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From Ghandi to the Dalai Lama: Presenting Two Journeys of Spiritual Enlightenment

TOUR OPERATOR | GERINGER GLOBAL TRAVEL | JAMES RUGGIA | MARCH 17, 2014



PHOTO: A university founded by Mahatma Gandhi offers a stay in his former Ashram. (Courtesy of Gujarat Vidyapith University)

Gujarat Vidyapith University, founded by Mahatma Gandhi, is now making it possible for visitors to stay in Gandhi's former ashram, provided they follow his 11 vows and pay the nightly rate of about \$16. Gandhi opened the ashram in 1915 in the Indian state of Gujarat. The ashram only opened up to tourists last October and hopes to use its austere rules to teach visitors about the sacrifices necessary for sustainability.

The rules include chastity, wearing a khadi as Gandhi did, prayer, meditation, non-violence, no possessions, use of local goods, working for daily food, and self-restraint including chastity and control of diet. There's also the waking at 5a.m. and doing domestic chores. Gandhi

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founded Gujarat Vidyapith university in 1920 in order to educate Indian students and to liberate them mentally from colonialism.

Geringer offers Kalachakra Festival tour



Geringer Global Travel (GGT) will bring clients to the 33rd annual Kalachakra Festival on a special 15-day tour this coming July. The festival is a major annual event for Tibetan Buddhists and it will be presided over by the Dalai Lama. GGT's Kalachakra 2014 India Holiday is available July 1 through July 30. Cultural immersion is at the heart of the experience as participants will tour monasteries, dine with a Kashmiri family, cruise along Dal Lake in traditional Shaikara boats, take a camel safari and attend the 2014 Kalachakra Festival.






The tour visits Delhi, Ladakh and Srinagar in the Kashmir Valley all while staying in luxury tented accommodations. The package is priced from \$9,840 per person double land only. Clients also have the option to go cycling through Thiksey Village, bird watching in the Himalayan region, visit to Dachigan National Park and rafting on the Indus River.

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