

## THE ROCKS TRAVEL'S LADIES GROUP TOUR & COST VALIDITY BETWEEN 05 - 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

Route Summary: **Delhi \* Agra \* Ranthambhore \* Jaipur \* Jodhpur \* Udaipur \* Mumbai**

DAY 01, TUE 05 SEP 2017 – ARRIVE DELHI

### Arrive Delhi.

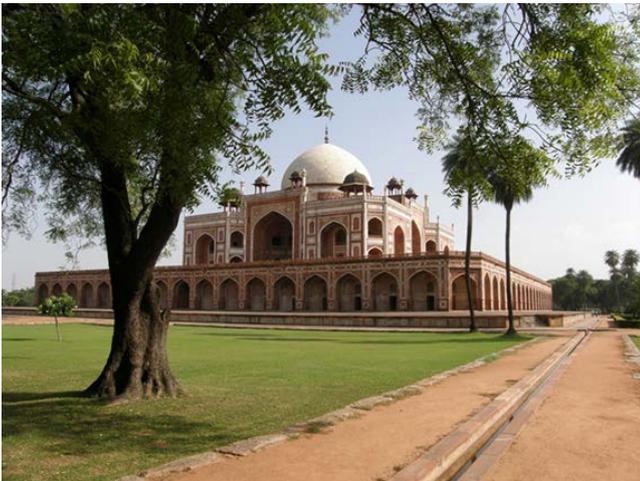
On arrival, after clearing immigrations, you will be met by our representative and escorted to your hotel.

Delhi, the capital and the third largest city of India, is a fusion of ancient and modern. Standing at the western end of the Gangetic Plain, it is a vibrant city rich in culture, architecture, beautiful gardens and human diversity. Its rich history is reflected in magnificent monuments, in museums and in galleries. It comprises two contrasting yet harmonious parts, Old Delhi and New Delhi.

Old Delhi was the capital of Muslim India from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, while New Delhi was created by the British Raj and replaced Calcutta as the capital in 1931. It is India's main international gateway, and the travel hub of Northern India.

Check in the hotel and spend rest of the day at leisure (*No vehicle for local use*).

### Overnight in Delhi



Full day city tour of **Old and New Delhi**.

The sightseeing of **Old Delhi** includes Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk, Red Fort and Raj Ghat.

**Jama Masjid:** This great mosque is the largest in India, built by Shah Jahan between 1644 and 1658. With a courtyard capable of holding 25,000 devotees, the highly decorative mosque has three great gates, four towers and two 40 metre high minarets constructed of alternating strips of red sandstone and white marble.

**Chandni Chowk:** Chandni Chowk, the bustling oriental bazaar, is next to the Red Fort and Jama Masjid. It was built in 1650 by Shah Jahan's favourite daughter, Jahanara Begum, as a complement to the imperial habitat, the Red Fort.

**Drive Past Red Fort:** The red sandstone walls of the massive Red Fort (Lal Qila) stretch some two kilometres and rise to 33 meters above the clamour of Old Delhi. It was a fort and royal residence, and a striking reminder of the magnificent power of the Mughal emperors (**Closed on Mondays**).

