

EXOTIC RAJASTHAN – THE DESERT ROUTE

16 days/15 nights

Rajasthan represents the ultimate confluence of history, chivalry, romance, rugged natural beauty and colour. Today, many years after the last bugle was sounded, and after the warring kingdoms of erstwhile Rajputana sheathed their swords, the desert appears romantic, its arts the expression of a brave yet sensitive race, its architecture the embodiment of strength and grace. It is as if in celebration of life itself.

While an age has come to pass, cities flourish and contemporary Rajasthan is an explosion of colour and pageantry. It is the ultimate destination offering something to suit the tastes of every single different traveller. Desert and sand dunes, lakes, wooded hills, magnificent palaces and rugged forts, men and women in colourful turbans and skirts, bustling towns and quiet villages, camels, elephants and tigers, harsh sunlight and the cool evening breeze – are all there in abundance. Wherever you travel, you will come across the unexpected, whether it is a local fair or a breathtaking view. It is a land of surprises, a land of amazing natural beauty that can fascinate even the most seasoned traveller.

Day 1

Delhi

Welcome at Delhi Airport followed by transfer to your hotel.

Day 2

Delhi

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

Day 3

Delhi-Agra (200kms – 4hrs drive)

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

Day 4

Agra-Jaipur via Fatehpur Sikri (270kms – 6hrs drive)

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

Day 5

Jaipur

Enjoy an elephant-back or jeep ride up to the Amber Fort this morning. This afternoon enjoy a tour of the city of Jaipur. B

Day 6

Jaipur

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

Day 7

Jaipur-Bikaner (321kms – 7hrs drive)

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

Day 8

Bikaner

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

Day 9

Bikaner-Jaisalmer (333kms – 7hours drive)

A long drive through the Thar Desert will bring you to the mediaeval town of Jaisalmer. B

Day 10

Jaisalmer

A morning to visit the superb fort and some of the exquisite havelis. Enjoy an early evening camel safari to see the sunset at Sam sand dunes, followed by dinner and dances. B

Day 11

Jaisalmer-Manvar (205kms – 4hrs drive)

This morning drive to Manvar where you will enjoy an exciting camel safari in the desert and experience the unique tribal desert villages. Enjoy a cultural evening with dinner. B

