

Enchanting Rajasthan



TOUR INFORMATION

ACTIVITY: DISCOVERY
TOUR DURATION: 14 DAYS
MIN AGE FOR TRIPS: 14+



INCLUSIONS

- 12 NIGHTS HOTEL
- 1 NIGHT CAMP
- 13 BREAKFASTS, 1 DINNER
- CAMEL SAFARI & BOAT RIDE

This information should answer some of your questions about the trip and give you a better idea of what we do day-to-day. It doesn't hope to answer everything. If you have any questions please get in touch.

Trip Highlights

- Visit medieval forts & magnificent palaces
- Meet locals and stroll through colorful markets
- Magnificent Taj Mahal
- Jeep Safari to exotic Sand Dunes

India

India is a unique place to travel around and see its beautiful sights. Rajasthan is often referred to as the land of Maharajas. It has got vast area of sand dunes, medieval forts, magnificent palaces and colorful markets. This trip gives you firsthand experience of the Grandeur of the Royal extravaganza. That's not all, enjoy an exciting Jeep Safari to exotic Sand Dunes and Starry night in the tent.

Itinerary

This itinerary will always need to remain flexible and may change due to weather conditions, the pace of the group or other unforeseen circumstances. Times and distances are approximate. (B,L,D) refers to meals included in the trip cost: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

This trip is 14 days ex- DELHI. The first and last days refer to the days of arrival in and departure from DELHI, and may not be the days you leave or return home.

Day 1- Arrive Delhi.

On your arrival at Delhi, you will be met and transferred to your Hotel. Delhi, the capital of India blends together a great cultural variety and an unceasing range of activity. In its monuments the city reminds us of the various civilizations that flourished here for more than three thousand years. According to legends, Indraprastha is the city founded by the Pandavas in the times of the epic Mahabharata (Circa 1500 B.C.) and was located near the Old Fort that stands on a large mound overlooking the river. Today, the city is a charming blend of the traditional and modern, skyscrapers, beautiful gardens and wide tree-lined avenues perpetuate the Mughal passion of landscaping and architectural excellence.

Optional Sightseeing tour of Delhi: Visiting Red Fort from outside, Riksha Ride Chandni Chowk, Bangla Sahib Gurudwara, Connaught Place Market area, the famous Lotus Temple & Humayun's Tomb. **Check in Time:** 1400 hrs. / Checkout Time: 1200 hrs. Early Check in will be subject to availability.

Day 02: Delhi – Mandawa (255 Kms / 5 hrs)

After breakfast drive to Mandawa. Arrive and check into the Hotel. Afternoon, enjoy a sightseeing tour of the town. Visit the excellent and amazing painted Havelis (mansions) for which is the region is world-renowned. Overnight stay at the hotel. Mandawa, also known as Shekhawati, is the open air Art Gallery of Rajasthan. The town of Mandawa came into existence in the 18th century when powerful & wealthy merchants built a number of luxurious residences known as Havelis and decorated the walls and interiors with beautiful murals. In time the merchants migrated to other cities

but the Havelis still exit, although they are a shadow of what they used to be. Overnight stay at the hotel. (B)

Day 03: Mandawa - Bikaner (195 Kms / 4hrs)

Drive to Bikaner, on arrival Check-in hotel, afternoon visit Junagarh Fort, Rat Temple and Camel breading farm. Junagarh fort was built from 1589 to 1594 is very unique and beautiful structure, Rat Temple or Karni Mata Temple was originally constructed around 1530, after the Mahaprayan of Karni Mata, who was an incarnation of the goddess of power and victory, Durga. Overnight stay at the hotel. **(B)**

Day 04: Bikaner - Khimsar (158 Kms / 3.5 hrs)

After breakfast, we drive to Khimsar. Arrive Khimsar & visit the amazing Khimsar Fort. Perched on the edge on the great Thar Desert. Evening, enjoy an exciting Jeep Safari to exotic Sand Dunes. Overnight stay at the hotel. (B)



Day 05: Khimsar - Manwar Camp (135 Kms / 3 hrs)

After breakfast, we drive to Manwar. Arrive Manwar and check into the Tented Camps. Enjoy an exciting camel safari in the desert and experience the unique tribal desert villages. Enjoy dinner around the campfire with musicians from the desert. Overnight stay at the Camp. (B, D)

Day 06: Manwar Camp – Jodhpur (110 Kms / 2.5 hrs)

After breakfast drive to Jodhpur. On arrival enjoy a city tour of Jodhpur visiting the Mehrangarh fortress perched on a hill with breath-taking views over the city. Jodhpur, also known as the Blue City, is famous for its many forts and palaces. The Old City is surrounded by about 10 km of walls with 7 gates and yet is small enough to walk around. Its winding streets are still the preserve of intriguing bazaars and ancient colourful houses. A stroll through the fragrant Spice Market is a highlight. Overnight stay at the Hotel. (B)

Day 07: Jodhpur – Udaipur (252 Kms / 5 hrs)

