

Classical Rajasthan
Delhi-Agra-Ranthambore-Jaipur-Khimsar-Jaisalmer-Rohet-Udaipur-Delhi

DAY 1 ARRIVE DELHI

Arrive Delhi. Upon arrival you will be received and taken to the hotel.

The city consists of two parts -Old & New Delhi. Old Delhi was the capital of Muslim India between 17th and 19th century and has many mosques, monuments and forts. New Delhi, the imperial city was created by the British as the capital of India. In 1911, Edwin Lutyens', the most renowned English architect of the day, was chosen to design New Delhi. Lutyens' architectural conceptions were totally different from the Hindu or Mughal architecture. The city centre has wide, straight avenues in a strict layout,



plenty of parks and low colonial buildings with spacious gardens.

Meals included: None
Overnight:

DAY 2 DELHI

This morning visit Old Delhi, it pulses with the energy and colour, the hustle and bustle of thronged bazaars and is laced by a maze of narrow lanes which twist and turn between tall, leaning houses full of the sights, sounds and aromas of the Indian sub-continent. You will see the famous Red Fort surrounded by shops, and bazaars, the Jama Masjid with its tapering minarets and wonderful marble domes and the Chandni Chowk. In Old Delhi you will also have an opportunity to enjoy rickshaw ride.

In the afternoon you will be taken on a tour of New Delhi. It is a city of wide boulevards which offers ever changing perspectives of Lutyen's landscaped city. It is a city known for its formal parks, magnificent Parliament Building, the Rashtrapati Bhawan (the official residence of the President of India designed by Sir Edwin Lutyen) and India Gate. In New Delhi you will also visit Qutab Minar, the 72.5 m high tower dating back to 13th century and Humayun's Tomb (built in the 16th century and architecturally the fore runner of the Taj Mahal).

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 3 DELHI-AGRA

This morning you will be driven to your next destination Agra (4 hours), where you will arrive around noon.

In the afternoon you will be taken on a tour of Agra city – visiting Agra Fort and the incomparable Taj Mahal (Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays) where you will stay until after sunset. You will arrive at the Taj Mahal on tonga (horse drawn carriage).



Shah Jehan's son imprisoned him in the magnificent fort at Agra. Here you'll see the art and crafting of the white marble that has made the area so famous, the Pearl Mosque and the Halls of Public and Private Audience. The Taj Mahal truly is one of the wonders of the

world. It is a monument of love built by the Mughal Emperor Shahjehan in 1630 for his Queen Mumtaz Mahal to enshrine her mortal remains. For twenty-two years 20,000 men laboured day and night to build this masterpiece that has held the world awe struck ever since.

Meals included:

Breakfast Overnight:

DAY 4 AGRA - RANTHAMBHOR

Early this morning you will have another opportunity of visiting Taj Mahal – this time around at sunrise. After breakfast, you will be driven to Ranthambhore (6 hours) – en route visiting the deserted Mughal city of Fatehpur Sikri.

You will arrive in Ranthambhore late in the afternoon and would be at leisure for the rest of the day.

Earlier the private hunting preserve of the Maharajas of Jaipur, Ranthambhore was once the scene of royal hunting parties. Nestling between the Aravali and Vindhya hills, Ranthambhore remains one of Rajasthan's last sizeable stretches of verdant grassland and jungle. Though mainly known for tiger, Ranthambhore also has large number of sambhar, chital and nilgai. Sounders of boar and an occasional gazelle can be seen, as also the Indian hare, mongoose and monitor lizards. Among the other local fauna are the leopard, hyena, jackal, jungle cats, sloth bear and marsh crocodile. The lakes and pools at the park are where the deer congregate and where it is easiest to see the animals.

The bird-life includes the jacanas, painted stork, black stork and white - necked stork which are seen along the water bodies. Peafowl are found in abundance and other birds include Bonelli's eagle, crested serpent eagle, the great Indian horned owl, quail, partridge, spur fowl and paradise flycatcher.

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

Overnight:

DAY 5 RANTHAMBHOR NATIONAL PARK

Today you will be taken for morning and afternoon game drives inside the Ranthambhore National Park. The rest of the day will be at leisure or you may explore on your own.



Meals included: All Meals

Overnight:

DAY 6 RANTHAMBHOR - JAIPUR

Early this morning you will visit the park one more time. Later after breakfast you will be driven to Jaipur (3 ½ hours drive) arriving around noon.

Rest of the day at leisure

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 7 JAIPUR



Today you will do a full day tour of Jaipur. In the morning you will be taken to Amber Fort where you arrive atop an elephant.

Amber, the ancient capital of the region, still recalls its heydays in the majestic ramparts rising steeply along the contoured hillsides. Here, elephants still carry visitors in stately splendour to the main Palace, through unusually high gateways, obviously designed to accommodate this archaic mode of transport. It is an extremely well preserved building and very delightful to explore. Visit the Jagmandir or the Hall of Victory glittering with mirrors, Jai Mahal and Temple of Kali.

