



LUXE INDIA
TOURS AND TRAVELS PVT. LTD.

The Romance of Rajasthan

**DELHI – MANDAWA – BIKANER – JAISALMER – MANVAR – KHIMSAR – JODHPUR
ROHETGARH – DEOGARH – UDAIPUR – CHITTORGARH – PUSHKAR
JAIPUR – AGRA – DELHI**

19 days trip starting from \$2602 per person

Exploring the fabulous forts and palaces of India's colourful desert state, Rajasthan and the magical Taj Mahal. Exotic Rajasthan, the land blessed with scorching sun and golden sands. Land full of forts and palaces, telling the tales of romance and valour, the land full of hospitable people. Steeped in rich culture and basked in glory ... welcome to the romance of Rajasthan !

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 – MANDAWA (270 KMS – 5½ HRS)

After breakfast, check out from hotel and leave for Mandawa by surface. Arrive at Mandawa and check-in at the Hotel Castle Mandawa. Afternoon, half day local tour of 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: MANDAWA – BIKANER (270 KMS – 5½ HRS)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and visit Saraf Haveli with scenes of erotica, train, women at the well and the Ladia Havelis showing contemporary scenes as well as mirror work and Ludlow Castle famous for murals including hunting scenes, women musicians. Proceed to Bikaner. Arrive at Bikaner and check in at the hotel. Time to relax. Late afternoon, visit to Deshnok Temple and then drive to Sand Dunes for Dinner. Arrive at the point from where you will ride on the camel cart (2 kms) with folk musician entertaining them. Welcome in traditional way & dinner would be served with bonfire and folk music. After dinner back to hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 05: BIKANER

After breakfast, sightseeing 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 only 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 06: BIKANER – JAISALMER (350 KMS – 5 ½ HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Jaisalmer by surface. Enroute lunch. Arrive at Jaisalmer and check in at the hotel. Time to relax. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 07: JAISALMER

After breakfast, city tour of Jaisalmer 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 also 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 Jaisalmer. 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. After that camel ride at village Khuri. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 08: JAISALMER – MANVAR – KHIMSAR (305 KMS – 5½ HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Khimsar by surface. Enroute visit Manvar for lunch. Onto Khimsar. Arrive at Khimsar and check in at the hotel. Khimsar, perched on the edge of the Great Thar Desert is this unique 16th century fort. Rao Jodha - the founder Maharaja of Jodhpur successfully launched the royal dynasty at Khimsar. Currently, the 18th, 19th and 20th generations of the royal lineage still reside in this historic fort. Originally, the fort walls were built in 16th century. Subsequently, by mid-18th century, the royal family moved in and a new ladies residence was erected with finely carved windows in stone. Time to relax. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 09: KHIMSAR

Morning Jeep safari at Khimsar. Enjoy sand dunes that shelter fields where the rare blackbuck can be spotted grazing. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 10: KHIMSAR – JODHPUR – ROHETGARH (150 KMS – 03 HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Rohetgarh, enroute visit Jodhpur. Jodhpur - a city founded in 1459 by Rao Jodha and is today one of the leading centers 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. Also visit Jaswant Thada, a collection of royal cenotaphs built in white marble, Mandore Gardens. On arrival at Rohetgarh check in at Hotel Rohetgarh Fort. Rohet - the fortified desert home of the descendants of the 16th century Rathore of Champawat clan. A home where in spite of the inroads of modernity, aristocratic norms are still reserved and where one can experience the famed warm and courteous Rajput hospitality. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 11: ROHETGARH – DEOGARH (120 KMS – 2½ HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and Morning Jeep safari to visit Bishnoi Village. Later drive down to Deogarh. Arrive at Deogarh and check in at the hotel. Deogarh Mahal - The castle is built in 1670 on the architectural plans of the Sompura architects, The Deogarh Palace is one of the landmark sites where the royals used to live earlier. They still occupy the portion of the palace, while the rest of the property has been converted into a luxury hotel. A meter gauge train runs from Deogarh to Marwar Junction passing through the sanctuary and hills of Kali Ghati. It gives a wonderful view of the plains of Marwar from atop the mountains. A wooded principality, the seat of the Chundawat clan of Sisodia Rajputs, and the seat of the Deogargh school of paintings, this settlement is surrounded by Bhil villages whose colorful way of life and celebration of festivals is unique. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 12: DEOGARH – UDAIPUR (130 KMS – 2½ HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Udaipur by surface. Arrive at Udaipur and check in at the hotel. Late afternoon, enjoy the boat ride at Lake Pichola. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 13: UDAIPUR

