

Byroads
Inspiring Escorted Journeys

COLOURS OF RAJASTHAN

Discover the highlights & hidden secrets of northern India

16 DAYS - STARTING NEW DELHI 11 NOVEMBER 2019





COLOURS OF RAJASTHAN

Trip Outline

There's little argument that India is one of the most colourful countries in the world, with Rajasthan at its epicentre. Despite being an essentially arid region, it shimmers with almost every shade in the rainbow. Dusty towns and villages are embellished with dazzling saris and vibrant local markets offer fruit, vegetables and a bright palette of spices. In addition, the state is dotted with numerous stately palaces – some more colourful than others – along with elegant havelis (merchant homes), temples and much more.

This tour features some of India's most stunning destinations, including the Taj Mahal, Udaipur, Jodhpur and Jaipur. In addition, we head off the beaten track to less known highlights such as the ancient towns of Karauli and Narlai. And, for lovers of wildlife, we visit Ranthambore, one of North India's largest national parks, with a growing Tiger population along with other animal and bird species.

Our journey begins in Delhi, where we explore the Old City before heading south to Agra and the incomparable Taj Mahal. Heading west, we visit Akbar's wonderful deserted capital at Fatehpur Sikri and the Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary at Bharatpur before arriving in the 14th century town of Karauli, considered one of the holiest towns in Rajasthan. Our next stop is the world famous Ranthambore National Park; a vast wildlife reserve known for its tigers, leopards and marsh crocodiles.

The fabled 'pink city' or Jaipur is one of the three 'pearls' of Rajasthan as well as the state capital. Further on we come to Jodhpur, another highlight, and a particular favourite of Steve's with its spectacular Mehrangarh Fort looming above the town.

Sleepy yet spectacular, the Narlai village sits on an exhilarating back road where our stunning heritage hotel for the night was once a hunting lodge of the Royal family. Having visited the beautiful 15th century Jain temple at Ranakpur we arrive in beautiful Udaipur where we have a further two full days to explore this magical city and its surrounds. Udaipur is often described as one of the worlds most romantic places in India and it is easy to see why.



Tour Highlights

- Red Fort
- India Gate
- Jama Masjid Mosque
- Salaam Balak Trust Walk
- Qutab Minor Sikh Temple
- Agra Fort & Taj Mahal
- Fatehpur Sikri Moghul City
- Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary
- Karauli Walled Town
- Ranthambore Tiger Park
- Jaipur & Amber Fort
- Palace of the Wind
- Jantar Mantar Observatory
- Jodhpur 'Blue City'
- Mehrangarh Fortress
- Rawla Narlai Palace Hotel
- Narlai Game Safari
- Ranakpur Jain Temple
- Udaipur & the City Palace
- Eklingh Temples

Tour Host – Steve Mortimer



Steve Mortimer heads up Byroads and will be your host on this tour. Steve has more than 30 years in the travel industry and has travelled to well over 100 countries. He started work in travel as an expedition leader, taking travellers overland across Africa, Asia and South America. He has also worked with a number of well-known Australian

travel companies designing and operating holidays to some of the world's most fascinating destinations.

Steve likes nothing better than getting out and about with like-minded travellers, sharing his knowledge and introducing his guests to some of the world's most interesting places. With Byroads you can be confident you'll visit all the 'must see' attractions, however there is still time to wander and make your own discoveries. Throughout the tour a local guide provides a wealth of information and shares their extensive local knowledge.

ITINERARY - STARTS IN NEW DELHI

MON 11 NOV: NEW DELHI – Upon arrival at Delhi Airport you are met and transferred to your hotel. The balance of the day is at your leisure.

