

RAJASTHAN TOUR (13 Nights/ 14 Days)

DAY 01: ARRIVAL DELHI

Upon arrival at Delhi Apt, transfer to the hotel.

Red Fort : Built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan between 1638 and 1648, the masterpiece of Red Fort has the distinction of being chosen as a site from where the prime minister of India addresses the nation on the Independence Day. Popular as Lal Quila, the grand and imposing fort is today a regular haunt of tourists from all parts of the world. The unparalleled architecture is testimony to the grandness of supremacy of Mughal empire in India. The complex houses Diwan-i-Am, Diwan-i-Khas, the Moti Masjid, the Shahi Burj etc. The fort stands as dignified and grandiose as it did centuries ago.



India Gate, Delhi: the 42 metre high, free standing arch, popularly known as India Gate, was designed by Luytens and built in 1911. It was originally called All India War Memorial in memory of the 90,000 Soldiers of the Indian Army who died in World War I. The names of the soldiers are inscribed all along the walls of the arch. In 1971, an eternal flame was lit here to honour the Amar Jawan (immortal soldiers).

Humayun's Tomb, Delhi : Taj Mahal is known have been inspired by Humayun's Tomb, and in many ways this magnificent red and white building is as spectacular as the famous Taj Mahal in Agra. Tomb is memorial by a grieving wife and was built by his widow Haji Begum in 1565-66, nine years after his death. The splendor of this grand monument becomes overpowering on entering through the lofty double storeyed gateway. It is set in the centre of a large square garden enclosed by high walls on three sides, while the river would have been the forth boundary. The Chahar Bagh is divided into smaller squares by pathways as in a typical Mughal garden. The fountains were worked with simple yet highly developed engineering skills quite common in India during that period



Qutub Minar :- The Qutub Minar is located in Mehrauli in South Delhi. It was built by Qutub-ud-din Aibak of the Slave Dynasty, who took possession of Delhi in 1206. The Qutub Minar is also significant for what it represents in the history of Indian culture. In many ways, the Qutub Minar, the first monument built by a Muslim ruler in India, heralded the beginning of a new style of art and architecture that came to be known as the Indo-Islamic style. Other monuments around the Qutub complex, are Jamaali Kamaali mosque and tombs, Balban's tomb and Adham Khan's Tomb.

Day is free for local markets.

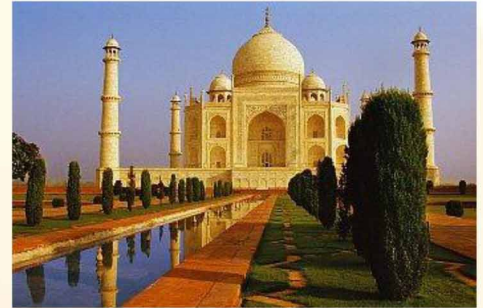
Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 02 DELHI –AGRA (250 KMS)

Enjoy your breakfast this morning at the hotel, check out and proceed and drive to Agra.

Agra Fort: Built by the great Emperor Akbar in 1565 AD the fort is a masterpiece of design and construction. Within the fort are a number of exquisite buildings, including the Moti Masjid, Diwane-E-Am, Diwani-E-Khaas and Musanman Burj, where the Emperor Shah Jahan died while in imprisonment.

The construction of the Agra fort was started around 1565 when the initial structures were built by Akbar. Shah Jahan replaced most of these with his marble creations. Some however survived, among them are- Delhi Gate, Amar Singh Gate, Akbari Mahal and the Jahangiri Mahal.

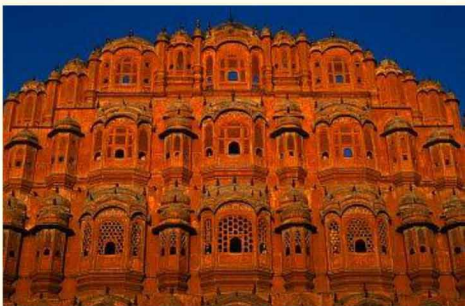


Taj Mahal - The Immortal Signature of Love

There is no other monument in the world, which can match the beauty and grandeur of the Taj Mahal. Set amongst the serene ambience of a well laid out garden, the massive marble structure of the Taj is awe-inspiring. The Taj Mahal was built in the 17th century by Shahjahan- the fifth Mughal emperor, in memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Shahjahan loved his wife so much that after she passed away in 1631, he decided to immortalize their love in the form of the Taj Mahal. It is more than 350 years and still has its romantic aura intact, which attracts millions of visitors from all part of the world.

Overnight at the Hotel in Agra.

DAY 03: AGRA – JAIPUR (250 KMS)



After breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive towards Jaipur.

