

**Tour Of India
With A Driver Guide In Your Own Exclusive Air-Conditioned Vehicle.**

HIGHLIGHTS OF RAJASTHAN

| Day | Date | Location | First Class Hotels | Standard Hotels | Schedule |
|-----|------|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 01 | | Depart UK | | | |
| 02 | | Delhi | The Manor Superior Room | Hotel Parkland | >Pick Up From New Delhi Airport >Sightseeing Tour Of Old Delhi With The Red Fort, Jama Masjid And Rickshaw Ride Through Bazaars Of Chandni Chowk >Drive Through Lutyen's Imperial New Delhi With Rajpath, Parliament And India Gate >Sights Of Southern Delhi Including Humayun's Tomb And The Qutub Minar |
| 03 | | Agra | The Agra Trident Deluxe Garden View Room | Howard Park Plaza | >Emperor Akbar's Tomb At Sikandra >A Visit To The Palatial Walled City Of Agra Fort Delhi-Agra: 126 Miles Approx 4 Hours |
| 04 | | Jaipur | The Jaipur Trident Deluxe Lake View Room | Umaid Mahal | >A Visit To See The Taj Mahal At Sunrise >Tomb Of Itmad Ud Daulah >Emperor Akbar's Deserted City Of Fatehpur Sikri Agra-Jaipur: 146 Miles Approx 5 Hours |
| 05 | | Jaipur | The Jaipur Trident Deluxe Lake View Room | Umaid Mahal | >The Romantic Fort Of Amber On Elephant Back >The Pink City Of Jaipur Including The City Palace And The Palace Of Winds |
| 06 | | Nimaj | Chhatra Sagar Or Nimaj Palace (Apr -Sept) | Rawla Bagh | >Star Fort At Ajmer And Bathing Ghats At Pushkar Lake Jaipur-Nimaj: 142 Miles Approx 4 Hours |
| 07 | | Nimaj | Chhatra Sagar Or Nimaj Palace (Apr -Sept) | Rawla Bagh | >Relax In The Beautiful Countryside Of Nimaj |
| 08 | | Jodhpur | Ajit Bhawan Cottage Room | Ratan Vilas | >Magnificent Fort And Palace Of Jodhpur And Jaswant Thada Nimaj-Jodhpur: 74 Miles Approx 2 Hours |
| 09 | | Jodhpur | Ajit Bhawan Cottage Room | Ratan Vilas | >Relax At Jodhpur And Shopping At Girdikot And Sardar Markets |
| 10 | | Udaipur | The Udaipur Trident Deluxe Garden View Room | Jagat Niwas Deluxe Lake View Room | >Lunch In The Pleasant Surroundings Of Maharani Bagh Orchards >The Beautiful Jain Temple At Ranakpur >Boat Ride On Romantic Lake Pichola >Evening Light And Sound Show At The City Palace Jodhpur-Udaipur: 162 Miles Approx 5 Hours |
| 11 | | Udaipur | The Udaipur Trident Deluxe Garden View Room | Jagat Niwas Deluxe Lake View Room | >The City Palace, The Largest Palace Complex In Rajasthan >The Durbar Hall And Crystal Gallery At The Fateh Prakash Palace >The Maharajah's Classic Car Collection >Beautiful View Of Udaipur From The Monsoon Palace Overlooking The City |
| 12 | | Depart Delhi Arrive UK | | | >Drop Off At Udaipur Airport INTERNAL FLIGHT FROM UDAIPUR TO DELHI |

Standard Rooms Unless Otherwise Specified

The Chhatra Sagar Camp is operational from 1st October till 31st March [It is closed during summer and monsoon months]



Incredible India



Day 02 – New Delhi



Towers Of The Jama Masjid

Rickshaw Ride Through Old Delhi And A Drive Through New Delhi

Delhi is one of the world's great cities and contains something of interest for everyone. Lose yourself on a **Cycle Rickshaw Ride** through the teeming bazaars and markets of **Chandni Chowk** with outstanding opportunities for bargain-hunting and sampling fine authentic cuisine at superb local restaurants.

