



Le Passage
to India Journeys



Local experts for
destination
services



Taj, Raj and tigers.

Tour designer: Anuj Negi
Telephone: +91 (011) – 3090 5344
Email: anuj@lpti.in



INDIA | 12DAYS / 11NIGHTS

Route: Round-trip from and to Delhi

Type of tour: Culture and safari

Departure day: Saturday

TOUR OVERVIEW

Rajasthan's very names exudes majesty, mystery and history – and all are on the itinerary every day of this fascinating 12-day odyssey through India's most emblematic region. Join us for a special journey to explore Rajasthan's most enduring monuments, attractions and nature reserves. Discover majestic palaces, breathtaking landscapes and rare wildlife in its natural habitat. Visit the Taj Mahal, Fatehpur Sikri, Ranthambore National Park and other places which you have dreamed of seeing all your life.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

DURATION: 12 days / 11 nights



Start & finish destination
Delhi

Destinations

2. Agra	4. Jaipur	6. Udaipur
3. Ranthambore	5. Jodhpur	

Delhi: Old and New Delhi come to life during visits to the Jama Masjid, Qutab Minar and the grandiose colonial district

Agra: Behold the love poem written in stone that is the Taj Mahal and explore the city's imposing Red Fort

Fatehpur Sikri: Release your inner Indiana Jones exploring this immaculately preserved Mughal imperial city, which was abandoned centuries ago

Ranthambore National Park: Keep an eye out for sambar deer, birds, eagles, crocodiles and the elusive Bengal tiger

Jaipur: Admire amazing Amber Fort, visit the dazzling City Palace and see the romantic Palace of the Winds

Jodhpur: Enjoy a city tour, visit Mehrangarh Fort and explore the Jaswant Thada cenotaphs

Aravalli Valley: Discover the elaborately decorated Jain temples of Ranakpur, which boast a majestic collection of sculptured reliefs

Udaipur: Visit the stunning City Palace, explore the old town and enjoy a cruise on Lake Pichola with a stop at the 'floating palace' of Jag Mandir

Delhi: End the experience on a high at the cultural extravaganza that is the Kingdom of Dreams

DON'T MISS

Delhi: Head to the Nizamuddin West area near the India Gate to check out the Sufi Nizamuddin Dargah mausoleum and hear some Quawwali music

Jodhpur: Savour mirchi vada, a spicy street snack, washed down with lassi (sweet buttermilk) while exploring Sadar market by the Ghanta Ghar clock tower

Agra: Hop on a horse-drawn 'tonga' carriage and enjoy a thrilling ride through the city's bustling market

DAY BY DAY

DAY 1 | DELHI

Arrival at Indira Gandhi International Airport for meet and greet by a Le Passage to India representative followed by transfer to your hotel. In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner along with informal interaction and a briefing session with the tour manager. Delhi is a bustling metropolis where the past and the present merge, and where the Old and the New cities define the capital's cultural and architectural heritage.

- **Overnight in Delhi hotel on a bed-and-breakfast basis.**

DAY 2 | DELHI

Enjoy a morning tour of Old Delhi after breakfast at the hotel, taking in some of the top historic sights and attractions in the capital. Visit the **Raj Ghat Gandhi memorial** en route to 17th century **Jama Masjid**, the largest mosque in India. Then enjoy a thrilling **rickshaw ride through the alleys of Chandni Chowk** market to experience the hustle and bustle of a crowded oriental bazaar. Afterwards, head to New Delhi to see the grandiose government district from the late Raj period. Built in the style known as the Delhi Order, the Presidential Palace, the Secretariat and the 42-metre-high India Gate represented the high point of British colonialism in India. Continue to **Bangla Sahib**, the capital's most important Sikh temple, which is known for its large community kitchen which daily serves food to thousands, irrespective of caste, creed and religion. In the afternoon, visit the 16th century **Humayun's Tomb**, the magnificent mausoleum of the second Mughal emperor. Travel further back in time at **Mehrauli Archaeological Park**, where there are more than 100 buildings from the onset of Muslim rule in India. The star attraction is **Qutub Minar**, which, at 73 metres, is the tallest brick minaret in the world, and one of the most important example of Indo-Islamic architecture.

- **Dinner and overnight in Delhi hotel on a half-board basis.**

DAY 3 | DELHI – AGRA (210km – 4.5 hrs)

Take to the road after breakfast at the hotel, driving southwards to Agra on the banks of the River Yamuna. Check-in on arrival. Later visit **Agra Fort**, whose forbidding red sandstone battlements hide a number of majestic Mughal palaces. Explore the delightful **Diwan-i-Am** (Hall of Public Audience) where the emperor sat on his throne to dispense to his subjects, and the **Diwan-i-Khas** (Hall of Private Audience) where he hosted kings and foreign dignitaries. The white marble **Mina Masjid** (Heavenly Mosque) stands in contrast to the rest of the Red Fort. Continue to the **Taj Mahal** for sunset, a truly mesmerising experience. Built in the mid-17th century by the heartbroken Shah Jahan following the death in childbirth of his queen, Mumtaz Mahal, this mausoleum is an eternal love poem written in stone. During the visit, you can admire the intricacy of the work of the 20,000 craftsmen who were brought from Persia, Turkey, France and Italy to build this astonishing monument.

