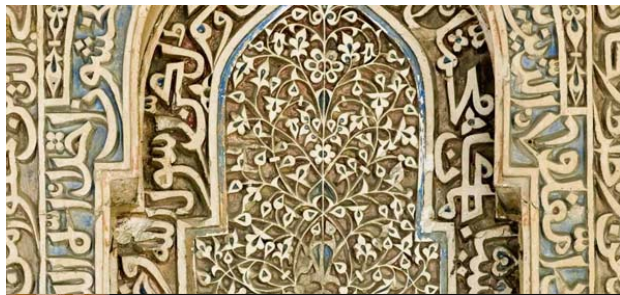


INDIA

A 15-day itinerary that highlights the cross-influences of the Mughal and Rajputana traditions.

Start in Delhi, taking a rickshaw down old Chandni Chowk, visiting haunting Humayun's tomb before taking a respite in the relative solitude of Lodhi Gardens. You'll be staying in a palace that serves as one of the best examples of Mughal-Rajputana architecture and in a moment inspired by Satyajit Ray's 'Sonar Kella', experience Indian train travel through Jaisalmer and then zip through its deserts and sand dunes on camelback!



Day 1-3.

DELHI

Delhi Located close to the tranquility of Lodhi Gardens, the Aman New Delhi is a chic semblance of New Delhi- jali screens, sleek walls and monochromatic colour palettes. Visit the Safdarjung Tomb, described as 'the last flicker in the lamp of Mughal architecture' at the end of Lodi Road. On the second day, visit Humayun's tomb and Qutb Minar, then heading to the Red Fort which served as the capital of the Mughals until their exile by the British in 1857. Arrive in Jamaa Masjid , a building commissioned by Shah Jahan, before the evening namaaz and later take a rickshaw ride down Chandni Chowk, one of the loveliest boulevards during Mughal times but

today represents the frenetic pace of Old Delhi.



Photo courtesy of Satpal Sinah

Day 3-4.

AGRA

Drive down today to Agra. You'll be based at the Oberoi Amarvilas- each room with a view of the Taj. The day is spent visiting

Calling ourselves 'travel mixologists', we've served up interesting itineraries for you to choose from- all of which are available for tweaking and embellishments whilst keeping the main ingredients.

Beautifully-themed journeys for you to choose from and to tweak according to your predilections.

URBANE NOMADS

Agra Fort with optional visits to a store owned by the family who'd served as jewellers to the Mughal Court. Have a private viewing of exquisite zardosis featuring representations of hunting scenes that seemingly brought to life through the zardosi technique. Witness too, the continuation of the art of Mughal carpet-

making, unique in the music employed during the carpet-marking process. Early morning visit of the Taj Mahal the next day before driving to Jaipur, with a stopover in Fatehpur Sikri, instrumental during Akbar the Great's reign.

Day 4-6.

JAIPUR

Jaipur Most iconic to the Rajputana and Mughal tradition, the relatively new city of Jaipur was founded by Rajput rulers during the Mughal era. One of the first planned cities in India, the city was built in consultation with Vidyadar Bhattacharya, according to the principles of Shilpa Shastra, a science of Indian architecture. On the second day, you could have lunch at a royal

hunting lodge overlooking a lake, visit an



ancestral fort and, since this is one of the capitals of polo, watch or partake in the game of polo. The Jaipur city museum showcases one of the polo balls used by Mughal ladies- its centre cored and replaced with burning embers for the Mughal ladies who played the game in the evenings.



Day 6-7.

