Rajasthan Cycling Tour



| Days: | 10 | |
|------------|--|--|
| Price: | 1185 USD International flight not included | |
| Comfort: | **** | |
| Difficult: | ★★★☆☆ | |
| Cvclina | | |

SPECTACULAR, EXUBERANT, VIVID

This cycling tour offers an incredibly rich mix of dramatic landscapes, people and wildlife, enhanced by a sense of history at every turn. We travel to Rajasthan, known for its character-filled, ancient forts, painted mansions and stunning maharaja's palaces – some of which we stay in overnight. This state's rich tradition of heritage arts and crafts, from regal jewellery, miniature painting, vibrant block printing and exquisite blue pottery, to traditional performing arts and folk music, finds expression in the daily lives of its people.

Starting in Delhi, we reach Jaipur, the pink city, filled with forts and palaces where we spend two days sightseeing, and then ride past 11th century Bhandarej, for a stay at a beautiful palace. Next we pedal to Ranthambore National Park for a glimpse of the elusive tiger and other exotic wildlife, staying overnight before we reach Bharatpur, home to Keoladeo National Park, and a major bird sanctuary, also visiting Karauli (overnight stay) en route. Later, we ride to the spectacular ancient city of Fatehpur Sikri, built by the Emperor Akbar. The long hot days in the saddle make for a demanding trip, but this is a truly unforgettable experience. Finally, the tour culminates in Delhi but not before we visit Agra where the Taj Mahal and Red Fort leave us breathless with wonder.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Delhi's rich heritage sites
- Jaipur, the Pink City and capital of Rajasthan
- Agra's Red Fort and the spectacular Taj Mahal
- Peaceful cycling along rural back roads and byways
- Fascinating palaces and architecture
- Tiger spotting, wildlife at Ranthambore and exotic migratory birds at Keoladeo National Park

Day 1. Arrival at Delhi



• Arrive at the International airport of Delhi. After the traditional welcome, transfer to hotel for overnight stay.

Accommodation

Ashok Country Resort

Delhi 9

Day 2. Welcome to pink city



Delhi ♥ ズ 260km - ② 1h Jaipur ♥ We drive to the colourful capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur, popularly known as the 'Pink City'. With its rich cultural heritage and colourful past, it is now one of the most important heritage cities in India. The city was established in 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the then ruler of Amer. Also known as The City of Victory, Jaipur was the first planned city of its time. With imposing forts, dazzling palaces, serene lakes and beautiful gardens and markets it has tremendous attraction for anyone. In the evening, we explore the colorful bazaars of Jaipur.

里 Breakfast

Ashok Country Resort

Accommodation

Suryaa Villa Jaipur

Day 3. Jaipur Sightseeing



Jaipur 🛛

- After the breakfast we drive to the ancient capital of Amer, 11 km from Jaipur. Famous for its massive Amber(amer) Fort, Amer was the ancient capital of Kachwaha dynasty for 6 centuries. We take an Elephant ride (optional), an experience to remember for a long time, to reach the Fort situated on the hill. Having appreciated its beauty and captured that in our cameras we visit City Palace Jaipur, a perfect blend of Rajasthani and Mughal architecture. Next, we visit Jantar Mantar, a Solar Observatory built in the 18th century; an astronomical treasure house that measures time according to the movement of the Sun to an error of just 2 seconds with solar devices that give accurate astrological predictions as well till date. We also visit Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds), a five-storied facade of pink sandstone. It was built in the year 1799 to allow royal ladies to watch processions and other the festivities on the road through its 953 'jharokas' or small windows without being seen by the public.
- Breakfast
 Suryaa Villa Jaipur
- Accommodation

Suryaa Villa Jaipur

Day 4. Jaipur - Jamwa Ramgarh - Bhandarej (Cycling 80 kms)



Jaipur ♥ ॐ 80km Bhandarej ♥

Jaipur - Bhandarej

Today, after taking a heavy breakfast at the hotel, will start our Rajasthan adventure Cycle tour. We will drive for an hour to the countryside and unload our cycles and start peddling our bikes. During this journey, we will experience the natural beauty around us and appreciate the green-brown hills dotted with small trees, hill top forts silhouetted against the sky. Although the roads are quiet but we can see bicycles, camel pulling cart and motorcycles. Today is the long hot day as we peddle towards the east to the 11th century village of Bhandarej and passing through the farms and small villages. Our accommodation is not far away (15Kms), and if our energy allows, we can peddle till our accommodation OR we can get transferred by the vehicle. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Breakfast

Suryaa Villa Jaipur

Accommodation

Hotel Bhandrawati Palace

Day 5. Bhandarej - Lalsot - Ranthambore National Park (Cycling 70 kms)



Bhandarej 🛛

Lalsot - Ranthambhore

Today, our routes will be passing the narrow roads through small villages, farms, agricultural lands, Hindu temples and get a lifetime experience to watch closely the real life of these villagers and their culture. We can witness the blue painted Brahmin houses which can easily be noticed from the natural colors of the land. In India, Brahmins are considered at a higher rank in cast system. While passing through these tiny villages, children usually waive their hands in excitement and colorful buses pass us with passengers riding on the roof which can be seen only in India. We are getting close the large road and heading towards the town named Lalsot. From here, we will head towards Ranthambore National Park, after loading up in a vehicle for the

& 70km Lalsot ♥ ♣ 70km - ② 2h Ranthambhore ♥ last 50 Kms. **Ranthambore** is a large wildlife reserve nearby Swai Madhopur. It is a former royal hunting ground and home to tigers, leopards and marsh crocodiles, there are many other species living including jackal, hyena, cheetah, wild bear and leopard. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Breakfast