TUE 12 NOV: DELHI – Today we explore the narrow alleys of Old Delhi on a wonderful walk organized by the Salaam Balak Trust. Later we visit the Jama Masjid mosque and pass by the Red Fort enroute to modern New Delhi where we see various government buildings, the Qutab Minar, Delhi's largest Sikh temple and we will stop for that iconic photo at India Gate. (B)

WED 13 NOV: DEL-AGRA – This morning we drive to Agra. No matter how many times you've seen the photos, nothing quite prepares you for the Taj Mahal, which we visit this morning in all its glory. Later we head to Agra Fort, with its dainty pavilions overlooking the River Yamuna. (B)

THU 14 NOV: AGRA-FATEHPUR SIKRI-BHARATPUR-KARAULI – At Fatehpur Sikri, is the fabled deserted city of Moghul Emperor Akbar whilst further on at Bharatpur is the historical Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary. Our destination this day is the heritage town of Karauli. (BLD)

FRI 15 NOV: KARAULI – Karauli was founded in 1348 AD. Surrounded by a red sandstone wall and with over 300 temples it is considered one of the holiest cities in Rajasthan. We visit the City Palace with its frescoes and magnificent structures and the Lord Krishna temple. Later we enjoy a stroll through the local village interacting with farmers, school children and handicraft workers. (BLD)

SAT 16 & SUN 17 NOV: RANTHAMBORE – A leisurely drive brings us to the wildlife sanctuary of Ranthambore which was one of the first nine Project Tiger reserves in India. Combating illegal poaching has been the project's biggest task and today, with 47 such sanctuaries dotted all over India, it is believed tiger numbers are finally on the increase. Here we explore this lovely park, on a morning and afternoon game drive, searching for tiger, indigenous deer and numerous bird species. (2B2L2D)

MON 18 NOV: RANTHAMBORE-JAIPUR – A 5 hour drive brings us to the 'Pink City' of Jaipur, home to ancient forts and palaces. Jaipur is an exuberance of colour, dance, arts and crafts and in the evening we explore the many facets of Jaipuri crafts such as jewelry, pottery and carpets (B)

TUE 19 NOV: JAIPUR – Amber Palace is one of Rajasthan's most celebrated monuments and after our visit we return to the city to explore the old palace (now a museum), and the ancient astronomical observatory at Jantar Mantar. We'll also see the façade of the Hawa Mahal, which looks like a dainty Viennese pastry! (B)

WED 20 NOV: JAIPUR-JODHPUR – Today we travel to Jodhpur, a city ringed by high stone walls with seven gates and several bastions. This second largest city of Rajasthan was founded by Rao Jodha in 1459 A.D. (B)

THU 21 NOV: JODHPUR – Jodhpur has a great vibe and the Mehrangarh Fort is one of the most spectacular in all of India. It sits above the town like a great galleon stranded upon a rock and is the focus of our attention this morning. Later we have time to explore the bazaar, known for handcrafted articles such as embroidered shoes, metalware, silver and paintings. (B)

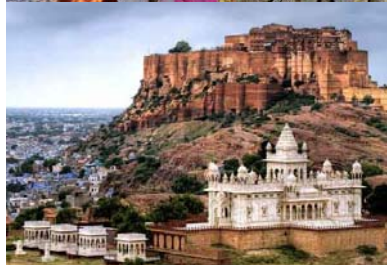
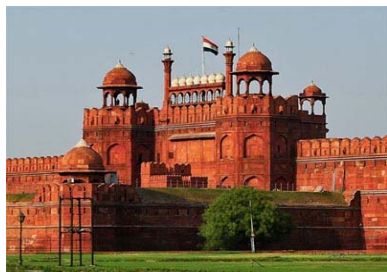
FRI 22 NOV: JODHPUR- NARLAI – A leisurely drive brings us to the beautiful village of Narlai and the stunning Rawla Narlai, a meticulously restored 17th-century royal retreat - one of Rajasthan's best-loved heritage hotels. (B)

SAT 23 NOV: NARLAI-RANAKPUR-UDAIPUR – We embark on an open jeep safari in search of antelope, leopard, hyena, jackal and wild boar. Later we take a walk into the village and experience the local traditions, culture, lifestyles and daily activities of the locals before driving on to Udaipur via the beautiful Jain temples at Ranakpur. (B)

