



## INCREDIBLE ROYAL ESCAPES

11 Days /10 Nights

### Day 1

### Delhi

On arrival into Delhi you will be met and transferred to your hotel for a 2-night stay.

### Accommodation – 2 nights – Delhi

**Hotel Taj Mahal** (5 star deluxe)

1 Mansingh Road,  
New Delhi 110011, India  
Tel: (+011) 302 6162  
Fax: (+011) 302 6070



*Located in the lush green environs of Lutyen's Delhi, the Taj Mahal Hotel is the most distinguished address in the city.*

*Spacious Split-level grand lobby with magnificent medallion*

*domes and traditional murals on the wall recreate the grandeur of the imperial Mughal era.*

*Amenities include: beauty parlour, travel desk, barber shop, courier service, parking, bar, restaurant, safe deposit box, data ports, ISDN, conference facilities, business centre, sauna, jacuzzi, swimming pool, health club, golf & tennis.*

### Day 2

### Delhi

A full day city tour today will introduce you to Delhi, including an exhilarating bicycle rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk - a hustling & bustling market place and a maze of narrow streets. Visits will be made to:

- Jama Masjid – an architectural extravaganza of Shah Jahan, with its vast marble domes and minarets. The largest mosque in India, this is a handsome structure that is still used today
- Raj Ghat – where the Father of India, Mahatama Gandhi, was cremated in 1948
- Qutab Minar – an 11th century, 73-metre high victory tower built by slave king Qutubuddin Aibak and later completed by his successor Iltumish.

You will also drive past India Gate, Parliament House, and the President's House. If time permits, a visit will be made to a Sikh Temple. Overnight Delhi. B

### Day 3

### Delhi-Agra 200kms – 4 hrs drive

Drive to Agra this morning. This afternoon visit the Agra Fort, the original red sandstone fort built by Akbar in 1565. Shahjahan added the marble palaces inside. Inside the fort is a famous pure marble mosque, the Moti Masjid. Explore the colourful local bazaar, and also see the intricate work of marble inlaid with fine gemstones, which is unique to Agra.

Then late afternoon you will be taken to experience the ethereal beauty of the Taj Mahal – symbol of love – at sunset. Overnight Agra. B

*Note that the Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays.*



**An immense mausoleum of white marble, built in Agra between 1631 and 1648 by order of the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favourite wife, the Taj Mahal is the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage.**

Accommodation – 1 night – Agra

**Hotel Taj Gateway**

Fatehabad Rd., Agra, Uttar Pradesh,

Tel: (+0562) 23 2400

Fax: (+0562) 23 2420



*Taj-View Hotel allows visitors to live in the lap of luxury and gaze at the Taj Mahal for as long as they wish – whenever they feel like. Guests can look forward to gracious interiors, personalized service, and the Taj's inimitable style for a memorable stay. The hotel offers extensive facilities and is home to Agra's only 24-hour, multi-cuisine restaurant.*

**Day 4**

**Agra-Jaipur via Fatehpur Sikri 235kms**

Drive to Jaipur this morning, stopping en route to explore Fatehpur Sikri – the deserted red sandstone city built by Emperor Akbar as his capital in the late 16<sup>th</sup> Century. On to the magnificent Pink City of Jaipur, where you will spend 3 nights. B

***Jaipur, the vibrant capital of Rajasthan is popularly known as the 'Pink City' because of the pink-coloured buildings in its old city. It sits on a dry lakebed in a somewhat arid landscape surrounded by forts and palaces. The walled old city is in the northeast of Jaipur, the new parts spread to the south and west.***



***Jaipur offers a combination of splendid sightseeing and shopping opportunities. If Jaipur is a dream city for those with an eye for history and romance, it is also a shopper's paradise. The main tourist attractions are in the old city, and the principal shopping centre is Johari Bazaar, the jewellers' market. The City owes its name, its foundation and its careful planning to the great warrior-astronomer Maharaja Jai Singh II. In 1728, he built the remarkable observatory, Jantar Mantar, which is still one of Jaipur's main attractions.***

Accommodation – 2 nights – Jaipur

**Rambagh Palace**

Bhawani Singh Rd, Jaipur

Tel: (+0141) 2238 1916

Fax: (+0141) 2238 1098



*The Rambagh Palace is an architectural masterpiece that is elegance personified. The palace is situated in the heart of the city, close to the main shopping areas and historical monuments. The palace has 90 rooms that allow guests to relax in the lap of regal luxury. Bottom of Form All rooms elegantly appointed, air-conditioned, with direct dial telephone facility, channel music, colour television with in-house movies and satellite programmes. 24-hour room service. Laundry service. The spacious rooms are tastefully decorated in traditional Rajasthani style.*

### Day 5

### Jaipur

Enjoy an elephant ride up to the Amber Fort this morning, and also visit the Palace, Kali Temple and Jai Mahal.

