

## EXOTIC RAJASTHAN TOUR (13 Nights / 14 Days)

### Day 01 Arrival - Delhi

Arrival at Indira Gandhi International airport; meet and greet by our driver/guide at the arrival lounge. Limousine transfer to your hotel and check-in.

Delhi - the capital of India, is a fascinating city with complexities and contradictions, beauty and dynamism, where the past co-exists with the present. Many dynasties ruled from here and the city's rich in the architecture of its monuments. *Delhi* is not only the present metropolis of India but also a Necropolis. Because of its location, being on the banks of the River Yamuna, many cities have risen and fallen over the last five millenniums.

Overnight in Delhi

### Day 02 Old & New Delhi

After breakfast sightseeing of Old & New Delhi.

Visit some of the interesting sites of Delhi such as, *Qutub Minar, Humayun's Tomb*, Drive past the *President's House, India Gate*, and *Red Fort*. Later also visit *Jamma Masjid* & enjoy a Rickshaw ride at *Chandni Chowk*, visit *Raj Ghat* - cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Nation, *Lotus Temple, Lakshmi Narayan Temple*.

Overnight in Delhi

### Day 03 Delhi - Mandawa (approx. 270 km - 6 hrs)

Morning after breakfast limousine transfer to Mandawa. On arrival, check in at your hotel. Later visit the medieval fort of **Mandawa**, founded in the 18th century, dominates the town with a painted arched gateway adorned with Lord Krishna and his cows. Visit the **Chokhani** and **Ladia Havelis** and the street with **Saraf Havelis**.

Overnight in Mandawa

### Day 04 Mandawa – Bikaner (approx. 190 km - 4 hrs)

Today depart for Bikaner. On arrival, check in at your hotel.

**Bikaner** – If ever beauty has bloomed in a desert, it has been at Bikaner. Founded in 1488 AD by Rao Bika Ji, it's located in North West part of **Rajasthan** state in India. The imposing palaces, beautiful and richly sculptured temples of red and yellow sand stones display some of the finest creations of Rajput civilization. It's lust for "dessert" or affection for "desert" that tickles every heart to visit Bikaner.

Later visit **Junagarh Fort, Lallgarh Palace & Camel Breeding Farm**.

**Junagarh Fort** - This fort was built by Raja Rai Singhji, the sixth ruler of Bikaner, who ruled from 1571 to 1612 AD. **Lallgarh Palace** - The architectural masterpiece in red sandstone was built by Maharaja Ganga Sing (1881 AD-1942 AD) in memory of his father Maharaja Lall Singh between 1902 - 1926. This magnificent palace is an example of pure Rajput martial architecture. The exotic palace has magnificent pillars, richly carved fire mantles, Italian colonnades and motif of lotus in full bloom, adding to the magic of this jewel of the desert. **Camel Breeding Farm** - This government-managed farm is unique and largest in Asia. There are hundreds of camels here and the scenario in late afternoon is great when camels come back from grazing. You can have some thick camel milk while listening to a Raika or Rebari, a camel breeder's tribe telling you about camels and camellore and how they are bred.

Overnight in Bikaner

#### **Day 05 Bikaner – Jaisalmer** (*approx .330 km - 7 hrs*)

Morning after breakfast drive to Jaisalmer. Arrive **Jaisalmer** check in at Hotel. Rest of the day is free for optional activities.

Overnight at Jaisalmer.

#### **Day 06 Jaisalmer**

Morning have breakfast at Hotel, later take a tour of **Golden Fort** which is also known as **Sonar Quila**, the Jain temples, **Patwa-ki-haveli**, **Tazia Tower**, **Nathmal-ki-haveli** and **Salim Singh-ki-haveli**. Later visit the **Sam Sand Dunes**. Also, take a Short CAMEL RIDE on the dunes – stay on to view sunset at the **Thar Desert**. Evening return to the Hotel.

Overnight at Jaisalmer.

**Day 07 Jaisalmer – Jodhpur** (*approx. 290 km - 6 hrs*)

Morning after breakfast, drive to **Jodhpur**. This city was founded by Rao Jodha. Arrive Jodhpur check in to your hotel. Day is free for relaxation.

Overnight at Jodhpur.

**Day 08 Jodhpur - Ranakpur - Udaipur** (*approx. 275 km - 6 hrs*)

Morning after breakfast start city tour of Jodhpur, visit **Mehrangarh Fort**, the best preserved fort in India with its elegantly latticed windows, engraved panels & ornately decorated windows & museum, which has a good collection of weapons & canopies. Also, visit **Jaswant Thada**, the **Royal Cenotaph** which is very close to the fort & the **Umaid Bhawan Museum**. Later drive to Udaipur en-route visit the Jain temples at Ranakpur.

Overnight at Udaipur.

**Day 09 Udaipur**

Morning have breakfast at your Hotel, by visiting some of the interesting places of **Udaipur - City Palace** - Standing on the bank of lake **Pichola**, **Sahelion-ki-bari** and a **Museum of Folk Art**. Enjoy Boat ride on the Lake Pichola.

Overnight at Udaipur.

**Day 10 Udaipur – Chittorgarh – Ajmer – Pushkar** (*approx. 300 km - 6 hrs*)

Morning after breakfast depart for Pushkar, en-route visit **Chittorgarh Fort** - Chittorgarh Fort is an acknowledgement to the courage of the gallant Rajput rulers who sacrificed their life combating dominant rivals instead of surrendering before them. Continue drive to **Ajmer** - one of the most important pilgrimage centers of Muslims famous for the **Mausoleum of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti (RA)**. Continue drive to **Pushkar** - Pushkar is a one of the ancient & most sacred cities of India. It is acclaimed for its Religious and Spiritual importance. After arrival in Pushkar check in to your hotel.

