**Silk Route to Pochampally**

Pochampally Silk tour from Hyderabad is about a visit to a village called Pochampally famous for its Saree Weavers. We will meet a few weavers in their homes and interact with them. We will also visit a handloom textile park and a museum here to experience the art and craft of weaving these wonderful Sarees which is the attire of the cabin crew of India’s national carrier, Air India. We will also see the village where Vinobha Bhave launched his Bhoodan Movement for the landless Indians.

**0800 Hrs- Pick-up from respective hotels post breakfast**  
**0830 Hrs- Depart from HICC**  
**1000 Hrs- Arrive Pochampally Weavers Village**

We take a walk around Pochampally village, which is the home of the iconic weavers of Ikat style Sarees popularly called Pochampally Sarees. The secret of Pochampally Saree weaving lies in using cotton, silk or a combination of the 2 fabrics and weave after transferring the intricate design and colouring onto warp and weft threads. Pochampally has traditional looms, whose design is more than a century old. There are around 5000 looms in this village which churn out these magical Sarees.

**Handloom Textile Park**

We will visit the Handloom textile park to learn a bit about dying, drying and designing stages of the making of a Pochampally Saree. It is an integrated handloom textile designing, dyeing and weaving facility spread over 24 acres. Sarees, Stoles, Dupattas, Dress Materials, Upholstery Fabric and Home Furnishings are the main products made here.
Weaving Museum

We will visit a unique Weaving Museum where not only do you get to learn about weaving but also about the history of the village and its connection with the revolutionary Bhoodan movement.

The museum showcases the stages involved in the unique Ikat design. The design is generated from a process of tie-and-dye to give different shades to the yarn before feeding into the next process of weaving. Ikat is the first Indian Textile process to obtain Intellectual Property Rights Protection under Geographical Indications Act.

1500Hrs - Visit a weaver’s home

We will visit the home of a Weaver to see him in action. We will experience how Saree weaving is a family affair where every member has a specific role to play in the process. The grandmother is in charge of winding bobbins, the wife is marking out the design on warp threads and the husband is weaving on a loom in the main living area!

Low wages is affecting the handloom industry badly. Young people are no longer taking after the weaving trade. Unless drastic steps are taken to revive this industry, Pochampally Sarees could end up only in museums. A visit to their village helps in a small way to encourage the weavers and restore their pride in this craft.

1600Hrs- Leave Pochampally towards Hyderabad and drop at Hotel.