



NZ
**TRAVEL
BROKERS**
Travel Intelligence

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LAND OF MAHARAJAS

15 NIGHTS / 16 DAYS

The Land of Maharajas leads you through some of this colorful state's most famous sites and cities as well as unlocking a few hidden gems which lie slightly off the well-worn route. The Thar Desert and Aravalli Hills combine to create a stunning visual backdrop to this journey.

Day 01: Delhi Arrival (by flight: TBA)

Arrive at Delhi International Airport. We will clear immigration & visa formalities, collect our baggage and proceed to the arrival lounge. Thereafter we will be assisted with a transfer to the hotel, check in at the hotel and stay two nights in Delhi. **(No Meals)**

Day 02: Delhi

After breakfast we meet at the hotel lobby for a short briefing, followed by guided sightseeing tour at Old & New Delhi. Begin with **Old Delhi** with a drive pass **Red Fort Palace** to reach **Jama Masjid** - the largest mosque in India built in red sandstone. Between the mosque and Chandni Chowk is a narrow shop-lined street along which you will be transported by **cycle rickshaws** on your most photogenic journey of the tour. Afternoon drive past **New Delhi**, which will include photo opportunities at some of the following attractions - the exterior of the Parliament House, the War Memorial Arch (**India Gate**) and residence of the President of India in New Delhi. Conclude your day with visit to **Qutub Minar**; being one of the most important landmarks of Delhi, with calligraphically decorated interiors and also inscriptions of verses of the Holy Quran. Stay overnight at Delhi. **(B,D)**



Day 03: Delhi – Mandawa (by surface: 05 hrs drives)

Morning drive to Mandawa, a small but delightful town in Shekhawati region of Rajasthan. Founded in the mid-18th century, the town offers a sense of new discovery and is known for its forts, castles, **stunning havelis, beautiful paintings, rich culture and tradition**. On arrival check into hotel. After a brief rest proceed for sightseeing of this splendid town with beautiful paintings, murals and frescoes which are seen in the stunning havelis, temples, cenotaphs, wells, castles, forts and palaces. Then visit the majestic **Mandawa Fort**; its archway has beautiful painting which shows Lord Krishna among his cowherds and the rooms are architecturally adorned with mirror work. The city is quite rightly named as "The Open Air Art Gallery of Rajasthan". Stay overnight in Mandawa. **(B,D)**

Day 04: Mandawa – Bikaner (by surface: 04 hrs drives)

After breakfast check out and travel towards Bikaner, lying the north-west part of Rajasthan and is the centre of art and culture of medieval India. This desert city has a stark beauty which is totally unique, with wide-spread dunes, the moonlit glittering beauty and desert agility, marvellous palaces and temples, archaeological treasures, all combining to making it a city of lasting charm. On arrival check into hotel and take a brief rest. Then after proceed for a guided visit to **Camel Breeding Farm**, which houses roughly . Visit the small Camel museum, get to taste the products made from the highly sweet camel milk like Ice cream, tea and coffee prepared from the Camel milk, a rarity. Return to the hotel for overnight stay. **(B,D)**

**Day 05: Bikaner – Jaisalmer (by surface: 05 ½ hrs drives)**

Morning proceed for half day guided city tour visiting **Junagarh Fort**, made of red and pink sandstone, and has 37 domes inside and is surrounded by high walls with a 30 feet trench around the fort. Ride **tonga** waiting for you, in fact, the most feasible and reasonable mode of transport and a veritable source of fun. Wade through the narrow alleys of **Old Bikaner City**, passing through the bangle, spice and vegetable market, and 'Tea Street', seeing some of the traditional red sandstone 'havelis', built by well to do merchants, the intricately carved structures are representative of the trending architectural styles of the 1900s as well as the personal tastes of their owners ending at **Jain Bhandeshwar Temple**. Here you will climb up to get a panoramic view of the city. Afternoon check out and drive to Golden City of **Jaisalmer**. On arrival check into hotel. Stay for two nights in Jaisalmer. **(B,D)**

