16 Day Tour Colourful Rajasthan

Asia Vacation Group - World Travel Expert!

Local knowledge, adventures of a lifetime.

Discover the world with our team of experts, and a carefully selected, value-packed exploration of world's most iconic destinations. Our tours offer must-visit sights, rich experiences and quality inclusions all at an unbeatable prices. Your bucket list dreams are ticked off on these all-encompassing vacations.

Travel with the confidence. Your trip has been carefully crafted by <u>our team</u> with you in mind and it's that same team that takes you on the journey. One amazing team to help and guide you, not only as your local travel expert but also as a friend with helpfulness and sincerity.

Specialists in world touring since 2015, <u>Asia Vacation Group</u> is proud to be the people who craft your itinerary, help you at each step, plus guide and operate your tour.

Returned Flight Included	7 Day Change Of Mind to Refund	Australian Company Owned
Small group Size		

Day by Day Itinerary

Delhi, Mandawa, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodphur, Udaipur, Jaipur, Agra, Delhi

HIGHLIGHTS

Discovery the incredible sightseeing including Old and New Delhi, the stunning golden city of Jaisalmer, Jodhpur's majestic Mehrangarh Fort, Udaipur – the City of Lakes, the little visited Jain Temples at Ranakpur, iconic Taj Mahal, Jaipur's Amber Fort and Palace of the Winds.

- Return flight included from Australia
- Comfortable group experience with no more than 16 persons
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of the tour
- 14-night at 4-star hotel accommodation
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily breakfast buffet
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- Tour guides are not available on bullet trains
- In-depth sightseeing and all entry fees as per the itinerary

ITINERARY

Day 1: Delhi Arrival

Welcome to India!

Upon your arrival in Delhi, our representative will greet you at Delhi International Airport and escort you to a waiting vehicle for transfer to your hotel.

After checking into your hotel & room allocation, the rest of your day/night is yours at leisure – free to roam and explore this amazing city & your hotels services.

Delhi is the capital city of India and is regarded as the heart of the nation. The city is popular for its enriched culture and heritage. The city hosts some famous historical monuments and is developing with the passing of time. Delhi is made up of about 15 cities, spanning the period from the 11th to 20th centuries.

Delhi is made up of about 15 cities, spanning the period from the 11th to 20th centuries. There is little left of the early cities. Old Delhi (Shahjahanabad) and New Delhi, the two most recent cities and the heart of modern Delhi, are relatively intact. Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan in 1650 switched the Mughal capital from Agra to Delhi. In 1911 King George V announced the transfer of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi.

Meals: In-flight meals

Accommodation: Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar 4* or similar

Day 2: Delhi

After breakfast, please be ready in the lobby of the hotel in preparation for a full day of touring. Enjoy a tour of **Old Delhi**, set in striking contrast to New Delhi. Here are very narrow streets with unregulated traffic of all kinds (where might is always right). Visit the **Jama Masjid** (Friday Mosque) opposite the Red Fort is the largest mosque in India & one of the greatest examples of the architectural extravaganza of the Mughal era.

We then enjoy a **rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk** (Silver Square), the main shopping street, and a legacy of the Mughal era. Pass through the spice market and discover examples of authentic Indian street food. Then we give you the opportunity to choose your own lunch.

Afterwards, we visit **Humayun's Tomb**, India's first garden-tomb, built in 1570 to honor Humayun, the second Mughal Emperor of India. Later, visit **Qutub Minar** – a tall tower, built to call the devout for prayer at an adjoining mosque.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Crowne Plaza Mayur Vihar 4* or similar

Day 3: Delhi - Mandawa

After breakfast & check-out, we embark on the next part of our journey – Mandawa.

Mandawa is the most happening village of entire Shekhawati, it was an earliest place which made to the Shekhawati tourism map. Maharao Shardul Singh Ji of Jhunjhunu gave this area to his Son Thakur Nawal Singh, who also founded Nawalgarh. Thakur Nawal Singh built the fort at Mandawa in 1755AD.

Later in the afternoon, you will get to visit **Mandawa Fort**, counted amongst the most beautiful forts in Rajasthan. It reflects the royalty, magnificence and splendour of the bygone period. The Mandawa fort has painted archways that are decorated with interesting forms of paintings of Lord Krishna along with his cowherds. We **also visit the Havelis** – There are many havelis in Mandawa. The Binsidhar Newatia Haveli is one of the famous haveli known for

its curious paintings. Inside the haveli, there are many beautiful and lively paintings.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Castle Mandawa Hotel 3* or similar

Day 4: Mandawa - Bikaner

At 09:00 AM be ready in the lobby of the hotel in preparation for your overland journey to Bikaner.

