

# Golden Triangle of Rajasthan

## Day 01: Cochin – Mumbai- Udaipur by flight

Today we are transferred to Cochin Airport for our flight to Udaipur via Mumbai. Upon arrival in Udaipur we are transferred to our hotel. Rest of the day is free for relax. **Overnight: Hotel in Udaipur (2 Nights) (D)**

## Day 02: Udaipur

Today we visit the enchanting City Palace, which overlooks the Lake Palace located in the blue waters of Lake Pichhola. The palace features several architectural and artistic treasures, such as the stunning peacock mosaics in the Mor Chowk and the murals of the Bhim Vilas Palace. We then visit the Jagdish Temple, to view some remarkable friezes dating back to 1651. Next, we explore Fateh Sagar Lake and Saheliyon Ki Bari, the Garden of Maids. We end our tour of Udaipur with a boat ride on Lake Pichhola, sailing past the picturesque Ghats and palaces and visit Jag Mandir, a 17th century palace built on an island in Lake Pichhola. The royal family used the palace as a summer resort and a pleasure palace for holding parties. **(B, D)**

## Day 03: Udaipur- Ranakpur- Jodhpur (Drive: 290 Km/ 06 Hours)

After breakfast we drive to Jodhpur. En-route we visit Ranakpur. Ranakpur is named after Rana Kumbha whom Dharna Sah, a Jain businessman, approached when he had the vision of his great temple to ask for the land for its construction. Renowned for some marvellously carved Jain temples in amber stone, Ranakpur is amongst the five holiest places of the Jain community and exceptional in beauty. We visit the famous Ranakpur temples, constructed in the AD 1439. The Ranakpur Jain Temple was built during the reign of the liberal and gifted monarch Rana Kumbha in the 15th century. An enormous basement covers 48,000 sq. feet area. There are four subsidiary shrines, twenty-four pillared halls and eligibly domes supported by over four hundred columns. The total number of columns is 1,444 all of which are intricately carved no two being alike. The artistically carved nymphs playing the flute in various dance postures at a height of 45 feet are an engrossing sight. In the assembly hall, there are two big bells weighing 108 Kilograms whose sound echoes in the entire complex. After visiting Ranakpur, we drive to Jodhpur. On arrival we check in our hotel. **Overnight: Hotel in Jodhpur (02 Nights) (B, D)**

## Day 04: Jodhpur

Our experience of Jodhpur starts with a visit Mehrangarh Fort, one of the largest forts in India. The fort is situated 400 feet (122 m) above the city and is enclosed by imposing thick walls. Inside its boundaries there are several palaces known for their intricate carvings and expansive courtyards. We enter through the Gate of Victory (Jaipol) and explore the series of courtyards and palaces decorated with beautiful terracotta lattice work. The museum in the fort has one of the best collections of the splendid trappings of Indian royalty, including some amazing elephant's howdahs (essential for glittering processions), miniature paintings and the inevitable Rajput armory and ephemera from ivory inlaid ladies dumbbells to camel bone carpet weights. Later we visit Jaswant Thada, a white marble memorial to Maharaja Jaswant Singh II with an array of whimsical domes, and the beautifully landscaped Mandore Gardens and the museum at the Umaid Bhawan Palace, now a luxury hotel. **(B, D)**

## Day 05: Jodhpur – Jaipur (Drive: 340 Km/ 07 Hours)

After breakfast, we drive to Jaipur. On arrival, we are transferred to our hotel. The remainder of the day is free. **Overnight: Hotel in Jaipur (02 Nights) (B, D)**

