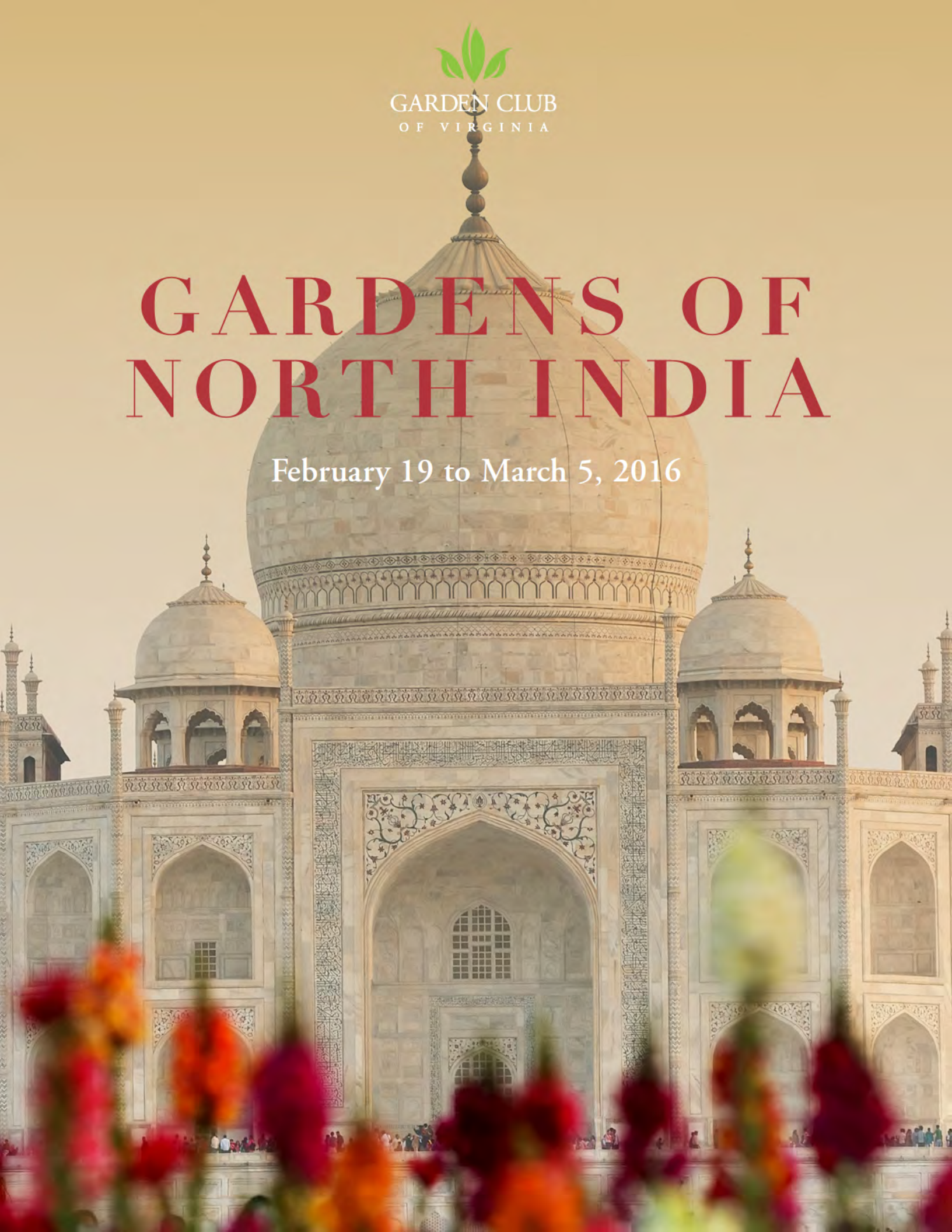




GARDEN CLUB  
OF VIRGINIA

# GARDENS OF NORTH INDIA

February 19 to March 5, 2016



Dear Members and Friends of the Garden Club of Virginia,

It has been over thirty years since I picked up my backpack and found my way to India. I've changed, has India? Come with me and let's find out.

As the birthplace of four religions, the seat of several great, historic empires, and the home to one of the world's most famous buildings, North India has much to recommend it. Not the least of its charms are the enchanting gardens that reflect the influences of both the Mughal and the British empires, native plants mixed with favorites from English gardens. On this special, two-week trip to Delhi, Rajasthan, and Agra, enjoy private visits to many of the palaces, forts, and gardens of this colorful region.

