

# RARE - Luxury Desert Delight - Bikaner, Jaisalmer & Jodhpur (05 Nights)

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## day 1

### Delhi - Bikaner (Flight)

Reach airport on time to Board flight from Delhi (AI 9833 : 1150 / 1320) to Bikaner, the old city is encircled by a seven-km-long city wall with fine entrance gates, constructed in the 18th century. The city is mainly interesting for the superb large fort and palace, built of the same reddish-pink sandstone as Jaipur's famous buildings. Upon arrival at Bikaner Airport, meet with Hotel Rep & transfer to Hotel. Rest of the time is free to relax and enjoy the Hotel facilities. Stay overnight at Hotel.

### City: Bikaner

### Hotel: Narendra Bhawan

**Meals: Bed and Breakfast, No Drink**

**Time: 01 hour 30 mins**

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## day 2

### Bikaner

Breakfast at hotel and later start a half-day city tour of Bikaner visit to Junagarh Fort, Museum & Lallgarh Palace. Later also visit Camel Breeding Farm. Return back to Hotel and rest of the day is free at leisure. Overnight at hotel. Junagarh Fort, Museum: The fascinating Junagarh fort was constructed by Raja Rai Singh, between 1588 -1593 AD. He was the sixth ruler of Bikaner who ruled here from 1571 to 1611 AD. It was earlier referred to as Chintamani, but in the 20th century, the Junagarh Fort was renamed. The fort houses several temples, pavilions and palaces, covering an area of 5.28 hectares. Inside the fort, you can also visit Ratan Behari Temple, Har Mandir Temple and the palaces inside the fort-like Karan Mahal, Anup Mahal, Ganga Mahal, Phool Mahal, Badal Mahal and Chandra Mahal. The famed Junagarh Fort Museum is also a must-visit when visiting this place to get a glimpse at the history of the city. Lallgarh Palace: Over a century ago Maharaja Ganga Singhji of Bikaner, commissioned a Palace that has withstood time and desert sun for over a century. The Palace has a surprisingly harmonious blend of east and west and is considered among the most remarkable royal residences built during the 19th century. The exterior of Lallgarh Palace is covered with impossibly delicate stone carving and has the distinctive hue of the red sandstone of the Thar Desert. The cupolas domes and balconies were carved by local craftsman with such delicacy that even today the solid red sand stone has the fragile appearance of lace. Today, two wings of the Lallgarh Palace have been reincarnated as luxury heritage hotel. At a distance of 8 km from Bikaner Junction, National Research Centre on Camel is a camel breeding farm situated at Jorbeer area of Bikaner. Camel Breeding Farm: Popularly known as Government Camel Breeding Farm, it is one of the largest camel breeding farms of Asia. The

National Research Center was established in 1984 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Spread over an area of 2,000 acres of semi-arid land, the center is engaged in breeding and training of camels. The farm is a complex of camel stables, enclosures and buildings. There are around 400 camels at the National Research Centre on Camel. There is a museum in this research centre which depicts the research and developmental aspects of camels. Souvenir shops selling various camel products like camel skin bags, caps and purses. The farm permits tourists at certain hours of the day. It is interesting to watch camel calves gamboling around and also quite spectacular when the camels return from a day out in the desert. Facilities like camel riding and Safari are also available at this breeding farm.

### **Highlights: Guided Sightseeing Tour of Bikaner City**

**City: Bikaner**

**Hotel: Narendra Bhawan**

**Meals: Bed and Breakfast, No Drink**

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#### **day 3**

##### **Bikaner - Jaisalmer (330 Kms / 6-7 hrs)**

After breakfast at hotel checked out at hotel and drive to Jaisalmer founded by Rawal Jaisal in 1156 A.D., the remote location of Jaisalmer kept it almost untouched by outside influences, even during the days of the Raj. Jaisalmer was the last to sign the Instrument of Agreement with the British. In Medieval times, its prosperity was due to its location on the main trade route linking India to Egypt, Arabia, Persia, Africa and the West. Ages have gone by and the monuments of Jaisalmer have withstood the buffeting winds of the desert all through. Jaisalmer is a marvel of beautiful culture and harsh climatic conditions, together amounting to a memorable experience. Upon arrival check into hotel and rest of the time is free at leisure to enjoy the Hotels facilities (or) rejuvenate the body through Ayurvedic massage (on direct payment basis). Stay overnight at hotel.