**Day 06: Jaisalmer**

After breakfast, proceed for a guided visit to with the only **living fort** in the world, Jaisalmer. Take a stroll in the narrow streets of the Golden city and get a glimpse of the life style of the locals. Every house is exquisitely carved having filigreed work all over. Visit the **Jain Temple** followed by visit to the beautifully carved **Nathmalji Ki Haveli**. Return to the hotel for a brief rest. Early evening proceed to enjoy **camel ride** on its exotic sand dunes, offering an unforgettable experience of rich cultural heritage. En-route stop at **Kuldhara** – the abandoned village now believed to be haunted, it is said that it is impossible for anyone to spend even one night there. It was the largest of 84 villages belonging to Paliwal Brahmins, all of which were abandoned on a single night in 1825. Continue to the desert, where you will **enjoy the camel ride** amongst the breath-taking sight of Sun descending with a peculiar glow and as ascending night bringing stupendous views of sunset and the fort. Stay overnight at Jaisalmer. **(B,D)**



Day 07: Jaisalmer – Jodhpur (by surface: 05 ½ hrs drives)

After breakfast you will experience the feeling of travelling back in time with a journey to Jodhpur, while you catch a glimpse of the splendour and magnificence of this ancient desert city built on the edge of the **Thar Desert**. At its best, it is a doorway to the wonderland of sand dunes and shrubs, rocky terrain and thorny trees. Rest of the day is free to **explore the rustic rural life** of the locals. The folks here wear nice and lovely multihued costumes. The **bazaars** have a range of items from tie and dye textiles, embroidered leather shoes, lacquer ware, antiques, carpets and puppets to the exquisite Rajasthani textiles, clay figurines, miniature camels and elephants, marble inlay work and classic silver jewellery. Stay for two nights in Jodhpur. **(B,D)**

Day 08: Jodhpur

After breakfast proceed for guided sightseeing tour of Jodhpur and visit **Mehrangarh Fort**; one of the largest forts in India, the beauty and grandeur of numerous palaces inside narrates a saga of hard sandstones yielding to the chisels of skilled Jodhpuri sculptures and to enter, seven gates have to be crossed. A collection of musical instruments, palanquins, furniture and cannons on the forts ramparts are well preserved. Also visit **Old city**; surrounded by a 10km long wall, has 8 gates serving as entrances, the winding streets offer colourful street markets with blue houses alternated with white houses and **Clock tower**; a prominent landmark. Evening get yourself painted with **Henna**, the ancient Indian form of Tattoo, for over five thousand years, henna has served as a symbol of good luck, health and sensuality in the Indian sub-continent. Stay overnight at Jodhpur. **(B,D)**

**Day 09: Jodhpur – Udaipur (by surface: 05 ½ hrs drives)**

Morning travel to **Udaipur**, en-route pass lush green valleys, streams and heart capturing views before visiting **Ranakpur**, with intricately carved marble Pillars and Domes. Ranakpur is amongst the five holiest places of the Jain community and exceptional in beauty. Tucked away in a remote valley in the Aravalli ranges, it boasts of one of the largest and most important Jain Temples in the country. On arrival check into hotel. Stay for two nights at Udaipur. **(B,D)**

Day 10: Udaipur

Early morning (with packed breakfast) embark on a **Tribal Village experience**. Witness the culture of **Bhil Tribes** along with village walk. Return back to Udaipur and proceed for a guided tour visiting **City Palace & its complex**. The City Palace boasts of the wonderful blend of Medieval, European and Chinese Architecture and has various towers, domes and arches, which add to the flavour of heritage site. Later visit **Jagdish Temple**, dating back to 1651 AD, it is an exquisite example of Indo Aryan architecture. Visit the **Bhartiya Lok Kala Mandir**, an Indian folk arts museum which has interesting exhibits that include folk's dresses, ornaments, puppets, masks, dolls, folk's musical instruments, folk deities. Conclude your day enjoying a boat ride on **Lake Pichola**. Created in the year 1362 AD, named after the nearby Picholi village. Two islands, Jag Niwas and Jag Mandir are located within Pichola Lake and have been developed with several palaces to provide views of the lake. Rest of the evening explore on your own visiting the numerous shops that dot the narrow windings streets of Udaipur for souvenir to take back home. **(B,D)**