### TRAVELING WITH YOU



Best known for her nine popular garden books, **CATRIONA ERLER** is also a sought-after speaker on garden history and design. She has spoken to garden enthusiasts in America and England, illustrating her lectures with vibrant photos she has taken during her travels. Catriona's pictures also grace several book and magazine covers, and her articles have appeared in periodicals including *Virginia Living*, *Architectural Digest*, and *Garden Design*. The history, traditions and symbolism of the Mughal gardens she visited in Northern India captured her imagination, leading to the preparation of illustrated lectures for our upcoming GCV tour. She is a member of the Albemarle Garden Club and past national president of the National Society of Arts and Letters. ■

Leading the GCV on this journey is Albemarle Garden Club member and horticulturist Catriona Tudor Erler. A popular garden lecturer, Catriona has spoken to many groups and clubs throughout the United States and in England, and has been a guest expert on television and radio shows.

We begin in India's vibrant capital, where accommodations are at the gracious Taj Palace Hotel. Highlights in Delhi include private tours of the palace and gardens at the President's residence, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, and the exceptional museum and sculpture garden of Indian Folk Art, Sanskriti Kendra.

Fly to Udaipur for a private cruise to Jag Mandir Island in Lake Pichola. The island gardens were created as a refuge for the emperor Shah Jahan. Visit Saheliyon-ki-bari, or Garden of the Maids of Honor, on the banks of the Fateh Sagar Lake. In nearby Ranakpur, marvel at the stunning white marble Jain temple. Continue to Jodhpur, the Blue City, for a two-night stay at the Vivanta by Taj Hari Mahal hotel. While there, we will explore Mehrangarh Fort, recently restored and replanted with the encouragement of the present Maharajah of Jodhpur.

In Jaipur, spend three nights at the Jai Mahal Palace, which is set in 18 acres of beautifully landscaped Moghul gardens. At the City Palace of the Maharajas, meet with the Garden Superintendent for a private tour of the Palace's exquisite gardens. See Jaipur's imposing Amber Fort with its remarkable terraced, patterned Saffron Garden that appears to float upon Lake Maota, and drive to Samode Bagh, a 250-year-old garden centered around a canal with 42 fountains.

The itinerary concludes in Agra, where accommodations are at the ITC Mughal Hotel, which has 35 acres of luxurious gardens. We will watch the sun rise over the Taj Mahal, one of the world's greatest monuments, and stay on to enjoy the gardens that enhance this incredible monument. We also will tour the Agra Fort with its courtyard gardens that exemplify the peak of Mughal garden design.

I hope you will join us to experience the magic of this exuberant land as we explore North India and its gardens.

Sincerely,



Jeanette R. Cadwallender  
President

# GARDENS OF NORTH INDIA

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February 19 to March 5, 2016



*Garden of Five Senses, Delhi*



*Lodhi gardens, Delhi*

## DEPART WASHINGTON, D.C.

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**Friday, February 19** Depart Washington's Dulles International Airport on a morning flight to Delhi.

## DUBAI | DELHI

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**Saturday, February 20** Arrival in Delhi in the late afternoon and transfer to the elegant Taj Palace Hotel. This evening gather for a welcome reception at the hotel.

## DELHI

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**Sunday, February 21** Delhi—the work of Hindu, Muslim, and British builders—consists of two distinct sections: the fascinating old 12th- to 19th-century capital and the newer section designed in the 1920s by British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens. Begin at the President's Palace for a private tour of both the palace and the Mughal gardens, which are open to the public only one month during the year. Following lunch, visit Humayun's Tomb, whose gardens have been recently restored by the Aga Khan Foundation for Islamic Architecture. This evening dinner is at The Spice Route, which *Condé Nast Traveler* named one of the ten best restaurants in the world.

## DELHI

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**Monday, February 22** Drive to Old Delhi to visit the Red Fort and its courtyard gardens. Continue to Jama Masjid, the Great Mosque, built in the 17th century by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. A cycle-rickshaw ride introduces us to the nearby temples, bazaars, and narrow alleyways before we return to the hotel. Lunch is at Lodhi Gardens, created by the British in 1936, followed by a tour of the gardens, encompassing tombs dating from the Sayid and Lodi dynasties of the 15th and 16th centuries. Dinner and the evening are at leisure.

## DELHI

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**Tuesday, February 23** A private morning visit is arranged at Sanskriti Kendra, a museum of Indian Folk Art. Then see the 12th-century Qutub Minar, the world's tallest brick minaret, followed by lunch. This afternoon visit the Garden of Five Senses, opened in 2003 as a public leisure space that would evoke a sensory response and, through that, a greater sensitivity to the environment. Among the distinct areas are Khas Bagh, patterned after a Mughal garden, and a Trail of Fragrance. Return to the hotel for an evening at leisure.



