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Pushkar Fair

Duration: 10N/11D

Key Sights: Delhi - Jodhpur - Ranakpur - Udaipur - Chittorgarh - Pushkar - Ajmer - Jaipur - Fatehpur Sikri - Agra

Day	Program	Mode	Distance/Time
Day 1	Arrival Delhi	By Flight	
Day 2	Delhi		
Day 3	Delhi – Jodhpur	By Flight	
Day 4	Jodhpur – Ranakpur	By Surface	164KM/02-03 Hours
	Ranakpur – Udaipur	By Surface	94KM/01-02 Hours
Day 5	Udaipur		
Day 6	Udaipur – Chittorgarh	By Surface	117KM/01-02 Hours
	Chittorgarh – Pushkar	By Surface	212KM/03-04 Hours
Day 7	Pushkar		
Day 8	Pushkar – Ajmer	By Surface	15KM/01 Hour
	Ajmer – Jaipur	By Surface	134KM/01-02 Hours
Day 9	Jaipur		
Day 10	Jaipur – Fatehpur Sikri – Agra	By Surface	240KM/03-04 Hours
Day 11	Agra – Delhi	By Surface	230KM/03-04 Hours



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Day 1

Arrival Delhi

By Flight

Arrival in India, traditional welcome by our representative at airport, transfer assistance to hotel. Check-in at hotel, before you proceed to your room/s, our representative will hand-over the travel documents and brief you about the tour programme. Overnight stay at Hotel.

Day 2

Delhi

Breakfast at hotel, this morning explore India's capital city by touring its magnificent monuments, start your tour by visiting - Old Delhi: An ancient walled city earlier known as Shahjahanabad. Take a photo stop at Red Fort: the most opulent Red sandstone fort and palace of the Moghul Empire (1639-1648 built by Shah Jahan the 5th Mughal Emperor of India and the builder of the Taj Mahal in Agra), visit Jama Masjid, Largest mosque in India, the foundation of the historic Jama Masjid was laid on a hillock in Shahjahanabad by Emperor Shah Jahan in 1650 AD, this mosque was the result of the efforts of over 6,000 workers, over a period of six years (1650-1656 AD). The cost of the construction in those times was 1 million rupees. This Mosque has three great gates, four towers and two 40 m-high minarets constructed of strips of red sandstone and white marble. About 25,000 people can pray here at a time. The mosque has a vast paved rectangular courtyard, which is nearly 75 m by 66 m. The whole of the western chamber is a big hall standing on 260 pillars.

Visit Chandni Chowk, the bustling and colorful market of the old city, designed by Emperor Shah Jahan's daughter Jahanara Begum. Jahanara laid the foundation of Chandni Chowk, which is the largest trading center of Delhi as well as India. At present the street is a busy thoroughfare and is really congested. This area is renowned for 'Kuchas and Katras' also known as Alleys. These alleys house traditional Havelis, places of worship: Temples, Mosques, Church and Gurudwara, popular specialised markets and century-old eating joints. Enjoy a cycle-rickshaw ride. Visit the Raj Ghat, the memorial site of Mahatma Gandhi - Father of Nation. Later visit New Delhi designed and built by the British in the 1920's it's a city of wide boulevards impressive Government buildings, green parks and gardens. First drive past Connaught Place, the heart and main shopping district of the capital, then drive to Rajpath (King's Way), India Gate - the 42mt high stone 'Arch of Triumph', erected in the memory of Indian soldiers who died in First World War. Drive past Rashtrapati Bhawan (President Palace) and Parliament House. Sightseeing will also include drive past the elegant Lodhi Garden and Safdarjung's tomb. Visit the exquisite Humayun's Tomb, built in 1570 is of particular cultural significance as it was the first garden-tomb in the Indian subcontinent. This memorial of Emperor Humayun, second Mughal ruler of India was built by his widow, Hajji Begum 14 years after his death. Later visit Qutab Minar 12th century minaret built by Qutub-ud-din Aibek of the Slave Dynasty - this building complex dates back to the onset of Muslim rule in India and is fine example of Afghan architecture which is graceful and well sculptured and stands 75 mt. Also visit the Baha'i Temple (Lotus Temple) Lotus being a symbol of peace and prosperity all around the world, the shape of the temple personifies the purpose for which the foundation of this marvelous man-made architectural was laid.