The dive takes approximately 04 hours.

Bikaner is a fortified desert city on the caravan routes which originate from Africa and West Asia. The fort, founded by Raja Rai Singh and one of the best preserved in Rajasthan, is noted for its harmonious design, giving it an air of graceful dignity. 37 palaces are housed inside the fort, and many of these are lavishly decorated.

This afternoon visit Junagarh Fort the fort was originally called Chintamani and was re- named Junagarh or "Old Fort" in the early 20th century when the ruling family moved to Lalgarh Palace outside the fort limits. The modern city of Bikaner has developed around the fort. The fort complex was built under the supervision of Karan Chand, the Prime Minister of Raja Rai Singh, the sixth ruler of Bikaner, who ruled from 1571 to 1611 AD. Also visit Lalgarh Palace in the evening.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Heritage Resort 3* or similar

Day 5: Bikaner - Jaisalmer

After breakfast & check-out we continue our journey to Jaisalmer.

An architectural gem in the dramatic setting of the Thar Desert, Jaisalmer was built in the 12th century by Prince Jaisal on a busy and flourishing caravan route. The wealth acquired by early settlers allowed later generations to build splendid palaces, thereby creating a town of astonishing beauty in inhospitable surroundings. Many of the settlement's finest yellow sandstone buildings date from the 16th – 19th centuries, and the town's intricate alleyways are adorned by beautiful havelis, intricately carved mansions commissioned by Jaisalmer's mercantile and ministerial elite.

After checking in you may wish to take a walk through the 'downtown' area, explore the back alleys and numerous markets.

Balance of the day at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Rawalkot Jaisalmer 4* or similar

Day 6: Jaisalmer

This morning, after breakfast, meet us in the lobby for a day sightseeing in Jaisalmer.

Today, visit the **Jaisalmer Fort**; a living urban centre, with about 3000 people residing within its walls. It is honeycombed with narrow winding lanes, lined with houses and temples – along with a large number of handicraft shops, guesthouses and restaurants. Also visit, **Patwaon Ki Haveli** which is an interesting piece of Architecture and is the most important among the havelis in Jaisalmer. In Jaisalmer, Patwas were very rich traders along the old silk route

This evening we take a **Camel Safari in the Sam or Khuri village followed by High Tea.** The journey takes you through the well-kept secrets of the desert – from nocturnal shades of the sun to ever changing colors of the vast sea of shimmering sand and barren land.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel Rawalkot Jaisalmer 4* or similar

Day 7: Jaisalmer - Jodhpur

After breakfast & check-out, we will meet in the lobby for your overland transfer to Jodhpur.

Jodhpur, the second largest city of Rajasthan, was once the capital of the Marwar state. It was founded in 1459 A.D. by Rao Jodha-chief of the Rathore clan of Rajputs who claimed to be descendants of Rama – hero of the epic 'Ramayana'. Jodhpur has a number of historical attractions and colourful markets which specialize in antiques. During the British Raj, the state of Jodhpur was the largest in Rajputana, by land area. Jodhpur prospered under the British Raj. Its merchants, the Marwaris, flourished endlessly. They came to occupy a dominant position in trade throughout India.

The rest of your day is free to relax & explore your hotel & surrounds.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Indana Palace Jodhpur 5* or similar

Day 8: Jodhpur

After breakfast, please be ready in the lobby for your day of touring.

We begin with a visit to the magnificent **Mehrangarh Fort**. 'Mehrangarh', meaning the Majestic Fort is one of the largest forts in India. Located at the center of the city the fort spreads over 3 miles. The magnificent fort was originally started by Rao Jodha in 1459. Most of the fort which stands today dates from the period of Jaswant Singh (1638-78). The fort houses some of the most intricately adorned palaces with exquisitely carved panels, latticed windows and brilliant stained glass.