The Red Fort Of Delhi (Lal Qila) was the palace of **Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan** and dominates the old city. The **Jama Masjid** is a mosque of vast proportions with a courtyard that can easily accommodate 25 000 people.

From the labyrinthine streets of **Old Delhi**, emerge in to the wide open spaces of imperial **New Delhi**, with its ordered governmental vistas and generous leafy avenues. Those with an appreciation for colonial architecture will marvel at **Sir Edwin Lutyen's** buildings such as **Viceroy's House (Rashtrapati Bhavan)**, **Parliament House** and the **India Gate**, one of **Delhi's** most famous landmarks.

Humayun's Tomb is one of **Delhi's** three **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**. The tomb is located in large, immaculately maintained gardens. The **Qutub Minar** (1193 AD) is the tallest brick minaret in the world (238 ft) and an architectural wonder of **India**.



Delicious Delhi Cuisine

Day 03 – Agra



Emperor Akbar's Mausoleum At Sikandra

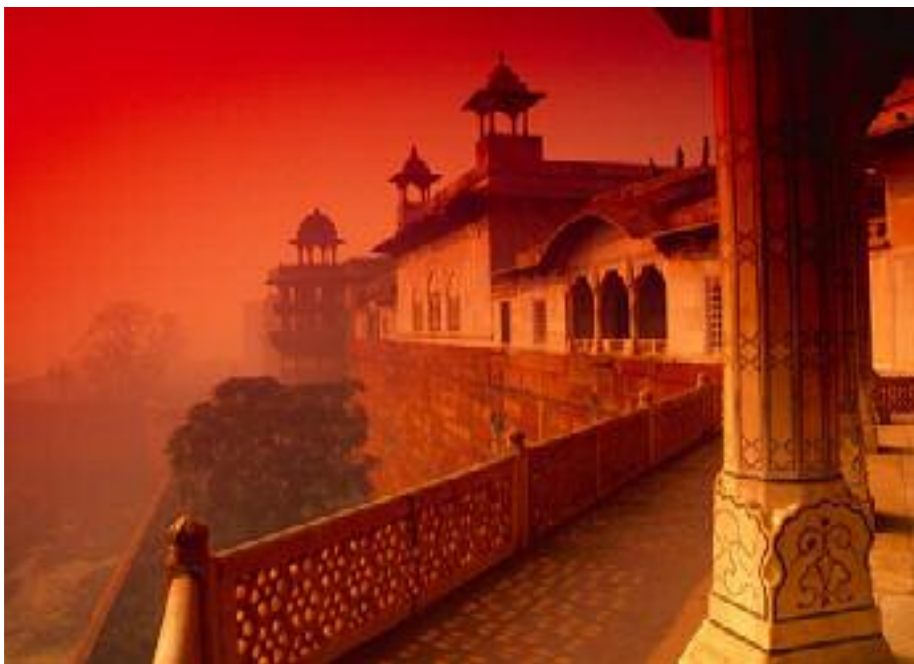
Tomb Of Akbar The Great

The **Mughal Emperor Akbar The Great** (1542 – 1605), himself commenced this huge construction around 1600. The beautiful mausoleum lies besides the main road at **Agra**.