Lotus temple is made of pristine marble blocks, cement, dolomite and sand and the entire ascetic value is coddled by the group of nine pools filled with crystal clear water. In accord with the mores of Baha'i religion, the temple is open to everyone from anywhere in the world who is looking for inner peace & tranquility. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 3	Delhi – Jodhpur	By Flight	
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After breakfast. Transfer to airport to board the flight to Jodhpur. Upon arrival, meeting, assistance at airport and transfer to hotel. PM City tour, visit Mehrangarh fort, perched on the rocky cliff at an altitude of about 125 mt and is spread over an area of 5 sq kms with seven gates. Mehrangarh fort has a magnificent and imposing structure, with a commanding view of the surrounding landscape, which dominates the skyline. Entered through gates, which bear the evocative handprints of the "Sati" queens women of the royal harem, who took their own lives when their men were defeated in battle. The fort has a series of spectacular palaces and museum, each decorated with exquisite engravings, lattice and mirror work. Of particular note is the museum that exhibits a magnificent collection of royal memorabilia, later visit Jaswant Thada - a royal cenotaph built in 19th century in commemoration of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. A prime attraction of the city is clock tower and the colorful Sadar Market near to it. Narrow alleys lead to quaint bazaars selling vivid tie and dye fabric, textiles, antiques, glass bangles, silverware and handicrafts. These colorful markets with tiny shops are situated in the heart of city. Late evening return to hotel for overnight stay.

Day 4	Jodhpur – Ranakpur	By Surface	164KM/02-03 Hours
	Ranakpur – Udaipur	By Surface	94KM/01-02 Hours

Early breakfast and check-out, drive to Udaipur en-route stop at Ranakpur for a temple tour. Acclaimed world-wide for their intricate and superb architectural style, one of the five major pilgrimages of the Jains. Built in the 15th century by Seth Dharna Sah (a Jain businessman) with the aid of Rana Kumbha, who ruled Mewar in the 15th century. This complex is positioned in an isolated valley on the western side of the Aravalli Range. These temples are constructed in light colored marble and comprises a basement covering an area of 48000 sq feet. There are more than 1400 exquisitely carved pillars that support the temple. Then continue your journey to Lake city – Udaipur. Arrive and check-in at hotel. Early evening Boat ride on Lake Pichola, a picturesque lake that entranced Maharana Udai Singh. It was later enlarged by the founder. The lake is surrounded by hills, palaces, temples, bathing ghats and embankments. Two island palaces, Jag Mandir and Jagat Niwas (Lake Palace - A Luxury Hotel) on the lake are of breathtaking magnificence. Return to hotel for overnight stay.

Day 5	Udaipur		
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Breakfast at hotel. This morning set out to explore the romantic city of Lakes - Udaipur, with the palaces built around Lake Pichola and the Aravalli Hills forming the backdrop.



The highlight will be the City Palace, the former home of the Maharanas of Udaipur, the museum is entered through the Ganesh Deori meaning the door of Lord Ganesh, this leads to the Rajya Angan, the royal courtyard. The rooms of the palace are superbly decorated with mirror tiles and paintings. The Ruby Palace has a lovely collection of glass and mirror work while Krishna Vilas display a rich collection of miniature paintings. Pearl palace has beautiful mirror work and the Chini Mahal has ornamental tiles all over. The Surya Chopal depicts a huge ornamental Sun symbolising the Sun dynasty to which the Mewar dynasty belongs. The Bai Mahal is a central garden with view of the city. This Palace being a majestic architectural marvel, within the four walls are mosaics of Peacocks, exquisite mirror work and exotic paintings. It is a conglomeration of courtyards, pavilions, terraces, corridors, rooms and hanging gardens.