## Day 06: Jaipur

This morning we are treated like the royalty of yesteryear with an elephant ride to Amber Fort, located in a valley formed by a range of Aravallis known as Kalikho hills. The Palace and Fort are located on top of the hill with the city on slopes, and the valley protected by fort walls with four gates in the four cardinal directions. The

construction of the fort began in 1592. It shows the evolution from the purely defensive fort settlements of the early medieval period to the palace fortress type of architecture typified in the 16th century. This palace fortress was never attacked or invaded. The fort comprises of number of gardens, courtyards and palatial spaces derived from Mughal architecture and are a distinguished example of 17th Century Rajput architecture. We return to Jaipur to visit the majestic City Palace, which houses a rare collection of Indian art and the beautiful Hawa Mahal, the Palace of Winds, where the ladies of the royal harem used to watch the city from behind the intricately carved facade. We also visit the Jantar Mantar\*, an astronomical observation site built in the early 18th century that includes a set of some 20 main fixed instruments designed for the observation of astronomical positions with the naked eye. It is an expression of the astronomical skills and cosmological concepts of the court of a scholarly prince at the end of the Mughal period. The evening is free to enjoy both shopping and the cultural experience in the bazaars. Jaipur is noted for its craftsmen, skilled in brass inlay, lacquer work and stone setting. **(B, D)**

#### **Day 07: Jaipur – Fatehpur Sikri – Agra (Drive: 245 kms / 6 hrs)**

After breakfast we drive to Agra en-route visiting Fatehpur Sikri, the beautiful capital built in 1640 by the Mughal King, Akbar the Great. The city was later abandoned for lack of water. A superb example of Mughal architecture, it stands perfectly preserved in the desert. We also visit the artistically designed mausoleum of Salim Chisty who is reputed to have prayed for a son for Akbar leading to the birth of Salim Jehangir. From here we proceed to Agra, the city of Taj. On arrival in Agra we check in our hotel. **Overnight: Hotel in Agra (2 Nights) (B, D)**

#### **Day 08: Agra**

To many today is the most awaited day. We begin our day before sunrise with a visit to one of the most beautiful monuments in the world, the Taj Mahal\*. An immense mausoleum of white marble built between 1631 and 1648 by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favourite wife, the Taj Mahal is the crown jewel of Muslim art in India and across the world. Set in a vast Mogul garden located on the right bank of the Yamuna River, this funerary monument combines elements and styles of Persian, Central Asian and Islamic architecture. After our sunrise experience at this artistic masterpiece, we return to our hotel for breakfast. Later we visit Agra Fort\*. This powerful fortress of red sandstone encompasses, within its 2.5-km-long enclosure walls, the imperial city of the Mughal rulers. It comprises many fairy-tale palaces, audience halls and two very beautiful mosques.

In the evening we visit Mehtab Bagh, The Garden complex, situated on the opposite bank of the Taj Mahal, is known as Mehtab Bagh, or “The Moonlight Garden”. Recent excavations revealed a huge octagonal tank furnished with 25 fountains, a small central tank and a baradari (twelve door) on the east. The site is also associated with the myth of black Taj, but the excavations have provided ample evidence for a garden complex. This is also corroborated by a letter of Aurangzeb, addressed to Emperor Shah Jehan stating the condition of this garden after a flood in 1652 AD. **(B, D)**

**Please note, Taj Mahal remains closed on Friday.**

#### **Day 09: Agra- Delhi (Drive: 220 Km/ 04 Hours)**

After breakfast, we drive to Delhi. On arrival we check in our hotel. In the afternoon we explore Old Delhi, starting with the Red Fort Complex\*. Named for its massive enclosing walls of red sandstone, it is adjacent to an older fort, the Salimgarh, built by Islam Shah Suri in 1546, with which it forms the Red Fort Complex. The Red Fort is considered to represent the zenith of Mughal creativity which, under the Shah Jahan, was brought to a new level of refinement and each pavilion reveals architectural elements typical of Mughal building, reflecting a fusion of Persian, Timurid and Hindu traditions.

After visiting the Red fort, we embark on a captivating journey on a Rickshaw passing through the narrow lanes of the famous Chandni Chowk Bazaar, it was originally built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jehan for his daughter Jahan Ara in 17<sup>th</sup> Century since then many changes have taken place however it remains Old Delhi's one of the Oldest and busiest markets in Delhi. Finally end our rickshaw ride at Jama Masjid, Mughal majesty and India's largest

mosque. After visiting the mosque, we proceed to Raj Ghat, the cremation site of Mahatma Gandhi. **Overnight: Hotel in Delhi (2 Nights) (B, D)**

**Please Note: Red fort is closed on Monday and Chandni Chowk is closed on Sunday**

**Day 10: Delhi**

Morning is free for personal activities.