Overnight in Pushkar.

**Day 11 Pushkar – Jaipur** (*approx. 150 km - 3 hrs*)

Morning visit famous **Brahma Temple**, which is an important pilgrimage, centres of Hindus in Indian Sub continental. Also visit to the **Pushkar Lake**. Later free to visit traditional market of Pushkar.

Afternoon drive to **Jaipur** - the capital of Rajasthan, is colour washed pink - the colour associated with hospitality in Rajput culture. This **Pink City** of fairy tale palaces, rugged fortresses perched on barren hills and broad avenues are picturesque. The first planned city of its time, a formidable wall encircles Jaipur. Upon arrival, check in to your hotel.

Overnight at Jaipur.

**Day 12 Jaipur**

In the morning, excursion to the **Amber Fort**. Drive past by the **Hawa Mahal**; known popularly as the **Palace of Winds**, is a facade built for the Ladies of the Royal household in the 19th century. The Amber Fort, the capital of the erstwhile State of Jaipur until 1728 is perched on a hill. It has halls of Public and Private Audience, a **Sheesh Mahal** (hall of mirrors) various marble palaces which are marvelous examples of ancient Rajput architecture. The **Temple of Amba** (Mother Goddess), the patron deity of the Royal family is at the entrance to the palace. Ride an elephant to ascend the hill on which the Fort is situated.

Later sightseeing tour of Jaipur. Visit the **City Palace** - the former royal residence built in a blend of the Rajasthani and Mughal styles which houses a museum with a superb collection of Rajasthani costumes and armory of the Mughal and Rajputs, including swords of different shapes and sizes with ornate handles. It has an art gallery with an excellent collection of miniature paintings, carpets, royal paraphernalia and rare astronomical works in Arabic, Persian, Latin and Sanskrit. Also visit the **Jantar Mantar** - an astrological and astronomical Observatory built by Maharaja Jai Singh in 18th century, which is remarkable for its accuracy even at the present times.

Overnight at Jaipur.

**Day 13 Jaipur – Fatehpur Sikri – Agra** (*Approx 240 km - 5 hrs*)

After early breakfast, drive to **Agra** en route visiting **Fatehpur Sikri**: This exquisite city built by Akbar the Great in 1569, in red sandstone; with its forts, palaces and mosques was abandoned 14 years after its creation due to political reasons. The Diwan-i-am - a vast courtyard in which the emperor gave daily public audience; Diwan-i-khas - a large quadrangle which contained all the major functions of the Palace, Pachisi court, the Emperors private living quarter, **Jodha Bhai's Palace, Mariam's Palace, Birbal's Palace, Hawa Mahal** and **Panch Mahal** are some of the important buildings of this residential complex. The **Friday Mosque** and the exquisite **Tomb of Sheik Salim Chisti** are in the religious grounds set aside in a separate enclosure adjacent to the secular buildings.

Continue drive to Agra. Arrive Agra, check in at Hotel. Agra is famous as the home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World - the **Taj Mahal**. The architectural splendor of the mausoleums, the fort and the palaces in Agra is a vivid reminder of the opulence of the legendary Mughal Empire. Agra was their capital for nearly a hundred years from 1564. A pleasant town, with a comparatively easy pace, Agra is known for its superb inlay work on marble and soapstone by artisans who are hereditary craft persons. The city is also famous for its carpets, gold thread embroidery and leather shoes.

Overnight at Agra.

#### **Day 14 Agra – Delhi - Departure**

Morning: Visit the Taj Mahal - the inimitable poem in white marble. Built over a period of 22 years, by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in 1630, for his Queen Mumtaz Mahal to enshrine her mortal remains, it is one of the seven modern wonders of the World. *[The Taj is closed on every Friday]*

Visit the **Agra Fort**, built by three Mughal Emperors starting from Akbar the Great in 1565 AD, which is a masterpiece of design and construction. Within the fort are a number of exquisite buildings including the **Moti Masjid, Jahangir's Palace, Khaas Mahal** and the **Sheesh Mahal, Diwan-i-Am, Diwan-i-Khas** and **Musamman Burj**, where Emperor Shah Jahan, the fifth Mughal Emperor, died a prisoner. Also visit the **Itmad – Ud – Daula Tomb**.

Later timely transfer to Delhi. After arrival in Delhi & transfer to the international airport to board the flight to your onwards destination.

### **Travel Agent Information**

We are flexible in our approach and are happy to review and provide recommendations on your own suggested tour program

- No Limit on Groups Sizes (01 - 99+ pax)
- Accommodation options are ranging from budget hotels to luxury and boutique resorts
- All meal plans available; including special dietary (DBML / GFML), vegetarian and/or vegan meal plans
- Private Transportation by limousine, minivan and/or bus
- Experienced, multi-lingual drivers and tour guides

### **Sri Holidays Travel Service**

T: 0094312222400

M: 0094773866315

WhatsApp/Viber/IMO : 0094 773 866 315

### **B2B**

Web:<https://www.sri-holidays.com>

### **B2C**

Web:<https://www.go-lanka.com>

Web:<http://www.lanka-holidays.com>