After visiting the fort, in the afternoon, you will be taken on the city tour. Jaipur is blessed with a wealth of wonders. Here you will see the Jantar Mantar (Astronomical Observatory) and the Maharaja's City Palace. Jaipur is a city of pink, and the light playing upon the buildings, creating shadows and highlighting every nuance of the architecture will enchant you.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 8 JAIPUR - KHIMSAR

This morning, you will be driven to Khimsar (6 hours) where you will arrive around noon. Perched on the edge of the 'Great Thar Desert' in the heart of rural India lies this unique 16th century Khimsar Fort – owned and run by the local ruling family of Khimsar. After a leisurely afternoon, this evening you will be taken to explore the nearby sand - dunes in a jeep safari.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 9 KHIMSAR - JAISALMER

Today you will be driven to your next destination, the desert town of Jaisalmer (4 hours).



On arrival in Jaisalmer you will check into your hotel and would be at leisure for the rest of the day.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 10 JAISALMER

Today you will be taken for a sightseeing tour of Jaisalmer.

The name Jaisalmer evokes a vivid picture of sheer magic and the brilliance of the desert. Over the years the remote location of Jaisalmer kept it almost untouched by outside. Jaisalmer is a marvel of beautiful culture and harsh climatic conditions, together amounting to a memorable experience. Like a yellow sand stone fabric that seems to issue skywards from the golden sands, Jaisalmer Fort is sheer magic. Standing proud to a height of a hundred meters over the city with its ninety-nine bastions, the fort is a splendid sight in the afternoon sun. One of the largest and the most elaborate houses in Jaisalmer is Patwon ki Haveli which is five storeys high and extensively carved. The beautifully carved Jain Temples of Jaisalmer built between 12th and 15th centuries are another reason to spend time in this enchanting town. Early in the evening you will witness the sun setting over the dunes of Sam, which is a little outside Jaisalmer.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 11 JAISALMER – JODHPUR - ROHETGARH

Today you will be driven to Jodhpur (5 hours). You will arrive in Jodhpur around noon and will proceed to do a sightseeing tour of the city.

Founded in 1459 by Rao Jodha, a chief of Rajput clan known as the Rathores, Jodhpur was the capital of the Rathore Kingdom. Until recent times, Jodhpur was known as the ancient kingdom of Marwar, the largest kingdom in Rajputana. Standing at the edge of the Thar Desert, Jodhpur is the largest city in Rajasthan after Jaipur. The city is dominated by a massive fort that sits atop a sheer rocky ridge right in the middle of the town. Your tour of Jodhpur city this morning will include the visit to the majestic Mehrangarh Fort and beautiful Jaswant Thada.

Afterward you will continue to Rohetgarh, a heritage property an hour away from Jodhpur. Later in the evening you will be taken to explore the nearby Bishnoi Village in a jeep safari. – Bishnoi people are known the world over for their love for animal and plant life; they protect all life form as a part of their religion.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 12 ROHETGARH - UDAIPUR

Today you will be driven to Udaipur – en route visiting Ranakpur Jain Temples and Kumbhalgarh Fort.

Ranakpur has one of the most important Jain temples in India. It lies in a remote and peaceful valley of the Aravali range. The main temple is the Chaumukha temple, or Four Faced temple, dedicated to Adinath. Built in 1439, this huge, beautifully crafted and well - kept marble temple is supported by 1444 pillars, no two of which are alike. Within the complex there are two other Jain temples, Neminath and Parasvanath.

The Kumbhalgarh Fort is one of the most impressive fortresses in the ancient kingdom of Mewar. The size of this building needs to be seen to be believed - the perimeter walls are over 36 kms in length and 20 ft. thick. The complex of buildings, temples and palaces within these walls need time to be explored. Kumbhalgarh Fort and its adjoining areas have been declared a wildlife sanctuary, intended to protect the local wildlife including wolves, leopards and flying squirrels. The steep climb up to the fort is well worth the effort, giving a fantastic view over the surrounding area.

You will in Udaipur in the evening and would be at leisure.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 13 UDAIPUR



Today you will explore Udaipur city in a guided tour.

Udaipur, the enchanting City of Dawn, looms up like a vision in white. The sightseeing tour takes you to City Palace, built in 1725, and has various palaces inside such as Sheesh Mahal, Moti Mahal, the Palace of Krishna etc, all ornately

decorated. Saheliyon Ki Bari -this 'Garden of Maids of Honour' is a small ornamental

pleasure garden, contains an elegant lotus pool, gushing fountains, beautiful black marble kiosks on the corners of the pool and stunning bougainvilleas covering the wall of the enclosures. Also visit Jagdish Temple.

Later in the evening you will explore the Lake Pichola on a boat.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 14 UDAIPUR - DELHI

In the late afternoon you will be transferred to the Udaipur airport (45 minutes) for flight to Delhi.

By Jet Airways Flight No. 9W384

Depart: Udaipur at hrs

Arrive: Delhi at hrs

You will be met on arrival and will be transferred to the International Airport for your onward flight back home.

*****End of the Arrangements*****