus participate in the festival Holi. Waiting for the day after the full moon in the month of Phalguna, or early March, these men and women are ready to spread the joy.

Although it is the least religious holiday, it is probably one of the most exhilarating ones in existence. During this event, participants light a bonfire, throw colored powder at each other, and go absolutely crazy.

When

March 8th 2012

10 Year Itch Travel Company

We are a boutique travel company offering custom travel packages, which include custom-designed itineraries, hotel & transport bookings, all based on the travelers' interests, needs, and budget. We cater to those who are looking for a unique India trip instead of the rigid, cookie-cutter itineraries offered by larger travel operators or those suggested by popular guidebooks.

Top Recommendations

Different parts of the country celebrate Holi in their own unique ways. Here are our top recommendations.

THE ELEPHANT FESTIVAL (Jaipur, 7th March 2012)

A day before Holi, Jaipur hosts the unique Elephant Festival. Elephants, groomed to perfection, decorated and heavily ornamented enthrall the audience with grand processions. Visitors are encouraged to join in the festivities and gradually the entire atmosphere heightens with colors and the musical notes of folk performers and the age-old legacy of the grandeur of Rajasthani royalty!

The next day enjoy exclusive Holi celebrations at a farmhouse on the outskirts of Jaipur city.

HOLIKA DAHAN (Udaipur, 7th March 2012)

In Udaipur, a regal ceremony as Holika Dahan is celebrated on the full moon night preceding Holi day at the City Palace complex. It is magical to witness the magnificent procession led by the Maharana of Udaipur, observing royal etiquette and rituals. A pious fire is lit and an effigy of Holika is burnt, according to Hindu religious rites, demonstrating the triumph of divine powers over demonic strength. The ceremony is followed by performances by the "Gair" folk dancers.

One can also enjoy holi celebrations at the Devigarh Fort a short distance away nestled in the midst of the picturesque Aravalli hills.

HOLA MOHALLA (Punjab, 9th March 2012)

Hola Mohalla is celebrated by the Sikh community. Started by the tenth Guru GobindSingh, Hola Mohalla displays the military power of the Sikhs. The three day festival mocks battles and has a variety of competitions that involves in the get together of the community. Display of swordsmanship and horse riding marks the famous procession which take place in Anantpur Sahib in Punjab a day after Holi.

Combine this unique experience with a visit to the Golden Temple at Amritsar and celebrate Holi the rural way, enjoying the hospitality of a Punjabi landlord amidst the orange plantations of Hoshiarpur. This visit can be extended to the Himalayan towns of Kangra and Dharamsala!

HOLI COW FESTIVAL (Delhi, 8th March 2012)

In Delhi, the festival is celebrated with zeal and zest all over the city, However, moving with contemporary times, the Holi Cow Festival has become a minor Woodstock of Delhi with over 40 artist performing on Holi day. The colors, musical revelry, and the party is complete, teleported from the 'Flower Power' era.

ENQUIRIES

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Top Recommendations

GANGAUR FESTIVAL (Rohetgarh, 28th-30th March 2012)

Just two weeks after the festival of Holi, Rajasthan celebrates Gangaur - the celestial marriage of Lord Shiva to his consort Parvati. Their human avatars, Ishar and Gangaur are bedecked and displayed in every noble house all over Rajasthan. The festival is celebrated like a wedding. Elaborate processions and parades take place across the state.

Coming to Rohetgarh during Gangaur is truly a cultural bonanza! The beautiful deities are bedecked in all their finery, The women dance the breathtakingly graceful Ghoomar and Garbha, every night for five nights at the Zenana chowk at Rohet Garh.

On the last day of the festival, the two deities are taken out in a grand procession, accompanied by dancers, musicians, and horsemen riding with lances, to the Mela grounds where a huge fair takes place, attracting thousands of people from the area. Dance contests and other athletic competitions take place, and the fair is simply a riot of color. A priest conducts the wedding ceremony at the grounds, symbolizing the culmination of the year's festival, and the deities then retire to the family temple until the next year!

Holi is a great time to be in India ... 10Yearlitch Travel Company invites you to come and play in its festivities and enjoy the celebrations. Get drenched with bright, beautiful colors and have lots of fun.

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