This afternoon, enjoy a **Jeep Safari** where you will have the opportunity to witness rural tribal groups going about their daily lives, followed by lunch. Visit the adjoining villages where you will see weavers, potters and the tribal shepherds, the Bishnois. The **Bhishnois** were the protectors of nature for five centuries and arguably the world's first ecologists, responsible for the survival of species such as the blackbuck antelope: the semi-nomadic Raika shepherds of Marwar whose brilliant crimson and marigold costumes would put modern designers to shame; and the Paliwals and the Meghwals, the farmers and weavers.

The remainder of your day is at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Indana Palace Jodhpur 5* or similar

Day 9: Jodhpur - Udaipur

After breakfast & check-out we continue our amazing journey to Udaipur.

En route visit the **Ranakpur Jain Temples**. Renowned for some of the most marvellous carved temples in Amber stone, Ranakpur is one of the five holy places of the community. These temples were created in the 15th century A..D. during the reign of Rana Kumbha and are enclosed with a wall. The central 'Chaumukh' or four faced temple is dedicated to the venerated the Tirthankara Rishabhji. Open on all four sides, it enshrines the four faces image of Adinath. Sprawling over 48,000 sq. feet, the temple is an astounding creation with 29 halls and 1,444 pillars – all distinctly carved. Afterwards, we continue our drive to Udaipur, a cool oasis in the heart of Rajasthan. It is probably the most romantic city in a state where every city has some romantic or exotic tale to tell.

Keep this evening at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Arayna Vilas Udaipur 4* or similar

Day 10: Udaipur

This morning, meet us in the lobby for a full day discovery tour of Udaipur.

Set out on a **boat ride on Lake Pichola** (subject to water levels). There is no more delightful way to see this city. While boating in Lake Pichola, you will see the City Palace and its crenelated walls, draped gracefully along a high ridge. We then visit the **City Palace**, the largest palace complex in Rajasthan. Though it is a conglomeration of buildings built by successive rulers, it manages to retain a surprising uniformity of design and affords fine views of the lake and the city from upper terraces.

In the afternoon, we visit **Jagadish temple** which enshrines a black stone image of Lord Vishnu and his vehicle – a might bird called Garuda in a brass image. The temple is a very fine example of Indo-Aryan art. The temple is still in use and is visited by colourfully dressed pilgrims.

Your evening is at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Arayna Vilas Udaipur 4* or similar

Day 11: Udaipur - Jaipur

After breakfast & check-out, we say goodbye to Udaipur & continue our Rajasthani Discovery to Jaipur.

Enroute, take a stop at Pushkar for lunch – where you can choose your cuisine.

Jaipur is the capital of Rajasthan province. Everywhere you will see the monuments of its Mughal rulers. Jaipur is one of the main centers for shopping in India especially with regard to textiles, jewellery, stones carpets, etc. Enjoy day at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Ramada Wyndham Jaipur 4* or similar

Day 12: Jaipur

This morning after breakfast, be prepared in lobby of the hotel at **09:00 AM** for the sightseeing tour of Jaipur. We visit the **Amber fort**, which lies 7 km to the north of Jaipur. This mighty fort combines massive defences with delicate artistic details and is often a highlight of Jaipur. The fort stands at the top of a high ridge and Elephants & Jeeps transport visitors up to the main courtyard. Also, we will take a tour the famous **City Palace**, which is the official residence of the Maharajah (King) of Jaipur. The palace is centrally located and takes around 2 hours to fully explore all the staterooms, museums and art exhibitions. (Can you spot the Maharajah??) We also visit the solar observatory, next to the city palace, **Jantar Mantar**; and enjoy a brief stop at the **Hawa Mahal**, or Palace of Winds, a tall facade of almost one thousand windows, behind which royal ladies once took the air in privacy. Keep remainder of the day at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Ramada Wyndham Jaipur 4* or similar

Day 13: Jaipur - Agra

After a leisurely breakfast & check-out, we move to the next exciting city on our Rajasthani Discovery. Today we travel to the home of the most famous tour attraction in India!! Agra....

At the time of the Mughals, in the 16th & 17th centuries, Agra was the capital of the grand Mughal Empire. During this period the city became a leading centre of art, science, commerce and culture.

This afternoon we take you on a visually feast - a sunset visit to the Taj Mahal.

We then return to our hotel, where the rest of the night is yours to explore the city and your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Grand Mercure Agra 5* or similar

Day 14: Agra

At approximately 06:30 AM depart the hotel to visit the Taj Mahal during sunrise. (sub-ject to weather conditions. In Winters, the air is cool and fog can occur, if so you will visit the Taj during the day after the fog has worn off). After the sightseeing, return to hotel for breakfast. Keep the morning at leisure.