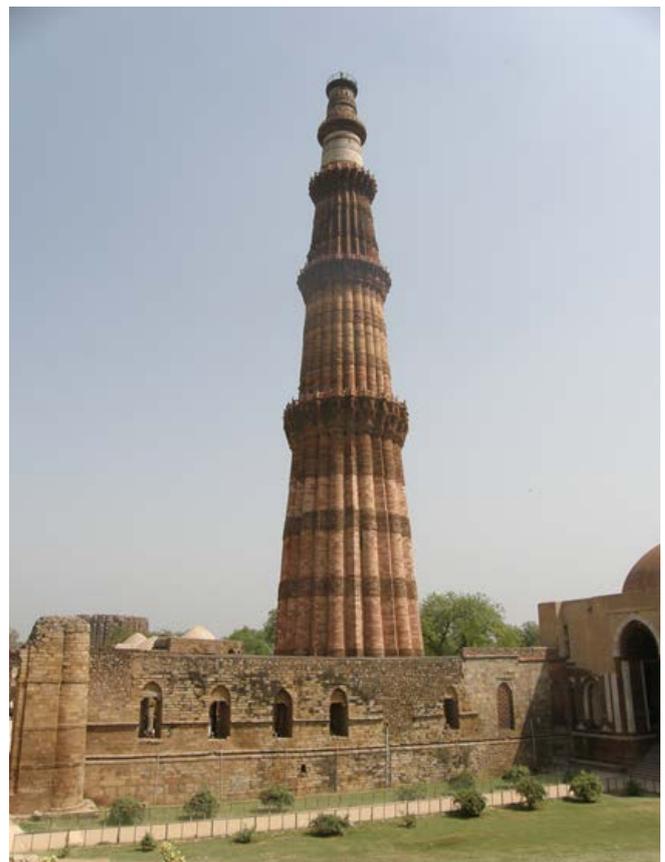
**Raj Ghat:** Set in a lovely garden a black marble platform on the banks of the Yamuna River marks the place where "the father" of the Nation, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi) was cremated after being assassinated in 1948.

**Later start for the sightseeing of New Delhi** includes the Qutab Minar, Humayun's Tomb, India Gate and a drive past various Government buildings including Parliament House and Rashtrapati Bhawan

**Qutab Minar:** An excellent example of Afghan architecture, the Qutab Minar is a soaring, 73 metre high tower of victory. Started in 1193 by Qutab-uddin Aibak, immediately after the defeat of Delhi's last Hindu kingdom, it was completed by his successors. Gracefully hand-carved for its entire height, it has five distinct storeys, each marked by a projecting balcony and tapers from a 15-metre diameter at the base to just 2.5 metres at the top. The lower three storeys are red sandstone, while the upper two are of marble and sandstone.

**Humayun's Tomb:** Built in 1565 A.D. nine years after the death of Humayun, by his senior widow Bega Begam. Refined over the years, this striking and beautiful tomb's design evolved into the Taj Mahal. Notable feature are the centrally located well proportional mausoleum topped by double dome and the garden squares (chaharbagh) with their pathways water channels.

**India Gate:** At the eastern end of the Raj Path in New Delhi stands the 42 metre high India Gate. An "arch of triumph it commemorates and bears the names of



the 90,000 Indian soldiers who lost their lives during the World War I and North West Frontier (Afghan) campaigns.

Conclude your evening with visit to **Dilli Haat**.

The **DILLI HAAT** provides the ambience of a traditional Rural Haat or village market, but one suited for more contemporary needs. This Food and Craft Bazar is a treasure house of Indian culture, handicrafts and ethnic cuisine, A unique bazaar, in the heart of the city, it displays the richness of Indian culture on a permanent basis.



**DAY 03, THU 07 SEP 2017 – DELHI / AGRA (SURFACE 4-5HRS APPROX.) (B)**

Following your breakfast, check out from your hotel and **drive to Agra**.

**Agra** was the capital of the Afghan King Sikandar Lodhi's empire from 1501. It passed to the Mughal's soon after and in 1526 Emperor Babar transformed Agra, giving it a unique character and beauty. A great patron of the arts, he made changes to the culture and life-style of his people, which in turn brought forth some of the finest craftsmen, artists, statesmen, warriors and nobility ever seen in this part of India.



Over the next few centuries Agra witnessed a rise in pomp and pageantry under the rule of three great Mughal monarchs - Emperors Akbar, Jehangir and Shah Jahan. All lavished their love and riches on this fabled city, making it one of the great centres of art, culture, learning and commerce.

**Arrive Agra**, check in at the hotel.

Later proceed for **Sunset visit to the Taj Mahal**.

**Taj Mahal** was built by Shah Jahan between 1631 to 1653 in memory of his queen, Mumtaz Mahal, to enshrine her mortal remains. This architectural marvel is a perfectly proportioned masterpiece fashioned from white marble and in-laid with precious and semi-precious stones.

It stands testimony to the skill of some 20,000 craftsmen brought together from Persia, Turkey, France and Italy, and who laboured for 22 years to complete this 'Love Poem in Marble'. **(Closed on Fridays)**.