Hotel Bhandrawati Palace

Accommodation

Ranthambore Heritage Haveli

Day 6. Ranthambore National Park – Karauli (Cycling - 30kms)



Ranthambhore ♥ ♣ 125km - ⓓ 3h Karauli ♥

Ranthambhore - Karauli

- Today, we start our day with enthusiasm and get ready for a Safari into Ranthambore National Park to see
 wildlife very closely. Ranthambore is one of the best National park in Asia to see Bengal tigers in their natural
 habitat and formerly hunting ground for Maharaja. The Chambal River forms a natural boundary of the
 Ranthambore Park towards the east, and on the eastern shore of Chambal lies the central Indian state of
 Madhya Pradesh.
- After we complete our safari, we leave the green forest behind, get on our bikes and head towards the narrow tarmac road and cross scenic villages and agricultural fields, impressive palace, and explore much more.
 Finally, we reached a charming city Karauli, an old holy city dotted with colorful blue buildings and will have enough time to even explore more about the city. Cycle approx. 30km / 2 3 hours; drive approx. 2 hours
- Breakfast

Ranthambore Heritage Haveli

Accommodation

Bhanwar Villas Palace

Day 7. Karauli - Bharatpur (cycling -75kms)



Karauli ♥ ♣ 140km - ⑦ 2h 40m Bharatpur ♥

Karauli - Bharatpur

• Today, we head towards the North over the hill terrain, villages, and towns and continue our Indian adventure with more excitement. Now we have better chances to closely observe the surroundings and getting much information and knowledge about the local villages and their lifestyle. We will be passing through the mystic landscape and more agriculturally rich roads as we clearly see the local people tending crops on the cultivated land. Most of the people find this trip with diverse scene of local life. Further, will head towards our hotel through driving, if our energy allows us, we can ride to the nearest Keoladeo National Park formerly known as the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary in Bharatpur. Over 230 species of birds are known to be the resident. It is also a major tourist center with scores ornithologists arriving here in the hibernal season. In order to preserve the wildlife, bicycles are the only vehicle permitted. Cycle approx 75km / 5 – 6 hours; drive approx 1 hour

Breakfast

Bhanwar Villas Palace

Accommodation

Udai Villas Palace Bharatpur

Day 8. Bharatpur - Fatehpur Sikri - Agra (Cycling -45kms)



Bharatpur **9**

Fatehpur Sikri - Agra

• Today, we will head towards the capital of the Mughal Empire and the first planned city of the Mughals. The architecture of the Fatehpur Sikri has a definite all-India character. It is prolific and versatile Indo-Muslim composite style, which is a fusion of the composite cultures of indigenous and foreign origins. Foundation of Fatehpur Sikri was laid down by Akbar, Mughal Ruler in the year 1569. At the time of its abondennement, it used to serve as the capital of Mughal Empire. Its preserved sandstone buildings include Mosque, Palaces and living areas and giving a distinctive view of civilization. After taking few photographs, we will load up our bikes onto the vehicle and drive ahead to an iconic city and home to one of the seven wonders on the earth

⇔ 45km Fatehpur Sikri ♥ ⇔ 40km - ⊙ 1h Agra ♥ (Taj Mahal). Agra straddles a large bend along the holy Yamuna River. Agra is a beautiful and modern city with some stunning landmarks like Taj Mahal. And will get an opportunity to see this beautiful monument tomorrow. Overnight stay at the hotel. Cycle approx. 45km / 3 – 4 hours drive approx. 1 – 2 hours

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里 Breakfast
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Udai Villas Palace Bharatpur

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Accommodation
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Howard Plaza

Day 9. Agra - Delhi



Agra ♥ ♣ 250km - ④ 5h 30m Delhi ♥

Agra - Delhi

- We will have a lifetime experience to visit the stunning and beautiful **Taj Mahal** at Sunrise. This unique monument was built by the Emperor Shah Jahan as a memorial to his wife Mumtaz in 17th century. The Taj Mahal is the beauty personified; Taj displays its different moods through its varied shades. The Taj has as many shades as any kind of beauty can ever have. We have enough time to explore the beauty of this wonderful monument and relax ourselves in the peaceful atmosphere; also can click some memorable pictures to cherish our trip.
- After the visit, we drive back to Delhi. Upon arrival, we have the option to visit the vibrant local bazaars of Delhi for last-minute shopping before we pack up for our flight to our next destination the next day.

Breakfast

Howard Plaza

Accommodation

Ashok Country Resort

Day 10. Departure Delhi



- Check-out from the hotel and transfer to the international airport or any point of convenience for onward journey to respective countries.
- 里 Breakfast

Ashok Country Resort

Delhi 🛛

Itinerary map



Individual price per person

| 2-3 | 4-5 | 6-8 | 9-12 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2275 USD | 1635 USD | 1305 USD | 1185 USD |

Included

- Accommodation for 09 nights in a double room in the hotels
 mentioned or equivalent on breakfast basis
- Support Vehicle and back-up equipment
- All ground transportation included in the program using private airconditioned vehicle with English speaking driver
- O1 Game drive in the Jeep on Seat sharing basis in Ranthambore National Park
- Entrance fees to the park and monuments as described in the program
- Professional English speaking Cycling tour leader throughout the trip
- Govt. Taxes

Not included

- International flight tickets
- Travel insurance
- These rates will not be valid for peak season from 20 December 2019 to 10 January 2020, Christmas and New Year's extra supplement cost will be charged during this period
- Lunch and Dinner through out the trip
- Miscellaneous Expenses drinks, souvenir, personal expenses etc.
- Tips for driver and other local staff
- Charges for Camera in the monuments and Parks
- The cancellation and baggage insurance, assistance and repatriation
- Indian Visa
- All services not mentioned in "Inclusion"