SUN 24 NOV: UDAIPUR – Udaipur is one of the most picturesque cities in India, with numerous palaces and mansions overlooking its lakes. We spend the day seeing some of the highlights, including the City Palace, Jagdish Temple and the lovely Saheliyon-Ki-Bari gardens. This evening there's an optional sunset boat ride on Lake Pichola (water levels permitting), with fine views of the Lake and City Palaces. (B)

MON 25 NOV: UDAIPUR-EKLINGJI-UDAIPUR – This morning we visit two of the most famous of Rajasthan's temples located in Eklingji 22km north of Udaipur. Afterwards we return to Udaipur for a free afternoon to relax or for some final shopping and sightseeing. (B)

TUE 26 NOV: UDAIPUR – Our adventure in Rajasthan ends in Udaipur after breakfast today. Transfers are available to the airport or to the railways station and additional accommodation is also available in Udaipur or Delhi on request. (B)



Prices & Inclusions

16 Day Colours of Rajasthan

Tour Price: USD \$3750 (per person twin-share)

Single Supplement: USD \$1150

Price includes: Steve Mortimer as Tour Escort, local driver and guide, all transfers and transportation, 15 nights accommodation, meals as indicated.

Not Included: Visa fees, travel insurance (compulsory), flights, additional meals, drinks, optional tours, spending of a personal nature, laundry and tips, departure transfer.

Transportation: We travel in a comfortable air-conditioned mini-coach.

Accommodation: India offers an amazing abundance of fantastic and surprising accommodation, including lodges, palaces and havelis (old merchant homes). In Delhi we stay in a top-rating boutique hotel; in Karuli, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Narlai our classic hotels are heritage-listed, whereas in Ranthambore and Udaipur we stay in lovely 'palace-style' properties that will not disappoint. Agra is the only place where the majority of accommodation is a little 'ordinary' and here we've chosen a well-established property that suits our requirements nicely. Four of our hotels have swimming pools.



Boutique hotel, New Delhi



Wilderness luxury, Ranthambore



Former Maharaja's palace, Karauli



Heritage hotel, Narlai



'Palace-style' with pool, Udaipur



Heritage hotel, Jaipur

Food and drink: Breakfast is provided each day along with 4 lunches and 4 dinners. Beer, wine, spirits, soft drinks and 'lassi' are widely available.

Group size: Maximum 16 guests

Additional Expenses: Sampling the food in India is, for most, one of the highlights of the trip, and it is generally pretty good value. Expect to pay around US\$10-\$20 for lunches and US\$20-\$30 for dinners. In addition you should budget for any personal shopping you may wish to do. Please also allow extra funds to tip your local tour leader, driver, local guides and porters (full details will be provided in the pre-trip Field Guide).

Bookings: Travel on Q (Sydney) is the sole booking agent for this tour. Please register your interest ASAP in order to secure your place and note there are a limited number of single rooms available. A non-refundable deposit of AUD 750 per person is required, to secure your place, with final payment due 60 days prior to tour commencement.

Travel on Q (Carole Grassby and Tina Briggs)

Tel: (02) 9357 6800

Email: travel@travelonq.com.au

Currency: Due to the volatility of global currencies the tour price has been quoted in United States Dollars (USD) however you will pay for your tour in Australian dollars based on the buying rate set by Westpac Banking Corporation on the due date of your final balance.

Flights and Transfers: Various airlines fly to Delhi including Malaysian Airlines, Singapore Airlines and Thai International. All arrival flights will be met, however the final departure transfer is not included.

Extra nights in Delhi & Udaipur: Extra nights can be booked pre and post tour but you must advise Travel on Q well in advance to ensure availability.

Visa for India: Australian and New Zealand passport holders require a tourist visa to visit India. These can be applied for online.

Documentation: Upon receipt of your final payment, a comprehensive field guide will be mailed to you and you will be sent the relevant tour and accommodation vouchers prior to departure.

What next? Contact Travel on Q to discuss your travel plans and to make your booking. Further information is also available at www.byroads.com.au.

