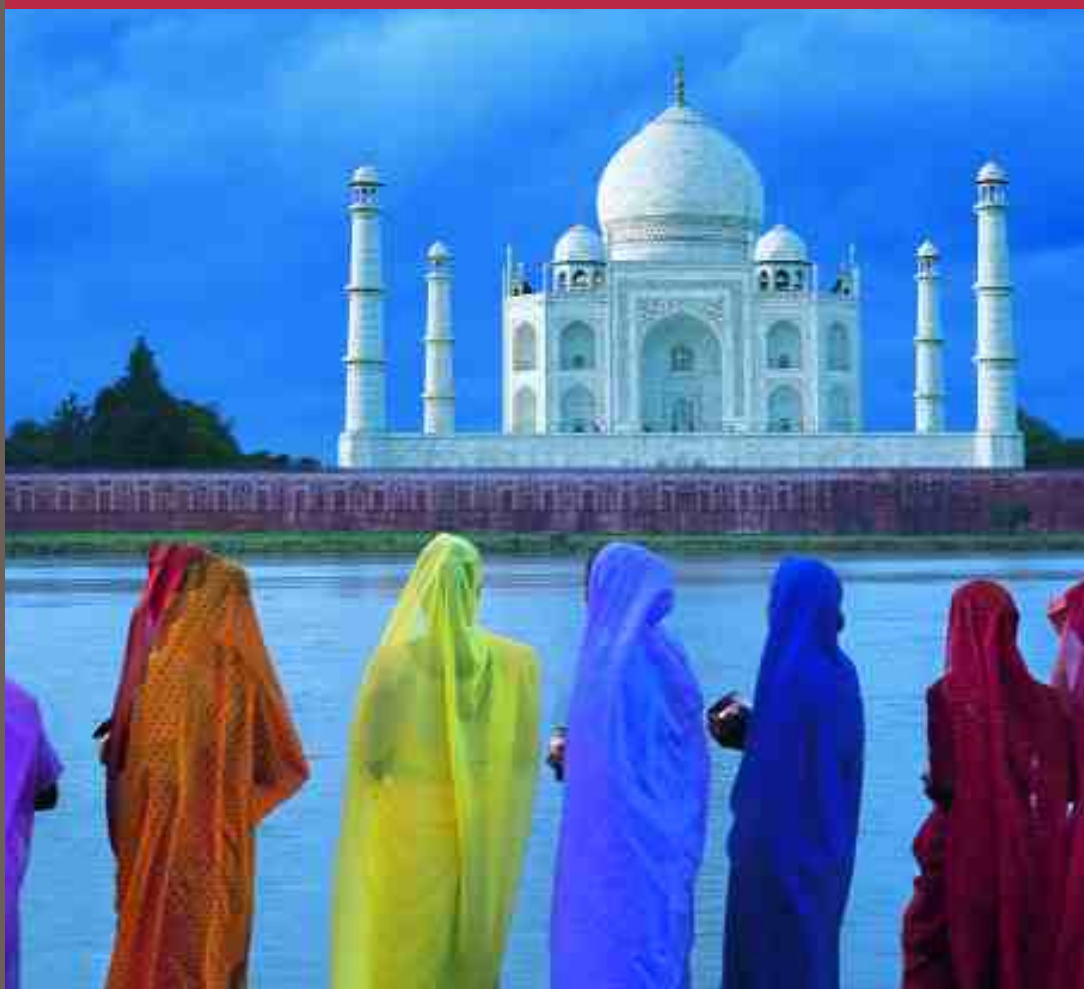


**BROWN
TRAVELERS**

Incredible India:

Taj, Temples and Palaces
November 2 - 18, 2011

**Featuring Brown Lecturer
Nathaniel Stein**





BROWN

Dear Graduates, Parents and Friends of Brown,

Join Brown University's Nathaniel Stein on a spectacular sojourn through Northern India, a fascinating land of contrasts: from Mughals to Maharajas, Hindus to Muslims and soaring mountains to arid deserts. Over several millennia, dozens of cultures have entered into India through the Khyber Pass in the north, leaving a wealth of distinct artistic and cultural traditions in their wake. Across the land, these rich legacies are evident in the designs of ancient monuments and modern buildings, the techniques of preparing curries and chapatis and the patterns and styles of the womens' colorful saris.

