

HIGHLIGHTS OF USA WITH MT. RUSHMORE AND YELLOWSTONE

19 Days / 18 Nights

USA - Rushmore - Yellowstone - San Francisco



DAY 01: ARRIVAL AT JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

On arrival at **John F. Kennedy International Airport,** you will be met by our local representative in **USA** for a brief meet and greet. You will then be transferred to your hotel in New York City for Check-in.

Originally established as a Dutch Trading post in 1624, New York City came under English control in 1664. Today, **New York city** is the most exciting city in the world. The world's foremost financial and cultural capital, it is densely populated, and extremely welcoming,



having the largest population of foreign born people in the world. The city's culinary scene is lit and it is home to more than 500 art galleries. You will be completely buoyed over by the splendor of this megacity.

The day is free to relax and roam around in New York City on your own.



Overnight stay at the hotel.

HIGHLIGHTS

Arrive in New York City and Check-in at hotel.

DAY 02: NEW YORK FULL-DAY CITY TOUR

After breakfast at the hotel, we proceed for a full-day tour of New York City.

During the city tour, we shall visit some of the most famous sights in New York. We will begin the tour with a ferry to **Liberty island**, where we will marvel at the iconic Statue of



Liberty. You can even climb 162 steps to the crown of the statue to enjoy stunning panoramic views of the surroundings. Next we will visit the marvellous Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges, United Nations headquarters, Trump Tower, Times Square and 5th **Avenue.** Visit the **World Trade Center memorial site** and also get yourself clicked with the iconic bull statue on wall street.

After the city tour, the evening is free for you to explore New York City on your own.



SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Post the city tour, we suggest you spend your evening at the stunning **Times Square**. A major New York entertainment hub, Times square is home to the broadway theatre, and is decorated with giant digital billboards with flashy neon lights. At this exciting square, you can shop at major American retailers, enjoy mouth watering food or catch the most exciting show running at the theatre.

DAY 03: LEISURE DAY AT NEW YORK

After breakfast, the day is free for you to explore **New York** on your own. You can also opt for one of our specially curated experiential tours, to enjoy New York city in a more intimate manner.

HIGHLIGHTS

- See the most popular sights in New York City on a guided city tour
- Spend a memorable evening at the Times Square [RECOMMENDED]









Overnight stay at hotel.

IGHLIGHTS

• Spend a day in one of the worlds greatest cities at your own leisure

DAY 04: Visit To Washington Dc

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed to Washington DC.



Washington, DC, is the capital of the United States of America. The city was founded after the signing of the residence act in 1790, which dictated the construction of a new capital for the country. It is interesting to note however, that even before completion, the city was almost completely destroyed during the war of 1812 with Great Britain. Owing to it being the capital city, Washington DC is home to the president **(White House)**, congress



(Capital Building), judiciary (Supreme Court) and military (Pentagon). During the city tour, we will visit all these important landmarks and also explore the **Korean and Lincoln Memorial**.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION – Washington DC, is home to 11 gigantic museums and a national zoo belonging to the world's largest museum complex - the Smithsonian. Founded to preserve the heritage of the country and discover new knowledge, the museums are dedicated to the most diverse topics - ranging from African American History and Culture to National Air and Space museum. We recommend you visit the museum which meets your interests.

DAY 05: Explore Chocolate Factory In Pennsylvania

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed to Niagara Falls City. Enroute we will learn the art of chocolate making at Hershey's Chocolate World in **Pennsylvania**.

Hershey's, the maker of Kitkat and Cadburry chocolates, is the largest chocolate producer in the world. At the **Hersey's Chocolate World** attraction in Pennsylvania you will learn about the process of chocolate making - the journey from cocoa beans to tasty chocolate bars - during the Hershey's Chocolate Tour. For extra cost, chocolate

HIGHLIGHTS

- Learn about the US Capitol Washington DC on a sightseeing tour of the city
- Explore the world's largest museum complex [OPTIONAL]

enthusiasts can also create their own chocolate bars with their selected ingredients in an authentic factory experience and take it home in a personalised wrapper.

