

More than 60% of the Thar Desert lies in the Indian state of Rajasthan and this program takes you to Exploring the Forts and Palaces of India's most colourful desert state. The land of people who are brave and chivalrous people with a warlike lifestyle around whom grew the most amazing legends of romance and heroism. It is packed with history, art and culture that goes back several centuries. Rajasthan -where the mood and rhythm is so overpowering that it impresses even the most seasoned traveller. Dominating and in the heart of Thar Desert , The destination Jaisalmer is a truly exotic, with golden sandstone walls, narrow alleys and exquisitely carved buildings evoking memories of Arabian Nights.

Come and encounter with this adventurous Thar Desert!

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 – MUKUNDGARH (270 KMS – 06 HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Mukundgarh by surface. On arrival at Mukundgarh, check-in at the hotel Mukundgarh Fort.

Afternoon half day local city tour of Havelies of Nawalgarh, Dundload & Mandawa. Mandawa is renowned for its innumerable painted havelies (mansions), which were the homes of the Marwari trading community. These handsome havelies, adorned with elaborate and intricate frescoes, are over a hundred years old, and have withstood the ravages of time. The grand havelies of the Goenkas, Ladias, Sarafs and the Chokhanis, in Mandawa are fine examples of the famous Shekhawati workmanship. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 04: MUKUNDGARH - BIKANER (215 KMS - 31/2 HRS DRIVE)

After early breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Bikaner by surface. On arrival at Bikaner, check-in at the hotel. Afternoon, half day city tour of Bikaner to visit Fort and Palace which is built on red sandstone marked brilliantly by intricate filigree work. Bikaner: stands on the northern tip of the desert triangle. Rao Jodha's eldest son Rao Bika set out of his father's kingdom to conquer a separate kingdom for himself. By 1587, Junagarh Fort had begun, and the city of Bikaner had come into being.

A major centre of trade in the 16th century on the ancient silk route. Junagarh Fort built around 1587 to protect 37 palaces, temples and pavilions within, the fort is one of its kind. Today Junagarh houses a museum of valuable miniature paintings and other rare items that are several centuries old. Lalgarh Palace - the imposing red sandstone monument is a successful blend of oriental facade, designed by Sir Swinton Jacob for Maharaja Ganga Singh. The 14th century Jain temples of Bhandeshwar and Sandeshwar; and their gold leaf paintings are noteworthy.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 05: BIKANER – JAISALMER (330 KMS – 5½ HRS DRIVE

After breakfast, visit the Deshnok temple and later drive down to Jaisalmer. Arrive at Jaisalmer and check-in at the hotel. Time to relax. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 06: JAISALMER

After breakfast, half day city tour of Jaisalmer and afternoon camel ride at village Khuri Jaisalmer - much has been written about Jaisalmer but nothing can prepare the visitor for the sheer magic and brilliance of this Desert City. The Jaisalmer Fort stands almost 100 metres over the city and houses an entire lying area with its huge ramparts.

It is approached through Ganesh Pol, Suraj Pol, Bhoota Pol and Hava Pol are other main entrances which guard the Megh Durbar and Jawahar Mahal. Also, in the inner enclosure are a group of Jain temples dating back from the 12th to 15th century. Outside the fort, is the main marketplace called Manek Chowk, which is the center of local activity, From Manek Chowk one can walk into the lanes where the famous carved havelies are to be found. Patwon-ki-Haveli are among the better known havelies in Jalsalmer. Also, visit Paraswanath Temple, the oldest and most beautiful of the Jain temples. The walls of the sanctum are carved with animal and human figures. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 07: JAISALMER - MANVAR - JODHPUR (280 KMS - 4½ HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Jodhpur by surface. Enroute, visit Manvar for lunch. On arrival at Jodhpur, check-in at the hotel.

Jodhpur - a city founded in 1459 by Rao Jodha and is today one of the leading centres for wood, cattle, camels, salt and agriculture crops. Jodhpur is surrounded by a high stone wall with seven gates and countless bastions. The second largest city of Rajasthan is famous for the impregnable Mehrangarh Fort.

Evening Jeep safari to visit Bishnoi Village. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 08: JODHPUR – KUMBHALGARH (180 KMS – 04 HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, half day city tour of Jodhpur visiting Mehrangarh Fort and Jaswant Thada, a collection of royal cenotaphs built in white marble, Mandore Gardens and later drive down to Kumbhalgarh.

On arrival at Kumbhalgarh, check-in at the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 09: KUMBHALGARH

After breakfast, sightseeing of Kumbhalgarh

Kumbhalgarh Fort - Kumbhalgarh is the second most important citadel after Chittorgarh in the Mewar region. Cradled in the Aravali Ranges, the fort was built in the 15th century AD by Rana Kumbha. The fort offers a superb bird's eye view of the surroundings. The fort's massive wall stretches some 36 kms with a width enough to take eight horses abreast. Maharana Fateh Singh renovated the fort in the 19th century. The fort's large compound has very interesting ruins. The fort has made its mark in history as the second largest wall after the Great Wall of China.