Also visit Crystal Gallery, which has been hailed as probably the single largest private collection of crystal anywhere in the world. The collection includes a bewildering number of objects d'art, dinner sets, perfume bottles, decanters, glasses, washing bowls and even furniture. The Crystal Gallery also houses the only crystal bed in the world.

From here you will drive to the Palace Garage to see private collection of Vintage & Classic cars of House of Mewar. The grand limousines and cars showcased here are Rolls-Royce, 1939 Cadillac open convertibles, rare Mercedes models, 1936 Vauxhall and 1937 Opel models.

Visit Sahelion ki Bari, a spot once reserved for the royal ladies who strolled here, this well-planned garden is blessed with extensive and shady lawns on the banks of the Fateh Sagar Lake. The garden's lotus pools and fountains show ancient science since they've been placed at a lower level than the Lake, thus being gravity-driven. The main fountain lies in the center on a white marble deck with black marble marking its four corners. On the western face are pavilions, delicately sculptured of black stone that are embraced by more fountains on all sides.

In the evening visit the Jagdish Temple, an Indo-Aryan temple, this temple with Lord Vishnu as the main deity was built by Maharana Jagat Singh in 1651. The temple is constructed by perfectly following the Shipa Shastra, an art and science of construction theories for temples and other buildings. Excellent Carvings showing musicians playing musical instruments, dancing and singing of beautiful lady folks adorn the large hall in the temple. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 6	Udaipur – Chittorgarh	By Surface	117KM/01-02 Hours
	Chittorgarh – Pushkar	By Surface	212KM/03-04 Hours

Morning breakfast at hotel and drive to Pushkar. En-route visit Chittorgarh town (112 kms) from Udaipur, known for its massive fort atop a hill. This quintessence of Rajput heroism, Chittorgarh is proud witness of the bravery and chivalry of its inhabitants. Other places to see are The Palace of Rana Kumbha, Vijay stambh or Tower of Victory, Kirti Stambh or Tower of Fame etc. Chittorgarh Fort has received the credit of being the largest fort of India. This fort was built by various Maurya rulers in the 7th century. This huge fort covers an area of 700 acres, extending to 3 kms in length and 13 kms in peripheral length. Thereafter continue your drive to Pushkar upon arrival check in at hotel. Afternoon Visit the only temple of the Lord Brahma in the world. Visit Pushkar - One of the most sacred lakes of India and an important pilgrimage spot for the Hindus. The celebrated Pushkar fair,



transforms the quiet village to a colourful week of heightened activity. The holy lake has 52 Ghats and pilgrims taking a ritual dip in the lake is a common sight. Every year thousands of devotees throng the lake around the full moon day of Kartik Purnima in November, to take a holy dip in the lake. A huge and colourful cattle fair - the Pushkar fair, is held during this time. Dance, music & colourful shops spring up during this fair. Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 7	Pushkar		
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After breakfast, visit The Pushkar fair Grounds and see the colours, sounds, and sights of Rajasthan come alive. Watch village folk in their finery wearing bright coloured clothes, Bangles, Jewelry and trinklets, Men wearing their turbans supporting big Moustaches and smiles. Witness the trading of Camels, Cattle, Horses and other livestock. Take a camel ride or a camel cart ride and watch performances and local sports like turban tying competition, Tug of War, Moustache competition. Evening return to hotel for night stay.

Day 8	Pushkar – Ajmer	By Surface	15KM/01 Hour
	Ajmer – Jaipur	By Surface	134KM/01-02 Hours

Early morning visit the Ghats of Pushkar Lake; later take a walk tour in streets and bazaar of this quaint town. Return to hotel for breakfast. Later check-out from hotel and drive to Jaipur city. En-route visit Ajmer, founded by Raja Pal Chauhan in 7th century A.D. it is an important place of pilgrimage for Muslims. Visit the famous Dargarh Sharif, Located on the foot of the Taragarh Hill, This is a splendid tomb of the Sufi Saint Khawaja Moinuddin Chisti, who is revered as one of the greatest relievers of sufferings. Afterwards drive to Jaipur - The picturesque capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur is colour washed in Pink - the colour associated with hospitality in Rajput culture. In the evening a visit to Birla Temple to witness evening Aarti (prayer ceremony) and also visit the Albert Hall for a photo-stop. Later check in at the hotel. Overnight stay.

