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JUNE 2024

ZEST

IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT
BY ORANGE DMC

FROM THE BACKROADS OF RAJASTHAN

The desert never fails to fascinate us. Rajasthan is one of those destinations we can keep going back to, and still not see it all.

From wildlife to adventure, architecture to handicrafts, culture to cuisine, this is a region that just never grows old.

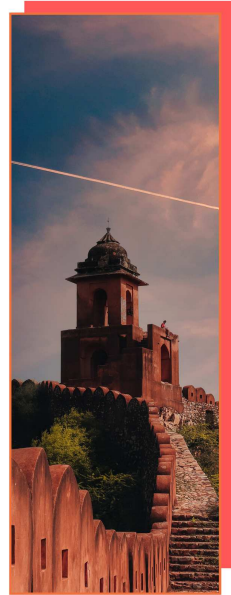
In many ways, Rajasthan is living history. From its incredible Rajput heritage to its colourful tribes and traditions, Rajasthan never fails to capture our imagination.

As you navigate through herds of sheep walking along the road, or pause at a tiny hamlet for a farm fresh lunch, or climb the crumbling ramparts of an ancient fortress, you feel the soul of Rajasthan move through you.

The best thing about Rajasthan is the warmth of its hospitality. No matter where you go, the people are always ready to welcome you with big smiles and open arms.

Contact us today to learn about the range of activities, experiences and destinations that one can experience in Rajasthan. We look forward to taking you there!

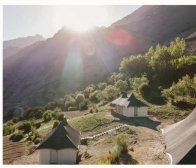
Best Regards,
Manan Mahajan



EXPLORER'S CORNER: DESERT NATIONAL PARK, JAISALMER

Situated along the outskirts of Jaisalmer, the Desert National Park covers around 3000 sq. km making it one of the largest parks in India. It is home to several unusual species including the endangered Black Buck, Great Indian Bustard, the Saker Falcon and the Great Himalayan Vulture. But what makes the park utterly unique is its collection of ancient fossils, some of which date back millions of years!

Most of the guides are villagers who have lived within the park's environs all their lives, and have an excellent knowledge of the flora and fauna. The best time to visit is between November and March.



A LUXURIOUS OUTPOST

SUJÂN ~ THE SERAI

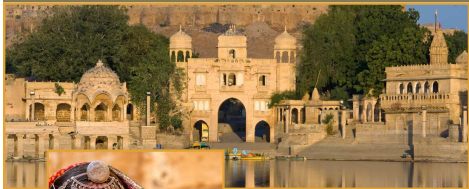
SUJÂN - THE SERAI is a member of Relais & Châteaux. It draws inspiration from an era when Jaisalmer was an important trade post on the old Silk Road. Spread across a hundred acres, the camp is a luxurious oasis against the rugged backdrop of western Rajasthan's landscape. With just twenty one tented suites, the sense of exclusivity is incredible. With its own spa offering a fabulous array of treatments, we love the combination of wellness and wildlife that this property offers. The camp is within easy reach of the old city of Jaisalmer and the Desert National Park. Explore the untamed beauty of this region while based within the rarified atmosphere of SUJÂN - THE SERAI.

EXCELLENT CUISINE
FRESH INGREDIENTS, GROWN ON THE PROPERTY, ADD FLAVOUR TO THE FOOD. THE CHEFS CREATE DAILY MENUS THAT ARE ADAPTED TO EACH SEASON.

THE SETTING
ENJOY A VARIETY OF LOCATIONS TO DINE, RELAX AND SOAK UP THE ATMOSPHERE. FROM SUNDOWNERS BY THE DUNES TO CANDLELIT DINERS, THE ROMANCE OF RAJASTHAN TAKES OVER.

THE SPA
REFLEXOLOGY TO MASSAGE TO SCRUBS, INDULGE YOUR SENSES AT THE SPA.

72 HOURS IN JAISALMER



01. Music & Dance

Jaisalmer is world renowned for its musicians and dancers who hail from the Kalbelia tribe. Intricate steps, beautiful costumes, rhythmic beats, and songs that carry on the desert wind will leave you mesmerised.

02. The Fort

Jaisalmer Fort is a UNESCO World Heritage Site for good reason. Its magnificent golden sandstone façade shimmers in the setting sun like a mirage. It houses palaces, gardens and a maze of buildings within its walls.