Your custom-designed journey begins in Mumbai, where you will enjoy observing *dabbawalas*, or lunch box deliverers, at work and a boat excursion to the beautifully sculpted rock-cut temples at Elephanta Caves. In Udaipur, stay on the shores of the romantic Lake Pichola, explore Udaipur's remarkable City Palace and observe local artists creating the miniature paintings for which India is world renowned. Also enjoy a special cooking class and dinner with a Mewari family in their private home.

In Jaipur, the pink-hued city of the Maharajas, explore the painting and textile collections at the magnificent City Palace; ride atop elephants to the excellently restored Amber Fort; and marvel at the open-air astronomical observatory. Be treated to a magical night in the desert as you dine under the stars in elegant tents.

En route to Agra, stop for lunch at a former nobleman's mansion and visit the hauntingly beautiful ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri. In Agra, encounter the glorious Mughal artistic legacy etched into marble and inlaid with semi-precious gemstones, from Shah Jahan's exquisite Taj Mahal to the graceful Agra Fort.

En route to Khajuraho, visit Orchha's Fortress-Palace and admire its remarkable fresco remnants and stunning location. In Khajuraho, admire the exquisite, erotic sculptures that adorn the ancient Chandela temples, a World Heritage site. In the ancient city of Varanasi, take sunset and sunrise boat rides to observe the endless cycles of life and death being played out along the banks of the Ganges River, and visit nearby Sarnath, one of the world's most important Buddhist centers.

Finish in Delhi, the capital of the world's largest democracy. Old Delhi is a veritable maze of vibrant streets, temples, shops and colorful bazaars, while imperial New Delhi, the seat of the British Raj, consists of tree-lined avenues and stately government buildings, including the Presidential Palace and Parliament. Bid farewell to India with a prominent family in Delhi during a cocktail reception and dinner in their lovely home.

Throughout the itinerary, experts in culture, religion, art and architecture will enhance your understanding of this complex country. Join us on this Brown-exclusive journey for an unparalleled view of the Subcontinent and a taste of gourmet North Indian cuisine. Space is limited, so sign up early!

Beth Goldman Galer '88
Director of the Alumni Travel Program



Program Itinerary

USA / Mumbai

Wednesday, November 2 ✦ Depart on overnight flights to Mumbai. *Aloft*

Arrive Mumbai

Thursday, November 3 ✦ This evening arrive in Mumbai by 10:45 pm and transfer to the five-star Trident Hotel. *Trident (Meals Aloft)*

Mumbai

Friday, November 4 ✦ Following a morning for relaxation, dive into the Indian experience with a memorable visit to see *dabbawalas*, or lunch box deliverers, who daily deliver more than 175,000 lunch boxes. Take boats to the famous Elephanta Caves and view the beautifully sculpted rock-cut temples that were created between 450 and 750 AD. Return to Mumbai and enjoy a city tour by coach, observing the Dhobi Ghats, a huge open-air laundry, where thousands of men use rows of open-air troughs to beat clean dirty laundry, and the Victoria Terminus, a World Heritage site and the most splendid piece of Victorian Gothic architecture in India. Enjoy a memorable welcome dinner. *(B, D)*

Mumbai / Udaipur

Saturday, November 5 ✦ Fly to Udaipur, Rajasthan's legendary City of Lakes. Visit the City Palace, an erstwhile royal residence exhibiting a fascinating combination of both Rajput military architecture and Mughal-style decorative techniques. Following lunch, visit the spectacular fountain-filled garden of Sahelion-ki-bari. Next, observe the meticulous technique of miniature painting with a single-haired paintbrush. Check into the Trident Hotel on the banks of Lake Pichola. *Trident (B, L)*

Delwara Excursion

Sunday, November 6 ✦ Drive to nearby Delwara, a small village featuring a complex of 14th-century Jain and Hindu temples. Learn about Hinduism and Jainism as you meander through the sacred

structures. Stroll through the village while observing locals carrying out daily routines that have remained unchanged for centuries. Following a luncheon of Rajasthani culinary specialties, return to Udaipur for time to relax. Take a cruise on Lake Pichola in the afternoon, when the sunlight casts a beautiful golden glow on the city. This evening, meet with a Mewari family and learn to cook authentic cuisine with the women of the household, followed by dinner with the family. *(B, L, D)*

