

short stay: udaipur

go guide

don't leave home without it



short stay spotlight

what you see

Udaipur:

- City Palace
- Garden of Maids of Honour
- Lake Pichola

what you get

- 2 breakfasts
- 2 nights 3-4 star hotels
- Guided sightseeing in Udaipur
- Economy class flight - Delhi - Udaipur - Delhi
- Airport arrival and departure transfer on days 1 and 3
- Touring and excursions as per itinerary
- Local English speaking specialist guides at local sights
- Entrance fees to all relevant monuments
- Chauffeur driven vehicle



on location

Your guide to on the ground...

visa requirements

Visas are required by all visitors to India. It is essential the visa is procured prior to travel. Visa forms are available from us and also supplied upon booking. Please ensure your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of return from India. Please be advised visa requirements are subject to change. Visa procurement is also the responsibility of the traveller and not of on the go.

climate

India has a three-season year known as the hot, the wet and the cool. The coolest time to visit is late September through April. Temps during this time are ideal for sightseeing. The hot season runs from around April through July. Conditions are hot and dry, especially in Rajasthan. July signals the start of the monsoon or wet season that continues until around end September. Although the weather is humid, the days are punctuated by intermittent rainfall.

time

India is 5 hours 30 mins ahead of GMT.

money

USD\$1 = INR46 (subject to fluctuation). The Indian Rupee is exchangeable only in India. Exchange facilities are available at various bureau de changes and banks. A few ATM machines exist in major towns and cities.

health requirements

It is recommended that you be vaccinated for Tetanus and Polio, if you haven't had a booster in the last ten years. We recommend vaccinations for Typhoid and Hepatitis A. You are also advised to take anti-Malarial medication. Information can change so please check with your local health care provider.

how much?

- **TIPPING**
INR400 (USD\$8.50) if the day includes local guide & sightseeing
INR200 (USD\$4.50) if the day excludes local guide & sightseeing
- **CAMERA FEES**
Please note that nearly all temples, museums, game parks and sights has a fee for camera use.
- Can of coke (330ml) INR40-50
- Mineral water (local, 500ml or 1L) INR30
- Meal for 2 (entree, main, local beer,) INR1200
- Beer (local brew Kingfisher - 650ml) INR150

things to bring

- Insect repellent to guard against pesky mosquitos
- Spare camera batteries/film so you can go snap happy.
- If you fancy a tippie, take advantage of Duty Free buys.
- Buy some Indian Rupees at the airport on arrival.
- Buy a phrasebook and practice your holiday Hindi.
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
- Keep a supply of small notes for local transactions.
- Keep a photocopy of your passport data pages.

top experiences

- Wander through the palaces inside the City Palace
- Relax in the Garden of Maids of Honour
- Take a boat ride on beautiful Lake Pichola
- Shilpgram arts and crafts centre - see all the different handicrafts
- The biggest Jain temple complex in India
- Shop in the old markets of Udaipur for souvenirs





udaipur: itinerary

day 1 - explore udaipur

Delhi - Udaipur. Transfer to Delhi airport for flight to Udaipur. Arrive Udaipur and transfer to your hotel. Later on, enjoy a sightseeing tour of Udaipur. A fascinating walled city of 308,000, Udaipur sits on the shores of Lake Pichola. It's renowned for its palaces - the white marble Maharajah's Palace, the Winter Palace (with its inlaid tile, mirrors and mosaics of peacocks), the Jag Mandir (an eighteenth-century yellow-sandstone palace) and Jag Niwas (an eighteenth-century granite and marble palace).

Also see the Victoria Hall Museum (local historical displays and antiques), Sahelion-ki-Bari (a garden) and the Jagdish Temple. The Lake Palace Hotel is the former summer palace of the local maharajah. Even if you don't stay there, opt to take the launch over for a meal. It's a fantastic building, and the restaurants are good. Sahelion Ki Bari - this 'Garden of Maids of Honour' is a small ornamental pleasure garden, contains an elegant lotus pool, gushing fountains, beautiful black marble kiosks on the corners of the pool and stunning bougainvilleas covering the wall of the enclosures. Shilpgram situated on the outskirts of Udaipur, is a crafts and performing arts centre and houses various craftsmen from different states who display live their crafts and products. In the evening enjoy a boat ride on Lake Pichola. Overnight - Udaipur.

day 2 - free day

Udaipur - breakfast. Day at leisure. Overnight - Udaipur.

day 3 - back to delhi

Udaipur - Delhi - breakfast. Transfer to Udaipur airport for your onward flight to Delhi.

