



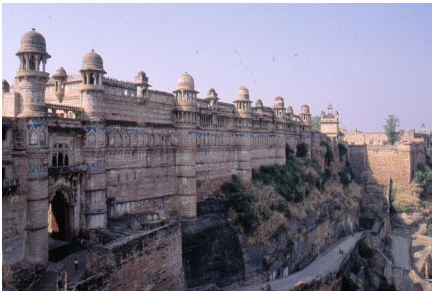
T: (03) 9886 4955 F: (03) 9886 3644

E: travel@exoticdestinations.com.au

W: www.exoticdestinations.com.au

CENTRAL INDIA & RAJASTHAN SPLENDOURS

17 days/16 nights



This itinerary presents a vibrant cultural kaleidoscope of India. From the heart of modern India at New Delhi to the sweeping ghats of the holy city of Varanasi; add the forested state of Madhya Pradesh, which retains some of the most pristine environment in the country. Many of its towns and villages are dependant on narrow single track badly surfaced roads for contact with the outside world, which makes it a wonderful place to visit if you are looking for something more than overtly touristy circuits. Complete this tour with the highlights of Rajasthan, which need no explanation.

Ancient temples, forts, palaces, wildlife parks, this itinerary has it all. The massive, 3km long Gwalior Fort is a formidable structure richly embellished with carvings. Within it shelter some outstanding temples and palaces. Not too far away is Orchha, with its 3 dramatic palaces, in a very scenic location on a bend in the Betwa River. The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Khajuraho shows you the best of the ancient North Indian style of sculptural temple architecture.

Bandavghar National Park has the highest success rate of sighting tigers of any Park in India. A highlight here is viewing tigers on elephant back.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Delhi

Welcome at Delhi airport followed by transfer to the hotel.

Day 2

Delhi

Discover the contrasts of Old and New Delhi on a full day tour today.

Day 3

Delhi-Varanasi

Take the morning flight to Varanasi and see the Buddhist influences of Sarnath in the afternoon. Witness the Arti closing ceremony by boat on the Ganges this evening.

Day 4

Varanasi-Khajuraho

Take an early morning boat ride to view the ghats from the river, later visit Varanasi. The flight to Khajuraho is at noon. Visit the Temples, recognised for their sculptural beauty by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, then return in the evening to witness a Sound & Light performance.

Day 5 **Khajuraho-Orchha**

Drive to Orchha, considered one of the most beautiful of the country's ancient settlements. Visit its 3 enormous Palaces dominating the town, its numerous Temples, its graceful Cenotaphs and see the Betwa River with its bridges.

Day 6 **Orcha-Jhansi-Gwalior**

Free morning. Take the train to Gwalior early afternoon, and enjoy a spectacular Sound & Light performance of Gwalior Fort.

Day 7 **Gwalior-Agra**

Tour of Gwalior this morning. Free afternoon. Take the early evening Shatabdi Express train to Agra.

Day 08 **Agra**

The day is dedicated to discovering Agra and the moods of the Taj at different times of the day.

Day 09 **Agra-Jaipur via Fatehpur Sikri**

On to the magnificent Pink City of Jaipur this morning, en route visiting Fatehpur Sikri the deserted city.

Day 10 **Jaipur**

Explore Amber Fort in the cool of the morning, tour Jaipur city in the afternoon

Day 11 **Jaipur-Nimaj** *140kms – 3hrs*

On to Chhatra Sagar which was built as a hunting lodge of the Nimaj Estate.

Day 12 **Nimaj**

Relax in the tastefully designed and well-appointed tented accommodation. Each tent has its own private sit out overlooking the lake.

Day 13 **Nimaj-Jodhpur-Rohet** *150kms – 2½hrs c*

This morning drive on to Jodhpur visiting the city in the afternoon, before continuing on a short distance to overnight at Rohet.

Day 14 **Rohet-Deogarh**

Visit Bishnoi and Brahmin villages this morning by jeep, then travel into the hills to the charming little village of Deogarh, set among lakes and hills. Enjoy the hospitality of the Royal family at the magnificent Deogarh Palace.

Day 15 **Deogarh-Ranakpur-Udaipur**

On to the city of lakes visiting the Ranakpur Jain temples en route.

Day 16 **Udaipur**

The day is devoted to exploring the Lake city, famous for its palaces, lakes, museums, temples and gardens.B

Day 17 **Udaipur**

Your tour ends after breakfast. You will be transferred to Udaipur airport for your flight home.