



Cultural Journey of India



India; the land that evokes flights of imagination and curiosity, a canvas of spectacle and colour Ruled by a succession of native kingdoms, and often overrun and inhabited by invading armies of Central Asian origin, followed by the Mughals and finally the British, transformation has been never ending and the results are deeply and visibly etched in today's milieu. A profusion of races and cultures, and the magnitude of their legacies, are evident today.

This extroverted journey takes the traveller along a richly historic route, full of lore and splendour, punctuated by photographic attractions, and features varied sightseeing and sojourns in historic places.

As we say in our local dialect ‘Kuch hat kar’ meaning something different and in our endeavour to let you experience India in a whole a new way, with a new perspective. A voyage with us will not only leave you with the sense of thrill and delight but will also deepen your wisdom lasting beyond your vacation heightening your pleasure, awareness and intellect.

ITINERARY

DAY 01 ARRIVE DELHI (Meal aloft)

On your arrival at International airport in Delhi and after clearing customs & immigration, our representative will receive and escort you to your hotel. **(VIP assistance)**

Delhi, the capital of India, is a city that offers a glimpse of both ancient and modern-day India. It is the third largest city in India and one of the fastest growing in Asia. This city is rich in culture, always changing with time but never hiding its splendid past. The various ancient ruins seen in the city are silent witnesses to its magnificent history. The city of Delhi is a blend of two different yet perfectly balanced parts, the Old and the New Delhi. With its intricate streets, elegant mosques, forts, monuments, and bazaars that sell a variety of goods, Old Delhi speaks volumes about its Mughal past. With its multi-ethnic, multi-cultural population, New Delhi is truly cosmopolitan.

Stay overnight at Delhi.

The Leela Palace: The Leela Palace New Delhi is a blend of Lutyen's architecture and the royal Indian culture. A pampering spa, 4 dining options and free parking are available. Elegantly decorated, air-conditioned rooms feature a high-definition flat-screen TV with a DVD player, floor-to-ceiling windows and wooden furnishings. A 2nd flat-screen TV in the bathroom is a mirror when turned off. The exclusive Spa at The Leela offers an



Ayurveda inspired day spa menu created for both women and men while rooftop temperature-controlled swimming pool offers the panoramic views of the city's skyline.

Housed in a modern glass structure, The Qube offers an international and Indian buffet with open kitchens. Other dining options include Le Cirque and MEGU from New York, the award winning restaurants. Indian food is served at Jamavar. Drinks can be enjoyed at the hotel's 2 bars

DAY 02 **DELHI** **(B)**

After breakfast, proceed for a sightseeing tour of Delhi. It's called – **The Five Senses Tour of Delhi.**

A sensory overload - it is hard to recount the times this phrase has been used to describe an experience in Delhi. With its rich archaeological history that has been built over generations by kingdoms that ruled over the city, Delhi is a melting pot of cultures. It was bred on the milk of royal culture, brought up in the lap of kings and reached maturity in an atmosphere of learning and knowledge.

In the midst of such diversity, how does one experience the true heart of the city? The Five Senses Tour of Delhi is a unique offering where you can feast your senses to your heart's delight. A carefully curated selection of experiences that will transport you across Delhi's rich cultural history. As you walk down narrow lanes that have changed over centuries. Experience for yourself the syncretism that has served as both Delhi's greatest strength and vulnerability.

Sight that Beholds you:

This tour starts with Humayun's tomb, which is one of the best-preserved Mughal monuments. This spellbinding mausoleum is the first example of Mughal architecture in India. After a century from its construction Humayun's tomb inspired the construction of the more famous Taj Mahal. A must do in any Delhi itinerary, Humayun's Tomb is a favourite for any Dilliwala (Person from Delhi), most even prefer it to the Taj.

Post this, you will enter a wonderful workshop organized with an all women group. This workshop allows you to spend some time with the women that have fought circumstances and are using their art to not just earn, but also fill hope for thousands of women just like



them. You will do an art workshop that is inspired by the tomb you just visited. A fantastic eye-opening experience and something to take back, what's not to love.

Walk and Smell to captivate you:

Our Mughal Conversation continues with a walk towards Shahjahanabad - the beautiful Mughal city built by one of the strongest rulers of the Taj fame: Shahjahan. You will then indulge in a workshop that fires up your senses - the Ittar or perfume making workshop. There are several stories about the origin of ittar, including one involving Mughal emperor Jahangir, who is credited as the first patron of the industry because his wife, empress Noor Jahan, used to bathe in water perfumed with rose petals. Visit an 8th generation ittar studio where you will get to smell a wide range of ittars and mix your own unique concoction that can be named after you!

