

ULTIMATE RAJASTHAN

15 Days / 14 Nights

Rajasthan with its inexhaustible historical wealth and architecture is an unparalleled destination. It showcases the spectacular fortress city of Jodhpur at the edge of the Thar Desert, the golden city of Jaisalmer with its sand dunes and Bikaner the medieval walled city. Stay in palace hotels, enjoy a camel safari in the desert, see magnificent sunsets and discover a whole new world on this Ultimate Rajasthan tour.

Day 1: Delhi – Mandawa

This morning you will be driven from Delhi to Mandawa, a remote feudal principality in the centre of the Shekhawati region. Spend the afternoon exploring this story book town, known for its colorful frescoes and painted murals that adorn the walls of every home. Overnight at your HOTEL.

Day 2: Mandawa – Bikaner

After breakfast you will be driven to Bikaner. In the afternoon you will be taken on a sightseeing tour of Bikaner visiting the Junagarh Fort, one of the most interesting forts in Rajasthan with its sumptuously decorated interiors. Built between 1588 and 1593, this was one of the few major forts of Rajasthan built on the desert plains. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 3: Bikaner – Khimsar

In the morning you will be driven to Khimsar. This village lies in the heart of the seven dunes of 'Akla'. A water body in the centre makes it a peaceful 60 acre oasis. Afternoon at leisure, enjoying the complete silence & tranquility of the Thar Desert. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 4: Khimsar

Today you will have the opportunity to explore the magnificent Khimsar Fort at your own pace. Enjoy an evening camel cart ride on the sand dunes and witness the beautiful desert sunset. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 5: Khimsar – Jaisalmer

This morning you will be driven to Jaisalmer. This city lies in the heart of the Thar Desert near Rajasthan's remote Western border, surrounded by sand dunes. It is home to the

massive spectacular Golden Jaisalmer Fort. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 6: Jaisalmer

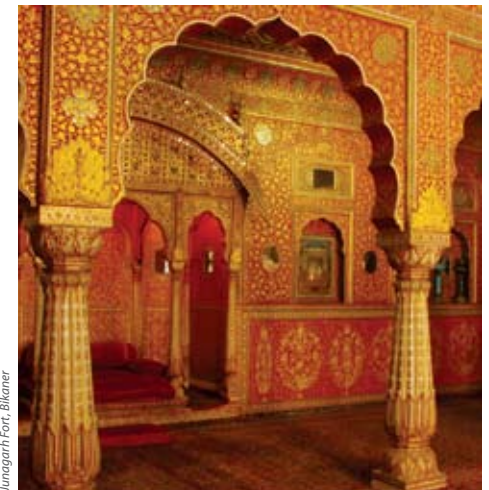
After breakfast you will have a city tour of Jaisalmer and have the opportunity to walk up to the historic fort built in 1156. It is one of the oldest forts in Rajasthan and about a quarter of the old city's population resides within the fort walls. In the afternoon, you will be driven to the Khuri and Sam Sand Dunes for a camel safari into the desert, where it will be possible to experience the rich desert culture, meet colorful tribal people and witness the sunset over the golden city. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 7: Jaisalmer – Jodhpur

After breakfast you will be driven to Jodhpur, known as the "Sun City" for the bright, sunny weather it enjoys all year. It is also referred to as the Blue City, due to the indigo tinge of the white-washed houses around the Fort. In the afternoon you will visit the Mehrangarh Fort, and its various palaces with their delicate friezes and respective museums displaying treasures of the royal family, as well as visit Jaswant Thada, a white marble memorial of the ruler Jaswant Singh. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 8: Jodhpur – Deogarh

Today you will be driven to Deogarh, once a royal retreat for the Deogarh nobility. The site was built almost 200 years ago and nestles among one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world – The Aravallis. In the afternoon you will take a jeep safari around the countryside to explore the local villages. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)



Junagarh Fort, Bikaner



Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur

Day 9: Deogarh – Udaipur

Today you will be driven from Deogarh to Udaipur. En-route you will visit the famous marble Jain Temples if Ranakpur. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 10: Udaipur

This morning you will embark on a sightseeing tour of Udaipur City visiting the City Palace Museum and Jagdish Temple, as well as Sahelion-ki-Bari (Garden of the Maids-of-Honour). In the evening you will be taken on a cruise across Lake Pichola to visit the Jag Mandir Palace. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 11: Udaipur – Pushkar

In the morning you will be driven to Pushkar, which lies on the edge of the desert, with one of India's most sacred lakes at its heart. In the afternoon, visit the Pushkar Lake Ghats and the famous Brahma Temple (only one of its kind left in India today). Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 12: Pushkar – Jaipur

After a leisurely breakfast you will be driven to Jaipur, the Pink City of Rajasthan. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 13: Jaipur

Today you will be driven just outside Jaipur to the ancient capital of Amber where an elephant (or alternatively a jeep) will carry you up to the 17th century Amber Fort. Here you can stroll through the sprawling complex of courtyards and halls. Later in the afternoon you will visit the Palace of Winds, otherwise known as Hawa Mahal. This is really an elaborate façade behind which the ladies of the court used to watch the daily goings on

in the street below. The tour continues with a visit to the historic City Palace and Jantar Mantar (Astronomical Observatory), where there will be opportunity to wander through the local markets. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 14: Jaipur – Agra

After breakfast, you will be driven to Agra, visiting the deserted red sandstone city of Fatehpur Sikri en-route. Overnight at your HOTEL. (B)

Day 15: Agra – Delhi

At day break, you will be met by your guide for a visit to the Taj Mahal at sunrise. A "horse and carriage" will drop you off at the gates of the majestic monument. After breakfast, you will visit Agra Fort, an outstanding example of Mughal architecture, later you will be transferred to Delhi airport for your onward flight.

PRICE PER PERSON FROM:

(1 Oct 10 - 15 Apr 11)

Superior \$2,440pp
Luxury \$4,500pp

(16 Apr 11 - 30 Sep 11)

Superior \$2,015pp
Luxury \$3,595pp

**Prices not valid 13 Nov - 21 Nov 10 (Pushkar Fair)*

**Prices not valid 20 Dec 10 - 05 Jan 11 (peak period)*

PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 nights accommodation on twin share basis
- All transfers by private air-conditioned vehicle
- Daily buffet breakfast
- Sightseeing tours as per itinerary with the services of English speaking local guides
- Entrance fees at all monuments
- Other inclusions as per the itinerary

Based on minimum of 2 passengers travelling together. Price excludes international airfares and taxes.

HOTELS

City	Superior	Luxury
Mandawa	Castle Mandawa	Castle Mandawa
Bikaner	Lallgarh Palace	Laxmi Nivas Palace
Khimsar	Khimsar Fort	Khimsar Fort
Jaisalmer	Gorbandh Palace	Fort Rajwada
Jodhpur	Ajit Bhawan	Umaid Bhawan and Palace
Deogarh	Deogarh Mahal	Deogarh Mahal
Udaipur	Trident Udaipur	Oberoi Udai Vilas
Pushkar	Jagat Singh Palace	Jagat Singh Palace
Jaipur	Samode Haveli	Oberoi Raj Vilas
Agra	Jaypee Palace	Oberoi Amar Vilas

