

Rajasthan Cycling Expedition

DELHI – JODHPUR – ROHETGARH – KHAIRWA – JOJAWAR – DEOGARH – RANAKPUR KUMBHALGARH – UDAIPUR – DELHI

12 days trip starting from \$1645 per person

Explore Rajasthan, one of India's most captivating states, famed for its Rajput forts and palaces, desert villages and the warmth of its people. However, the deserved popularity of Rajasthan's highlights sometimes leaves scant room for a sense of adventure. Touring by bicycle is the perfect antidote to this! As well as some of the big draw cards like Jodhpur, Ranakpur and Udaipur, our back-road cycle route takes us through barren desert and lush oasis to remote villages where traditional Rajasthani life continues untouched by the outside world, as it has for centuries.

The exact back-country tour route we take between Jodhpur and Udaipur is a closely guarded secret, but distances covered are between 40km and 60km a day, and the route progresses from the flatlands south of Jodhpur, climbing up into the Aravalli Hills towards the end of the journey. Along the way, we take rest stops at the principal attractions as well as at a few places where you'll have the chance to experience rural Rajasthan first-hand. Our specially designed program features interesting mix of hiking, sightseeing and relaxation to allow one to experience the best that this exotic journey can offer.

DAY 01: DELHI

Arrive Delhi's Indira Gandhi International airport & meet our representative. Transfer to hotel and check-in at the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 02: DELHI

After breakfast, morning half day city tour of Old Delhi visiting Raj Ghat - The Mausoleum of Mahatma Gandhi. Jama Masjid the biggest Mosque in India and drive past Red Fort and tricycle tour of Chandini Chowk. Afternoon, half day city tour of New Delhi visiting drive past President House, Parliament House (House of Representatives) and India Gate - War Memorial (stop for photography), Qutab Minar - 72.55 meters, high Victory Tower, Humayun's Tomb - built of red sandstone and is a first substantial example of the Mughal architecture. If time permits visit Bahai Temple (lotus temple). Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 03: DELHI – JODHPUR

After breakfast, check out from hotel and transfer to airport for flight to Jodhpur. Arrive at Jodhpur airport and transfer to the hotel. Check-in at the hotel. Later, we will head out on foot to explore the blue city. We'll tour the imposing walls of the 15th century Mehrangarh fortress with views of the indigo houses below in the old town. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 04: CYCLE TO ROHETGARH & JEEP TOUR (RIDING: 45 KMS)

Today is full of desert palaces as we ride out of the old city of Jodhpur. By the end of the day, we will be riding dusty lanes through the desert to Rohet. These roads are as old as time and were used by Marwari then Rajput traders to navigate the treacherous lands between the different warlord kingdoms. The ride ends at historic Rohetgarh. This Rajput stately home, set next to a desert oasis, is beautiful and comes complete with swimming pool and massage therapy to take the edge off the saddle sore! We will take a Jeep trip out to visit local villages among the sand dunes where communities of the Bishnoi tribes have very unique ways of living and produce interesting crafts. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 05: CYCLE TO KHAIRWA, TRANSFER TO JOJAWAR (RIDING: 50 – 95 KMS)

This morning we'll set off on our bikes, stopping at a shrine on the main road that is dedicated to travellers to say thanks for our safe travels before we veer off onto narrow farm lanes through the picturesque desert. We'll pass through friendly Rajasthani villages and keep our eyes peeled for a camel sighting. Once we've reached Khairwa, we'll make a stop at a traditional Heritage Haveli there for a tasty lunch. Following lunch there is an optional 45 km ride on to Jojawar or a transfer by van, once here you can enjoy our heritage hotel's pool before a traditional dinner is served. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 06: CYCLE TO DEOGARH, TRAIN RIDE (RIDING: 25 KMS)

If you're keen for the challenge, saddle-up on your bike and start the climb to Deogarh. For those who would rather rest their legs, the morning is free before a transfer to Deogarh. We'll enjoy lunch at the luxurious Deogarh Mahal before boarding a train for a scenic ride from Khambli Ghat to Mavli. During this narrow-gauge train ride of approximately an hour and a half, you'll glimpse another side of Rajasthan: a verdant oasis with the backdrop of the Aravalli hills sparkling in the sunlight. We'll have short 14km transfer back to Jojawar and in the evening you are free to sample the different tastes of the town before another night in our hotel.

DAY 07: CYCLE TO RANAKPUR (RIDING: 55 KMS)

Today we continue our bike journey, and as we ride the landscape starts to change dramatically. Sandy scrubland shifts shape to boulder-strewn plateaus dotted with villages as we ride towards the Aravalli range. We overnight in the lush, wooded valley of Ranakpur. The village of Ranakpur is a popular holiday destination for local families with its beautiful forests, cool climate, and jaw-dropping Jain temple. In the afternoon we'll have some time to explore the intricate Jain Temple complex, as well as time for relaxation to enjoy the hotel's amenities.

