

Royal Rajasthan

Royal Rajasthan Private Tour
15 days
Inclusive from the UK

This tour encompasses one of India's most colourful and vibrant states, Rajasthan. Starting in the bustling city, Delhi, then onto the magnificent Taj Mahal in Agra. You will experience traditional village life and enjoy a camel and jeep safari whilst staying in a tented camp in the Rajasthan desert.

Inclusive price includes:

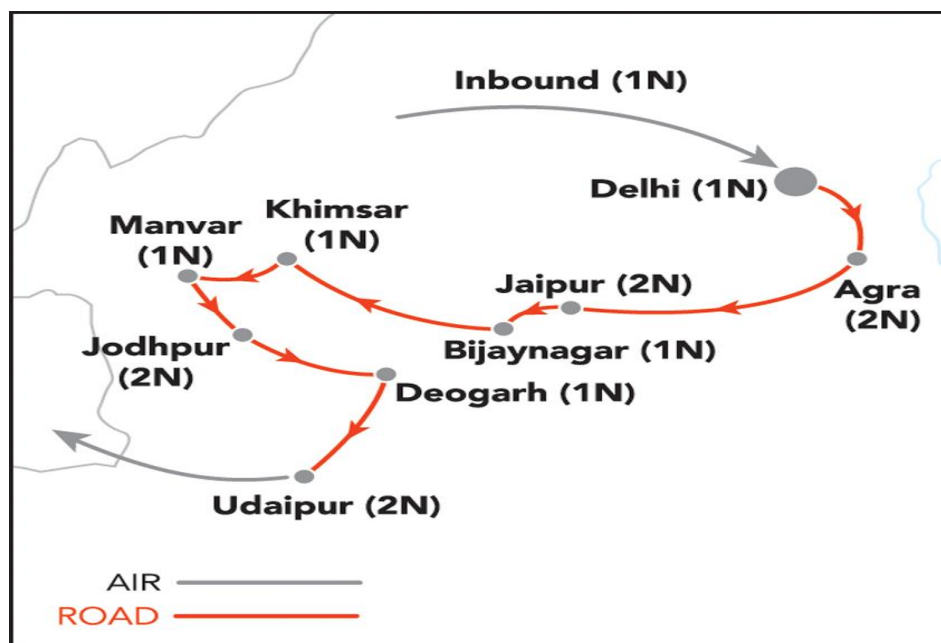
- International flights and current taxes
- Domestic transportation
- Accommodation
- Meals as stated, excluding drinks
- Touring with guides and entrance fees
- Visa fees for UK passport holders

Your Tour Dossier

This document is designed to be read in conjunction with the other pre-departure information provided by Wendy Wu Tours including the tour itinerary as described in our brochure and/or website. It aims to provide a straightforward description of the physical activities involved in sightseeing or travelling during the tour.

If there are any particular challenges, from the length of time spent on your feet, the length of drives and flights, to the standard of remote accommodation; they will be explained here.

All passengers must read this document to ensure the itinerary is suitable for their interests and physical capabilities. This is not your final itinerary and therefore does not mention all the sites visited.



Welcome to Wendy Wu Tours

India continues to amaze, fascinate and thrill our passengers, many of whom have travelled to one country in Asia with us, then another, year after year. We urge you to keep in mind all the rewards, as well as challenges of travelling in a country with a history, culture and attitude so unlike your own.

A typical day's sightseeing may include the bustle and noise of a city street, sights and smells of a local market and interacting with the locals. Travelling in India requires patience as potential delays are to be expected due to standards of service. There is a low level of English spoken throughout India, so your local guides will be indispensable during your trip.

Almost everything will be different to what you may be used to. We have found that our passengers who embark with a sense of humour and adventure, who accept that things do not always go to plan, are those who find their experience most rewarding. It is essential that all passengers recognise the demands of factors such as basic facilities and cultural differences they may encounter in some areas.

Royal Rajasthan Private Tour – Medium Paced Tour

This tour is not strenuous. This tour does require a reasonable level of fitness, however can be taken at a pace which suits the abilities of passengers travelling in your party. If any member of your party has mobility difficulties, please advise Wendy Wu Tours, so that our operators can be made aware, and may rearrange the itinerary to suit your needs. If at any point during the tour you feel you are being rushed, or not moving fast enough, please let your local guide know, so that they may adjust the touring accordingly and provide you with the best experience possible.

NB: Please note that times and distances listed in the tour dossier are approximate.