Optional: you can try a quintessential Old Delhi snack that has been part of the culinary history of the area for over centuries.

Then, take a Rickshaw to Chandni Chowk:

In their glory years, the streets of Chandni Chowk were adorned with silver and gold jewellery in the midst of shops selling the most delectable food. Today, chaos thrives in the area, but as you cycle down the street you're transported by the magic in the air to the era of Mughals. After this: You enter the Jama Masjid: a beautiful pocket of calm at the heart of Old Delhi's mayhem, the capital's largest mosque is built on a 10m elevation. It can hold over 25,000 people. The marble and red-sandstone structure, known also as the 'Friday Mosque', was Shah Jahan's final architectural triumph, built between 1644 and 1658. A walk here takes you back in time with conversations that talk about various cultural, religious and historical aspects, including the uprising of 1857. (Please dress conservatively for the mosque)

The Taste of Delhi:

We follow this up with a break for our favourite sense: Food. Here, we shall try quintessential food of Old Delhi in an interesting place in Old Delhi - Haveli Dharampura.

From Old to New: From Here on, you make your way towards New Delhi and as we drive past British structures, we learn about how the British envisaged its new capital. The palpable architecture along with the deep contrast to Mughal buildings make this stop not only one for colonial stories but also a look into its architecture.

The sound of the Gurbani at Delhi's biggest Gurudwara

Once you're done with the bustling neighbourhood, it's time to move to possibly an oasis of service, solitude and syncretism: The Bangla Sahib. Part of our Sound element of your senses.

The magic that the Gurudwara envelopes you into is undeniable. What ties together this beautiful experience is the sweet sound of the gurbani playing in the background as you reflect on the experience your senses have gone through.

Post sightseeing, our plan is flexible based on your interest and energy. Want to explore boutiques and bookshops where the trendy local shops? Then head over to **Khan**



Market. Home to many boutiques, restaurants, local bookshops or just to people watch through one of the coffee shops or wine bars, Khan Market is your place. Some popular boutiques to Explore – Good Earth, Nicobar, Oma, Anokhi, Fab India. Popular Café's /

Restaurants – Good Earth Café, Townhall, PERCH wine & Coffee. Popular bookstores – Baharisons, Full Circle.

Stay overnight at Delhi.

DAY 03 DELHI – JODHPUR (B)

After the leisurely breakfast, on time transfer to the airport to board the flight to Jodhpur.

Delhi – Jodhpur Air India (AI-475) 1255/ 1420 Hours

Meeting and assistance on arrival at Jodhpur airport and transfer to hotel

Jodhpur: Rao Jodha Ji who claimed descent from Lord Rama (the hero of epic Ramayana) founded Jodhpur, the former capital of Marwar State, in 1459. The city was built as a result of warring brothers. Jodhpur and its historic origins are best revealed by countless cultural celebrations taking place here, of this Marwar festival an annual feature is the most inspiring spectacle of the region. A variety of Rajasthani folk music and dance performances introduce the audience with the local folklore. Marked with ecstasy, the cultural bonanza enlivens and transports the participant's back into the historic origins of this colorful region of Rajasthan. The mighty Mehrangarh Fort perched on a hillock and breathtaking Umaid Bhawan Palace, which now is one of world's best heritage hotels certainly offer a glimpse of what this popular attraction in Rajasthan is all about. Jodhpur offers its visitors an unbeatable blend of modern and ancient that divides the city neatly into two parts, Old and New. The Old Jodhpur is crammed with the famous blue painted houses, and consistently mushrooming hotels catering to hippie culture, and those interested in witnessing the rustic side of this one of the favourite getaways in Rajasthan.

Arrive Jodhpur and check-in at your hotel.

Stay overnight at Jodhpur.



RAAS is Jodhpur's first boutique hotel. Our signature look was born from the fusion of modern and ancient styles and the courtyard has become a tranquil haven away from the bustle of Jodhpur's old town. The hotel comprises four original buildings with three additional contemporary structures, influenced by and contributing to its cultural past as part of the Walled City. The new buildings are modern and contemporary in their use of space and light; and yet grounded in tradition. Indeed, each of its structures is adorned with intricate architectural carvings in the iconic Haveli style of the 18th century, juxtaposed against modern designs and patterns. Jodhpur's red sand-stone unites the new with the old, as modern designs add an exciting and fresh dimension to the region's age-old stone carving industry. The magnificent pool, along with the staff quarters and guardhouse, makes a stunning entry to the hotel. The whole complex is overlooked by Mehrangarh, an awe-inspiring 15th century fort looming 400 feet above the Jodhpur skyline. When lit up in the evenings, the views are simply breathtaking and, like virtually every home here, almost every room in the hotel enjoys the most spectacular view of the fort.