Day 11: Udaipur – Pushkar (by surface: 05 hrs drives)

After breakfast, today we travel to a tiny tranquil town of Pushkar, lying along the bank of the picturesque Pushkar Lake, in a narrow dry valley, overshadowed by impressive rocky hills, offering the most spectacular views of the desert during sunset. It is one of the five most sacred places of pilgrimage of Hindus. As per Indian mythology, the city was created when a lotus leaf fell from Lord Brahma's hand and the holy lake sprouted up there. It is surrounded by hills on three sides and sand dunes on one which makes it the most fascinating. In the afternoon we visit **Pushkar Lake** and **Brahma temple**; the only one of its kind in the world. This is a city of pilgrimage from time immemorial with over 500 temples and Ghats, with each Ghat having its own miraculous qualities and healing powers. Pushkar begets a legacy of timeless architectural heritage and radiates an ambience of peace and spirituality. Stay overnight at Pushkar. **(B,D)**

**Day 12: Pushkar – Jaipur (by surface: 03 hrs drives)**

After breakfast travel to Jaipur, the first planned city of India, is a treasure-trove of culture, art and history, famous for its colour, life style and Rajasthani cuisine. It is a city exuding royal heritage and extravagant richness. The historic city also has many temples and shrines. Upon arrival check in into your designated hotel, with remaining day at your disposal to explore the Jaipur Bazaar at your own pace or relax in the hotel. You can enjoy hunting through the colourful and chaotic streets, shopping for souvenirs like silver jewellery, precious and semi-precious stones such as diamonds, topaz and emeralds, embroidered clothing and quilts, block printed textiles, lacquered brass work, leather footwear, miniature marble carvings and blue potteries. While walking down the lanes you will also witness the cultural heritage of the city unfolding a legacy of the royal past. Stay for two nights in Jaipur. **(B, D)**

**Day 13: Jaipur**

Morning after an early breakfast proceed for guided visit of **Amber Fort**, enroute photo stop at **Hawa Mahal (Wind Palace)**. Continue your morning with **Amber Fort** excursion, the ancient capital of Rajasthan and the majestic palace complex to witness a unique system of air-conditioning of 17th century. Later proceed for guided tour of Jaipur city starting with **City Palace Museum**; boasts to have some of the priceless handwritten Hindu scriptures of the ancient past, miniature delicate paintings, preserved painted ceilings and the elephant saddles (haudas), and is registered in the Guinness Book of Records to contain the biggest silver objects in the world. Conclude your day with visit to **Jantar Mantar**; one of the famed observatories built by Sawai Jai Singh is a complex of astronomical instruments, chiselled out of stone which provides fairly accurate information to this day. Overnight at Jaipur. **(B,D)**

Day 14: Jaipur – Agra (by surface: 5 ½ hrs drives)

Morning travel to Agra, home to India's most famous landmark, the Taj Mahal. A poem of white marble, the Taj is described as the most extravagant monument ever built for love. En-route visit **Fatehpur Sikri** an outstanding example of Mughal architecture and a UNESCO World Heritage site. The perfectly preserved red sandstone buildings consist of palaces, courtyards, a life-size chess board, tombs and mosques. Visit the **Diwan-e-Khas** with its remarkable central pillar. Also unmissable is **Panch Mahal**, the five storied structure used as the viewing



station for the harem. On arrival check into hotel. Remaining day free for self-recreational activities. You can visit to local market. Agra is famous for its sweets (*Petha*) and marble inlay work. Stay for two nights in Agra. (B,D)

