





STAY LONGER, EXPLORE RAJASTHAN

Suggested Destinations
& Travel Itineraries
around The Festival









singing sands

12-13-14 March 2027
Desert Resort, Mandawa





SHEKHAWATI CIRCUIT

THE OPEN-AIR ART GALLERY OF RAJASTHAN

Delhi - Mandawa - Delhi

Spread across a landscape of small towns and villages, Shekhawati was once an important stretch along the ancient trading routes that connected north India with the western desert. The prosperity of its merchant families found expression in magnificent havelis, their walls adorned with elaborate frescoes depicting everything from mythology and royal processions to scenes of everyday life.

Mandawa, Nawalgarh, Fatehpur, Dundlod, Mahansar and other towns preserve this extraordinary architectural and artistic legacy. Exploring Shekhawati is an opportunity to discover a side of Rajasthan where history, art and traditional ways of life are woven into the fabric of its towns and villages.

Extend your stay in Shekhawati and explore the rich heritage and village life over a relaxed vacation. Here's a list of beautiful towns in vicinity:

TOWN	DISTANCE	DRIVE TIME
Fatehpur	20 km	30 mins
Mahansar	40 km	50 mins
Alsisar	45 km	1 hour
Mukundgarh	14 km	20 mins
Dundlod	30 km	40 mins
Nawalgarh	30 km	40 mins
Jhunjhunu	30 km	40 mins

OTHER CIRCUITS

5-7 DAYS INCLUDING THE FESTIVAL

- Jaipur - Mandawa - Delhi
- Delhi - Ranthambore - Jaipur - Mandawa -Delhi
- Delhi - Mandawa - Pushkar - Jaipur
- Delhi - Mandawa - Jaipur - Keoladeo - Agra
- Delhi – Mandawa – Jaipur – Ranthambore – Gwalior

7-10 DAYS INCLUDING THE FESTIVAL

- Delhi - Mandawa - Tal Chhapar - Bikaner - Delhi
- Mandawa - Pushkar - Chittorgarh - Udaipur
- Mandawa - Pushkar - Kumbhalgarh - Ranakpur - Nathdwara - Udaipur
- Delhi - Mandawa - Tal Chhapar - Bikaner -Jaisalmer -Jaipur
- Jaipur – Mandawa – Bikaner – Nagaur – Jodhpur – Jawai – Udaipur



JAIPUR THE PINK CITY

Jaipur, Rajasthan's celebrated Pink City, is a fascinating blend of royal heritage, architectural grandeur and vibrant everyday life. Founded in 1727, this carefully planned city invites you to explore its magnificent forts and palaces, the remarkable astronomical instruments of Jantar Mantar, and the bustling bazaars of its historic walled city. Beyond its landmarks, Jaipur is equally rewarding for its traditional crafts, fine jewellery, colourful textiles and distinctive Rajasthani cuisine.



RANTHAMBORE IN THE REALM OF THE TIGER

Set against the rugged Aravalli and Vindhya landscapes, Ranthambore is among India's most celebrated wildlife destinations. Its dry deciduous forests, lakes and rocky terrain are home to the majestic Bengal tiger, along with leopards, sloth bears, crocodiles and a rich variety of birds. At the heart of the reserve stands the historic Ranthambore Fort, adding a fascinating historical dimension to the wilderness.



PUSHKAR A TOWN OF SACRED WATERS & DESERT TRADITIONS

Set around a sacred lake and surrounded by the Aravalli hills, Pushkar is one of India's most distinctive pilgrimage towns. Its ghats, temples and narrow lanes create an atmosphere quite unlike that of Rajasthan's larger cities. The town is particularly known for the Brahma Temple and its annual camel and livestock fair, which brings together traders, pilgrims, folk performers and visitors from across the world. Beyond its religious significance, Pushkar offers an interesting glimpse into the region's living traditions and desert culture.