DAY 04**JODHPUR****(B & L)**

After breakfast, visit Mehrangarh Fort, situated on a low sandstone Hill, including Moti Mahal and Phool Mahal. Also visit Jaswant Thada, an imposing Marble Memoriam built in 1899.

Mehrangarh Fort: Spread over 5 km. On a stiff rugged hill and looking down from a height of about 100 Mts. the fort appears invincible and impenetrable from outside but houses some of the most intricately adorned palaces with exquisitely carved panels and latticed windows. Moti Mahal, Phool Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Sileh Khana and Daulat Khana are some of the important palaces.

Later we have a walking tour of Jodhpur through the through the Brahmपुरi area dotted



with blue painted houses. Through this tour we intend is to reward our guests with an authentic experience of this vibrant city. Walking Tour provides great opportunities for meeting people, sample food, witness artisans at work. It's a good way to feel the plus of this vibrant city. Our tours are led by experienced and knowledgeable local explorers who has a great passion for their city.

Afternoon enjoy a visit to a local family's home for lunch.

The soul of a city, is usually within its people and the personalities you meet. Hence, our



lunch today will be inside the fortified walls in a traditional home with a family who once in a

while takes a special guest as a part of their lunch and while you are there, you may try your hand at Indian Cooking if you wish.

As you venture through the colorful bustling streets of Jodhpur, one can work up an appetite, especially when a warm home cooked meal is promised. Full of memories, you will have the opportunity to see what the typical Rajashtani home looks like and imagine its liveliness as children ran from room to room, with echos heard in the courtyard. While enjoying some of the traditional dishes every Jodhpur house has grown up on.

Afterwards, we get into tuk tuk's and make our way towards the old City near the Clock Tower. You may not know, but Jodhpur is a major handicraft and textile export hub. We



will visit Maharani Textiles (even if its just for the experience). From the front, it's indiscreet, but as you squeeze up the first set of narrow stairs into the labyrinth of colourful (floor-to-ceiling) heaps of shawls and carpets, you know you're somewhere special. You might say that textile houses in India are a dime a dozen, but what sets Maharani apart from the rest, is the family's heritage. It is 98 years old and the present owners are fifth generation in this business. Back in the day, western dealers would come and buy some antiques. After, as the business continued, some designers came to them with their own ideas. Over time, they have supplied to fashion houses like Chanel, Miu Miu, Prada, Kenzo, Armani, etc. This little unassuming shop, has seen been an export hub for many designers.

Stay overnight at Jodhpur.

DAY 05 JODHPUR – DEOGARH (B, L & D)

After breakfast, drive to Deogarh. (140 Kms/ approx. 3 hrs)

Arrive Deogarh and check-in at Dev Shree.

Shatrunjai Singh Chundawat, a scion of the Deogarh family decided to re-build heritage by the way of a home for his family. There were many discussions on the style and design. But a couple of things that he was sure of was, that it had to have plenty of room for a regular flow of friends, he wanted to showcase the local craftsmanship in his home and provide an opportunity for the local boys and girls to learn the tenets of hospitality.

Deogarh being a principality of Mewar he wanted influences of Mewar heritage architecture to suffuse his home and so he looked to Udaipur and drew elements of inspiration from the charming Bagor ki Haveli at Udaipur, the City Palace of Udaipur and the artists who worked on these properties and that's how Dev Shree came to be.

Built of Nimbahera stone the local artisans clinked away at blocks of stone for almost 2 years, transforming them into intricately carved pillars which adorn the deep veranda overlooking the Ragho Sagar Lake. An ideal spot to relax, read a book or watch the local migratory birds on the lake.



Evening sundowner Rural Ramble.

An evening jeep drive into the countryside lends an insight into the life of the people of the area, the drive is tailored to suit the interest of the guests; whether they are keen on the farming and agricultural side of the village, the temples and cultural aspects or the birds and natural scenic part of the area. We set out in an open hooded jeep equipped with a packed tea, snacks and a pair of binoculars.

Stay overnight at Dev Shree.

DAY 06	DEOGARH – UDAIPUR	(B)
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Breakfast at the hotel and get ready for the rural train ride experience.