After breakfast, sightseeing of Udaipur by visiting – The stunning City Palace, a marble complex that offers unforgettable views of the lake and its surroundings. It is in all its ancient glory, the residence of the Maharajas of Udaipur. It has several carved balconies, arches and decorated pillars, continue to the Crystal Gallery in Fateh Prakash Palace. Visit Saheliyon Ki Bari (Garden of the Maids of Honour) famous for its spectacular lawns, fountains and shady walks before returning to the hotel. Late afternoon, enjoy the boat ride in Lake Pichola with sunset view. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 14: UDAIPUR – CHITTORGARH – PUSHKAR (325 KMS – 6½ KMS)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Pushkar via Chittorgarh by surface. Enroute visit the eighth century Chittorgarh Fort which is the oldest fort in Rajasthan. Located on a cliff, the fort tells the resistance and heroism of Rajput people against the invaders, the Mughals.

The ruins of these magnificent buildings still leave trace the history of Mewar until today. Continue towards Pushkar. Arrive at Pushkar and check-in at the hotel. Time to relax. Evening, enjoy sunset view. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 15: PUSHKAR – JAIPUR (200 KMS – 04 HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and sightseeing of Pushkar. Pushkar is Sacred town and lies 11 kms northeast of Ajmer. According to mythology, the Pushkar lake is supposed to have appeared miraculously when a lotus flower fell from the hands of Lord Brahma and dropped into this valley. On Kartik Poornima, thousands of pilgrims come to bathe in the holy waters of the Pushkar Lake. The fair is overwhelming in its magnitude and its visual impact. Colourful bazaars are set up, camels are paraded and also bought and sold. After Pushkar sightseeing, leave for Jaipur by surface. Arrive at Jaipur and check in at the hotel. Time at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 16: JAIPUR

After breakfast, sightseeing tour of Jaipur visiting City Palace, Museum, Hawa Mahal, Ram Niwas Garden and drive past the pink Rose Residential and business areas of Jaipur. Afternoon, visit to Amber Fort – the ancient capital of the state until 1728. Ascend on the elephant's up back the hill on which the fort is situated. Evening, explore the colorful bazaars of Jaipur where one can shop for Jewellery, Paintings, block prints, textiles, carpets, brassware, blue pottery etc. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 17: JAIPUR – FATEHPUR SIKRI – AGRA (235 KMS – 04 HRS)

