

Rajasthan



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Introduction

Rajasthan "Land of Kings") is a state in northern India. The state covers an area of 342,239 square kilometres (132,139 sq mi) or 10.4 percent of the total geographical area of India. It is the largest Indian state by area and the seventh largest by population. Rajasthan is located on the northwestern side of India, where it comprises most of the wide and inhospitable Thar Desert (also known as the "Great Indian Desert") and shares a border with the Pakistani provinces of Punjab to the northwest and Sindh to the west, along the Sutlej-Indus river valley. It is bordered by five other Indian states: Punjab to the north; Haryana and Uttar Pradesh to the northeast; Madhya Pradesh to the southeast; and Gujarat to the southwest. Its geographical location is 23.3 to 30.12 North latitude and 69.30 to 78.17 East longitude, with the Tropic of Cancer passing through southernmost tip of the state. The state was formed on 30 March 1949 when Rajputana – the name adopted by the British Raj for its dependencies in the region – was merged into the Dominion of India. Its capital and largest city is Jaipur. Other important cities are Jodhpur, Kota, Bikaner, Ajmer, Bharatpur and Udaipur.

Location of Rajasthan

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Culture



- *Rajasthan is culturally rich and has artistic and cultural traditions that reflect the ancient Indian way of life. There is rich and varied folk culture from villages which are often depicted as a symbol of the state. Highly cultivated classical music and dance with its own distinct style is part of the cultural tradition of Rajasthan. The music has songs that depict day-to-day relationships and chores, often focused around fetching water from wells or ponds.*

- *The Ghoomar dance from Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Kalbelia of the Kalbelia tribe have gained international recognition. Folk music is a large part of the Rajasthani culture. The Manganiyar and Langa communities from Rajasthan are notable for their folk music. Kathputli, Bhopa, Chang, Teratali, Ghindr, Gair dance, Kachchhi Ghor, and Tejaji are examples of traditional Rajasthani culture. Folk songs are commonly ballads that relate heroic deeds and love stories; and religious or devotional songs known as bhajans and banis which are often accompanied by musical instruments like dholak, sitar, and sarangi are also sung.*

Food



- *Rajasthani cooking was influenced by both the war-like lifestyles of its inhabitants and the availability of ingredients in this arid region. Food that could last for several days and could be eaten without heating was preferred. The scarcity of water and fresh green vegetables have all had their effect on the cooking. It is known for its snacks like Bikaneri Bhujia. Other famous dishes include bajre ki roti (millet bread) and lahsun ki chutney (hot garlic paste), mawa kachori Mirchi Bada, Pyaaj Kachori and ghevar from Jodhpur, Alwar ka Mawa (milk cake), Kadhi kachori from Ajmer, Malpua from Pushkar, Daal kachori (Kota kachori) from Kota and rassgullas from Bikaner. Originating from the Marwar region of the state is the concept of Marwari Bhojnalaya, or vegetarian restaurants, today found in many parts of India, which offer vegetarian food popular among Marwari people.*
- *Dal Bati Choorma, a traditional Rajasthani Dish*
- *Dal-Bati-Churma is very popular in Rajasthan. The traditional way to serve it is to first coarsely mash the Baati, and then pour pure ghee on top of it. It is served with the daal (lentils) and spicy garlic chutney. Also served with besan (gram flour) ki kadi. It is commonly served at all festivities, including religious occasions, wedding ceremonies, and birthday parties in Rajasthan.*

Clothes



- Rajasthan is known for its traditional, colorful art. The block prints, tie and dye prints, Gota Patti (main), Bagaru prints, Sanganer prints, and Zari embroidery are major export products from Rajasthan. Handicraft items like wooden furniture and crafts, carpets, and blue pottery are commonly found here. Shopping reflects the colorful culture, Rajasthani clothes have a lot of mirror work and embroidery. A Rajasthani traditional dress for females comprises an ankle-length skirt and a short top, known as *chaniya choli*. Mainly pure owned by traditional people. A piece of cloth is used to cover the head, both for protection from heat and maintenance of modesty. Rajasthani dresses are usually designed in bright colors like blue, yellow, and orange.

Festival



- *The main religious festivals are Gangaur, Teej, Gogaji, Shri Devnarayan Jayanti as the main religion is Hinduism. Rajasthan's desert festival is held once a year during winter. Dressed in costumes, the people of the desert dance and sing ballads. There are fairs with snake charmers, puppeteers, acrobats, and folk performers. Camels play a role in this festival.*

Language

- *Hindi is the official and the most widely spoken language in the state (90.97% of the population as per the 2001 census), followed by Bhili (4.60%), Punjabi (2.01%), and Urdu (1.17%). Rajasthani is one of the main spoken languages in the state. Rajasthani and various Rajasthani dialects are counted under Hindi in the national census. In the 2001 census, standard Rajasthani had over 18 million speakers, as well as millions of other speakers of Rajasthani dialects, such as Marwari.*
- *The languages taught under the three-language formula are:*
- *First Language: Hindi
Second Language: English
Third Language: Gujarati, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi or Urdu*