Afternoon, back to the hotel and spend your day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 10: KUMBHALGARH - NATHDWARA - EKLINGJI - UDAIPUR (120 KMS - 03 HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Udaipur by surface. Enroute visit Nathdwara and Eklingji. Upon arrival at Udaipur, check-in at the hotel. Time to relax. Overnight stay at the hotel.

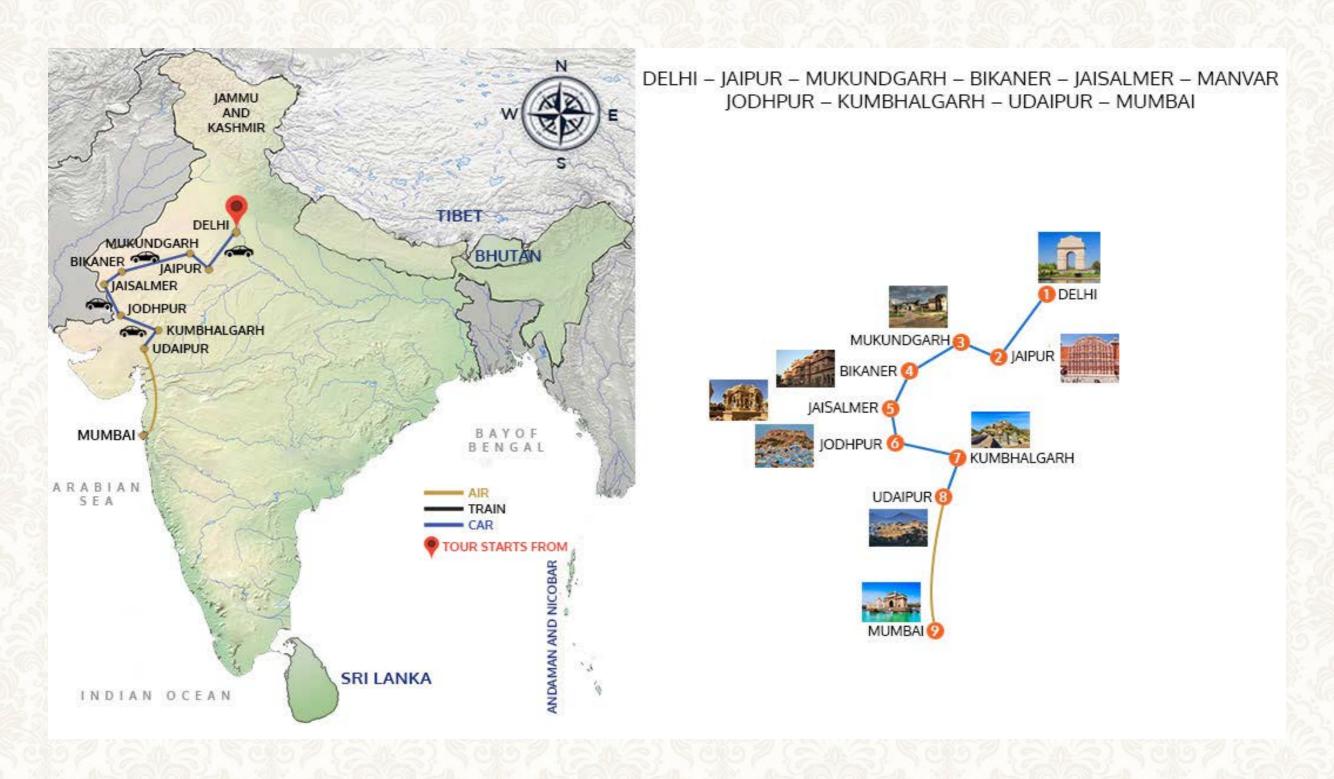
DAY 11: UDAIPUR

After breakfast, city tour of Udaipur.

Udaipur - is one of the most beautiful cities of Rajasthan, known as city of Lakes, Palaces and Gardens. Visit the City Palace in all its ancient glory, the residence of the Maharajas of Udaipur. City Palace has several carved balconies, arches and decorated pillars, onto Saheliyon- Ki-Bari (queen's resort for the friends) famous for its spectacular lawns, fountains and shady walks. In evening, enjoy the sunset view by Boat ride in Lake Pichola. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 12: UDAIPUR - MUMBAI (BY AIR)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer to the airport for flight to Mumbai. In evening, flight to fly back home / onward destination.



Contact Our Destination Specialist

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