*Kesar Kyari Saffron Garden, Jaipur*

## DELHI | UDAIPUR

**Wednesday, February 24** Depart on a late morning flight to Udaipur and transfer to Fateh Garh, a Heritage Renaissance Resort. In the late afternoon, enjoy a private cruise to Jag Mandir Island in Lake Pichola. The island gardens were created as a refuge for Shah Jahan. Dinner is at the hotel.

## UDAIPUR

**Thursday, February 25** Begin the morning at the City Palace, planned around a series of traditional gardens. The palace also boasts picturesque décor and superb 18th-century paintings. Continue to Saheliyon-ki-bari, or Garden of the Maids of Honor, on the banks of the Fateh Sagar Lake. This afternoon, lunch is at the Oberoi Udaivilas, along with a tour of the hotel's meticulously manicured gardens and courtyards, spanning over 30 acres. Dinner is at Fateh Garh.



*City Palace, Udaipur*

## UDAIPUR | JODHPUR

**Friday, February 26** Depart for Jodhpur, stopping en route at Ranakpur to see the most beautiful Jain temple in India. Built in the 15th century of white marble, it is a triumph of the architect's and carver's arts. Of the temple's 1,444 pillars, no two are alike. Lunch is at Maharani Bagh Orchard, built in the late 19th century as a retreat for the royal family of Jodhpur. Continue to Jodhpur and the Vivanta by Taj Hari Mahal hotel, for a two-night stay. Dinner is at the hotel.



*Jain Temple, Ranakpur*

## JODHPUR

**Saturday, February 27** Spend the morning at the Mehrangarh Fort, recently replanted with the encouragement of the present Maharajah of Jodhpur. Once the residence of the maharajahs, today the fort is a museum of paintings, weapons, and *howdahs* (seats used for riding elephants). Return to the hotel, stopping en route at the colorful spice shops. Dinner is at the hotel.

## JODHPUR | JAIPUR

**Sunday, February 28** Depart on a full-day drive to Jaipur. Following lunch in Ajmer, arrive in the late afternoon at the Jai Mahal Palace. Dinner is at the hotel.

## JAIPUR

**Monday, February 29** Today begins with a tour of the garden of the Jai Mahal Palace hotel. Set in a parkland, the garden was created with the advice of Elizabeth Moynihan, an expert on Indian Mughal gardens and wife of the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a former U.S. Ambassador to India. Continue to the City Palace of the Maharajas to meet with the Garden Superintendent for a private tour of the exquisite gardens. Spend the afternoon at Amber Fort, with its traditional Rajput gardens and a spectacular view over the lake below. Dinner is at the hotel.



*Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur*

## JAIPUR

**Tuesday, March 1** Drive to Samode Bagh, a 250-year-old garden centered around a canal with 42 fountains. After lunch visit the beautifully restored Samode Palace, a country palace featuring bougainvillea-covered courtyards in a natural setting. Dinner is at leisure.



