

Following Buddha's Footsteps

BODHGAYA · SARNATH · LUMBINI · SRAVASTI

An Inward Journey of the Heart
with Sey Jigme

19 – 27 MARCH 2027



KHACHODLING

DRUK EXPEDITIONS

The Journey

More than a pilgrimage

What if following in the Buddha's footsteps could become more than a journey to the sacred places where he lived, taught and awakened? What if it could also become an inward journey of the heart — an opportunity to discover how his timeless wisdom can illuminate our own lives and transform the way we understand ourselves and the world around us?

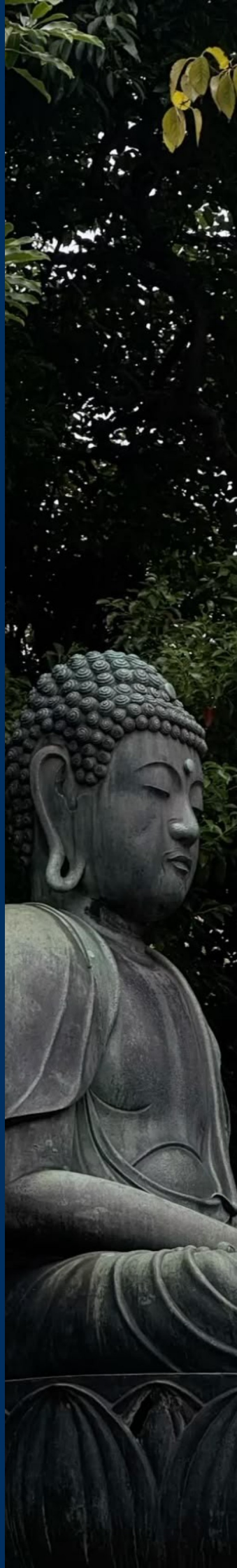
MORE THAN A GUIDE, A LIVING LINEAGE

This unique pilgrimage invites you to explore the most sacred places associated with the Buddha's life across India and Nepal, accompanied by Sey Jigme, as your Personal Pilgrimage Leader. Sey Jigme is a modern yogi, and authentic lineage holder of the Buddhist Vajrayana tradition of the peerless Togden Shakya Shri, his great-grandfather. Raised within his ancient spiritual path, he has also lived family life in the modern world and so brings a rare perspective to the Buddha's teachings.

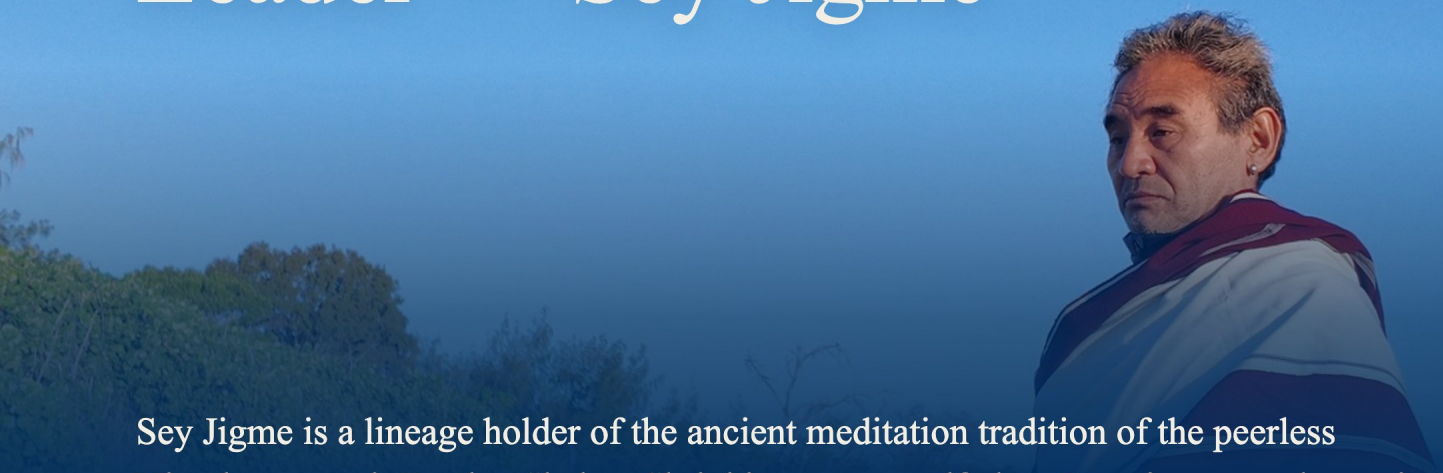
As you visit the places where the Buddha was born, attained enlightenment, first taught the Dharma and ultimately entered parinirvana, Sey Jigme will help illuminate the deeper meaning of these sacred sites and the essence of the Buddha's teachings. Each place becomes an invitation to pause, reflect and discover how Buddha's timeless wisdom can be brought into your own experience, relationships and daily life.