An afternoon city tour of Jaipur will include visiting The City Palace, Palace of Winds, Jai Singh's Observatory and of course shopping in the Pink City. B



### Day 6

### Jaipur-Khimsar 240kms – 5hrs drive

Today you will be driven to Khimsar for a night stay. Perched on the edge on the great Thar Desert in the heart of rural India, the unique fort at Khimsar offers a wide range of experiences. Experience sunset in the sand dunes in the Thar Desert this evening, Overnight at Khimsar. B

### Accommodation – 1 night – Khimsar

**Khimsar Fort – Grand Heritage Hotel**

Khimsar Fort, P.O. Khimsar,

Nagaur -341 025,

Tel: 91-1585-262345,

Fax: 91-1585-262228



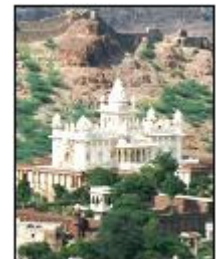
Welcome to the Grand Heritage Hotel of Khimsar Fort. Perched high on the edge of the Great Thar Desert reflecting rural India, the unique Khimsar fort offers a wide range of experiences. The battle-scarred walls and turrets remind one of the glorious past in India. The initial construction began in 1523 AD, but during the 18th century, a new 'Zenana' (ladies wing) was constructed in the fort. Thakur Onkar Singh built a regal wing for himself in 1940s. Today, the Khimsar Fort, with its 50 luxurious rooms, is counted amongst the Premier classified Heritage hotels of India.

### Day 7

### Khimsar-Jodhpur 90kms – 2hrs drive

This morning drive to Jodhpur situated on the edge of the great Thar Desert. Rest of the day free at leisure. B

**Among Rajasthan's many princely settlements, Jodhpur is one of the most distinctive. This five hundred year old settlement was the headquarters of the Rathore Rajputs celebrated for their tales of daring. This princely state is also referred to as "The Blue city". One of the most beautiful Indian cities, the land of royalty is a glittering jewel set in the golden sands of barren desert landscape. The light that reflects off the golden sands engulfs a land renowned for its vibrant colours, people in bright clothes and beautiful jewellery, living in a city dominated by towering forts and palaces that rise from the sand like a mirage.**



### Accommodation – 2 nights – Jodhpur

**Umaid Bhawan Palace (5 Star Deluxe)**

Jodhpur – 342 006 – Rajasthan

Tel + 91 291 251 0101

Fax + 91 291 251 0100



Welcome to Maharaja Umaid Singh's Palace at Jodhpur, one of the largest and grandest private residences in the world. Built between 1929 and 1942 the Umaid Bhawan Palace is a splendid example of the Indo-Colonial and the art-deco style of the thirties. Now a part of the Taj Hotels group, the Palace recreates for you a unique experience of princely lifestyle.

There is a choice of 94 rooms and suites – each appointed with the furniture originally created for the Palace. Gracious hospitality has always been a unique hallmark of the Palace. Amenities include: 2 restaurants; bar; colonnaded verandah, squash, tennis, badminton, well-equipped health club, swimming

pool, billiards and croquet. Visit the private museum with its collection of antiques or ramble in the immense 15-acre landscaped gardens.

### **Day 8**

### **Jodhpur**

You will be taken on a half-day city tour of Jodhpur in the morning, visiting the Jaswant Thada – a white marble cenotaph, built in 1899 in memory of the Maharadja Jaswant Singh, Mehrangarh Fort, and the Royal Palace. Afternoon jeep safari to Brahami and Bishnoi Villages. Overnight Jodhpur. B

#### ***Mehrangarh Fort***

***Dominating the city of Jodhpur is Mehrangarh (meaning "Majestic Fort"), one of Rajasthan's three great hilltop forts, originally built in 1806. Carved panels and porches, elaborately adorned walls and windows, seem to make the mediaeval splendour come alive. Mehrangarh appears impregnable, with its battlements soaring 400 feet above a hill.***



### **Day 9**

### **Jodhpur-Udaipur 250kms – 5 hrs drive**

This afternoon drive to Udaipur, the city of lakes, palaces, museums, temples and gardens en route visiting Ranakpur Jain Temples. B