After the tour, we will proceed to **Niagara falls city**. Upon reaching, we will check-into the hotel and go for a night-time light show at Niagara falls.

Niagara falls is not one but actually a group of three waterfalls - **Horseshoe falls, American Fall and Bridal Veil Fall -** which are located close to each other from which water falls into the same basin, making it one of the largest waterfall in the world. During the night, the falls are brightly illuminated by colourful artificial lighting making it a mesmerising sight.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Established in 1951, **Corning Museum of Glass** is the world's most comprehensive collection of artefacts made of glass, ranging from portrait



of an ancient Egyptian pharaoh to contemporary glass sculptures. At the museum, you can take part in glass making demonstrations and learn about the craft and technology of glass making. For those looking for a more hands on approach, you can also participate in "Make Your Own Glass" sessions under a professional glassmaker, and take home a glass sculpture made by you.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Proceed to Niagara Falls
- Enjoy a factory tour of the world's largest chocolate maker at Hershey's Chocolate World
- Learn about the art of glass making at Corning Museum of Glass [OPTIONAL]
- Be mesmerised by the spellbinding light show on Niagara Falls

DAY 06: Arrival At Niagara Falls

After breakfast at the hotel, we will visit the **Niagara Falls** for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Feel the full force of the waterfall directly falling over you on the 'cave of the winds' attraction at Niagara falls. For this, you have to take an elevator down the 175 ft Niagara Gorge to reach a series of walkways that brings you within inches of the Bridal Weil Falls. After this amazing experience, enjoy 'maid of the mist' - a 20 minute breathtaking boat ride to the largest of the three falls - Horseshoe Falls. The boat brings you close enough to the waterfall that you will get wet by the water bouncing off the falls.













After the tour, we will proceed to Buffalo airport to take a flight to **Chicago**. Evening is free for you to explore Chicago on your own.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Visit the **Magnificent Mile in Chicago** to spend a wonderful evening. The Magnificent Mile is a vibrant commercial centre where you can enjoy delicious food at award winning restaurants, partake in upscale shopping and enjoy the live entertainment being performed at the comedy clubs and theatres. It is spread across 13 blocks from banks of the Chicago river to Oak Street and is home to numerous iconic buildings. Look out for the historic **Chicago Water Tower**, the 100-story John **Hancock Center** and the **neo-Gothic Tribune Tower**.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy an out-of-the-world experience at Niagara Falls
- Catch flight to Chicago
- Have a wonderful evening at the Magnificent Mile, Chicago [RECOMMENDED]

DAY 07: city tour of chicago

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a city tour of **Chicago**.

One of the largest cities in the US, Chicago is a hub of art, architecture, finance and politics. Dubbed as the windy city, because of the cool breezes that blow out of Lake Michigan, it underwent destruction in a great fire that occurred in 1871 and rendered almost 100,000 people homeless. The city was rebuilt under massive construction programs and within 30 years after the fire, the city became the 5th largest city in the world.

We will start the sightseeing tour of Chicago with a boat tour on **Chicago river**. The cruise will give us a glimpse of the famous buildings of Chicago which have been characterised as architectural marvels. We will then visit **Buckingham fountain**, a popular landmark of Chicago that has been inspired by the Latona Fountain at the beautiful Palace of Versailles. We will also marvel at **Cloud Gate**, a stainless steel sculpture made by Indianborn British artist Sir Anish Kapoor which is inspired by the liquid metal mercury. During the tour we will also drive by a **street named after Swami Vivekanda**, where during world parliament of religions in 1893, Swami Vivekanda introduced Hinduism to the world.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.



SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - The Art Institute of Chicago has one of the best art collections in the world. 'Old Guitarist' by Pablo Picasso, 'Nighthawk' by Edward Hopper, 'Paris Street; Rainy Day' by Gustave Caillebotte are some of the masterpieces that decorate the museum. The major themes at the museum are - African Art and Indian Art of the Americas, Architecture and Design and Modern and Contemporary Art.