Day 15: Agra

Early morning visit **Taj Mahal** (*closed on Fridays*) - the epitome of love, stands on the banks of the river Yamuna built in the 17th century by the Mughal Emperor Shahjahan. The white marble building changes its hue with the variations in the daylight. Made entirely of white marble and decorated with exquisite pietra dura (stone inlay) work, different types of precious and semi-precious stones were used in the intricate inlay work done on the interiors. This magnificent monument is built around a Charbagh or 'four garden' plan, split by watercourses— reflects the influence of Persian architectural style. Return to the hotel for breakfast. Then after visit to **Agra Fort**, built by Emperor Akbar, which is a mixture of the Islamic and Hindu styles of architecture and **Itmad-ud-Daula Tomb**; nicknamed as baby Taj; another fine example of Mughal architecture. Stay overnight at Agra. (B,D)



Day 16: Agra – Delhi & Departure (by flight: TBA)

Morning check and travel to Delhi, ending our tour with drop at Delhi Airport to board your flight to onward destination. (B)

***** Tour Ends *****

Cost of the above tour per person (in NZD)

	Per person price in NZ\$	
	Deluxe 4*	
	Twin share	Single Room
Per Person	NZ\$ 7495.00	NZ\$ 8810.00
Tipping Kitty	NZ\$ 274.00	NZ\$ 274.00

Hotels used below or similar

City	Deluxe 4*	Nights
Delhi	Holiday Inn - MV /Standard Room	02
Mandawa	Vivaana Culture / Deluxe Room	01
Bikaner	Lallgarh Palace / Deluxe Room	01
Jaisalmer	Fort Rajwada / Deluxe Room	02
Jodhpur	Balsamand Garden / Garden Room	02
Udaipur	Ramada Hotel / Deluxe Room	02
Pushkar	Bhanwar Singh Palace / Royal Room	01
Jaipur	Golden Tulip / Standard Room	02
Agra	Clarks Shiraz / Standard Room	02

What's included?

- Accommodation in hotels (as specified above) with private facility.)
- Return Economy Class Airfares from Auckland to Delhi
- Private air-condition vehicle with driver for travel, transfers and sightseeing as per Itinerary.
- Meals as specified (**B**=Breakfast, **D**=Dinner)
- English speaking local guide during sightseeing and excursions only
- Service of THO tour escort travelling with the group
- Entrance fee to the monuments as per the Program (one visit per monument)
- Rickshaw ride in Old Delhi
- Tonga ride at Bikaner.
- Camel ride at Jaisalmer.
- Boat ride on Lake Pichola, Udaipur on sharing basis.
- Elephant ride at Jaipur (2 Pax per elephant).
- Assistance on arrival and departures.
- 01 bottle of mineral water per person during drives.
- All applicable taxes.

What's excluded?

Any International or Domestic Airfare not mentioned and Visa fee, Early check in or late check out, Meals other than specified above, Tips & Gratuities, Travel & Medical Insurance, Camera and video permits, Expenses incurred due to flight / train cancellation or delay, any expense of a personal nature, like drinks, laundry, telephone calls, mini bar, etc, any optional excursion or tour, any other expense not mentioned in the prices include column.

To obtain Electronic Visa Online - India, please visit <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html> for more details / submit your individual visa application. **Please apply your visa online at least 15 days before departure date.**

For India local references please use our India office address:

IMPORTANT: Please carefully read through all travel arrangements to ensure they are booked as you require. Any changes should be made as early as possible to avoid unnecessary charges.

PAYMENT can be made by Direct Credit to the following bank account for NZ Travel Brokers:

Bank: BNZ - Palmerston North
Account Number: 02 0727 0074481 02
(include your name as a reference)

If you wish to pay by Credit Card merchant fees will apply as follows:

Visa & MasterCard 2% - Diners 3.5% - American Express 3.5%

PAYMENT DEADLINES:

Deposit \$1000 per person on confirmation of land arrangements
Deposit \$2000 per person on confirmation of flights

The balance of costs are due no later than 20th June 2017

CANCELLATIONS & AMENDMENTS:

Most airfares and associated land arrangements have strict cancellation and amendment restrictions in place. Travel Insurance will of course cover you against any 'unforeseen circumstance' preventing you from travelling as planned. Relevant details for this travel are noted below:

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is strongly recommended to protect you against cancellation penalties and protection against other travel related costs such as medical and baggage expenses.