**Overnight in Agra**

Post breakfast visit **Agra Fort & Itimad-Ud-Daulah Tomb.**

**Agra Fort** was built principally as military establishments by Akbar in 1565. However it was partially converted into a palace during Shah Jahan's reign. Though Akbar built the original structure, his grandsons made many additions. This powerful fortress encompasses the imperial city of the Mughal rulers within its 2.5 kilometre enclosure walls.

**Itimad-Ud-Daulah** This is the first example of Mughal architecture using marble. It was built by Empress Nur Jahan, in memory of her father Ghias-Ud-Din Beg, between 1622 and 28. She was daughter-in-law of Emperor Akbar, and he the grandfather of Mumtaz Mahal. A graceful building much smaller than the Taj Mahal is also the first example in Mughal architecture of a building faced entirely in marble. The in-lay work is exquisite.

Afterwards check out and **drive to Bharatpur**, en-route visit **Fatehpur Sikri**.

**Fatehpur Sikri:** Located 40 Km from Agra, it was built by Emperor Akbar in 1569, in honour of the great Saint Sheikh Salim Chisti, who blessed Akbar and prophesied the birth of a son, who later became Emperor Jehangir. It is in a superb and complete state of preservation, and within the walls are palaces and the Jama Masjid. The main entrance is the 54 metre high Buland Darwaza, the Gate of Victory.

Later board your **train to Ranthambhore (Sawai Madhopur)**.



Sector	Train Details	Departure	Arrival	Class
Bharatpur / Ranthambhore	12060 – Kota Janshtbdi	1550 Hrs	1802 Hrs	Ac Chair Car

Upon arrival in **Ranthambhore**, you will be met by our representative & transferred to your hotel.

**Ranthambore National Park** encompasses nearly 400 sq km of dry deciduous forest. The park's name derives from the fortress of Ranthambhore (built in 944 AD), which sits on a rocky outcrop in the forest. The forests around the fort were once the private hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur.

In 1957 Ranthambhore was declared a wildlife sanctuary. Today it has some of the finest habitats in the world and is rich with diverse flora and fauna.

Dinner at the lodge.

**Overnight in Ranthambhore**



**Breakfast, lunch & dinner at the lodge.**

**Morning & afternoon game drive by exclusive gypsy.**

Morning & evening game drives in Ranthambore National Park. The park's mammal list includes tiger, sambar, cheetal, nilgai, wild boar, chinkara, langoor, leopard, sloth bear, hyena and jackal. There are many species of reptiles and amphibians including python, cobra and other snakes, fresh water crocodile, monitor lizard and tortoises. Walking is prohibited inside the park.

**Overnight in Ranthambhore**



**Morning game drive by exclusive gypsy.**

**Post breakfast & lunch, check out and drive to Jaipur.**

**Jaipur** is the state capital of Rajasthan and owes its name, planning and foundation to the Maharaja Jai Singh II. In 1727 he decided to move from his hillside fortress at Amber to the plains, and thus Jaipur was conceived. It is also known as the "Pink City", derived from the pink painted sandstone from which the buildings in the old walled city are constructed. The city is endowed with great architectural elegance and beauty, with magnificent historic palaces, temples, gardens, museums and an amazing observatory built by Jai Singh.

**Arrive Jaipur**, check in the hotel and spend your day at leisure.

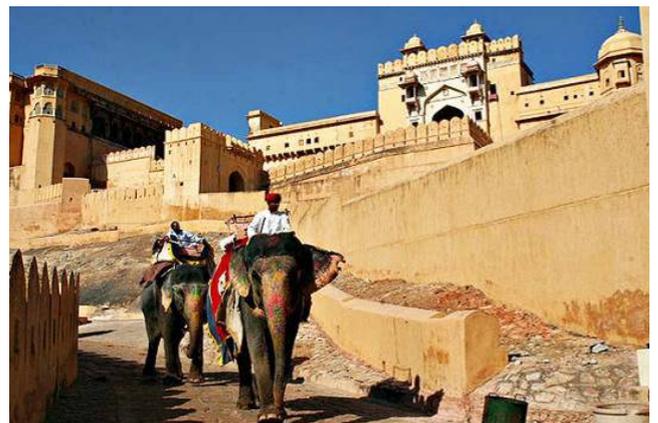
**Overnight in Jaipur**



Breakfast at the hotel.