Dev Shree offers a train ride – a magical experience to traverse down the Aravalli hill section in a small meter gauge train. The journey begins after breakfast when your guide will meet you at Dev Shree at 10:00 am and take you to the charming Kamblighat station. He will purchase the tickets and help you board the train which arrives at 10:30 am. It's a local train and one is seated on wooden seats along with the locals who can be a wedding

party, pilgrims, daily travelers, children and sometimes even their cattle.

Phulad to Khamblighat journey by a local train across the Aravalli range is a pleasant experience. The train traverses the hills in one gradual giant right turn switchback, all the while gaining gently in elevation. In the process of negotiating the sharpest part of the railroad track the train crosses a couple of viaducts. The ride then continues slowly uphill offering fine views of a vast valley, small deep gorges and distant ridges, before easing into the plateau of Khamblighat. The train stops only once in a vague station in the middle of sparsely wooded expanse of virgin landscape, where monkeys descend upon the windows expecting and getting their treat of biscuits, while handful of passengers get off and board.



Back to the hotel for lunch and afternoon free to enjoy the relaxed natural environs of Dev Shree.

Later drive to Udaipur (**2 ½ hrs approx**). Upon arrival check into hotel.

Udaipur, popularly known as the City of lakes, founded in 1559 by Maharana Udai Singh II. The beautiful city of Udaipur houses 5 pristine lakes with Pichola being the most impressive. The Old City of Udaipur is dotted with numerous historic temples, Havelis and baoris (Step wells). Through our carefully designed heritage walking Tour we aim to bring the diverse culture, traditions, craftsmanship. A city is made up of mysteries, histories, and stories. Behind the buildings and beauty that keeps changing and developing with time, there are some things which stay intact and if you actually want to understand some city, it is important that you understand the base of it, you look and know the city the way its citizens look at it.

Stay overnight at Udaipur.



Jagat Niwas Palace is an early 17th century ‘Haveli’ (mansion), with its charm and aesthetics intact, situated in the heart of the most romantic city of Rajasthan. Nestled in the fertile valley on the breezy, eastern banks of the famous Lake Pichola, Jagat Niwas Palace is a heritage boutique hotel and is highly acclaimed for its location and for the stunning view that it provides. The charming property, with its rooms restored back to their old charm and glory, is a vision in white. Surrounded by ancient havelis, temples and meandering lanes filled with traditional artefacts - showcasing the way of life in the “old city”, this property is submerged in heritage. With the City Palace as its neighbour, Jagat Niwas Palace is a family-run property and we strive to keep our rich heritage and culture unadulterated.

DAY 07

UDAIPUR

(B)

After breakfast, proceed for tour of city palace.

We will start our tour with Udaipur’s most iconic tourist attraction “City Palace Complex “with its marble and granite walls laden with miniature paintings, and decorated with tiles, glasswork and mirrors, it’s a great insight into the lives of the royalties.

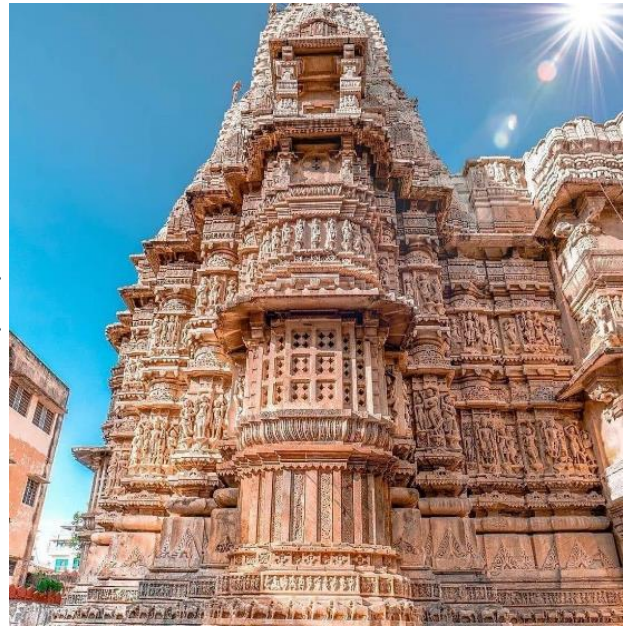
Udaipur City Palace is one of the architectural marvels of Rajasthan, located peacefully on the banks of Lake Pichola. This majestic City Palace is the most-visited tourist attraction of Udaipur and often distinguished as the largest palace complex in Rajasthan. Initially, Maharana Udai Singh built this superb wonder, but the present form of the Palace is the result of subsequent additions by his successors.