**City: Jaisalmer**

**Hotel: Suryagarh**

**Meals: Bed and Breakfast, No Drink**

**Time: 06 hours 30 mins**

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#### **day 4**

##### **Jaisalmer**

Breakfast at hotel and proceed for half-day city tour to visit Jaisalmer Fort, Havelis (Patwon-ki-Haveli, Salim Singh-ki-Haveli), and Gadi Sagar & Museum. Afternoon return back to hotel & around 1600 Hrs again start Excursion to Sam Sand Dunes where you will enjoy an hour Camel Ride to see the sun set, return back to

hotel. Stay overnight at hotel. Jaisalmer Fort: Crowning the Trikuta Hill is the grand Jaisalmer fort made of yellow sandstone. This fort was built in 1156 by Rawal Jaisal. The fort walls provide a splendid view over the city and the surrounding desert. Gadsisar Sagar Tank: This scenic tank which is to the south of the city walls, was once the main water supply of Jaisalmer. It has many small temples and shrines around it. Jain Temples: The beautifully carved Jain temples which are dedicated to Rikhabdevji and Sambhavanthji are enclosed within the fort walls. These temples were built between the 12th and 15th centuries. Havelis: The beautiful mansions or havelis, all intricately latticed which are all over Jaisalmer, are open to visitors from 10.30 a.m to 5.00 p.m

**Highlights: Guided Sightseeing Tour of Jaisalmer City + Camel Ride at Sam Sand Dunes**

**City: Jaisalmer**

**Hotel: Suryagarh**

**Meals: Bed and Breakfast, No Drink**

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**day 5**

**Jaisalmer - Jodhpur (290 Kms / 6-7 hrs)**

After breakfast at hotel checked out at hotel and drive to Jodhpur the city at the edge of the Thar desert was once the capital of the Marwar state. It was founded in 1459 A.D. by Rao Jodha-chief of the Rathore clan of Rajput. In Jodhpur; the genius of its sculptors comes to life in its exquisite palaces, forts, temples and Havelis, which stand as a testimony to the imperial grandeur. Upon arrival check into hotel, and rest of the time is free at leisure to enjoy the Hotels facilities (or) rejuvenate the body through Ayurvedic massage (on direct payment basis). Stay overnight at hotel.

**City: Jodhpur**

**Hotel: RAAS Jodhpur**

**Meals: Bed and Breakfast, No Drink**

**Time: 06 hours 30 mins**

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**day 6**

**Jodhpur - Delhi (Flight)**

After breakfast proceed for half day city covering the Mehrangarh Fort, Jaswant Thada and Clock Tower Bazaar. In the evening check-out from Hotel and transfer to Jodhpur Airport to board flight to Delhi (AI 476 : 1700 / 1820 hrs)\*\*\* End of the Tour \*\*\* Mehrangarh Fort, also known as Mehran Fort was built by Rao Jodha in 1459 in Jodhpur, is one of the largest forts in the country. It is situated at the top of a 410 feet

elevated hill and guarded by massive walls. One of the most easily recognizable forts in Jodhpur, it has appeared in many Hollywood and Bollywood productions such as The Lion King, The Dark Knight Rises, and the more recent - Thugs of Hindostan. The entrance of the fort, atop a hill, is majestic and has seven gates. These are called Victory Gate, Fateh Gate, Gopal Gate, Bhairon Gate, Dedh Kamgra Gate, Marti Gate and finally Loha Gate. Each of these was built at different times and serves a very specific purpose. While one still has marks of cannon balls being hit on it, the other has spikes that can protect it from elephant and animal attacks. However, Victory Gate was built to commemorate the win of Maharaja Man Singh over Jaipur and Bikaner armies. The fort also has opulent palaces such as the Sheesh Mahal (Glass Palace) and Phool Mahal (Rose Palace). Jaswant Thada : Situated around half a kilometer away from the Mehrangarh Fort, Jaswant Thada is a beautifully constructed white marble cenotaph of Maharaja Jaswant Singh II. Also known as the Taj Mahal of Marwar, it was built as a memorial for Maharaja Jaswant Singh II by his son Maharaja Sardar Singh in 1899. Showcasing architectural brilliance of Rajputana era, the monument is built like a temple with beautiful jalis (carved marble lattice screens). There is a terrace in front of the cenotaph that offers breathtaking views of the surrounding area. The memorial has a multi-tiered garden and a small pond that adds up to its beauty. Visitors can also admire elegant paintings and portraits of the former rulers of Jodhpur which adorn the walls of the memorial. The Clock Tower is a popular landmark in the old city. The vibrant Sardar Market is close to the tower, and narrow alleys lead from here to a bazaar selling vegetables, spices, Indian sweets, textiles, silver and handicrafts. It is a great place to ramble around at leisure.

### **Highlights: Guided Sightseeing Tour of Jodhpur City**

**Meals: Bed and Breakfast, No Drink**

**Time: 01 hour 20 mins**

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