Accessibility

- ***Rajasthan is connected by many national highways. Most renowned being NH 8, which is India's first 4-8 lane highway. Rajasthan also has an inter-city surface transport system both in terms of railways and bus network. All chief cities are connected by air, rail, and road.***
- **Air**
- ***There are six main airports at Rajasthan – Jaipur International Airport, Jodhpur Airport, Udaipur Airport and the recently started Ajmer Airport, Bikaner Airport and Jaisalmer Airport. These airports connect Rajasthan with the major cities of India such as Delhi and Mumbai. There is another airport in Kota but is not open for commercial/civilian flights yet.***
- **Rail**
- ***Rajasthan is connected with the main cities of India by rail. Jaipur, Kota, Ajmer, Jodhpur, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Alwar, Abu Road, and Udaipur are the principal railway stations in Rajasthan. Kota City is the only electrified section served by three Rajdhani Expresses and trains to all major cities of India. There is also an international railway, the Thar Express from Jodhpur (India) to Karachi (Pakistan). However, this is not open to foreign nationals.***
- **Road**
- ***Rajasthan is well connected to the main cities of the country including Delhi, Ahmedabad and Indore by state and national highways and served by Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation (RSRTC) and private operators. Now in March 2017, 75 percent of all national highways being built in Rajasthan according to the public works minister of Rajasthan.***

Accommodation

- Bissau palace
shastri nagar jaipur -0.3 km to centre
- Available room benefits:
- Breakfast, pay later , parking, free cancellation
- Price-1783/per day , per person



- The wall street hotel
jalupura jaipur-0.6km to centre
- Available room benefits:
- Breakfast , pay later , lunch , free cancellation ,
- dinner, book without a credit card
- Price-1344/per day , per person



- Hotel the grand chittor
gandhi nagar chittorgarh
- Available room benefits:
- Breakfast , pay at the hotel ,
- free cancellation , dinner
- Price- 2436 per day per person



- Hotel Rawal kot
Indira colony , jaiselmer
- Available room benefits:
- Breakfast , pay at the hotel ,
- free cancellation , dinner
- Price- 4274 per day , per person



Attractions



- *Rajasthan attracted a total of 45.9 million domestic and 1.6 million foreign tourists in 2017, which is the tenth highest in terms of domestic visitors and fifth highest in foreign tourists. The tourism industry in Rajasthan is growing effectively each year and is becoming one of the major income sources for the state government. Rajasthan is home to attractions for domestic and foreign travellers, including the forts and palaces of Jaipur, lakes of Udaipur, Temples of Rajsamand and Pali, sand dunes of Jaisalmer and Bikaner, Havelis of Mandawa and Fatehpur, Rajasthan, wildlife of Sawai Madhopur, the scenic beauty of Mount Abu, tribes of Dungarpur and Banswara, and the cattle fair of Pushkar.*

Man in Rajasthan, India.

- *Rajasthan is known for its custom culture colors, majestic forts, and palaces, folk dances and music, local festivals, local food, sand dunes, carved temples, beautiful havelis. Rajasthan's Jaipur Jantar Mantar, Mehrangarh Fort and Stepwell of Jodhpur, Dilwara Temples, Chittor Fort, Lake Palace, miniature paintings in Bundi, and numerous city palaces and Havelis are part of the architectural heritage of India. Jaipur, the Pink City, is noted for the ancient houses made of a type of sandstone dominated by a pink hue. In Jodhpur, maximum houses are painted blue. At Ajmer, there is white marble Bara-dari on the Anasagar lake and Soniji Ki Nasiyan. Jain Temples dot Rajasthan from north to south and east to west. Dilwara Temples of Mount Abu, Shrinathji Temple of Nathdwara, Ranakpur Jain temple dedicated to Lord Adinath in Pali District, Jain temples in the fort complexes of Chittor, Jaisalmer and Kumbhalgarh, Lodurva Jain temples, Mirpur Jain Temple of Sirohi, Sarun Mata Temple at Kotputli, Bhandasar and Karni Mata Temple of Bikaner and Mandore of Jodhpur are some of the best examples. Keoladeo National Park, Ranthambore National Park, Sariska Tiger Reserve, Tal Chhapar Sanctuary, are wildlife attractions of Rajasthan. Mewar festival of Udaipur, Teej festival and Gangaur festival in Jaipur, Desert festival of Jodhpur, Brij Holi of Bharatpur, Matsya festival of Alwar, Kite festival of Jodhpur, Kolayat fair in Bikaner are some of the most popular fairs and festivals of Rajasthan.*

Amenities

- WTF Sports Cafe & Bar



- Re-Pub-Liq - Dance Club, Night Club, Restaurant Bar, Pub



- Hotel Fortview Restobar



- Aravali SPA



- White Candle Spa



Activities



1. Camping in Rajasthan

Camping in Rajasthan is available in proper tents or in magnificently envisioned and brought-to-life tree houses.

