

Rural Rajasthan

Rajasthan's turbulent history, punctuated by invasion and mutually destructive wars, caused the region to fragment into major and minor dynasties. Consequently there are a **multitude of castles, forts and palaces**; many now restored as Heritage Hotels of great character and charm. Using these very individual hotels, this tour combines **major attractions** with smaller towns and rural villages, allowing you to discover the state's **rich heritage**.



Taj Mahal

Day 1 Arrive Delhi

Arrive Delhi and transfer to your hotel. The city tour includes Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar and the Parliament of India. Overnight at The Claridges.

Day 2 Delhi to Agra

Drive to Agra, en-route stopping at Sikandra, The tomb of Akbar. The city tour includes Agra Fort, and Taj Mahal by sunset, Shahjahan's immortal monument for his beloved wife. Overnight at Trident Agra. (B)

Day 3 Agra to Samode

Drive to Samode en-route visiting Fatehpur Sikri, "The Abandoned City", built by Akbar. Rest of the day at leisure to explore the extensive palace grounds, and wander through the little village. Overnight at Samode Palace. (B)

Day 4 Samode to Jaipur

Drive to Jaipur, known as "The Pink City" due to its terracotta-pink painted houses and public buildings within the city walls. Overnight at K.Country Villa. (B)

Day 5 Jaipur

Morning visit Amber Fort, situated in the rugged hills surrounding Jaipur. Here a painted elephant will transport you to the fort, with its huge gateways and pillared pavilions. Afternoon visit to the City Palace, museum, Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds) and the Jantar Mantar (Observatory) built in the 18th century. Overnight at K.Country Villa. (B)

Day 6 Jaipur to Shahpura

Drive to Shahpura, where the Shahpura Bagh reveals the town's rich multi-cultural vibrancy and fascinating art and crafts tradition. It seems here that mythology and history come to life. Overnight at Shahpura Bagh. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Shahpura

Visit the ancient temple of Ram Dwara. The City Palace is a blend of Rajput and Mughal architecture, and Dhikola Fort stands majestically on a hill above verdant pastures and lakes. Overnight at Shahpura Bagh. (B, L, D)



Day 8 Shahpura to Nimaj

Drive to Nimaj, where Chhatra Sagar's tents (a superb replica of a 1920's hunting camp) are pitched overlooking the beautiful lake alive with waterfowl. Visit the village silversmiths, walk through the lovely countryside, sail on the lake – or just relax and enjoy the lovely location. Overnight at Chhatrasagar Deluxe Camp. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Nimaj to Korta

Drive to Korta in the Aravali Hills, surrounded by serene countryside and picturesque villages. Explore a Raika tribal village. Overnight at Korta Escape. (B, L, D)

Day 10 Korta Escape

Morning at leisure, or try a horse ride to explore the region's tribal villages. Evening jeep safari to discover rural Rajasthan up-close. Overnight at Korta Escape. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Korta Escape to Poshina

Drive to Poshina and "Darbargarh Poshina", a heritage home set in the tribal lands of the Aravali Hills. Afternoon village safari, to visit tribal villages of the Hindu and Jain faith. Overnight at the Darbargarh Poshina. (B, L, D)

Day 12 Poshina to Dungarpur

Drive to Dungarpur, "City of Hills". Founded in the 13th century, it rose to its peak under the Guhilot Ahara Suryavanshi Rajputs. Overnight at the Udai Bilas Palace. (B)



Day 13 Dungarpur

The town is the embodiment of old-world charm. The Palace nestles in idyllic repose, surrounded by forest on the shores of the blue waters of Gaibsagar Lake. Day at leisure to explore. Overnight at the Udai Bilas Palace. (B)

Day 14 Dungarpur to Devra (Udaipur)

The drive to Devra offers fine views of the City Palace of Udaipur and the hill top fort of Sajjan Garh. Here are wooded ghats and breathtaking sunsets. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at Devra. (B)

Day 15 Devra to Udaipur to Devra

Sightseeing in Udaipur includes the bazaars, the grand City Palace, the Garden of the Maids of Honour and the Jagdish Temple (famed for its elephant motifs). Boat ride on Lake Pichola. Overnight at Devra. (B)

Day 16 Devra to Devigarh

Drive to Devigarh, situated in the Aravali hills. The restored fort, Devigarh Palace, was conceived as a place where the past and the modern present meet harmoniously. Overnight at Devigarh. (B)

Day 17 Devigarh

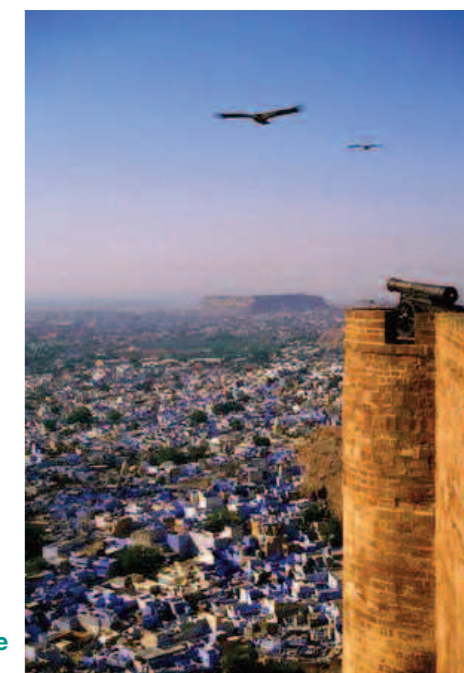
Day free to enjoy the hotel's facilities which include spa, wellness therapies and massage, a pool table, kite flying and croquet lawn. Overnight at Devigarh (B)

Day 18 Devigarh to Delhi

Fly to Delhi and transfer to your hotel. Farewell dinner. Overnight at The Claridges. (B, D)

Day 19 Delhi and Departure

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.



Meherangarh Fort - Jodhpur