KEOLADEO A PARADISE FOR BIRD LOVERS

A remarkable wetland landscape in the heart of Rajasthan, Keoladeo National Park is one of India's most important bird habitats and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its mosaic of marshes, woodlands and grasslands attracts hundreds of resident and migratory bird species, including many that travel thousands of kilometres to winter here. The park is best explored on foot, by bicycle or in a cycle rickshaw, allowing visitors to experience its rich birdlife at close quarters.



TAL CHHAPAR THE GRASSLANDS OF RAJASTHAN

Away from Rajasthan's better-known desert landscapes, Tal Chhapar offers a fascinating encounter with its open grassland ecosystem. This small wildlife sanctuary is particularly renowned for its population of blackbucks, often seen in large herds moving gracefully across the plains. It is also an important habitat for birds of prey and several migratory species, making it a rewarding destination for birdwatchers and wildlife photographers.



BIKANER A DESERT CITY OF ROYAL LEGACIES

Set in the heart of the Thar Desert, Bikaner is a historic city with a character distinctly its own. Its magnificent Junagarh Fort, richly decorated havelis and old-city lanes reflect the artistic sensibilities and royal patronage of a bygone era. The city is also known for its camel-breeding heritage, traditional crafts and distinctive cuisine, particularly its famous savoury snacks and sweets.



NAGAUR A LEGACY OF FORTS AND FOLK TRADITIONS

Set amid the open landscapes of central Rajasthan, Nagaur is a historic town with a rich legacy of Rajput and Mughal influences. Its magnificent Ahhichatragarh Fort, with its palaces, courtyards, frescoes and intricately decorated interiors, is among the finest examples of Rajasthan's fort architecture. The town is also known for its traditional cattle fair, folk music and crafts, which bring together many aspects of rural Rajasthan's cultural life.



JAISALMER THE GOLDEN CITY

Rising from the golden sands of the Thar Desert, Jaisalmer is one of Rajasthan's most striking historic cities. Its magnificent sandstone fort, still inhabited centuries after its construction, is a living heritage precinct of temples, havelis, homes and bustling bazaars. Beyond the city, the vast desert landscape offers opportunities to experience sand dunes, traditional music, desert villages and spectacular sunsets. The intricately carved merchant havelis, in particular, reveal the wealth and artistic legacy of this once-important trading centre



CHITTORGARH A FORTRESS OF COURAGE AND LEGACY

The history of Chittorgarh is inseparable from the valour, sacrifice and cultural legacy of Mewar. Dominating the landscape is its vast hilltop fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the largest fort complexes in India. Within its formidable walls stand palaces, temples, reservoirs and memorials that bear witness to centuries of history, including the stories of Rani Padmini, Maharana Kumbha and the heroic traditions of Rajputana.



JAWAI WHERE LEOPARDS ROAM FREE

Set amid the dramatic granite hills and rugged countryside of the Aravallis, Jawai is a remarkable landscape where wildlife and human settlements coexist in an unusual harmony. The region is particularly known for its leopard population, which inhabits the rocky hills around Jawai Bandh and is often spotted in the surrounding countryside. Seasonal wetlands also attract a variety of migratory birds, while the nearby villages offer glimpses of the distinctive pastoral life of the Rabari community.



UDAIPUR THE CITY OF LAKES

Surrounded by the Aravalli hills and built around a series of lakes, Udaipur is among India's most picturesque historic cities. Its grand City Palace overlooks Lake Pichola, while island palaces, old temples and heritage havelis lend the city an unmistakable character. Beyond its celebrated waterfront, Udaipur offers a rich cultural experience through miniature paintings, traditional crafts, music and the winding lanes of its old city.



KUMBHALGARH THE GREAT WALL OF INDIA

Set high in the Aravalli hills, Kumbhalgarh is best known for its formidable fortifications, including a massive wall that stretches for over 36 kilometres around the fort complex. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the fort is closely associated with the history of Mewar and is traditionally regarded as the birthplace of Maharana Pratap. Its palaces, temples and gateways are set amid a dramatic landscape of forested hills and deep valleys. The surrounding region also offers opportunities to explore nature and experience a less-travelled side of Rajasthan.