The Tree House

- **Location:** The Tree House Resort is located outside the city of Jaipur, and can be reached after driving for about an hour on National Highway 8.

- **Accommodation:** Categorized as Deluxe, Luxury and Private Nests, the tree houses here have two, four or five rooms, and amenities like attached baths, televisions, beverage makers, mini-bars and Wi-Fi internet.

- **Activities:** The array of facilities and activities offered here are spa, swimming pool, lawn tennis, billiards, film screening, golf, camel safaris archery, volleyball, badminton, gym and birdwatching trips.

Rohetgarh Wilderness Camp

- **Location:** The wilderness camp of Rohetgarh heritage hotel is located outside the city of Jodhpur.

- **Accommodation:** Wilderness Camp Rohetgarh offers accommodation in six tents, set atop a sand dune. Polished teak furniture, beautiful jute rugs, canopies decorated with Rajasthani block prints and mosquito nets are features of all units. These tents also have bright lamps and attached bathrooms with western-style toilets.

- **Activities:** You may sip alcoholic beverages in the open lounge, and avail Jeep safaris through the region. This camp also has a collection of horses, which it will readily give you rides on.



- **2. Wildlife Safaris in Rajasthan**
- Ranthambore National Park is the prime place for taking adventure tours in Rajasthan if you want a good round of wildlife spotting.
- • **Location:** Ranthambore National Park is located in the far east of Rajasthan near its state border with Madhya Pradesh.
- • **Terrain:** Its terrain is mostly hilly as the Aravalli Range and the Western Ghats have their junction point here. Raj Bagh, Padam Talao, Malik Talao, the Chambal River and the West Banas River are important water resources here.
- • **Flora:** Lush grasses on the plateaus, velvety meadows on the valleys and dense woods along the rivers characterise the regional vegetation. Deciduous trees like jamun, khair, dhok, mahua, dates, banyans and mangoes grow here in plenty.
- • **Fauna:** Tigers are the most widely photographed and most significant beasts of Ranthambore National Park. Other than them, caracals, hyenas, leopards, hedgehogs, jungle cats, hares, civets, boars, deer, foxes, sloth bears, tortoises and turtles may also be sighted here.
- • **Activities:** You can take wildlife safaris through the national park and also visit Ranthambore Fort, which was first built in the 1st century.



• 3. Hot Air Ballooning in Rajasthan

• To relish hot air ballooning on your adventure tours in Rajasthan, you will have to come to Jaipur.

• **Location and Accessibility:** Jaipur is located in the eastern part of the state, and flights and trains to it are readily available from cities like Delhi and Mumbai.

• **Climate:** The city has a semi arid climate, which means that though the weather here is generally hot and dry, Jaipur does get some rainfall. During the summer season, the maximum temperature often rises beyond 45 degree Celsius. Winters sometimes record minimum temperatures of as low as -2 degree Celsius. The city receives substantial amounts of rain during the monsoon months of July and August.

• **Attractions:** Jantar Mantar, Hawa Mahal, Amber Fort, City Palace, Nahargarh Fort, Jaigarh Fort and Jal Mahal are all admired tourist attractions here.

• **Hot Air Ballooning in Jaipur:** Hot air balloon rides in Jaipur are generally hosted near Amber Fort. You can either fly at 5:30 am or at 4:00 pm as per your wish. The balloon will fly for roughly an hour, and gearing up and inflating the balloon will take two hours more. On the flight, 6-7 more occupants will fly with you, and you will touch a maximum height of 1200 feet from the launching site. You will not be allowed on-board if you are pregnant, stand less than 1.5 metre in height, or are below the age of five. Being fit enough to stand during the entire flight is absolutely mandatory.



● 4. Desert Safari in Rajasthan

● Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Bikaner are the perfect places to combine the joys of adventure tours in Rajasthan and camel safaris.

● • **Jodhpur:** Lying near the banks of River Jojari in central Rajasthan, Jodhpur is a city replete with culture, history, architectural mastery and natural beauty. The winter season, which sees highs of 25 degree Celsius, is the perfect time to come here.

● • **Bikaner:** Bikaner is a small town in the Thar Desert, located in north-western Rajasthan. As the heat in summers will be unbearable for you, come here in winters, which experience maximum temperatures of 23 degree Celsius. It is also a remarkable place to see numerous types of scavenging birds like vultures, eagles and buzzards.

● • **Jaisalmer:** The sand coloured walls of the buildings in Jaisalmer perfectly complement the natural surroundings of the town. Located in the heart of the Thar Desert in Western Rajasthan, Jaisalmer experiences scorching summers and cool winters.



Thankyou