**Full day sightseeing of Jaipur.**

**Morning, sightseeing of Amber Fort with elephant ride:** Seven miles outside the city, in the rugged hills that surround Jaipur, is the magnificent Amber Fort. An elephant will take you up the steep road to the fort, passing through huge gateways and pillared pavilions. This Rajput Fortress/Palace was constructed from 1592 by Raja Man Singh II, and is a superb example of Rajput architecture. Within the Fort is Jai Mandir (Sheesh Mahal - Palace of Mirrors), renowned for its architectural designs using mirrors of varied shapes and sizes in the intricate design of its wall decoration.



**Anokhi Museum:** In the Amer Fort's shadow and a mere ten minute walk through the cobbled streets of Amber, lies the Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing (AMHP).

Located in a magnificently restored haveli or mansion, the museum displays a varied selection of block printed textiles alongside images, tools and related objects – all chosen to provide an in-depth look into the complexity of this ancient tradition.

**Afternoon, sightseeing of Jaipur City:** A city tour takes you through the bazaars to the **Maharaja's City Palace**. Part of it is now a fine museum with a comprehensive display of historic artefacts. A relatively small portion of the palace is still used by the Royal family of Jaipur.



Built in the style of a fortified campus, one of the palaces is the **Hawa Mahal**, known as the Palace of the Winds. Built in 1799 this five-story building looks out over the main street, and was originally for the ladies of the royal household to be able to watch life outside the cloistered Royal Residence.

Nearby is the **Jantar Mantar**, which has the largest stone and marble crafted observatory in the world. Built by Jai Singh in 1728, it is still equipped with the its original ancient instruments including a very accurate 90-foot sundial. Many of them are still in working condition.



**Overnight in Jaipur**

DAY 08, TUE 12 SEP 2017 – JAIPUR (B)

Leisurely breakfast at hotel.

Later proceed for an **Excursion to Sanganer.**

**Sanganer**, near Jaipur, is famous for its fine hand block printing in subdued colors. Hand block printing was patronised by the royal family. Screen printing is also largely done here. Saganer has become a export hub for hand block print export. The Sanganeri Print is visible from small flower motifs like stylised sunflowers, narcissuses, roses, and other flowers of luxuriant foliage like daturas, rudrakshas, and arkas.

Following your excursion, return to hotel and spend remainder of the day at leisure.



**Overnight in Jaipur**

After an early breakfast, check out & drive to **Jodhpur**.

Rao Jodha, the chief of the Rajput clan called the Rathore, founded the Bustling desert city of **Jodhpur** in 1459. It became the centre of the Rathore Kingdom known as Marwar, and lies in the heart of Rajasthan and on the edge of the Thar Desert. The massive fort dominates the city, topping a rocky hill that rises in its centre. The old city is surrounded by a 10 Km wall, from which eight gates give entry and exit.



**Arrive Jodhpur**, check in at the hotel.

Later proceed for **afternoon city tour of Jodhpur**.

**Mehrangarh Fort:** Perched on a 125 m high hill the fort was founded in 1459. It is both impressive and formidable in both its location and construction. On the ramparts is a rare collection of canon, and battle scars from canon ball hits can still be seen on one of the gates. Within the fort are magnificent palaces, with meticulously carved panels and latticed windows or "Jarokhas". The chambers have evocative names - Moti Mahal, Phool Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, the Sileh Khana and the Daulat Khana reflect the splendour of a bygone era.



**Jaswant Thada:** This graceful white marble cenotaph is the memorial to Maharaja Jaswant Singh II, and was built in 1899. The main memorial is built like a temple, with intricately carved marble. Located in stark and rocky terrain it has a secluded and a mystic aura.

**Overnight in Jodhpur**



Post breakfast, check out and **drive to Udaipur**. Enroute visit **Ranakpur Temples** (Audio Guide).

