

## FULL DAY KOLKATA SIGHTSEEING

### **Tour Fast Facts**

**Visit:** Dalhousie Square (GPO, Writer's Building, High Court, Governor's House etc.) St. John's Church, Flower Market, a short walk on the Howrah Bridge, Jain Temples, Kumartuli (Potter's Colony cum Statuary), Indian Museum (closed on Monday), Victoria Memorial (closed on Monday) and St. Paul's Cathedral Church.

### **Program Brief**

#### **Dalhousie Square**

The Dalhousie Square was named in the memory of Lord Dalhousie who was the Governor General of India from 1847 to 1856. But it was renamed as **BBD Bagh** (Binoy, Badal, and Dinesh) three patriotic sons of Bengal who attained martyrdom during India's struggle for independence. At the center of the Square is the tank - **Lal Dighi**. The **Dalhousie Square** is surrounded by some of Kolkata's most enduring Rajera monuments like the magnificent **GPO** (General Post Office), the regal **Raj Bhawan**, the **St. John's Church** and the Gothic style **Writer's Building**. In terms of heritage, no other city square is as rich as Dalhousie Square. It is truly one-of-its-kind in the world and a walk through one of its crowded thoroughfares is like a trip down the memory lane.



#### **Howrah Bridge**

A marvel of British engineering, this huge cantilever bridge, strung on 270 feet high pillars connects Calcutta from Howrah. Its four traffic lanes are daily used by over lakh vehicles. The newly constructed Vidya Sagar Setu is also a cable suspended bridge meant to reduce traffic on the old Howrah Bridge.



#### **Jain Temples**

Three eye-catching **Jain temples** are grouped together two short blocks east of Raja Dinendra Road. The best known is 1867-built **Sheetalnathji Jain Mandir**. It is dazzling if somewhat unrefined pastiche of colourful mosaics, spires, columns and slivered figurines looks like a work of Gaudi. Directly south, the quieter **Sri Channa Probhujji Mandir** has a fine gateway arch and plenty of greenery. The sedate 1810 **Dadaji Jain Mandir** has a central marble tomb-temple patterned with silver studs.



**Kumartuli (Potter's Village cum Statuary)**

It is the nerve center of the clay idol-makers of West Bengal, is home and workshop to more than one hundred and fifty families of clay Model-makers. This fascinating district is named for the *kumar* (sculptors) who fashion giant Puja effigies of the gods, eventually to be ritually immersed in the holy Hooghly. Different workshops in lanes off Rabindra Sarani specialize in certain body parts, creating the straw frames, adding clay coatings or painting the divine features with brilliant colours.



Lunch at Local Restaurant.

**Indian Museum**

One of the oldest museums in Asia, the Indian Museum was founded in 1814. One need an entire day, or more, to fully enjoy the fossils, coins, stones, Gandhara art, meteors and much more that go to make up this museum. There is a 4,000-year-old mummy here as well. Also on display is an urn said to contain the Buddha's ashes. One just needs to ask anybody on the road for the way to the "Jadughar".



**Victoria Memorial**

Built in Italian Renaissance cum Saracenic style, Victoria Memorial was planned by Lord Curzon and opened by the Prince of Wales in 1921. This British attempt at building a second Taj Mahal, is dedicated to Queen Victoria and houses a fantastic collection of rare memorabilia from Colonial days. A light and sound show recreates history every evening.



**St. Paul's Cathedral Church**

The Cathedral measures 71m in length 24m in width the spire rising 60m high. The interior has exquisite scriptural scenes. Above these are the two Florentine frescos. In the center of the eastern sector is the magnificent alter piece. The massive gold-gilt plate presented by Queen Victoria to Bishop Wilson, and the western windows are of special interest.



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**Duration:** 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

**Schedule:** Open all days of the week except Monday Indian Museum and Victoria Memorial are closed.

**Tour Cost in INR (Indian Rupee)**

<b>Cost Basis</b>	<b>Tour Cost Per Person</b>
Minimum 7-8 Pax using A/c Tempo Traveller	INR 2220
Minimum 3-4 Pax using A/c Toyota Innova	INR 2725
Minimum 2 Pax using A/c Medium car	INR 3315
1 person traveling alone using A/c Medium car	INR 5475

**Tour cost includes:**

- Transport service as per itinerary using exclusive air-conditioned vehicle.
- English speaking guide.
- Monument entrance fee (One time only).
- Lunch at local restaurant.