

Hidden Rajasthan



a 12 day bicycle tour in India

Join us for an experience of a lifetime in northern India's most colourful and exotic state. Explore forts, palaces, temples, city monuments in Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Pushkar & more. Search for tigers in the forests on game drives through Sariska National Park. Journey by camel into the vast Thar Desert and camp in luxury amongst the rolling sand dunes and vast vistas. It's the perfect way to gain real insight into the many faces of Rajasthan.

Day by Day Itinerary

Day 1 - Arrive Delhi, Afternoon Sightseeing

Arrive Delhi by flight, meet at airport & transfer to hotel. Afternoon proceed for half-day sightseeing of Delhi to visit Jama Masjid - the largest mosque of Old Delhi built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. Then drive past the Red Fort - red sandstone citadel of Shah Jahan and arrive at Rajghat - a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi located on the bank of Yamuna River. Afterwards drive past the Colonial buildings such as Rashtrapati Bhawan - the 130 hectare estate built by British architect Edwin Lutyens in the year 1931, which comprised in it the official residence of President of India, large halls, guest rooms and offices, huge presidential gardens (Mughal Gardens) within its perimeter walls; Parliament House and India Gate - also known as 'All India War memorial', it is a 42m high war memorial located astride the Rajpath and dedicated to the soldiers who died during the First World War.

Day 2 - Drive to Sariska, Afternoon Safari

Early morning drive to Sariska (4 - 5hrs drive), reach & check in to hotel. Afternoon ride your bicycle up to the Sariska National Park gate (15Kms cycling) and proceed for game drives by open jeeps and explore the flora and fauna of the park. After the safari return to hotel either by coach or by bicycle.

Day 3 - Drive & Cycle to Jaipur (Cycling Starts)

A combination of cycling and transfer as one heads to the 'Pink city of Rajasthan'. Cycle for 85kms to Jamwa Ramgarh, board the coach and drive to Jaipur, reach & check in to hotel. Rest of day free to relax.

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Day 4 - Jaipur - Cycle to Nahargarh, Jaipur Sightseeing

Early morning get on to your cycle and ride (approx. 20kms) up a hill to Nahargarh Fort - built in 1734 by Sawai Jai Singh II as a retreat from the heat of the city. The effort will be rewarded with magnificent views of whole Jaipur. Late morning Jaipur sightseeing starting with a visit of Amer Fort – the hilltop fort built by Kachwaha dynasty ruler Man Singh. Later visit City Palace – the palace complex of Kachwaha Rajput clan which is a perfect blend of Rajasthani and Mughal architecture. Further visit Jantar Mantar (Solar Observatory) - an astronomical treasure house with solar devices that give accurate predictions till date. Drive past Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) - a five-storied structure of pink sandstone, specially built for the women of royal household to observe the street festivities without being noticed from outside. Later explore the local market.

Day 5 - Drive & Cycle to Pushkar

After breakfast drive to Naraina (1 – 1.5hrs drive). From here start cycling (approx. 95kms) through desert back roads and villages to Pushkar, reach & check into hotel.

Day 6 - Pushkar Sightseeing, Drive & Cycle to Kumbhalgarh

After breakfast Pushkar sightseeing to visit Pushkar lake & Brahma temple – the only Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Brahma. Later drive through the main highway up to the cycling starting point. Get on to the cycle and ride (approx. 65kms) through rural back roads and villages up to Kumbhalgarh, reach & check in to hotel.

Day 7 - Kumbhalgarh Sightseeing, Cycle to Ranakpur, Visit Ranakpur temple

After breakfast visit Kumbhalgarh Fort - one of the finest examples of defensive fortifications in Rajasthan with lovely temples and palace and offering panoramic views of rural Rajasthan. Later cycle (approx. 50kms) to Ranakpur, reach & check in to hotel. Afternoon visit the beautiful 15th century Ranakpur Jain temple - the main temple, beautifully carved from marble, has 29 halls supported by 1444 pillars, each delicately carved with a different design.

Day 8 - Drive & Cycle to Jodhpur (Cycling Ends)

After breakfast cycle (approx. 80kms) through the back roads and fascinating villages up to the main highway, from where board the coach and drive to Jodhpur, reach & check in to hotel.

Day 9 - Jodhpur Sightseeing, Drive to Jaisalmer

After breakfast start sightseeing to visit Mehrangarh Fort – one of the largest & magnificent forts

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in India enclosed by imposing thick walls, & Jaswant Thada – the royal cenotaph and an architectural brilliance. Later drive to Jaisalmer (5 – 6hrs drive), reach & check in to hotel.

Day 10 - Jaisalmer Sightseeing, Drive to Desert Camp, PM Camel Safari

After breakfast visit to Jaisalmer Fort – a living urban center honeycombed with narrow winding lanes. Visit the Fort Palace – elegant seven storied palace of former rulers, towering over fort's main square. Later explore the beautiful Havelis (old mansion) famous for their intricate carvings like Patwon ki-haveli, Salim Singh ki-haveli, etc. After sightseeing drive to Desert Camp, reach & check in. Late afternoon camel safari through the sand dunes and enjoy beautiful sunset over the desert.

Day 11 - Desert Camp -Sunrise camel safari, Depart Jaisalmer, Fly to Delhi

Early morning start sunrise jeep safari on the dunes and also see the rural villages in the Thar desert. Later departure to Jaisalmer airport for flight to Delhi. Meet & transfer to hotel.

Day 12 - Depart Delhi

After breakfast transfer to airport for flight to onward destination.

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Hotels:

The tour uses 4 & 5 star hotels.

What's Included:

- 11 nights Accommodation in the area's better hotels (double occupancy)
- Most meals from Dinner on Day 1 until Breakfast on Day 12
- Water, sodas or beer included at dinner
- Bicycle
- Service of bilingual Team Pedalers Guide(s)
- Sightseeing and cultural activities
- Airport pick up & drop off

Meeting & Flights:

Your guides will meet any flight during the day on your arrival day.

Fly into Delhi (DEL) before 11 am on Day 1

Fly out of Delhi (DEL) after 10 am on Day 16

Visas & Travel Documents:

Passports and visas are required for all guests. Your passport should have at least 6 months validity past your intended travel dates. Visas can be obtained in advance from the nearest India Embassy or Consulate.

Citizens of the US can now apply for an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) at least four days prior to traveling in lieu of a traditional visa. Citizens of the UK can apply for a 2-Entry eVisa online through the India Embassy. Other electronic visa programs are coming for other countries, please check with your nearest India Embassy or Consulate.