"If India’s capital city should have a destination hotel this is it. Its prestigious location marks it within easy reach of most attractions and the airport. Renowned Taj service, a large outdoor pool and three excellent restaurants just add to the pleasure of staying here."

Rooms from £93 per night

Book now
By Olivia Greenway, 
TRAVEL WRITER

Location

The established hotel has a prime address in the leafy Lutyens’ diplomatic quarter. Original white Ambassador cars with rear window curtains and shiny chrome bumpers confirm its colonial past. New Delhi is a busy city; there is a little traffic noise (Indians toot their horns) but not sufficient to disturb your sleep. There plenty to see within a 10- minute drive: India Gate, the main shopping centre at Connaught Place, Humayan’s Tomb, the Red Fort and Khan Market.

Style & character

If the pink sandstone, 11-storey hotel does not arrest attention initially, once inside, the vast reception and lounge area is impressive – with highly polished floors, a domed roof and heady natural scents from a profusion of gigantic floral displays. All around are attentive smiling staff and a genteel bustle from the cream of Delhi society – as well as Western and Indian business folk – quietly meeting and greeting each other. A grand intricately carved marble staircase leads down
Service & facilities

Housekeeping is exceptional: clothes are folded, every shiny surface is buffed so the room gleams, and waste bins are emptied seemingly every time one leaves the room. Unexpectedly having to avail of the inhouse doctor, he visited within three hours, wrote a prescription, and tablets were acquired and dispatched to the room.

Les Clef d’Or concierges can organise trips to local sights. They are also happy to supply a free map and show you how to get there under your own steam.

The large pool set in landscaped grounds has ample loungers, a biddable pool service providing fresh towels, cold water, suntan lotion and your bar order. There is also a small spa with gym, whirlpool bath, sauna and steam room.

Rooms

The only thing negative to say about the guest rooms – the entry level ones are of a decent size and they all have a view – is they are a little dull. All the boxes are ticked – comfortable king-sized beds with quality linen and pillow menu, squeaky clean marble bathrooms – but even the suites lack the wow factor.

Taj Club rooms allow access to the Club Lounge with complimentary food and drink, business services, newspapers and one-way airport transfer. Lone female guests enjoy extra security with video-door entry and female room-service attendants.
The Leela Palace New Delhi
New Delhi, Delhi, India
9/10 - Telegraph expert rating

The only truly grand hotel in the capital, which will wow even the most jaded jetsetter. Everything...

Read expert review

Value for money

From £124 inc. tax

Double rooms from 13,500 INR (£156) in low season; and from 20,000 INR (£230) in high. Breakfast included. Free Wi-Fi.

Check Availability

Access for guests with disabilities?
The hotel has a fully equipped room on the first floor but many suites can be partially adapted with notice.