A LUXURIOUS JOURNEY BY RAIL

Travelling aboard the luxurious Buddhist circuit train, you will experience the many sights, sounds, smells and flavours of incredible India — with all its contrasts, surprises, and ups and downs — from the comfort of your own seat. Enjoy good food, restful nights and the ease of travelling between sacred destinations, allowing you to fully absorb the richness of this extraordinary journey while finding space and tranquility for reflection along the way.



Your Personal Pilgrimage Leader — Sey Jigme



Sey Jigme is a lineage holder of the ancient meditation tradition of the peerless Himalayan yogi, Togden Shakya Shri, his great-grandfather. Born in a sacred cave in Ladakh, he grew up immersed in the traditions of great yogis and dedicated practitioners, with family pilgrimages forming a natural part of his childhood.

Educated in both Eastern and Western traditions, Sey Jigme has spent many years living in the West, raising a family and integrating his spiritual practice into everyday life. His years working in disability care, where his kindness and compassion were recognised through several awards, reflect his heartfelt commitment to benefiting others.

With a deep understanding of Western life and an intimate connection to his Himalayan Buddhist heritage and Indian culture, Sey Jigme brings a rare and grounded perspective to the Buddha's teachings. He works alongside his sister, Khandro Rinpoche, as part of Khachodling, sharing Dharma through spiritual understanding and embodied practice, including traditional yogic practices.

A passionate traveller, from childhood horseback journeys to adventures on foot, by car and motorcycle, Sey Jigme brings warmth, practical experience and deep spiritual roots to pilgrimage. He invites you to discover not only the sacred places you visit, but the wisdom they hold for your own life.



Togden Shakya Shri

GREAT-GRANDFATHER OF SEY JIGME

Day 1 FRIDAY | 19TH MARCH 2027

Arrival in Delhi

On arrival, meet your Druk representative and transfer to the World Buddhist Centre.

Rest or explore at your leisure.

Overnight in Delhi.



Day 2 SATURDAY | 20TH MARCH 2027

Delhi to Gaya

Gather with Sey Jigme for introductions, questions and meditation.

Transfer to Safdarjung Railway Station and board the luxury Buddhist Circuit Tourist Train.

Dinner on board; overnight journey to Gaya.



Day 3 SUNDAY | 21ST MARCH 2027

Gaya & Bodhgaya

After breakfast on board, travel by coach to Bodhgaya, where the Buddha attained enlightenment beneath the Bodhi Tree.

Visit the Mahabodhi Temple, Niranjana River, temples and gompas, and the Buddha Statue.

Overnight in Bodhgaya.



Day 4 MONDAY | 22ND MARCH 2027

Rajgir, Nalanda & Varanasi



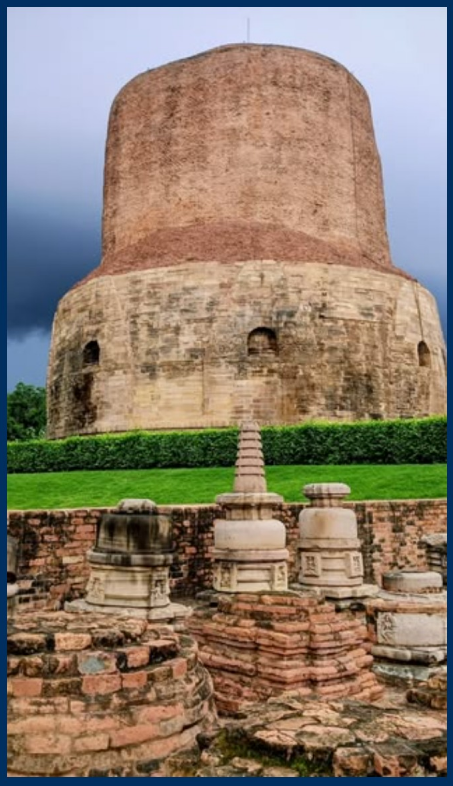
After breakfast and check out, we drive to Rajgir, where Buddha revealed the foundational teaching of Vajrayana – the Prajnaparamita Sutras (The Perfection of Wisdom). Its essence is the Heart Sutra's "Form is emptiness: emptiness is form".