City Palace boasts of the wonderful blend of Medieval, European and Chinese Architecture. The Palace has various towers, domes and arches, which add to the flavor of heritage site. Towering on the banks of Pichola Lake, City Palace is truly a feast to the eyes. City Palace is a marvelous assortment of courtyards, pavilions, terraces, corridors, rooms and hanging gardens. Encircled by fortifications, this imposing Palace is wholly built in granite and marble.

Afterwards visit Jagdish temple followed by walking tour. Jagdish temple is located in the City Palace complex of Udaipur, this temple is made in the Indo-Aryan style of architecture. In 1651, Jagdish temple was built by Maharana Jagat Singh, who ruled Udaipur during 1628-53. The temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu (Laxmi Narayan), the

preserver of the Universe. It is celebrated for being the largest temple in the city of Udaipur. The main shrine houses the striking four-armed image of Lord Vishnu. This idol is carved out of a single piece of black stone. A single glimpse of the idol takes the person to the celestial world to find everything calm and serene. The main shrine of Lord Jagdish/ Vishnu is centrally located encircled by four smaller shrines. These shrines are dedicated to Lord Ganesha, Sun God, Goddess Shakti and Lord Shiva respectively.



Join us on an engaging walking Tour to discover the hidden quarters of this romantic city and offers a great opportunity to get under the skin of the city. During the tour, meet various locals and communities engaged in jewellery making, pottery and bamboo craft. Also learn about the local tradition, customs attached to the living habits and religious beliefs. The walk will give you a feel of the local life in the City of Udaipur. On this exclusive guided walking tour we will show you ‘The Real Udaipur’— its people, its living traditions, its appealing localities and vibrant bazaars. We walk through Udaipur's most beautiful streets and sites, navigate hidden lanes, meet interesting residents and artisans, witness pottery and bamboo craft. Learn about popular legends, living heritage and religious beliefs of this charming town. We'll walk through sunarwada and meet silver and goldsmiths at work. Observe the traditional way of making clay potteries and water pitchers.

Stay overnight at Udaipur.