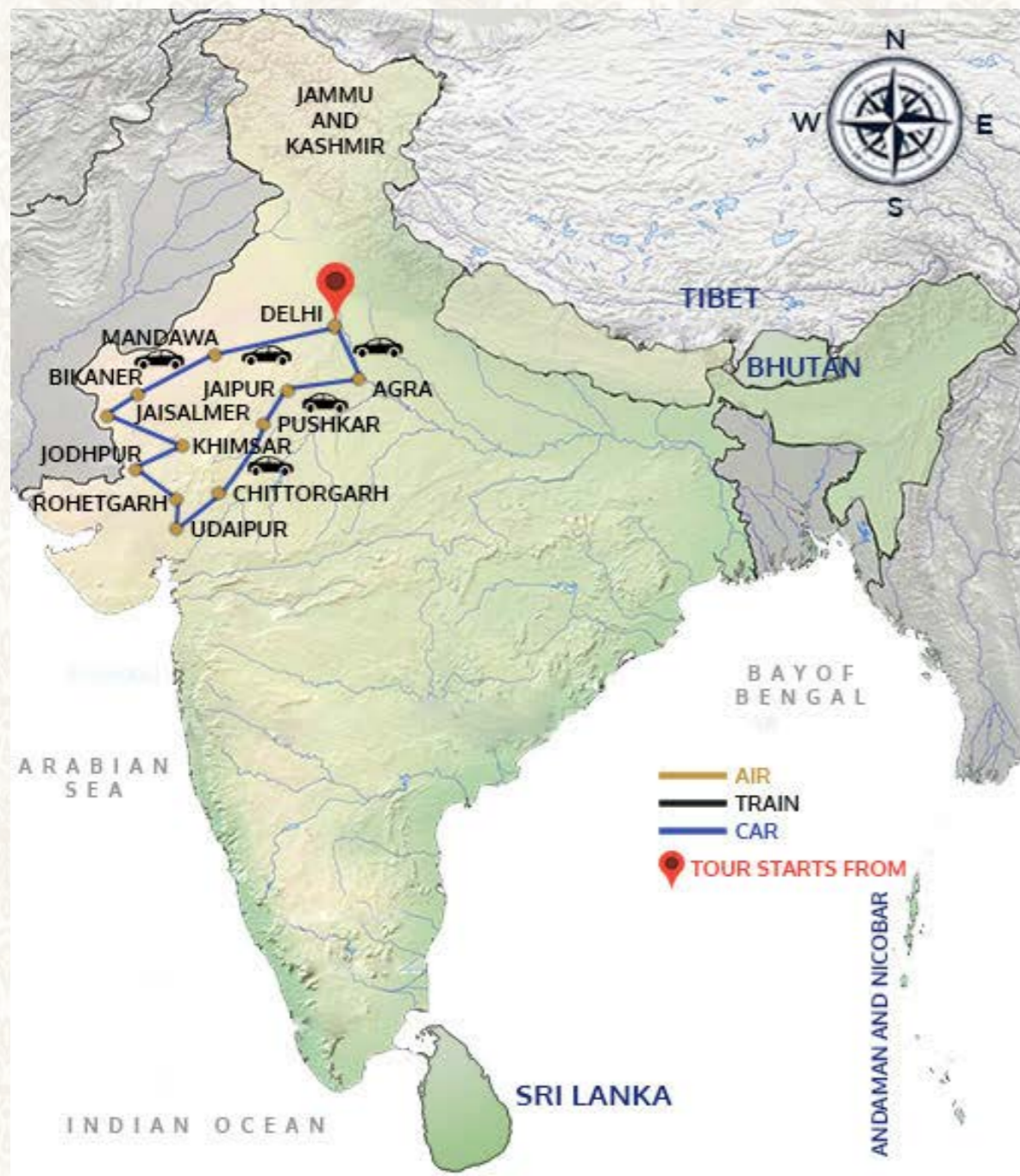
After breakfast, checkout from hotel and leave for Agra by surface. Enroute visit Fatehpur - Sikri (40 kms. from Agra) - once the capital of Mughal Empire and abandoned after 15 years due to scarcity of water. Its fortifications and Palaces are in a wonderful state of preservation. Upon arrival at Agra, check-in at the hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 18: AGRA – DELHI (225 KMS – 3½ HRS)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and visit the World-famous Taj Mahal, built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan in the year 1652 as a memorial for his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. It took 22 years to create this jewel. Agra Fort - four successive rulers helped create this massive fort. Tomb of Itmad-ud-Daullah – built by Empress Noorjehan in memory of her father. Late afternoon, leave for Delhi by surface. Arrive at Delhi and check in at the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 19: 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.



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