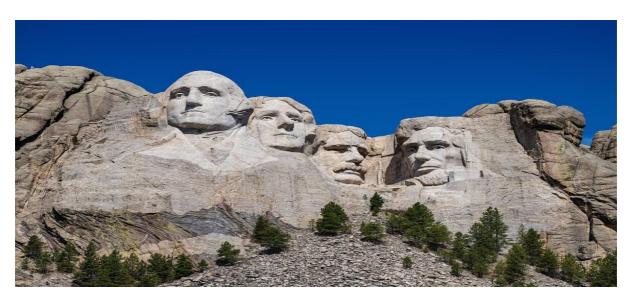
HIGHLIGHTS

- See the most popular places in Chicago on a half day sightseeing tour
- View one of the world's most famous art museums Art Institute of Chicago [OPTIONAL]

DAY 08: Visit To Mount Rushmore National Memorial

After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer to **O' Hare International Airport** to catch a flight to Rapid City. Upon arrival, we will proceed for sightseeing tour of Mt. Rushmore National Memorial.

Mount Rushmore National Memorial is a massive sculpture dedicated to the four most important president's in American history - George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln. Built by the great sculptor Gutzon Borglum and completed by his son Lincoln Borglum, it features a sculptor's studio where Gutzon worked from 1939 to 1941.



Transfer to **Gilette**, and check-in at hotel for overnight stay.









SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Reptile Gardens is a great place to visit for those interested in wildlife. The park claims to maintain the largest variety of reptile species in the world. It runs fun and informative shows wherein you can interact with the animals up close - Learn how to handle a snake from a snake catcher or see a professional keeper feed a large group of alligators and crocodiles.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Transfer to O'Hare airport to catch flight to Rapid City
- See the majestic Mt Rushmore National Memorial
- Learn about venomous reptiles and play with snakes at Reptile Park [RECOMMENDED]
- Transfer to Gilette for overnight stay.

DAY 09: Visit To Yellowstone National Park And Lamar Valley

After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer to Yellowstone National Park.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Yellowstone National park was the first national park set up by the U.S. government, on request of a group of explorers who requested the government to protect the region, which was too beautiful to be exploited for profit. It is widely believed to the first wildlife refuge in the world. The park is renowned for its wildlife and more notably, for its geothermal features. Spread over 8,983 sq. km, it is centred on the largest super-volcano on the continent, Yellowstone Caldera which lends half of the world's geysers and hydrothermal features to the National Park. It is home to thousands of species of endangered animals and plants.

After check-in at the hotel, we will visit Lamar Valley.

One of the best places to spot wild animals in the park, the beautiful Lamar Valley is home to wolf packs, bisons, grizzly bears and more. The wide open vistas are spellbinding and ideal for spotting and photographing the animals as they engage in their routine activities.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Transfer to Yellowstone National Park and check-in at hotel
- Spot wild animals at Lamar Valley



DAY 10: Explore Yellowstone National Park

After breakfast at the hotel, we will begin exploring the **Yellowstone National Park**.



We will start the tour with a visit to the iconic **old faithful geyser** and **upper geyser basin**. The most popular geyser in Yellowstone National Park, the **old faithful erupts** for a few minutes every 35 to 120 minutes, offering a sight to behold. Next, we shall visit the **Grand Prismatic hot spring**, which is one of the most beautiful and largest hot spring in the world, with blue coloured water in the centre and orange, green and yellow colour at the edges. Return to the hotel for overnight stay.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - An easy 4 km trek to **fairy fall o**ffers panoramic views of the volcanic features in the park. At the end of the trek, you are rewarded with the views of a beautiful waterfall with an elevation of over 197 feet. This wonderful trek can be completed in about two hours roundtrip for an average hiker.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness the eruption at Old Faithful Geyser
- Soak in the views of the Grand prismatic hot spring
- Hike to fairy fall [RECOMMENDED]

Day 11: Trip To Grand Canyon











After breakfast at the hotel, we will begin day two of exploring the Yellowstone National Park.