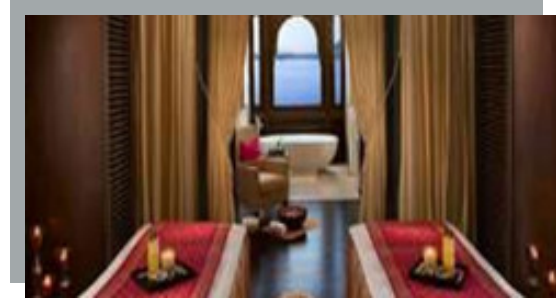
SAMODE

Samode Palace is a stunning example of Mughal-Rajputana architecture. Here, you'll be able to go horseriding in the Aravalli Hills, or have a private dinner in the splendid durbar halls. In the evenings, relax in the enchanting gardens of Samode Bagh, a 16th century Mughal style garden with the characteristic lush greens and water features-a row of fountains deriving its source from a system of springs and wells and tent walls featuring elegant Mughal art paintings. Originally built as a Rajput fort, Samode Palace was later converted into a palace blending Rajput and Mughal architectural styles. Here, you'll find the hall of mirrors and intricate frescoes.

Day 7-10.

UDAIPUR

Udaipur--aptly called "the Venice of the East" and the former Kingdom of Mewar, is the homebase to the Rajput clan of the Great Sisodias and is the only state that never fell to the Mughals. This fierce independence continues to contemporary times, with Udaipur being the only Indian state unrepresented in the Delhi Durbar for King George V in 1911. Rosita Forbes, who'd passed through this land during the decline of the British Raj, described it as 'like no other place on earth'. Based at the Leela Kempinski Udaipur, you'll spend the next morning cruising the famed Lake Pichola at leisure followed by a trip to a village on the edges of Udaipur famous for its



concentration of Jain temples with spectacular sundowners in a magnificently restored temple after. A day trip to Ranakpur and its famous Jain temples is in order on day 9.

Day 10-11.

JAISALMER

Inspired by Satyajit Ray's 'Sonar Kella' you will be travelling by train to Jaisalmer today, experiencing a slice of Indian train travel. You'll be based in the great Thar desert in a glamorous desert tent. Visit Jaisalmer Fort, otherwise known as Sonar Kella, made of

golden yellow sandstone set to glitter like amber jewel in the desert.

By evening time or early next morning you will be riding camels on the sand dunes. The dunes, while beautiful, are equally treacherous, with winds almost as intense as the khamsins (sandstorms) in the Sahara-encapsulating the wild remote beauty of Jaisalmer.

Day 11-13. JODHPUR

On your way to Jodhpur today, you will visit Haldi Ghati, the site of the historic Battle of Haldighati fought between Rana Pratap Singh of Mewar and Raja Man Singh of Amber, general of the Mughal emperor Akbar, a battle immortalized in a poem of the

same name by Shyam Narayan Pandey. In Jodhpur you will be staying at the Umaid Bhawan, one of the largest private residences in the world, located on Chittar Hill, the highest point in Jodhpur. The Umaid Bhawan is quite distinctive from the Moghul style that dominates much of the landscape in Jodhpur in its distinctively Rajput influence. Built with the intention of being the new symbol of a Jodhpur that was at the cusp of a new era, designed to replace his ancestor's Meherangarh Fort, the project was commissioned to Henry Vaughn Lanchester who articulated Maharaja Umaid Singh's desires to depart from Mughal architectural influences, twinning instead, the prevalent art-deco aesthetic of the time with Hindu architectural influences. Tomorrow you will

visit the Meherangarh Fort, the Umaid Bhawan's predecessor as the architectural symbol of the Rathore Clan, which also contains a museum considered one of the best in Rajasthan, with Rathore arms, palanquins and paintings and period rooms on display.



Day 14-15. DELHI / TRANSFERT OUT

Reading Ghalib in Old Delhi: Delhi You might want to take a walking tour of Chandni Chowk today, famed for its Mughlai and vegetarian cuisine. Visit Mirza Ghalib's haveli, a colourful character and poet who'd achieved fame posthumously. Most famous for recording the decline of Delhi- its decaying havelis, the destruction of its bazaars and the disappearance of whole mohallas- the resultant old Delhi that you see now as you walk through Ballimaran. An

optional personal shopper is yours for the day should you wish to identify the best fashion and homeware finds in Delhi.