The Jain Temple complex at **Ranakpur** is one of India's hidden gems. Built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century the temples are situated in the lovely Aravali valley, and the town is named after Rana Khumba a legendary warrior king of Udaipur. The beautiful architecture and exquisite stone carving single these temples out. The main temple has 39 chambers with 1,444 carved stone pillars supporting the roof, and no two are alike. Complimenting this the ceilings are a wonder to behold.



Later continue your drive to **Udaipur**.

**Udaipur**, the 'City of Dreams' also known as the Venice of the East, is interspersed with shimmering lakes, marble palaces and fountains. It is often referred to as the most romantic city in India. It was built in traditional Rajput style in 1559 A.D. by Maharana Udai Singh and was originally the capital of the State of Mewar. It's beautiful lake setting; graceful architecture, bustling bazaars and historical past make Udaipur rather special.

Check in at the hotel.

Late in the day, proceed for **Devra Cooking Class**.

Devra is a boutique country villa 'homestay' property, a 15-minute drive from Udaipur's city centre. The owners, Major Durga Das and Jyoti Jasol, are charming and knowledgeable hosts and delightful company. Spend the evening here taking in a cooking class, **followed by dinner**.

**Overnight in Udaipur**

Breakfast at your hotel.

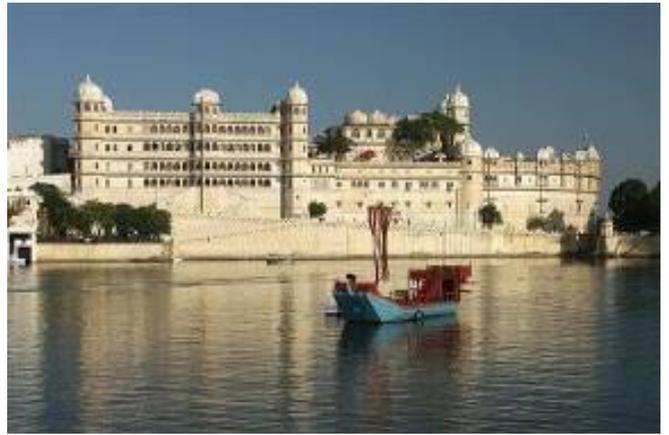
**Morning city tour** includes the **City Palace & Museum, Jagdish Temple and the Sahelion ki Bari** (Garden of the Maids of Honour).

The grand **City Palace** towers over the Pichola Lake. Maharana Uday Singh initiated its construction and succeeding Maharanas added several palaces to the complex but retained a surprising uniformity to the design. The main part of the palace is now a museum displaying a large and diverse array of artefacts, the Crystal Gallery having a breath-taking collection of crystal.



**Jagdish Temple:** The exterior and the plinth are covered with superb base reliefs of alligators, elephants, horsemen and celestial musicians rising in tiers. Chanting, bells and music can be heard throughout the day.

**Sahelion Ki Bari:** Known as the Gardens of the Maids of Honour, and built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by Maharana Sangram Singh, these delightful gardens are discreet and in impeccable taste. The fountains of the Sahelion ki Bari function solely by water pressure with no pumps being used.



In the evening, enjoy an **exclusive boat ride at Lake Pichola**

An evening boat ride on Lake Pichola cruises the city waterfront, bathing Ghats, and out to Jag Mandir. Lake Pichola derives its name from Pichola Village, which was submerged when Maharana Udai Singh enlarged the lake after he founded the city.

**Overnight in Udaipur**

**DAY 12, SAT 16 SEP 2017 – UDAIPUR / MUMBAI (FLIGHT) (B)**

Following your breakfast, check out and you will be transferred to airport for your **flight to Mumbai.**

Sector	Flight Details	Departure	Arrival	Class
Udaipur / Mumbai	Indigo / 6E-748	1010 Hrs	1135 Hrs	Economy

On arrival, you will be met by our representative & transferred to your hotel in **Mumbai.**

**Mumbai** (formerly Bombay), the gateway to India in the days of the British Raj, is today India's commercial capital. The city dates back to around the first century AD, when the area consisted of seven islands separated by the sea. In 1661 the Portuguese presented the port and islands of Bombay to the British, and in 1668 the East India Company leased all of the islands from the British Government for £10.00 in gold per year.

