



Checklist:

Number of days: one/two

Location: Leicester

Transport links: Train: East Midlands Trains service to Leicester (from London to South Yorkshire)

Air: Nearest airport - East Midlands Airport (approx 30 minutes to Leicester by car)

Key dates: Diwali - 17 October 2009

‘Tell us something we don’t know!’ yelled the locals when Leicester was declared the Curry Capital of Britain in 2007. When it comes to Asian food, no where comes close to matching Leicester’s quality and diversity.

To fully experience the vibrant culinary and cultural delights of Leicester, visitors should start their Taste of Asia journey at the epicentre of the city’s Indian community - Belgrave Road, AKA The Golden Mile. Here you can visit the popular Bobby’s pure vegetarian Indian restaurant where we can arrange a lively cooking demonstration with the restaurant’s acclaimed head chef. The restaurant specialises in traditional Gujrati and indo-Chinese dishes and traditional Indian sweets. Indian sweets and traditional savoury snacks can also be sampled at Sharmalee on Belgrave Road. The eatery is both a sweet mart and an upmarket restaurant. Tasty starters of Pani Puri (crispy puris served with spicy sauce, chickpeas and onion), chanabateta (chickpeas and potatoes in a tamarind sauce) are followed by South-Indian specialties like Masala Dosa or Idli Sambhar (flat pulse balls with coconut chutney).

A visit to one of the area’s several traditional Indian herb and spice stores located in the Belgrave area is a must for all foodies, as is a visit to nearby Feast India - arguably one of the most unique Indian restaurants in the region. Described as having an ‘unbelievable wow factor’, the restaurant houses six spectacular open kitchens offering different styles of food from around India and is kitted out in retro cricket and Bollywood memorabilia.

We can arrange for this itinerary theme to coincide with Leicester’s massively popular Diwali celebrations. Taking place in October, the vibrant festival is reputed to be the largest of its kind outside of India and includes a lights switch on ceremony on Belgrave Road with music, entertainment and a spectacular fireworks display. Accommodation can be arranged.

Email Simon Gribbon on simon.gribbon@l-p-l.com or telephone (0116) 225 4001 if you are interested in this itinerary theme.