Byroads

www.byroads.com.au



BOOKING FORM



Tour information

Tour: _____

Starting Date: _____ Starting City: _____

Roomtype: Twin Double Single

Client information (as per passport) - Please attach passport copy

| | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| Surname: | Given Names: | Date of Birth: |
| Nationality: | Passport No: | Issue date: |
| | Issued At: | Expiry Date: |
| Contact Number Home: | Mobile: | Email: |
| Postal Address: | | |
| Any medical, dietary or special requests: | | |
| Emergency Contact: | | |

Travel insurance

Comprehensive Insurance is compulsory when travelling with Byroads.

Purchased from Travel on Q. Policy number: _____

Have own insurance. Policy number: _____ Provider: _____

Advise later

Payment details

A. Paying by direct deposit:

Travel Client Trust BSB: 062 033 Account: 10383350 Reference: Byroads TOQ *your name*

B. Paying by credit card:

Select Card: American Express MasterCard Visa Diners Club

Name on card _____

Number: Expiry date: CVV:

Declaration

I confirm that I am authorised to sign this form on behalf of all persons named above. I/we have read and understand all the information in the respective Byroads tour brochure and agree to abide by the terms, conditions and responsibilities attached. All persons named on this form are fit to travel.

Signature: _____ Name (please print) _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Date: _____

In compliance with the government Privacy Act, we advise that we may use your personal details to send information about future tours.

Please indicate if you wish to remain on our mailing list: Yes No

BOOKING FORM

Byroads Travel is the operator of your tour. Byroads Travel (henceforth referred to as Byroads) is a registered trading name of Byroads Pty Ltd (ABN 88 615 738 746).

Travel on Q (Bonard Pty Ltd, ABN 40 059 566 184) acts as the sole booking agent for Byroads.

RESERVATION AND DEPOSIT

A deposit is payable on all tours. The amount payable is stated in the Byroads brochure. This deposit must be paid to Travel on Q and accompanied by a signed booking form. When paying a deposit for your tour and signing the Booking Form you accept these conditions.

Your Byroads tour will only be confirmed once the deposit and signed booking form have been received. This Booking Form forms the basis of your contract between you and Byroads.

Travel on Q is an agent of Byroads.

PAYMENT

Payments may be made to Travel on Q by direct deposit or by credit card. If paying by credit card the following surcharges will be applied to the cost of your tour arrangements: 1.65% for Visa and MasterCard, 2.26% for American Express, and 3.85 % for Diners Club.

FINAL BALANCE

The balance of your tour payment is due 60 days prior to the start of your tour. If, for any reason, the balance payment is not received by the due date, Byroads reserves the right to treat such failure to pay the balance as a cancellation and to apply the appropriate cancellation charges.

CANCELLATION BY YOU

If, for any reason, you cancel your tour booking, Byroads shall apply the following cancellation penalties. Charges are per person:

- *Cancellation up to 60 days prior to departure, forfeiture of the total deposit
- *from 59 to 45 days prior to departure, 30% of the tour price shall be retained
- * from 44 to 15 days prior to departure, 50% of the tour price shall be retained
- *within 14 days prior to departure, no refund will be made.

In addition to the above charges, cancellation fees may also apply to any domestic airfare component of your tour. No refund will be made after your tour has commenced or in respect of lost or unused tickets, hotel coupons, meals or any other services not utilised.

AMENDMENTS

Up to 60 days prior to the departure of your tour, any amendment to a confirmed reservation will incur a fee of \$50 per change per file, in addition to any change fees levied by Travel on Q, airlines, or any other service provider. From 59 to 30 days prior to departure, any amendment to confirmed travel arrangements will incur a fee, of \$100 per change per file. Once documents have been dispatched,

any amendment will incur a fee of \$150 per change per file.

TOUR PRICES

Byroads tour prices and provisional tour prices are based on tariffs and prevailing rates of exchange when tours were costed. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. In the event of fluctuations in currency exchange rates, service providers' tariffs, fuel prices or any other cost that affects the price of your tour, Byroads reserves the right to adjust tour prices at any time up to the day of departure.