Head over to the stunning **Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River.** Formed by mega volcanic eruption 640,000 years ago, the Grand Canyon displays active geothermal features with steam originating from the canyon walls. The sight of the grand canyon with the upper and lower falls of the Yellowstone river, offers mesmerising views. We shall then drive to **Dunraven Pass to** hike to the top of **Mt. Washburn.** This 9.6 km round trip trek offers spectacular views of the park. Later we visit **Hayden Valley,** the best place to take photographs of the wildlife in the park. Easily spotted animals include bisons, elks and grizzly bears. Finally visit **Mud Volcano**, a crater filled with bubbling mud.



Return to the hotel for overnight stay.

HIGHLIGHTS

- See the upper and lower falls at the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone river
- Enjoy spectacular views while climbing Mt. Washburn
- Spot wild animals at Hayden Valley and visit Mud Volcano.







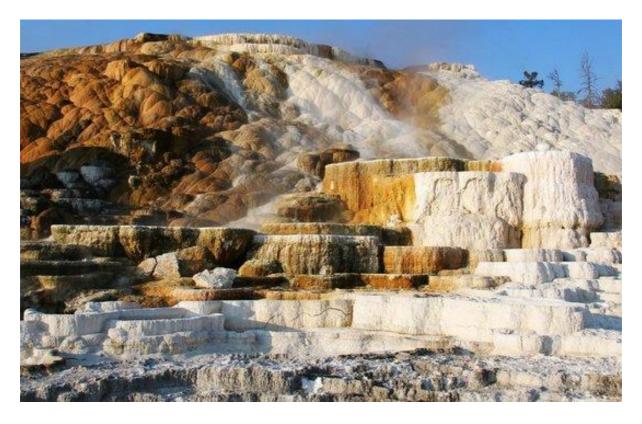




DAY 12: Visit To Las Vegas

After breakfast at the hotel, we will venture into the park for the last day of sightseeing.

Begin the day's sightseeing with a visit to **Norris Geyser Basin.** It is the hottest geyser basin in Yellowstone and is also one which is constantly evolving with new geysers born every year and old ones dying. Steamboat, the world's tallest geyser is also located here. Next we shall visit **Mammoth Hot Springs.** Different from all other geotheram features we have seen till now, the Mammoth hot springs have been described as a cave which is inside-out. Later, we will visit the **Boiling river.** The park offers extremely limited opportunities to swimming in the rivers and springs owing it to be either too cold or too hot, and Boiling river is one of those places. The hot spring is located near <u>Roosevelt Arch</u>, a stone arch constructed in 1903.



Later, head over to the airport, to catch a flight to Las Vegas.

Fondly called as the 'Sin City', **Las Vegas** is the world's premiere resort city known for its larger than life hotels, high roller casinos and thunderous nightlife. Located in the Mojave desert, the city is also the centre for big-budget stage shows with enthralling performances by the world's best magicians, singers and acrobats. The scenic beauty around Las Vegas is astounding with steep canyons, rocky mountains and desert vegetation.



You are free to explore Las Vegas on your own. We hope you win big at the casino! Overnight Stay at the hotel.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - The most famous part of Las Vegas, the **Las Vegas strip** is a 6.8 km long stretch which features some of the largest hotels, resorts and casinos in the world. We suggest you head to the neon-soaked strip for some Las Vegas style fun and amazing food. Watch the iconic **fountains of Bellagio dance** and enjoy the surreal city scape from the **High Roller ferris wheel**.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the hottest geyser basin in Yellowstone Norris Geyser Basin
- Marvel at Mammoth Hot springs
- Swim in the Boiling river
- Catch a flight to Las Vegas
- Enjoy an extraordinary evening at the sin-city on your own!
- Head to the Las Vegas strip for some quintessential Las Vegas fun [RECOMMENDED]

DAY 13: VISIT TO HOOVER DAM

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed to see the **Hoover dam and the Grand Canyon**.

Hoover dam was the world's tallest dam when it was built in 1930s on the **Colorado river**. The creation of the dam led to the formation of America's largest water reservoir - Lake Mead. The construction of this mammoth engineering marvel provided for employment opportunity during the worst financial crisis - the Great Depression. If you choose to do the optional tour, you get a chance to go down 500 ft below the dam's crown to where the turbines are located and how the magic happens.