Enroute visit **Fatehpur Sikri and Panch Mahal.** :- This deserted red sandstone city was built by Emperor Akbar in 1571 AD in honor of the famous Sufi saint, Salim Chishti. The Mughal capital for only 14 years until abandoned due to lack of water, the buildings are blending Hindu and Islamic styles of architecture. After sightseeing proceed towards Jaipur. Check in to the Hotel.

Jaipur, Widely known as the 'Pink City'. This city is color washed pink to welcome Prince Albert, the consort of Queen Victoria of England who visited India in 1883 A.D. The city was founded in 1727 A.D by one of the greatest ruler Jai Singh II. Jaipur is surrounded by hills on three sides, crowned by formidable forts and majestic palaces, mansions and gardens. Jaipur is the only city in the world, which is sub-divided in to nine rectangular sectors symbolizing nine divisions of universe. Jaipur is the first planned city designed in accordance with 'Shilpa Shastra' - epochal treatise of Hindu architecture.

Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 04 JAIPUR

Morning: enjoy your breakfast at the hotel; later proceed to the excursion to **Amber Fort.** Here you will enjoy the **Elephant Ride** to reach the top of the palace. This journey on embellished elephants is bound to enrich your memories with the Royal lifestyle of the Maharajas and leave you with a truly unforgettable experience. (Subject to availability) Inside the Fort visit the Hall of Victory or Jag Mandir - is the famed Sheesh Mahal- a room with all the four walls and ceiling completely embedded with glittering mirror pieces, which were specially imported from Belgium during that period.

Continue your journey: with the city tour of Jaipur- visiting **Maharaja's City Palace**, the former Royal residence, part of it converted into a museum. A small portion is still used by the Royal family of Jaipur. One of the major attractions in the museum is the portion known as Armory Museum, housing an impressive array of weaponry- pistols, blunderbusses, flintlocks, swords, rifles and daggers. Later visit the **Jantar Mantar**, which is the largest stone and marble crafted observatory in the world, having 17 large instruments, many of them still in working condition. During the tour you will also have a brief photography stop at **Hawa Mahal** - the Palace of Winds.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 05 JAIPUR - JODHPUR (350KMS)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive towards Jodhpur.

Check in to the hotel.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 06 JODHPUR – JAISALMER (300 KMS)

Enjoy your breakfast this morning at the hotel, check out and proceed and drive towards Sightseeing of Jodhpur. The 15th century city of Jodhpur, stands at the edge of Thar Desert and is the largest city in Rajasthan after Jaipur. Jodhpur is a resplendent city, with a blend of modern and traditional buildings. The city is totally dominated by a massive fort sprawled across 125- meter high hill known as **Meherangarh Fort**, founded by Rao Jodha in 15th century. A flourishing trade center in the 16th century, Jodhpur is still one of the leading centers of wool, cattle, camels, salt and agricultural crops . It boasts of some of very fine reminders of its glorious past palaces, temples and other elegant monuments of architectural and historical significance. Also Jodhpur is popularly known as the 'Blue City' because of the beautiful houses painted with indigo color mostly belonging to the Brahmin caste. You can get a magnificent view of this Blue city from the ramparts of the Meherangarh Fort. Visit the Meherangarh Fort, which was impregnable for the rocky base it is built on. It totally dominates the city and within its walls are the royal palaces, priceless jewels and a striking collection of arms. Also visit **Jaswant Thada**, the white marble memorial to Maharaja Jaswant Singh II built in 1899.

After Sightseeing drive towards Jaisalmer. Check in to the hotel. Day is free for leisure.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 07 IN JAISALMER



Enjoy your breakfast this morning at the hotel; proceed for the city tour of Jaisalmer. Visit the famous **Haveli' (mansions)** known for their frescoes. Jaisalmer's strategic position on the camel terrain route brought great wealth. The merchants grew prosperous and commissioned great havelis, or mansions, to flaunt their ever-growing status in society. Made of local golden-yellow sand stone and wood, some of the havelis are still in excellent condition. The most elaborate and magnificent of all the Jaisalmer havelis is the Patwaon Ki Haveli. Five Jain brothers built the Haveli between 1800 and 1860. Salim Singh Ki Haveli and Nathmal Ki Haveli are the other two havelis that are open to visitors. Built in 1156 by the Bhatti ruler, Jaisal, THE FORT here stands atop the 80 m high Trikuta hill and 3 walls and 99 bastions surround the fort. Over the centuries, the golden sand stone fortress witnessed many battles between the Bhattis, the Mughals and the Rathors of Jodhpur. Within the fort complex lie the beautifully carved Jain Temples built between the 12th and 15th centuries. The Maharawals (rulers) of Jaisalmer were devout Hindus but were tolerant of Jainism, and encouraged art and religion. There are 7 temples in the complex.