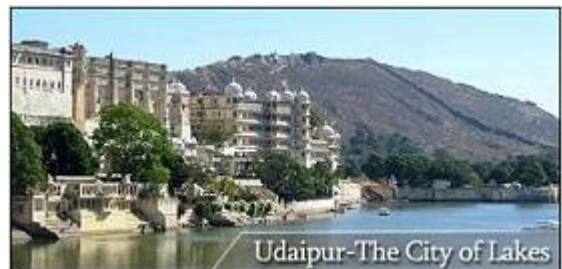


***The Ranakpur Temple, built in the 15th century, is the largest Jain temple in India There are 4 shrines, 24 pillared halls and 1444 columns, each richly decorated with elaborate sculptures and filigrees, including the domes.***

***The creativity and beauty of those artistic works is unimaginable and the variety is such, that no two of the 1,444 columns are alike! The lavish abundance of marvellous stonemason works on white marble is quite overwhelming.***

***Udaipur's kaleidoscope of fairy-tale palaces, lakes, temples, gardens and narrow lanes strewn with stalls, carry the flavour of an heroic past, epitomising valour and chivalry. Their reflection in the placid waters of Lake Pichola is an enticing sight....***

***One of the most romantic cities in Rajasthan, Udaipur is also known as the city of lakes. The marble palaces, beautifully laid out gardens and the lakes make Udaipur seem almost like a mirage in the desert.***



**Accommodation – 2 nights – Udaipur**

***Hotel Lake Palace – 5 star deluxe***

***P.O. Box 5, Lake Pichola,***

***Udaipur, India***

***Tei: (+0294) 52 8800***

***Fax: (+0294) 52 8700***

***The Lake Palace, built in the 17th century on a natural foundation of 4 acres of rock, is one of the most beautiful palaces in the world, rising out of the turquoise waters of the Pichola like an elegant fantasy in white marble. This cool haven was used by rulers as their summer resort, holding their regal durbars in its courtyards lined with columns, pillared terraces, fountains and gardens. The rooms are decorated with cusped arches, inland stones of pink, and green lotus leaves and painted mirrors. Other facilities include a swimming pool, conference hall, a lobby with jewellery and souvenir shops, Secretarial service, mini gym, currency exchange, safe deposit lockers, a doctor, and baby-sitting.***



### Day 10

### Udaipur

This morning you will be taken on a half-day city tour of Udaipur. The City Palace, a marvel of marble and granite overlooking Lake Pichola, is the largest palace in Rajasthan, its exquisite workmanship making it a must on every visitor's itinerary. A visit will also be made to the exquisite Crystal Gallery, followed by tea or coffee at Durbar Hall. A free afternoon in this beautiful city for shopping or further sightseeing, or to just relax at your hotel. Evening boat ride on Lake Pichola. Overnight Udaipur. B

### Day 11

### Udaipur-Delhi

Free morning. You will be transferred to Udaipur airport for your flight Delhi.

Depart Udaipur 1.50 p.m. Jet Airways flight 9W 3318

Arrive Delhi 3.20 p.m. *Economy class*

You will be met on arrival in Delhi and transferred to the Radisson Hotel (no accommodation). Later you will be transferred to the international airport for your flight home. B

## **Tour Cost per person— valid for travel from 15 Apr to 30 Sep**

<i>Land Only: 02 paying pax</i>	<b>A\$2980</b>
<i>Land Only 04 paying pax</i>	<b>A\$2720</b>
<i>Single Supplement:</i>	<b>A\$1585</b>

### Cost Includes:

- *Domestic airfare & taxes from Udaipur to Delhi*
- *Accommodation on twin sharing basis for a total of 10 nights*
- *Meals: Daily Buffet Breakfast.*
- *Local English speaking guide at all destinations.*
- *Air-conditioned Toyota Innova for 2 pax and AC Mini Van for 4 pax for all transport services.*
- *Entrance Charges at monuments (as mentioned in the itinerary).*
- *Rickshaw ride at Chandni Chowk market in Delhi*
- *Elephant ride in Jaipur at Amber Fort – subject to availability.*
- *Porterage at hotels/airports.*
- *Tips at hotels/restaurants/places of visit such as for shoekeeping etc.*
- *Assistance by English speaking representative for airport-hotel-airport transfers*

### Costs Exclude:

- *International airfares ex Australia.*
- *Lunches & dinners*
- *Entrance charges for camera/video camera.*
- *Expenses of personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, drinks, etc.*
- *Tips to driver/guide/boatman/elephant man.*