The Grand Canyon is a deep gorge which was carved by the Colorado River over millions of years. When John Newberry proposed this theory in 1858, it shook the world as it proved that the earth was much older than what people imagined at the time. The rocky landscape of the **Grand Canyon National Park** is mesmerising and the sight is bound to stay with you for the rest of your life. Enjoy a thrilling experiencing of walking over the **Grand Canyon skywalk** - a glass bridge protruding from a cliff which allows you to peer at the canyon floor 4000 ft below.

Return to Las Vegas to enjoy an eventful evening at your own leisure.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.



SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Those looking for a surreal experience of the grand canyon and enjoy the aerial views of the **Hoover dam and Lake mead** can opt for a Grand Canyon **aerial tour**. During this tour, you can fly above one of the most beautiful natural wonder of the world in a small craft or helicopter for an exceptional experience

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cross the mammoth Hoover Dam one of the biggest engineering marvels in the world
- Go down to the dam's turbine room to see how electricity is generated [RECOMMENDED]
- Glean the fantastic landscape of the grand canyon and stand on the skywalk
 4000ft above thin air
- Opt for an exclusive aerial experience in a small aircraft / helicopter [RECOMMENDED]

DAY 14: Trip To Los Angeles

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed to **Los Angeles**. We will check-in to the hotel and venture out for a city tour.

Los Angeles, home of Hollywood, is the third largest city in USA. Once a prized Mexican possession, the place grew into a prominent US city with the discovery of oil in the 1890s. A cultural epicentre, today, the city has more theatres and museums than any other city. The population of LA, is one of the most diverse in the world and new neighbourhoods emerge as more and more people are attracted to the 'LA Lifestyle' than ever before.

During the city tour, we will see the most popular landmarks associated with Hollywood, we will walk along the Hollywood walk of fame - where terrazo and bronze stars dedicated to the most popular celebrities have been embedded on the street. We will also see the Dolby theatre where Academy Awards or 'Oscars' are held every year. We will also drive by the TCL Chinese theatre, opened in 1926, it has held grand premiers for some of the most famous Hollywood films like George Lucas's Star Wars. We will also drive by Sunset Strip, venue for some of the most famous music acts in history, and Beverly Hills area - the famous celebrity residence.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Drive from Las Vegas to City to Hollywood Los Angeles
- See the most popular Hollywood sights on the Los Angeles city tour



DAY 15: VISIT TO UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed to **Universal Studios** to learn how Hollywood movies are actually made!

Universal Studios Hollywood in Los Angeles is one of the finest film studios in the world. Sets for some of the most famous movies such as Jurassic Park, Pirates of the Carribean, Indiana Jones and Transformers were created here. You can tour these and more during the 60-minute studio tour. Apart from this, enjoy thrilling rides based on your favourite movies - from a Harry Potter roller coaster ride to a live action show with explosive fireworks, and people jumping off jet skis based on the movie - Water World.

Overnight Stay at the hotel.

HIGHLIGHTS

Enjoy at one of the world's best theme parks - Universal Studios Hollywood

DAY 16: EXPLORE SOLANG VALLEY AND PAULO ALTO

After breakfast, we will drive to **San Francisco**. Enroute, we will stop at **Solvang village and Paulo Alto**.

Solvang is a city in Santa Barbara County, **California** which was founded by people from Denmark in 1911. This 'Little Denmark' offers a taste of **Denmark** in its food, architecture and sculptures. Here you will find Danish bakeries, streets named after Danish cities and even a little mermaid statue. The city is also home to popular museums such as **Elverhoj Museum and Solvang Vintage Motorcycle Museum**.