72 HOURS IN JAISALMER

Wildlife 03.

Jaisalmer's environs are home to several species of animals and birds. From migratory Eurasian Eagles to India's very own Great Indian Bustard, Black Bucks to Desert Foxes and much more, it's teeming with wildlife.



Old City 04.

The Old City is the hub of all activity. Havelis dating back centuries line the narrow lanes, as vendors sell colourful wares and food items in the market. A stroll through the bazaar takes you back to a different era, and is utterly charming.

05. Adventure

From camel safaris to quad biking, parasailing to off-roading, Jaisalmer has the perfect terrain to unleash your adrenaline. While you're out and about, stop in at a local tribal settlement or observe the local faunt!





OLD WORLD EXCLUSIVITY

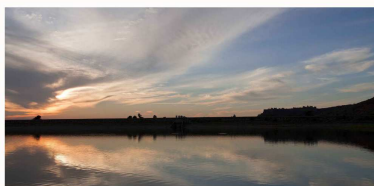
MOUNTBATTEN LODGE

With just four suites set in two bungalows on a magnificent estate, Mountbatten Lodge is an exclusive cocoon, tucked away in the temple town of Ranakpur, on the edge of a tract of untrammelled wilderness. The owner, Reggie Singh, is a delightful host and has maintained the original Art Deco interiors. Whether you're interested in visiting Ranakpur's temples, going out on a game drive to Jaswari Dam, or simply indulging yourself in a much needed rest, this property is a gem.

DINING ON THE ESTATE
KICK BACK AND RELAX IN THE SHADE OF A BANYAN TREE, AS YOU ENJOY A DELIGHTFUL MEAL IN THE GARDEN.

HIKING TRAILS
TAKE A GUIDED WALK ALONG THE LOCAL "LEOPARD TRAIL" OR THROUGH THE LOCAL HAMLETS AND TRIBAL SETTLEMENTS THAT DOT THE AREA.

ALL THAT JAZZ
A BON VIVANT AT HEART, REGGIE'S COLLECTION OF JAZZ IS THE PERFECT ACCOMPANIMENT TO THE HEADY COCKTAILS AT THE BAR!



RUGGED ROMANCE

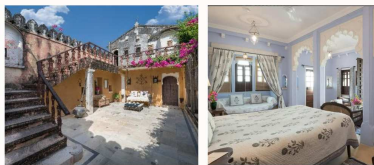
RAMATHRA FORT

Nestled amid the Aravalli mountains, Ramathra Fort is one of Rajasthan's best-kept secrets. Perched on top of a cliff, overlooking a stunning lake and a steep gorge, the setting is simply breath-taking. Ramathra is the ideal location for those who want to see an authentic slice of Rajasthan. The property is designed for romantics and explorers, those who want to venture out beyond the big cities. Explore the local village, go boating on the lake, hike along wooded trails, and relax by a roaring campfire at the end of the day as you watch the sunset.

HOME COOKING
LEARN HOW TO PREPARE AUTHENTIC RAJASTHANI RECIPES WITH RAMATHRA FORT'S MASTER CHEFS!

WILDERNESS DRIVES
HEAD OUT ON THE TRACK AND MEET THE LOCAL GUJJAR TRIBES AND VISIT CAVE TEMPLES, AS YOU PASS THROUGH STEEP GORGES CARVED OUT BY THE RIVER.

SUSTAINABLE HERITAGE
THE FORT IS OVER 300 YEARS OLD AND HAS BEEN BEAUTIFULLY PRESERVED BY ITS OWNERS. ALL THE STAFF ARE FROM THE VILLAGE AND FOOD IS LOCALLY GROWN.



A MAJESTIC MANOR

RAWLA NARLAI

As you travel from Jodhpur to Udaipur, a stop at Narlai is a must. This is one of the most charming hamlets in western Rajasthan, evoking a bygone era. The Rawla is a magnificent royal mansion, beautifully restored by its owners who are members of the royal family. From ancient stepwells to a magnificent lake where leopards roam and peacocks call the garden home, this is one of Rajasthan's best-kept secrets. Champagne breakfasts to Rajasthani cuisine, the food is delicious and the service is welcoming. A place that should not be left out on any Rajasthan itinerary.