On independence in 1947 the Bombay presidency became Bombay state, and subsequently Bombay became the state capital of Maharashtra. Today Mumbai is a fascinating crossroads of the east and west where the sophistication and technology of the first world is combined with the eastern ability to sell almost anything against a backdrop of oriental colour and scent. Besides being the major port Mumbai is the most cosmopolitan, fastest moving, affluent and industrialized city in India. It is India's financial, commercial and industrial centre, and the centre of the film industry (Bollywood).



Check in the hotel.

Remainder of the day at leisure

**Overnight in Mumbai**

Breakfast at your hotel.

### **Morning sightseeing visit to Gateway of India and Elephanta Island.**

The Gateway of India, Mumbai's most striking monument, is an imposing arch in the Indo-Saracenic style with Gujarati and Islamic elements. It was built to commemorate the visit of King George V and Queen Mary to India in 1911.

Near the Gateway is a statue of Shivaji, the 17th century founder of the independent Hindu Kingdom of Maharashtra.

An hour's boat-ride, 10 kms across the Arabian Sea from Gateway, is the small but celebrated island of Elephanta, famous for its Elephanta Cave Temples. Carved into the island's solid stone, the base relief carvings are magnificent. The Portuguese renamed this island Elephanta after a large stone elephant found near the shore.



**Afternoon sightseeing of the city**, visiting the Prince of Wales Museum, Mani Bhawan, Dhobi Ghat, Crawford Market and drive along Marine Drive.

**Princes of Wales Museum:** Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Museum was built to commemorate the visit of the King George V's first visit to India in 1905 when he was still the Prince of Wales, and opened in 1914. With sections on art, archaeology and natural history, it houses rare and ancient exhibits of India's history as well as objects from foreign lands.

**Mani Bhawan:** This is where Mahatma Gandhi stayed when he visited Mumbai between 1917 and 1934. He preached Ahimsa or Non-violence, and it was here that his association with the charkha or spinning wheel began in 1917. It now houses a picture gallery, a 20,000-volume research library and a film and recording archive

**Dhobi Ghat:** A unique feature of Mumbai, the dhobi is a traditional laundryman, who will collect your dirty linen, wash it, and return it neatly pressed to your doorstep. At Dhobi Ghat the clothes are soaked in lather water, then thrashed on the stones, later thrown into huge vats of boiling starch and then hung out to dry.



**Marine Drive:** also known as the "Queen's Necklace" is a pleasant drive along the shoreline of Back Bay, from Nariman Point past Chowpatty and up to Malabar Hill.

Following your excursion, return to hotel and spend remainder of the day at leisure.

**Enjoy your Farewell dinner at local restaurant** (walking distance from your hotel).

**Overnight in Mumbai**

After breakfast, you will check from your hotel and transferred to the **International airport for your flight back home or join a Week Extension to Kerala.**

**\*END OF OUR SERVICE\***

TOUR COST	
TOUR & COST VALIDITY BETWEEN 5 <sup>th</sup> TO 18 <sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017	
<b>COST INCLUDES</b>	<b>TOUR COST BASED ON 14 LADIES</b>
Total cost for the Hotel Accommodation for <b>13 nights</b> + land arrangements including transportation, entrances, guides, train fare, international & domestic airfares etc.	<b>AUD 8422.00 per person on Single Occupancy Basis</b>
	<b>AUD 6764.00 per person on Twin Sharing Basis</b>