Day 9	Jaipur		
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Breakfast at hotel, this morning take an excursion to Amber Fort, the former royal capital. On the way, take a photo-stop at Hawa Mahal or Palace of the Winds, a four-storied structure of pink sandstone with semi-octagonal and delicately honeycombed windows overlooking the main street of the old city. It was built in 1799 so that veiled royal women could see the royal processions, unseen by the world through its 593 stone screens. Visit Amber Fort, situated outside the city, it is perhaps the most beautiful example of Rajput forts, this complex stands amidst wooded hills, with its threatening battlements reflected in the motionless waters of the Maota Lake below. You can have the unique experience of riding on a decorated elephant to the top of the hill. One of the premium examples of Rajput architecture, it was the ancient capital of the Kachhawaha rulers. The original palace was built by Raja Man Singh and additions were made later by Sawai Jai Singh. Here are the personal chambers of the Queens with windows having latticed screens so that the ladies could look at the events of the Royal court in privacy. There is also the Jai Mandir or the "Temple of Victory", with its well-known Sheesh Mahal, the sparkling "Hall of



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Mirrors". Within the Palace are the Diwan-e-Aam or the "Hall of Public Audience", the Diwan-e-Khas or the "Hall of Private Audience" and the Sukh Niwas where a cool breeze blows across channels of water for the purpose of air-conditioning.

Return to city and visit City Palace complex, located in the heart of Jaipur known for its blend of Rajput and Mughal architecture, the museum houses the rare and rich collection of Ornaments, 15th century Arms & Weapons, Royal Costumes, Carpets, Sanganeri block prints, Kashmiri Pashmina Shawls, folk embroideries and Decorative Art objects of traditional Rajasthani and Mughal art and architecture. Complex has several palatial structures like the Chandra Mahal, Mubarak Mahal, Badal Mahal, Shri Govind Dev Ji Temple and the City Palace Museum and is divided into two parts- One part Sawai Man Singh Museum and other is still the Residential Palace of the former Maharaja.

Another monument near the City Palace is Jantar Mantar, the largest of the five astronomical observatories built by Sawai Jai Singh-I, the founder ruler of Jaipur. It is an astronomical treasure house, with solar device that give accurate predictions till date, it is classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In the evening spend some time in the colourful bazaars in the city, for shopping or buy some souvenir. Return to hotel for overnight stay.

Day 10	Jaipur – Fatehpur Sikri – Agra	By Surface	240KM/03-04 Hours
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Breakfast at hotel and drive to Agra. Enroute visit Fatehpur Sikri, Fatehpur Sikri - Built in 1571, it is a synthesis of the flourishing styles of the Persian courts and the prevailing Hindu Islamic trends. It was planned as a great town by Emperor Akbar with great care and planning, but it had to be abandoned after fifteen years due to scarcity of water in the town. Constructed mainly as a tribute to the great Sufi Saint Shaikh Salim Chisti who had blessed Akbar with a son. His son was named after the Saint as Salim and he succeeded the Emperor Akbar and was known as Emperor Jehangir. The town was originally named Sikri after the village, where it was founded but its twin city Fatehpur (Victory Town) was erected to celebrate Akbar's conquest of Gujarat. However, ruins of the temple dating back to 12th century suggest the reign of Rajputs in the area long before Mughals took over the area. The two mosques in the village of Sikri have inscriptions, which announce their conception in 1314 under Mohd. Khilji. There have been records that Babur renamed the village 'Sikri' as 'Shukri', meaning 'thanks to the god'. It was also the famous dwelling place and Khanqah of Shiekh Salim Chishti, the famous Sufi saint whom Akbar revered for blessing him with child. Built in Red Sandstone, an example of robust stability combined with originality each important edifice here represents a type by itself. Notable among them is the Buland Darwaza, Tomb of Shaikh Salim Chisti, Jama Masjid, Diwan-e-Aam, Diwan-e-Khas, Panch Mahal, Palace of Jodha Bai, Birbal Bhawan, Miriam's Palace, Karawan Serai and Hiran Minar.