Udaipur / Jaipur

Monday, November 7 ✦ Fly to the "Pink City" of Jaipur, known for its fascinating bazaars and opulent salmon colored palaces. Explore Jaipur's City Palace complex, a superb blend of Rajput and Mughal architecture, and see the Maharajas' private collection of miniature paintings, fine carpets, royal costumes and musical instruments. At lunch, try making *naan* (Indian bread) and learn the art of turban dressing. Explore the fascinating open-air astronomical observatory, Jantar Mantar. See the famous Palace of Winds, an elaborate building with delicate honeycomb screens and carved balconies from which the royal ladies observed the outside world. Then meander through Jaipur's eclectic Bapu Bazaar. Check into the Trident Hotel and enjoy an evening at leisure. *Trident (B, L)*

Jaipur

Tuesday, November 8 ✦ Ride elephants to Amber Fort, an exquisite structure boasting expansive views over the former Rajput kingdom. Examine delicate inlay work, colorfully painted walls, carved candle niches, mirrored halls and elegant gardens. Following free time for lunch, enjoy optional visits to the craft studios of Jaipur, including gem cutting and polishing and hand-block printing on cotton, or relax at your hotel. Venture by elephant to the foothills of the Aravali Mountains, and dine under the stars in elegant tents illuminated by candles and torches. *(B, D)*

Jaipur / Agra

Wednesday, November 9 ✦ Drive through spectacular scenery en route to Agra, observing decorated camel carts, lush roadside vegetable markets and throngs of women in multicolored saris. Stop for lunch at one of India's renowned heritage mansions. Visit the hauntingly beautiful ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri, the temporary capital of the Mughal Emperor Akbar, and observe the Hindu and Islamic architectural styles. Check into the Trident in Agra, and enjoy an evening at leisure. *Trident (B, L)*

Agra

Thursday, November 10 ✦ Take horse-drawn carriages to the resplendent Taj Mahal and experience the Taj at sunrise, when the marble façade embellished with inlaid semi-precious gems is most spectacular. Explore the impressive red sandstone Agra Fort; hear about Shah Jahan's imprisonment by his son and the subsequent decline of the Mughal empire; and admire the Taj Mahal from across the Yamuna River. Meet a master artisan who will demonstrate marble inlay techniques. This evening enjoy dinner in a popular local restaurant. *(B, D)*

Agra / Orchha / Khajuraho

Friday, November 11 ✦ Take a first-class air-conditioned train to Jhansi. Visit the well-preserved palace and temples of Orchha's stunning Fortess-Palace, once the capital of the Bundelas. Explore the amazing palace complex and see one of India's most spectacular fresco cycles. Following regional specialties at Amar Mahal, enjoy lush scenery en route to Khajuraho. Check into the Radisson Jass. *Radisson Jass (B, L)*

Khajuraho

Saturday, November 12 ✦ Explore the impressive millennium-old Chandela temples of Khajuraho, a World Heritage site known for its exquisitely detailed sculptures. Enjoy a free afternoon for relaxation, or participate in a jeep safari and glimpse village life. Join an optional excursion to a dance performance. *(B)*

Khajuraho / Varanasi

Sunday, November 13 ✦ Following a free morning, fly to Varanasi, possibly the oldest living city in the world. Mark Twain wrote that Varanasi "is older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend, and looks twice as old as all of them put together." Due to its location on the sacred Ganges River and its strong association with the Hindu god Shiva, it is India's holiest city, with a spiritual and religious

legacy that spans over three millennia. The nearly 100 series of riverside steps or *ghats* spanning four miles define the city's culture and identity. Check into the Radisson and enjoy lunch together. Walk through the city's serpentine lanes and get a glimpse into the world of the people who call this ancient city home. At sunset, visit the ghats to witness an illuminated *Ganga Aarti* ceremony – an experience of a lifetime. *Ganga Aarti* is a spectacularly moving sight, with hundreds thronging to the ghats to offer lamps to the river. *Radisson (B, L)*

