

Cycle Rajasthan



Duration: 10 days

India offers a broad diversity of landscapes, people and wildlife, with an incredible mix of colourful cultures and a sense of history at every turn.

We travel to the desert state of Rajasthan, India's largest state, where our exciting ride takes us through an historic area known for its characteristic old forts, painted houses and maharajah's palaces – some of which we stay in overnight. Trip highlights include the Pink City of Jaipur (recently awarded UNESCO World Heritage status), Ranthambore National Park, and the old abandoned city of Fatehpur Sikri. We then celebrate our achievements at India's most iconic monument, the graceful Taj Mahal.

The heat can make this a demanding trip, but there are plenty of rewards for your efforts along the way! This is a truly unforgettable experience as we combine some challenging cycling with some of the best sights the area has to offer.

This trip generates around **354 kg of CO₂ per person**. Because of our commitment to responsible travel, **we offset 100% of these emissions**, including flights booked with us.

[See more adventures in India.](#)

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart London

Day 2: Arrive Jaipur

Flying via one of the main hubs in India, we take a connecting flight to Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan. On arrival, we transfer to our hotel and can relax! Depending on flight schedules, there may be time to explore the surroundings. Night hotel.

Day 3: Jaipur

Jaipur is known as the Pink City because of the terracotta colour of many of its buildings, and we spend a whole day exploring its many sights. The setting for 'The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel' films, it's a fascinating city and gives us a good cultural introduction to India, whose frenetic and vibrant street-scenes assault the senses wonderfully but can be a shock to the system! We visit Amber Fort, a magnificent ornately-decorated hill-top fort perched above the city; there are stunning views. Look out for monkeys playing on the fort walls! We also have time to visit the famous Observatory, or Jantar Mantar – a UNESCO World Heritage Site – and the striking Hawa Mahal, or 'Palace of the Winds', which is actually just a facade. Heading back to our hotel, we have time to check our bikes and prepare our kit before dinner and a full briefing. Night hotel.

Day 4: Jaipur – Jamwa Ramgarh – Bhanderej

After an early energising breakfast, and a transfer (60-90 mins) out of the busy city, we unload the bikes and set off on our Rajasthan adventure! Beautiful green-brown hills surround us, dotted with small trees and scrub, and hill-top forts silhouetted against the sky. The roads are fairly quiet now, but we'll see bicycles, motorcycles and camels pulling carts laden with all manner of produce. We head east on small, pot-holed country roads to the 11th-century village of Bhanderej, passing small villages and plots of farmland; the numerous fruit stalls along the way show the variety of local produce. Our route is predominantly flat, but it's a long, hot day of cycling, and we take advantage of the shade under the huge banyan trees we pass. After a short section of dirt road, a short transfer takes us the last 15km to our hotel – a wonderful Maharaja's palace. Night hotel.

Cycle approx 75km / 5 – 6 hours; drive approx 1-2 hours

Day 5: Bhanderej – Lalsot – Ranthambore National Park

Our route today follows trails made by the many pilgrims, traders and armies whose journeys reflect the rich cultural history of this region. We follow a mix of narrow dirt and tarmac roads that weave their way between villages and agricultural land, passing Hindu settlements, temples and shrines. Photogenic blue-painted Brahmin houses stand out from the natural colours of the land: Brahmins are the high priestly rank of the caste system. Vibrantly-clad children wave to us as we pass their houses and brightly-coloured truck-buses pass us, passengers riding on the roofs. After long miles of pedalling on the flat, the only significant hill comes as a shock to the legs; at 2km it's quite long, but not steep. At the town of Lalsot, we load up in the vehicles for the last 50km to Ranthambore National Park – famous for its magnificent tigers and the Project Tiger conservation project. There are many other species living here, including sambar, cheetah, wild boar, leopard, sloth bear, jackal and hyena. We stay in a hotel just outside the Park. Night hotel.

Cycle approx 70km / 5 – 6 hours; drive approx 1.5 hours

Day 6: Ranthambore National Park – Karauli

Our day starts early, with an exciting safari into Ranthambore National Park, where we can spot wildlife from canterers (open-top vehicles). Formerly a hunting ground for Maharajas, the National Park is one of Rajasthan's few areas of lush jungle and grassland and forms a great contrast to the landscapes we have seen so far. The terrain is diverse with open bush, dense forest, grassland and jungle, and we can enjoy the views of the surrounding steep craggy hills while keeping alert for signs of wildlife. If we are very lucky we may see a tiger basking in the sun or ambling down a track. Afterwards, we return to our hotel, and head off on our bikes on small tarmac roads through scenic villages and fields growing crops and fruit. It's a short, scenic ride; we load up the bikes on a photogenic causeway, and drive the last section to lovely Karauli, an ancient holy city dotted with bright blue buildings and home to an impressive palace – we should have plenty of time to explore. Night hotel.