RANAKPUR MARVELS IN MARBLE

Tucked away in a tranquil valley of the Aravalli hills, Ranakpur is renowned for one of India's finest Jain temple complexes. Built in the 15th century, the magnificent Chaumukha Temple is celebrated for its extraordinary marble architecture, with intricately carved pillars, domes and ceilings. The interplay of light, stone and sculpture makes every part of the temple a remarkable work of craftsmanship. The peaceful natural setting adds to the experience, making Ranakpur a rewarding stop for those interested in architecture, art and heritage.



NATHDWARA ART, DEVOTION AND LIVING TRADITIONS

Nathdwara is one of Rajasthan's most important centres of Vaishnavite devotion, drawing pilgrims from across the country to the revered Shrinathji Temple. The town is equally significant for its distinctive Pichwai paintings, an intricate art tradition that depicts episodes from the life of Lord Krishna through elaborate compositions, colours and fine detailing. Its narrow streets, traditional workshops and devotional atmosphere offer a glimpse into an artistic and spiritual culture that continues to thrive.



SARISKA WILDERNESS AMIDST THE ARAVALLIS

Nestled in the rugged Aravalli hills, Sariska Tiger Reserve offers a rewarding wildlife experience within easy reach of Jaipur and Delhi. Its dry forests, rocky terrain and open grasslands support tigers, leopards, striped hyenas, sambar deer and a variety of birdlife. The reserve also has a fascinating historical dimension, with ancient temples and the atmospheric ruins of the Kankwari Fort within its landscape.



JODHPUR THE BLUE CITY

Set at the edge of the Thar Desert, Jodhpur is dominated by the magnificent Mehrangarh Fort, one of India's most impressive hilltop fortresses. Below it, the old city unfolds in a maze of blue-painted houses, bustling bazaars and historic stepwells, offering a distinctive glimpse of traditional urban life in Rajasthan. The city's palaces, temples and richly decorated havelis reflect the legacy of the Rathore rulers, while its food and handicrafts add to its appeal.



AGRA THE LEGACY OF THE MUGHALS

Agra is home to some of the finest architectural achievements of the Mughal era. The incomparable Taj Mahal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and enduring symbol of love, is only the beginning of the city's historical riches. Agra Fort and the exquisite tomb of Itimad-ud-Daulah offer further glimpses into the artistry, craftsmanship and grandeur of Mughal architecture. The city is also known for its traditional marble inlay work and local culinary specialities.



DELHI THE CAPITAL OF CONTRASTS

Few cities bring together so many layers of India's history as Delhi. From the imposing forts, grand tombs and magnificent Mughal architecture of Old Delhi to the tree-lined avenues and monumental buildings of New Delhi, the capital offers a fascinating journey through different eras. Its bustling markets, diverse food traditions, museums and contemporary cultural spaces add to the experience.

With its international airport just a 4-hour drive from Mandawa, Delhi also forms the most convenient gateway into the festival.



GWALIOR A CITY OF FORTS, PALACES AND MUSIC

Dominated by an imposing hilltop fort, Gwalior is a historic city whose legacy spans centuries of Rajput, Mughal and Maratha rule. The magnificent Gwalior Fort, with its ornate Man Singh Palace and ancient temples, is an architectural landmark, while the Jai Vilas Palace offers a glimpse into the grandeur of the Scindia royal family. The city also holds a special place in India's musical heritage as the birthplace of the celebrated musician Tansen and an important centre of the Gwalior gharana of Hindustani classical music.



These itineraries are suggested travel options to help you plan your visit. Guests are encouraged to explore further and make travel arrangements based on their individual interests and preferences.

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There's something magical about sharing stories on warm, carefree afternoons and cool desert evenings.

Singing Sands is an invitation into Rajasthan's heart… its music, crafts, stories, food and ways of living.

You meet the people behind the traditions. Listen to their stories. Try your hand at their craft. Share a meal. Perhaps learn a few dance steps along the way.

It is a festival designed for participation, curiosity and unhurried discovery: unique, intimate, authentic, transformative.

Come curious. Leave feeling more like yourself than ever.









RAJASTHAN
The Incredible State of India !

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM
GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN

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