- **Dinner and overnight in Agra hotel on a half-board basis.**



DAY 4 | AGRA – FATEHPUR SIKRI – SAWAI MADHOPUR (4.5 hrs total by road and rail)

Bid farewell to Agra after breakfast, heading to Fatehpur Sikri and then on to Bharatpur to catch the train to Sawai Madhopur. To wander the 'ghost city' of **Fatehpur Sikri** is to go back five centuries in time to the height of the Mughal Empire. This monumental walled city was built by Akbar the Great, the third emperor, to be his capital but it was abandoned within a few years of its completion due to a lack of water. Today, it is a remarkably well-preserved collection of red sandstone palaces, pavilions and mosques. Visit the **Jama Masjid** mosque, the **Tomb of Salim Chisti**, the **Panch Mahal** and other palaces, which speak of the grandeur and splendour of the Mughals. Continue to Bharatpur to board the Kota Jan Shatabdi Express (train number 12060) which departs at 15:45 hours and arrives at 18:00 hours in Sawai Madhopur, the gateway to the famous Ranthambore National Park. On arrival, transfer to your hotel for check-in.

- **Overnight in Sawai Madhopur hotel on a half-board basis.**

DAY 5 | RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK

Explore **Ranthambore National Park** on a canter safari after breakfast at the hotel. Ranthambore is located in what was originally the private hunting ground of the maharajas of Jaipur. The park features a varied geography of forested hills, sweeping grasslands and lakes, all under the shadow of the ruins of the hilltop Ranthambore Fort, more than 200 metres above the surrounding plain. The park's Bengal tigers are renowned for being fearless and roaming the park during the day. Other residents include leopards, striped Hyenas, sambar and chital deer, jackals, sloth bears, wild boars and more. Break for lunch and return to the park in the afternoon for yet more animal sightings. After the safari, return to the hotel.

- **Overnight in Sawai Madhopur hotel on a full-board basis.**

DAY 6 | SAWAI MADHOPUR – JAIPUR (185 km – 4.5 hrs)

Depart for Jaipur after breakfast at the hotel, arriving in the ‘Pink City’, as it is popularly known, at about lunchtime. Check-in on arrival with the rest of the afternoon at leisure.

- Dinner and overnight in Jaipur hotel on a half-board basis.

DAY 7 | JAIPUR

Breakfast at the hotel is followed by a morning tour of Amber Fort, stopping en route to see the spellbinding Hawa Mahal or Palace of the Winds. Located on a spur overlooking a lake, Amber Fort’s robust, time-ravaged walls appear imposing from the outside but they hide an interior packed with beautifully decorated palaces and temples, and landscaped gardens. Be dazzled by Sheesh Mahal, a room with all the four walls and the ceiling completely embedded with glittering mirror pieces. Admire the frescoes of the Ganesh Pol gate and the colonnade of the Diwan-i-Aam. Return to the old city to visit the **City Palace** and the beautiful palaces within such as the Chandra Mahal and Mubarak Mahal and the intricately decorated Peacock Gate. Also of interest is the Armoury Museum, which houses an impressive collection of antique weapons such as blunderbusses, flintlocks, swords, rifles and daggers, which belonged the royals. Return to hotel.

- Dinner and overnight in Jaipur hotel on a half-board basis.

DAY 8 | JAIPUR – JODHPUR (310km – 6 hrs)

Savour breakfast at the hotel before taking to the road for Jodhpur. On arrival, head to the hotel for check-in. Jodhpur is known as the ‘Blue City’ because of the indigo hues of the houses that encircle the base of the magnificent **Mehrangarh Fort**, which rises more than 100 metres above the old town. In the afternoon, a sightseeing tour of the city explores the fort, which houses a number of evocatively named palaces with meticulously carved panels and latticed windows. With structures from a five-century period, there is a wide variety of architectural styles and the chambers of Moti Mahal, Phool Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, the Sileh Khana and the Daulat Khana convey the splendour and glamour of a bygone era. Also visit the adjacent **Jaswant Thada**, a cluster of royal cenotaphs in white marble built in the late 19th century.

- Dinner and overnight stay in Jodhpur hotel on a half-board basis.