Later this afternoon visit the Agra Fort. It was the main residence of the emperors of the Mughal Dynasty till 1638, when the capital was shifted from Agra to Delhi. Enjoy the beautiful view of Taj Mahal from the fort, where Shah Jahan was a captured prisoner by his son. Later today, take a walking tour of Agra.

Get to know Agra the local way, by exploring the city's hidden lane-ways, bustling spice market, and religious mosques and temples, all with your feet to guide you. Sample treats at a 200-year-old sweets shop, hop on a cycle rickshaw, and learn why Hindu families dress their idols. Enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Grand Mercure Agra 5* or similar

Day 15: Agra - Delhi - Home

This morning at the decided upon time, be prepared in lobby of the hotel for your transfer to Delhi. Upon arrival in Delhi, you will be transfered to Delhi International Airport for your departure flight.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: On Plane

Day 16: Home

Today you will arrive back home. Asia Vacation Group would love to see you join us again for your next journey!! We hoped you enjoyed our discovery journey.

INCLUSIONS

- Return flights included from Australia
- Airport transfers included on the first and last day of tour
- 02 water bottles per person per day
- 14 night at 4-star hotel accommodation
- Dedicated transportation in comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles
- Daily Breakfast Buffet
- Fully escorted by English-speaking local guides
- In-depth sightseeing and all entry fees as per the itinerary

EXCLUSIONS

- Meals and drinks are not mentioned in the program
- Visa fee in India
- Tipping for driver and tour guide (AU\$12 per person/day)
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance (we strongly recommend you hold a valid travel insurance policy for all domestic and overseas travel)
- Trip delay or interruption by airline schedule change
- Extra cost or missing tour caused by flight delay or cancel
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the program

DEPARTURE DATES: PRICE IS QUOTED IN AU\$ PER PERSON

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Sunday 19 May 2024	Monday 03 Jun 2024	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 16 Jun 2024	Monday 01 Jul 2024	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 14 Jul 2024	Monday 29 Jul 2024	AU\$5,199		Book
Sunday 18 Aug 2024	Monday 02 Sep 2024	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 22 Sep 2024	Monday 07 Oct 2024	AU\$5,199		Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Sunday 06 Oct 2024	Monday 21 Oct 2024	AU\$5,149		Book
Sunday 20 Oct 2024	Monday 04 Nov 2024	AU\$4,899		Book
Sunday 10 Nov 2024	Monday 25 Nov 2024	AU\$4,949		Book
Sunday 24 Nov 2024	Monday 09 Dec 2024	AU\$4,999		Book
Sunday 22 Dec 2024	Monday 06 Jan 2025	AU\$4,999		Book
Sunday 05 Jan 2025	Monday 20 Jan 2025	AU\$5,599		Book
Sunday 16 Feb 2025	Monday 03 Mar 2025	AU\$5,049		Book
Sunday 09 Mar 2025	Monday 24 Mar 2025	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 23 Mar 2025	Monday 07 Apr 2025	AU\$4,899		Book
Sunday 06 Apr 2025	Monday 21 Apr 2025	AU\$5,199		Book
Sunday 20 Apr 2025	Monday 05 May 2025	AU\$5,197		Book
Sunday 04 May 2025	Monday 19 May 2025	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 18 May 2025	Monday 02 Jun 2025	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 08 Jun 2025	Monday 23 Jun 2025	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 20 Jul 2025	Monday 04 Aug 2025	AU\$5,199		Book
Sunday 10 Aug 2025	Monday 25 Aug 2025	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 24 Aug 2025	Monday 08 Sep 2025	AU\$4,799		Book
Sunday 14 Sep 2025	Monday 29 Sep 2025	AU\$5,149		Book
Sunday 28 Sep 2025	Monday 13 Oct 2025	AU\$5,199		Book

DEPART AU	RETURN DATE	PRICE	NOTE	RESERVE YOUR SEAT
Sunday 12 Oct 2025	Monday 27 Oct 2025	AU\$4,949		Book
Sunday 26 Oct 2025	Monday 10 Nov 2025	AU\$4,899		Book
Sunday 09 Nov 2025	Monday 24 Nov 2025	AU\$4,999		Book
Sunday 23 Nov 2025	Monday 08 Dec 2025	AU\$4,999		Book

OPTIONAL TOURS

FINE PRINT

FLIGHT INFORMATION

This package includes international flights from Sydney/Melbourne and surcharge from Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth or other city if requested when selecting your departure city.