Cycle approx 30km / 2 – 3 hours; drive approx 2-2.5 hours

Day 7: Karauli – Bharatpur

We continue our Indian adventure, heading north over hillier terrain through more villages and towns. Much of today's route follows a larger road, and the miles tick past quickly. We pass through the busy town of Hindaun; after cycling through so many small villages, the bustle of town-life is a refreshing change as once again we mix with camel-carts and colourful trucks blaring music. Everything travels slow, so while it's chaotic, it's a unique experience that feels much safer than any cycle commute back home! Turning onto quieter roads, we rest under a shady banyan in the grounds of a Hindu temple, before riding the last few miles through more rural scenes, passing more small villages and people tending crops on the cultivated land. The diverse scenes of local life become one of the highlights of the trip for most people. We drive the last section to our hotel. Night hotel.

Cycle approx 75km / 5 – 6 hours; drive approx 1 hour

Day 8: Bharatpur – Fatehpur Sikri – Agra

An early start for a lovely morning ride around the nearby Keoladeo National Park, home to hundreds of bird species and an important habitat for migratory birds. In order to preserve the park and wildlife, only bicycles and electric tuk-tuks are permitted – and cycling is the best way to explore the water marshes and mangrove forest which attract thousands of water birds. After exploring this tranquil habitat, we set off for our last day's ride on small roads through picturesque rural India, soaking up the fascinating colourful villages as we heading to the impressive 'ghost' city of Fatehpur Sikri. Capital of the Mughal Empire, it was built in the 16th century and abandoned little more than 10 years afterwards. Now its almost-perfectly-preserved sandstone buildings, which include mosques, palaces and living areas, allow a unique glimpse into the civilisation – and an impressive backdrop for our grand finale group photos! We then load up onto the vehicles and leave the city's rocky ridge as we drive towards Agra on busier roads through more built-up areas. Agra itself is a huge, modern city with some beautiful historic landmarks – the most famous of which is the iconic Taj Mahal, which we'll visit tomorrow. At our hotel we can wash off the dust and relax! Night hotel.

Cycle approx 45km (+ approx 5km at Park) / 4 – 5 hours; drive approx 2 hours

Day 9: Taj Mahal; Agra – Delhi

The Taj Mahal at sunrise is an unmissable experience and a wonderful finale to our Indian challenge. This

incredible monument – built by the Emperor Shah Jahan as a memorial to his wife in the 17th century – changes hue as the sun grows stronger and the shadows recede. We have plenty of time to explore and soak up the peaceful atmosphere. We then drive back to Delhi, stopping for a wonderful lunch at a roadside cafe enroute, and mark our amazing achievement with an evening of celebrations. Night hotel.

Drive approx 4-5 hours

Day 10: Depart Delhi

We transfer the short distance from our hotel to the airport for our flight home.

(Lunch not included if not in-flight)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Jaipur / Delhi to London
- All known airline taxes
- Transport and transfers as part of itinerary
- All accommodation in hotels on twin share basis
- All meals except where specified
- Bicycle (mountain bike / hybrid; contact us if you would like more detail, or to enquire about upgrading to an e-bike)
- Discover Adventure crew (number dependent on group size)
- Local guide, crew and drivers
- Local support and back-up equipment
- Entry to Taj Mahal and any other sites included in the itinerary
- **We offset 100% of the carbon emissions from your trip, including flights booked with us**

WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- India entry visa
- Travel insurance
- Any meals specified 'not included' in the itinerary
- Cycle helmet (compulsory) and water bottles
- Personal spending money, souvenirs and drinks, including tips for local guides/support crew
- Fees for any optional sites, attractions or activities
- Any applicable surcharges as per Terms and Conditions

GRADE | YELLOW

All our trips are designed to provide a challenge. Trips are graded Yellow, Orange or Red, in increasing level of challenge. This trip lies within the **YELLOW** range.



The grade is determined by factors such as terrain, distance, climate, altitude, etc. Each colour grade has a **spectrum** which reflects the difficulty of these factors. Trip duration, accommodation and living conditions are also taken into account. Some sections will feel more challenging than others, but the grade reflects the overall trip. Unusual weather conditions can also have a significant impact.

The Accommodation icon indicates the living conditions while trekking/cycling. While there are usually several factors that present a challenge, the Challenge icon indicates the trip's most challenging element, for most people.

[Trip grading explained](#)



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Discover Adventure reserves the right to change the route or itinerary for safety reasons should local conditions dictate.

Please note: This document was downloaded on 11 Jul 2025, and the challenge is subject to change.