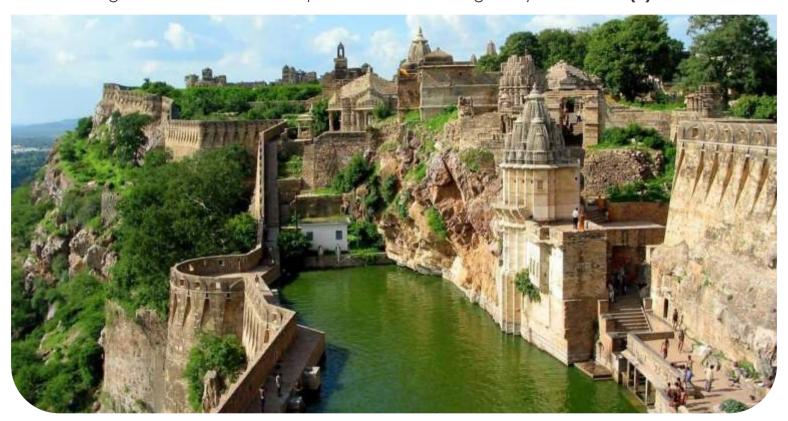
After breakfast drive to Udaipur, En route visit the 15th century Jain temples at Ranakpur. Continue drive to Udaipur. Upon arrival check into the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel. (B)

Day 08: In Udaipur

After breakfast visit The City Palace, Sahelion-Ki-Bari & The Jagdish Temple. City Palace was built on a hilltop, in a fusion of the Rajasthani Rajput architecture providing a panoramic view of the city and its surroundings. It was built over a period of nearly 400 years, with contributions from several rulers of the Mewar dynasty. Evening enjoy boat ride on The Lake Pichola (In a sharing boat). Overnight stay at the hotel. **(B)**

Day 09: Udaipur – Chittorgarh (120 Kms / 2.5 hrs)

Morning drive to Chittorgarh, afternoon visit Chittorgarh fort and Bassi Village.
The Chittorgarh, also known as Chittod Fort, is one of the largest living forts in India. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The fort was the capital of Mewar. Overnight stay at the hotel. **(B)**



Day 10: Chittorgarh – Pushkar (230 Kms / 4.5 hrs)

After breakfast drive to Pushkar. On arrival transfer to hotel. Evening Visit various temples of Pushkar including The Temple of Bramha and Holly Lake Pushkar is a sacred town for Hindus, the legend of the Creator God, Bramha describes the creation of this lake. When the demon Vajra Nabha killed Brahma's children, he in turn struck the demon with his weapon, a lotus flower. Vajra Nabha was killed by the blow and the petals of the lotus fell at three places. One of them is Pushkar, where the lake sprung into being. Pushkar is also known for its fair. The history of the Pushkar Camel Fair dates back to the 19th century when the local Rajasthani tribes used to gather in Pushkar to trade camels and other livestock. The fair gained in popularity over time and became an annual event, bringing sellers and buyers from around the country. Overnight stay at the hotel. **(B)**

Day 11: Pushkar – Jaipur (148 Kms / 3.5 hrs)

After leisurely morning we drive to Jaipur. The capital of Rajasthan is also known as the "Pink City" and is one of the most attractive and colourful cities in India. The evening is free for exploration. Overnight stay at the hotel. **(B)**

Day 12: Jaipur

Today we continue to explore the ancient city of Jaipur with a visit to the Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds). We then visit the Amber Fort-Palace, set in a picture sque location 7 miles away from Jaipur presenting a fascinating blend of Hindu and Muslim architecture). Overnight stay at the hotel. (B)

Day 13: Jaipur – Agra (245 Kms / 6 hrs)

We leave for Agra, en route we visit Fatehpur Sikri. This fascinating deserted city was founded in 1569 by Emperor Akbar as a residence, but soon abandoned when his enemies cut off the water supply. Check in Hotel, afternoon visit to the Taj Mahal & Agra Fort. The Taj Mahal, which means "Crown Palace" is a dream of white marble, built by Emperor Shahjehan in 1630 for his beloved wife Mumtaz. It is in fact probably the most well-preserved and architecturally beautiful tomb in the world. Less than 2 kilometres from the Taj Mahal, is the impressive Agra Fort. The fort is built alongside the Yamuna river and stretches for almost 2.5 km. It consists of a massive red sandstone wall with several buildings inside. The wall has 2 gates, the Delhi Gate and the Amar Singh Gate. Overnight stay at the hotel. (B) (Taj Mahal closed on Friday)



Day 14: Agra - Delhi Departure (220 Kms / 4-5 hrs)

After breakfast drive back to Delhi. On arrival transfer to the airport to board flight for onward destination. (B)

Accommodation

We stay in a range of Hotels from Standard to Comfortable.

Language

The national language is Hindi. Some locals will speak enough English for simple conversations, but many will not.

Climate

Post monsoon weather in October to March is typically cool and dry. It is warm enough during the day for light clothing but can be drop around 5 degrees at night. In March/April/May it is warmer during the day. May to September is generally monsoon time.

Indian Visas

A full passport is required to apply for the Indian visa, with a validity of at least 6 months beyond the intended duration of stay in the country. It is the client's responsibility to complete all the application procedures and obtain their visas before the intended date of departure. A simplified facility of applying for an eVisa is now available to British passport holders, this will entitle the applicants to a 60 day tourist visa, for more details please log on to the official website of Indian Government https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/ Alternatively UK passport holders can apply themselves for Indian Visa through India High Commissions Visa service VFS by logging on to http://in.vfsglobal.co.uk/. Current visa fee for British passport holders