TOUR OPERATION

Although Byroads will endeavour to ensure that tours are operated as advertised, an express condition of making a reservation is the acceptance by you that the tour itineraries, schedules, advertised accommodation, sightseeing and mode of transportation as outlined in the Byroads brochure and/or supplied in the pre-departure information are subject to change without prior notice. If for any reason Byroads is forced to cancel a tour before it commences, all monies paid in respect of the tour will be refunded in full less any credit card fees collected.

Unforeseeable circumstances such as force majeure, adverse weather conditions such as floods or earthquakes, airline flight rescheduling, technical faults with transportation and road conditions may also have a consequential effect on the content of your tour after it has commenced. Any decision made in respect of tour services provided by Byroads to reroute or amend the itinerary due to the above or similar circumstances shall be at the sole discretion of Byroads. Byroads and Travel on Q shall not be liable for any claim whatsoever arising from such events that affect the schedule and content of your tour

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Byroads operates soft adventure tours. All participants are required to be fit and healthy. Some of the hotels used by Byroads may not have lifts or porters so you must be prepared at times to carry your own suitcase. Before travelling with Byroads, it is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with any health requirements applicable to areas through which you will be travelling.

ACCEPTANCE OF RISK

You acknowledge that the nature of the trip is adventurous and participation involves a degree of personal risk. You will be visiting places where the political, cultural and geographical attributes present dangers and physical challenges greater than those present in our daily lives. We use information from government foreign departments and reports from our own contacts in assessing whether the itinerary should operate. However it is also your own responsibility to acquaint yourself with all relevant travel information and the nature of your itinerary. You acknowledge that your decision to travel is made in light of consideration of this information and you accept that you are aware of the personal risks attendant upon such travel.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Australian passport holders must have at least 6 months validity on their passport after the date of return to Australia. Visas are

required for a number of our tours and it is your responsibility to obtain them. Travel on Q can assist with this process. Non Australian passport holders are asked to check passport and visa requirements at the time of booking.

ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

The cost of your Byroads tour includes hotel accommodation, transportation, transfers as specified, sightseeing and meals as indicated in the tour brochure. It does not include international airfares, airport departure taxes, unspecified meals, optional sightseeing, additional transfers, gratuities for hotel staff, guides and tour leaders, items of a personal nature such as laundry, phone calls etc. or any other incidental expenses.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is an express condition of travelling with Byroads that you have comprehensive travel insurance including full cover for repatriation. It is highly recommended that you take out travel insurance at the time you pay the deposit to guard against any unforeseen circumstances. If on the first day of your tour you cannot provide evidence that you have purchased comprehensive travel insurance you will be required to purchase a policy before proceeding with your tour.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

We contract with a network of companies, government agencies and individuals to assist in the running of our trips as agent for these third parties. We are not responsible for the acts and omissions of these third parties. To the fullest extent permitted by law:

- (i) any liability for any loss, death, injury or damage which you may suffer (directly or indirectly) in connection with or arising out of your participation in a trip, or any breach of the Booking Conditions, is excluded;
- (ii) Travel on Q acts only as agent for Byroads and accepts no responsibility for the acts and omissions of Byroads or any of its associated service providers for any inaccuracies in information provided, negligence, loss, damage, omission, accident, detention, diversion or theft in regard to luggage or any personal belongings whatsoever.
- (iii) you release Byroads and its officers, employees, agents and representatives from any liability and expressly waive any claims you may have against us arising out of or in connection with your participation in a trip; and
- (iv) any condition or warranty which would otherwise be implied by law into these Booking Conditions (Implied Warranty), is excluded

To the extent an Implied Warranty cannot be excluded, our liability in respect of the Implied Warranty is limited to (in our absolute discretion): (a) the provision of a similar trip to an equivalent value; or (b) a refund of the total amount received by us from you in connection with your booking.

Any claim by you is excluded to the extent that it is for indirect or consequential loss, loss of profits or economic loss, however it arises, or for indirect, special, punitive or exemplary damages.

APPLICABLE LAW

The laws of Victoria, Australia govern these Booking Conditions to the fullest extent allowable. Any disputes in connection with a trip or these Booking Conditions must be initiated in the courts Victoria, Australia.