You will stand at Vulture's Peak (Gridhakuta Hill) where Buddha turned the Wheel of Dharma for the second time. We continue to the ruins of Nalanda, the largest ancient Buddhist University. Visit the "Bamboo Grove", the site gifted for the first Buddhist Monastery and where Buddha meditated during the monsoon. Finally, you visit the site of a devoted King's imprisonment, inspirational due to its direct view of the Peak. Transformational stories will be shared.

By evening we board our luxury sleeper train at Gaya. Dinner and overnight to Varanasi.

Day 5 TUESDAY | 23RD MARCH 2027

Varanasi, Sarnath & Nautanwa



We will travel to Sarnath, where Buddha first turned the Wheel of Dharma in Deer Park to his five disciples. View the remnants of the 3rd century BCE Ashokan Pillar that mark this site. Also the Dhamekh Stupa, the Sarnath Museum and Mulgandha Kuti Vihar where Buddha taught during his time in Sarnath.

Back in Varanasi, no visit here would be complete without witnessing the famous evening fire ceremony on the river – Ganges Ghat Aarti. After this we return to the train for overnight travel to Nautanwa, border town before entering Nepal.

Day 6 WEDNESDAY | 24TH MARCH 2027

Nautanwa | Lumbini

Following tea and breakfast we travel by coach, crossing the border into Nepal and continue to Lumbini. Keep passport and visa ready.

After hotel check in and lunch we explore this garden town which is the sacred birthplace of the Buddha. There will be time to meditate and explore the serene gardens and temples.

Dinner and overnight stay is in Lumbini.

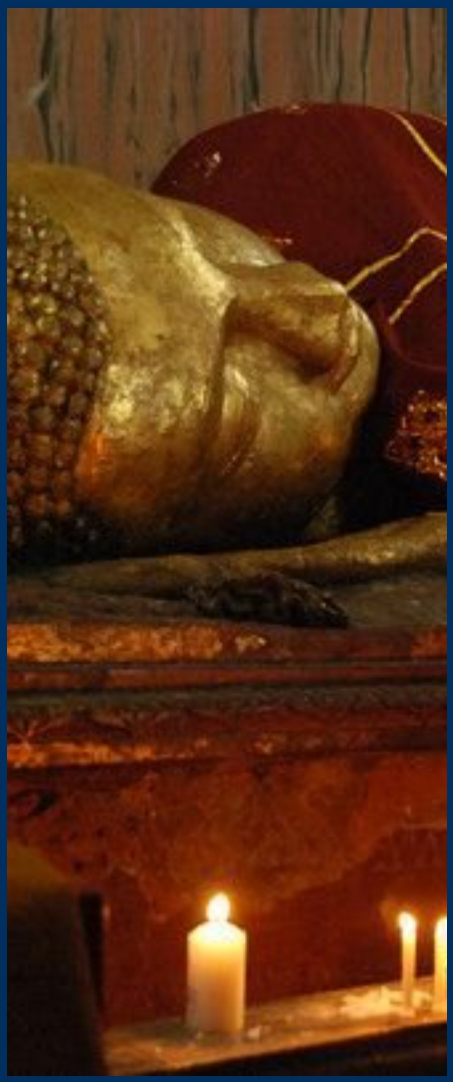


Day 7 THURSDAY | 25TH MARCH 2027

Lumbini, Kushinagar & Sravasti

After breakfast and check-out, our coach drives us to Kushinagar, the place where Buddha passed into parinirvana. We visit the sacred site, including the Mahaparinirvan Temple, home to a 6.1 m long red sandstone reclining Buddha, the Rambhar Stupa (built by King Ashoka) and the exact spot, a 15 metre high earth mound, where Buddha was cremated by Malla royalty. We also visit the Mata Kutir Temple, which houses a massive 3 m high blue-black stone statue of Lord Buddha seated under the Bodhi tree.

Integrating all we have experienced, we continue to Gorakhpur Railway Station and board our train. Dinner on board followed by an overnight journey to Balrampur and Sravasti.