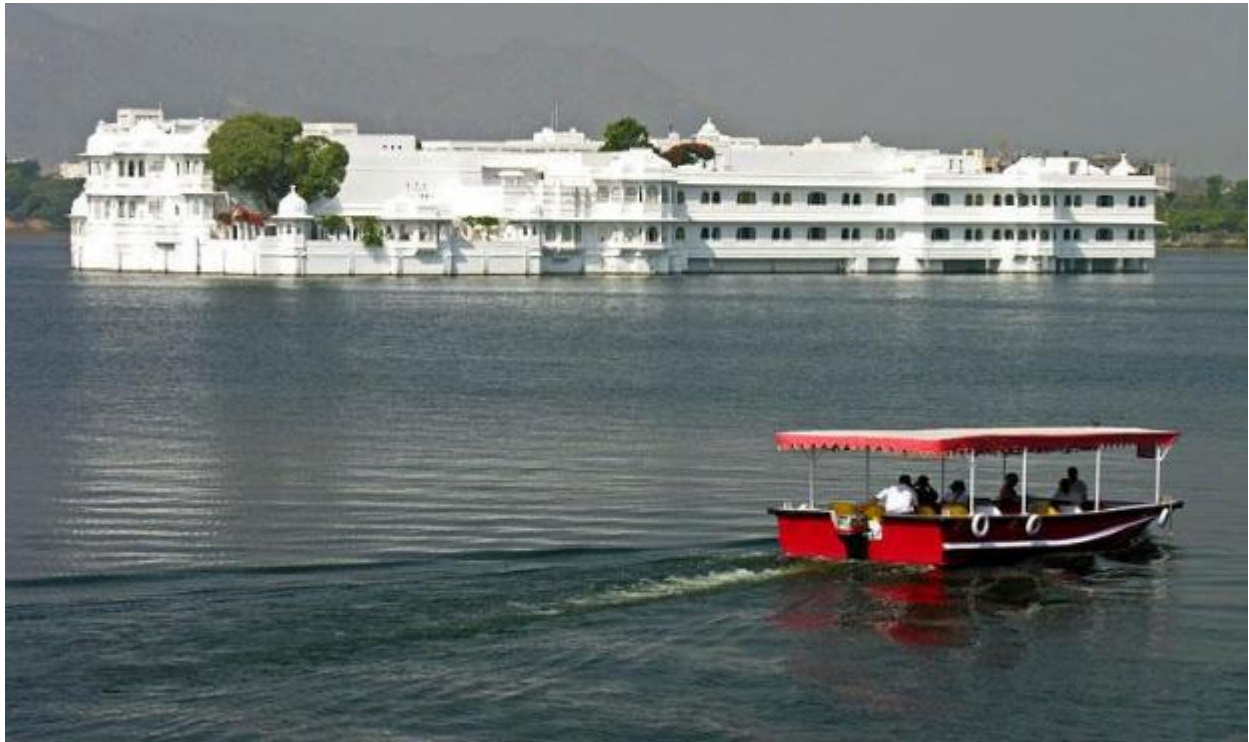
DAY 08

UDAIPUR

(B)

Morning explore the hotel and surrounding by own

Evening visit to Jag Mandir by Exclusive boat: Jag Mandir is a palace built on an island in the Lake Pichola. It is also called the "Lake Garden Palace". The palace is located in Udaipur city in the Indian state of Rajasthan. Its construction is credited to



three Maharanas of the Sisodia Rajputs of Mewar kingdom. The construction of the palace was started in 1551 by Maharana Amar Singh, continued by Maharana Karan Singh (1620–1628) and finally completed by Maharana Jagat Singh I (1628–1652). It is named as "Jagat Mandir" in honour of the last named Maharana Jagat Singh. The royal family used the palace as a summer resort and pleasure palace for holding parties. The palace served as a refuge to asylum seekers on two separate occasions.

Stay overnight at Udaipur.

DAY 09 UDAIPUR – JAIPUR (B)

After early breakfast / cold breakfast, on time departure transfer to airport to board the flight to Jaipur.

**6E-7403 (Indigo Airlines) Udaipur/Jaipur 0800/ 0855
hrs**

Jaipur: The capital city of the state of Rajasthan, also known as "Pink City" owes its name, its foundation and planning to the great warrior astronomer Maharaja Jai Singh II. The city sits on a dry lakebed in a wild and somewhat arid landscape, surrounded by barren hills surmounted by fortresses and crenellated walls.



Arrive Jaipur and transfer to the hotel (**regular check-in time is 1400 hours and early check-in time is 1400 hrs**)

Rest of day free to relax.

Stay overnight at Jaipur.

Samode Haveli, Jaipur: an urban oasis in the historic walled city of Jaipur, Samode Haveli is a traditional Indian mansion set in a verdant garden with apartments arranged around a series of intimate courtyards. Built 175 years ago as a residence of the rulers of Samode, it is still occupied by their descendants, who have converted their home into a luxury hotel. Built by various rulers over many centuries, the former royal residences are now deluxe rooms and suites. Each room in Samode Haveli is unique and has a distinctive character which reflects the rich history and culture of Samode. The rooms retain the exquisite luxuriousness of their past while providing guests with contemporary amenities; a well-stocked mini-bar, coffee and tea counters, generous wardrobe space,



satellite television and much more. The lavish en-suite bathrooms offer top-of-the-line facilities and a range of organic toiletries.

DAY 10 **JAIPUR** **(B)**

Morning, Amber Heritage Trail - Beyond the Fort: Amer was a flourishing settlement as far back as 967 A.D, originally occupied by the Meena. This caste claims their descent from the Matsya Avatar or the fish incarnation of Vishnu, until it was conquered by the