Should you wish to purchase travel insurance, please complete the attached application form and return to me.

PASSPORT:

A valid passport is required for your journey; please check your passport is valid for at least 6 months at the completion of travel. The name on your airline ticket must be identical to your passport, therefore, please forward a copy of your passport photo/info page by email or fax if I do not already have your passport details. Most airlines require this information in your booking prior to departure. It is your responsibility to ensure that you hold the correct documentation for your journey. Please contact me should you require assistance.

Please ensure that name(s) on the flight itinerary are the same as they appear in your passport(s). If there are any discrepancies, please advise me immediately so that I can change them for you. If an issued ticket does not match your passport details, airlines will refuse boarding. A fee will be incurred if the reissuing of a ticket is required due to a name or routing change.

All foreign passport holders require a valid re-entry visa for New Zealand. Two blank pages are generally required for all visas or arrival/departure stamps.

VISAS:

Many countries require a current visitor's visa prior to entry. We are able to assist with visa applications; however it is your responsibility to ensure that your passport holds any relevant visas. Please discuss this if you are unsure or if you travel on other than a New Zealand passport as you may require further documentation. All destinations require a visa if you have a criminal conviction or a serious communicable disease. If you have previously been deported from any country it may be a requirement that you contact the Consulates directly or apply in person.

US VISA WAIVER PROGRAMME:

An Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA) is accessible via internet for citizens and eligible nationals of Visa Waiver Programme (VWP) countries to apply for advance authorisation to travel to the United States under the VWP. All VWP travellers (including transit passengers) will be required to obtain an ESTA prior to boarding a carrier to travel by air or sea to the US. This can be obtained at the ESTA website <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>.

FREQUENT FLYERS:

Please advise me of your Frequent Flyer Membership(s) applicable to this trip so that I may inform the relevant airline(s). It is important that you retain your boarding passes and original ticket or ET receipt as this proof of travel will be required by airlines should any flights not automatically appear on your statement. Most airlines provide a limited timeframe to claim missing points and you will need to forward the original documents to the airline while retaining a copy for yourself. Please note, not all airfares permit frequent flyer points accrual.

TRAVEL SAFETY:

Travel to some countries involves high risks which may be of a political, medical or other nature. We recommend that you check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade Travel Advice website www.safetravel.govt.nz for current advisories, if any, on specific areas to which you may be

travelling. It is also recommended that you register your itinerary on this site, particularly if travelling to parts of the world less frequented by tourists.

VACCINATIONS:

Some countries have certain health and vaccination requirements, which must be considered prior to travel. Please contact your doctor for professional advice. You may also like to access the following websites, which are useful for recommendations on vaccinations required - www.everybody.co.nz and www.moh.govt.nz. Should you require further information I am happy to help further.

CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS

All prices confirmed are subject to be withdrawn or altered until full payment is made. The price is only guaranteed once paid for in full by the client to NZ Travel Brokers. Price changes or increases may occur by reason of matters outside our control, such as currency fluctuations, which increase the cost of the product or service by our suppliers. If this is the case on your booking once it is confirmed, we will endeavor to contact you to pay in full to avoid such increases, where we are given the opportunity by suppliers.

DISCLAIMER:

NZ Travel Brokers will undertake to perform these services with reasonable care and skill. NZ Travel Brokers will not be liable for any losses or damages which result from the act, default or omission of any person other than ourselves, or any other cause independent of human control. As NZ Travel Brokers are not able to exercise control over services NZ Travel Brokers do not supply directly, NZ Travel Brokers will not be responsible for any loss or damages arising from any other supplier's non-delivery/performance. NZ Travel Brokers will endeavour to provide the most suitable travel arrangements to meet the particular requirements you make known to us. However, travel is an individual experience and your preferences and opinions may vary from my own. For this reason, NZ Travel Brokers can not take responsibility for individual satisfaction.

In essence, issues may arise that are beyond my control, such is the nature of travel. I will use my expertise to minimise the chances of that happening and if any complications do occur while you are away I will be available 24/7 to assist in any way I can.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Alyson Wilcock

Travel Broker | Auckland