Afternoon we take tour of New Delhi and visit the famous India Gate followed by the Houses of Parliament, Connaught Place and Humayun's Tomb\*, the first garden-tomb on the Indian subcontinent, built in 1570. We continue to Qutb Minar and its Monuments\* Built in the early 13th century the red sandstone tower of Qutb Minar is 72.5 m high. The surrounding archaeological area contains funerary buildings, notably the magnificent Alai-Darwaza Gate, a masterpiece of Indo-Muslim art and two mosques.

After the tour, we take farewell dinner at local famous Indian restaurant. After farewell dinner, we are transferred to back to hotel. **(B, D)**

**Day 11: Delhi – Onward Destination by Flight**

Today we are transferred to airport for our flight to onward destination.

\*\*\*\*\*End of our Services\*\*\*\*\*

\* Denotes a UNESCO World Heritage Site

**B= Breakfast, D = Dinner**

**Hotels envisaged**

City	Hotels
Udaipur (2 Nights)	jüSTa Sajjangarh Resort - 4 Star (Superior Room)
Jodhpur (02 Nights)	ITC WelcomHotel- 5 Star (Deluxe Room)
Jaipur (2 Nights)	Shiv Vilas – 5 Star (Elegant Room)
Agra (2 Nights)	Taj Hotel & Convention Centre- 5 Star (Superior Room)
Delhi (2 Nights)	Vivanta New Delhi, Dwarka – 5 Star / Radisson Blu New Delhi Dwarka- 5 Star (Superior Room)

**Standard Inclusions:**

- Accommodation on twin- share basis in the mentioned hotels or Similar (10 Nights).
- Daily buffet breakfast & dinner as per the itinerary.
- Transport in air- conditioned vehicle for all sightseeing tours, arrival and departure transfers as per the itinerary.
- Boat ride at Lake Pichhola (Common Boat)
- Rickshaw ride at Old Delhi
- Elephant ride at Amber fort –Jaipur (Subject to availability)
- Entrances to the monuments of visit as per the itinerary
- Assistance on arrival / departure

- Services of local English-speaking guide for the sight-seeing as per the itinerary.
- All currently applicable taxes, including GST @ 5%

**Price DOES NOT Include:**

- International Airfare, visa fees, airport tax or any kind of insurance cover.
- Domestic Airfare in Economy class (**Supplement quoted above**)
- Items of personal nature like drinks, laundry, telephone calls, tips, etc.
- Any other meals than those mentioned in the itinerary.
- Liability for change in itinerary due to reasons beyond our control like change in schedule / cancellation of flights / trains / political disturbances, natural phenomenon etc.
- Any other item not specifically mentioned above as 'INCLUDED'

**General Conditions:**

- **The prices are on Per Person basis in AUD, net & non-commissionable.**
- All prices are subject to any revision of tax and tariff structure.
- In case there is a further fuel hike we will be forced to charge a fuel surcharge.
- Please note that smoking is prohibited in public and all parts of the hotels except in designated areas and bedrooms, where smoking is permitted. Should you desire a smoking bedroom, please let us know. The fulfilment of this request is subject to availability.
- Unless specified, check-in at hotels in India is at 14:00 Hrs and check out is at 12:00 Hrs
- Our liability does not arise in case of Force Majeure (political disturbances, natural phenomenon etc.)
- Reporting time at the Domestic airport is generally 2 hrs prior to departure of flight
- Reporting time at the International at airport is generally 3 hrs prior to departure of flight
- Check-in counters of most flights close approximately 45 minutes before departure and boarding gates close about 15 minutes prior departure
- Kindly note that names of hotels mentioned above only indicate that our rates have been based on usage of these hotels and it is not to be construed that accommodation is confirmed at these hotels until and unless we convey such confirmation to you. In the event of any of the above-mentioned hotels not becoming available we shall book alternate accommodation at a similar or next best available hotel and shall pass on the difference of rates (supplement/reduction whatever applicable) to you.
- For booking domestic air seats we need exact passport name.
- Baggage allowance in domestic flights is 15 Kg per person