DAY 08: CYCLE KUMBHALGARH FORT, EXPLORE & TRANSFER – UDAIPUR (RIDING: 50 KMS)

Although only a relatively short ride, the route from Ranakpur up to Kumbhalgarh is the most challenging we will encounter so far. As we start to climb up into the Aravalli Hills on completely different terrain, we pass small hillside hamlets and villages and see traditional ox-drawn wells.

Keep pedalling through the undulating hill-scape to our destination, and you'll be rewarded with awesome views. Deep in the heart of the Aravalli hills is the incredible hilltop fortress of Kumbhalgarh. With the world's second largest man-made wall creating the impenetrable defences of the Marwar kingdom, this fortress is an awe-inspiring sight, and we'll get the chance to discover it for ourselves this afternoon. To round out a busy day we have a 2-hour transfer to the city of Udaipur, our destination for the night. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 09: UDAIPUR - PALACE & OLD TOWN WALKING TOUR

The riding is done and so today we explore the historical sights on foot. In the morning, we visit Sajjan Garh Fort, known as the monsoon palace and then see out the middle of the day with lunch and some downtime at the hotel. In the afternoon, we'll head into the city of Udaipur to explore the historic Old Town, along the way you'll learn about the history of this fascinating and beautiful city, before finishing off with a boat ride on lake Pichola. This evening we'll gather along the lakeside for dinner. Take in your magical surroundings and celebrate our last night together as we reminisce about our adventures through Rajasthan. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 10: UDAIPUR

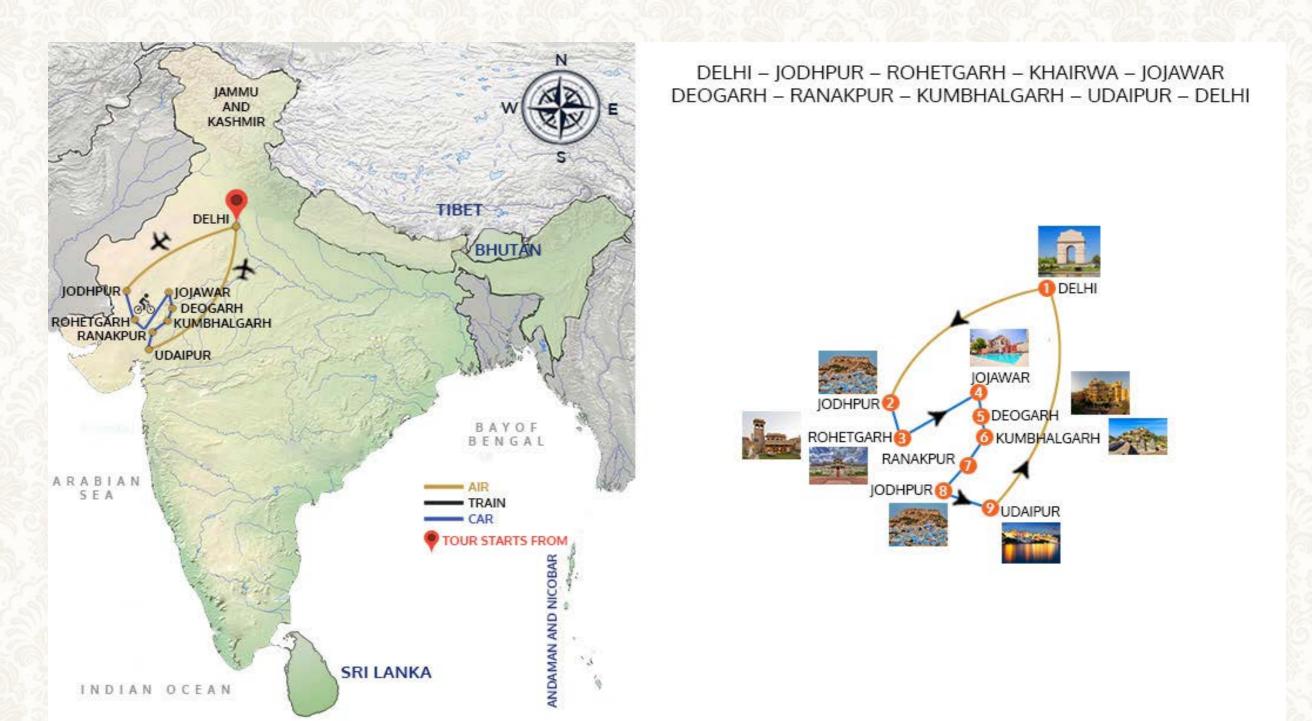
Full day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 11: UDAIPUR – DELHI

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer to the airport for flight to Delhi. Arrive at Delhi airport and transfer to the hotel. Check-in at hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight stay at hotel.

DAY 12: DELHI

Breakfast at the hotel. Full day at leisure. Late check out from the hotel. Evening transfer to hotel near airport for dinner and then transfer to international airport to fly back home / onward destination.



Contact Our Destination Specialist

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