EXTENSION POSSIBILITY

This itinerary can be extended to include Ranthambore National Park (its strategic location dictated that it would be fought over by the Mughals and Rajputs) and Bhandavgarh National Park- both the site of royal hunting retreats. In Ranthambore, Urbane Nomads will be able to arrange for you to listen to traditional performances in the evenings featuring music that Akbar the Great would have listened to during his

campaign of Udaipur with expert narrative from a scholar on Akbar.



Date	Nts.	Location/Route	Accommodation/ Details	Rooms/Travel Time/Basis
Day 1-3		Name of the airport	Arriving Flight & Time TBA	type of room plus meals (B,L,D)
Day 3-4		Dehli	Aman New Delhi	
Day 4-6		Agra	Oberoi Amarvilas	
Day 6-7		Jaipur	Taj Rambagh Palace	
Day 7-10		Samode	Samode Palace	
Day 10-11		Udaipur	Leela Kempinski Udaipur	
Day 11-13		Jaisalmer	The Serai	
Day 14-15		Jodhpur	Umaid Bhawan	
		Delhi	Leela Kempinski Udaipur	
			<u>Departing Flight & Time TBA</u>	

Total Price: USD13, 798

Per person on double occupancy basis

Price includes:

All domestic transfers and tours mentioned. Accommodation on bed and breakfast basis throughout.

Price excludes:

All gratuities and tips, tours not mentioned and items of a personal nature

Important Notes

Trip Grading/Difficulty:

This itinerary is done at a relaxed pace, with no strenuous or overtly physical activities and is suitable for all ages.

Flights

It is essential that you give us your air schedule at least 60 days prior to departure, so that we may confirm your arrival and departure hotels.

Health

You are strongly advised to contact your own GP or vaccination centre in respect of required vaccinations for India. Check on recommended immunizations as least a month before travel. Among the items you might pack are: sun creams (factor 12 and above), insect repellent, sting relief cream, antiseptic cream, a lightweight hat and sunglasses.

Important Note

While we endeavor to make the itinerary as accurate as possible, it should be considered an approximate schedule of activities rather than a rigid schedule of events. Trip itineraries are subject to revision due to weather, road and trail conditions, government restrictions and other factors beyond our control.

Booking Conditions:

Booking your tailor-made holiday

A booking is accepted only after we receive the completed signed booking form and/or the non-refundable deposit required. If the booking is made within 60 days of departure, then full payment is required at the time of confirmation except over the Christmas & New Year period when the full itinerary amount must be made at the time of booking. The balance of payment due for your travel arrangements must be paid by you not later than 60 days before departure; otherwise we may treat the booking as cancelled.

Methods of payment

Payments for deposits and final monies for Travel Arrangements may be made by bank transfer.

Cancellation

All cancellations must be advised in writing and will take effect the day we receive it. Urbane Nomads refunds all recoverable costs after cancellation, subject to third-party cancellation and refund policies and a USD500 administration and travel planning fee.

In some cases hotels require prepayment in full for hotel rooms and services in the peak period. In such cases these deposits are non refundable.

Travel Insurance

It is a condition of booking the Travel Arrangements that You are adequately insured for the full duration of the your travel arrangements in respect of illness, injury, death, loss of baggage and personal items, cancellation and curtailment. The choice of insurer is the sole discretion of You. In signing the Booking Form or paying for your holiday You confirm to Us that You either have or will have procured such insurance before the commencement of Your Travel Arrangements.

Further Terms and Conditions apply. In signing the Booking Form or paying the deposit you confirm to Us that you have accepted the booking terms and conditions.

The Urbane Nomad keenly seeks the best that travel has to offer-keenly seeking out exciting design hotels with its associated mod cons, the most unique travel experiences in localities yet to be discovered by the masses or experiencing a favoured tourist destination on an entirely different level.

URBANE NOMADS