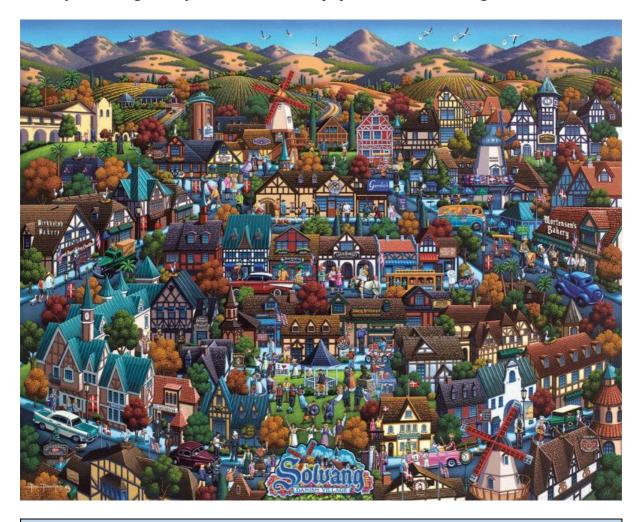
Palo Alto is the birthplace of **Silicon Valley** and home to Stanford University and some of the most elite tech companies in the world - google, Facebook, apple and more. Broad tree lined streets, historic buildings and vast open spaces and gardens give this city its unique character. During the tour, we will see headquarters of companies like google, apple and facebook. We will visit the **Android Lawn** to see the sculptures of various Android versions and visit Apple Visitor Centre for an insider tour of **Apple Campus**.

Later Proceed to San Francisco and Check-in at the hotel.



Overnight Stay at the hotel.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Solvang is located in Santa Barbara Wine Country. A city with numerous wineries, it offers guided bike and walking tours where you ride through the vineyards in the region for wine tasting and enjoy a picnic lunch. Enjoy the wonderful scenery in the region as you learn about the popular wines in the region.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Little Denmark at Solvang City in Santa Barbara County
- Visit the headquarters of the best tech companies in the world
- Enjoy a wine tasting tour in Santa Barbara wine Country on bike [RECOMMENDED]









DAY 17: CITY TOUR OF SAN FRANCISCO

After breakfast, we will go on a city tour of San Francisco.

San Francisco is one of the largest cities in USA and a major technological and financial centre. Founded in 1776 by Spanish Colonists, it was named after St. Francis of Assisi. When gold was found in 1848, the ensuing gold rush helped the city grow in size, wealth and population. However, a 7.9 Magnitude earthquake that struck the city in 1906 destroyed three quarters of the city, leading to deaths of more than 3000 people. Today the city is home to major banking institutions and companies like Levis, Twitter, Salesfore etc.



During the San Francisco city tour, we will visit the famous **Golden Gates bridge**, a major landmark of the city. This engineering marvel was the largest and tallest suspension bridge in the world at the time of its construction. We will also visit **Twin Peaks** to get a beautiful panoramic view of the city. We will drive down **Lombard street -** a street on a steep hill with lots of sharp curves decorated with gardens. We will also visit **Golden Gate Park**, a 1000 acre park which has a Japanese tea garden and a flower conservatory.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

HIGHLIGHTS

• See the most popular sights in San Francisco on a full day city tour



DAY 18: LEISURE DAY AT SAN FRANCISCO

After breakfast, the day is free for you to explore **San Francisco** on your own. You can also opt for one of our specially curated experiential tours, to enjoy San Francisco in a more intimate manner.

Overnight stay at hotel.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Located one and quarter mile from San Francisco is **Alcatraz Island**, a maximum security prison that held some of the most dangerous criminals and psychopaths of all time, like Machine Gun Kelly and Al Capone. Designed by Federal Bureau of Prisons, the island earlier served as a civil war fort. The prison offers both day-time and night tours that add to the experience. The island offers excellent panoramic views of San Francisco City.

HIGHLIGHTS

 Spend a day in one of the world's most liveable and innovative city at your own leisure

DAY 19: DEPARTURE

After breakfast, transfer to airport to board a flight to **India**.

We check out from the hotel to leave for San Francisco International Airport.

Arrive home with pleasant memories of your **USA tour** organised by State Express Global Voyages, which we are sure you will treasure for a lifetime.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Board flight to return back to India

----- End of service -----