Interstate Surcharge

Surcharge of \$400 for departures from Adelaide & Brisbane & and \$500 for departures from Perth

In this packages, we will use some different airlines such as: Air India, ... or similar (20/23kg for checked baggage per passenger and 7kg hand luggage per passenger, 01-piece check-in baggage).

- Some flights will require a minimum of 1 transit (maximum 2).
- All tickets will include 23 kilos checked baggage per person, along with 7 kilos of hand luggage.
- Despite the airlines baggage allowance, we recommend travelling with 20 kilos per person due to restrictions with internal flights (where applicable), as well as coach and train transportation. Also, you will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters is not included. If travelling over this amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable direct.
- Once ticketed, flights are non-refundable. Any changes will be subject to the airline rules, Airline change fees and an Asia Vacation Group change fee of \$250 per person.
- Full names as per passport (including all middle names) are required. Any error in the names submitted will be subject to an Asia Vacation Group name change fee of \$150 plus any applicable fees charged by the airline, or the ticket may be non-refundable with the purchase of a new ticket required.
- Any airline schedule changes or cancellations are beyond our control. It is important that you, as the customer, stay up-to-date with the latest airline schedule information prior to your departure. If a schedule change results in extended transits or an earlier/later departure from your destination, any additional accommodation or alternative arrangements will be at the traveler's expense.
- Any airline 'extras' such as pre-allocated seating is at your own arrangement (additional charges apply)
- After booking, the price payable may be subject to change as a result of factors beyond the control of Asia
 Vacation Group. Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to increase the price payable and this will be reflected on
 the customer's invoice. Increases may be in relation to, but not limited to, currency fluctuations, airline taxes,
 airfare increases and fuel surcharges.
- Internal airfares (where applicable and included in the itinerary) will be using a local carrier and may include low-cost carriers without meals or entertainment. Checked baggage will still be included for each passenger. Any additional baggage required is payable at time of check-in.
- If you are travelling with another party on a separate booking, we cannot guarantee that the same flights will be booked for all parties, as this strictly depends on availability.
- You will be responsible for handling your luggage at all times as the services of porters are not included. If travelling over the recommended amount, you will be liable for any excess baggage fees enforced by the airline, payable directly.

• In the event of that you no-show on your scheduled flight, please be aware the airline will require you to pay a no show fee, Airline reissue fee plus any additional airfare and taxes. Asia Vacation Group will also charge a \$250 admin fee to assist re accommodating you on the next available flight. Please note that depending on the airline's policy, purchasing a new ticket may be required.

Flight requests, amendments or preferences

We understand customers may wish to request changes to their included airfares. If you wish to fly with a certain airline, land at a certain time or change your flight in other ways we will gladly provide you with a personalized quote tailored to your specific requirements.

We would be more than happy to provide you with a quote for the following requests:

Airline Preferences - You may wish to fly with a particular airline

Cabin Preferences – These include upgrading to premium economy or business class

Extensions (start and end cities must remain the same) – You may request to extend your stay pre or post tour.

Meal Requests – You may request a specific meal for dietary requirements.

Seat Requests – If you would like to request particular seating. However please note, not all airlines allow the selection of pre-purchased seat arrangements.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Physical Requirements

A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

Tipping

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. Tipping is AU\$10/person per day. Tipping is collected by agent before travelling or the day of your arrival.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Single supplement is \$1,285 per person in addition to the twin share price.

Paired Solo Traveller

Not available.

Triple Share

Upon your request except for cruises

Group Size

2-16 people

Visa & Passport information

It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return and must have more than 2 blank pages.

A visa is required for travel to India, please visit: https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations/asia/india

Tour Documentation

Final documentation, including e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Tour Length

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

HOW TO EXTEND YOUR STAY

You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Pre Tour Accommodation

- \$250 per room, per night based on double/twin room share
- \$110 per vehicle for airport transfer

Post Tour Accommodation

- \$250 per room, per night based on double/twin room share
- \$110 per vehicle for airport transfer

Please select the number of extra nights required in the 'Additional Nights Accommodation' field when making your purchase. The additional cost for these arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

ASIA VACATION GROUP

Australia Call: 1800 229 339