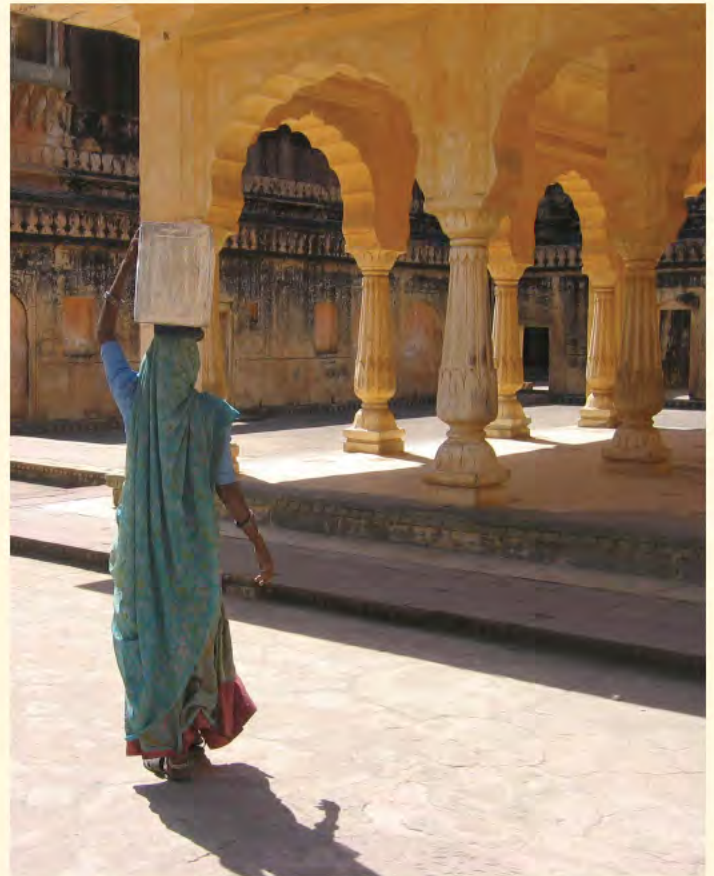
*Spice shop, Jodhpur*

## JAIPUR | AGRA

**Wednesday, March 2** Depart for Agra, stopping in Deeg to visit the palace whose exceptional 18th-century garden was laid out by a Maharajah of Bharatpur. Following lunch, continue to Agra and arrive in the late afternoon at the ITC Mughal Hotel, set amid lush gardens. Dinner is at the hotel.

## AGRA

**Thursday, March 3** Perhaps the consummate symbol of India, the Taj Mahal is one of the world's greatest monuments. Built between 1632 and 1648 by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife, its garden was an integral part of the overall design. Early risers may wish to experience the Taj Mahal at sunrise. After breakfast, return to the Taj Mahal to focus on its gardens. Spend the afternoon at Agra Fort, with its series of courtyard gardens that exemplify the peak of Mughal garden design. This evening, gather for our farewell dinner.



*Amber Fort, Jaipur*

## AGRA | DELHI

**Friday, March 4** Following a morning at leisure and an early lunch, depart for the airport in Delhi and the flights home.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

**Saturday, March 5** Arrive at Dulles International Airport in the early morning. ■

**PROGRAM RATE PER PERSON \$6,995  
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT \$1,750**

**RATE INCLUDES**

- Thirteen nights hotel accommodation as per itinerary
- Buffet breakfast daily, nine lunches, and nine dinners; bottled water and coffee / tea with all meals; local beer / wine with welcome and farewell dinners and the welcome reception
- Escorted sightseeing with national guide; entrance fees for all included visits
- Economy class airfare: Delhi / Udaipur
- Airport / hotel group transfers for those on suggested group flights
- Taxes, service charges, portorage, and gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATE** Passport and visa fees; personal expenses; trip insurance; transfers for those not on group flights; alcoholic beverages at meals other than beer or wine at welcome and farewell dinners and reception.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

**AIRFARE** Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements for this program, including specially negotiated group airfare when available, suggested group flights, or your own individual requests, for a processing fee of \$40 per person. Complete details will be provided in your confirmation mailing.

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE** A deposit of \$1,500 per person, payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*, of which \$350 is nonrefundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment, by check or wire transfer only, must be received 120 days before departure.

**HEALTH** All participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs at monuments and other locations not handicapped accessible, and climbing in and out of various conveyances. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

**INSURANCE** TRIP CANCELLATION / EMERGENCY MEDICAL EVACUATION / BAGGAGE / ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE PROTECTION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. CANCELLATION PENALTIES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED. Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will send an insurance application upon receipt of deposit, although you may select any insurer of your choice.

**CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS** The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Garden Club of Virginia (GCV) and AAA. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares, and currency exchange rates in effect at time of brochure printing and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual.

**RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE** The participation of GCV is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). AAA acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services, relating to The Program. AAA, GCV, and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error, or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity that may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of The Program. The passage ticket issued by the carrier is the sole contract between the participant and the carrier. Nor will AAA or GCV and/or their agents be responsible for loss, injury, damages, or expenses to persons or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts of nature, or other such causes in connection with The Program or anything beyond their reasonable control. Neither AAA nor GCV is responsible for transportation or other program delays and changes, nor additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to AAA or GCV. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the participant at all times. AAA and GCV reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time, or to require any participant to withdraw from The Program at their own expense when such an action is determined by AAA or GCV to be in the best interest of the participant's health and safety, or the general welfare of the other participants.