In the evening, proceed for the excursion to **Sam Sand dunes**. Located at a distance of 42 kilometers from Jaisalmer, Sam Sand Dunes is the closest point to witness the total sandy desert. You can also see the patterns and motifs created by the shifting sands and air. Moreover, Sam Sand Dunes also provide you with an unforgettable experience of camel rides and the sunset.

Overnight at the tented accommodation.

DAY 08 JAISALMER– JODHPUR (300 KMS)

Enjoy your breakfast this morning at the hotel, check out and proceed and drive to Jodhpur.

Also visit **Sadar Bazaar and Clock Tower markets** where you can see the vegetable, spice, Indian sweets, and textile and silver markets. These colorful markets with tiny shops dot the narrow lanes replete with woodcarvings, wrought iron, lacquer work, silver and ivory ornamentation and leather handicrafts.

Afternoon is free to walk around, in the colorful and bustling bazaars for personal exploration or shopping.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 09 JODHPUR – RANAKPUR - UDAIPUR (300 KMS)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive towards Udaipur.

En route you will visit the **Ranakpur Jain Temple**. The Ranakpur Jain temples are hidden in the dense forests of the Aravalli hills in a peaceful setting and are one of the five holy Jain pilgrimages and they were built during the reign of the liberal and gifted monarch Rana Kumbha in the 15th century. An enormous basement covers 48,000 sq. feet area. There are four subsidiary shrines, twenty four pillared halls and eligibly domes supported by over four hundred columns. The total number of columns is 1,444 all of which are intricately carved and no two being alike. The artistically carved nymphs playing the flute in various dance postures at a height of 45 feet are an engrossing sight. In the assembly hall, there are two big bells weighing 108 Kg and their sound echoes in the entire complex. (Temple opens only at 1200 Hrs. Leather belts, footwear, bare legs and black clothing not allowed)



After sightseeing, proceed towards Udaipur. Day is free for leisure.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 10 IN UDAIPUR



Enjoy your breakfast this morning at the hotel, and proceed for sight seeing of Udaipur.

Udaipur is also a centre of historic arts and crafts of Mewar. During a tour you will visit the **City Palace** built in 1725, the grand City Palace is actually a conglomerate of eleven palaces overlooking the sprawling Lake Pichola. One of the largest, most beautiful palaces in the state of Rajasthan, it is now a museum, royal residence and a luxury hotel. This intricately designed monument is an architectural wonder in granite and marble; Later visit Sahelion Ki Bari that is a small ornamental garden built in the honor of Royal Ladies for recreational purpose.

In the evening you will enjoy a leisurely **boat ride on Lake Pichola** with its main attractions the beautiful stretch of water surrounding the two marvelous structures the Jag Niwas and Jag Mandir, is the life line of

Udaipur city. Lake Pichola is about 4 kms in length and 3 kms wide. Jagniwas was earlier the summer retreat of the prince of Mewar and now a five-star hotel Lake Palace. All the palaces in the city are constructed to have a magnificent reflection in this lake. This lake was created in the 15th century and widened later and a dam across was also created in that period. It was Maharana Udai Singh II who strengthened the Dam and widened the lake, as he was building his capital on the shore of the beautiful Lake. The lake was surrounded by many exquisite palaces, temples, hilly terrains, bathing ghats and many gardens. The city palace extends along the eastern shore of the lake.

Over night stay at your hotel.

DAY 11 UDAIPUR – CHITTORGARH – RANTHAMBORE (450 KMS)

Enjoy your breakfast this morning at the hotel, check out and proceed and drive to R.Bore

Enroute Visit the **Chittorgarh Fort** which is a huge and colossal structure. The entrance to the fort is provided through seven gates with the main gate, Ram Pol (gate of Ram). As per the legend, Bhim, a Pandava, started the construction of the fort. There are a number of magnificent monuments inside the fort. Tour must include Rana Kumbha Palace, the most imposing monument in the Chittorgarh Fort. Rich heritage and architecture define this palace. It is believed that the palace has underground basements where Rani Padmini and other women performed Johar.



After sightseeing, drive towards R.Bore. Check in to the hotel. Day is free for leisure.

Overnight at the Hotel.

DAY 12 RANTHAMBHORE



After breakfast at the Hotel, proceed for the **early morning game drive (Jeep Safari)** at Ranthambore National Park. Day is free for you for leisure.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 13 - RANTHAMBHORE – JAIPUR (200 KMS)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive towards Jaipur. Day is free for rest.

Overnight stay at your hotel.

DAY 14 - JAIPUR – DELHI DROP (275 KMS)

After breakfast at the hotel, check out and drive towards Delhi Airport for departure drop.

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