Day 1-2: UK/Delhi

Depart the UK and arrive into Delhi on Day 2. You will be met in the airport arrivals hall on Day 2 by your Local Guide. Transfer approx. 45 minutes to your hotel and check-in.

No meals included

Day 3: Delhi – Agra

This morning, you depart Delhi and drive (200km) to Agra, stopping at Sikandra tomb en-route. Sightseeing at Sikandra tomb involves approx. 1hr of leisurely walking. Total driving time today is approx. 5-6hrs.

Lunch

Day 4: Agra

This morning we rise early in order to take a bus through the awakening streets of Agra, and to avoid the heat and crowds at the Taj Mahal later in the day. We spend approx. 2hrs here; sightseeing is easy with almost no steps. This afternoon, visit Agra Fort; sightseeing here involves approx. 1.5hrs on foot and climbing stairs.

Breakfast

Day 5: Agra – Jaipur

This morning drive from Agra to Jaipur, approx. 6hrs (240 kms), stopping at the 'ghost city' of Fatehpur Sikri en-route. Touring at Fatehpur Sikri involves approx. 1hr on foot. The car/bus parking is about 0.5km from the main entrance to Fatehpur. You may walk from the parking area to the main entrance or you may choose to take a battery operated bus to the main entrance at your own expense. Upon arrival in Jaipur you will check into your hotel and enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure. Jaipur is a larger city where it would be

unwise to wander around without your Local Guide at night as there have been reports of pickpockets, etc.

Breakfast and Lunch

Day 6: Jaipur

This morning, stop at Hawa Mahal (you will view Hawa Mahal from the sidestreet as you are unable to enter) Sightseeing this morning involves 2-3hrs on foot. At Amer Fort, you will ride jeeps to and from the bus park and palace entrance. We have not included the elephant ride up to the palace in your itinerary because of the unreliability of this service; visitors usually need to queue for approx. 2-3hrs and the service is often shut down without notice by the local tourism authority due to safety concerns. Later, there will be easy sightseeing at Maharaja's City Palace.

Breakfast

Day 7: Jaipur – Bijaynagar

This morning you will drive approx. 4hrs (195km) to Bijaynagar, stopping at Phool Mahal Palace for lunch. Upon arrival in Bijaynagar, you will check in to your hotel and enjoy the rest of your afternoon at leisure.

Breakfast and Lunch

Day 8: Bijaynagar – Khimsar

This morning you will drive approx. 6hrs (300km) to Khimsar. Upon arrival in Khimsar, you will check in to your hotel and enjoy the rest of your evening at leisure.

Breakfast and Lunch

Day 9: Khimsar – Manvar

Drive approx. 3hrs (165km) through the Thar Desert to Manvar and check-in at the tented camp. Sightseeing this afternoon is approx. 2.5hrs and involves taking a jeep and camel ride into the desert. This evening you will enjoy a Rajasthani folk dance performance for approx. 1hr before your evening meal. The tented camp is operational only from Mid-October to Mid-April. If you are travelling on this tour outside this period, then you will stay in the resort.

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 10: Manvar – Jodhpur

Drive approx. 3hrs (190km) to Jodhpur & check-in to your hotel. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure.

Breakfast

Day 11: Jodhpur

Visiting the Meherangarh Fort involves approx. 2hrs of sightseeing with some stairs. Afterwards drive approx. 30mins to Umaid Bhawan Palace (also called Chittar Palace); sightseeing here involves approx. 1hr of easy walking around the palace and museum.

Breakfast

Day 12: Jodhpur – Deogarh

This morning, you depart Jodhpur and drive approx. 4hrs (190km) to Kumbhalgarh Fort. Sightseeing here involves approx. 2.5hrs of leisurely walking and lunch. Drive approx. 2.5hrs (110km) to Deogarh and check in to your hotel. Total driving and sightseeing time today is approx. 8-9hrs.

Breakfast and Lunch

Day 13: Deogarh – Udaipur

Drive approx. 5hrs (200km) to Udaipur, stopping at Ranakpur (temple complex) en-route, for some leisurely sightseeing, approx. 1.5hrs. Upon arrival check-in at your hotel. Before sunset, drive approx. 30mins to Lake Pichola for a boat ride. Please note that the Lake Palace (now an exclusive hotel) does not allow visitors. Easy sightseeing at the Jagmandir Lake Palace.