**CANCELLATION POLICY** AAA must strictly adhere to its cancellation policy to offset costs incurred prior to the commencement of The Program, which may include but are not limited to: advance payments to land operators; ship charters; communication expenses; development / promotional expenses; and the loss of time that might have permitted resale of reserved space. All cancellations must be made in writing to the offices of AAA and are subject to a \$350 non-refundable administrative fee. All refunds are limited to amounts actually received by AAA and are the sole responsibility of AAA; GCV shall have no liability for refunds. At the time AAA receives written notification of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure, 20 percent of the program cost per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent of the program cost per person; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason. Air cancellation charges, if any, will be assessed in accordance with airline regulations. All group fare tickets must be issued no less than 30 days prior to departure. NOTE: Neither AAA nor GCV shall be liable for any airline cancellation penalties incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket. In the case of a cancellation due to shortage of participants, AAA will attempt to notify all participants at least 45 days prior to departure. However, AAA reserves the right to cancel The Program prior to departure for any reason and, in such case, reimbursement of refundable costs of the trip by AAA shall constitute full settlement with the participant. In the unlikely event that a dispute arises between a participant and AAA or GCV, the following conditions will apply: (a) the dispute will be settled by binding arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in New York, NY; (b) the dispute will be governed by New York Law; (c) the maximum amount of recovery to which a participant shall be entitled under any and all circumstances will be the sum of all monies actually received from the participant by AAA. The participant agrees that this is a fair and reasonable limitation on the damages, of any sort whatsoever, that a participant may suffer. Upon payment of the deposit to AAA, the participant agrees to be bound by the above terms and conditions.

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*Academic Arrangements Abroad*

*On the front cover: Taj Mahal*

**GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA | RESERVATION APPLICATION**

**GARDENS OF NORTH INDIA | FEBRUARY 19 TO MARCH 5, 2016  
RESERVATION APPLICATION**

To reserve a place, please complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,500 per person (of which \$350 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10018-3721.

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE (HOME) (BUSINESS)

FAX E-MAIL

**Accommodations**

Hotel Room  Double  Twin  Single (at a supplement of \$1,750)

I wish to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

**Form of Payment**

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*).

Credit card deposit of \$1,500 per person. (Final payment must be made by check or wire transfer.)

NAME AS ON CREDIT CARD

3- OR 4-DIGIT SECURITY CODE

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

Each participant must sign below. I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this program. I/We agree to full payment by check or wire transfer 120 days before departure.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

DATE

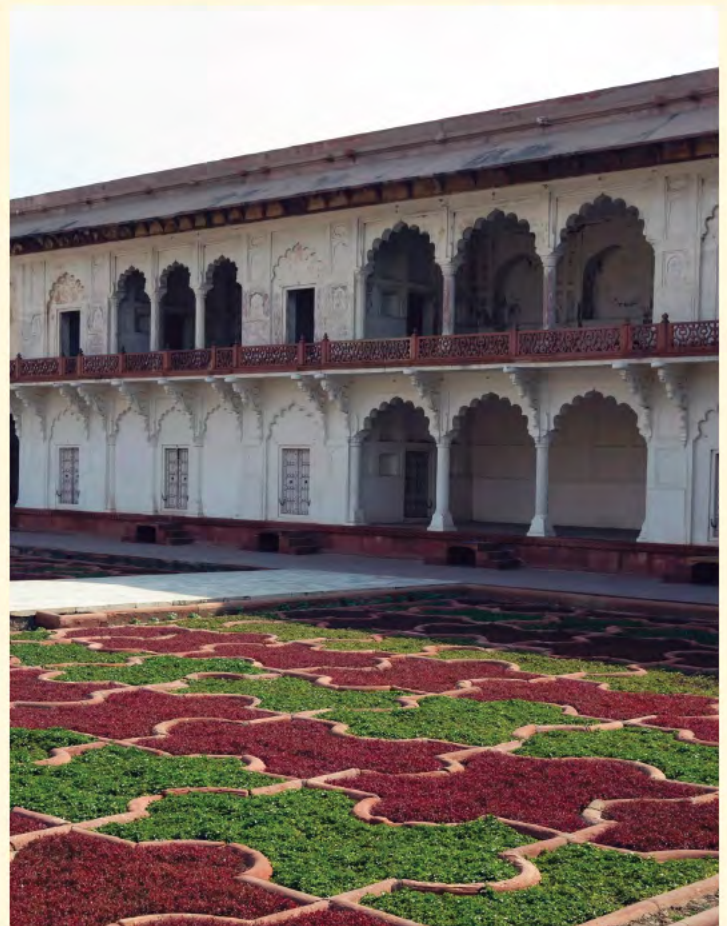
For more information, please contact Academic Arrangements Abroad  
Telephone: 212.514.8921 or 800.221.1944 | Fax: 212.344.7493 | E-mail: [trips@arrangementsabroad.com](mailto:trips@arrangementsabroad.com)



*The Taj Mahal, Agra*



*Jai Mahal Palace Hotel Garden, Jaipur*



*Anguri Bagh: Garden of Grapes, Agra Fort*