Private Guided Tour Of The Agra Red Fort

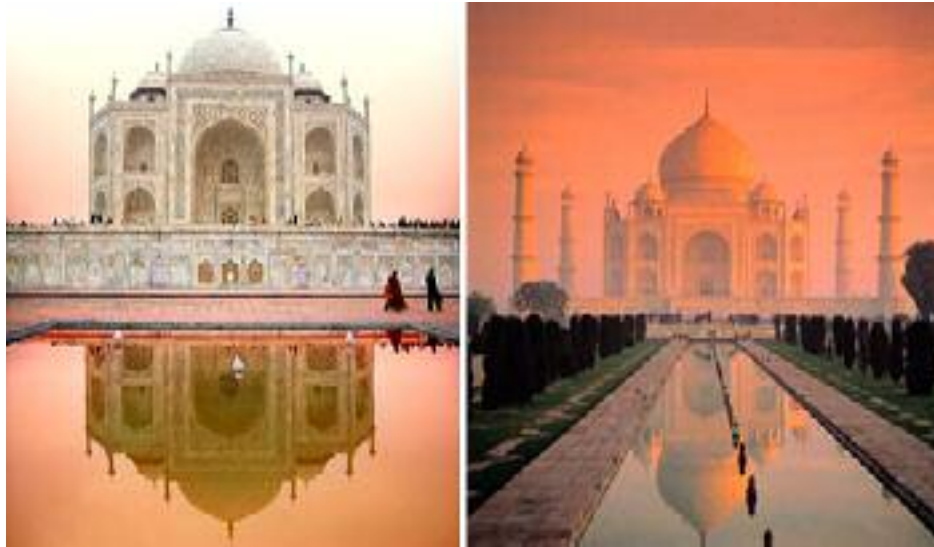
People sometimes forget that **Agra** contains more than the **Taj Mahal**. The 16th Century **Mughal** monument known as the **Red Fort Of Agra** was built by **Akbar The Great** (1556-1605) and was a walled palace that remained **India's** premier city for almost two centuries.

The powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses within its 1.5 mile-long enclosure walls many fairytale palaces such as the **Jahangir Palace** and the **Khas Mahal**, audience halls such as the **Diwan-i-Khas**, and **Sheesh Mahal (The Glass Palace)** which is inlaid with thousands of mirrors and was once the harem's dressing room.



Dawn Over The Red Fort Of Agra

Day 04 – Jaipur



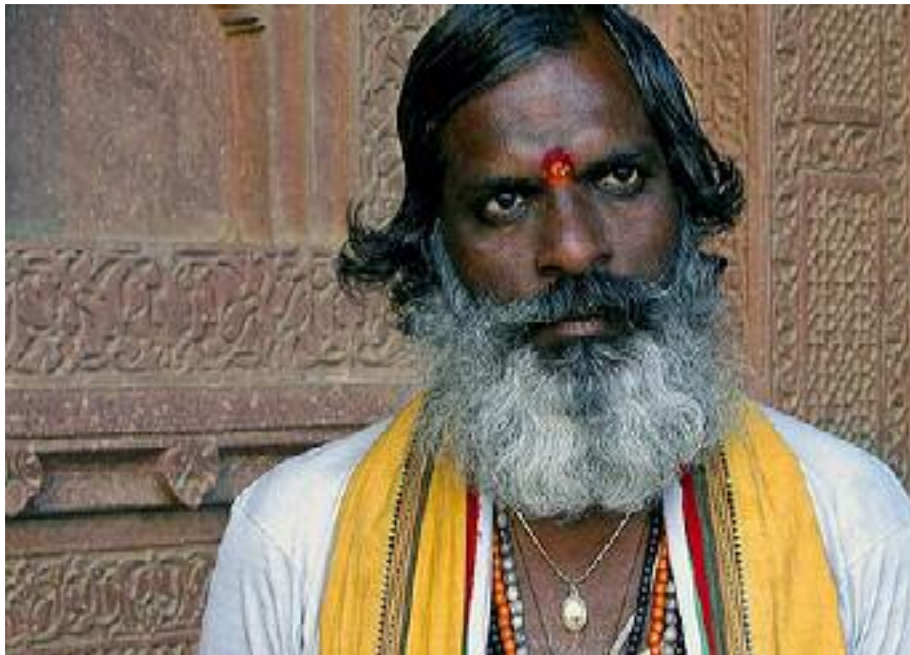
Views Of The Taj Mahal

The Amazing Beauty Of The Taj Mahal

The **Taj Mahal** is the world's greatest monument to love. Set overlooking the **River Yamuna**, the **Taj** was built by **Emperor Shah Jahan** to enshrine the body of his favourite wife in 1631. To truly appreciate the wondrous **Taj Mahal** and its many moods, you should aim to visit it at dawn or dusk when the reflection of the sun changes the colour of the dome from white to shades of pink.