ROOMS AND SUITES
A BEAUTIFUL BLEND OF CLASSIC RAJPUT ELEGANCE AND MODERN AMENITIES.

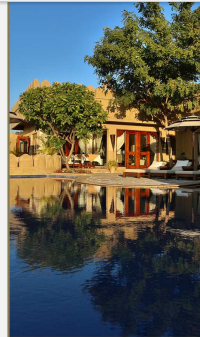
WILDERNESS DRIVES
EXPLORE THE RUGGED TERRAIN WITH GUIDED DRIVES INTO THE WILDERNESS.

REJUVENATING HERITAGE
THE MANOR DATES BACK TO THE 17TH CENTURY AND HAS BEEN BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED TO BRING BACK THE CHARM OF A BYGONE ERA.

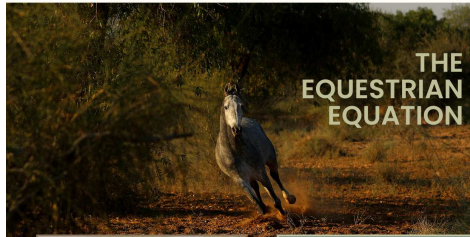
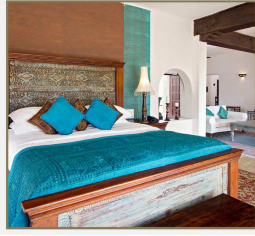
UNWIND
A GORGEOUS POOL AND SPA ARE JUST THE TONIC AFTER A DAY SPENT EXPLORING THE ENVIRONS.

MHIRGARH

Situated amid the sand dunes in western Rajasthan, Mhirgarh springs out of nowhere like a mirage. Step into its gates and you'll be dazzled by the experience. With just nine suites, it is a truly luxurious haven. But besides its stunning environs, Mhirgarh is known for having one of the finest stables of Marwari horses in India. Coming from the house of Rohet, the owners are dyed in the wool equestrians who love to share their passion with their guests. Mhirgarh is a great place to base yourself and explore the surrounding countryside on horseback, or even otherwise, by bike or by car. Discover the villages, local shrines, and incredible ethnic food and traditions at this gorgeous hideaway, a member of Relais & Chateaux.



A LUXURIOUS RETREAT



THE EQUESTRIAN EQUATION



Riding Holidays In Rajasthan

Rajasthan is famous for its Marwar horses. These gorgeous animals are spirited and a riding trip through the Rajasthani countryside is a delightful experience.



You can choose between being based in one location and riding out on day trips into the rugged landscape, or you can even choose to do a travelling horse safari, where you camp in a different location over a period of 3-4 nights.

Rajasthan is also famous for its polo, and Jaipur and Jodhpur are well established on the polo circuit. If you're a horse-loving soul and would like to explore Rajasthan's riding trails, then contact us about customized an equestrian program for you.

Did you know...
In Rajasthan, the Marwar Horse is considered to be divine.



DESERT WILD



ROHET WILDERNESS CAMP

If you really want to experience western Rajasthan's wild side then Rohet Wilderness Camp is a great place to do it! You can either drive over by Jeep or ride over on horseback. Luxurious tents, legendary cuisine from the House of Rohet, and warm, friendly service make this the perfect place to bed down for a couple of nights and explore the charms of rural Rajasthan.



CLASSIC RAJPUT CULTURE



ROHET GARH

For those who are looking for classic Rajput culture, an equestrian program and exquisite hospitality, Rohet Garh is fabulous. The decor has touches of classic Rajput design, and the food is out of this world, many recipes coming from the kitchens of Thakurani Sahiba Jayendra Kumari, who was known for her culinary prowess. Overlooking a beautiful lake, near a little village, Rohet Garh is simply perfect.

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CORPORATE OFFICE:

UNIT OFFICE 1013
10th FLOOR,
SPAZE PLATINUM
TOWERS,
SOHNA ROAD,
SECTOR - 47, GURGAON,
HARYANA 122018
NATIONAL CAPITAL
REGION (INDIA)
Tel: +91 124 4225786

UK OFFICE:

FIRST FLOOR, 101 ST
MARTINS LANE,
LONDON, WC2N 4AZ
Tel: +44 7503082423



Orange
The Destination Management Company



Have a question or inquiry?

Drop us a line via email:

info@orangedmc.com
ishveen@orangedmc.com
manan@orangedmc.com