Breakfast and Lunch

Day 14: Udaipur

Sightseeing today involves approx. 6hrs of leisurely walking with plenty of stops. This morning visit the Fateh Sagar Lake and Folk Museum, after lunch, visit the City Palace. There are some stairs at these locations, without handrails, so please be cautious.

Breakfast and Dinner

Day 15: Udaipur/UK

Today you will checkout of your hotel and transfer to the airport for your flight home, via Delhi or Mumbai, depending on your chosen airline.

Breakfast

If you are travelling on a land only basis, your first night accommodation will be on Day 2 of the above itinerary and touring will begin on Day 3. On Day 15, you will checkout from your Udaipur hotel, and continue as per your own arrangements.

Please refer to the Wendy Wu Tours brochure and/or website for details on prices, itineraries, inclusions and tour extensions available as well as full booking conditions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**Before You Leave**

Itinerary Changes - The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your Local Guide will inform you of any changes as they are informed of them. Roads in India have generally been improved over recent years, but some road construction and/or weather conditions may still lengthen the driving times. Similarly if you feel whilst on tour that you are being rushed, or moving too slow, please speak to your local guide, to ensure that the pace of your tour suits your abilities.

Visas - A visa is required for entry into India. A standard visa processing service is included in your tour cost. You will need to complete the visa application form online at: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/>. Once completed you will need to print the completed form, and send it to our office along with your passport and 2 photos per person. The photos should be 2 x 2 in size taken within the last 6 months, in order for our office to process your visa with the embassy. We will require all this information 8 weeks prior to departure. As per our standard visa processing service, we will have your passport for at least 4 weeks. Any passports and visa applications that require an express service, or that are received in our office less than 6 weeks prior to departure will incur a £50 per passport express fee. Your passport must be valid for 6 months from your date of return from India, and should have at least 2 blank pages for your Indian visa.

In rare cases, you may be required to provide further information or documentation to the Indian embassy and/or be required to attend an interview at the embassy. If this is the case we will notify you as soon as we have been advised.

Vaccinations and Your Health - We recommend that you contact either your local GP or a travel doctor for advice on vaccinations and travel health. www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk is a comprehensive website that you may also find useful.

Book now on **0844 499 3899** visit www.wendywutours.co.uk or see your preferred travel agent.

Climate - Please refer to the travel guides on our website for detailed temperature charts.

Insurance - It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

What to Expect on Tour

Accommodation - Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and India. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Four and five star hotels are also available on private tours. If you would like to upgrade, please speak to one of our reservation consultants.

Meals – Some meals are included in our private tours, please see inclusions above. If you would like to travel on a fully inclusive meal basis please speak to Wendy Wu Tours, to arrange this prior to travel. Included meals are designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout India. For meals not included, local guides will be happy to assist with recommendations on where and what to eat in order to fully appreciate this vastly different cuisine.

Tipping - As with most countries, tipping is a recognised part of life in India. For our passengers' convenience we suggest an amount of £5-10 per person, per day to be paid to the local guide to cover tipping for guides, drivers, restaurant staff etc.

Optional Extras - Some optional extra programmes/activities may be offered by your Local Guide whilst on tour, time permitting. Please feel free to ask your Local Guide about any optional touring they may be planning over the next few days and the approximate cost so you can ensure you have the appropriate funds. All the optional extras must be paid for in local currency.

Personal Expenses - You will need to take some extra money to cover some meals, drinks, tipping (as above) laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of £200 per person, per week should be sufficient; however for those that can't resist a bargain consider allocating a higher amount.

Climbing steps - Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves the climbing of stairs. These palaces were built to provide defence against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steep steps to slow down the advance of the enemy once they were inside. The stairs tend to be large, uneven and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk a distance uphill from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb stairs once inside.

Appropriate dress – The locals dress conservatively and you should make every effort to do this too. According to their culture, wearing brief shorts or shirts, revealing shoulders and legs, or going without a shirt is offensive no matter if you are a man or woman, and no matter the weather. Men should wear full-length trousers, whilst shorts that cover the knees are acceptable. For women, skirts or trousers that reach below the knee are ideal, worn with tops that cover the shoulders. Women will find a modesty shawl (such as a large shawl or sarong) is useful to carry in your daypack while sightseeing, so that you can cover up when required. Please refer to your Your Travel Guide's 'dress appropriately' section for more information.

After Your Booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form with help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approx. 2-3 weeks prior to departure, and will include a travel wallet, badge, lanyard, feedback form, travel guide, along with your final itinerary and international e-tickets.

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