

Photo Tours India presents

“Desert Dreams”

10 days photography tour to Rajasthan

November 17 - 26, 2010



Objectives

The main objective is to bring out the essence of Rajasthan in every frame. From heartwarming sand dunes to the majestic forts & palaces, you've everything at your disposal. 'Photo Tours India' will provide you with maximum possible stunning locations at the right time; so that you can concentrate on photography. Workshops at the end of most of the day's shoot will help you to capture the moments better every next day.

Dates

November 17 – 26, 2010

Pre-requisites

Nothing much, all you need to have a camera (preferably a digital SLR one) and passion for photography. Be prepared for waking up at the wee hours of the day or sleeping on the sand dunes under the sky; but certainly your images will be worth taking the pain. Well, it would be fun too!

Recommended gear & accessories

It will be cold, especially at night. Therefore, don't forget to pack your woolens, cap and a pair of gloves. A pair of snicker would be helpful to walk on the sand dunes.

For your camera & lenses, make sure you have the body cover & lens cover to save your gear from dust. You can use any lens, from an ultra wide to shoot the landscape to the medium telephoto to shoot people on street. A tripod will be worth taking if you would like to shoot the desert in moonlit night.

Itinerary

Day 1: November 17, 2010

We will check-in a hotel at Jaipur. After the introductory breakfast, we will start the day by 9 AM.

Enjoy a guided photography tour of city including a visit to the Amber fort, which we climb on an elephant's back or by a jeep. The main attractions are the Sukh Mandir (Temple of Contentment – an aptly named pleasure chamber, cooled by a stunning water cascade) and the Sheesh Mahal (Mirror palace) here. Also see the architectural marvels like the Hawa Mahal (Palace of wind), Jantar Mantar (the observatory) & the City Palace complex.

Later take a sunset view of Jaipur from historical Nahargarh Fort.

Overnight at Jaipur

Day 2: November 18, 2010

We will start the day early as today we will spend the day at the famous Pushkar fair. Camels, colors and people are your theme for the day. Spend the whole day there by doing non-stop clicking the shutter – and we will come back to Jaipur to spend the night.

Overnight at Jaipur

Day 3: November 19, 2010

After breakfast, we will head towards Bikaner – a relatively remote city of Rajasthan. On the way, we will stop at few villages to shoot the local faces which will make outstanding environmental portraits.

Check-in a hotel at Bikaner, overnight at Bikaner.

Day 4: November 20, 2010

After breakfast, we will start the day by visiting the unusual Junagarh Fort. Unusual because, unlike all the major forts of Rajasthan which are on hilltops, this one was built on the desert plains itself. The palace complex's sumptuously decorated interiors are better preserved than in almost any other region.

After lunch, we will move towards a village which is around 45 KMs away from Bikaner city. Other than the usual village life of Rajasthan, we will get to see the first glimpse of sand dunes here.

Overnight at Bikaner

Day 5: November 21, 2010

Today after breakfast, we will start for the Golden Oasis – Jaisalmer. It will take around 6 to 7 hours to reach Jaisalmer but on the way we will shoot at Phalodi & Pokhran.

Check-in a hotel at Jaisalmer, overnight at Jaisalmer.

Day 6: November 22, 2010

We will start the day little early as we need to capture every nook & corner of the exotic fort of Jaisalmer with the golden light of morning.

After lunch, we will start for a camel safari over the sand dunes. Dinner will be served on the sand dunes on camp fire; we will spend the night under the sky on bedrolls. This is one of the experiences you would cherish your lifetime.

Day 7: November 23, 2010

Breakfast on the dunes and we will be back at Jaisalmer by afternoon. You may want to take stroll in the local market offering good photo opportunities.

Overnight at Jaisalmer

Day 8: November 24, 2010

After an early breakfast, we will start for the blue city – Jodhpur. In the afternoon, we will shoot at the Mehrangarh fort.

Overnight at Jodhpur

Day 9: November 25, 2010

Now it's time to hit our last destination of the tour – the lake city, Udaipur. The beautiful city of lakes Udaipur is often referred to as the Venice of East and more so locally as the Kashmir of Rajasthan. En route you can see the marvelous Jain temples at Ranakpur.

Photography sessions at Mor Chowk (Peacock courtyard), with its walls covered with a dramatic glass mosaic relief of dancing peacocks. Also visit the Jagdish temple & other places.