The Deserted City Of Fatehpur Sikri

The deserted city of **Fatehpur Sikri** was the capital of **Emperor Akbar** between 1570 and 1585. Due to a severe shortage of water the city was abandoned after only fifteen years and the capital was relocated back to **Agra**. As a result **Fatehpur Sikri** stands untouched and perfectly preserved, a complete medieval fortress of red sandstone, with vast central squares, exquisitely carved multi-tiered pavilions, cool terraces and formal gardens.



Holy Man At Fatehpur Sikri



Day 05 – Jaipur



Peacock Gate At Jaipur

Private Guided Tour Of The Jaipur City Palace

The old **Pink City** of **Jaipur** has a stunning backdrop of ancient forts like **Amber** that stand as dramatic testimonials of a bygone era and a reminder of their lingering romance. The magnificent **City Palace** was built by **Maharaja Jai Singh** in 1728, enclosed by high walls and set amidst fine gardens and courtyards. It is now a vast museum with exhibits that have lost none of their splendour. The **Jantar Mantar Observatory** is a fascinating astronomical observatory with massive instruments used to predict the monsoon and identify the movements of the stars.

The Palace Of The Winds (Hawa Mahal) is **Jaipur's** most acclaimed attraction. Built in 1799, overlooking one of the city's main streets to offer the women of the court a vantage point, behind stone-carved screens, from which to watch the activity in the bazaars below.

The Fabulous Amber Fort And Palace

Amber is situated about 7 miles from **Jaipur** and was the ancient citadel of the ruling clan of **Amber**. The **Amber Fort** (1592) set in picturesque and rugged hills is a fascinating blend of **Hindu** and **Mughal** architecture. The forbidding exterior belies an inner paradise with a beautiful fusion of art and architecture. You have the added attraction of an **Elephant Back Ride** to ascend to the top.



On Elephant Back To Amber Fort And Window Of The Hawa Mahal

Day 06 – Nimaj



Sarovar Lake At Pushkar

Ajmer And Pushkar

Ajmer is a green oasis on the shore of **Ana Sagar Lake**, hemmed in by barren hills. **Ajmer** is a major center for **Muslim** pilgrims during the fast of **Ramadan**. **Taragarhor** or **The Star Fort** commands an excellent view over the city.

Pushkar Lake situated on the edge of the desert and surrounded by hills on three sides, is separated from **Ajmer** by '**Nag Pahar**'-the snake mountain. Ghats of **Pushkar** attract many pilgrims over the year to take a dip in its holy water.

Nimaj

A truly authentic **Rajasthani** village in the **Aravalli Hills**. You can wander through the **Nimaj Palace**, which is a testament to the valour and chivalry of **Marwar Rajputs**. The present **Thakur** is the 23rd generation of descent from the legendary warrior **Rao Jodha Ji**.