Afterwards continue your drive to Agra, arrive and check-in at hotel, relax for sometime in your room/s.

Early evening visit, Itmad-Ud-Daulah's Tomb, along with the main building, the structure consists of numerous outbuildings and gardens. Tomb of Mirza Ghiyas Beg - A Wazir (Chief Minister) in the court of Mughal Emperor Jehangir. Ghiyas Beg was honored with the title of Itmad-ud-Daulah or the Pillar of the State. Emperor Jehangir married her beautiful widowed daughter Mehr-un-Nissa, she was later christened Noor Jahan and went down in the history



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as one of the most beautiful and artistically gifted women in the world. After the death of Mirza Ghiyas Beg in 1622, Noor Jahan undertook the project to build his mausoleum, which took six years to get complete. It is entirely made of white marble. This tomb represents the transition between the first phase of monumental Mughal architecture - primarily built from Red sandstone with marble decorations with mosaic and lattice.
Overnight stay at hotel.

Day 11	Agra – Delhi	By Surface	230KM/03-04 Hours
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This early morning visit the fabled Taj Mahal (Closed on Fridays), One of the Seven Wonders of the World, a pristine monument of undying love, built by Emperor Shah Jahan to enshrine the body of his beloved wife Arjumand Banu Begum (Mumtaz Mahal) after she died in 1631 at Burhanpur. The Taj has continued to be a mark of love since ever. This monument took 22 years to be completed and was designed, and planned by Persian architect Ustad Isa. The construction started in 1632 and was completed in 1653. The workforce of some 20,000 and 1,000 elephants, included Masons, Stonecutters, Inlayers, Carvers, Calligraphers, Dome-builders and other artisans were requisitioned from the empire and also from Italy, Central Asia and Persia. In accordance with Islamic tradition, verses from the Quran were inscribed in calligraphy on the arched entrances to the mausoleum, in addition to numerous other sections of the complex. Apart from its stunning design balance and perfect symmetry, the Taj is also noted particularly for its elegant domes, intricately carved screens and some of the best inlay work ever seen. Witness the White marble reflect the nuances of the changing light from the Sun. Taj Mahal symbolize the richness of art and architecture of the Mughal period.

Return to hotel for breakfast, later check-out.

Afterwards visit - Agra Fort which retains the irregular outline of the demolished mud-wall fort of the Lodhis. It is a World Heritage Site, located near to the Taj Mahal gardens on the banks of River Yamuna. The real specimen of architectural marvel, this fortress was constructed in the 15th century. The construction of this mammoth structure started during 1565 during the reign of Emperor Akbar and continued the developments up to the period of Emperor Shah Jahan. The fort, in a length of 2.5 km marvelous enclosure walls, was built in red sandstones and encloses many monuments which are real architectural wonders. Many exquisite palaces such as the Jehangiri Mahal, Shah Jahani Mahal, the Khas Mahal, Diwan-i-Aam - which was used as a communications ground between the public and the aristocracy and once housed the Peacock Throne, Diwan-i-Khas - a hall of private audience, it was used to welcome Kings and dignitaries and Mussaman Burj - a large, octagonal tower with a balcony facing the Taj Mahal are enclosed in the Fortress. Other monuments include the Fish Pavilion, the Nagina Masjid, Garden of Grapes and the Pearl Mosque. Views of the Taj Mahal from the Fort are amazing.

After the tour drive to Delhi.

Upon arrival, proceed to a local restaurant for farewell dinner. After dinner, transfer to international airport to board return journey flight.