Varanasi

Monday, November 14 ✦ Take a sunrise boat ride on the sacred Ganges to view the cremation ghats and witness the living traditions of one of the world's oldest and most important religions, Hinduism. Return to the hotel to relax and enjoy a late breakfast. In the afternoon, head to Sarnath, one of the major Buddhist centers of the world. The site where the Buddha delivered his first sermon is commemorated by the enormous Dhamekh Stupa. Also view the superb collection of Buddhist artifacts in the Archaeological Museum, including India's national emblem, an Ashokan lion, in polished sandstone. *(B)*

Varanasi / Delhi

Tuesday, November 15 ✦ Witness classical recitals in Varanasi's renowned musical school. Fly to Delhi. Check into the opulent Trident Hotel. *Trident (B)*

Delhi

Wednesday, November 16 ✦ Take an exhilarating rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk, Old Delhi's famed market, finishing at the Jami Masjid. This grand mosque was built in 1656 by the Emperor Shah Jahan and took six years and 5,000 workers to construct. Continue to Raj Ghat, the lush garden memorial at the site of Mahatma Gandhi's cremation. Then, drive along New Delhi's wide boulevards past the majestic Parliament, Presidential Palace and diplomatic buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in the 1920s. *(B, L)*

Delhi

Thursday, November 17 ✦ Following a full day at leisure for personal explorations, visit the 13th-century Qutub Mintar, a World Heritage site. Be treated to a memorable farewell dinner hosted by a prominent Delhi family in their exquisite home. Proceed to the airport for overnight flights to the USA that depart after 10:30 pm. *Aloft (B, D)*

Delhi / USA

Friday, November 18 ✦ Arrive in the USA.

Tour Cost

India + November 2 - 18, 2011

Land Only Package.....\$4,695

Single Supplement.....\$1,495

Tour price is per person based on double occupancy and 16 paying participants. Land prices are based on quotes of March 2011. Participants not using the suggested flight schedule are responsible for their airport/hotel transfers. **Final payment is due by July 5, 2011 and must be paid by check to ISDI.** Registrations will be accepted beyond this date on a space-available basis.



Included in the Tour Cost

- + Fourteen nights' accommodations, as per itinerary
- + Breakfast daily, seven lunches, and five dinners
- + Participation of Brown Lecturer Nathaniel Stein
- + Services of an experienced ISDI Tour Manager
- + First-class domestic train ticket from Agra to Jhansi
- + Four domestic economy flights, as per itinerary
- + Airport / hotel transfer, as outlined in itinerary
- + Entrance fees for all included visits
- + Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- + Taxes, services and portage fees

NOT INCLUDED:

International airfare; visa fees; passport fees; airline taxes and fuel surcharges; personal items such as wines, liquors and mineral water except where noted in the itinerary; personal services; airport taxes; travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage and tour cancellation; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

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Incredible India November 2 - 18, 2011

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single space if one cannot be found.

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless Brown University, the Brown Alumni Association and International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licensees, or representatives, from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, the tour.

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN.

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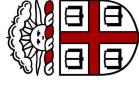
Incredible India: Taj, Temples and Palaces

Brown Lecturer Nathaniel Stein

*Lecturer in the History of Art + Visual Culture and
Photography at the Rhode Island School of Design
and Doctoral Candidate in the History of Art
and Architecture at Brown*



Nathaniel Stein is a scholar of the visual representation of Indian antiquities and culture and is currently completing his doctorate in Brown's Department of the History of Art and Architecture. An active researcher and teacher, he has recently held visiting scholar posts at the Yale Center for British Art (New Haven), the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art (London) and the Pembroke Center (Brown). For the past three years, he has been a lecturer in the history of art at the Rhode Island School of Design. Nathaniel's current research is on photography in India during the British Raj, a specialty that involves thinking about the prior history of the sites and cultural events people chose to photograph during the colonial period. He is also interested in the contemporary Indian and Indian diaspora art scenes and looks forward to sharing insights from friendships with contemporary Indian artists with his fellow travelers. He is also eager to share tips and recommendations passed along from his fiancée, who is a curator of Indian art at the British Museum (London) and an experienced traveler in the Rajasthan region.



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