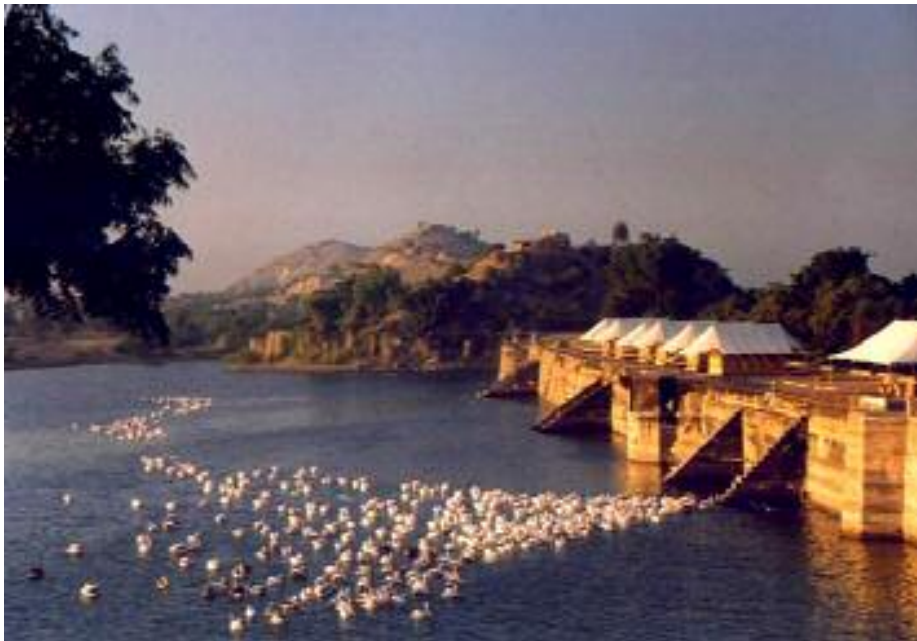


Chhatra Sagar

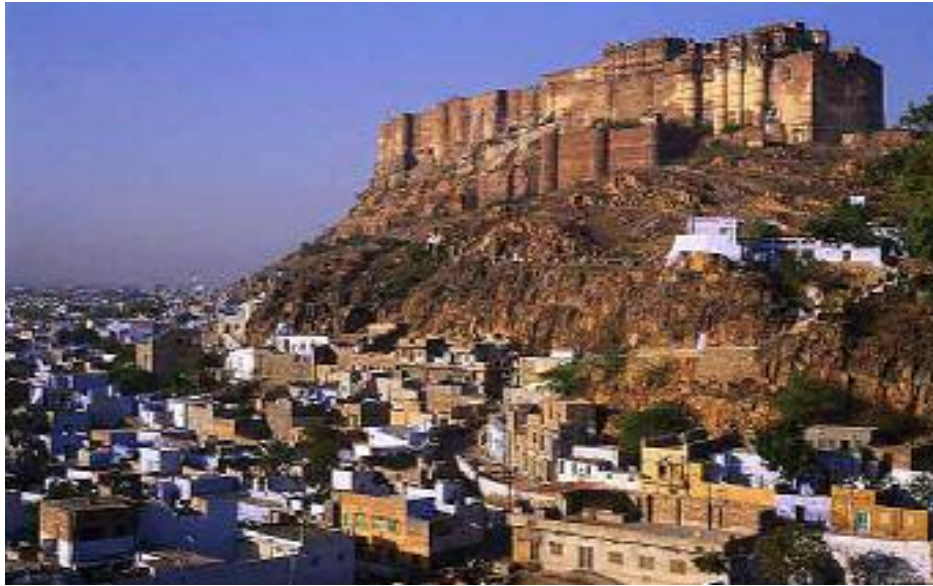


Day 07 – Nimaj**Nimaj Palace****Relax At Nimaj**

The **Chhatra Sagar Lake** is one of the most beautiful locations in **Rajasthan**. You can swim, fish, do bird watching, take a round of the green fields or sip cocktails as you cruise in the shimmering backwaters of the lake and return to see the sun setting behind the dam which gives a golden glow to the lake before sinking behind the unique and rustic architecture of the dam.

**Chhatra Sagar Lake**

Day 08 – Jodhpur



Mehrangarh Fort At Jodhpur

Jodhpur

Jodhpur was formerly the seat of a princely state known as **Marwar**. The unforgettable **Mehrangarh Fort** rises above the stark landscape of the surrounding **Thar Desert**, also referred to as the Blue City due to the indigo tinge of the whitewashed houses around the Mehrangarh Fort. Jodhpur lies near the geographic centre of Rajasthan state, which makes it a convenient base for travel in a region much frequented by tourists. The old city of Jodhpur is surrounded by a thick stone wall.