Overnight at Udaipur

Day 10, November 26, 2010

After breakfast, we will head towards east – Chittaurgarh. We will spend the day there shooting the famous fort and other attractions of the city.

We will come back to Udaipur for overnight stay.

Tour ends.

General notes

- We will try our best to maintain the given itinerary, but if the roads are not accessible for any reason, then we need to take different routes to different places. But surely, there will be productive days of photography even if we can't reach any of the mentioned places.
- The cost of mineral water is NOT included; it will be shared by the team members at the end of the tour.
- Rajasthan is a mostly conservative, please respect values of the local people. Please avoid wearing revealing outfits, avoid taking photographs of the local people without permission.
- Please inform your tour manager if you are facing any problem within the tour. We would be more than happy to help you.
- This tour is for only 9 photographers, excluding one from Photo Tours India. Seats will be booked on first-come first-served basis.

Price

The price for this trip is Rs. 53,000/- (INR Fifty Three Thousand only). You can book your seat by paying Rs. 10,000/- (INR Ten Thousand only) by September 10, 2010 and the balance by October 10, 2010.

This price includes the followings:

- All transfers from Jaipur to Udaipur would be in SUV or Tempo Traveler.
- Accommodation at all hotels & camp in twin sharing basis. If anyone asks for single supplement for any reason, additional amount of Rs. 15,000/- (INR Fifteen thousand only) has to be paid.
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner for all these days; starting breakfast on November 17 to the dinner of November 26, 2010.
- Entry fees with still camera for Indian nationals.

Price does not include:

- Mineral/bottled water (on the way, at the hotel/camp)
- Entry fees/camera charges at different monuments for foreigners
- Any expenditure of personal in nature (shopping, laundry, tips, etc.) or any beverages.
- Any medical insurance or medical expenses

Entry form
Photography tour to Rajasthan
November 17 – 26, 2010

Name: _____

Complete Address: _____

PIN Code: _____

Residence telephone number: _____

Mobile number: _____

E-mail: _____

Date of birth: _____

Blood group: _____

Pre-existing illnesses: _____

Allergic to (food, vegetable, medicine, etc, if any): _____

Next to kin (name & relationship): _____

Emergency contact person: _____

Emergency contact number: _____

Food preference: Vegetarian Non-Vegetarian

Payment mode: Direct Bank Deposit (HDFC Bank) Cash Credit Card

I do hereby agree to all the terms & conditions mentioned here and the information provided here by myself are from best of my knowledge.

Date: _____

Place: _____

Signature

Instructions to fill up the entry form

- Please print the last 2 pages of this file (page 6 & 7), i.e., the entry form and this page, fill all the points in as detail as possible, paste a passport size photograph at the top-right corner of the form, then courier it to:
Anirban Biswas
301, Shiv Darshan,
Sector – 19, Plot # 90,
Kharghar, Navi Mumbai – 410210,
Maharashtra, India.
- Please write a mail to tours@phototours.in after sending the filled up form and let us know your chosen payment mode. We will send you the Bank A/C number or the link to pay by Credit Card accordingly.
- Please don't forget to sign on both the pages where it's marked as 'Signature'.

Terms & Conditions

1. The mentioned cost does not include any expense of personal nature, laundry or any beverages.
2. Charges for entry fees, still camera and/or video camera (if any) will be borne by the participants.
3. We (Photo Tours India) assume no responsibility for accidents or injury to individuals participating in the "Desert Dreams" photography tour.
4. We cannot assume any liability whatsoever for injury, sickness, damage, death, loss, theft, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence of or default of any travel agent, hotel, carrier, restaurant, company, airline, or person rendering any of the services included in the "Desert Dreams" photography tour, or by act of God, act of war or terrorism. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage, changes or delays due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or other causes beyond our personal control.
5. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions and schedule changes, forced stopovers, rerouting or acts of any governments or authority.
6. We reserve the right to decline or accept any person as a member of any tour or to cancel or alter the tour without notice.
7. This tour is open for only 9 participants. We cannot accommodate more than 9 and seats will be booked on first-come first-serve basis.
8. Place in this tour can be booked by paying Rs. 10,000 (INR Ten Thousand only) by September 10, 2010. The balance amount must be paid by October 10, 2010 to get a confirmed seat.
9. All cancellation requests will be entertained till October 10, 2010 with a deduction of 20% of the booking amount. No cancellation request will be entertained after October 10, 2010 and no refund request will be entertained thereafter.

Date: _____

Place: _____

Signature