DAY 9 | JODHPUR – UDAIPUR (265 km – 5.5 hrs)

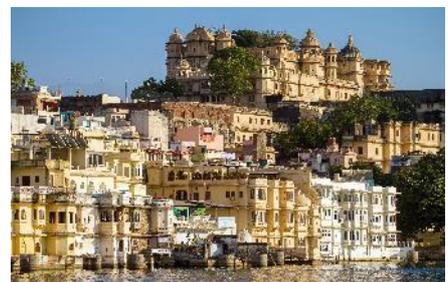
Embark on a spiritual journey after breakfast at the hotel, heading to the ‘White City’ of Udaipur, stopping en route to visit the temples of Ranakpur. Located in a remote and sparsely populated valley in the Aravalli Hills, the **Jain temples of Ranakpur** are among Rajasthan’s most impressive hidden treasures. The temples, which are in such pristine condition that they look almost new, date from the 15th century and were built to an astonishingly high standard of craftsmanship. The main temple, **Chaturmukha**, has more than 1,440 carved pillars supporting domes with intricate geometric patterns – and no two the pillars are the same. As the light shifts through the day, the pillars change in colour from white to bluish and then to golden hues. Then visit the Hindu **Surya Temple** and other Jain temples a short distance away before stopping for lunch at **Maharani Bagh Orchard Retreat**. Return to the road after eating to continue the drive to Udaipur. Check-in on arrival with rest of the day at leisure.

- Dinner and overnight stay in Udaipur hotel on a half-board basis.

DAY 10 | UDAIPUR

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before exploring Udaipur with a sightseeing tour. Located on the northern shore of Lake Pichola and surrounded by the green Aravalli Hills, the White City’s historic homes, temples and palaces speak of a noble past. Visit the **City Palace**, from where the maharajas of Mewar ruled their kingdom. Nowadays, it is a museum showcasing the lavish palaces in which the royals lived. Continue to **Saheliyon-ki-bari** (Garden of the Maids of Honour) which was where the royals hosted their exuberant parties and drive around **Fateh Sagar Lake**, past the Lok Kala Mandal puppet museum and the statue of Maharana Pratap. Board a boat for a scenic **cruise on Lake Pichola**, enjoying a new perspective of the city. See the City Palace, temples, bathing ghats and the two ‘floating’ palaces in the lake, alighting at **Jag Mandir** for a brief tour of this palace. Bask in the golden hues of the sunset as the boat returns to the quays before transferring to the hotel.

- Dinner and overnight stay in Udaipur hotel on a half-board basis.



DAY 11 | UDAIPUR – DELHI (by air)

Transfer to the airport after an early breakfast to catch the 08:10 hours flight to Delhi, arriving in the capital at 09:50 hours (Jet Airways flight 9W 2628). On arrival, transfer to hotel. In the evening, proceed to **Kingdom of Dreams**, a covered leisure and entertainment complex that recreates India's iconic regional locations, from a tavern in Goa to a backwater in Kerala, in a 'street of India'. Enjoy dinner at the venue before settling down for an exhilarating **dance and drama show at Nautanki Mahal** theatre. Cutting edge technology and visual effects combine to offer an opulent Bollywood-style musical show.

- Dinner and overnight stay in Delhi hotel on a half-board basis.

DAY 12 | DEPART DELHI

Breakfast at the hotel followed by transfer to Delhi Airport to board onward flight.

- Breakfast included.

END OF SERVICES

INCLUDED

TOUR GUIDE:

- Operated with local English-speaking guide throughout the tour

ACCOMMODATION:

- Eleven nights as indicated on a half-board basis

MEALS:

- Breakfast and dinner

TRANSPORT:

- Air-conditioned transportation and train from Bharatpur to Sawai Madhopur

ENTRANCE FEES AND ACTIVITIES:

- All monuments and parks as indicated: Raj Ghat, Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk rickshaw ride, New Delhi tour, Bangla Sahib temple, Humayun's Tomb and Qutab Minar in Delhi; Taj Mahal and Red Fort in Agra; Fatehpur Sikri; jeep/canter safari in Ranthambore National Park; Amber Fort and City Palace in Jaipur; Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur; Jain and Surya temples in Ranakpur; City Palace, Saheliyon-ki-bari and Lake Pichola boat cruise with Jag Mandir visit in Udaipur; Kingdom of Dreams show in Delhi

NOT INCLUDED

- Expenditures of a personal nature, drinks and meals if not stated explicitly in the programme
- Any airfare, airport taxes, supplement for which are quoted separately if applicable
- tips to drivers, local guides, and hotel staff
- Domestic airfare (given as supplement)
- Any service not listed above

RECOMMENDATIONS

Comfortable and light clothing is the most suitable for travelling in India. Visitors should not wear sleeveless shirts, shorts, short skirts or skimpy clothing when visiting temples, religious or official buildings. Shoes should be removed before entering a temple or private house. Sun protection, sun glasses, a hat and mosquito repellent can be very useful during your stay.