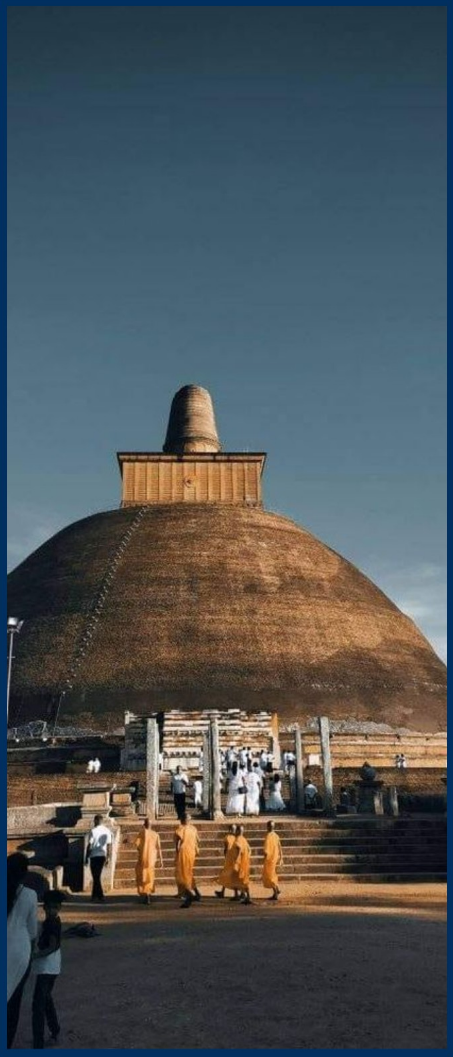


Day 8 FRIDAY | 26TH MARCH 2027

Balrampur, Sravasti & Agra

After a delicious breakfast, our coach takes us to Sravasti. Buddha spent 24 rainy seasons here after his enlightenment, making this the place where he resided the longest – at the Jetavana Monastery. We visit the sacred sites and learn about the many discourses given here, including the miracles of multiplying his form and manifesting fire and water, and the story of Angulimala's conversion. Sravasti was a major political, economic and spiritual hub from the 6th century BCE onward.

After lunch at the hotel, you may rest or explore until we return to Balrampur Railway Station and board the train again. Dinner will be served on board, and overnight is on the train.



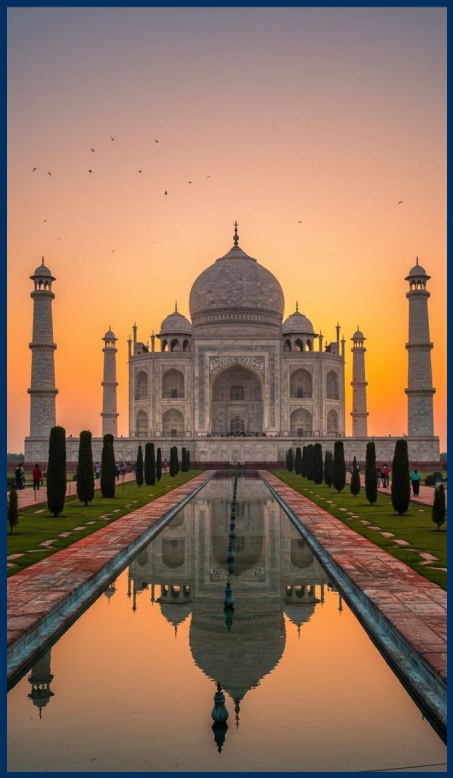
Day 9 SATURDAY | 27TH MARCH 2027

Agra & Delhi

We arrive at Agra City Station in the morning. After tea and breakfast we visit the iconic Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and nearby attractions (time permitting).

After lunch, we re-board the train and travel to our final destination, New Delhi. On arrival, we transfer you to either your hotel to join the next Himalayan pilgrimage or to your late evening homeward flight.

This marks the end of our memorable pilgrimage.





Following Buddha's Footsteps

19 – 27 MARCH 2027

COST

AUD 2,990 Ex Delhi

DEPOSIT

Places in high demand so 50% required by end 2026. After this date, as available.

Inclusions

+ All transfers to and from airport/hotel as per itinerary
+ All transport by train and coach
+ First class journey on the luxury Buddhist Circuit train
+ Accommodation/Sightseeing and Meals as per itinerary
+ Personal Pilgrimage Leader, Sey Jigme for full journey
+ Expert local historical guide in specific locations
+ Entrance fees of monuments as per itinerary
+ All meals as per itinerary from lunch on 19th till lunch on 27th

Exclusions

– Indian and Nepali Visas
– International or domestic airfares
– Items of personal nature e.g. Laundry, Medicine, Alcoholic drinks etc.
– Tips to guide, drivers & support staff
– Sightseeing not in itinerary
– Insurances, medical or evacuation expenses
– Unforeseen circumstances beyond our control e.g. road blockage, natural disaster etc.
– Hotel, if stay in Delhi on 27 March
– Any services not mentioned as included

Contact for Enquiry and Registration

MAIL

sacredtravel@khachodling.org

PHONE / WHATSAPP

Rayne Scotter: +61 413 952 466 (Australia)