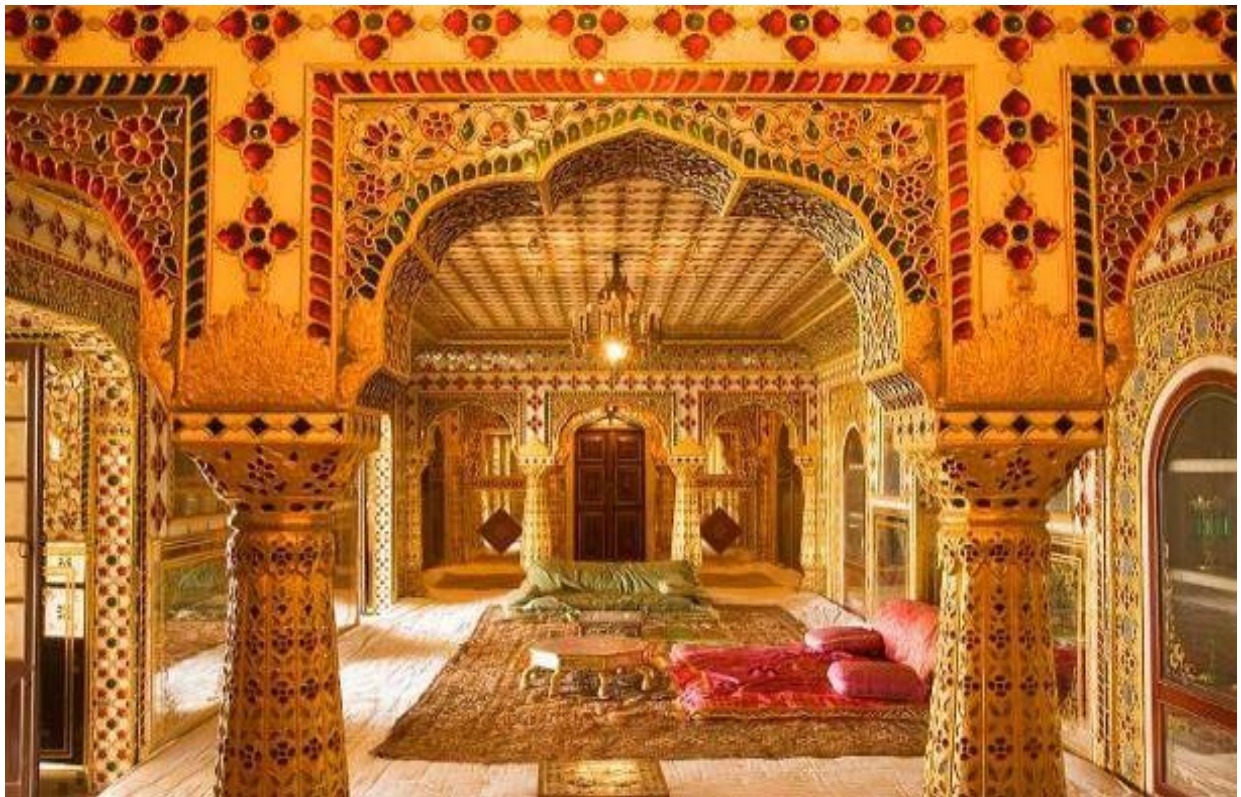


Kachwaha clan of Rajputs. Older than the famous Amber fort and palace complex the now sleepy town of Amber is rarely visited by tourist. This atmospheric ancient town is dotted with numerous historic temples, Haveli', water harvesting structures. Our carefully designed two-hour walk is a perfect accompaniment and antidote to any visit to the busy Amber Fort and explore the town's rich heritage and enjoy the natural beauty of Aravali mountain range, away from tourist crowd. For those with a love of the outdoors, beautiful scenery and fresh air, we can combine this walk with some gentle trekking in the surrounding Aravali hills. Visit a ruined fort, hidden shines and meet the local Meena community to learn about their daily lives. This will be right behind the Fort – a hike to a traditional village with no other tourists around.

We are particularly not visiting fort from inside but if you want to visit the Amber Fort then our guide will take you inside.

We will take you to royal grandeur tour of city palace.

Join us on this memorable **private guided** tour to visit City palace, the residence of the



present Royal family who have opened their gates to visitors and converted a part of their

palace into a museum. The palace of Jaipur which is full of brilliant architecture and intricately carved walls and pillars. Visit the beautiful Chandra Mahal or Chandra Niwas which is the most commanding building in the City Palace complex. It is a seven-storied building and each floor has been given a specific name such as the Sukh-Niwas, Ranga-Mandir, Pitam-Niwas, Chabi-Niwas, Shri-Niwas and Mukut-Mandir or MukutMahal. It contains many unique paintings, mirror work on walls and floral decorations. There is beautiful peacock gate at the entry to the Mahal. It has screened balconies and a pavilion at the roof from where a panoramic view of the city can be seen. It is set amidst well laid out gardens and a decorative lake in the foreground.

Cooking Demo followed by Lunch: We feel that people and personalities make up for a special journey. Stories told by real people who share their passion of their past is what makes a holiday into a journey. We will engage with Durga Singh Ji of Dera Mandawa, who will join us for a part of our day today, and we you will visit his home for a lunch this afternoon. And while you are there, you may try your hand at Indian Cooking if you wish.