**HOTELS ENVISAGED**

City	Hotels	Room Category	Meal Plan	No. Of nights
Delhi	Taj Palace <a href="https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-palace-new-delhi/">https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-palace-new-delhi/</a>	Superior Room	Bed & Breakfast Basis	02
Agra	The Gateway Hotel Agra <a href="https://gateway.tajhotels.com/en-in/fatehabad-road-agra/">https://gateway.tajhotels.com/en-in/fatehabad-road-agra/</a>	Superior Taj Facing Room	Bed & Breakfast Basis	01
Ranthambhore	Vivanta by Taj – Sawai Madhopur Lodge <a href="https://vivanta.tajhotels.com/en-in/sawai-madhopur-ranthambore/">https://vivanta.tajhotels.com/en-in/sawai-madhopur-ranthambore/</a>	Superior Charm Room	<b>Full Board Basis</b>	02
Jaipur	Rambagh Palace <a href="https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-rambagh-palace-jaipur/">https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-rambagh-palace-jaipur/</a>	Luxury Room	Bed & Breakfast Basis	03
Jodhpur	Umaid Bhawan Palace <a href="https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/umaid-bhawan-palace-jodhpur/">https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/umaid-bhawan-palace-jodhpur/</a>	Palace Room	Bed & Breakfast Basis	01
Udaipur	Taj Lake Palace <a href="https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-lake-palace-udaipur/">https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-lake-palace-udaipur/</a>	Luxury Lake View Room	Bed & Breakfast Basis	02
Mumbai	The Taj Mahal Palace <a href="https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-mahal-palace-mumbai/">https://taj.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj-mahal-palace-mumbai/</a>	Superior Sea View Room (Tower Wing)	Bed & Breakfast Basis	02

**TOUR PRICE INCLUDES**

- ❖ Room with attached private facilities inclusive of presently applicable taxes. Hotel check-in time is 1400 Hrs and checkout time is 12 Noon.
- ❖ Meal Plan: Room with breakfast. Except **Ranthambhore** will be on **Full Board Basis**.
- ❖ Airport transfers, drives and sightseeing as specified air conditioned Vehicle inclusive of representative assistance and portorage at airports as below:  
**14 Adults + 01 FTO:** 27 Seater Ac Coach in Delhi–Rajasthan & 18 Seater Ac Coach in Mumbai.
- ❖ Local English speaking guides/naturalists at monuments/Game Park.
- ❖ Entrance fee to monuments/Game Park.
- ❖ All sightseeing and excursions as per itinerary.
- ❖ Rickshaw Ride in Chandni Chowk, Old Delhi.
- ❖ 3x Exclusive game Drives in Ranthambhore with Private Naturalist.
- ❖ Elephant Ride at Amer Fort, Jaipur.
- ❖ **Excursion to Sanganer (Block Printing) in Jaipur.**

- ❖ Exclusive Boat Ride at Lake Pichola, Udaipur.
- ❖ Train fare for **Bharatpur / Sawai Madhopur** in **Ac Chair Car**.
- ❖ Elephanta Caves Excursion by Ferry in Mumbai
- ❖ **Farewell dinner at local restaurant in Mumbai.**
- ❖ Domestic airfare for **Udaipur / Mumbai** in Economy Class.
- ❖ All currently applicable taxes. **(Subject to change as per govt. norms)**
- ❖ International flights

#### **TOUR PRICES EXCLUDE**

- ❖ No Vehicle on leisure days in Delhi & Mumbai.
- ❖ Travel Insurance.
- ❖ Visa fee for India.
- ❖ Expenses of personal nature like laundry, telephones calls, hard & soft drinks & beverage and mineral water etc.
- ❖ Still and video camera fee at monuments and game parks
- ❖ Airport departure taxes.
- ❖ Tips anywhere – to drivers, porters, bellboys, guides & waiters etc
- ❖ Any items not mentioned in the itinerary and inclusions.

#### **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

In accordance with our booking conditions, we require clients to have adequate holiday insurance so that you are fully covered against unexpected cancellation charges, medical expenses arising abroad, loss of luggage or money and personal liability claims.

#### **INDIAN VISA – OWN ARRANGEMENTS**

All foreigners require a Visa to visit India.

#### **BOOKING DEPOSITS**

In order to finalize these arrangements we will need an advance deposit of **AUD 550.00 per person** (AUD450 for tour booking, AUD 100 for airline deposits).

Once your go ahead is received we will start work on confirming your itinerary

#### **SPECIAL NOTES**

- ❖ Above quotation is based on minimum 14 PAX
- ❖ This is a Quotation only and no Reservations have been made at this point.
- ❖ We shall process the bookings on the receipt of your go ahead with the deposit.
- ❖ All Confirmations are Subject to Availability of services requested at the time of booking.
- ❖ Please provide the Quotation reference provided above, each time when referring to or making a firm booking.