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EXOTIC RAJASTHAN – THE DESERT ROUTE

16 days/15 nights

This Tour takes in the wide variety of landscapes that add a new dimension to this fascinating land. Starting from the modern capital of Delhi you stop at Agra to pay tribute to the magnificence of the Taj. The rocky Aravali is not far, and the strategic advantage of the fort at Amber is clearly revealed. With Jaipur behind you the land gets more arid. Every now and then a herd of sheep and goats accompanied by a few straggling camels join the road whilst you drive to Bikaner.

The Golden sands of the Thar shifts around the ancient desert cities of Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Bikaner. This is arid country and the warm monochromatic tint is relived by vividity of colours and flashing smiles worn by the people. Located on the banks of Lake Pichola, Udaipur turns green again. Lush forested hills, where wildlife still abounds surround the settlement, while from little islands in the lake, palaces of pure white marble rise out of the water

Day 1

Delhi

Reception and welcome at Delhi airport followed by transfer to your hotel.

Day 2

Delhi

This full day tour introduces you to the capital of the world's largest democratic republic as well as the colonial and imperial city.

Day 3

Delhi-Agra 200kms – 4hrs

Drive to Agra this morning. Visit Agra and then return to see the setting sun paint the Taj in fiery hues. -

Day 4

Agra-Jaipur via Fatehpur Sikri 270kms

En route to Jaipur, explore the abandoned red sandstone city of Fatehpur Sikri

Day 5

Jaipur

Enjoy an elephant ride or Jeep ride up to the Amber Fort this morning. Enjoy an afternoon a city tour of Jaipur.

Sun 6

Jaipur

Free day to relax, go shopping, or further explore this magical city.

Day 7

Jaipur-Nawalgarh-Mandawa

The drive to Mandawa takes about 4 hrs, which gives you the afternoon to explore the famous havelis of the region.

Day 8

Mandawa-Bikaner 270kms – 5½hrs

The drive to Bikaner can be accomplished in the morning, leaving the afternoon free for you.

Day 9

Bikaner

Sightseeing in Bikaner today will include the Junagarh Fort, Bhandeshwar and Sandeshwar Jain temples. Time will also be spent in the fascinating bazaars.

Day 10

Bikaner-Jaisalmer 294kms – 5½hrs

Leave for the medieval town of Jaisalmer. Your evening there is at Leisure.

Day 11

Jaisalmer

Extensive sightseeing in and around Jaisalmer, evening enjoy a camel safari at Sam sand dunes with dances and dinner.

Day 12

Jaisalmer-Jodhpur 295kms – 6hrs

Another long drive today, to Jodhpur, with a stop at Manvar Desert Resort on the way.

Day 13

Jodhpur

Jaswant Thada, the Mehrangar Fort and Mandor Gardens, old fort museum and Balsamand Lake are just some of the sights you will visit today.

Day 14

Jodhpur-Udaipur 295kms – 6hrs

Visit the Ranakpur temples on the way to Udaipur

Day 15

Udaipur

After a morning at leisure, spend the afternoon sightseeing in and around Udaipur, including a boat ride on Lake Pichola.

Day 16

Udaipur-Delhi

Free morning. You will be transferred to the airport this afternoon for your homeward flight.