Thakur Durga Singh is an exceptional narrator and host. A proud, aristocratic Rajput,



Durga brings his culture and country vibrantly alive. Thakur Durga Singh was educated at the Mayo college Ajmer which is called the eaten of India. He developed a keen interest in history, folk music, Sanskrit, Dramatics and comparative religious study. As Thakur Durga Singh takes great pride in his history, cultural traditions, folk traditions and eastern religions, he likes to present

Rajasthan and India to visitors. The current custodian of Dera Mandawa is an exceptional

host. He is a Renaissance man who is a keen observer of history, culture, religion, current affairs, and is a bank of knowledge so vast that he has a point of view on anything under the sun. He is what one could call a modern traditionalist, actively seeking the use of modern technology and methods to support the principles of traditional living. The inquisitive can have endless conversations with him on a number of his projects like rain – water harvesting, biogas plant, solar heating and, even, healthy cooking.

The cooking demonstration and meal involves the cooking instructor working and demonstrating to the guests all ingredients and techniques neatly typed cooking recipes in a Sangneri handmade paper folder given as a take away to every guest. This cooking demonstration is unique in as much that it covers ingredients and recipes of Rajasthan which the guest easily replicates. The guest also works hands on and can cook on the cooking station.

Later proceed for Bazaars, Crafts & Cuisine Walk

Jaipur offers a dazzling immersion into the riches of traditional India. Since its foundation in 1727, royal family and nobles of Jaipur had been patronizing various craftsmen and artisans in Pink City. Many of these traditions continue to this day, making



the modern-day Jaipur a favourable destination to witness India's rich Art & Craft. Traditional methods are still used to produce valuable and highly prized items.

On this fascinating evening walking Tour mingle and talk with locals whilst sampling some of the region's culinary delights; try Samosa Kachori, Kulfi and Lassi. Sample sweets from some of the city's most popular Mithai Wala's. Observe local artisans like Silversmiths, Bangle makers, at work. Meet a local family and experience Indian hospitality. It's a great way to explore Jaipur like locals do and learn about rich art traditions of this fascinating city.

Stay overnight at Jaipur.

DAY 11 JAIPUR – AGRA (B)

After breakfast drive to Agra (**Approx. 5 hrs**).

Agra - Badal Singh established the city of Taj in 1475 AD. Agra finds mention in the Mahabharat as Agraban. Sikandar Lodi made Agra his capital but Babur defeated the Lodis to capture not only Agra but also laid the foundation of the Mughal Empire. In the mid-16th century and earlier 17th century AD, Agra witnessed a frenzied building activity and it was during this time when the symbol of love Taj Mahal was built.

On arrival, check-in at hotel

Later proceed for the sunset visit of Taj Mahal from Mehtab Bagh (Garden): Taj Mahal looks stunning from its grand entry. But Emperor Shahjahan booked the best view of Taj Mahal from a grassy, crescent-shaped flood plain across the river Yamuna that is known as Mehtab Bagh. It is believed that this garden was built originally by Babur, but later Shahjahan transformed it into a moonlit pleasure garden profuse with white plaster pathways, breezy pavilions, pools and fountains. However, plaster pathways, pools and fountains are not visible.

Stay overnight at Agra.



ITC Mughal: Sprawled over 93077 sq. m of Mughal-style gardens, with the characteristic use of water channels, fruit trees, flowers and shaded walkways, the resort is a fitting tribute to the great Mughal builders of the past. In close proximity to the Taj Mahal, this luxury resort offers 233 opulent rooms and suites, a resplendent spa, signature cuisine offerings and a range of elaborate banqueting facilities. It recreates a paradise for the contemporary Mogul - exemplifying the splendour and perfection that was the hallmark of the Mughal Dynasty.

DAY 12

AGRA – DELHI

(B)

Rise early for morning coffee and prepare for a truly spectacular sight, the legendary Taj Mahal at daybreak. It is often said that Taj Mahal changes its colours by every minute depending upon angle of sunrays and it is best seen either by sunset or sunrise. Sunrise however is best timing for taking pictures of this monument under mild sun light.

Taj Mahal- Little needs to be said about this architectural wonder, which is always the soul raison-de-etre for every tourist's visit to Agra. Built by Shah Jahan, the Taj is a white marble memorial to his beautiful wife Mumtaz Mahal. This monument took 22 years to be completed and was designed, and planned by Persian architect Ustad Isa. Apart from its stunning design balance and perfect symmetry, the Taj is also noted particularly for its elegant domes, intricately carved screens and some of the best inlay work ever seen.



(Note: Taj Mahal remains closed on Fridays).

After the visit, return to your hotel for breakfast

Later drive to Delhi (**Approx. 4 hrs**) and transfer to the hotel for check-in.

Stay overnight in Delhi.

DAY 13

DELHI – DEPARTURE

(B)

On time departure transfer to airport to board the flight for onward Journey.