optional visit - ranakpur jain temple

Visit to famous Ranakpur Jain temples. Near the village of Sadri lies the Ranakpur temple complex - one of the biggest and most important clusters of Jain temples in India. Nestled in the Aravalli Range, Ranakpur is a mere 90 kms from Udaipur. The Chaumukha temple, or four faced temple, is the main temple in the complex and dates back to the fifteenth century. Built in marble, the temple has 29 halls supported by more than 1400 pillars, no two of which are alike. Cost will be advised locally.

secular india

India, despite being a secular state, harbours arguably the world's richest heritage of spirituality and religious experience. India's major religion, Hinduism is practised by more than 80% of the population. In numbers, that translates to in excess of 700 million people.

No definition of Hinduism truly justifies the true meaning and significance of Hinduism. Hinduism has many layers. Hinduism is not just a religion but a complex body of social, cultural, religious beliefs and practises evolved in and largely confined to the Indian subcontinent. Hinduism is marked by a caste system, an outlook tending to view all forms and theories as aspects of one eternal being and truth, and the practice of the way of works, the way of knowledge, or the way of devotion as a means of release from the round of rebirths. It is not based upon a single scripture or the teachings of one prophet. It has no founder, central authority or hierarchy. The strictly orthodox maintain only a person born in India of Hindu parents can truly claim to be Hindu.

Hinduism has the largest number of adherents of any religion in Asia. Along with Buddhism, Jainism and Zoroastrianism, it is one of the oldest extant religions with roots extending back to 1000BC. Buddhism and Jainism arose around the same time as one another in the 6th century BC at a time of social and religious discontent. Both were reactions against the strictures of Brahminical Hinduism. Although more recent, Sikhism too has its roots in a protest movement in the late 15th century, the bhakti (devotional tradition) that started in southern India as a reaction against the caste system and Brahmin domination of ritual. It was conceived at a time of great social upheaval and was an attempt to fuse the best of Islam and Hinduism.

Today, there are some 16 million Sikhs in India, mostly from Punjab. The Golden Temple in Amritsar is the holiest shrine of Sikhism. Islam was introduced to the north by invading armies (in the 16th century the Mughal empire controlled much of India) and to the south by Arab traders. Today, Islam is the largest minority religion in the country with in excess of 100 million adherents. Christianity arrived in southern India not with the first Europeans but with Syrian immigrants in the 4th century.

A sect of the Syrian Orthodox church was established and still survives today, along with other eastern Orthodox sects. Catholicism arrived with the Portuguese and Protestantism with the English and Dutch. Today, India has around 18 million Christians, of who around 75% are South Indian.

etiquette

Wherever the compass points in India, the people, their customs, creed and language are different from one region to the next. Despite some of the inevitable 'ups and downs' of travelling in India, you will generally be accorded great respect. In return, please demonstrate sensitivity and respect for local customs.

- To ascend the Taj Mahal you must remove your shoes.
- Dress conservatively and ensure limbs are covered if visiting places of religious importance. This applies to men and women.
- Never touch a carving or statue of a deity within a temple.
- Do not touch locals on the head or point the soles of your feet at a person, religious shrine or image of a deity.
- Nudity is completely unacceptable. A swimsuit must be worn.
- Don't be shocked by India's contradictions. There are areas where tobacco use, sex districts and other activities exist in close proximity to orthodoxy and extreme conservatism.
- Don't be surprised if you are the centre of attention when travelling in India. Staring is not a social taboo.
- Do carry toilet paper with you. Don't throw it down the WC without checking for a basket to put it in (narrow pipes clog).
- Don't be surprised to see men defecating or urinating in public when rest rooms are not readily available.
- Do be open and friendly in conversations with locals. Indians can be quite talkative, asking strangers questions that might be interpreted as overly personal in other cultures.

The go guide & information contained herein has been compiled with care and in good faith. It is as accurate an illustration as can be given with regard to the proposed itinerary. Circumstances beyond our control such as inclement weather or local conditions could force us to amend the proposed itinerary. This document does not form part of a contract between the client and on the go and their affiliates. Any costs shown may be subject to change but are an accurate reflection of costs at the time of writing this go guide. Please also be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and remain the responsibility of the traveller and not that of on the go.



168 north end road, west kensington, london, W14 9EP • 020 7371 1113 • info@onthegotours.com
3/690 brunswick street, new farm, brisbane, QLD, australia 4005 • 1300 855 684 • aus-info@onthegotours.com

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