

Earthbound Expeditions

Rajasthan Fort And Palaces India Tour

15 days, from US$1,297 per person

Duration	Group size	Country
15 days	**10 people**	**India**

Rajasthan Fort And Palaces India Tour Overview

Small group tour of North India: Rajasthan. This trip visits the best-known landmarks of Rajasthan, with their long history and impressive architecture, and gives you a taste of royal life.

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An overland journey through the palaces and forts of Rajasthan
This Rajasthan tour visits Delhi, Mandawa, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Ranakpur, Udaipur, Pushkar, Jaipur, Agra (Taj Mahal) and Delhi.

Rajasthan, India
Rajputana is a land of bright colours. Its great forts and ornate palaces show the wealth and power of the Maharajas who ruled here for centuries. Decorated with distinctive frescoes and intricate miniature paintings, the palaces of Rajasthan are the lasting legacy of the Rajputs, one of India's most colourful ruling dynasties.

On this tour, you see the frescoes of Mandawa, take a camel ride at sunset from Jaisalmer, and visit the walled city of Jodhpur and the lake city of Udaipur. You follow in the footsteps of the Maharajas (kings) and stay in some of their former residences as you explore Rajasthan with Earthbound Expeditions.

You can combine this India tour with a tour of Nepal or Bhutan.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Delhi

Our representative meets you at the international airport in Delhi and transfers you to the hotel.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, arrival day Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: Dinner

Day 2

Drive from Delhi to Mandawa

The drive from Delhi to Mandawa takes about five and a half hours.

Altitude: 320 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Mandawa Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3

Mandawa sightseeing and drive to Bikaner

After exploring Mandawa, we drive to Bikaner, 192 km from Mandawa.

Altitude: 240 m On foot: None, 4 hr drive Night: Hotel, Bikaner Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4

Bikaner sightseeing and drive to Jaisalmer

In Bikaner, we visit Junagarh Fort, built between 1589 and 1593 by Raja Rai Singh, a former ruler of Bikaner. The fort is built of red stone and decorated with intricate designs. We also visit the Karni Mata temple.

Altitude: 230 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Jaisalmer Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5

Jaisalmer sightseeing

Today you explore the ancient fortifications of Jaisalmer. Known as the 'Golden City' for its yellow sandstone architecture, it lies in the heart of the Thar Desert. We visit Jaisalmer Fort, which is considered by many to be the largest living fort in the world. It was built in 1156 by King Rawal Jaisal on a site that, according to legend, he chose on the advice of a local hermit. Its yellow sandstone walls reflect the distinctive culture of Rajasthan. In the evening, you can visit the sand dunes.

Altitude: 230 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Jaisalmer Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

Drive from Jaisalmer to Jodhpur

We drive to Jodhpur, 283 km from Jaisalmer.

Altitude: 230 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Jodhpur Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7

Jodhpur sightseeing and drive to Ranakpur

We start the day by exploring Jodhpur, the second-largest city in Rajasthan. The drive to Ranakpur takes about 2 hours and 46 minutes. We visit the Mehrangarh (Mehran) Fort, built around 1460 AD, which stands 125 metres above the city. It is known for its thick walls, and the palace inside has intricate carvings and large courtyards. We also walk around Jaswant Thada, a memorial known for its architecture.

Altitude: 490 m On foot: None, 3 hr drive Night: Hotel, Ranakpur Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8

Drive from Ranakpur to Udaipur

The road from Ranakpur to Udaipur passes through attractive scenery with good views.

Altitude: 600 m On foot: None, 2–3 hr drive Night: Hotel, Udaipur Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9

Udaipur sightseeing

Today you explore Udaipur, a city of marble known for its lakes, mosques and gardens. The City Palace stands on a hill overlooking Lake Pichola. The palace combines Rajput and Mughal architectural styles and was built about 400 years ago. We go up Pearl Hill to see the memorial to the Rajput warrior Maharana Pratap, where historical paintings explain Indian history. We also visit the Jagdish Temple, dedicated to Lord Vishnu, which is built in the Indo-Aryan style and known for its intricately designed pillars and decorated ceilings. There is an option of a boat trip on Lake Pichola and a cultural show at Bagore Ki Haveli.

Altitude: 600 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Udaipur Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10

Drive from Udaipur to Pushkar

We drive to Pushkar, which takes about 6 hours.

Altitude: 510 m On foot: None, 6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Pushkar Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11

Pushkar sightseeing and drive to Jaipur

Pushkar is one of the most interesting towns in Rajasthan. It is best known for its sacred lake, which, according to religious belief, was formed when Lord Brahma dropped a lotus flower. From Pushkar, we drive to Jaipur.

Altitude: 430 m On foot: None, 3 hr drive Night: Hotel, Jaipur Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 12

Jaipur sightseeing

After breakfast, we go to the Amber Fort, where you ride up on the back of an elephant. We then continue into Jaipur to visit its main monuments. The tour includes the Hawa Mahal, built in 1799 AD, which has 953 windows and is designed to resemble the crown of Krishna. You also see the Chandra Mahal, with its distinctive mix of Mughal and Rajasthani architecture, the Shri Govind Dev Temple and the City Palace Museum.

Altitude: 430 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Jaipur Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 13

Drive from Jaipur to Agra via Fatehpur Sikri

We drive to Agra, home of the Taj Mahal, visiting Fatehpur Sikri on the way. In Agra, you visit the Taj Mahal.

Altitude: 170 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Agra Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 14

Taj Mahal and drive to Delhi

In Agra we visit the Taj Mahal and then drive to Delhi, where we visit the Red Fort.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, 4 hr drive Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 15

Departure

After sightseeing, our representative takes you to the international airport in Delhi.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, departure day Night: No overnight Meals: Breakfast

What's included

- Accommodation in three-star hotels in the cities.
- Ground transport.
- Guided sightseeing as per the itinerary.
- Full-board meals throughout the tour.
- Government-trained guides and the necessary number of porters, with their insurance, salary and meals.
- Farewell dinner with a cultural show.
- Car, bus and domestic flights.

Not included

- International flights.
- Museum entrance fees.
- All personal expenses such as bar bills, drinks and snacks.
- Airport taxes.
- Extra showers, battery charging, laundry, etc.
- Personal clothing and equipment.
- Tips for guides and porters.
- We are not responsible for costs arising from cancellations, landslides, weather, political unrest or illness.

Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: earthbound.rajansimkhada.com/rajasthan-fort-and-palaces-tour