Umaid Bhawan Palace (1929) is a beautiful edifice of marble and pink sandstone. This immense palace is also known as the **Chittar Palace** and is now a grand and extravagant heritage hotel that is one of the most luxurious in princely **India**.

Private Guided Tour Of The Impregnable Mehrangarh Fort

The impressive and forbidding 15th Century **Mehrangarh Fort** is one of the most stunning hill forts of **Rajasthan**. It offers some excellent views of the old city. The fort itself, with its enormous gateways, has a fairy-tale feel with palatial apartments that have been built over five centuries of bristling history.



Retainer Inside Mehrangarh Fort



Day 09 – Jodhpur

Amazing Interior Of Ranakpur Jain Temple

The Old City And Its Famous Markets

The colourful **Girdikot** and **Sadar** markets display a wide range of **Rajasthani** handicrafts. One can find textiles, silver, handicrafts, aromatic spices, vegetables and colourful **Indian** sweets in these shops.



Mehendi Hand Painting At Jodhpur



Day 10 – Udaipur



Night View Of Udaipur And Lake Pichola

The Jain Temples Of Ranakpur

Ranakpur has one of the one of the biggest and most important **Jain Temple** complexes in **India**. The main **Chaumukha Temple** has carvings of exceptional beauty.

Lunch At Maharani Bagh Apple Orchards

The **Maharani Bagh**, or **Queen's Garden**, is a fruit orchard with acres of mango, lime and pomegranate beautifully located at the foot of the thickly forested **Aravali Hills**. It is a lovely place to enjoy a lunch of delicious **Rajasthani** cuisine with a spectacular view of the hills.

Udaipur

Udaipur captures the imagination like few other places in the world. Surrounded by gently undulating hills and set around peaceful **Pichola Lake**, it is a city of impossible beauty. The location is easily the most romantic in **India** with **The Lake Palace** in the middle of the lake complimented by the grand **City Palace** on one bank and the **Monsoon Palace** on a hill above.

Romantic Boat Ride On Lake Pichola

An evening boat ride will allow you to have a close look at **The Lake Palace** (1743), a magical fairy tale property located in the middle of the **Pichola Lake** on **Jag Niwas** Island. Today the palace is one of the most famous and luxurious hotels in the world.

Light And Sound Show At The City Palace

During the winter season, there is a very watchable **Son Et Lumiere Show** that showcases the history of the **City Palace** from a magnificent setting on the banks of **Lake Pichola**.



Udaipur And City Palace

Day 11 – Udaipur



Durbar Hall At Fateh Prakash Palace

Private Guided Tour Of The Huge City Palace Of Udaipur

The huge **City Palace** that towers over the lake is the largest palace complex in **Rajasthan**. It is a conglomeration of buildings surmounted by balconies, towers and cupolas with wonderful views over the lake and city. The main part of the palace is now preserved as the **City Palace Museum**, housing an armoury and a large collection of artefacts. The **Mor Chowk (Peacock Square)** has beautiful mosaics of peacocks. The **Saheliyon Ki Bari** is an ornamental garden built for the entertainment of the royal ladies.

The Fateh Prakash Palace

The **Durbar Hall** at the **Fateh Prakash Palace** is undoubtedly the most lavish hall in **India**, and its sheer size makes one gasp in awe. The **Crystal Gallery** also has a breathtaking collection of the finest crystals.

The Maharajah's Classic Car Collection

The **Maharajah's Car Collection** within the grounds of the **Garden Hotel** includes rare vintage vehicles as well as sleek and fast **Cadillacs** and **Chevrolets**.

View Of Udaipur From The Monsoon Palace

The view of **Udaipur** from the **Monsoon Palace** is not to be missed. It is located high up on a peak in a forest covered wildlife sanctuary just outside the city.



The Monsoon Palace Above Udaipur

Day 12 – Depart Udaipur

The India Experience - Holidays In India - (ATOL 9128)